



I took time off during the holidays, so this report will be brief.

Over the school break we saw plenty of kids and activity, and we hit the ground running with the start of the new year.

We had the approved duct cleaning at the Union Twp. Branch over the break, and the toilet installation soon after. The Union Twp. Board gave permission in December for BDL to use funds from the anonymous Union Twp. facilities trust to replace the fluorescent tubes in the library with LED bulbs. The funding request for this and the previously township-approved external lights is in the discussion section of this month's packet.

We've implemented some new accounting codes and groupings for 2020. We also rolled out our new procedures for internal financial controls that will keep three sets of eyes on all transactions going in and out of the bookkeeper's office, in addition to your oversight as trustees.

Hoopla is reenergized with the bigger budget approved for this year, and patrons are happy!

At the Coldwater Branch we removed the last of the old defunct book security gates at the Coldwater Branch, and the area around the service desk looks so much more open and inviting!

The Personnel Committee has been very active working on the new Employment Handbook. More on that in their report.

We've attempted to find a home for the entire set of old conference tables, first with Branch County nonprofits, then to the whole state library mailing list, then to the Branch County business community through the chamber of commerce. So far, there has been no interest, so we may resort to getting rid of them individually. The local recycling center also gives used office equipment a second life, so that will be our final option.

I've been working on my quotes for 2020 computer purchasing. Funding requests are in the discussion section of this month's packet.

Submitted by John Rucker

- OBOC (One Book One County) is a community-wide project where BDL encourages everyone in the county to read the same book at the same time. *Shores Beyond Shores: From Holocaust to Hope: My True Story* is BDL's 2020 choice and Irene Hasenberg Butter's story of survival. Discussions will be during the month of March and will culminate with Irene Butter coming to Tibbits Opera House to speak and sign books on March 28, 2020 at 2PM. Additionally, it was just released that SHORES BEYOND SHORES is a finalist for the Jewish Book Awards in the category of Autobiography and Memoir!
- I held a 2020 Summer Reading Program meeting for the Branch Managers, Kids Place Coordinator, and Teen Services Coordinator on January 13, 2020 and nearly all details were set for the upcoming SRP season. SRP 2020 will be here before we know it, and we've got some great stuff planned!
- I attended the Branch County Community Network meeting on January 15, 2020 and updated the community on OBOC, and *Bring Your Child to the Library* day.
- February 1, 2020 is *Bring Your Child to the Library* day! This is a special day of activities, refreshments, games and takeaway goodies for the families that travel around the district to become acquainted with all the different locations that the BDL has. All families that travel to at least three BDL locations will be entered into a drawing for a Meijer Gift Card. The more branches that a family visits, the more entries they receive.
- This month in districtwide Teen Services, Lindsay Villa, Teen Services Coordinator is offering two programs at all six locations: Teen Bullet Journaling and DIY Scrunchies.
- The BDL will have a booth at the local Farmer's Day community event on February 20, 2020 with information and goodies!

Submitted by Jessica Tefft