

Director's Report for July 27, 2023

- In conversation with Theresa from City County Health and others, we moved the book drop box to another area to accommodate the construction in the current location.
- We are also exploring ways in which we can partner with City County Health. Emma Tufte has approached us with an idea of adding things to our library for check out that promote health and wellness through exercise and moving. (Some ideas, snowshoes, tennis rackets, lawn games) They are willing to help purchase items if we handle checking them out. Our problem is storage space for such items. Meghan Velure from City County Health has also approached us and inquired about our needs for an AED, Narcan, and comfort kits. They would provide all the supplies needed so it would be of no cost to us.
- The Middle Room renovation is complete, and we are looking forward to the installation of the cupboards and such in the second week of August. Melissa contacted Diane and asked for name suggestions while keeping in mind the purpose of the room.
- The Summer Learning Program is going very well and we are nearing the end. We had a total of 147 signed up for the program.
- We performed a major weeding of our audiobook collection. As technology has changed the call for books on disc has declined significantly and many titles had not circulated for quite some time. This created some greatly needed space for our DVD TV series and movies. All the TV series are now easily accessible. We added a new DVD carousel and shifted the movie collection to allow for more movement, better access, and for incoming new titles.
- Kerry Peuser and Luke Gulbranson from Michael J. Burns Architects LTD along with Ryan Goodman from RDA, Inc. were here on Friday, July 7th to take a look in the attic space concerning the roof. They said they have found a lot of good information through that experience and will have concrete answers for us concerning the leaking roof. I am looking forward to hearing from them soon if not already.
- The videos and social media posts by Clutch Media (Spencer Dobson) continue to give us great exposure to the public and we are noticing that people are mentioning the library in their comments more and are recommending events happening at the library.
- Our newest staff members Victoria Hammel and Beth Mehus are catching on fast and have been a great help during busy programming days and for Saturdays. We are hopeful they will want to stay for quite some time.
- We had the opportunity to interview and hire one of our teen supporters to fill in some hours on Saturdays and after school. Carter Hass began training on Monday, July 17th. He is a great library supporter and is totally excited to work in this environment. His enthusiasm to learn all about the library is exciting for us as well.
- We have received many great compliments on the flowers and landscaping around the library. If you see Bonnie Gassmann working on the library grounds, please extend your thanks.
- The NDLA Conference is scheduled to take place in Fargo this coming October. We would really like to take advantage of it being so close and want to encourage our staff members to attend at least one full day of the event. In order for this to happen, we would like to explore the possibility of closing the library for a "continuing education" day so that everyone can attend if they wish.
- I have been taking the American Library Association's Library Director's Crash Course classes during the month of July. I have learned a lot in a short amount of time, so now I will spend time processing all of that information and see how it applies to our library and my position as director.

- Melissa is celebrating 10 years of serving here at the library in a variety of areas. She will soon graduate with her Masters in Library Science as well. Melissa is a very valuable member of our library team and her dedication to her profession certainly calls for celebration!
- We had a great turn out for the City Block Party in City Park! We provided games and prizes for all ages.