

# Onawa Public Library

707 Iowa Ave.

Onawa, IA 51040 Ph. 712 423-1733

Annual Report 2020 - 2021



[www.onawa.lib.ia.us](http://www.onawa.lib.ia.us)



*For those without money, the road to that treasure house of the imagination begins at the public library.*

I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card.

Laura Bush

“Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.”

Lady Bird Johnson



**BECAUSE STRONG LIBRARIES  
BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES.**

LIBRARIES  
TRANSFORM



“A truly great library contains something in it to offend everyone.”  
—Jo Godwin

**BECAUSE YOU CAN  
BORROW MORE  
THAN YOU CAN BUY.**

LIBRARIES  
TRANSFORM

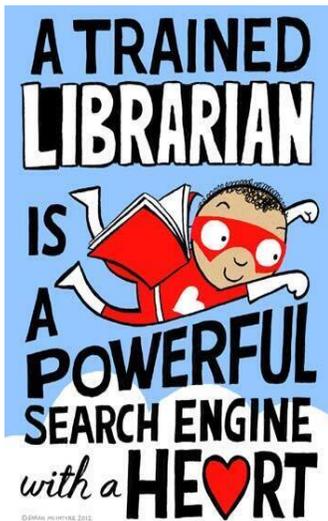




## THE LIBRARY -- GOALS AND PERSONNEL

The Onawa Public Library provides the residents of Onawa and the surrounding area with access to books, library materials and other resources, as well as programs and services to meet their informational, educational, cultural and recreational needs. The library promotes reading and the use of library materials, and provides support for community, cultural and historical activities. Through its staff, Board and services, the library builds knowledge, understanding and appreciation of libraries and library materials in those it serves.

Financial support of donations from gracious library supporters, the City of Onawa, the Monona County Board of Supervisors, Enrich Iowa, Open Access, Access Plus, and Iowa Infrastructure enable the library to serve the majority of people in Monona County.



We feel so fortunate to have a staff of employees who are dedicated to supplying the kind of quality service that the patrons of the Onawa Public Library have become accustomed to.

These workers are listed below as well as their years of service to the library:

Director:	Amy McDermott	9 years (Director: 3/1/2020)
Librarians:	Chris Zink	29 years
	Rachel Ruffcorn	10 years
	Laurie Joy	2 years
	Dani Johnson	Started 4/15/2021

## Board of Library Trustees

The Board of Trustees of the Onawa Public Library who, like the founding fathers of the library, are civic minded people who truly love and support our library. Without their dedication, our library would not be the community asset that it is.

These members of our Board were as follows:

Jessica Hupke	appointed July 2016	(July 2022)	President
Lou Hewitt	appointed July 2010	(July 2022)	Vice-President
Jenn Collison	appointed July 2018	(July 2024)	
Curtis Sturgill	appointed April 2018	(July 2024)	
Kara Minnihan	appointed July 2020	(July 2026)	

The dates of expiration of their terms on the Board are shown in parenthesis.



*Rooted in Our Community*

# FINANCE

Every year we have to depend on the gracious and generous support of many different entities and people. Our City is a constant source of great support for our facility making us able to continue to provide wonderful services for those in our community who cannot afford these things themselves. We are always pleased with the amount of donations that have been given. Some of these come in the form of memorials, monetary gifts, or a gift of an item from our wish list. Sadly, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic closures our revenue was down slightly. Closures mean little to no printing, faxing, and scanning; no passport processing, and no patrons coming in to offer donations. We were able to provide services by appointment until we could open fully so that did help.

**Balance on hand:** July 1, 2020



Revenue Collection	(Actual)
Transfers in (city funds	\$ 141,192.00
Monona County	\$ 22,448.00
Fees and fines	\$ 2,307.00
Fee cards	\$ 25.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,530.00
Gifts	\$ 2,723.00
Memorials	\$ 1,465.00
Facility tax	\$ 14,109.00
Rents	\$ 4,070.00
Grant	\$ -
Enrich Iowa	\$ 2,206.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 193,075.00</b>

## Expenditures

(Actual)

Salaries	\$ 82,703.00
Withholdings FICA, IPERS, Health Ins	\$ 12,826.00
Repairs	\$ 10,807.00
Liability Ins. -Work Comp	\$ 7,718.00
Books & Periodicals	\$ 18,171.00
Operational supplies	\$ 38,095.00
Misc/petty cash	\$ 592.00
Memorials	\$ 4,585.00
Capitol Outlay - Improvements	\$ -
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 175,497.00</b>



We truly value and appreciate the generosity of our patrons. With the continued support of our community, we will be able to keep up with whatever changes the future holds for America's Libraries.

