Library Board Meeting

October 21, 2019

Bob Tera, President
Ashley Aidenbaum, Vice President
Melissa Mark, Secretary
Frank Pisano
James W. Suhay
David Underdown

Doug Koschik, Library Director
Baldwin Public Library

Mission
The Baldwin Public Library enriches Birmingham and participating communities by providing opportunities and resources for individuals of all ages and backgrounds to learn, connect and discover.

Vision
The Baldwin Public Library will be an essential resource for the community and its first choice for accessing the world's knowledge.

Core Values
We are committed to:
♦ Intellectual Freedom
♦ Equitable and Inclusive Access
♦ Education and Learning
♦ Welcoming Environment
♦ Integrity
♦ Partnerships
♦ Excellence

Adopted October 2010
Baldwin Public Library Board

TERA, ROBERT, President
315 Chesterfield Avenue
Birmingham, MI 48009
Home: (248) 646-2575
Cell: (248) 515-6063
e-mail: sugimori@sbcglobal.net
Term expires 2019
Finance and Policy Committees

AIDENBAUM, ASHLEY M., Vice President
327 Southfield Rd. Apt. 2CS
Birmingham, MI 48009
Home: (248) 892-2149
e-mail: ashleymariea@gmail.com
Term expires 2021
Communications and Personnel Committees

MARK, MELISSA S., Secretary
635 Puritan
Birmingham, MI 48009
Home: (248) 644-8451
e-mail: weir527@gmail.com
Term expires 2021
Communications, Building and Personnel Committees

PISANO, FRANK
612 Davis
Birmingham, MI 48009
Home: (248) 646-0463
Cell: (248) 835-6058
e-mail: frank.pisano@baldwinlib.org
Term expires 2021
Oppenheimer and Co. Inc.
385 South Eton
Birmingham, MI 48009
Phone: (248) 593-3723
Building and Finance Committees

SUHAY, JAMES W.,
740 Fairfax
Birmingham, MI 48009
Home: (248) 642-8514
e-mail: jsuhay@sbcglobal.net
Term expires 2019
Finance and Building Committees

UNDERDOWN, DAVID
437 Suffield
Birmingham, MI 48009
Home: (248) 642-5337
Cell: 248 909-1072
e-mail: underdown34@gmail.com
Term expires 2019
Policy Committee

AHMET, KLEA, Student Representative
Home:
e-mail: kleahmet07@gmail.com
Term expires February 2020
Baldwin Public Library Board Meeting
Monday, October 21, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
Rotary Tribute & Donor Rooms

Agenda
The full Board packet is available online at www.baldwinlib.org on the Friday preceding the meeting.
This is an open meeting. All members of the public are invited to attend.

Call to order, pledge of allegiance, reading of the Library’s mission statement, and establishment of a quorum.

I. Consent Agenda
All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a roll call vote. There will be no discussion of these items unless a Board member or a citizen so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered as the last item under new business.

A. Approval of September 16 Board Meeting minutes. p. 7
B. Approval of September 2019 vendor payments in the amount of $391,596.68, including payments in excess of $6,000. p. 11
C. Approval of total expenses in the amount of $618,968.72. p. 17

II. Board Reports and Special Announcements
A. President’s report
B. Board comments
C. Staff anniversaries p. 34
D. Upcoming events of interest (Rebekah Craft) p. 99

III. Board Committee Reports
A. Finance Committee (Frank Pisano) p. 14
B. Building Committee (Jim Suhay) p. 18

IV. Library Report and Renovation Update p. 29

V. Liaisons
A. Report from Friends of the Baldwin Public Library, Mark Lyles) p. 48
B. Beverly Hills (Lee Peddie, Mayor, Beverly Hills Village Council)
C. Bloomfield Hills (Susan McCarthy, Mayor, Bloomfield Hills City Commission)

VI. Unfinished Business

VII. New & Miscellaneous Business
VIII. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

IX. Information Only

A. Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber Thrive feature “Baldwin Public Library”  p. 54
B. Eccentric article “Bird lives matter, but so do Birmingham library costs”  p. 55
C. Downtown Publications article “Bloomfield Hills public safety open house Sunday”  p. 58
D. Eagle article “Read in the Park celebration”  p. 59
E. Downtown Publications article “Online course offered through Baldwin Library”  p. 60
F. Downtown Publications article “Bloomfield Hills library pact okayed”  p. 61
G. City of Birmingham Newsletter feature “Baldwin Public Library”  p. 62
H. Oakland Press article “Halloween and fall events happening in Oakland County”  p. 63
I. City of Birmingham Newsletter feature “Families Who Shaped Birmingham Will Be Focus of Popular Lecture Series Thursdays at 7 P.M. at the Baldwin Public Library”  p. 73
J. Eagle article “Candidate forum coming to Library”  p. 74
K. Eagle article “Candidates for Birmingham commission speak out at forum”  p. 75
L. Eccentric article “Commission candidates share top priorities, strengths, weaknesses of city”  p. 79
M. Eagle article “Historical tales and spooky trails”  p. 81
N. Eagle article “Enjoy beers, brats and books at Franklin library’s Oktoberfest”  p. 83
O. Hometown Life article “Craving a Starbucks Pumpkin Spice Latte? You can now get one at the Novi Public Library”  p. 85
P. New York Times article “Why Can’t New York City Build More Gems Like This Queens Library?”  p. 88
Q. New Atlas article “Snohetta completes impressive green-roofed library in Philadelphia”  p. 96
R. Upcoming events of interest  p. 99

X. General Public Comment Period

The Library Board values public meetings and welcomes your comments on Library issues. The Board respectfully asks that comments be made as concisely as possible. We welcome your comments but cannot debate items not on the agenda.
XI. Adjournment

Next regular meeting of Library Board: Monday, November 18, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

*Suggested motion:* To adjourn the October 21 Board Meeting.

Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the Library at the number (248) 647-1700 or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la biblioteca en el número (248) 647-1700 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).
1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Tera at 5:31 p.m.

Library Board present: Bob Tera, Melissa Mark, Frank Pisano, Ashley Aidenbaum, and Student Representative Klea Ahmet

Absent and excused: James Suhay and David Underdown.

Library Staff present: Doug Koschik, Director; Rebekah Craft, Associate Director; and Paul Gillin, Administrative Assistant.

Tera asked Ahmet to read aloud the Library’s Mission Statement.

Friends of the Library Liaison: Ryndee Carney.

Contract community representatives present: None.

Members of the public present: None.

2. **Consent Agenda:**

**Motion to approve the consent agenda.**

1st Aidenbaum

2nd Mark

A roll call vote was taken.

Yeas: Tera, Mark, Aidenbaum, and Pisano.

Nays: None.

Absent and excused: Suhay and Underdown.

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. **Board Reports and Special Announcements:**

Tera announced that there will be an open house before the November Board meeting; this will be an opportunity for the Board, staff and patrons to meet one another. In addition, there will be no Finance Committee report this evening. Finally, Tera acknowledged Director Koschik for his nearly 30 years of service.

Pisano mentioned that some libraries have eliminated overdue fines completely and inquired whether BPL had considered that. Koschik said it was not presently under consideration, but that the automatic renewal of items on which there were no holds has all but accomplished the same thing.

Next, Pisano acknowledged the following staff anniversaries: Patricia Henricks (2 years); Jessica Hoeck (2 years); Vicki Sower (12 years); Jeff Jimison (2 years); David Dapkus (2 years); Elizabeth Volpe (14 years).
Underdown arrived at 5:42 p.m.

Craft highlighted a few upcoming events of interest, details of which can be found on pages 101-102 of the September Board packet.

Board Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: There was no report.

Building Committee: Pisano reported that the working committee met several times over the past month and outlined a few highlights of those meetings; the complete report can be found on pages 14-42 of the September Board packet.

Motion: To recommend that the Birmingham City Commission approve the use of Guardian SNX 62/67 glass for the Youth Room Expansion and Renovation.

1st Pisano
2nd Mark
Yeas: Tera, Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, and Underdown.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: Suhay.
The motion was approved unanimously.

It was then noticed that the motion just approved contained a mistake and an amended motion was made:

Motion: To recommend that the Birmingham City Commission approve the use of Guardian SNX 62/27 glass for the Youth Room Expansion and Renovation.

1st Pisano
2nd Mark
Yeas: Tera, Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, and Underdown.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: Suhay.
The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Library Report:

Koschik and Craft each highlighted a few items from the Library Report. There were concerns expressed by various board members regarding the recent decision by Microsoft regarding Lynda.com and the changes it is implementing at Lynda.com. BPL has decided to switch to Gale rather than compromise patron privacy as would be required by the new Microsoft/Lynda.com policy requirements.
Crafted highlighted the results of the summer reading program, which can be found on pages 51-53 of the September Board packet. Craft also updated the Board on the new curbside pick-up service.

The complete report can be found on pages 43-67 of the September Board packet.

5. **Liaisons:**

**Friends of Baldwin Public Library:** Ryndee Carney mentioned that President Pam DeWeese resigned due to health reasons and that she had been elected the new president. The Friends donated about $50,000 to the Library last year. Mark asked how members there were, and Carney answered that there were 300+ paying members.

**Beverly Hills:** There was no report.

**Bloomfield Hills:** There was no report.

6. **Unfinished Business:** There was no unfinished business.

7. **New and Miscellaneous Business:** Aidenbaum asked if we had considered putting drawings of the Youth renovation project on the outside of the building. It will be done.

8. **Information Only:** See pages 69-102 of the September Board packet.

9. **Adjournment:**

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

1st Underdown
2nd Mark

Yeas: Tera, Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, and Underdown.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: Suhay.

The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 21, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.
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I hereby certify that each of the above invoices are true and correct.

______________________, 20___
Executive Library Director

Allowance of Vouchers

The Library Board of Directors of the Baldwin Public Library has examined the claims listed on the foregoing Register of claims and except for claims not allowed as shown on the Register such claims are hereby approved and dated in accordance with MCL 397.210a and the Birmingham City Charter.

______________________, 20___
Secretary of the Baldwin Public Library Board
BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee
Building Committee
The Baldwin Public Library Board’s Finance Committee met on Monday, October 14, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. in the Jeanne Lloyd Room. Present were Frank Pisano, Bob Tera, Jim Suhay, Doug Koschik, and Rebekah Craft.

