



Comments

Submitted on Friday, June 28, 2019 - 10:16

Submitted values are:

==Your Name and Contact Information==

First and Last Name (Optional): Amy Abrey

Telephone Number (Optional):

Email (Optional): amy_abrey@asamacm.com

==Your Message==

Subject (Optional): Hoopla

Message Body: I love Hoopla! It was great when I first subscribed and was able to borrow 12 titles per month. Then, without notice, I found out I was only able to borrow 8 titles per month. Last night, I went to borrow a title for my daughter and I to listen to together only to find out that the number of titles has decreased YET AGAIN! Please increase licensing or whatever it takes to actually be able to borrow more per month.

BDL Response from Jessica Tefft

Subject: Re: Patron Feedback from the Web Site Form

Date: July 2, 2019 at 11:58:31 AM EDT

To: Amy Abrey

Hey Amy!

We love Hoopla, and we know our patrons do too. However, the library pays for every single download, every time a patron uses Hoopla. So, as Hoopla continues to grow in popularity among BDL users, it has become necessary to put in place some cost control options. BDL has lowered the download limit to 6 items per month per user, and lowered our monthly Hoopla budget by 20%. This way we can keep offering this amazing service without breaking the bank.

What this means for you is that you may see a message stating "the daily borrow limit for the library has been reached and it will reset at midnight". Feel free to continue to browse and add titles to your favorites so when the day resets, you may be able to checkout. You can always get access to ebooks and audiobooks on your tablets, smartphones, or computers with using Libby/Overdrive.

We apologize for this inconvenience, and hope you enjoy what we are able to offer our patrons.

Thanks for reaching out! Jessica Tefft

Comments and/or Suggestions:

Let us know what you think? I am Ten years old
and I did not like the
prizes on tier one and
tier two. But I did like the
free swim pass and ^{I want} McDonald's.

Jaylynn martin

Coldwater @ 7/2/19
KLF

BDL Response: Every branch was able to pick their own tier prizes while the district supplied the grand prizes. As in all library happenings, we will take feedback on what works and does not. We do have McDonalds options available again this year including free treats and a happy meal coupon. -Kimberly Feltner

Publicity

Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, Friday, June 21, 2019. Page A4

Branch County District Library discusses next steps



At Monday's meeting, the Branch District Library board approved cuts to help align the 2019 budget. Members at the June meeting were Tom Lowande, Cindy Bland, Ben Jewell, board president, Sarah Brooks and Martha Watson. ROSALIE CURRIER/JOURNAL

By Rosalie Currier
rcurrier@sturgisjournal.com

Next steps for the Branch District Library were on the June board meeting agenda.

A 2018 audit of the BDL showed discrepancies between board-approved measures and actual hiring and raises practices. As a result the 2019 spending was \$52,000 over budget.

The former BDL director was hired in June 2016 and resigned March 2019.

In the wake of the resignation, the board hired John Rucker as director. With his administrative staff of Kim Feltner and Jessica Tefft, the team has been working to reduce the deficit caused by former practices, said Ben Jewell, board president.

After discussion, the board approved the cuts proposed to help balance the budget.

Non-personnel cuts:

10 percent budget cut for materials at the Coldwater Branch.

10 percent cut to programs.

Elimination of NewsBank online information services.

20 percent cut in Hoopla digital media services.

Eliminating Unique Debt Collections with library staff assuming the task.

75 percent cut from equipment maintenance.

60 percent cut in training.

Personnel cuts:

Eliminate the teen librarian by moving her to director of public services.

Eliminate systems librarian and adding his duties to the director's responsibilities.

Fill the adult programming coordina-

tor/interlibrary loan clerk position with two part-time staff.

Leave the vacant part-time Coldwater clerk position vacant.

Six full-time positions moved to part-time – BDL administrative assistant; two technical services clerks; one Coldwater clerk; one Quincy public services clerk; one Union Township public services clerk.

Thirteen full-time positions remain: Managers at the Bronson, Coldwater, Quincy and Union Township branches.

One Bronson public services clerk.

One Coldwater clerk.

One bookkeeper.

Two IT department assistants.

One teen service clerk.

Three administrative staff – director, assistant director and director of public services.

The board approved that full-time health insurance benefits be extended to the end of the insurance contract, Nov. 30, 2019, for the six staff whose hours were reduced to part-time.

Once the financial situation is under control, the administrative team expects to restore many of the non-personnel cuts to the 2018 levels including programing, Hoopla, staff training, technology equipment repair and supplies.

According to the 2019 employee wage and benefits budget, part-time hours range from 6-35 per week. Clerk's wages vary according to steps, the branch managers earn \$18 per hour, the director of public services earns \$50,000, assistant to the director, \$58,000 and the director's salary is \$78,000.

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Traveling Tales of Scotland with Jack Ferguson was offered by the Coldwater Branch children's library program.

COLDWATER

Library hosts program exploring Scotland

Exploring the land and culture of Scotland with Jack Ferguson was a recent Traveling Tales adventure offered by the Branch District Library Coldwater Branch.

Youth, ages 4-12, learned about the history, language, culture, animals, legends, clans and kilts.

The children created Scotland's national emblem, the Thistle, for an art project and enjoyed a library version of a Robbie Burns meal.

The menu included Haggis, neeps and tatties, along with shortbread, oat cakes with red currant jelly and Irn-Bru, a popular Scots carbonated drink.

This program is made possible through the generosity of the Coldwater Kiwanis Club.