**A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert.**

-Andrew Carnegie



**The citizens of our community are still experiencing strange times with the economy and Covid-19. There continue to be many changes in our statistics. Covid-19 closures prompted a lot more Internet use of the library. The library has been able to continue to provide BRIDGES eBook/audio services to our patrons. This service has seen a continued growth level and our Facebook page continues to gain support and followers. We also updated our website so check out all it has to offer. We are always looking for new ways to expand our services such as proctoring tests, processing passports, BRIDGES eBooks, and free Wi-Fi.**

BRIDGES is an eService that we subscribe to for our patrons to use to download any form of audio. There are many different formats and genres available. We have had an ever-increasing number of patrons subscribe to use this service. We now have 246 patrons who have registered and used this service for a total of 3,228 circulations this fiscal year.



**Circulation Statistics:**

**Books:**

Adult	6,924
Young Adult	162
Juvenile	<u>2,692</u>
Total Books	9,778

**Other Materials:**

Video (DVD)	1,361
Audio	367
Periodicals	284
All others	<u>144</u>
Total	2,156

**Registered Patrons:**

	3,689
Patrons Added	106
Patrons Withdrawn	<u>194</u>
Total active patrons	3,601

Meeting Room use	2,488 @ 185 mtgs
In-Library Material use	7,500
Door Count	17,989
Computer usage	6725
Passports processed	109
Notary	6

**Holdings:**

Items held at the start of the year	43,550
Materials Added	1,320
Materials Withdrawn	<u>6,18</u>
Total materials at year end	46,377

**We made the most of the Covid situation and provided curbside service and service by appointments to keep our patrons safe and loaded with books. We did not have a lot of programming due to Covid but we had a very successful reading program.**

Our biggest focus this year was on providing services in the safest possible way due to Covid and raising money for the roof project. As many of you know this is a big project but is a much needed repair. Through fundraising, grants, and the approval of TIF funds we will have the funds needed to cover the estimated \$120,000. Without the TIF money we have raised \$55,000 so far. This cost will include lifting the tile of the original library building, replacing and then weather-proofing the underlay. Weathercraft, Co will then re-lay the old tile while replacing any that are broken with tile we had in storage from the library expansion project. Weathercraft will also repair any soffit and fascia that is damaged due to 112 years worth of weather. Due to material shortages the job has been pushed from July 1<sup>st</sup> to a later time. We are hoping to have it started before November.

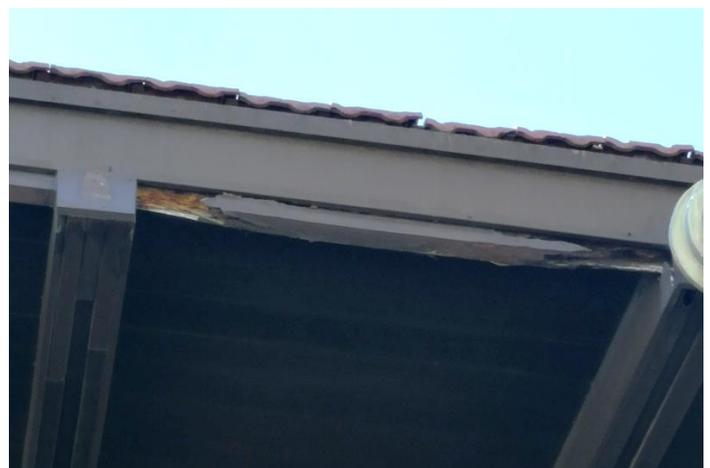
During this project we hired a Preservation Architect. His assessment revealed several other items that will need to be addressed in the next 5-10 years as well as a few that should be addressed immediately such as sealing and painting around the windows. Some of the bigger projects he pointed out will include mortar work and basement work. There will never be a shortage of things we need to do to ensure our amazing building remains useable so all of your support is appreciated.

Here are some pictures of the damage that brought on this roof revitalization project. Thankfully, we have not seen any internal damage as of yet.

From the north side of the Original building:

In this area the underlay has rotted through causing the tile to fall. At this time the damage is only to the overhang and not into the attic itself.

The damage underneath can be seen in the picture below.



The staff has had fun with our “Book Tree” and creating new displays to show our support for all during these difficult times! The library will always be a safe space for anyone that visits!



We have been the starting and registration point for OnaBike for many years now. The event has been recently renamed the OnaBike/Shawn Gosch Memorial ride. Every year we have returning riders, as well as new ones! As with everything else, due to Covid-19 there were fewer riders however there was a good turn out with people being mindful of each other with social distancing and wearing masks.



