Shaping Success

ANNUAL REPORT 2014
A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Maureen Hirten

In a year filled with exciting changes to our services, staff and buildings, one important thing did not change—the support we receive from our communities. On August 5, voters in Ingham County overwhelmingly passed our millage renewal proposal, with 77% agreeing to fund Capital Area District Libraries for the next four years. Part of that awe-inspiring approval is due to our ongoing commitment to collaboration.

Our staff, Administration and Board of Trustees work hard day in and day out to provide top-quality services, collections and events through partnerships. So it’s very gratifying to know that our efforts are appreciated. We consider it a privilege to work in a community where people recognize and value the benefits that a thriving library system provides.

Among the improvements we made in 2014:

• Renovations to our Dansville and Mason branches, plus a grand re-opening of the Okemos branch, which had closed for renovations at the end of 2013.

• New technologies that make it easier than ever to connect with the information you need.

• A new delivery van that connects patrons in our 13 branches to our large collection of books, movies and more.

I encourage you to review the accomplishments and collaborations featured in this report, and to join us as we look toward the future.

It’s very gratifying to know that our efforts are appreciated.
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CADL

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CADL’s strength as a library system comes from a collaboration between 225 dedicated people, all working together to accomplish our goals. Here are some highlights of our accomplishments in 2014.

CADL MASCOTS

Our family added a new member this year—a little sister for our library-loving mascot, Linc. Along with Linc, Lexi serves as an ambassador for CADL, helping spread the message to families about how much fun they can have visiting their library. We also introduced a colorful train called Linc’s Little Reading Railroad. It made appearances in Downtown Lansing, Leslie, Mason and Williamston, and included families from each community who won the chance to ride along.

MARCH IS READING MONTH

Wherever reading is being celebrated, it’s a safe bet that CADL is there! To encourage children to become lifelong readers, we partnered with the Early Childhood Literacy Coalition in March to host storybook characters at our branches. The kids loved meeting favorites like Curious George, Splat the Cat, Labybug Girl and Cookie Mouse.

EARLY LITERACY SUPPORT

Through a generous donation from Target, we added a fun new item to our collection—Raising Readers Backpacks. Filled with themed books, movies, music and toys, the backpacks are ready to be checked out and taken home for our youngest readers to enjoy. Popular themes include Weather, Music, Colors and Pets.
**Summer Reading**

**FIZZ, BOOM, READ!**

With a science theme of Fizz, Boom, Read!, our annual Summer Reading program blasted off in June with cool experiments, exciting performers and lots of great prizes. By the time we cleaned out the test tubes in August, more than 7,400 kids and teens had participated, a nearly nine percent increase over 2013.

**STEM RESOURCES**

To actively promote our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) resources, we offered hands-on science events at our branches. We also partnered with Impression 5 Science Center to present science storytimes, and with WKAR-TV on their locally-produced science show called Curious Crew. The show’s cast appeared live at our Haslett branch, and DVDs of each episode were added to our collection.

**KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS**

This year CADL helped local residents turn their trips to the grocery store into funding for our Summer Reading program. We enrolled in the Kroger Community Rewards program, a tool that allows people to make a donation just by swiping their Kroger Plus card. The amount raised in 2014 was over $3,000.

**MOVIE PARTNERSHIPS**

Our outreach efforts in 2014 yielded exciting partnerships with NCG Eastwood and Celebration Cinemas. We kicked off the year with a special screening of The LEGO® Movie at NCG. Over 800 people attended, enjoying free refreshments and prize drawings along with the show. Celebration helped underwrite the cost of a new activity book that features CADL mascot Linc and Celebration mascot Flick. CADL also partnered with both theaters for their Free Family Film Festivals.
LIBRARY CARDS
To help spread the word about the amazing value a CADL card offers, we kicked off a Refer a Friend campaign, encouraging people to get a friend or family member to sign up for a card. Then both people were eligible to win prizes like tickets to see the Blue Man Group at the Wharton Center, passes to the Mid-Michigan Women’s Expo, and Dinner & A Movie packages from NCG Cinemas. Thanks go to MSUFCU for their generous donation.

