

Onawa Public Library

707 Iowa Ave.

Onawa, IA 51040 Ph. 712 423-1733

Annual Report 2022 - 2023



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.**

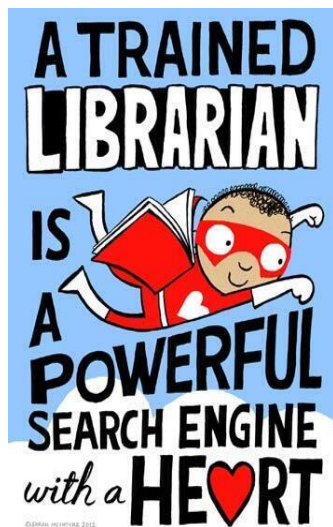
LIBRARIES
TRANSFORM





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	11 years (Director: 3/1/2020)
Librarians:	Chris Zink	31 years
	Rachel Ruffcorn	12 years
	Laurie Joy	4 years
	Dani Johnson	2 years

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 2028)	President
Jenn Collison	appointed July 2018	(July 2024)	Vice-President
Kara Minnihan	appointed July 2020	(July 2026)	
Charles Persinger	appointed July 2022	(July 2028)	
Curtis Sturgill	appointed April 2018	Resigned January 2023	
Randy Stanislav	appointed February 2023	(July 2024)	



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



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. This year between the city's help and donations we were able to replace 2 heat pumps in the upstairs room and paint the windows and door trim. Some donations were held over for sidewalk upgrades over the summer and upgrades to the security cameras.



Revenue Collection

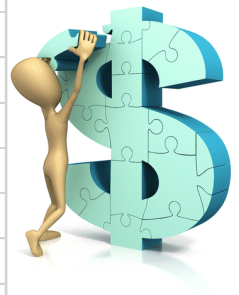
(Actual)

Transfers in (city funds	\$ 173,120.84
Monona County	\$ 19,059.00
Fees and fines	\$ 2,068.18
Fee cards	\$ 35.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 4,322.65
Gifts	\$ 2,225.20
Memorials	\$ 6,100.00
Facility tax	\$ 23,788.43
Rents	\$ 3,995.00
Grant	\$ 5,900.00
Enrich Iowa	\$ 1,910.64
Totals	\$ 242,524.94

Expenditures

(Actual)

Salaries	\$ 86,476.00
Withholdings FICA, IPERS, Health Ins	\$ 13,836.00
Repairs	\$ 14,459.96
Liability Ins. -Work Comp	\$ 8,354.72
Books & Periodicals	\$ 19,762.28
Operational supplies	\$ 56,692.41
Misc/petty cash	\$ 1,218.74
Memorials	\$ 3,914.83
Capitol Outlay - Improvements	\$ 37,810.00
Totals	\$ 242,524.94



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 happy to be back in 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 try hard to keep our website up to date so check it out! We are always looking for new ways to expand our services such as proctoring tests, processing passports, Notary Services, BRIDGES eBooks, and free Wi-Fi. This year we received 4 more new (to us) computers from West Monona School District. This donation provided us with upgraded computers at no cost to the library. This also allowed us the extra funds to purchase a second AWE Kids' computer.

BRIDGES is an eService that we subscribe to for our patrons to use to download any form of audio or electronic format. 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 over 245 patrons who have registered and used this service for a total of 3,992 circulations this fiscal year.



Circulation Statistics:

Books:

Adult	7,773
Young Adult	485
Juvenile	<u>5,478</u>
Total Books	13,736

Other Materials:

Video (DVD)	757
Audio	483
Periodicals	173
All others	<u>149</u>
Total	1,562

Registered Patrons:

Patrons Added	227
Patrons Withdrawn	<u>143</u>
Total active patrons	3,674

Meeting Room use

Meeting Room use	5,910 @ 439 mtgs/programs
In-Library Material use	7,500
Door Count	24,240
Computer usage	6062
Passports processed	188
Notary	47
Proctored Tests	20 tests for 13 students

Holdings:

Items held at the start of the year	49,802
Materials Added	2,401
Materials Withdrawn	<u>2,441</u>
Total materials at year end	49,762

This year we replaced the 2 heat pumps in the upstairs meeting room. This was funded by the city with residual TIF money from the roof project. Naturally since those were getting replaced the four in the basement that cool the main level started going out as well. We did our best to limp them along while we figured out what it would take to replace them. We will be able to replace all four and we painted the exterior of the windows and doors with the use of a bond through the city. This allowed us to use donations for a sidewalk to the butterfly mound and a couple new pads for memorial benches as well as an upgrade to our security cameras.