- Koschik presented the Library’s final FY 2018-19 budget numbers, as determined by the auditors. The auditors decided to reallocate part of an expenditure from FY 2018-19 to FY 2019-20, thus increasing the official fund balance at the end of FY 2018-19, but resulting in zero net effect on the Library’s fund balance over the course of two years. Following this report is the final statement of the Library’s FY 2018-19 revenues and expenses, with the words “JUNE 2019” and “REVISED 10/11/19” highlighted in yellow. At its November meeting, the Finance Committee will seek clarification from Plante Moran about this reallocation.
- Koschik noted that expenditures in September included large, but expected, payments to The Dailey Company and Library Design Associates for the Youth Room expansion. The City has determined that the Library’s health care costs for FY 2019-20 will be somewhat higher than originally budgeted. Overall, the FY 2019-20 budget is tracking well after three months.
- Tim St. Andrew, from Plante Moran, will attend the November Finance Committee meeting to discuss the Library’s FY 2018-19 audit.
- Craft reported on September Friends of the Library expenditures.
- Pisano commented on the Investment Committee and Retirement Board meetings he attended.
- The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place on Monday, November 11, 2019, at 4:30 p.m.
**BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY**
**REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT 2018-19**
**JUNE 2019**
**100% of the year**

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<td>20.7%</td>
<td>($3,147)</td>
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<td>COUNTY AND STATE REVENUE</td>
<td>$102,600</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$89,809</td>
<td>$89,809</td>
<td>$17,050</td>
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<td>108.2%</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
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<td>$32,724</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY CONTRACTS</td>
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<td>$898,780</td>
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<td>$879,115</td>
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<td>PATRON USE REVENUE</td>
<td>$82,600</td>
<td>$6,887</td>
<td>$7,593</td>
<td>$706</td>
<td>$82,600</td>
<td>$80,570</td>
<td>$7,970</td>
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<td>INVESTMENT INCOME</td>
<td>$36,920</td>
<td>$3,084</td>
<td>$39,078</td>
<td>$35,994</td>
<td>$36,920</td>
<td>$81,925</td>
<td>$45,005</td>
<td>221.9%</td>
<td>$9,559</td>
<td>86.9%</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$4,355,770</td>
<td>$232,193</td>
<td>$365,189</td>
<td>$130,996</td>
<td>$4,270,220</td>
<td>$4,490,832</td>
<td>$220,612</td>
<td>103.1%</td>
<td>$4,227,631</td>
<td>100.9%</td>
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<th>Month</th>
<th>Approved Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Budget</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Actual</th>
<th>Variance For Month</th>
<th>Y-T-D Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Y-T-D Actual 2018-19</th>
<th>Variance For Y-T-D</th>
<th>% Received/ Spent</th>
<th>Prior year Y-T-D Spent</th>
<th>% Received/ Spent</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>PERSONNEL SERVICES</td>
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<td>$311,420</td>
<td>$267,278</td>
<td>($44,142)</td>
<td>$2,273,420</td>
<td>$2,211,687</td>
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<td>97.3%</td>
<td>$2,079,430</td>
<td>99.1%</td>
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<td>$19,754</td>
<td>$8,309</td>
<td>($11,445)</td>
<td>$88,500</td>
<td>$90,419</td>
<td>$1,919</td>
<td>102.2%</td>
<td>$74,516</td>
<td>99.4%</td>
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<td>CONTRACTED SERVICES</td>
<td>$429,500</td>
<td>$107,250</td>
<td>$31,312</td>
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<td>$429,500</td>
<td>$418,137</td>
<td>($11,363)</td>
<td>97.4%</td>
<td>$363,969</td>
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<td>TECHNOLOGY &amp; MAINTENANCE</td>
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<td>($33,240)</td>
<td>($59,240)</td>
<td>$173,000</td>
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<td>$94,652</td>
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<td>$66,170</td>
<td>$5,170</td>
<td>$6,218</td>
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<td>$67,090</td>
<td>$920</td>
<td>101.4%</td>
<td>$61,701</td>
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<td>BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS &amp; FURNISHINGS</td>
<td>$236,000</td>
<td>$124,000</td>
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<td>($93,575)</td>
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<td>$256,606</td>
<td>$866</td>
<td>103.3%</td>
<td>$73,670</td>
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<td>$45,780</td>
<td>($3,645)</td>
<td>$587,700</td>
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<td>96.8%</td>
<td>$564,910</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$3,954,790</td>
<td>$651,519</td>
<td>$364,287</td>
<td>($287,323)</td>
<td>$3,954,790</td>
<td>$3,818,425</td>
<td>($136,365)</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>$3,399,065</td>
<td>97.6%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Approved Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Budget</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Actual</th>
<th>Variance For Month</th>
<th>Y-T-D Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Y-T-D Actual 2018-19</th>
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<th>% Received/ Spent</th>
<th>Prior year Y-T-D Spent</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VARIANCE</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>$400,980</td>
<td>($419,326)</td>
<td>($1,098)</td>
<td>($418,228)</td>
<td>$315,430</td>
<td>$672,407</td>
<td>$356,977</td>
<td>96.6%</td>
<td>$3,399,065</td>
<td>97.6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Approved Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Budget</th>
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<th>Y-T-D Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Y-T-D Actual 2018-19</th>
<th>Variance For Y-T-D</th>
<th>% Received/ Spent</th>
<th>Prior year Y-T-D Spent</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FUND BALANCE-BEGINNING OF YEAR</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,289,553</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Approved Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Budget</th>
<th>Current June 2019 Actual</th>
<th>Variance For Month</th>
<th>Y-T-D Budget 2018-19</th>
<th>Y-T-D Actual 2018-19</th>
<th>Variance For Y-T-D</th>
<th>% Received/ Spent</th>
<th>Prior year Y-T-D Spent</th>
<th>% Received/ Spent</th>
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<td><strong>FUND BALANCE-CURRENT</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,961,940</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fund balance should be not less than 25% of annual operating expenditures and not more than 35% of annual expenditures, except when the Library is building a fund balance in support of specific non-recurring projects.

Note: Of the $3,249,870 in Birmingham tax revenue, $2,556,574 is for operating expenses, and $693,296 is for pre-funding the Youth Room expansion and renovation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Approved 2019-20 Budget</th>
<th>Current Month September 2019</th>
<th>Current Month Actual September 2019</th>
<th>Variance For Month</th>
<th>Y-T-D Budget 2019-20</th>
<th>Y-T-D Actual 2019-20</th>
<th>Variance For Y-T-D</th>
<th>% Received/Spent</th>
<th>Prior year Y-T-D Budget 2016-19</th>
<th>% Received/Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAXES</td>
<td>$3,385,950</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$3,385,950</td>
<td>$3,385,950</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$3,249,870</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
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<td>PROVISION FOR TAX LOSS</td>
<td>($15,000)</td>
<td>($3,750)</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>$3,752</td>
<td>($3,750)</td>
<td>($138)</td>
<td>$3,612</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>$74</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
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<td>COUNTY AND STATE REVENUE</td>
<td>$104,300</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>$0</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCAL GRANTS</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY CONTRACTS</td>
<td>$924,890</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATRON USE REVENUE</td>
<td>$81,150</td>
<td>$6,700</td>
<td>$6,158</td>
<td>($542)</td>
<td>$20,100</td>
<td>$19,705</td>
<td>($395)</td>
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<td>$22,484</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
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<td>INVESTMENT INCOME</td>
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<td>$11,837</td>
<td>($1,236)</td>
<td>$13,073</td>
<td>$13,073</td>
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<td>$7,223</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$4,533,580</td>
<td>$16,023</td>
<td>$13,264</td>
<td>($2,759)</td>
<td>$3,415,373</td>
<td>$3,417,354</td>
<td>$1,981</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
<td>$3,279,652</td>
<td>75.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERSONNEL SERVICES</td>
<td>$2,374,870</td>
<td>$208,000</td>
<td>$216,910</td>
<td>$8,910</td>
<td>$550,000</td>
<td>$568,080</td>
<td>$18,080</td>
<td>23.9%</td>
<td>$524,888</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUPPLIES</td>
<td>$96,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$4,894</td>
<td>($3,106)</td>
<td>$24,000</td>
<td>$18,503</td>
<td>($5,497)</td>
<td>19.3%</td>
<td>$17,826</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONTRACTED SERVICES</td>
<td>$383,600</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
<td>$31,727</td>
<td>($273)</td>
<td>$64,000</td>
<td>$69,397</td>
<td>$5,397</td>
<td>18.1%</td>
<td>$117,286</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
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<td>TECHNOLOGY &amp; MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>$123,500</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
<td>$13,030</td>
<td>($970)</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
<td>$61,576</td>
<td>$33,576</td>
<td>49.9%</td>
<td>$15,466</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>UTILITIES</td>
<td>$1,02,000</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
<td>$10,206</td>
<td>($294)</td>
<td>$30,500</td>
<td>$31,315</td>
<td>$815</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>$28,721</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
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<td>($431)</td>
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<td>$280,000</td>
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<td>($4,910)</td>
<td>$286,000</td>
<td>$290,324</td>
<td>$4,324</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>$32,066</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
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<td>$647,010</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$49,716</td>
<td>($284)</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$147,423</td>
<td>($2,577)</td>
<td>22.8%</td>
<td>$128,364</td>
<td>21.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$6,210,750</td>
<td>$610,500</td>
<td>$618,969</td>
<td>$8,469</td>
<td>$1,158,500</td>
<td>$1,212,188</td>
<td>$53,688</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>$883,030</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
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<td>VARIANCE</td>
<td>($1,677,170)</td>
<td>($594,477)</td>
<td>($605,704)</td>
<td>($11,227)</td>
<td>($2,256,873)</td>
<td>($2,205,166)</td>
<td>($51,707)</td>
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<td>FUND BALANCE-CURRENT</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fund balance should be not less than 25% of annual operating expenditures and not more than 35% of annual expenditures, except when the Library is building a fund balance in support of specific non-recurring projects.

Note: Of the $3,385,950 in Birmingham tax revenue, $2,681,265 is for operating expenses, and $704,685 is for pre-funding the Youth Room expansion and renovation.
This report references the Revenue and Expense Report 2019-20, found on the following page. At 25% of the way through fiscal year 2019-2020, the Library has spent 19.5% of its budget and received 75.4% of its revenue. By this point of the year, the Library was budgeted to have spent 18.7% of its budget and to have received 75.3% of its revenue.

Payment was made to Library Design for Youth Room Moving and Relocation ($25,082). Progress payments were made to The Dailey Company for August and September Youth Renovation ($140,792 and $116,406, respectively). The first quarter health care adjustment was also made ($30,663.75).

**Vendor payments in excess of $6,000:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker &amp; Taylor Books</td>
<td>$15,074.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DTE Energy</td>
<td>$8,018.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Design</td>
<td>$25,082.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest Tape</td>
<td>$13,267.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OCLC</td>
<td>$13,950.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdrive, Inc.</td>
<td>$15,583.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dailey Company</td>
<td>$116,406.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dailey Company</td>
<td>$140,792.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total vendor payments in excess of $6,000**

$348,174.19

**Balance of vendor payments less than $6,000**

$43,422.49

**Total vendor payments**

$391,596.68

**City of Birmingham allocations:**

<table>
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<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Period 8/25-09/07</td>
<td>$81,357.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payroll Period 09/08-09/21</td>
<td>$82,971.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Health Care Payroll Deduction</td>
<td>($689.84)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Past Retirement Health Care Cost (Aug-Sep)</td>
<td>$13,859.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Past Retirement Cost (Aug-Sep)</td>
<td>$8,747.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Quarter Hospitalization Adjustment</td>
<td>$30,663.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BS&amp;A Software Charge</td>
<td>$248.19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Services</td>
<td>$8,740.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MML Insurance Premium</td>
<td>$380.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plante Moran Audit for 2018-2019</td>
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<td>Credit Card Processing Fee</td>
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**Total City of Birmingham allocations**

$229,375.98

**Reconciling adjustments:**

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<td>and YS Renovation Donations</td>
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**Total expenses for the month**

$618,968.72
**Construction Committee Working Session Notes**

**project**  
BPL Youth Services – Renovation / Addition

**date**  
September 16, 2019, 1:30 – 2:15 p.m.

**location**  
Jeanne Lloyd Room

**attending**  
BPL: R. Craft, S. Klimmek  
Building Committee: F. Pisano, M. Mark  
City of Birmingham: B. Johnson, M. Morad  
LZG: J. Gardner, R. Ziegelman  
Dailey (TDC): P. Danko, D. Bernard

Gardner shared key project dates:
- City Commission Meeting on 9/16/19 to ask for final glazing approval.

Johnson discussed LZG’s invoice for costs relating to the glazing change. The City will cover this expense as the research was requested by the City, not the Library, and was needed after a change in ordinances.

**Staff Office North Wall**
LZG shared an updated plan for the workspace on the north wall. The new plan includes two 2 cubbies for MelCat crates. Each cubby can fit 2 full crates and 7 stacked, empty crates. The base cabinets can be reused. LZG would like to have the bases refinished and build new top shelves. BPL would like to use the existing bases as is and use existing metal wall shelving. LZG will look into accommodating existing metal shelving.

