

2020 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

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Staff: Jennifer Thomas, Director and Barbara Patchett

2020 began like most years. We had weekly coffee hours for adults. Caring Crafters started weekly project afternoons to get together and use their talents to create items to donate to various community organizations. We had a little bit of Saturday Morning Fun, a Vacation Craft & Story Day, and a couple of puzzle race's for our puzzle enthusiasts for a total of 9 programs for Adults and 3 for children. 78 people participated in these programs during January and February.

Between January 1st and March 3rd our Caring Crafters donated 27 Cat Mats to the SPCA, 25 children's pillowcases to WUM, Critical Needs program, 35 seasonal placemats to Hospice of Jefferson County, 39 scarves, hats, bandanas to Operation Gratitude, 51 reusable fabric bags to the Dexter Food Pantry and another 25 hand-made items to the General Brown Class of 2020 Sale. In the fall a donation of 19 red scarves were sent to Foster Care To Success and 17 blankets were donated to the Linus Project.

The pandemic forced us to close our doors from March 23rd – May 31st. We worked hard to maintain contact with our community and patrons via our website, social media and email. The number of visits to our website in 2020 was 22,137 more than double the 10,333 visits in the previous year.

Staff was able to come back to work at the library on June 1st and we began offering curbside service. The building was reopened to the public on June 15th. We all donned our face-coverings and patrons could come and browse our collection. We transitioned slowly during June, July and August in an effort to resume all services safely due to the pandemic.

Our Summer Reading Program went virtual. We invited families and children to take advantage of the READsquared platform (June 1 – August 30) and to join our facebook group in order to enjoy virtual programs featuring Page Turner Adventures for 5 programs each week from June 15 to August 23. Patrons told us they liked the virtual program and that it gave them the flexibility to choose when to watch each week. Most days the program was viewed by about 20 children. We estimate that Page Turner Adventures over the 10 weeks attracted 937 individuals who viewed the videos.

With the summer transition a success we offered JUST 4 FUN (with limited registration due to social distancing requirements) on Saturday morning in October for children and families. We held two 3Doodler workshops. Regrettably, as November arrived there was growing concern over increases in Covid infection rates and we stepped back from in-person programming for health and safety concerns and offered TAKE & MAKE projects for children. When we closed the doors to the public in December we made TAKE & MAKE a regular Saturday morning event. We distributed 60 TAKE & MAKE kits families with children.

2020 marked our tenth year collecting signed Christmas cards for residents of area nursing homes. Approximately 800 cards were signed from library patrons and IHC High School students participating in the school's Faith Community Service program.

Holdings and Circulation:

2,925 new items were added to our collection. This includes physical books, dvds, ebooks, and eaudio books. A total of 2,091 physical items (books, dvds from the library's physical holdings) were checked out to patrons for the year. Our patrons accessed electronic material 756 times.

Other Services:

The library WIFI service was accessed and utilized by community members 4,925 times in 2020 up from 4,754 times in 2019. The library went from open hours of 25 per week in 2019 to 27 hours per week in 2020.

Operating Costs totaled \$59,919 for the year.

A complete copy our 2020 Annual Report is available upon request.