### “Books for Babies”

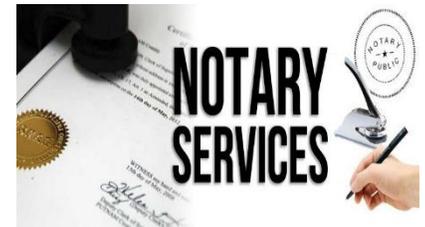
42 babies were born at Burgess Health Center in this fiscal year. We were so thrilled to be able to provide this wonderful gift for each child born. This project was funded by John and Carol Murphy and has recently been supported by the Friends of the Library. We have a very good system in place and have been able to supply new books to all the babies born at Burgess Hospital for several years now. Sadly, they will not be delivering babies at Burgess after December 2021 so we will have to find new ways to share our love of reading!

We proctor tests for students who need this service. We haven't had many requests for this service this year but are happy to help in any way we can for our citizens to further their education and save time and money while doing it.



We are also a passport acceptance facility and have 2 registered agents who can process the applications. We have been getting people from areas north that cannot get appointments with the Sioux City Post Office. We have been very busy with passports each year and processed 109 passports this year. People come in from Nebraska and the Sioux City area to have us process their forms. It is an amazing service and we are so glad to be able to provide this service for our community.

And why not add Notary services to our list of things we do!



**You'd be amazed at all your library can and does provide.**



## Reading Colors Your World

We finished up our 28<sup>th</sup> Summer Reading Program which was Imagine Your Story. Things were very different due to Covid-19. We had 18 children signed up for our program and 17 actively participated. Over 7700 pages were read by the boys and girls who turned in their forms.

School let out in early March so we were hopeful parents would want their kids to have something to do over the summer. Our program ran from June 8<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Most of our programs were take home activities since we were unable to have in library programs.

We then started our 29<sup>th</sup> Summer Reading Program which ran June 2 – August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This program was called Reading Colors Your World. We were able to host in house programs as well as take home projects during the in-between weeks. We had an amazing 54 kids sign up and had between 30-50 show up for each program and a total of 27,789 minutes read (that were turned in!)

### Program 1: Color Your Travel Bags (June)

This first program started with our Board of Trustee President, Jessica Hupke, reading “The Day the Crayons Quit” and “The Day the Crayons Came Home”. The kids then got to decorate canvas bags any way they wanted so they would have something sturdy to carry their library books in. 52 participants

### Program 3: Colors in Nature (June)

The kids got to meet the Monona County naturalist this week. Andrea read a story (well...it is a reading program!) and then discussed the many different ways to see colors in nature. The kids then got to create colorful bugs and groups of about 10 at a time went outside with Andrea and looked for different colors in the library yard. They really enjoyed all the colors in our butterfly garden! 44 participants

### Program 5: Colors of Your World (June)

I'm pretty sure this one was everyone's favorite program. We had magician/entertainer Toby Kid join us. He had the kids (and adults) laughing and having a great time. 36 participants

### Program 7: Color your feelings and Catch Colors with the Sun (July)

It was great to have Burgess Mental Health join us for our next two programs! Jenn (Director of Mental Health) read a story about the colors of our feelings. Do you ever feel blue? How about red? With the help of a generous donation we were able to have each child make their own sensory bottle to help calm these emotional colors. The kids also got to “catch colors with the sun” by painting sun catchers to hang in their windows. 30 participants

### Program 9: Color Your World Outside (July)

It was a lovely day to have the kids outside (ok it was actually pretty hot so we only spent a little time outside). We started the program with Jessica (BHIS worker from Burgess Mental Health) reading us a great story about being yourself no matter what others think you should be (the story was about a crayon who just wanted to be its own color). The kids then went outside and we played Musical Art. We used 4 large canvases and several mediums. While the music played the groups went around their table and when it stopped they got to color the spot they were in any way they wanted. (This needs some adjusting next time we do it but they had fun). 33 participants



### Program 11: Tie-Dye Teddy Bears (August)

Second favorite program! This program started with our Board of Trustee Vice-President Lou Hewitt reading to the kids. She read the book “Color Monster Goes to School” in honor of colors and the end of the summer. We had some extra funding since Covid affected programming throughout the year so we were able to purchase teddy bears that the kids got to stuff and tie-dye. They each got their own bear and they also got to paint their own smaller canvases any way they wanted. This allowed us to split the kids into groups so they could tie-dye their bears with better supervision. We have a couple of these bears at the library that our patrons just love. 42 participants

Programs 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 were grab and go projects that the kids could take home or do here in the library if their parents wanted them to. The kids enjoyed these almost as much as the in house programs. These projects included building a bird feeder with colored popsicle sticks, a parrot that had feathers made from colored handprints, a monster grass head that they could color anyway they wanted, and several others (generally 2 activities for each week).