LOCAL HISTORY
In the fall we reopened the Forest Parke Library & Archives, housed at the Downtown Lansing branch. These special collections include photographs, books, real estate and property records, maps, family and business histories, and much more. The book collection has been fully cataloged for the first time, and digitization of all print materials has begun.

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS
In December, Ingham County glowed with lights and holiday spirit. Families flocked to CADL branches for events like gingerbread house-making, open houses, Christmas crafts, and special visitors from Rooftop Landing Tree Farm.
Among the projects we tackled in 2014 were those that added to or improved the technologies we provide. Some were behind-the-scenes while others were front and center, but they all added up to better customer service.

**ONLINE CARD REGISTRATION**
This year we debuted a new kind of library card that gives users temporary access to our growing digital collection. Now people can try out items like eBooks and digital magazines for 21 days. After that the card expires, and they are encouraged to visit a CADL branch to sign up for a full-privilege card.

**COLLECTION HQ**
This behind-the-scenes service lets us look at all areas of our collection and do system-wide analyses. It allows us to identify trends and place items in the branches where the demand is highest, keeping our collection fresh and relevant.

**PRONUNCIATOR**
We continue to add resources to our online Research & Learn collection, and one of our newest is Pronunciator. Using downloadable audio lessons, conversation practice, quizzes and more, it allows users to learn up to 80 different languages, all at their own pace.

**DIGITAL DISPLAYS**
In an effort to better inform patrons of events and services, we installed a digital signage system in 10 of our locations. The screens display colorful information slides that are constantly refreshed.

**PATRON ACCESS**
This year we deployed 84 enhanced patron computers to support 21st century digital literacy. A new five-year network services contract was negotiated that increased bandwidth and lowered yearly costs by more than $27,000 a year.
Transitions

LOCAL HISTORY LIBRARIAN
CADL welcomed Heidi Butler to our staff in February. Originally from Portage, MI, Heidi brought a wealth of experience to this position. She has worked as a College Archivist at Kalamazoo College, Local History Librarian at Wichita Public Library, and as the University Archivist at Zayed University in Dubai.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
Trenton Smiley took over the Marketing and Communications Department, replacing outgoing director Elizabeth Breed. Trenton previously served in this position from 2004-2009, part of his 15 years of experience marketing library services in mid-Michigan. He holds a graduate degree in Marketing from Baker College.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE
When Veronica Beecroft retired as Associate Director in October, the position was changed to target public service. Jolee Hamlin, serving as Library Head of the Holt-Delhi branch at the time, was hired to fill it. In addition to her experience at CADL, she has worked at the Library of Michigan, the Midwest Cooperative for Library Services, and at academic libraries in Texas and Michigan.

SENIOR ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Scott Duimstra, serving as CADL’s Associate Director of Collection Services, received a new job title and some additional duties. As Senior Associate Director he is now second-in-line to the Executive Director.

HOLT-DELHI BRANCH HEAD
In December, Paulina Poplawska was hired to replace Jolee Hamlin at Holt-Delhi. Her prior experience includes working as Assistant Director at both Central Skagit Library District in Washington State, and at the Liberal Memorial Library in Kansas. She is a graduate of Michigan State University and received her MLIS from Wayne State University.

AWARDING EXCELLENCE
Named for a founding member of the Board of Trustees, our annual McConnell Award honors a staff member who provides exceptional customer service and/or innovations. The Board was pleased to select Technical Services Supervisor Aaron Smith to receive the 2014 award.

Aaron was recognized for implementing a number of changes in the way library items are acquired, processed and distributed to branches, resulting in both better patron service and cost savings.
Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together.
— Woodrow T. Wilson

Each of our 13 branches is supported by a Friends of the Library group, made up of volunteers who work tirelessly to raise funds and advocate for their libraries. They maintain used book collections, run used book sales and other fundraising efforts, contribute refreshments for special events, and support library endeavors in dozens of other ways.

