



JANUARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT—JENNIFER THOMET

IPL is off to a great start to 2021! The friends group mitten tree was featured on 9 & 10 news and that segment helped collect more items for the mitten tree. Staff at IPL enjoyed an extended holiday this season, the extra time off was practical for Covid purposes and also well-deserved by staff. Curbside is keeping the ladies very busy and it feels like our phone is ringing off the hook! Curbside hours are now extended Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday 10 am-4 pm. Wednesday and Thursday 10 am - 6 pm.

Miss Ann's virtual story hour has a regular following and we pass out 162 story hour craft kits. Our Make a Gift, Jr craft program was successful with 98 craft kits given out. 10 Kid's Activity kits were circulated. We started giving patrons dog biscuits during curbside pickup and that has been well received by both staff and patrons. Two new social activity programs have started: Yarn Therapy and Yahtzee.

I'm very pleased to announce that IPL was selected to be a part of ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries. This \$3000 grant will provide a four-part book discussion on addiction. Janette Ransom, IPL's Health and Wellness Program Coordinator, and I have selected the first two books. Tiffany Jenkins, *High Achiever* and local author Patricia Steele's *The Gift of Second Chances*. We are very eager to facilitate good community discussion around a topic that has impacted our community.

IPL has applied for a mini-grant through Michigan Center for the Book. I proposed using the funds for a tween book bag giveaway to encourage tween to read Michigan authors. Each book kit will include a novel by a Michigan author and a companion graphic novel. The novels will be paired with similar content. One kit will include the titles "Bud, Not Buddy" by Christopher Paul Curtis and "New Kid" by Jerry Craft. The second kit will include the titles "Homeless Bird" by Gloria Whelan and "Pashmina" by Nadhi Chanani. Along with the two novels, the kit will include a Rubik cube for a stress relief activity, a fun bendy pencil, and a bag of chips to engage the children while they are reading.

IPL is now a Great Michigan Read partner. I requested 30 copies of this year's selected book, *What the Eyes Don't See* by Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha.

Circulation December 2020: 2,332

Hold Transit Counts December 2020: 755 to other libraries, 1,039 from other libraries to IPL

Programs December 2020: 9

Program Attendance December 2020: 331

Curbside Pickup December 2020: 669