Although Covid-19 continues to affect things the kids were very responsive to the activities and the staff worked hard to make the program more appealing to everyone! We spent a little more on the activities than in previous years but thanks to the generosity of our community we could do that for the kids. We receive donations from Kiwanis and the Friends of the Library group every year to help off-set the cost of programs, supplies, and prizes.



# Onawa Public Library

## Trust Fund Accounts

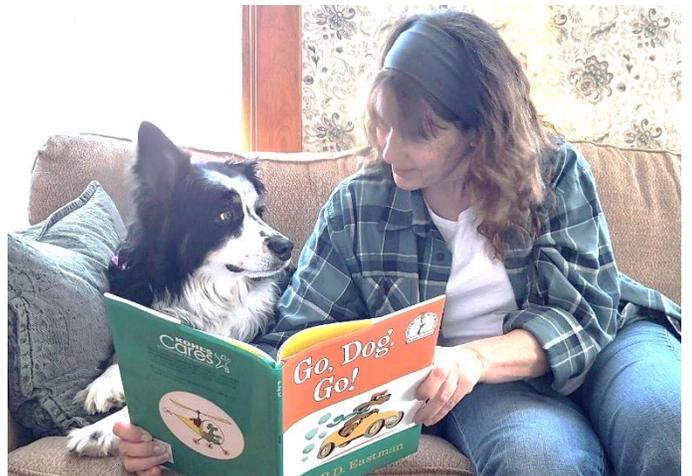
The Onawa Public Library has been the recipient of several memorial trust funds. In nearly all instances, the principal is not to be used and there are specific instructions as to how the interest of each of these accounts may be used.

Trust funds are as follows:

<b>Allen</b>	\$973	Interest on hand	\$280.71	\$0.00 spent
<b>Fran</b>		Interest to be used for biographies		
<b>Burton</b>	\$2,500	Interest on hand	\$211.82	\$0.00 spent
<b>Harry</b>		Interest to be used to create an interest in astronomy		
<b>McCaskey</b>	\$1,000	Interest on hand	\$404.33	\$0.00 spent
<b>Edith</b>		Interest to be used for books for the general collection.		
<b>Murphy</b>	\$5250	Interest on hand	\$360.04	\$65.85 spent
<b>Esther</b>		Some interest to be used for children's books some to accumulate.		
<b>Meyers</b>	\$5,000	Interest on hand	\$1097.59	\$34.89 spent
<b>Frank C.</b>		Interest to be used for books on history, biographies & general collection.		
<b>Pennington</b>	\$1,000	Interest on hand	\$379.89	\$0.00 spent
<b>Horton B.</b>		Interest to be used for non-fiction books on history.		
<b>Prichard</b>	\$550	Interest on hand	\$347.18	\$0.00 spent
<b>Robert</b>		Interest to be used for books.		
<b>Prichard</b>	\$405	Interest on hand	\$96.76	\$0.00 spent
<b>E.M. "Bert"</b>		Interest to be used for books		
<b>Ropes</b>	\$2,200	Interest on hand	\$174.63	\$0.00 spent
<b>Wayne</b>		Interest to be used for adult non-fiction		
<b>&amp; Cora</b>		John Ropes contributed for a time with the purchase of Savings Bonds which will begin maturing in 2026		
<b>Snyder</b>	\$300	Interest on hand	\$286.97	\$0.00 spent
<b>Earl</b>		Interest to be used for items reflecting Earl's interests.		
<b>Williams M</b>	\$6966	Interest on hand	\$14.32	\$380.13 spent
<b>Wright D</b>		These two funds were combined at the family's request and items purchased should reflect each woman's interest.		
<b>Blakely</b>	\$1757.14 available	\$94.60 spent (Loren)	\$640.25 available	\$58.72 spent (Helen)
<b>Loren &amp; Helen</b>		Fund established to purchase fiction books that reflect Loren's and Helen's interests.		

We are also blessed to have regular contributors whose funds we are able to use at our discretion. We greatly appreciate your trust in us and hope that we are able to use the funds to best exemplify their wishes.

## Reading Buddies Program



## Friends of the Library Drive-Thru Chili Supper (proceeds went to roof project)



*Reading Colors Your World (June, July, August 2021)*



As librarians,  
our job is to help  
young people find  
the right book for  
who they are now,  
without judgment.