This year we still focused on getting kids back into the library. We feel that if we can continue growing that relationship that it will improve our future. A few of our accomplishments focused on children are:

- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. Each child signed up gets a fun prize for each 100 books read. Once they reach their 1000 books before they start kindergarten they will receive a “Quillow” and book. Great success with this one and we love to see the parents getting involved! We even had four kids reach their 1000 books!
- Kids’ Club. We had programs every other week during the school year to include a final program with Absolute Science. All the kits are available for the kids to use at any time in the library. We also had a lot of community involvement such as programs run by the Monona County Extension, DNR, Naturalist, and even one of our wonderful Science teachers. This has been a wonderful program and I am excited that we have been able to continue into the new school year.
- We were able to have some class room visits to the library over the school year. This was a great opportunity for kids that have never had a chance to come to our amazing library. It also increased our circulation because the kids were able to check out books.
- Our biggest program was the Butterfly Encounter tents. This was a 4 hour program sponsored by the Friends of the Library. We had each grade come to the library for 30 - 40 minutes to learn about butterflies and even be able to go inside the tents to get a closer look at them. It was a lot of work but with the help of the school and National Honor Society we managed to get about 400 kids through the tents in that 4 hour time period.
- We also had our first Apple Bash. This was a program that focused on how to use an apple press to make apple juice or apple cider. We were gifted music by Brittney Donn and we had some fun games to play. We were also given a really good deal (almost free) on about 20 – 5 gallon buckets of apples from Rose Marie Vineyards. It was a great family program!



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



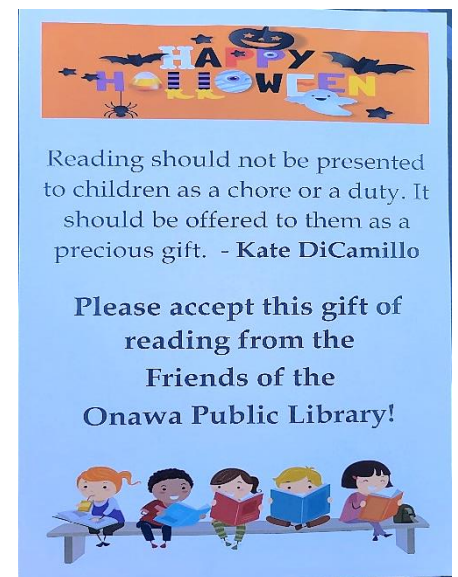
The staff continues to make fun displays for the public. The library will always be a safe space for anyone that visits!



We are the starting and registration point for OnaBike. This year the library meeting room was used for the luncheon. The Chamber of Commerce purchased food from Frannie's Café and everyone came through the library for their delicious meal. We received lots of compliments on our wonderful library.



The Friends of the Library continued funding our books to hand out for Halloween as well as supporting our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. With this funding we handed out 410 books for Halloween 2022. We purchased wonderful journals for the families that sign up for the 1000 Books B4K program. The Friends also helped us purchase new large print books every month as well as audio books on CD. The Friends had another basket auction in November 2022 and drive thru chili supper in February 2023. The Friends used these funds to pay for the Sioux City Journal and Omaha World Harold subscriptions as well as an increased donation for the Summer Reading Program.

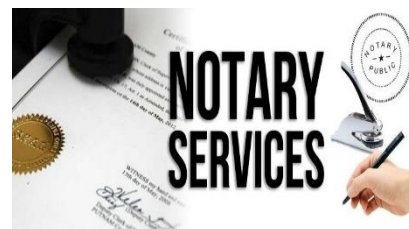


We proctor tests for students who need this service. The individuals that used this service expressed their gratitude for not having to drive to Sioux City to take a test or having to pay someone to proctor the tests. Some of these individuals were in college while others were taking exams for work purposes.



We continue to have 2 registered agents who can process passport applications. We have been getting people from all sorts of areas that have heard about how easy we make the process. We have been very busy with passports each year and processed 188 passports this year. 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.



Find Your Voice

We finished up our 30th Summer Reading Program which ran June 1st – August 10th, 2022. This program was called Read Beyond the Beaten Path. The program was every other week and we also ran our STEAM program on the opposite weeks. It was a BUSY summer!!! We had the YMCA kids join us as well as Magic Depot. This year's theme was camping and outdoor related so we had the Monona County Extension, Amanda Rush's Yoga, the DNR, and the Monona County Naturalist help with programs. What a great year for community involvement!

Our 2023 program was Find Your Voice and ran June 7th – August 2nd. We had a lot of community involvement with this program and were able to have Summer Reading Program and Summer Story Time every week in June and July with a final big program in August. Community involvement included Monona County Extension, Monona County Naturalist, Iowa DNR, and Burgess Mental Health/BHIS.



