

**Chelsea District Library
Director's Report
March 2009**

Finance

- Spending is continuing at acceptable levels.
- The 2008 audit on-site work was started on Monday, February 23rd and completed the next day. We are awaiting their written report.
- Online passwords were changed on our Chelsea State Bank and MILAF accounts; authorizations to change the contact and authorized user from the past director to the interim director are in process.
- Estimates of 2009 residential property assessments have been received from the county treasurer and will be available for the 2010 budget process.
- Calls have been placed to Capital Campaign contacts in regards to outstanding pledges.

Building Updates

- Due to continuing problems with some of the recessed can lighting throughout the building, Terri contacted the manufacturer and they sent us replacement brackets and sockets at no charge. We have paid the electrician to replace a few of them so far but will incur further charges to finish the rest.
- Work is continuing on the portico bricks as I write this. It will be completed as weather allows.
- We are continuing to work with Fuller to determine why the fan froze in the basement and caused the water leak in late December, as well as temperature inconsistencies in the staff bathroom and Kidspot.

Library Operations

- I attended the kick-off to the 2009 Chelsea Reads, "Think Globally, Eat Locally" on March 1 from 1:00 to 2:00. The attendance was good and I heard many positive comments from those attending about the great refreshments, which consisted of local, seasonal foods. There were also much positive feedback about the film and the program offerings in general. The Reads brochure was included as an insert in the February 19 edition of the Chelsea Standard. Bill,

Karen, Edith, Peg and the Reads Committee have done a great job pulling together this year's program.

- Staff In-service was held on Monday, Feb. 16th. We spent the morning getting recertified in CPR. We had a different instructor than last year and he seemed well received by the staff. It is not "fun" training but very necessary and valuable both in our work lives as well as our personal lives. The afternoon was a True Colors workshop where we took a survey to find out what "color" we were, with each color representing different personality types. Then we were lead through several exercises to see how those types were the same or different, and how that translated in the work place. I thought it was fun and insightful; some staff agreed and some did not. It is always a challenge to find something that suits everyone but we will keep trying.
- Ron, Linda Sayers, and myself have met and reviewed inventory software. Ron will be investigating what peripherals we need to complete the package, then we will develop a plan for implementation.
- At their March meeting, The Friends voted to fund several more "wish list" items- youth, teen, and adult summer reading, and the first ever comic convention (teen) and comic series (adult/family). \$5500 in all. So generous!
- Plans are in the works for National Library Week, including the Friends Open House where the Friend of the Year and Volunteer of the Year awards are presented. Plans are also in the works for some special recognition of our volunteers the next week during National Volunteers Week.

TLN and State News

MLA has developed a policy position on the Governor's recommendation to eliminate the Dept. of History, Arts, and Libraries. Thursday, March 12, MLA testified before the History, Arts and Libraries Appropriations Subcommittee. MLA urged the Governor and State Legislature to: maintain library services within state government and keep their functions whole under the Library of Michigan in the Department of Education, Department of Management and Budget or Administrative Services; maintain state aid to public libraries at \$10 million in 2009; retain the position and role of the State Librarian. I have attached the position paper for your reading pleasure.

Linda

Linda Ballard
Interim Director