



Bloomfield Township Public
Library



Even the local wildlife loves to visit the Library.

ANNUAL REPORT

April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020

■ HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR

This was a year of making our already wonderful library building even better. Between May 2019 and February 2020, the Library received a new roof, a new floor in the lobby, and a new space called the Commons.

A bid to rejuvenate the **Library's roof** was awarded to CEI in May, with another bid to renovate the lobby floor awarded to Rewold and Sons. Work was also performed at this time to mitigate a problem with standing water on the west side of the library campus.

The Library's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan included a goal to provide flexible and attractive spaces for a variety of patron needs. With this in mind, in May 2019 library management participated in a design think workshop, along with Interior Designer Geraldine Drake, to draft a problem statement that would drive the design of a new space being created where the Media collection had previously been located. The resulting statement was: "Provide a flexible space for a variety of users and activities that is accessible and engaging to all in proximity to the rest of the library."



The Library's design think tank hard at work.

On June 5, 2019, the shelving in the former Media area was dismantled and removed. With the shelving gone, prototype furniture was brought in for patrons to try and report feedback. This experiment proved to be successful, and helped in planning the area's final furnishings, lighting, and carpeting.

At the same time the lobby was cleared of everything – from vending machines to the Welcome Desk – in order to install **a beautiful new floor**. The Welcome Desk was moved and Clerks were relocated to a temporary table near Circulation. Furniture from the Vending Café was placed in the former Media area, and test furniture remained in place as well throughout the summer. The timing for having this large space and extra furniture was fortuitous, as the new test area quickly became a spot for patrons to gather while the popular Vending Café was closed.



The various stages of the new lobby floor.

The new test space was given an official name, "**The Commons**," receiving new carpeting and a fresh coat of paint. An innovative electrical system with low-profile tracks running underneath the carpet to free-standing power poles was installed in the area providing convenient electrical access to patrons, and eliminating the need and demand for fixed wall outlets.

In early 2020, improvements continued to be made. New lighting was installed outside of the restrooms in the Commons, brightening up an area that had long been a "dark corner" of the Library and serving as a wayfinding improvement. The lobby stairway also received a facelift,



The completed Library Commons.

with heavy duty vinyl flooring in a unique design, making the stairway easier to clean. As the fiscal year drew to a close, it was exciting to see the beautiful results of all of the hard work put into these year-long improvement projects.

■ PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



The Library's third **community-wide photo contest** came to a close on April 13, 2019 with a reception held at the Library. The theme "Light and Dark" challenged photographers both technically and creatively. The contest received 111 photo submissions from 64 residents, and has certainly become a wonderful community event for all ages.

Pictured at left are the winning photos. From the upper left corner, top row: Adult Category

– First Place "Moonlit Solarlight" Julie Maher, Second Place "One Way Out" Timothy Zulewski, and Third Place "Forks Black and White" Sally Matak. Middle row: Teen ages 13-18 – First Place "Railroad Reverence" Kosta Sergakis, Second Place "Stopping Time" Marissa Malleck, and Third Place "Broken" Chloe Kiriluk. Bottom row: Youth ages 0-12 – First Place "A' Shadow Letter" Kobin Kothari, Second Place "Fresh" Sajin Peponis, and Third Place "Backseat Driver" Lochlan Dixon. The Best in Show winner, "A Quiet Moment in the Shade" by Amy Messano (pictured at right), has been framed, and joins our previous two year's winners on display in the staff hallway.



■ AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

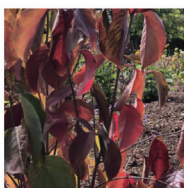
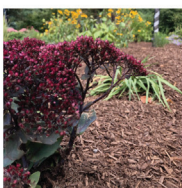
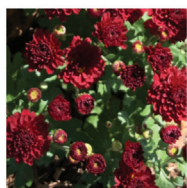


Pictured left to right: Bloomfield Township Public Library Board Trustees Judy Lindstrom and Eli Greenbaum present Myers Scholarship awards to Circulation Department Head Anna Pelepchuk and Katarina Moore, daughter of Administration Clerk Laura Moore.

The **Myers Scholarship** was awarded to three recipients this year: Katarina Moore, Anna Pelepchuk, and Erin Gieselman. Katarina, the daughter of Administration Clerk Laura Moore, is studying English and Speech at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Anna Pelepchuk, the Library's Circulation Department Head, is pursuing a BA in Business Administration at University of the People. Erin Gieselman, a Youth Services Page and Bloomfield Township resident, is studying for a Bachelor of Arts in Media with a focus on advertising at Indiana University.

In April 2019, Youth Services Assistant Department Head Jen Taggart received a **special proclamation from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners** for her work on the Youth Services Accessibility Services Collection (formerly Special Needs Collection). The proclamation was presented in person by Commissioners Shelly Taub and Marcia Gershenson.

