

Carver County Library 2014 Annual Report

Heading in the Right Direction

Shaking It Up!: In 2014 Carver County Libraries began steering straight into the future. Many exciting new events, classes and opportunities were developed and implemented throughout the year.

One driving force is the new Director of Carver County Libraries, Heidi Hoks. Heidi has been at the steering wheel since August and has fueled all branches with her optimism and innovative ideas. Her wealth of experience at CCL will keep us on course.

At the Wheel: A Message from the Director



2014 was a year in which Carver County Library focused on its vision to inspire intellectual curiosity as well as the joy of discovery, and to facilitate lifelong learning. We were headed and continue to head in the right direction...because we are listening to you.

Because of your input, Carver County Library:

- ⇒ Surpassed its goal of 1 million checkouts of materials
- ⇒ Increased our checkouts of e-book, e-audios and e-magazines by 78.1%
- ⇒ Taught literacy skills through storytimes to over 15,000 preschoolers
- ⇒ Answered over 56,000 complex informational questions
- ⇒ Created Early Literacy Makerspaces in each of our full service libraries
- ⇒ Collaborated or partnered with the County Historical Society, Minnesota Extension, the City and County Parks, the local historical societies, the Human Rights Commission, local school districts, daycare centers, and the Arts Consortium of Carver County. And much, much more...

Our stellar staff is dedicated to serving you best...and because of that focus on your needs, we will continue to head in the right direction.

Digging it Up: On June 2, 2014 ground was broken for the newest CCL branch in Victoria. Work has progressed since and the Grand Opening is on March 7, 2015. The new library will have a tech-centered focus and feature bright, colorful children and teen areas.



Branching Out: Additionally, another Express Library branch is now operating and is situated in the Southwest Metro Station in Carver. It was completed in December with an opening in January 2015.

License to Drive: CCL Library cards are gaining a lot of mileage with 84, 980 card holders.



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On Course for Success

Checking It Out: In 2014 Carver County Library was motoring! Overall circulation was steady with 1,059,959 items moving through the system. Electronic resources (emagazines, eaudiobooks, ebooks) constituted 48,466 of those items.



Logging on: The Carver County Libraries serve an important role as a technology hub for many patrons. Computer usage in 2014 was 88,659 log-ins. Virtual services such as Databases and eResources are gaining usage in and out of the library.

Stepping It Up: In May of 2014 Carver County Libraries received an LSTA grant which revved up the children's areas with Play and Learn activities to promote early literacy. Rotating themes include: veterinarian, grocery store, post office and household.

Looking It Up: Carver County Library staff addressed 56,199 reference questions as well as "Ask A Librarian" queries.

Heading Out: CCL programming in 2014 proved to be very popular destinations. Adult programming and classes of which there were 354 offerings were attended by 3,582 patrons. Children's programs including the ever-popular Storytimes were attended by 25,260 patrons. Even teens made the trek to 44 different events serving 175 patrons. People are getting well-read, knowledgeable, crafty and computer literate in Carver County!



Bringing It In: In cooperation with MNLink and MELSA, many items made a pit stop in Carver County this year. Interlibrary Loan circulation was 15,843 (7,427 borrowed and 7,567 loaned).

Time Sharing: Carver County Volunteers are an integral force for getting the job done. Volunteers yielded 12,974 hours of time to CCL. The Library Friends groups are a well-oiled machine!

"The opportunity to serve as a volunteer has given me a very real sense of the important role that the library plays in the life of our city." - CCL Volunteer

Gaining Momentum: The Library Foundation of Carver County had an eventful year. We want to thank all of our donors and everyone who attended our very successful fundraiser at the Chanhassen Dinner Theater. We also hosted an event at Dolce Vita in Chaska to bring the Foundation and all of the Friends groups together to talk about new ways to work together. The year 2015 will see us continuing our work to support and enhance literacy in Carver County.



Dan Keyport, Mary Booth, Martha Kurtz, Dick Kvitek



Nathan Johnson, Joanne Johnson, Gayle Degler, James Weygard

On the Straightaway: Carver County's Library Board plans for the future of our libraries. Our five member board is continually advocating for the betterment of library services in our communities. The Board, a steadily running machine takes charge of our library's future, developing policies and monitoring the effectiveness of those policies, while creating responsive directions to what the community needs.