**Ductwork Feeding to Second Level**
Pictures have been sent to George at PBA for design and planning. The HVAC for the renovation is combining the existing system in the Youth Room with the auxiliary system that was added with the Birkerts addition.

**Sanitary Cleanout**
Dailey will provide a cut sheet for the cap options. The cleanout will end on the inside of the building. Meyers will contact DPS directly to see if they can clean out the pipe before it is capped.

**Column Relocation at North Entry Update**
Updated drawings from DNCE were sent to Paul on Thursday for a cost estimate. The column location was reviewed at last week’s meeting and all parties agreed that keeping the column in the existing location is fine.

Part of the concrete pad on the future patio was removed and uncovered the crawl space for the 1927 building. A new deck will need to be placed/poured to seal up the crawl space. This may require some decorative concrete before installing the brick pavers.
Main Sprinkler line
The big main has been removed. Previously, it was a 3” diameter pipe that dropped below the ceiling and ran north and south along the east exposure brick wall and clerestory windows along staff office area. The main was dropped down below the ceiling and there is not enough room to fit it above the ceiling. At a future meeting, the Committee will need to discuss the pros and cons of exposing or not exposing the pipe. The Fire suppression company is designing it to run below the ceiling. The final line will run it between the wood panels on the ceiling and the lights (AR-1) hanging in the ceiling. All branches will go up and into the ceiling.

Fish Tank Service Room
LZG will update the drawings for the fish service room and give to TDC. A wall hydrant and floor drain will be added in lieu of floor sink and faucets.

Exterior Concrete Wall Finish
Most of the concrete finish will be covered with landscape block and shrubbery. However, some of the new concrete seams will be visible for the next several years. LZG found an existing concrete example on our building to emulate and the newly poured concrete will need to be etched to look more finished (clean and uniform). TDC will do a few mockups on the inside of the wall to get approval from the City/BPL/LZG.

Construction Progress Update
TDC’s mason was out last week to put together a cost estimate for the limestone base and brick (salvage brickyard). We have to buy a few pieces of limestone to create the new endcap in the story room as no piece is large enough to replicate the necessary end cap size. Because of this, the new deduct for the story room curved wall end cap is $1300.

The steel joist order is being put together and the contractor is verifying dimensions. Steel should arrive by December 4. TDC will be reviewing storefront shop drawings this week. Once glass is approved, TDC can begin the glass order.

Demolition of exterior wall should be completed this week.

Bathroom tiles
Karen was not present to share tile samples. Staff requested medium gray tiles for the floor. LZG asked to use dark tile under the urinals and staff declined.

Next meeting: September 30 at 1:30 p.m. If issues arise, we may schedule a meeting for September 23.
Construction Committee Working Session Notes

**project**  
BPL Youth Services – Renovation / Addition

**date**  
September 30, 2019, 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.

**location**  
Jeanne Lloyd Room

**attending**  
BPL: R. Craft, S. Klimmek  
Building Committee: F. Pisano, J. Suhay, M. Mark  
City of Birmingham: B. Johnson, M. Morad  
LZG: J. Gardner, K. Swanson, R. Ziegelman  

GLASS: Guardian SNX 62/67 approved by City Commission / Bird Friendly Glass

- Koschik will contact Honhart to let her know the Library has ultimately decided against the Bird Friendly glass. Due to costs, HVAC increases with alternate glass, aesthetics, possible conflicts with City ordinances, and a tight timeline with wanting to open the Youth Room by June 2020, we have to forgo bird friendly glass.
- The Commission has approved the SNX62/67 glass, and the Planning Board and HDC have blessed the project.
- We will involve the Bird glass community in Phase 3 of the project.

Bathroom Tiles: Final Design & Tile Selection Updates KSA/LZG

- Swanson shared the final renderings and final selections for restroom tiles. She will submit purchase information and quantities to TDC.

Staff Office North (Brick) Wall – Cabinetry-Design

- Portions of the end of the east wall passing through to AS were removed during the 1960 renovation and destroyed in the process. This should be drywalled over.
- The costs to restore the walls are quite high, however we may be able to cover the walls with something less expensive
  - It is estimated to be $16,000 to infill the brick wall and limestone on the South wall – TDC is looking for an alternative material/design that will decrease the price
  - It is estimated to be $29,000 for limestone restoration on East wall (20 feet of limestone to match existing)
- LZG asked if TDC has money in their budget for restoring this wall. TDC will double check and noted that $4000 for cleaning brick is included.
- TDC will ask their mason to for alternate finish options including:
  - remove the limestone from the infill cost on the north wall
  - Explore using smooth limestone, cast limestone, or ¾” limestone veneer (infilled with mortar)
- LZG would like to install both lower and upper cabinetry in the Circulation work area. The cabinets would be light maple and the upper shelves would be similar in design to the Hot Picks shelving. The bracing color will be dark gray to disappear into the wall. The existing budget included reusing existing cabinets and a new countertop. Upper shelving and lower cabinets will be an additional COR. TDC will provide a quotes for new base cabinets with maple veneer and will provide an alternate cost to install new maple doors on existing cabinet bases.

Ductwork feeding level 2 in front of brick wall to be addressed by Mechanical Engineering
- LZG is waiting to hear back from George Hopkins.
- The ductwork feeds three registers in the Claudia Ireland room, along with the Director’s and Administrative Assistant’s office.

Storm/Sanitary Cleanout at East Wall of BPL cap samples
- TDC sent cut sheets and a picture to LZG for approval.

DC contacting DPS to Clean out drain line.
- All has been rebuilt and cleaned out. Doug was able to clean out the drain line with a post hole digger. He pulled a giant root ball and various plants out of the drain.
- The roof should be cleaned off periodically.

Column Relocation at North Entry Update
- The cost to relocate the column would be $16,500 for structural steel reinforcement
- Everyone decided to keep the column in the current location and avoid the extra cost.
- LZG will need to provide a finish option to TDC for the column. Stephanie suggested chalkboard paint.

Main Sprinkler line running N-S along 1927 brick wall to be exposed vs not in order to not lower ceiling height.
- LZG has received and is reviewing Shop Drawings for the fire suppression system.
- The goal is to keep the ceiling as high as possible, which means exposing portions of the sprinkler line. Some of the suppression lines will be exposed, but will be painted white and will blend in with the ceiling.

Fish Tank Service Room: Arch & Mechanical drawings to be coordinated by LZG to show floor drain and wall hydrant in lieu of floor sink and faucets.
- LZG would like to follow the mechanical drawing locations of the floor drain. TDC will have their plumber verify that the current path will work.
- Craft requested adding a floor sink drain to prevent extra water spillage. TDC will look for options.

EE/Arch Lighting-
- The bid pricing is based on the electrical engineer’s count of fixtures.
- BPL may have some extra lights leftover from phase 1. Craft will search the building.
- Under cabinet lighting in the story room cabinet area was not included in the bid and Klimmek determined it is not needed.
- LZG will provide TDC with a spec for the light fixture that goes over the aquarium.
- LZG will provide TDC with a spec for back lighting the glass window in the Circulation workroom.

Exterior Concrete wall finish.
- Dailey provided several finish options and LZG selected their favorite. LZG has requested a larger sample area that shows how the seams will be finished.
- LZG preferred black beauty with sand blast and no water to make the wall look slightly aged.
• The contractor will test a larger sample on Tuesday morning at 8am and Meyers asked for Gardner to attend the blasting to provide preferences.

Curtain Wall Shops Provided by DC to LZG.
• LZG reviewed the drawings and have sent the drawings on to the contractor to be revised and resubmitted.

Construction Progress Update DC
• Pouring foundation walls has been completed. The walls have been damp-proofed, waterproofed and back filled
• The building is ready for steel now
• Electrician will run conduit from the boiler room to the new panel this week. The new panel location is from the column on the east wall. There is duct work right above that location. There may be more exposed pipe coming up from the panel and the panel may need to be relocated.
• Waiting on fire suppression drawing to be completed so that the system can be installed
• Waiting on enclosure - steel delivery date is November 4 (joist and deck)
• After steel is installed, the slab on deck will be poured.
• Enclosure is anticipated by early December
• Fiber optic line was cut with 3 lines in it. AT&T said they have not used 3 line fiber optic cables since 1990s. Craft will confirm that Eric (City IT) has reviewed the line.
• Nick provided submittal logs - crawlspace access panel needs to be approved by LZG.
• Karen will get a cut sheet for the aquarium size. Blue paint for the aquarium closet is still TBD.
• Karen will also check on using blue vs. black glass on three sides of the aquarium.

Next meeting: October 7 at 1:30 p.m.
Concrete wall finish:
- Dailey provided several samples of concrete wall finishes, and LZG has reviewed them. The sample that LZG prefers grinds the seams and sandblasts the finish to give a more uniform look. The price of this finishing was built into the wall cost that TDC bid. 80% of the wall will be covered up with landscape block and landscaping, so the work will need to be done on only the top 20% of the walls. The Committee will make a final decision after today’s meeting. [The Committee later looked at the various samples and agreed with LZG’s recommendation.]
- LZG suggested doing the sandblasting on the front walls and handicap ramp as well, in order to spruce up the finish and make everything match the building. Dailey will have their contractor look at the handicap ramp and give opinions on whether or not the work would make sense and how much it costs. Johnson will see if altering the ramp requires approval by City boards. No final decision was made.

Staff office, north (brick) wall – Cabinetry design cost estimates are in progress:
- Bernard hopes to have the quote ready by the next meeting. It will be less expensive to build new cabinet boxes than to rehab current boxes and refinish them in a light maple finish.

1927 wall - Cost alternatives:
- DC is looking for more quotes from stone suppliers. Options include: restoring limestone; restoring just the brick and not the limestone; using a simulated limestone; and using a limestone veneer.

The ductwork in front of the brick wall by the Circulation/Youth office, which supplies HVAC to the east end of the second level, will be addressed by the mechanical engineer:
- Peter Basso Associates will prepare a plan to re-do the ductwork in front of exposed window later this week. They will be using a smaller spiral duct rather than a rectangular duct. LZG will review the proposed ductwork drawings.

Meyers noted that a heating and cooling company will be out on October 8. Meyers will have the exposed ducts capped before cooler weather arrives. A temporary wall will be installed and TDC anticipates being able to leave the HVAC unit on, since it will be inside the temporary wall.
The main sprinkler line running north-south along the 1927 brick wall will be exposed:
- LZG approved the shop drawings.

Swanson will provide DC with a cut sheet for the children’s play area canopy. Dailey believes a sprinkler unit will need to be piped through the head of the canopy.

Storm/sanitary cleanout on east wall:
- Dailey sent a sample photo to LZG for review.

Fish tank service room: TDC sent floor sink options to LZG on October 5. Swanson is reviewing them:
- The tank must be ordered 10 weeks before the desired installation date.
- Karen believes that black glass on the three interior walls would make the fish pop against the background more than the blue glass would. Karen will provide photos of both options for Baldwin staff and Building Committee members to review. A decision will then be made.
- Swanson would like to tile the floor and walls of the aquarium closet.
- Swanson provided samples of floor drains in various sizes. The 8” x 8” x 6” drain was selected, and Swanson will check with the aquarium company to make sure this style drain will work.

Curtain wall shop drawings are still not approved. They were returned to TDC for revisions by a contractor:
- Dailey will be reviewing these drawings this week.

