



LEIGHTON
TOWNSHIP
LIBRARY

LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

4451 12TH ST, MOLINE, MI 49335 • 616-877-4143 • WWW.LEIGHTONLIBRARY.ORG

ANNUAL REPORT

APRIL 1, 2022 - MARCH 31, 2023

Education
Information
Recreation

Leighton
Township
Library

Thank You
FOR HELPING US
Grow!

2022-2023

IT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY BY MAKING AVAILABLE RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL, INFORMATIONAL AND CULTURAL MATERIALS.

WHO WE ARE

The Leighton Township Library is located on the western edge of the township in Moline, Michigan. The library provides services to residents living within the entire Leighton Township boundaries. The library system comprises of over 63,600 items including over 28,375 print materials; 17,140 e-books; 5,586 e-audio books; 3,347 e-periodicals; 1,216 music CDs; 1,970 audio books; 272 Wii games, Switch games, board games, Launch Pads, and kits; and 5,785 DVDs which are available for check-out. In total, over 84,260 items were checked out of the library during the fiscal year 2022-2023! In addition to these items, we have over 2,300 patrons with library cards, and thousands of people entered the library to utilize copying and printing services, faxing of documents, to gain access to the internet through use of the desktop computers or the Wi-Fi signal. The library provides many excellent programs to promote early literacy for young children, the love of creating and hands-on activities, community connections, as well as a gathering place for all ages!

LTL Board of Directors

Michael Mulligan - President

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Susan Cotts - Treasurer

Kaylyn VanHarn - Secretary

Steve Martin - Trustee

Renee Baareman - Trustee

Library Staff

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Director

Amy Schultz
Library Assistant

Linda Bouterse
Circulation

Justine Wiegers
Youth Services

Rhonda Burns
Circulation

Chris Stegink
Youth Services

Erin Peeple
Library Clerk

Taryn Jenison-Curtis
Library Clerk

Erica Fennema
Library Page

DIRECTOR REPORT

"Read the best books first, or you may not have a chance to read them at all." — Henry David Thoreau

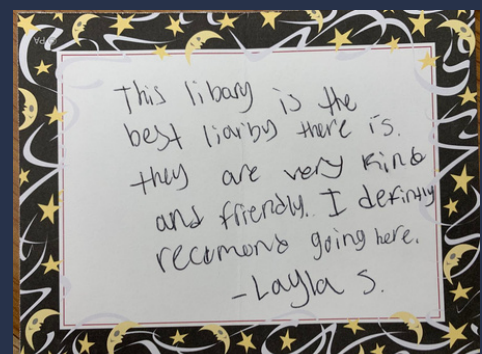
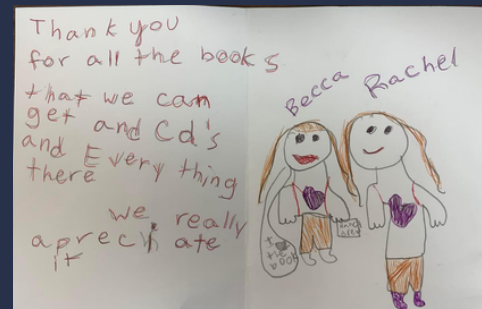
As a new year begins, you move into new projects and tasks. The 2022-2023 year began with refining and redefining the library space. New shelving had allowed for space for more items and to build our collection. Many projects were still being completed. Those included the air conditioning units which were installed in May, and the conversion to LED lighting in the main library area. There was a good cost saving by using the existing fixtures and by-passing the ballasts. Exterior painting of the new doors and windows, as well as the installation of the stone border around the front of the building to match the look of the Township's stone border, and all around the new addition. After that, the grass seed was put down.

Our new Maker Space was measured and fitted with window blinds for the North and West walls. This space was wanted for storing the many craft supplies and being a wonderful activity space. Over time, we have been able to use both the meeting room and the Maker Space to host dual programs! The clean-up and ability to wash things up has greatly increased with the two sinks and spacious counter top area. This room has also been used by the Township for elections. What a great way to use the tax dollars in multiple ways!

The Summer Reading time is always busy and we welcomed many families back to the library. It was fabulous to see the children getting back to selecting their books with their care givers. Our circulation numbers began to climb again. It is very apparent that the community likes to browse and select reading material. The library is a wonderful place to visit and explore new items! There are books, movies, audio books, Launch pad tablets, Literacy Kits, games, and more! Also, there were many events and activities to attend. The numbers on the following pages show the programming numbers, please take a look.

Our community hosted the Sesquicentennial Moline Celebration on September 17th and 18th. It was a huge success! The library staff encouraged those attending to come to the library to visit, as well. There was a bounce house and story walk along with giant bubbles outside, and some Moline History books inside. Those that attended could see the many changes to the library over the years. Looking back at the history of the Leighton Township Library, this community has certainly supported the services that the library offers, and enjoy reading the many books that are checked out. It was the thought of not having a library, that drove the community to do something and build a library. I think that the patrons and community wide are very glad they did!

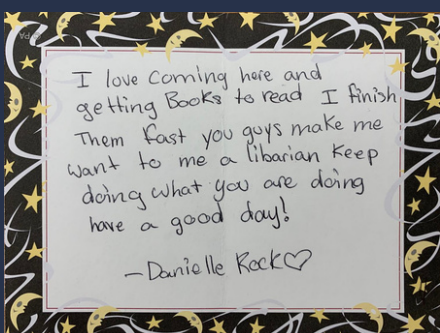
**Karen
McKinnon**
LIBRARY DIRECTOR



BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

On behalf the Library Board it is my honor to write to you for this 2023 Annual Report. The Leighton Township Library (LTL) has one of the best circulating library collections inside the cooperative. LTL has seemed to put the COVID time-frame behind as circulation numbers are above numbers before the shutdown. The expansion has allowed LTL staff to expand programing which you may have already noticed. There is always something happening at the LTL so if you have not already done so, follow the LTL on Facebook or Instagram to get latest news about exciting programs. For those who need a quiet place to study or have tutoring /testing, do not forget with the expansion there are two study rooms. Please check with Library staff for further details about using these spaces.

If you would like to donate to help pay for some new furnishings, please talk to the staff. Donations made are honored on our donor wall in the café area with the name of the person, family or business that makes a donation.



I encourage you and your family to join our reading programs throughout the year, but I know many LTL patrons have not based on the numbers that are reported to LTL Board. Do not forget about the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program. This is an awesome early literacy program. Please check with staff for more information.

As I stated in last year's Annual Report, the US Census data indicated that Leighton Township was one of the fastest growing townships in Michigan and the library is here to serve everyone in the community. I see this growth every day in the Green Ridge Estates development. I might be a bit biased, but the LTL has one of the best and most friendly staffs in Michigan for a Library our size, so come out and meet them. They will gladly assist you.

It is my privilege to serve this community as Library Board member and as the President of the Board.

Michael Mulligan, MLIS
LTL BOARD PRESIDENT