Friends group members also serve as advocates and ambassadors in their communities. They share the message with fellow citizens that libraries play a vital role, and that access to information and lifelong learning are at the heart of a successful community.

Anyone willing to donate time, energy and talent is welcome to join; information is available at any CADL branch or cadl.org/friends.

In 2014, our Friends groups collectively donated over $32,211 to Capital Area District Libraries, enhancing our buildings, services and events.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Aurelius Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2014, library staff:
• Shared events and information with Robbins United Methodist and Aurelius Baptist churches
• Staffed information tables at North Aurelius Elementary parent-teacher conferences
• Visited classrooms and hosted Summer Reading assemblies at North Aurelius Elementary
• Partnered with the Basket Weavers Guild to provide an introduction to basket weaving
• Partnered with the Michigan Organ Donor Registry to sign up new donors

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:
1. We hosted 31 Summer Reading events, with a total attendance of nearly 1,000.
2. A weekly teen and tween “Summer Science Sparks” series was launched, focusing on a different science concept each week.
3. The number of attendees at our adult book discussion group greatly increased, with popular titles such as Unbroken and Annie’s Ghosts.
4. We presented two author visits for our Reminiscers group: Shipwreck Survivor Dennis Hale, and Great Lakes Walker Loreen Niewenhuis.
5. In partnership with our Friends group, we held a Holiday Open House featuring Santa and his reindeer, attended by 500 people.

OUR THANKS
Thank you so much to our wonderful patrons, friendly Township staff, and supportive Friends group for helping make our library a growing, vibrant gathering place and a center of learning in our community. We appreciate you!
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Dansville Library is a valuable and vibrant member of our community. In 2014, library staff:
• Partnered with Ingham Township and Friends of the Dansville Library for building renovations
• Attended staff meetings for Dansville’s elementary, middle and high schools, and the elementary PTO meeting to promote library services and community partnerships
• Organized and presented our annual 5th grade Battle of the Books at Dansville Elementary
• Promoted Summer Reading through class visits, and presented at the Literacy Breakfast at Dansville Elementary
• Worked with the Dansville Business Alliance to plan and present both their annual Halloween Party and Dansville’s first community tree lighting
• Staffed information tables at the Ingham County Fair and the Dansville Elementary Back to School Bash

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:
1. The Dansville Library celebrated a grand re-opening after undergoing a renovation.
2. We enjoyed a 12% increase over 2013 in the completion rate for Summer Reading.
3. We had 863 attendees to our Summer Reading events, which is an increase of 64% over 2013. Total annual event attendance increased by 49%.
4. We received a $500 grant from the Williamston Sunrise Rotary to enhance our Sensory Storytime and Family Storytime series.
5. Staff created special Saturday events including Cupcake Wars, Polar Express Party, Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Party, Build a Fort in the Library, and Make a Pet Rock.

OUR THANKS
We would like to thank our patrons, Ingham Township, Dansville Village, the Friends of the Dansville Library, and Dansville Public Schools for their continuous support and enduring loyalty. We would not be able to provide high-quality programming and service to our community without you.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Downtown Lansing Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, library staff:

• Provided information tables at local Head Start Family Nights, Kids Connect, Community Connect, and several Health Fairs
• Hosted English Classes taught by staff from MSU and St. Vincent Catholic Charities
• Welcomed several thousand visitors during the Be a Tourist in Your Own Town Day and Silver Bells in the City events
• Partnered with MSU and the Capital Area Literacy Coalition to provide free tutoring services for kids and adults
• Offered a free Family Symphony Series in conjunction with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra
• Joined with WKAR-TV to sponsor PBS Kids Day, with character visits, crafts and activities

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. We organized a 50th Building Anniversary event, attended by more than 100 people.
2. Our staff helped plan and host three very popular after-hours Minecraft tournaments.
3. We staffed an information table at Lansing’s Shuto Con event, held at the Lansing Center.
4. In addition to appearing regularly on WLNZ and WILX, staff was interviewed on WKAR and the Lansing TV Cable station.
5. We added to our ongoing roster of movie screenings to include films pertaining to Hispanic Heritage Month and Black History Month.