Construction progress update:
- An MEP coordination meeting will be held on Oct. 8.
- Floor boxes will be installed and plumbing cuts will be made during the next two weeks.
- The wiring from the existing electrical panels in the boiler room will be fed to the new Youth Room electrical panel through the crawl space under the Grand Hall. The Youth Room panel will be recessed and probably located near the entrance to the Grand Hall.
- Steel is scheduled to arrive on November 4.
- The tile contractor will be ordering samples for the restroom order, and the samples are expected to arrive by the end of this week.
- TDC will erect a temporary wall for weather protection.
- TDC has sent out COR #4: deduction of $10,500 for the Guardian 62/27 (tempered) glass.

Next meeting time and date: Monday, October 14 at 1:30 p.m. Gardner might not be able to attend.
**Construction Committee Working Session Notes**

**project**  BPL Youth Services – Renovation / Addition  
**date**  October 14, 2019, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.  
**location**  Jeanne Lloyd Room  
**attending**  BPL: D. Koschik, R. Craft, S. Klimmek  
Building Committee: F. Pisano, J. Suhay, M. Mark  
City of Birmingham: B. Johnson, M. Morad  
LZG: J. Gardner, K. Swanson, R. Ziegelman  

**Bird-Friendly Glass Update**
- Doug will handle all questions about bird-friendly glass.

**Staff Office Wall Cabinetry—Design Cost Estimate—TDC**
- Brand-new maple cabinets (uppers and lowers) will cost approximately $11,333, including the credit for the base cabinetry cost. This does not include reusing the library’s existing upper open shelves since TDC hasn’t had a chance to look at them yet. The current shelves from the Library would need to be cut down to fit into the bracings/framing. We will discuss this matter further on Oct. 21.

**1927 Wall—Cost Alternative Updates: Total Costs = Limestone, Brick, Window Panes, Repairs to Window Frames, and Lighting (i.e., backlighting behind window panes)—TDC**
- Dailey will need more clarification on the subcontractor quote that Dailey received on Oct. 14.
- Possible costs include $20,815 for the restoration of the brick and limestone on the south and east walls of the 1927 building. The doorway in the south wall will be filled up with matching bricks, but no limestone will be installed there. A limestone veneer will be installed on the east wall. If no chiseling is done to the limestone, the cost will be $1,500 lower. If windows in the south wall are backlit, the additional cost will be $1,543. These costs are lower than originally estimated.
  - We will discuss this matter further on Oct. 21.

**Staff Office Ductwork Supplying the Second Floor:**
- LZG is still waiting on an update from Basso.
- This will be an additional expense since the ductwork was not shown in the construction drawings.
- A more expensive option is to install a split system for Doug’s office and the Reading Room and remove the ductwork completely. (Basso will need to give an opinion on this option.)
  - We will discuss this matter further on Oct. 21.

**Curtain Wall Shop Drawing Update:**
- Drawings were returned to LZG from TDC on Oct. 10. LZG is reviewing the drawings and will return them to TDC no later than Oct. 15.
- LZG and TDC will meet to discuss the discrepancies.
  - We will discuss this matter further on Oct. 21.
Storm/Sanitary Cleanout at East Wall of BPL, Cap Samples:
- BPL selected a stainless steel cover to match the columns and no carpet cover.
- There is no additional expense for this cap.

Fish Tank Service Room: Floor Drain, Faucet, and Floor Material Update:
- BPL selected blue glass for the side walls and back wall of the aquarium.
- The service room will have Forbo on the floors and a white plastic reinforced fiber around the bottom four feet of wall as a splash guard.
- The group discussed the height of the faucets in the fish room. The current design has an 18-inch high faucet, but it may be better to raise this height.
- The group discussed installing a mop sink instead of a floor drain. DC will need to see what they can do in that space and will report back.
- We will discuss this matter further on Oct. 21.

Play Area Cut Sheet/Shop Drawing to be Supplied to TDC for Fire Suppression Through the Canopy:
- Swanson is still waiting for further information.
- We will discuss this matter further on Oct. 21.

Concrete Wall Finish:
- TDC can proceed with the approved finish recommendation from LZG.
- Control joint v-grooves should be cut at cold joint /pour locations to control cracking in the future—a total of three v-grooves.

Wireless Access Points Cut During Demolition:
- TDC will pay for a wireless access point that was accidentally broken in construction.
- Wires for the public address system was also cut during demolition, and TDC will pay for the repairs.

Construction Progress Update:
- TDC discussed the floor layout for plumbing, electrical, and data. The data company was out on Thursday to discuss needs for the complete system—i.e., phone and internet wiring. The roof layout will be done on Tuesday.
- The temporary wall to enclose the area is coming soon. It will help keep heat in the building. Measurements will be taken on Oct. 15.
- The ductwork will be shrunk—i.e., the cold air and fresh air intakes will be sized down. No special saw cutting is required. Plumbing pipes (hot and cold lines) will be squeezed back in to make the radius work.
- Fire protection shop drawings were sent back to the fire contractor last week. TDC will send to LZG on Oct. 15.
- Preparation for the framing will take place in the next week.

RFI Submittal Log – TDC presented an updated submittal log and RFI sheet. LZG will answer these questions in writing. Among the items are:
- Grille panel slat ceilings: LZG is waiting for a resubmittal from a TDC subcontractor. LZG had reviewed drawings from the subcontractor and made corrections because they did not reflect LZG’s reflected ceiling plan. The subcontractor needs to make corrections and then seek approval from both LZG and TDC.
• Column reinforcement question: LZG is waiting for a response from Desai Nassr.
• Crawl space floor access panel: LZG has approved.
• Ceramic tile samples approval: Swanson has approved.

Coming change order requests will include:
• Repairing the clogged roof drain – approximately $5,600.
• Repairing the 1927 brick wall – approximately $20,815.
• Adding cabinetry to the Circulation workroom – approximately $11,333.
• Re-routing ductwork along the original building – No cost estimate yet.

The next meeting time and date: Monday, October 21, at 1:30 p.m.
LIBRARY REPORT

Key Metrics Dashboard
Strategic Plan Status Report
Services and Programs
Marketing and Public Relations
Financial Stability
Personnel and Organization
Community Relationships and Partnerships
Facilities and Technology
Program Photos
Expenditures from FOBPL Donations
### Strategic Plan Status Report

#### Key Metrics Dashboard: September 2019

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<th>This month last year</th>
<th>Current FYTD</th>
<th>Previous FYTD</th>
<th>FY 19-20 End of Q1 Target</th>
<th>Better/ (Worse) Target</th>
<th>Off Target Cautionary</th>
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|                  | Downloadable Content | 9,945 | 7,478 | 30,593 | 24,787 | 26,400 | 4,193 | On Target |
|                  | Public Computer Content | 975 | 968 | 3,637 | 3,481 | 3,988 | (351) | Off Target |
|                  | Wireless Sessions | 20,236 | 24,156 | 63,883 | 71,376 | 67,500 | (3,617) | Off Target |
|                  | Website Hits/Pageviews | 20,196 | 23,136 | 67,011 | 78,734 | 80,052 | (13,041) | Off Target |

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</tbody>
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| Outreach Attendance | 311 | 1,179 |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      | On Target |
| # of Outreach Programs | 15 | 33 |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      | On Target |

| Gate Count | 19,274 | 19,697 | 70,168 | 73,663 | 73,483 | (3,315) | Off Target |

| Volunteer Hours | 209 | 117 | 953 | 631 | 636 | 317 | On Target |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>New Users</th>
<th>New Users LY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>e-Newsletter Subscribers</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instagram Followers</td>
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*Residents include people who live, work, or own property in our service area of Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, and the City of Bloomfield Hills*
Strategic Plan Status Report

Comparisons of actual results to projections are made on a quarterly basis—in the months of October, January, April, and July.

Key Metrics Explanation: September 2019

On Target = Met or exceeded goal, or no more than 0.1% below goal
Cautionary = 0.1% to 3% beneath goal
Off Target = More than 3% beneath goal

At the end of the first quarter:

- **Financials**: Revenues and expenses are tracking as expected.
- **Circulation**: Despite having 35,000 children’s items in storage, circulation increased by 11.53% this year as compared to last and was 12.27% higher than our FY 2019-20 goal. This increase in checkouts is due in large part to our new integrated library system’s ability to offer automatic renewals.
- **Technology Statistics**: The Library’s database sessions and downloadable content are on target and have surpassed both the first-quarter target and last year’s first-quarter usage. Public computer usage, wireless sessions, and website page views are all off target, however. The reduced number of seats and public computers in the Library, resulting from the closure of the Youth Room, has had a negative impact on the use of these services.
- **Program Attendance**: Despite having limited meeting room space for programs, our program attendance has surpassed our first-quarter goal by 19.62% and is only 56 attendees less than our first-quarter attendance last fiscal year. We have added new outreach programs while our room space is limited. Patrons have been filling up story times, since they are now being held in a meeting room with more space and higher capacity. In addition, Idea Lab visits are up.
- **Gate Count**: Gate count (i.e., the number of people entering the Library) is 4.51% below our target. We attribute this to having the Youth Room unavailable during construction.
- **Volunteer Hours**: Total volunteer hours are both higher than last year and higher than this year’s quarterly goal. The addition of weekly volunteers from JVS Human Services continues to strengthen our volunteer hours for the year.
• **Social Media:** Facebook page likes and Instagram followers are on target. E-newsletter subscriptions are 0.64% below the quarterly target and Twitter followers are 0.24% below target, which is considered cautionary.

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**Services and Programs**

*Strategic goal: Focus on fresh, dynamic services, and programs that meet Library users’ changing needs.*

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**Freegal**

In November of 2010, Baldwin signed up for a downloadable music service called Freegal. Freegal allows users to download up to five mp3 audio files each week from Sony’s music catalog, with each file representing one song from an album. When we signed up in 2010, downloading music (singles or albums) was ascendant among consumers. According to the RIAA (Recording Industry Association of America) that trend peaked in 2012, and by 2018 downloading singles as a way of consuming music generated less revenue than it did in 2006. We have similarly seen our usage of Freegal fall every year since 2013. In that year, 568 different individuals used the service, but that number had dropped to 187 by 2018. The cost of the service, however, has remained the same at $14,420, which means that the Library is paying more per download and more per user than it ever has. The cost, along with the nose-dive in usage and the popularity of Baldwin’s other services such as Hoopla, were determining factors in our decision to cancel Freegal. Baldwin will be notifying our Freegal users that we will be canceling the service, and pointing them to Hoopla, where they can stream (and temporarily download) over 240,000 albums.

**Gale Courses**

Baldwin has added Gale Courses, a new online learning resource from Gale, a Cengage Company. Gale Courses offer patrons access to more than 350 instructor-led online courses covering everything from health and wellness to creative writing, computer programming, business management, GED test preparation, and much more. Patrons can enroll at no cost. Courses run for six weeks, with two new lessons released weekly, and new classes beginning every month. The courses are entirely web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. A dedicated college-level instructor coordinates every course by pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback and facilitating discussions.

**Creativebug**

Baldwin added a new online resource for Library users in October called Creative Bug, which is an online portal from Joann Fabrics for hobbyists and crafters to learn new skills. Creativebug
offers over a thousand video courses on topics such as knitting, crochet, jewelry making, baking, cake decorating, quilting, sewing, and more. Classes vary in length from just several minutes to several hours. Each topic has classes for beginners as well as those with more experience who wish to learn more advanced techniques. In addition to classes, Creativebug has a large curated pattern library where users can download and print patterns to knit or crochet.

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**Marketing and Public Relations**

*Strategic goal: Improve marketing tools to ensure that the community is more aware of what the Baldwin Library has to offer and comes to view the Library as its first choice for accessing the world’s knowledge.*

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**New Releases and Upcoming Events**

Craft submitted press releases about programs and events to local media outlets. Press releases from the last month included:

- Baldwin Library Hosts MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival
- Baldwin Library Offers Gale Courses
- Friends of the Baldwin Public Library Fall Used Book Sale

*eNewsletters*

Bart Gioia, Computer Trainer, continues to compile and distribute the Library’s four monthly eNewsletters (Adult Events, Teen Events, Youth Events, and Library Board News).

