

## The Friends of the Lockport Public Library, Inc.,

*A volunteer organization whose mission is to support the resources, services, and programs of the library, and to promote the library's presence in the community.*

*Unfortunately in 2020, the Friends were not able to conduct their two gigantic book sales due to the pandemic. That did not stop the group from supporting the library when funds were needed throughout the year.*

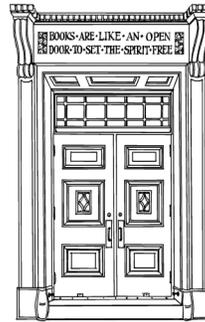
### 2020 Friends Board of Directors

Elizabeth Desjardins, President  
Suzanne Glynn, Vice-President  
Burt Marshall, Treasurer  
Linda Fraser, Secretary

Leslie Currie  
Jan Jordan  
Anna Mauri  
Maria Miller  
Natalie Pitzer  
James Preston  
Virginia Prunella  
Zoe Shufelt - book sale chair

Find out more about our Friends by requesting an informational brochure at the library or by visiting the library's web site.

## Lockport Public Library



### Your library...an open door

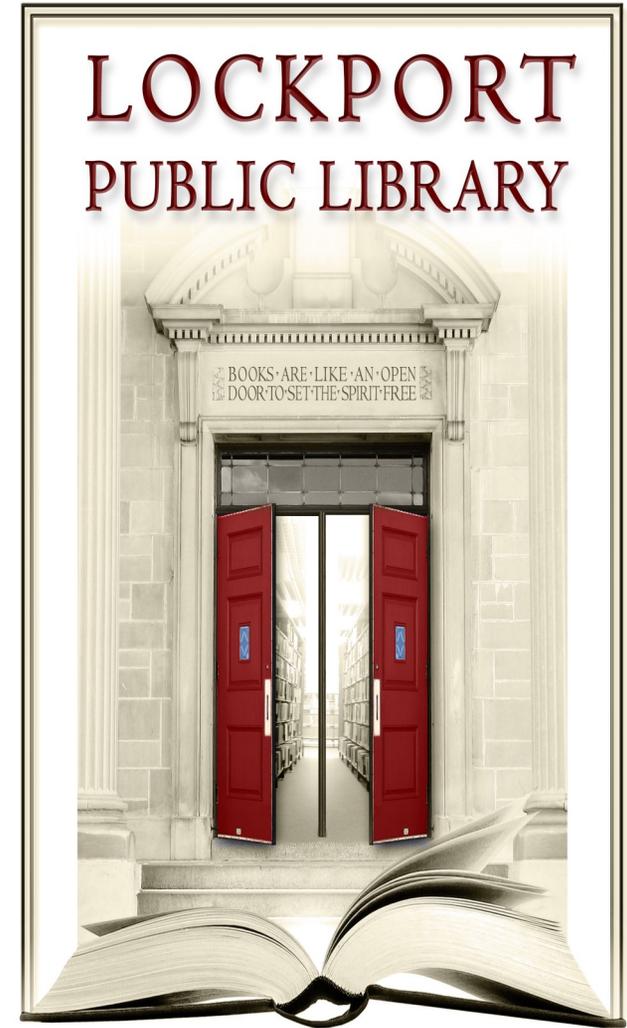
23 East Avenue  
Lockport, NY 14094  
433-5935

Open 24/7 online at  
[www.lockportlibrary.org](http://www.lockportlibrary.org)

Member of the Nioga Library System

# 2020 Annual Report

## LOCKPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY



### Your Library...An Open Door

## A Message from the Director

WOW!! What a year. No one could have guessed what 2020 would bring to the library and the world. Things were progressing nicely at the library. We had already begun to plan for Summer Reading, had plans for National Library Week in April and had a full slate of programs, meetings and other happenings at the library. Then March 20<sup>th</sup> came. On that date, we were mandated by the state to close as libraries were deemed to be non-essential. Thinking that it was only for 2-3 weeks we packed up some papers and journals and headed for home. We could never have imagined that those three weeks would drag on for ten. At that time, we were allowed to return to the library where we began curbside service to the public. In July, we were finally allowed to open for limited public browsing and computer usage in a very different library.

During those closed weeks, the staff worked from home which is very different for library staff where our main function is working with the public. With the help of technology, the staff adapted quickly and was able to provide many services from home. Recognizing that access to our physical collection was not allowed, the staff began promoting services on our digital platform. Then we were faced with, how will we serve community members who do not have a library card? Collaborating via technology staff created the "eLibraryCard". Which was very popular. The card allowed access to the library's digital collection of books, movies, music and magazines, just the things you need when you are sheltering in place. Reference service was done via email. It was interesting that people still turned to the library for assistance even when we were not open.

Collection development, program planning and planning for the future took place while we were off site. Summer reading looked very different in 2020. Usually a very busy and noisy time, it was replaced with "grab and go" Summer in the Bag.

On site, maintenance staff continued the task of painting the library that they had begun in the prior year. What started as, "let's get Floor 3 painted", quickly became "let's paint another wall since we have to stay closed another week." The library had not been painted in many years and it is surprising how much a new coat of paint freshens up the interior. Another task given to the maintenance staff was hanging plexiglass at service points. It seems like we purchased every foot of plexiglass in Lockport. Although it was odd in the beginning, the staff quickly adapted to the "fish bowl" feeling.

Open hours were limited throughout the remaining months of 2020. This was out of an abundance of concern for the public and staff. Social distancing meant fewer public computers, no public programs and reduced seating inside the library.

The Lockport Public Library is appreciative of the understanding, support and concern that we have received from the community. We look forward to 2021 and are hopeful for the year to come and all of the possibilities.

*Beverly J. Federspiel*

*"A library is a gift  
a community gives to itself"*

Thank you to all the Community Members and Service Groups for their generous donations.

With increasing costs and shrinking budgets, all of the donations received by the library are even more important to sustaining collections and services.

## The Lockport Community:

- ◆ borrowed 152,739 items
- ◆ received answers to 15,060 reference questions
- while-
- ◆ 77,233 WiFi sessions were logged
- ◆ 12,228 computer sessions logged
- ◆ 32,555 people have library cards
- ◆ 187 eLibraryCards were requested
- ◆ 90,371 people visited the library
- ◆ 64,997 people visited the library's website
- ◆ 5501 adults, children, teens and families attended 242 library programs
- ◆ 93 people attended 14 digital literacy programs

## Sources of Operating funds

- ◆ School District Property Tax
- ◆ Niagara County Legislature
- ◆ Trust funds, donations & memorials
- ◆ Library charges
- ◆ Towns of Lockport and Pendleton
- ◆ State of New York

## Library Trustees

William Watson

Nancy Kasprzak-Whitmore

Marc Smith