■ GIFTS AND DONATIONS



Utilizing a generous gift, a **garden honoring the memory** of former staff member, Trustee, and Friends of the Library Board member **Virginia Smith** was created (left). Virginia was an avid gardener, and had previously donated a tri-color beech tree that was planted on the library's campus last year. Both Virginia's garden and her tree now greet visitors at the entrance to the library parking lot. Many thanks also to the Friends of the Library for approving funding for west side berm improvements. Hardy shrubs and trees now beautify this site that is often exposed to wind gusts and salt from Telegraph Road.

The **Friends of the Library** were very generous to the Library once again, with donations received totaling \$58,750. These funds made so many exciting things possible, including new lighting rigs for concerts in the Community Room, a microfilm scanner for our years-long digitizing project of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Eccentric, a new Youth Services collection called Wonderbooks, plus numerous program supplies and prizes, garden enhancements, and much-needed equipment.



Supported by Friends of the Library donations, new lighting rigs illuminate one of the Library's popular Friday night concerts.

■ OUR LIBRARY TEAM

Library staff started using a new software tool called "When I Work," designed to make scheduling staff shifts and processing payroll more efficient and accurate.



Staff Development Day was held May 3, 2019, with the theme "Get on the Zing Train." Trainers from Zingerman's ZingTrain presented a helpful workshop on customer service.

On a sad note, we lost a beloved member of the Library family this year. Jae Stepanian (pictured at left), a Page for 19 years, passed away on August 12, 2019. Jae was loved by all and is sorely missed.



Staff Development Day, May 3, 2019.

■ COLLECTIONS

The Library began offering **Kanopy**, a new digital movie streaming service. Kanopy is loaded with award-winning and independent films and documentaries, and has great content for kids.

The Library's collections are ever-evolving, and so is language. This fall, the previously named Special Needs collection took on a more inclusive name as the **Accessibility Services Collection (ASC)**. This name change reflects the Library's desire to remain aligned with the accessibility community, and to continue to reduce barriers to library collections and services.

■ COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Summer reading kicked off June 17, 2019, with the theme "A Universe of Stories." Adult and Youth Services Librarians planned a summer's worth of outer space-themed programs and prizes. Outreach to promote summer reading throughout the community included events at the E.L. Johnson Nature Center, Cranbrook Art Museum, Haven, and Equinox Fitness.

The Library joined Bloomfield Hills East Hills and Bloomfield Hills Middle School for a **"Book of the Year Challenge."** Similar to March Madness for basketball, students voted on which book they liked best. Youth Services Librarians gave book talks at each school to raise awareness and excitement among the students. The field had been narrowed down to the students' top four picks right before we moved operations to our homes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

■ BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

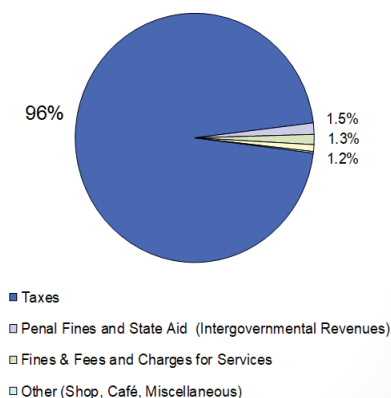
Library Trustees are residents of Bloomfield Township, and are elected every four years. The Library Board of Trustees meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month, except April, which is on the fourth Tuesday. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Library.



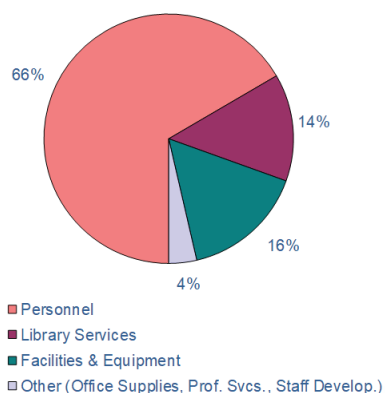
Library Board of Trustees 2020-2021 (from top left to right): Grant Gerhart, Joan Luksik, Judy Lindstrom, Eli Greenbaum, Sandra Edwards, Tom Deska.

Financial Review of Fiscal Year 2019/2020

Bloomfield Township Public Library GENERAL FUND REVENUE SOURCES April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020



Bloomfield Township Public Library GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020



Bloomfield Township Public Library Facts at a Glance

320,001

Items in the Library's collection, including books, DVDs, CDs, and one skeleton.

19,549

Library patrons attended

723

Programs

2,243

Hours given to the Library by volunteers. From Trustees, to Friends, to individuals, the Library appreciates the support of our volunteers.

181,939

Visitors to the Library

***Bloomfield Township Public Library champions
the power of words to spark discovery and imagination.***

1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Township, MI 48302
(248) 642-5800 | www.btpl.org

LIBRARY HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: Noon - 5:30 p.m.