*Marketing*

Michelle Hollo continues to work with Rebekah Craft designing projects and marketing materials for the Library. She has completed or is working on the following:

- Battle of the Books
- Winter Reading Challenge
- Friends Used Book Sale
- Teen & Adult Read Alike Brochures
- Winter Learn.Connect.Discover Issue

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**Personnel and Organization**

*Strategic goal: Provide the most effective governing framework, and maintain a flexible, efficiently organized management structure staffed by multi-talented professionals with active support from well-trained volunteers.*

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*Volunteer Hours*
209 volunteer hours were utilized in the month of September.

*Communications with Staff*
Staff talks were held on September 19 as a follow-up to the September Library Board meeting.

*Staff Updates*
Gary Eisele reached 10 years of service on October 1.
Sarah Bowman reached 3 years of service on October 1.
Carolyn Wheeler reached 6 years of service on October 4.
Stephanie Klimmek will reach 8 years of service on October 17.
Susan Paley reached 9 years of service on October 17.
Jamie Richards will reach 4 years of service on October 19.
Connie Ilmer will reach 25 years of service on October 21.

*Public Library Association Conference Scholarship Winner*
H Jennings applied for and received a Library of Michigan continuing education stipend in the amount of $1,600. She will be using this grant to attend the PLA Conference in Nashville, TN from February 25 through 29.

*Staffing Update*
We are in the midst of hiring candidates for the following positions at the Library:
- Technical Services Assistant
- Administrative Assistant
- Library Pages

*Substitute Youth Librarian*
Laurie Olmsted will begin work at Baldwin on October 29. For the past ten years, Laurie worked for Birmingham Public Schools and she just retired this past spring. She previously worked as a school librarian at Quarton Elementary School.

*Librarian’s Guide to Homelessness with Ryan Dowd*
Syntha Green, Lisa Christie, Susan Dion, and H Jennings attended a half day training session with Ryan Dowd on September 11. H says of the training, “The training session was more than just a great refresher. I walked away with several terms and tools that I think will ultimately leave me with a greater understanding and level of compassion, not just for patrons experiencing homelessness, but also people generally. There were a number of techniques that I hope to be able to try out in the future to help with understanding others and minimizing conflict.”
**TLN Circulation Services Meeting**

Kristen Tait, Circulation Services Coordinator, attended the TLN Circulation Services meeting at the Canton Public Library on Thursday September 12. While once again the majority of the meeting was spent on the TLN shared system ILS (CARL), several topics of interest to stand-alone libraries were discussed. Baldwin is evidently one of the few libraries around to have a formalized, structured procedure for handling “problem” items—i.e., those that patrons claim they have returned (or never checked out), and those that are returned damaged or missing parts. Our procedures are working well and none of the alternate methods mentioned would help us here at Baldwin. There was also a brief discussion about being fine free, as several shared-system libraries have adopted this in 2019. The stand-alone libraries, including Baldwin, that have auto-renewal feel it is the better option of the two. TLN shared system libraries currently do not have this option, though, as auto-renewal is not scheduled to be implemented for them until the spring or summer of 2020.

**TLN Membership Meeting**

Rebekah Craft attended the TLN Membership meeting on October 4 at the Ferndale Area District Library. Sergeant Baron Brown from the Ferndale Police Department provided a training session on administering Narcan, and Ferndale Director Jenny Marr shared state legislation on libraries using this drug and her library’s policy and procedures for administering the drug. The Committee also discussed how member libraries are working with schools on Michigan’s Read by Grade 3 law.

**TLN Technology Forum**

On Friday, October 4, Maria Williams and Jeff Jimison attended the annual TLN Technology Forum at the Bloomfield Township Library. Of particular value was the opening keynote address by Kristin Fontichiaro, Clinical Associate Professor of Information at the School of Information at the University of Michigan. Fontichiaro’s address illuminated the many ways in which websites, apps, and other technology tools are constantly tracking, collecting, and retaining data about people, often without their knowledge. She emphasized the important role that public libraries will need to play in educating the general public about how to protect the privacy of their data, and that in order to accomplish that professional public librarians will need to seek out professional development opportunities to keep their knowledge current and their skills sharp. Other presenters discussed the integration of technology with library furniture, server structures, security camera tools and features, and website accessibility. As always, this was a valuable event. Thank you to the Library for sending us!
**Community Relationships and Partnerships**

*Strategic goal: Strengthen relationships with stakeholders and expand partnership opportunities with community organizations for everyone’s mutual benefit.*

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**City of Birmingham**

Koschik has attended weekly City of Birmingham staff meetings. Craft submitted content to the City of Birmingham for inclusion in its monthly *Around Town* email newsletter.

On September 16, Koschik addressed the Birmingham City Commission, which then approved the installation of Guardian SNX 62/27 glass in the new Youth Room.

**Beverly Hills**

Craft submitted information to the Village of Beverly Hills for inclusion in its weekly email newsletter.

Maria Williams and Stephanie Klimmek worked with the Beverly Hills Parks & Recreation Board to host the 2019 Read in the Park event on September 28. It was the third annual Read in the Park. A total of 84 people attended the event.

**City of Bloomfield Hills**

Rebekah Craft attended the Bloomfield Hills Open House on September 15. Craft talked about services, programming opportunities, and the Idea Lab to attendees at the event. Children who attended the event selected a book to take home.

**Birmingham Next**

Rebekah Craft continues to host the Popular Reads book club at Next on the second Monday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Bart Gioia, Technology Trainer, continues to teach one computer class per quarter at Next. The Library’s new non-fiction book club continues to be popular. This club meets on the second Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m. Books are available for checkout in the Next office.

**Birmingham Rotary Club**

Koschik has continued to attend Birmingham Rotary Club meetings.

**Beverly Hills Lions Club**

The Beverly Hills Lions Club awarded Stephanie Klimmek, Head of Adult Services, with their Supporter of the Year award at their June banquet. Stephanie coordinates the Project Kidsight Free Vision Screenings each month.
**Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club**
On September 26, Jeff Jimison spoke to the Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club and showed off some of the equipment from the Idea Lab.

**Birmingham All Seasons**
Lauren Ziolkowski, Adult Services librarian, is facilitating a monthly book club at All Seasons, the independent senior living facility in Birmingham.

**Birmingham Public Schools**
Baldwin will visit every elementary school in the Birmingham Public School district to present our First Grade First Card program this fall. First Grade First Card is an interactive presentation designed to encourage a love of reading. Children will learn how to get a library card, see items the library has to offer for their age group, participate in fun activities, and receive a free book thanks to the Bob and Jean Kelly Endowment. Miss Rosemary, pictured below, has already visited Harlan and Pembroke. She hosted a First Grade First Card program at the Library on Sunday, October 20. This is a new outreach program for the Youth Department.
Friends of the Baldwin Public Library
Rebekah Craft attended the October 8 Board meeting of the Friends. The Friends recently mailed membership renewal letters and postcards to advertise the fall used book sale. The Friends will be hosting their third annual Books, Bags & Bagels fundraiser on Sunday, March 22, 2020. Donations of gently used purses, handbags, totes, wallets, and briefcases can be given to staff at the Circulation Desk.

YMCA Story Times
Miss Syntha has started monthly story times at the YMCA for their drop-in child care room. She started on September 24 with ten children. Each story time is around a half hour and features songs, stories, rhymes, and more. Upcoming dates include October 22 and November 26 at 10:00 a.m. This is a new outreach program for the Youth Department.
Adult Learning Institute at OCC
Kristen Tait, Circulation Services Coordinator, was asked to return as a lecturer for the Adult Learning Institute at OCC. She reprised her recent Baldwin lecture, "Minimalism in Music", during the ALI session on Tuesday October 15, and has been extended an open invitation to speak again at future sessions. During Tuesday's lecture, Kristen was able to mention upcoming adult programs at Baldwin.

Facilities and Technology
Strategic goal: Adapt the existing facility for more flexible use and employ technology more effectively in order to improve internal operating efficiency and better serve Library patrons.

Youth Room Expansion & Renovation
Information, updates, and pictures of the renovation can be found in the new Youth Room Expansion & Renovation section of the Board Packet.

Sculpture
The concrete pad for the sculpture was poured on September 9. Unfortunately, the artist who was hired to design and fabricate a pedestal for the sculpture was involved in a bicycling accident and will be out of work for the next four weeks or so. The project will be delayed until the artist returns to work.

Bed Bug Inspection
A quarterly bed bug inspection was held on October 10. No bed bugs were detected in the building. The next inspection will be held in January.

Idea Lab
Here is an update from Idea Lab Supervisor Jeff Jimison:

And now, we use the power of imagination to travel through time, and revisit the past month or so.

Our first destination, September 7th. It's our candlemaking drop-in program! Throughout the course of this fine Saturday, 40 people visit the Idea Lab to try their hands at pouring candles. They use sophisticated equipment to heat organic soy wax to just precisely the melting point. They add fragrant concoctions of essential oils, and richly pigmented dyes. They use a laser engraver to custom-etch glass jars. Some etch their names, or the names of friends or family. Some etch decorative images, or symbols whose meanings resonate for them. Everyone makes different choice, different
combinations of color, fragrance, and etching. They place the wicks, they pour the wax, they cap the jars. By the time they get home, the wax has cooled and hardened. In the end, in the night, when all the candles are lit, no two are the same.

We travel forward, and as we go, we see that every Thursday there's another equipment skills class. Small groups of people are all learning together how to use the equipment in the Idea Lab. On one Thursday, they're learning to use the embroidery machine. Computerized stitching! How cool! We notice that the embroidery machine is getting a lot of use lately, more than before... perhaps even more than any of the other tools in the lab! How interesting! How unexpected!

Another Thursday whizzes past, as we continue scrolling forward along the timeline. This time folks are learning to run the die-cutter machine. Imagine what sorts of fascinating projects they'll make with that once they know how to use it, what astonishing things they can achieve when they see that anything is possible!

We hit the brakes when we come to Thursday the 26th, as we've noticed Jeff is giving a presentation about the Idea Lab to the Optimist Club of Bloomfield Hills at one of their breakfast meetings. We'll stick around and watch for a minute or two—it's pretty interesting stuff! He's talking about all the interesting programs and services the lab offers, all while some 3D printers he brought are printing away in the corner. We can tell he enjoys talking about this— he seems to be having a blast! And what's that? They're serving waffles? Too bad we are just invisible, intangible observers on this journey through time, unable to interact with these images of the past. Otherwise we'd snag a waffle before moving on!

But on we go, moving closer to the present. The days flicker by, and we see a kind of time-lapse view of the Idea Lab. The 3D printers churn out dozens of print requests. Patrons happily come and go, learning, creating, making. In and out they go, like bees of the hive, they bring in materials, and take away finished products. Another Thursday appears before us, and we see a group all huddled around the laser engraver, all learning how this amazing machine operates. How they can operate it! We can practically see the wheels of creativity spinning in their heads, their minds radiate with the endless possibilities.

The mind is a powerful thing. It can take us on a journey like the one we've just been on. It can conjure up new ideas from absolutely nothing. The greatest power we humans possess is our imagination, and in the Idea Lab, we can use our imaginations to achieve
the greatest thrill: the act of taking an idea, and transitioning that idea into reality. To see with your eyes that which you've seen in your mind.
In September Adult Services Librarian Sarah Bowman hosted a popular workshop on making your own sugar scrub and lip balm. Attendees received instructions to take home and packaged their scrubs in petite mason jars with festive labels.