OUR THANKS
The success of the Downtown Lansing Library is due to the great service provided by our staff, the financial support of the Friends of Lansing Libraries, and the numerous organizations who partner with us to meet the needs of our patrons. Thank you!
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Foster Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, library staff:

- Attended the Foster Community Center Family Fun Night, Lansing School District Community Resource Center Walk-Through, Kids Day at Allen Farmers’ Market, Gier Elementary Literacy Night, and Post Oak Elementary Discovery Day
- Provided storytelling at Lewton, Forest View, Gier and St. Martha schools, as well as the Early Childhood Literacy Coalition Family Event and Prime Time Grandparents Camp
- Read monthly to kids in the Foster Afterschool Program
- Introduced a den of Cub Scouts to the library

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. We hosted author Loreen Niewenhuis, who talked about her experience hiking around the Great Lakes.
2. Our staff chaperoned and entertained 15 stuffed friends at a Teddy Bear Sleepover. One staff member brought his own stuffed friend, while another brought her sleeping bag, flashlight and diary.
3. We hosted a Halloween Make-up Workshop, where artists from Astute Artistry turned volunteers into scary-looking zombies.
4. We planned and executed a Mockingjay Scavenger Hunt, with participants visiting Panem districts throughout the Community Center.
5. Our annual Holiday Open House featured a visit from Rooftop Landing Reindeer.

OUR THANKS
We would like to thank Friends of Lansing Libraries for their generous support of our programs and facility, Lansing Parks and Recreation and Foster Community staff, our faithful volunteers, our loyal patrons, and our dedicated staff for making 2014 another great year for the library.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Haslett Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, our library staff:

• Hosted Summer Reading Kick-off events for 960 Haslett Elementary School students
• Provided Teen Read Week book talks for 150 freshman at Haslett High School
• Reached out to senior citizens with a monthly book talk at Wynwood Assisted Living and a book discussion group at the Meridian Senior Center
• Collaborated with MSU Service Learning & Civic Engagement to offer free homework help from MSU student tutors
• Supported the Haslett Food Pantry with year round food collection

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:
1. Our branch hosted Michigan Notable Book author Linda Hundt, who drew a standing room only crowd for a presentation and pie samples.
2. Our maker programs such as Table Top Art, Crafternoons and LEGO® Club drew a large, loyal and fun-loving crowd.
3. Library readers of all ages enjoyed literary themed events like Bilbo’s Birthday Party, Day of the Doctor and a visit by the storybook character Library Mouse.
4. We hosted lifestyle programs for adults by floral designer J Schwanke and master gardener Laryssa Kaufman that were well received.
5. Special events for the whole family included our annual Holiday Open House, Make a Gingerbread House and Halloween Magic Party.

OUR THANKS
It is our privilege to serve a community that recognizes the value of public libraries. The millage support in 2014 was overwhelming and so appreciated. Thank you for letting us know we are meeting your needs! Thanks also to the Friends, Meridian Township and Haslett Public Schools Facilities for enhancing library resources for all.

