



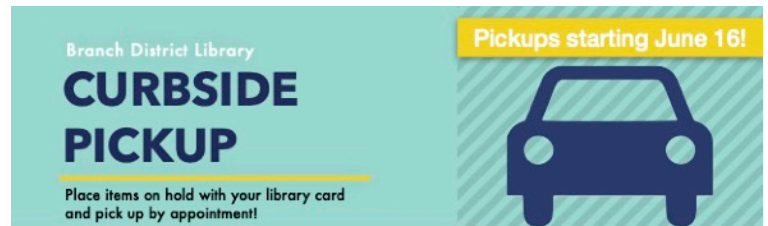
Since our April meeting, it has seemed like every day brings a week's worth of activity. Here's the highlight reel.

- We have all learned to be flexible in this ever-changing situation. As you know, plans have sometimes changed more than once in a given week.
- We have met at least weekly with Branch Managers, often more. We had an all-staff Zoom meeting in April and May, as well as a couple of Zoom social hours.
- A variety of personal protective equipment has been procured for library staff. Masks (disposable and cloth), face shields, and gloves.
- Plexiglass barriers have been installed at public service desks at all branches.
- Our One Book, One County event with author and Holocaust survivor, Irene Butter, was a fantastic success. Way to go, Jessica Tefft, for planning such a great OBOC this year!
- At the Beginning of May, our new Employment Handbook went into effect.
- Servers and network infrastructure were replaced in May, and spring maintenance was performed on the HVAC system at the Coldwater Branch. As staff have returned to buildings, we've flushed water systems, along with many other preparations for resuming operations.
- In May we unveiled our Branch County Yearbook collection (www.BranchDistrictLibrary.org/yearbooks). We've already had patrons volunteer to let us scan their yearbooks to fill in gaps, and we've had at least one administrator let me know that they've heard from people urging them to allow us to post issues newer than 1988. Hopefully, we get that permission soon!
- BDL staff have been rocking the quarantine programming scene! Since the lockdown began, at least 10 staff have put on more than 100 original video programs to keep our patrons engaged, entertained, and learning. I'm so impressed with all their creativity and ingenuity! And Lindsay Villa deserves a special shout out as a story time superstar! Her *daily* programs continue to be big draws for us.
- The Management Team, Branch Managers, and other library staff have taken many training sessions, and not just on COVID-related topics. There have been numerous sessions on programming, conflict de-escalation, and this year's conference for our Evergreen library system was conducted online, giving many more staff the opportunity to attend than usual.
- We've been spreading the word to the public about our reopening plan, and this week with staff back in our branches we have been getting everything ready. Jessica and Kimberly have been working out processes and procedures with the Branch Managers to ensure that this new process next week goes smoothly and safely.

Submitted by John Rucker



- Virtual programming remained popular during the stay-at-home order. We saw a slight decrease in May in the virtual programs views. However, this was anticipated as the weather finally got pleasant and more people were outside! We are evaluating the timing and frequency of the virtual programs in order to make any changes as needed. In April the two most popular virtual programs were the sheet folding by Lisa Wood and the reading of Calef Brown's Flamingos on the Roof by John Rucker. In May the two most popular virtual programs were how to make ice cream in a bag by Keeley Briggs and instruction in basic Japanese writing with Cheryl Graham.
- We have expanded our social media presence to include a Branch District Library Instagram page. This was the next logical platform since both are owned by Facebook and you can post easily to both locations. Instagram boasts 1 billion monthly users and brand engagement is ten times higher than on Facebook. Instagram focus more on visual representation and is most popular with younger users.
- Curbside Pickup will be available for appointments starting June 16. With your BDL library card, you can place a hold on library items and have no contact pickup at the library branches Monday - Friday.
- Attended the MLA Coffee Hour, Covid-19 in Small and Rural Libraries webinar
- Attended the MLA Coffee Hour, Human Resources in the time of Covid-19 webinar
- Took a 2 day, Let it Go - Weeding your Libraries Collection, online worksop
- Meet with our insurance agents from Vested Risk Strategies for the annual review of our policy. We are in the third year of our three year rate guarantee so there are no policy or rate changes for 2020.



Step 1

Have your library card ready. Request your items by calling your local branch or place a hold through our online catalog at www.BranchDistrictLibrary.org



Step 2

We will notify you, by phone, when your items are ready and schedule an appointment for pickup. Appointments will be made Monday - Friday, 1 hour after a branch opens until 1 hour before a branch closes (Some branches still have reduced hours)



Step 3

Use the designated parking spaces. Call to let us know you have arrived. Please remain in your vehicle.



Step 4

Library staff will bring out your items outside and place in trunk. No contact with library staff needed.



Submitted,
Kimberly Feltner



- It's nearly officially Summer and it is so good to be back! Covid-19 has changed the world we're living in and there has been changes to programming that reflects that. There has been a lot of changing, rearranging, and evolving for virtual programs in order to stay relevant to our BDL patrons. However, BDL is still moving along, and we are so excited to share our upcoming virtual programs with our patrons for the summer of 2020.
- We truly have some of the best staff around, and this is a kudos to them. We asked for digital content to put on Facebook, and we had several staff who stepped up and recorded virtual programs for us. We got content for science experiments, storytimes, "how-to's" on unique household chores (we received so many views on our "how to fold a fitted sheet" tutorial!), a garden container program, origami, and so much more. I personally hosted 6 weeks of "Tuesday Trivia" and had such a blast creating the content and seeing regulars show up every week to fight for bragging rights. There was a 2 week hiatus on Tuesday Trivia, and it will be returning on June 16th at 7:30PM.
- Speaking of large changes to programming: the Summer Reading Program 2020 is going to look a little different this year, but still lots of fun! SRP 2020 will begin on July 1st and will end on July 25th, with prizes picked up by August 1st. The program will run for 4 weeks this year instead of 8. This year's theme: "Imagine your story" will be done entirely offline with Bingo sheets for each corresponding age group: 0-2, 3-9, 10-18, and 18+. There will still be plenty of prizes for participants, and lots of opportunity to attend virtual programs. We also have some take home program kits for several programs so patrons can do the craft at home while watching the video! We are so excited to kick off SRP 2020 and are hopeful for a good turnout!

Submitted,

Jessica Tefft