Thank you to the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library for sponsoring our programs!
**Watercolor Painting Workshop**
In this class, watercolor artist Nina Urbonya taught teens how to paint flowers and leaves and put it all together to make a floral wreath. They added an inspirational quote inside when their wreath was complete.

**Escape the 1980s: Escape room**
Everyone had to work together as a team to break out of the 1980s.
Youth Event Photos

**Story Time @ the Museum**
September’s Story Time @ the Museum, hosted offsite at the Birmingham Museum, featured a very special guest: Bella the police therapy dog!

**Bedtime Tales: Down on the Farm**
Attendees at Miss Cathy’s monthly evening family story time are invited to wear pajamas, bring stuffed animals and cuddle up with a loved for one stories, songs, crafts, and fun! Thanks to the Friends of the Library for supporting our programs!
Local Author Book Launch

First Grade First Card
Miss Rosemary hosted offsite First Grade First Card programs at Harlan and Pembroke. First Graders learn all that the Library has to offer in this interactive, high energy program. Thank you to the Bob and Jean Kelly endowment for supporting this event.
Summer Reading Program – Statistical Report Card

On the following page is the 2019 “report card” for Michigan’s summer reading programs, put together by the Library of Michigan.

At Baldwin, our statistics this year were:

**Children**

1,279 participants  
7,980 attendees at 130 events  
Metric used was “activities.” Baldwin’s children completed 1,658 activities.

**Adults**

198 participants  
1,298 attendees at 67 events  
Metric used was “books read.” Baldwin’s adults read 640 books.

**Teens**

324 participants  
1,132 attendees at 28 events  
Metric used was “hours spent reading.” Baldwin’s teens read 6,932 hours.
2019 REPORT CARD

THEME: A UNIVERSE OF STORIES

#1 CHILDREN with 69,886 participants

- 200,012 attendees at 5,217 events

TOP RECORDING METRICS:
- 32% minutes spent reading
- 21% activities recorded
- 20% hours spent reading
- 17% number of books read

#2 ADULTS with 22,677 participants

- 25,517 attendees at 1,202 events

TOP RECORDING METRICS:
- 46% number of books read
- 29% activities recorded
- 10% hours spent reading
- 8% minutes spent reading

#3 TEENS with 13,899 participants

- 15,306 attendees at 1,062 events

TOP RECORDING METRICS:
- 26% activities recorded
- 22% hours spent reading
- 22% minutes spent reading
- 21% number of books read

RESPONSES:

We received survey responses from 171 out of a total of 396 public library systems in Michigan.

That puts our survey response rate at 43%!
## Baldwin Public Library: Friends Funds

### September 2019 Expenditures

#### Adult Services
- Lip Balm Program Supplies $84.03
- Program Refreshments $11.58
- Read in the Park Author Visit $1,000.00
- Vermeer Lecture $300.00

**Total** $1,395.61

#### Teen Services
- Pizza & Pages Books $137.80
- Video Game Program Supplies $47.47
- Pizza & Pages Refreshments $19.42
- Writing Contest Prizes $100.00
- Program Supplies $41.94
- Program Refreshments $123.33

**Total** $469.96

#### Youth Services
- Bloomfield Hills Open House Books $229.00
- Book Club Books $245.28
- Construction Paper $74.49
- Read in the Park Author Visit $500.00
- Program Supplies $81.66
- Baldwin Boosters Program $85.91

**Total** $1,216.34

#### Outreach & Equipment

**Total**

**Total Expenditures** $3,081.91

### September 2019 Balances

- Adult Services $2,374.98
- Teen Services $2,510.67
- Youth Services $8,377.94
- Outreach & Equipment $226.71

**Total Balance** $13,490.30

### September Book Sale Proceeds

$793.00

Submitted by Rebekah Craft on October 14, 2019
YOUTH ROOM
EXPANSION & RENOVATION
UPDATE
A sign was hung to advertise the project features and show projected drawings on September 18.

Demolition of exterior wall was completed on September 20.
Foundation walls have been poured and damp-proofed. The building is waiting on structural steel (joists and deck), which are scheduled to arrive on November 4.

Electricians began running conduit from the boiler room to the Youth Room the week of September 30. Cutting for floor boxes and plumbing began the week of October 7.

Koschik, Craft, and Klimmek, as well as Library Board members Mark, Pisano, and Suhay meet with representatives from The Dailey Company, Luckenbach Ziegelman Gardner Architects, and the City of Birmingham on a weekly basis to discuss issues that arise during the construction process.
The Baldwin Public Library, located in the heart of downtown Birmingham, is your place to learn, connect, and discover. Serving the communities of Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Beverly Hills and Bingham Farms, Baldwin sees over 275,000 visitors each year.

Your Baldwin Library card gives you access to over 70 databases and newspapers, including Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Detroit Free Press, USA Today, Financial Times, and Consumer Reports, Brainfuse live online tutoring, Mango Languages, Morningstar, and Value Line. Your library card also gives you the opportunity to download or stream e-books, e-audiobooks, magazines, music and movies from Baldwin's diverse selection of digital services.

Baldwin's meeting rooms provide a professional atmosphere for business meetings, seminars and community or educational events. The rooms can accommodate groups of any size, from 5 to 100 people. Reserve a room by visiting www.baldwinlib.org/rent-a-room or calling 248-647-7339.

Visit Baldwin's Idea Lab and watch our laser cutters or 3D printers in action. We offer one-on-one consultations and drop-in classes. Find out more at baldwinlib.org/idealab.

Our youth department houses books for all ages and stages, toys, video games, DVDs, audiobooks, and resources for parents and teachers. Youth librarians host story times for babies and children up to age five each week. They also offer a busy calendar of special programs, crafts, and book clubs for students and families. This year, the Youth Room will be expanded and renovated to add 2,000 square feet and will reopen to the public in June 2020.

Teens in grades 6 to 12 will find everything they need in Baldwin's Teen Scene, from test preparation materials online and in print to homework help to books, graphic novels, and video games. Baldwin hosts weekly programs for teens, including anime club, teen writing workshops and a monthly book club.
New windows in the youth services department at the Baldwin Library in Birmingham will match the glass in adult services. While not considered bird-friendly, it is cheaper. (Photo: Susan Bromley | Hometownlife.com.)

To be clear, birds matter, but so do carbon footprints and costs.

The Baldwin Library will not be changing its glass windows to save birds, nor to match an ordinance to which retailers must follow.

In a unanimous vote Monday, the commission approved using the original glass planned for the current expansion and renovation of the youth services department at the library.

“It’s a value judgment,” Library Director Doug Koschik said. “How much do you spend to save the lives of 55 birds per year? We’re not going to exterminate a species by doing this… We all care for birds, I don’t want to go out and kill 55 birds per year, but there is the issue of cost, energy use, bird
lives versus carbon footprint, and ultimately, it’s a political decision we couldn’t justify at the library level.”

The city commission approved a $1.9 million expansion and renovation of the youth services department earlier this year, but last month, questions arose about the builder’s plans to use Guardian windows with an e-coating and visible light transmission of 62%, far less than the 80% the city requires by ordinance for retailers.

Expansion of the youth services department is underway on Sept. 17, 2019 at the Baldwin Library in Birmingham. (Photo: Susan Bromley | Hometownlife.com)

The only commercially-available glass from Guardian that would meet the city’s 80% standard would increase the expansion project by an estimated $75,000 for the additional heating and cooling equipment required, and would also increase heating costs by 20% annually, and cooling costs by 16.5% per year, increasing the financial burden well into the future, officials said. The clearer glass would also result in greater fading of books, furniture and carpeting.

Koschik noted the library already is $250,000 over budget from the pre-build estimate on the expansion project, which is expected to be completed next spring.

As a public property, the library is exempt from the ordinance governing businesses.

Commissioner Mark Nickita said it was important to adhere to ordinances, regardless of whether it is public or private property, but that the library is unique and has an interest in protecting books and it was “not a problem to deviate” from the ordinance in order to do that, as well as match the windows from an adult services expansion and renovation at the building a few years ago.
Mayor Patty Bordman inquired about glass to prevent bird strikes, and noted birds that hit windows often don’t “die at the scene” but fly away and suffer terribly before dying elsewhere.

Koschik said bird-friendly glass would still cost about $26,000 more than what the project plans currently call for.

“If the city commission ever decides bird-friendly glass is needed, we would apply that and build it into the costs of the project,” he said. “Given the cost overruns already, we decided not to consider that bird-friendly glass.”

Nickita noted that Toronto requires bird-friendly glass that involves applied graphics, and that they are “highly distractive, and visually not unnoticeable.”

“Before we go down this path, we need to examine the pros and cons,” he said. “It can be quite detrimental.”

According to the National Audobon Society, birds' inability to see glass kills between one hundred million and one billion of the creatures every year.

Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.
Bloomfield Hills public safety open house Sunday
September 13, 2019

The Bloomfield Hills Public Safety Department invites residents to visit and learn about public safety in a fun and interactive way at the 2019 Open House on Sunday, September 15, from noon to 4 p.m.

Join the fun at City Hall Complex, 45 E. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, for food, activities, and safety demonstrations for all ages. With a focus on public safety, the open house will feature interactive and entertaining activities for everyone. Children will be able to enjoy face painting, Daisy the Clown, Stan Safety the Magical Fireman, a photo booth and participants can even try their hand at using a real fire hose.

A 50-50 raffle will be held, with all proceeds going to benefit Blue Star Service Dogs, a local organization that rescues shelter dogs, trains them, and pairs them with combat veterans diagnosed with invisible wounds. Blue Star trains and supports veterans, their families, and service dogs to help the transition from military to civilian life go smoothly.

Get your taste buds ready, because there will be a Taste of Bloomfield Hills featuring local eateries offering a variety of food for residents to enjoy, including ice cream courtesy of Wally's Frozen Custard, cotton candy, cupcakes and beverages. Medical students from the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine will be on hand to promote pediatric wellbeing through fun and interactive activities.

Free parking at surrounding area businesses will be posted.
Saturdays, Sept. 28

Read in the Park celebration

The village of Beverly Hills and the Baldwin Public Library will host the third annual Read in the Park celebration from 1 to 4 p.m. at Beverly Park, 18801 Beverly Road in Beverly Hills. Bestselling author Michael Zadoorian will discuss his life and writing career at 1:30 p.m., and children's book author Kelly DiPucchio will offer a special storytime at 3 p.m. Residents are invited to meet the authors, walk the trail and enjoy the park. To register or to learn more, call (248) 554-4650 or visit www.baldwinlib.org/calendar.
Online courses offered through Baldwin Library

Gale Courses, an online learning resource offering more than 350 instructor-led courses, are now available through the Baldwin Public Library website with a library card.

Gale Courses offer patrons access to more than 350 instructor-led online courses covering everything from health and wellness to creative writing, computer programming, business management, GED test preparation, and much more.

Patrons can enroll at no cost. Courses run for six weeks, with two new lessons released weekly, and new classes beginning every month. The courses are entirely web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes and assignments. A dedicated college-level instructor coordinates every course by pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback and facilitating discussions.

“We are very excited to be partnering with Gale to offer our cardholders the opportunity to explore the many classes on offer through Gale Courses”, said Josh Rouan, technical services coordinator. “Our community has always had a passion for lifelong learning, and Gale Courses gives people the opportunity to learn and acquire new skills in an instructor-led setting. It is the perfect mix of technological convenience and traditional teaching methods.”

Cardholders can enroll and participate in courses from home or use the library’s public computers. For more information about the catalog of courses offered or to enroll in a course, visit baldwinlib.org/research.
Bloomfield Hills
library pact okayed

The Bloomfield Hills City
Commission on Tuesday, August 13,
approved the renewal of a contract
between the city of Bloomfield Hills
and Birmingham’s Baldwin Public
Library for library services.