HEAD LIBRARIAN
Ann Chapman
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Holt-Delhi Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, our library staff:

- Collaborated with a range of community resources, including Sam Corey Senior Center, Early Childhood Literacy Coalition, Kiwanis, Lions, the Holt Business Alliance, Building 21, Oak Park YMCA, Holt Farmers’ Market, the Downtown Delhi Development Authority and Heartwood Schools
- Participated in the Holt Hometown Parade, Kiwanis Halloween in the Park, Holt Community Kids Day, Libraries for Life, Ingham County Fair and more
- Hosted kindergarten school visits, Delta Dental storytime, and Girl Scout groups
- Appeared on the WLMI Tim Barron’s Morning Show to highlight library services and value
- Provided an ongoing collection bin for patrons to donate goods to the Holt Community Food Bank, served as a collection site for Socks for Lansing, and participated in the Give a Kid a Christmas program

THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. With a great deal of collaboration, we secured a fiber network connection for the Holt-Delhi community in June.
2. We developed key sponsorships that resulted in financial support from the Holt Kiwanis Club and Dart Bank.
3. Our staff hosted two new wildly successful Summer Reading series. They were so popular that we offered two to four sessions for each.
4. Our Summer Reading program attendance rose to more than 2,700, an increase of 20% over 2013.
5. We launched two new ongoing programs this year: Anime and Manga Club, and Minecraft Tournaments, which have been well received and well attended.

OUR THANKS

We are abundantly thankful for the continued and wonderful support of Delhi Township for assisting the library to be its finest, our Friends for being amazing advocates and caretakers, our patrons who are the best, many organizations who provided financial support, and the staff of Holt-Delhi library who offer nothing but excellence.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Leslie Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, our library staff:

• Partnered with White Pine Academy and Leslie Public School to provide assemblies, a presence at Kindergarten Roundup, and classroom instructional support
• Hosted classes from Woodworth Elementary and White Pine Academy for library orientation, Constitution Day, Summer Reading, 4th grade non-fiction lessons, and “Second Grade, First Card” programs
• Joined Linc on the Little Reading Railroad for the Leslie Lighted Christmas Parade
• Hosted the Hugs for Hospice group weekly

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. Our Summer Reading program increased by nearly 100 readers.
2. We greatly increased attendance at our Pizza & Pages series for kids. We responded by adding a second group for teens and tweens.
3. We hosted the Lansing Lugnuts for a special Baseball Clinic.
4. In partnership with our Friends group, we held a Holiday Open House featuring Santa, Rooftop Reindeer, and harpist Vienna Bordeaux.
5. We arranged successful family nights throughout the year, including a Super Bowl party, Spring Fling Family Jingo, Minute to Win it, and Scary Stories Night.

OUR THANKS
Special thanks to the Leslie Area United Fund, Leslie Public Schools and White Pine Academy, Friends of the Library, our volunteers, City of Leslie, Leslie Township, and our loyal patrons for their continued support of the Leslie Library. Thanks to all of you, our library is the heart of our community.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Mason Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, library staff:

- Collaborated with the Mason Public Schools to promote the Summer Reading program, issued library cards to all 8th grade students, and supported early literacy support to students of the Early Learning preschool program
- Participated in the annual Holiday Electric Light Parade, featuring Linc’s Little Reading Railroad
- Promoted library services to approximately 900 students at the Ingham County Farm Bureau’s Project Red Event
- Kicked off our Summer Reading program with fun and prizes in collaboration with the Mason Optimist’s Club at their annual Youth Sports Day
- Hosted student volunteers with special needs throughout the year from Mason High School’s CBI work experience program

THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. We moved patron holds out for public use and installed a self-checkout unit to increase privacy, ease of access and efficiency.
2. Our adult collection was rearranged for improved ease of access and organization of materials.
3. Staff provided early literacy support at well-attended weekly storytimes and playgroups, and made a big push to register babies and toddlers for the Pre-reader track of our Summer Reading program.
4. Mason Library served as a tour site and shared our history with the community during the Mason Area Historical Society’s Fall Home Tour.
5. In celebration of Teen Read Week we presented book talks and offered free book vouchers to all Mason Public School students in grades 8-10.

