

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is hard to believe 2021 is almost over! The past year has continued to demonstrate the boldness, resiliency, flexibility, and creativity of library staff, volunteers, stakeholders, advocates, and patrons.

We have a lot to be proud of and below is a list of a few of those items:

- Resumption of full hours with full access to all materials
- Reopening of RBBS (Read Before Book Store)
- Continuing to offer drive-up service – a new normal!



Outdoor storytime

- LinkcatMobile App
- New staff
- Summer Library Program & Library Champions
- Dream Bus Mobile Library Services – new sites and partnerships



Social Services & Partnerships:

- Tenant Resource Center
 - Project Recovery
 - Shelter from the Storm Ministries
 - PHMDC Community Vaccination Clinic (pictured)
-
- New collections
 - o Adult Book Club Kits
 - o Children's Audio Enabled Books



*Story Walk installation throughout the community!
(Family Aquatic Center pictured)*



Volunteer Appreciation Ice Cream Social

- Establishment of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee to the Library Board
- Grant awards
 - o UW-East Asia (Books Club Kits & Programs)
 - o UW-Read Africa (Book Club Kits)
 - o Madison Community Foundation (STEM Program-to-Go Kits)
 - o Beyond the Page (Book Club Kits)
 - o American Rescue Plan Act (HVAC improvements)
- SPPL Foundation Support
 - o New furnishings and equipment for Discussion Rooms
 - o Youth and Adult programming & Summer Reading Program incentives
 - o Urban SUN: Black Voices Book Club (First year anniversary!)

Urban SUN
Black Voices
Book Club



- Friends supported programs and services
 - o Live Music concerts
 - o Book Club Kits
 - o Spanish language materials
 - o Art exhibit (October-November)

We also have large exciting projects in the works, including:

- Conceptual design for the expansion and renovation
- Feasibility study for the capital campaign
- Capital Campaign with Library Foundation
- Library Social Work Internship Program
- Enhanced and improved marketing and communication with newly established staff Marketing & Communication Team
- New Strategic Plan

As staff balance health and safety with access, we are committed to and motivated by the principles defined in our vision, mission, and core values; serving as a dynamic, positive force in the community by connecting residents with the world of ideas, literacy, literature, and information.

In 2022, the SPPL staff and Library Board hope to bring the lessons we've learned over the past two years into our expansion and renovation. The pandemic and its aftermath have proven how vital public library services are to a community as we assist residents to reenter, recover, and reconnect.

The Friends generosity and kindness is a huge gift and I am so fortunate to work alongside such a strong group of public library advocates! On behalf of the entire SPPL staff and board, we are deeply grateful for your continuous support. I am confident that Sun Prairie and the Sun Prairie Public Library will be stronger due to our collective effort in building a more resilient, equitable, and inclusive community.

Thank you!

Svetha Hetzler

Sun Prairie Public Library Director

NEWS FROM THE SUN PRAIRIE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Sun Prairie Public Library Foundation is excited to announce Theresa Stevens as the Sun Prairie Public Library Foundation's new Executive Director. This full-time position will accelerate the Foundation's progress in its fundraising and development efforts, including an upcoming capital campaign for the Sun Prairie Public Library's expansion. Theresa Stevens is the first to serve in this full-time capacity, which originated as a recommendation included in the Development & Fundraising Plan and Report for the Sun Prairie Public Library completed in 2019 by Library Strategies.



Theresa is a leader in the Sun Prairie community. As a Sun Prairie City Council Alderperson, Theresa has strong experience and knowledge with federal, state, and municipal laws, mandates, regulations, and policy analysis. Theresa currently serves as the City Council liaison to the Library Board and is very knowledgeable with the Sun Prairie Public Library Board's short and long-term goals.

Theresa intends to lead the Sun Prairie Public Library Foundation on its path by developing a strong connection with the entire community. Creating donor engagement and stewardship activities, annual reports, fundraising events, and seasonal appeals for support will be some of the ways Theresa plans to connect with the community and grow the Foundation's giving capacity so that the Sun Prairie Public Library can continue to thrive and remain a leader in public library services.

