



***Director's Report***

November 6, 2014

**Personnel:**

- Janice Kurasz was hired as the part-time Financial Assistant.
- Amanda "Rae" Berg has resigned her position as a part-time Teen/Children's Librarian.

**Renovation Project:**

We are very happy to report that the referendum question was approved at the November 4<sup>th</sup> General Election. Provisional results are as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
Cook	4,039	3,246	55.6%
DuPage	125	70	44.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,164</b>	<b>3,316</b>	

Results will be certified on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

I will be meeting with G.K. Baum representatives and Engberg Anderson next week to determine the next steps in the financing and design phases of the project and will provide a full update at the Board meeting. Later this month, I will meet with our insurance representative, Paul Claussen, to review our upcoming insurance needs.

**Property Tax Distributions – Levy Year 2013-2014:**

We have exceeded our projected tax collections for fall, 2014.

	<u>Projected</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>% Collected</u>
Fall 2013	\$736,000	\$ 745,166.91	\$ 9,166.91	101.24%

**Presentation of Audit, FY2013 – 2014**

Auditor Ken Jaszczak will present the finding of his audit and the Financial Statements to the Board at the November 13 meeting.

**Per Capita Grant, FY 2015:**

The grant was submitted via email, prior to the October 15 deadline. We hope to receive the approximately \$25,000 in state funds later in this fiscal year.

**Library Closing Dates 2015**

A proposed list of Closing Dates is attached. In addition to holidays and closed days, a Staff Development Day is scheduled for Friday, February 13, 2015.

### **Buildings & Grounds:**

- The outdoor sprinkler system has been drained and shut down for the winter.
- The annual fire extinguisher inspection and the test of the smoke detectors were completed in October.
- Premier Snow & Ice Control of Lemont submitted a Seasonal Contract for snow removal services for November, 2014 to March, 2015. The contract cost of \$6,012 is \$262 higher than the 2013-14 season but covers a maximum snow accumulation of 50 inches and 27 de-icing applications (last year's contract covered 40 inches of snow and 25 de-icing applications). Service last year was very responsive and thorough, in spite of the challenges of a record-setting winter.

### **Technology:**

Hardware issues at Comcast affected our internet service for an 8 day period in October. Internet connections were intermittent throughout that time. We have been assured that new equipment has been installed to resolve the problem and a credit will be issued to our account for the downtime. This outage affected all systems for both public and staff use.

### **Adult Department:**

- The winter newsletter is scheduled for mailing the last week of November.
- The Annual Holiday Open House will be held on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. It will feature a classical holiday concert by Bel Sonore Ensemble, holiday crafts for sale, and refreshments.
- The Library will be participating in The Great Read, a multi-library programming endeavor, from February to April, 2015. The theme – Pop Goes the Culture – will explore and celebrate the decades of the sixties through nineties through a variety of free programs at many Pinnacle libraries and other locations and an art contest.

### **Teen Department:**

- 33 teens created Book Challenge entries for the \$1,000 Teen Read Dollar General Grant program. Our team of librarian judges narrowed it down to 3 grand prize Kindle Winners: Jacque Desmond, Riley Maloney, and Cassandra Stec (who are invited to receive their prizes at the November Board meeting) and 5 honorable mentions. Lemont High School was a great help in this program's success! 8 teens participated in the Teen Read Week Party held on October 18<sup>th</sup> to celebrate all their work!
- The DIY series continued to be popular, with teens creating Zombies, which turned into a 2 night program as involved quite a bit of sewing.
- On October 28, 9 teens and tweens attended the Pizza and Gaming Night.

### **Children's Department:**

- October saw a lot happening in the kids department. The monthly programs were a lot of fun. Storytimes and Action Academies concluded the week of October 23; the kids enjoyed the superheroes themes.
- Daddies and Donuts was spooktacular fun for dads and kids with Halloween stories and donuts.
- The Knit Wits club for 9-12 year olds was off to a great start with the girls knitting another project with Dawn Strand.
- The Wonder Club's theme for October was "All Things Disgusting." The kids made slime, played "Pin the Liver on the Zombie", and decorated monster brownies.
- Chef Katie Boyle offered the tweens a fun time of culinary delights, creating edible bugs, monsters, and fingers in true creepy style.
- Minecraft wallets were just the thing for tweens who enjoy using duct tape to make stylish items.