OUR THANKS

CADL Mason is a community library that provides service to its members through the collaborative efforts of branch and administrative staff, the City of Mason, the Friends of the Mason Library, volunteers, community groups and businesses, and most importantly, the support and patronage of our users. Thank you!
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Okemos Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the community we serve. In 2014, library staff:

- Visited the Meridian Senior Center to facilitate monthly documentary film discussions and to provide ongoing technology instruction
- Provided weekly literacy story times to five classes at Edgewood Community Childcare Center
- Made 275 outreach visits to Okemos Schools, private and charter schools, Meridian Senior Center, Meridian Township Parks and Recreation, and the Meridian Township Farmers’ Market
- Provided free meeting space for 168 community groups

THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. On January 2, we re-opened following a three-month long renovation project, with support from Meridian Township, CADL, and a fundraising drive spearheaded by the Okemos Friends group. Changes include a new entrance, new reading room, and expanded technology services.

2. Our library provided 847 programs for children, teens and adults.

3. We facilitated tech tutoring for adults, literacy programs to young children, and activities to students through our Teen Advisory Board.

4. Our English as a Second Language Programs were offered weekly for both students and adults.

5. Staff facilitated our first-ever Minecraft tournament, which developed as a simultaneous, multi-branch, after-hours event.

OUR THANKS

Much appreciation is due to Meridian Township Facilities staff for their attention to the building, and to the Friends of the Okemos Library for their continued support of library activities. Thanks also to the residents who continue to fund the 13-branch Capital Area District Libraries system with their tax dollars.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The South Lansing Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2014, library staff:

- Attended school fairs and open houses, including Lansing School District Special Needs, Forrest View Elementary, Gardner and Maple Hill Head Start
- Facilitated monthly book discussions for Community Mental Health–Transitions
- Hosted biweekly visits from Immaculate Heart of Mary students as well as visits from daycare centers, Head Start classes, Cub Scouts and other community groups
- Provided March is Reading Month activity calendars to elementary age children and special storytimes for preschool age children
- Collaborated with Early On of Michigan to make early intervention services and activities for infants and toddlers available at the library

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. We hosted a Libraries for Life organ donation sign up, served as a Toys for Tots drop off location, and coordinated with MSU Service Learning to offer K-12 homework help at the library.
2. Our library welcomed over 1,700 kids, teens and adults to our roster of summer events.
3. Our staff registered 753 Summer Reading participants, who logged 8,830 hours of literacy activities.
4. The number of STEM events and programs offered at our branch was tripled.
5. We invested in on-site messaging, such as digital signage, shelfies and book spine poetry, making information easier and more entertaining to access.

OUR THANKS
We could not offer all of these rich and diverse services without support from our friends at the City of Lansing, ITEC of Lansing, South Lansing educators, and our loyal patrons who renewed our millage in 2014.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Stockbridge Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2014, library staff:

- Worked with dozens of community partners, including the Chelsea Area Wellness Foundation and the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, in a Community Read effort that involved several events and the distribution of over 300 free books
- Coordinated efforts with other community groups to bring 16 weeks of live music to the open air market every Friday throughout the summer
- Partnered with the elementary schools to bring all-school assemblies to Heritage, and worked with elementary and early childhood education classes by providing stories and library tours
- Partnered with Stockbridge Community Outreach on projects including their annual Bumbershoot fundraiser, a food drive and a holiday book drive
- Partnered with the Friends of the Library and Stockbridge High School to sponsor and judge the This I Believe essay contests

THE TOP 5

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. We hosted Welcome Week visits that brought in over 325 visitors from elementary school classes.
2. Our library presented scores of special events for children, including visits from live reindeer and picture book character Ladybug Girl, summer activities in the park, and special storytimes.
3. Our business and career programs for adults included getting your business on the web, resume review, small business beginner’s tips and how to start an Etsy business.
4. We held a multi-day “Artist in Action” event, in which patrons could watch as local artist Colleen Redfield created a painting of children reading.
5. In partnership with Stockbridge Community Education and Backstreet Steakhouse and Seafood Grill, we presented a Great Artists & Ale Series featuring local musician Gary Allen.

