

On September 19, we had our Annual combined Friends meeting for the first time in 2 years. Quincy Friends hosted and did a great job of it! About 20 were present to share fundraising ideas, and what works and what doesn't, and I spoke about the millage and the bookmobile. Quincy Friends provided delicious snacks from the Amish Goodie Shop in Quincy, and fun door prizes for those in attendance.

Regarding the positions we were hiring for, Haila Omer has started at the Coldwater Branch in the public services department. Valerie Albright accepted the Children's Services Coordinator Position and will be starting soon. And Sandra Podolan will be starting as Teen Service's Coordinator on November 22. A hearty welcome to all!

Two CDs matured this past month. After consulting with the finance committee, per policy, we renewed both at a better-than-advertised rate that Ashley was able to negotiate. We got the final bill for the Algansee carpet moving expenses, and I'm happy to share that the total was less than the estimate. We ended up only using about \$400 from the assigned fund balance, much less than you authorized. Our donation letter is out. Finally, Taylor, Plant & Watkins does not recommend any 2021 budget amendments.

I took off part of the week of October 25, and hope to take a little more in November. This past month, I have worked shifts at Algansee and Bronson.

Meetings attended this past month: Coldwater City Council, County Commissioners, Sherwood Village, Algansee Friends, Quincy Friends, Literacy Council, Michigan Library Directors, Personnel Committee, and have discussed with the City of Coldwater the possibility of partnering to reissue RFPs to get the painting done at the Coldwater Branch. I also met with representatives from the County and Aspen Wireless to discuss how the library might fit in with proposed broadband enhancements the County hopes to make.

Ben was appointed to another 4-year term to the BDL Board by Coldwater City Council. The County Commissioners will be reappointing Sue and Karen at a meeting yet to come this year. We have also had communication from an interested party for the vacant Union Twp. Trustee. I hope to see this seat filled at the upcoming Commissioner's meeting, too.

Submitted by John Rucker

- National Library Card Sign-Up Month may be over, but there's still plenty of reasons to get excited about getting a library card. There are two new library card designs available for patrons. The new cards were available at all branches starting in November. First-time cardholders can choose one of the new designs when signing up for a library card. Current cardholders are eligible to replace their previous cards with one of the new designs for no cost. The new designs feature the new BDL Logo that was announced earlier this year.
- The Bronson, Coldwater, Quincy, and Union Twp. branches are pleased to announce another year as a location for Toys for Tots. It is the season of giving and what better way than to donate a new toy to a child. I encourage everyone to drop off any new and unwrapped toy in the Library's Toys for Tots drop box until December 13th.
- John and I met with our Hoopla vendor. Hoopla offers our patrons hundreds of thousands of ebooks, audiobooks, comics, music, movie, and TV shows. It by far is my favorite digital service BDL provides! We reviewed the digital plan for BDL and discussed some options for our digital content.
- Hoopla Bonus Borrows are back for the whole month of November. You can choose from hundreds of titles in the special themed Bonus Borrows collections. These Hoopla instant titles will NOT use one of your monthly borrows. This is a great way to stockpile digital content and I can't wait to see how many extra borrows BDL patrons get.
- I attended an "Evergreen Basic Report" training. This has been a personal goal of mine to increase my knowledge and confidence in our library system. After this training, I can say that I successfully completed this. In December I will be taking "Reports - Beyond the Basics" and hope that I can continue to expand my understanding.

Submitted,

Kimberly Feltner

- The Branch County Community Foundation awarded BDL a \$4000 grant for Playaway tablets. Playaway tablets are pre-loaded with content for kids, teens, and adults, designed to be user-friendly, the tablets were made to be circulated. There is no download time, no need for Wi-Fi. Learning apps have a powerful impact on development and education and the Playaway Launchpad tablets ensure that everyone can access them.
- I have worked closely over the last few months with the branch managers on 2022 programming needs. BDL will be offering a mix of in-person programs and grab and go bags.
- I will be presenting to Pansophia's Administration team on November 17 about our Library1 Cards.
- The One Book One County book will be announced next week! Staff are reviewing several great options and look forward to sharing the 2022 OBOC book selection.
- I will be attending the BCCN meeting on November 17, 2021.

Submitted,

Jessica Tefft