- The highlight of the month was trick or treating at the Library! We had a huge crowd (over 350) come meet our live book characters. Volunteers from LHS as well as staff and library Friends dressed in costume and gave out treats. Our volunteers included: Sandi Pointon, Paul Dobersztyn, Dawn Strand, Kay Norfleet, Marilyn DeVries, John Tuzim, Sheryl Hill, Pam Nogal, Sydney Medema, Maliha Asadullah, Alejandra Rodriguez, Leah Hanson, Taylor Campos, Ace Matthews, Mairead Hogan, Krystina Gutierrez, Brian Dohse, Melissa Smith, Michael Tuzim, and Emily Olson.
- The Children's Department is looking forward the upcoming holiday season with a lot of fun programs planned.

### **Training/Workshops:**

- Jackie Lakatos attended the Pinnacle Circulation meeting at Shorewood Library and a Unique Management Service (collection agency) presentation at Fountaindale Library.
- Debbie Somchay and Jackie Lakatos attended the promotional expo sponsored by Allegra Printing.
- Pam Zukoski attended two meetings for The Great Read Meeting at the Barnes & Noble in Joliet.
- Debbie Somchay attended the Pinnacle PAC Committee Meeting at the Plainfield Public Library.

### **Outreach:**

- Sandra Pointon spoke to several groups about the referendum in October, including the Senior Bingo group at the Park District, the Senior Lunch meeting at Lemont Township Community Center (with Friend President Ann Stout) and a large group of residents at Franciscan Village. Mary Inman joined her for a presentation to the Oakwood School PTO. Trustee Sanders and Director Pointon also spoke to the Citizens Police Academy and the Lemont Chamber of Commerce about the renovation plan.
- Sandi Pointon and Mary Inman, along with Trustee Sanders and volunteer Tom Culcasi, participated in the Fire Department's Open House for Fire Safety Month on Saturday, October 4. Children were able to make cute "water" buckets to take home and enjoy a story time.
- Our final visit to the Farmers Market took place on October 28. We appreciate the assistance and promotion provided by Donna Pecina of the Village staff and the staff who worked at the events including Paul Dobersztyn, Dawn Strand, Fernando Alfonso and Kathie Baker, as well as volunteers Tom Culcasi and members of the Friends group.
- Sandra Pointon was assisted at the Park District Fall Fest by Page John Tuzim, who did a fantastic job with the bean bag toss game, and volunteer Joyce Koon at the Park District Fall Fest. Despite chilly temperatures, there was a steady stream of families visiting the library's table at the outdoor event on October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Debbie Somchay made the monthly delivery to Our Lady of Victory Convent and Franciscan Village on Monday, September 29, 2014. 10 sisters and 29 items and 7 people attended and 31 items were checked out, respectively.
- Mary Inman and Dawn Strand are partnering with Oakwood School to bring the Monarch award books to life. They also will be sharing books that match the school's character trait series.
- Mary Inman met with Lemont HS teacher Sara Armbrrecht to plan the return of Book Buddies, which will launch on Thursday, November 6.
- We are continuing to partner with LHS to offer a Kids Chess Club once a month.
- Mary Inman participated as a judge in Everest Academy's annual Poetry Recitation contest.

**Helping Veterans on the Homefront**

Our district residents have generously contributed many boxes of items for veterans at the MW Shelter and Hines VA Hospital. Our thanks to our partners, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Lemont VFW and the Rotary Club of Lemont-Homer Glen for their participation.

**Early Voting:**

The Library Meeting Room was the venue for early voting from October 20 to November 1<sup>st</sup>. The expansion of hours and interest in the election spurred an increase in usage over the 2010 General Election. A total of 2,597 individuals voted here in the two week period.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra D. Pointon