Program 1: A Bug and A Wish (June)

This first program was hosted by Burgess Mental Health. The kids listened to “A Bug and A Wish” and did a “It Bugs Me When...” activity to help them find their voice with they are bothered by something. They also got to make bug masks. 65 participants

Program 2: Fly Your Own Flag (June)

We took advantage of the fact that this program fell on Flag Day. Ann Crawford read a story and did a presentation on the American Flag. Then the kids got to use 8x10 canvas to create their own flags. They added colors and pictures that represented who they are as individuals. 71 participants

Program 3: Figure of Speech (June)

We were lucky enough to get board member and West Monona Speech instructor, Randy Stanislav, on board with a “Find Your Voice” program. Mr. Stanislav had the kids do a few speech activities and donated masks for the kids to color how they wanted. 61 participants



Figure of speech: Human knot

Program 4: Build Your Own Fairy or Troll Garden (June)

The library staff hosted this program. We read a story about how to catch a garden fairy. We then helped the kids build their own fairy or troll gardens. Each child got a succulent for their garden. These came from the West Monona Green House and The Barn Loft for a discounted price. 57 participants

Program 5: Sounds of Nature (July)

Tyler, the Monona County Naturalist, hosted a program about different types of sounds in nature. He talked about how different animals have different sounds so they know they are communicating with each other. He demonstrated with different wild life callers (i.e. turkey, deer, elk). The kids then made their own turkey callers. 45 participants



Fairy or Troll Garden

Program 6: Courage Cups (July)

In this program we read the book “Be You” and talked about giving yourself motivation each day and being kind to ourselves. The kids made courage cups which were tin cans decorated how they wanted with popsicle sticks inside with good thoughts such as “I can do this”, “I deserve a good day”, etc. 47 participants

Programs 7: I Like Myself (July)

This program was presented by Burgess Mental Health’s BHIS team. They read the book “I Like Myself” to learn about self-esteem. The kids each made their own self-portrait to demonstrate what they see when they think of themselves.

Program 8: Kindness Rocks! (July)

The library presented this program. We read “Kindness rocks” and “Scribble Stones” to learn what kindness rocks are and why kindness rocks. The kids were given a rock to paint. The rocks were donated by a local friend. We then created Cyril the Bookworm outside so everyone could enjoy their rocks. 48 participants

Program 9: Friendship Adventure with Toby Kid (August)

The final program was a magic show with Toby Kid. Everyone was invited and had a grand adventure. 57 participants

Finally, with our regular program this year our Board of Trustee President, Jessica Hupke, provided a Pre-K story time that was open to those kids that are not old enough for the regular program. We were so happy that Mrs. Hupke volunteered her time and we didn’t have to break the hearts of little siblings that couldn’t join us.

Thanks to the generosity of our community we had another great Summer Reading Program. 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. We also received prize donations from the Hut, Downtown Coffee and Cream, and Pizza Hut Book-its.



Story Time



Friendship Adventure w/ Toby Kid



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:

Allen	\$973	Interest on hand	\$289.77	\$0.00 spent
Fran		Interest to be used for biographies		
Burton	\$2,500	Interest on hand	\$236.00	\$0.00 spent
Harry		Interest to be used to create an interest in astronomy		
McCaskey	\$1,000	Interest on hand	\$396.87	\$16.52 spent
Edith		Interest to be used for books for the general collection.		
Murphy	\$5250	Interest on hand	\$77.57	\$0.00 spent
Esther		Some interest to be used for children's books some to accumulate.		
Meyers	\$5,000	Interest on hand	\$1,106.47	\$53.55 spent
Frank C.		Interest to be used for books on history, biographies & general collection.		
Pennington	\$1,000	Interest on hand	\$388.95	\$0.00 spent
Horton B.		Interest to be used for non-fiction books on history.		
Prichard	\$550	Interest on hand	\$353.24	\$0.00 spent
Robert		Interest to be used for books.		
Prichard	\$405	Interest on hand	\$99.78	\$0.00 spent
E.M. "Bert"		Interest to be used for books		
Ropes	\$2,200	Interest on hand	\$179.29	\$16.52 spent
Wayne		Interest to be used for adult non-fiction		
& Cora		John Ropes contributed for a time with the purchase of Savings Bonds which will begin maturing in 2026		
Snyder	\$300	Interest on hand	\$289.99	\$0.00 spent
Earl		Interest to be used for items reflecting Earl's interests.		
Williams M	\$7966	Interest on hand	\$71.76	\$0.00 spent
Wright D		These two funds were combined at the family's request and items purchased should reflect each woman's interest.		
Blakely	\$1526.99 available	\$32.45 spent (Loren)	\$217.50 available	\$388.20 spent (Helen)
Loren & Helen	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.

Our beautiful Library



Before paint



After Paint

Kids' Club STEAM Program



Other Programs



1st Apple Bash



Darrin Crow as Algernon Blackwood



Downtown Trick-or-Treating



Butterfly Encounter Tents



Friends Chilli Supper



Patiently Waiting for her books

Summer Reading Program 2022



Thanks for all your support!!!