The contract, which next goes
before the library board for approval,
will then be placed on the August 2020
election ballot for a millage vote from
Bloomfield Hills residents.

About 1,300 Bloomfield Hills
residents use library services at
Baldwin Library, which includes book
circulation, inter-library loans, home
delivery, electronic books and
resources, reading programs, book
clubs, homework assistance and study
and collaborative spaces. Library
services have been provided since June
18, 2011, after an initial vote of
residents to accept the millage rate for
funding the services. DT
The Youth Room Expansion & Renovation is underway and is expected to be completed in June 2020. Learn more about the project and sign up for email updates at www.baldwinlib.org/renovation. The project is funded by the library’s millage and generous donations from community members and library supporters.

This new Youth Room will:

- **ENHANCE** Baldwin's ability to serve the children of our community by providing developmentally appropriate learning spaces for children from birth to sixth grade
- **SATISFY** needs and requests shared by parents, caregivers, children and staff that have been collected through a variety of forums
- **INCREASE** value that the library delivers to residents, businesses and visitors of all ages
- **ENSURE** Birmingham remains competitive against other communities who have invested heavily in their libraries
- **STRENGTHEN** Birmingham's civic center by providing an exterior that complements the existing building, Shain Park, The Community House and the city campus

**Project highlights include:**

- Expansion of the Youth Room by 40 percent, or approximately 2,000 square feet
- Larger play area, story room, seating areas and a separate room for strollers
- New furniture, carpeting and lighting
- New display cases and a large aquarium
- ADA compliance
- Modernized restrooms with increased capacity
- Outdoor children's terrace and garden
- Exposure of brick on original 1927 building
- Energy-efficient, glare-reducing glass from floor to ceiling

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:**

**2019 FALL BOOK SALE**

**Friday, November 1 from 7-9 p.m.: Member Preview Night**

**Saturday, November 2 from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, November 3 from noon-4 p.m.: Half Price Day**

**Monday, November 4 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Bag Day** - Buy a bag for $5 and stuff it to the brim with books!
Halloween and fall events happening in Oakland County

By Kathy Blake kblake@medianewsgroup.com; @kathyblake1 on Twitter

Oct 16, 2019

Annual Trick-or-Treat event is 12:30-3:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at Troy Historic Village. Photo courtesy of Troy Historic Village.

Birmingham

• The Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber and the Junior League of Birmingham will host its annual Pumpkin Patch and Halloween Parade from 1-4 p.m., Oct. 27 in downtown Birmingham. games, crafts, live performances, snacks, costume parade starts at 4 p.m. on the streets surrounding Shain Park. The Baldwin Public Library is hosting a Spooky Monster Magic Show with Gordon Russ the Magician from 3-3:45 p.m. www.bbcc.com, free.

• Trunk-or-Treat is 4-5 p.m. Oct. 27 at Birmingham First Christian Life Center, 1589 West Maple Road, Birmingham, Halloween treats and games, 248.646.6407 ext. 3124, fumcbirmingham.org.

Bloomfield Hills
• Halloween Science at Cranbrook Institute of Science is 2:30-5 p.m. or 6:30-9 p.m. Oct. 26 or 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Oct. 27 at Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, science experiments, hands-on activities, and a haunted roller coaster ride in the Acheson Planetarium. Each session features experiences for all ages, so bring the whole family and show off your costumes, 586-246-8956, science.cranbrook.edu/explore/programs/events, $15 adv.

Clarkston

• Fall Foliage Hike is 6-7 p.m. Oct. 19 at Wint Nature Center in Independence Oaks County Park, 9501 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, $3 includes cider and treat afterward, register with payment at 248-858-0916.

• Movies in the Park double feature “Hocus Pocus” is at 7 p.m. and “Scream” (R) is at 9:30 p.m. Oct. 25 at Bay Court Park, Brady Lodge, 6970 Andersonville Road, Clarkston, free, donations accepted, costume contest, www.indetwp.com/departments/parks_rec_and_seniors/special_events.php.

Farmington/Farmington Hills

• Ghost Night at the Warner Mansion is 7-9:30 p.m. Oct. 19, Governor Warner Mansion, 33805 Grand River Ave, Farmington, Great Lakes Apparition Seekers are visiting in the barn, refreshments, $12 at the door.

• Spooky Magic with Baffling Bill is 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Oct. 24 at Lyon Township Public Library, 27005 S. Milford Road, South Lyon, 248-437-8800 ext 618, ltpl.org.

• Farmington Community Band- Spooktacular XXXIV - "At the Movies" is 3 p.m. Oct. 27 at North Farmington High School, 32900 W 13 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, http://fcbmusic.org, free.

• Hayrides are Fridays, through Nov. 1 at Heritage Park. Meet at the Farmington Hills Nature Center, 24915 Farmington Road. Farmington Hills. Rides leave every half hour
from 5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. After the hayride, roast marshmallows and sip cider around a campfire. Nature Center is open until 7 p.m. on hayride nights. Hayrides are $5 per person (free for ages younger than 2), register at the Costick Center or at recreg.fhgov.com. Private hayrides are not available on Friday nights, 248-477-1135.

Ferndale

• Halloween Spooktacular is 5 p.m. Oct. 26 at Ferndale Public Library, 222 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale. Activities include trick-or-treating, crafts, games, and costumed librarians, cider and donuts, a photo booth, balloon animals (by The Balloon Meister) in the Community Room, and crafts and games, ferndalepubliclibrary.org, all ages, free event. The library’s Halloween event will overlap with the city’s Downtown Trick or Treat, scheduled to start at 4 pm.

• First Stop Friday-Jack & the Bear is 7:30 p.m. Nov. 1, Ferndale Public Library, 222 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale, 248-546-2504, ferndalepubliclibrary.org. Halloween-themed, free.

Highland Township

• Fall fun, pumpkin patch is open at Bonadeo Farms, 1215 White Lake Road, Highland Township, featuring fresh produce, pasteurized cider, donuts, pies, pumpkins, corn maze, BonadeoFarms.com, 248-787-4553.

Holly

• Holly High School Youth Theatre Department presents “Escape the Insane Asylum”, 7 p.m. Oct. 23-24, bring group of 2-6 people, $7 each, $5 for students and seniors, www.showtix4u.com/event-details/35317.

• Hollyween is 1-5 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Holly Union Depot in downtown Holly. Learn about the history of the depot and cast your vote onsite for Holly to win the Partners in Preservation grant ‘grand prize’ of an extra $50,000 to put toward rehabilitating the Depot, trick-or-treating at the downtown shops, food trucks, cider and donuts, wagon rides,www.facebook.com/events/485348798981777/

• Ghost Hunt is 6:30 p.m.- midnight Oct. 26 at Holly Antiques, 118 South Saginaw St., Holly, experience a real live ghost hunt event, the building is historically purported to be haunted since the mid 1800’s. Professional “ghost busters”, psychics, empaths and others from the Detroit Rock City Paranormal group will be on hand to discuss. Two guided tours will be given: 6:30- 9 p.m.($75), the second at 9:30 p.m. to midnight ($85). Both tours include dinner from Holly Café with a cash bar, and a commemorative mug, ages 21+.


Lake Orion

• Halloween Parade is 5:30-8:30 p.m., Oct. 23, downtown Lake Orion, parade lineup is at corner of Elizabeth and Lapeer St., https://downtownlakeorion.org/event/halloween-parade.

• Harry Potter Trivia Night to benefit the shelter dogs and at-risk youth of Teacher’s Pet MI is 6-10 p.m. Oct. 24 at Canterbury Village C-Pub, 2325 Joslyn Ct., Lake Orion, spectator-$20+, includes pizza, salad, pop and dessert, cash bar. Cash prizes for trivia and best costume. Meet adoptable dogs. Trivia Teams of 4 or single players, teacherspetmi.org, 248-431-6167.

• Halloween Stroll is Oct. 25-26 at Canterbury Village, Lake Orion, 13 stations for trick-or-treating, Halloween characters, snacks, ticketed stroll times start at 6:30 p.m., adv.
purchase tickets at canterburyhalloweenstroll.com, ages 17+ - $7, ages 2-16 tickets are $5 and free to younger than 2.

Leonard

• Boo Bash is Oct. 18-19 at Addison Oaks Campground, 1480 W. Romeo Road, Leonard, costume contest for all ages, campground trick-or-treating, Halloween face painting, inflatables, haunted house, family games, costumed DJ dance, campsite decorating contest, Halloween crafts and wagon rides. Most events take place on Saturday, OaklandCountyParks.com or call 248-693-2432.

Madison Heights

• Fun in the Fall is 2-4 p.m. Oct. 19 at Red Oaks Nature Center, 30300 Hales St., Madison Heights. Press apples into cider, enjoy a fall snack and craft a leaf-print T-shirt. Hike the trails with a naturalist to see fall colors and explore the ecology. Bring a light-colored T-shirt for printing. Cost is $5/person. Register with payment at 248-858-0916, OaklandCountyParks.com.

• Pottery Workshop-Spooky Lanterns is 2-4 p.m. Oct. 20 at Red Oaks Nature Center, 30300 Hales St., Madison Heights. Create a character Halloween lantern, instructions and all materials provided, including an LED tea light candle, ages 5+, $16/crafter and $5/non-crafter, register with payment at 248-858-0916.

• Azra Chamber of Horrors is at 31401 John R. Road, Bldg 2, Madison Heights, www.azrahaust.com.

Milford

• Trick-or-Treat Along the Trail is 4-6 p.m. Oct. 19 meeting at Kensington Nature Center in Milford. Halloween-themed stops along the Nature Trails. Bring a bag or bucket to collect treats. cider, donuts. Tours leave at scheduled times, geared towards younger children. registration required, $5, 810-227-8917. Email
to Kensington.NatureCenter@metroparks.com. A Metroparks vehicle entry permit is required.

- Pumpkin Carving Party is 1-3 p.m. Oct. 20 at Kensington Nature Center in Milford. Pick out a pumpkin and a design and carve it, cider and donuts, at Kensington nature center, fee covers one pumpkin and refreshments, $6, 810-227-8917. Email Kensington.NatureCenter@metroparks.com. A Metroparks vehicle entry permit is required, Metroparks.com/FallFun.

- Pick Your Pumpkin Hayrides are 10 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays and noon-4 p.m. weekends through Oct. 31 at Kensington Metropark in Milford. A Metroparks vehicle entry permit is required, metroparks.com.

Northville

- Phantom Philharmonic is 7:30 p.m. Oct. 19 at Marquis Theatre, 135 E. Main St., Northville, admission is $30, $25 for seniors, $10 for students, welcome to dress in costume, www.michiganphil.org.

- “October in the Ville,” with an outdoor art display featuring more than 120 skeletons through Oct. 31. Activities through October in Northville include: Northville Farmers’ Market, Thursdays (through Oct. 31) at Northville Downs Parking Lot (corner of Seven Mile/Center Streets); Streets of Treats is Oct. 26 in downtown Northville and Dog Park Costume Contest is Oct. 30 at Cady Street Dog Park, W. Cady St., Northville, $. Take selfies with the skeletons and share on the Downtown Northville Facebook page t www.facebook.com/DowntownNorthville, www.downtownnorthville.com

Oxford

- Hayrides under the Harvest Moon are 7-10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays in October at Upland Hills Farm, 481 Lake George Road, Oxford, for individuals, families or groups, 30-minute hayride, a warm beverage and donut, by a bonfire, hayride is not haunted, $9 each, www.uplandhillsfarm.com.
• Witches’ Night Out is 4-10 p.m. Oct. 26 in downtown Oxford, starting at Centennial Park, features shopping deals, food and drink specials, street performers, psychic readers, pop-up vendors, Best Witch Costume, free event, donations accepted to benefit House of Providence, for girls and boys in foster care.

