

Chelsea District Library
Director's Report
September 2009

Finance

- Spending is continuing at acceptable levels. We have received our penal fines for the year and were pleasantly surprised that they came in 25% higher than we had budgeted- we received \$25,369 and budgeted \$20,000.

Building Updates

- Bill and I are working with Fuller Heating on one outstanding issue having to do with the chimney from the boilers. We will get a second opinion and then meet with Bruce Pratt to resolve the issue.

Library Operations

- We welcomed two new staff members this month- Sara Wedell as Head of Adult Services, and Megan Esseltine as a part-time reference librarian. We are very excited to have them join our staff! Please introduce yourselves to these new faces when you see them. Sara will be attending the October board meeting for a more formal introduction.
- We had our first ever Red Cross blood drive here on August 6th and they were pleased with the amount of pints they received. Jennifer Kundak represented the Friends and gave out primo used books to donors, which they liked very much. We are planning another drive here in January.

TLN and State News

- By the time you read this, some of us will have attended the library rally in Lansing on September 10th and will report on it at the meeting.
- From Larry Neal, president of MLA, "The Senate rejected the Executive Order on August 27 and passed legislation to move the parts of HAL to the Department of State. Questions have been raised in the field about 'an impossible choice' between library funding and retaining the Library of Michigan. As a reminder, MLA continues to fight for both. But the budget battle is 30 days out. Rumors are now circulating that library funding cuts as deep as \$3.5 million are being considered. This has to be our first priority. Even if the Executive Order passes, we have one year to work to preserve the Library of Michigan. MLA meets with Superintendent Flanagan on Wednesday to begin those discussions."

Please watch our website or visit MLA's to get the latest on this important issue!

Linda Ballard, Interim Director