OUR THANKS

Many thanks to our patrons, our township, our village, our Friends group, the Stockbridge Area Community Fund, the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition, the Chelsea Area Wellness Foundation, Stockbridge Community Education, Stockbridge Community Schools, and all our community partners for helping to make 2014 so successful!
The Webberville Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2014, library staff:

- Joined the annual Webberville Community Picnic, bringing the musical group Gemini to the event and opening the library for Summer Reading registration
- Partnered with Webberville Village, allowing the annual Ladies’ Night Out event to expand into our building
- Read stories at Webberville Elementary School’s Family Reading Night
- Presented library information to parents and teachers at Webberville Elementary Family Literacy Night
- Hosted the Acting Up Theatre Company at Webberville Elementary School to promote Summer Reading

These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:

1. Attendance at our drop-in LEGO® Club skyrocketed during the fall, with between 30-40 people participating each month.
2. We increased our programming for adults by offering 10 special topics throughout the year, including Facebook for Business, Digitizing Family Photos, and the History of the American Gas Station.
3. More than 200 people attended our Holiday Open House, which included a visit from live reindeer, crafts, and home-baked treats provided by our Friends.
4. Patrons enjoyed a variety of children’s programs throughout the year, including the annual Dr. Seuss Celebration, drop-in holiday crafts, paper punch party, a puppet making workshop, rubber band bracelet making, and Wednesday afternoon movies.

Many thanks to our patrons, Leroy Township, The Village of Webberville, and the Friends of the Webberville Library for a very successful year.
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
The Williamston Library is a valuable and vibrant member of the communities we serve. In 2014, library staff:
• Hosted booths at the Williamston Elementary PTSA Ice Cream Social and Williamston Farmers’ Market
• Led monthly book chats and Senior Reminisce programs at the Williamston Senior Center
• Participated in the Red Cedar Jubilee Parade and provided a decorated entry called Linc’s Little Reading Railroad for the Holiday Light Parade
• Coordinated and led the Battle of the Books program for Williamston 6th graders
• Provided Information Literacy instruction and free books to 175 Williamston High School freshman English students

THE TOP 5
These events and achievements were among the most notable in 2014:
1. Our library welcomed 1,140 kids, teens and adults to 29 different summer events.
2. We hosted 126 kids and teens from Ingham County for Stem Monday events throughout the summer.
3. Williamston welcomed author Teresa Irish with her inspirational program “A Thousand Letters Home,” based on the 1,000 letters her father wrote during World War II.
4. We accepted the gift of a new bookshelf for juvenile series books from Williamston 3rd Grade students.
5. Williamston Library staff coordinated a successful Battle of the Books for Williamston 6th graders, including a visit from author Mark Crilley for a prize winners’ lunch.

OUR THANKS
Thanks go to all our loyal patrons and library advocates, including our student “Volunteens,” the Friends of the Williamston Library, the Williamston Community Library Foundation, and the City of Williamston. Your support is greatly appreciated.
Overall revenues fell at a much slower pace in 2014 compared to the prior three years. Total revenue was $10,549,000 and only $77,000 lower than 2013. Taxable value on real and personal property fell by only 1.25% for the year and is expected to be back in positive territory in 2015. On the expense side of the equation, salaries and benefit costs increased by $34,000 or less than half of 1%. Spending on library materials was increased by $142,000, and was offset to some degree by lower spending on all other categories of $72,000. In total, 2014 expenses were $9,920,000 and only about 1% higher than the previous year.

**GRANTS**

- **Universal Service Fund** - $73,017 was approved for 2014 Internet Connections. $13,538 was approved and received for 2014 regular telephone services.
- **Michigan Humanities Council** - $250 was received to fund Summer Reading programs.
- **Target Corporation** - $2,000 was received to fund the purchase of Raising Readers backpacks.
- **MSUFCU** - $2,500 was received to help fund our Library Card Challenge in local schools.

**OTHER MONETARY DONATIONS**

In 2014, CADL received total donations of $58,871 in 2014 from individuals, Library Friends groups, and other organizations.