

DIRECTOR'S REPORT January 15, 2018

My report is very short this month. I spent most of the first week with family, which always has its pros and cons. By the time January 8th rolled around, I was so ready to be back to work! I am still (!) working on the State Aid Report—it's not that it is difficult, in fact, it is one of the easier ones I've done in my career but with numerous interruptions, it takes longer. I will have it finished before the deadline. With the exception of Quincy and Coldwater, the other buildings seem to be fine. Quincy has structural problems and Coldwater has another leak, now scheduled for repair. I attended the Bronson City Council meeting on Monday. I told them about most of the branches being open on Monday—in fact, Lynnell said she had people waiting for her to open on Monday morning! Yesterday, I met with Library of Michigan folks. They periodically make visits throughout the year to as many libraries as they can. I took them through the Coldwater building and they were particularly impressed by the Teen Space. I also spoke to the NIKA Ladies Club from Quincy—they asked me to talk about the library but also to tell them about myself and my journey from Alaska to Michigan.

I'd just like to express my appreciation for all the fine people I work with—you make my job easier and more enjoyable!

Submitted by Linda Lyshol



**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S REPORT
January 11, 2018**

The holiday time between last meeting and this make this a light report. There has been the usual flurry of year-end and year-beginning tasks, but nothing major to report.

Aside from that, I am working with Equinox Software project manager to plan our change to a solo Evergreen installation. Our first test run will be in March, with our go-live in late May.

There is a small water leak in tough spot at the Coldwater Branch near one of our mechanical rooms. Plumbers have been out, but the problem isn't fixed yet. More to come on that.

We have reduced the monthly download limit on Hoopla from 12 to 8 as a cost-controlling measure. The majority of users download less than this per month, so not too many people should be inconvenienced.

Finally, we are coordinating to make all the excitement happen smoothly at the Quincy Branch as the repairs soon get under way. I'm sure there will be more details on that in other reports or in discussion.

Submitted by John Rucker



- BDL welcomes two new employees! Ben will be working as a Public Services Clerk and Lindsey joins the Teen Services Department at the Coldwater Branch. Both bring a variety of talent and experiences and we look forward to their journey with BDL.
- The New Year brought New Hours at 5 of our 6 Branches. On Monday's we will have five branches open! BDL is eager for the chance to be open more so our communities can visit and use the library when it is convenient for them!
- BDL Branches will be closed on Friday, January 12 to have staff participate in one of the final stages of Strategic Planning. From the Strategic Planning Task force, several key priorities were established and staff will be able to review these and discuss goals and action plans for the future.
- Met with Mulder's Moving and Storage to review the Quincy Branch Project. Mulder's will be emptying the branch of all materials, art, and furniture so that wall repairs, painting, and new carpet can be completed. With the cooperation of the Quincy Township the branch will be able to maintain open hours in the lower level. Quincy Staff will maintain a small collection of materials and patrons can request materials from the other 5 branches. An extra day of delivery will be scheduled during the 3 weeks of construction to accommodate the anticipated increase of requests from the other branches.
- The start of 2018 means focusing on several big district wide events. First is the One Book One Community Read. The book title will be announced in late February and patrons will have time to read the selection during "March is Reading Month". Book Talks will occur at all 6 branches during National Library Week (April 8-14). Also final stage planning is happening for Summer Reading 2018. There will be a district wide cohesiveness with all the branches starting and ending at the same time! Also we will be introducing one standard reading log for each age group. BDL staff have been talking with the local schools to come up with the best way to support the school's reading goals for the students during the summer.

Submitted:
Kimberly Feltner
Director of Public Services



2018 is here and the new year has brought in new staff, new programs, and new programming locations! Lindsay Villa is BDL's newest Teen Services Clerk. She's from the area, loves YA, and working with teens. She will be a great asset to the Teen Services Department.

New programs starting in 2018 are as follows: Wild at Art and STEAM Power. Wild at Art will feature free painting and coloring. This is our only unstructured program to date. They will be given paint and paintbrushes and allowed to create whatever they want, within the realm of appropriateness. STEAM Power is our STEM program, where teens will learn to create slime from water and corn starch, and encounter substances that are both liquid and solid, along with other very cool, science type things. Other changes in programming consist of alternating our Teen Trivia and Fandom Jeopardy program every other month. To wrap up programming news, we are ecstatic to announce that programs will be in all six of our branches by March. Alganssee will be hosting our Wild at Art program as a trial run in the first week of March.

As an overview of 2017, the Teen Services Department is thrilled to announce that 2017 ended with a 347% increase in program attendance for the year. Lots of changes happened, foundations were laid, and fun was had. Most importantly, teens found a safe place to have fun, encouraging activities to be a part of, and created a haven for themselves.

The Teen Advisory Council made a large difference for the charity they sponsored in December. The total raised at the bake sale was \$268 for Erin's Angels Rescue and she was surprised and overwhelmed with thankfulness at the TAC's generosity. Also, two BDL staff members also contributed, adding a gift card and food for the animal rescue. TAC had their holiday party on January 7, and recapped how the year went. Their only complaint? They wanted to do MORE community service. So in 2018, TAC will focus even more on helping out the community.

