

Director's Report for June 06.11.2026

- May was a very busy month of preparing for the Summer Learning Program and our Kickoff event that took place on Tuesday, May 26th. It was a very hot day, and we went through a lot of water and lemonade! All the participants had a great time though. As of June 2nd, we had a total of 210 people signed up for the Summer Learning Program and more are signing up every day. So far, all activities have had great attendance!
- About a month or so ago I had applied to an offer to host a screening for the documentary that is coming out this weekend. It is in honor and celebration of our adoption of our national flag. The documentary is called *Flag Day* and was filmed by Andrew Shea and Melissa Shea. It features the small town of Three Oaks, Michigan and their *Flag Day* parade that has grown into the largest celebration in our country. I got notification two weeks ago that we were approved for hosting a community screening. We are doing this in partnership with the Barnes County Historical Society and Museum. The screening will take place on Monday, June 15th at 7 pm here at the library in the multipurpose room. We plan to serve cookies and lemonade during the event. I hope you all will try to attend.
- The plans for the Pie and Ice Cream Social are coming together. Posters were made and we have sign-up sheets in the library for those willing to donate pie and volunteer. Lornetta Hooks volunteered to post posters around town and happily took posters for the *Flag Day* community screening as well.
- The Seed Library is a wonderful addition to our community services. Many people have stopped in to find garden and flower seeds for planting. I expect this to be even more successful next year as people learn about it. I am also looking into ways to expand the project by perhaps having some gardening supplies/tools on hand for check out.
- Quin and Lee Kruger have been doing a great job getting the flower gardens in shape and planting the flowers for this summer season. Quin is mostly in charge, and I have seen him here quite a bit diligently tending his plantings.
- One of the things the Carnegie Committee was excited about was the prospect of having electricity trenched out to the flagpole. The goal would be to install a light to shine on the flag and to light up the repurposed and restored sign from the church. It is not a simple thing to do since they will have to tunnel under the sidewalk and such. The proposal came in at \$2500.
- We lost a staff member last week. Jessica Lobsinger decided to resign. We do not plan to fill that position right now with the summer being so busy. We have enough staff that are willing to take on some extra hours for the summer, so we plan to wait until August to look for another staff member.
- The city came and filled in the potholes at the entrance to our parking lot! Yeah! It is a big improvement and it looks like they used crushed asphalt so hopefully it will last a while.
- We received some great news last week! The Association for Rural and Small Libraries was offering a grant opportunity for staff to apply for an educational program that will enhance our ability to provide technology resources and educational opportunities to our community. Caitlyn said she was interested in doing this, so we put together the grant

application and last week we received news that we received the grant. It is for \$25,000! There are some conditions for some of the funds which include attending the ARSL conferences for the next two years and participating in the classes provided. The grant will cover those costs and costs of new technology and programming needs. This will be a great opportunity to further Caitlyn's knowledge and skill in her position of Adult Services Coordinator and to enhance our services to our community.

- As of May 31st, the library saved our community \$215,750 for physical checkouts. As of that same date, a total of 11,809 physical and 9,093 digital checkouts took place. Approximate savings to our patrons for both physical and digital media for the year 2026 equals \$381,879. We have gained 107 new patrons so far this year!