Pontiac


• “Spiritually Connected”, features a paranormal illusion show, conference and vendor show is noon-6 p.m. Oct. 20 at the Flagstar Strand Theatre, Second Floor Mezzanine, 12 N. Saginaw St., Pontiac, (2-6 p.m. the vendor room is free), http://flagstarstrandtheatrepontiac.com, 313-330-5754, $60.

Rochester/Rochester Hills

• Hoot N’ Howl Hayride is 7:30-9 p.m. Oct. 18-19 at Bloomer Park, 345 John R. Road, Rochester, a hayride to search for nocturnal animal activity, campfire, cider and donuts, and live animal presentation, children under 14 must be accompanied by a paying adult, $7/person, free to children 2 and younger. Register at www.rochesterhills.org/outdoors.

• Masquerade Ball is 7-10 p.m. Oct. 18, Meadow Brook Estate, 350 Estate Drive, Rochester, meadowbrookhall.org, 248-364-6252, reservations required, strolling dinner, open bar, live music, dancing, fortune teller, black tie event, $100+.

• Trick or Treat Downtown Rochester is Oct. 19. Downtown merchants will host trick-or-treating, 3:30-5 p.m. Then families can meet at the corner of East Street and E. University for a costume parade at 5:15 p.m. Firehouse Fun is 4:30-7 p.m. at Rochester Fire Department (corner of Third & Water), featuring spaghetti dinner to benefit Rochester Area Youth Assistance. Halloween Fest is 5-7 p.m. at the Farmers Market lot, corner of E. Third and Water. Activities include games and prizes, hot fresh donuts,
strolling magician, Anthony Grupido, a photo opportunity with Ecto 1 and The Metro Detroit Ghostbusters.

• Haunted Forest is 6:30-10:30 p.m. Fridays-Sundays, through Oct. 27 at TreeRunner Adventure Park at Oakland University, 7553 Meadow Brook Road, Rochester. Reservations at www.gohauntedforest.com or 248-759-5222, $14 each, free for children 1 and younger.

• Halloween at the Village is 3-5 p.m. Oct. 27. Trick or Treat at the Village of Rochester Hills with 10 stations along with a bounce house, horse drawn wagon rides, (admission is $5 per child, max $15 per family with donations to benefit Dutton Farms), 208 Adams Road, Rochester Hills, villageofrochesterhills.com.

Royal Oak

• Hysterical Halloween Storytime and Crafts with Cowboy Alex is 11 a.m.-noon Oct. 19, The Royal Oak Senior Community Center, 3500 Marais, Royal Oak, geared for ages 3-8, $5 each, 248-246-3180, www.royaloakrec.com.


• The Detroit Zoo’s annual Zoo Boo event dates are 3-7:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, through Oct. 27 at The Detroit Zoo, 8450 W. 10 Mile Road, Royal Oak. Activities include trick-or-treat trail, entertainment, adv. Tickets at https://zooboo.detroitzoo.org, $10 for ages 2+, parking is $8 per car. Option to purchase tickets to The Wizard of Oz 4-D Experience” in the Ford Education Center.

Southfield

• Southfield Parks & Recreation Boo Bash is 2-4:30 p.m. Oct. 19 in the Southfield Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield, ghoulish games, hair-raising hayrides to
the pumpkin patch, creepy crafts and trick-or-treating. Hayrides will depart from the Southfield Parks & Recreation building out to the pumpkin patch until 4 p.m. and the Spooky Skating Party is 2:30-3:50 p.m. at the Southfield Sports Arena, magic shows at 2:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to come in costume, Admission for children 2-12 years-old is $8 for resident ($10 for non-residents) in advance. Adult admission is free, 248-796-4620.

• Two Ghost Walks will be held at 6 p.m. or at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 22, beginning at the Southfield Municipal Campus, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield, 75-minute walking tour of the Southfield City Centre featuring ghostly stories and lore from Southfield's history. Cider and donuts, $10/resident, $12/non-resident. Pre-registration is required at the Southfield Parks & Recreation Information Desk, appropriate for ages 10+, will be rescheduled to Oct. 29 in the event of inclement weather. Proceeds benefit the Southfield Historical Society and the Friends of Southfield Public Arts, 248-796-4150 or visit www.cityofsouthfield.com.

• Halloween Happiness, a program for individuals 18 and older with developmental disabilities, is 6-8 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Southfield Civic Center, 26000 Evergreen Road in Southfield, music, dancing, trick-or-treating and pizza, $10/participant and $5/caregiver. Register with payment by Oct. 15. OaklandCountyParks.com, 248-424-7081 or email Adaptive@oakgov.com.

Troy

• Boogah & Hoogah’s Haunted House Party with performances by Children’s Theatre of Michigan, Goofy Goblins Boogah and Hoogah “sing-along-do-a-long” shows are at 1 p.m. Oct. 19, 20, 26, 27 and 31 (Halloween), at North Grand Court in The Somerset Collection, at the corner of Big Beaver Road and Coolidge in Troy. Children are invited to wear costumes, www.thesomersetcollection.com.

• Annual Trick-or-Treat event is 12:30-3:30 p.m. Oct. 26 at Troy Historic Village, 60 West Wattles Road, Troy. Troy Historic Village is participating in the Teal Pumpkin Project that gives all children a fun and safe Halloween, regardless of any food
allergies. Admission price is $7, free for ages 4 and younger. The village will also have
scarecrows on display through Oct. 24, that were built by families and organizations.
Voting for family-created scarecrows is on the village's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/TroyHistVillage/, and the winner will be announced at the Trick-or-Treat event. Free parking and shuttle bus transport to and from the village is available at Zion Church, 3668 Livernois, www.TroyHistoricVillage.org, 248-524-3570.

• Hallowe’en party for kids is noon-3 p.m. Oct. 27 at Shield’s Restaurant and Pizzeria, 1476 West Maple Road, Troy, featuring games, kid-friendly movies, prizes, treats, and a costume contest. Reservations are suggested at 248-637-3131. Free event.

Waterford Township

• Funtober is noon-5 p.m. Oct. 19 at Hess-Hathaway Park, 825 S. Williams Lake Road, color tour hayrides, campfire for roasting marshmallows and making s’mores, pumpkins ($2-$4 each), concessions. Children must be accompanied by an adult, $7 each, free for ages 2 and younger. Waterford Coalition for Youth Mini Monster Mile & Zombie 5K follows at 5:30 p.m., www.waterfordmi.gov.

• Trunk or Treat is 6-7 p.m. Oct. 25 at Waterford Township Recreation Center, 5640 Williams Lake Road, Waterford Township. Families and local businesses will be passing out candy in parking lot to trick-or-treaters, register at 248-674-5441, www.waterfordmi.gov/224/Parks-Recreation.

• Trick or Treat at the Farmers Market is 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 26 at the Oakland County Farmers Market, 2350 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford. Trick or treat with market vendors and children’s activities, OaklandCountyParks.com, 248-424-7081.

• Trunk or Treat 2019 is 4-6 p.m. Oct. 27 at Central United Methodist Church, 3882 Highland Road, Waterford, WaterfordCUMC.org, 248-681-0040. Haunted tunnel, rain or shine, Harry Potter-themed.
FAMILIES WHO SHAPED BIRMINGHAM WILL BE FOCUS OF POPULAR LECTURE SERIES THURSDAYS AT 7 P.M. AT THE BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Birmingham wants more stories, and the Birmingham Museum has them. This fall, the monthly free lecture series co-sponsored by the museum and the Baldwin Public Library will feature stories about some of Birmingham's most interesting and influential families.

"Birmingham's First Families" will reflect the theme of the current yearlong museum exhibit, Birmingham: Before and After, a comparison of various aspects of our history. Join us for a look at these families and their lasting contributions to Birmingham and its heritage.

- **October 17: The Levinsons — First Jewish Family in Birmingham** will discuss the remarkable Morris Levinson family and the mark they made on Birmingham, and their likewise remarkable descendants who include retired U.S. Senator Carl Levin and retired U.S. Congressman Sander Levin.

- **November 14: A Reunion with Birmingham's "Favorote" Family** The Peabody's will bring together members of the Peabody family and fans of the one and only Peabody's Restaurant to share memories and create a permanent record for the museum's archives.

The Birmingham Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and located at 556 W. Maple Rd. Parking is available in the Chester St. structure on the south side of Maple. Admission is $7 for adults, $5 for students and seniors; children 5 and under are free. Please visit us at www.bhamgov.org/museum or www.facebook.com/TheBirminghamMuseum.
Candidate forum
coming to library

BIRMINGHAM — The League of Women Voters Oakland Area will present a candidate forum for the Birmingham City Commission race at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2, at the Baldwin Public Library.

All candidates are invited to participate in the event, where they'll be asked questions from the audience concerning their unique platforms and ideas for the city.

For more information, call (248) 594-6602 or visit lwvoa.org.

The Baldwin Public Library is located at 300 W. Merrill St. in downtown Birmingham.
BIRMINGHAM — The Birmingham City Commission will face a number of decisions in the next four years, and many of them will have to do with the city’s downtown.

Should the buildings be made taller? Should the parking be expanded? Should future development plans be slowed down a bit so attention can be paid to the neighborhoods?

Those were some of the questions up for debate Wednesday, Oct. 2, at a League of Women Voters Oakland Area candidate forum hosted by the Baldwin Public Library. All eight candidates showed up to try to make their case to voters on why they should be added or kept on the city’s top board.

Vying for the four available seats are incumbents Patty Bordman, currently serving as mayor; Carroll DeWeese; and Pierre Boutros, currently serving as mayor pro tem; as well as residents Jake German, Brad Host, Clinton Baller, Therese Longe and Matt Wilde.

The fourth seat is made vacant by Commissioner Andrew Harris, who opted not to run for reelection.

Unimproved streets
The first topic of discussion presented to the candidates concerned the 26 miles of unimproved roads around the city. There are dozens of gravel roads in Birmingham, some with and some without curbs, that have been treated regularly with cape seal to make a smooth, dust-free driving surface.
In recent years, as many of those streets have come up for their seven- to 10-year cape seal treatment — an expense footed by the homeowners on the street — residents have requested that the cape seal be postponed in hopes of having the street professionally improved to make for proper engineering, adequate drainage, and easier access to roadside city services like sweeping, leaf pickup and other benefits.

The current Birmingham charter requires homeowners to collect signatures from a majority of houses on that street to petition the city for a special assessment district that would repair the road instead of just applying a cape seal. Since the cost falls to homeowners, many would have a lien placed on their property until the funds are collected.

“The City Commission, about a year ago, we decided the problem with unimproved streets needed to be addressed for a few reasons,” explained Bordman. “I don’t think neighbors should be going door to door (to collect signatures). But it’s a complicated issue. (The policy) has been in place since the city was formed as a village.”

Boutros, who sits on the Ad Hoc Unimproved Street Study Committee, said he too is an advocate of taking the responsibility of filing a petition for an SAD out of the residents' hands and making it initiated by city staff, in order to prevent animosity between neighbors. He added that the cost of improving all of the unimproved streets in Birmingham is estimated to cost well over $100 million, and the city has been struggling to figure out where to get that kind of cash.

“I know it’s a huge problem, and that cost is a large burden to families and senior citizens,” said Longe. “You get a lien on your house, and that can be scary to some people. But one of the reasons (the cost is so high) is because the city standard is concrete. Asphalt is cheaper, but the city doesn’t like it because concrete is less expensive for them to maintain in the long term.”

Wilde agreed with Longe’s statement that costs need to be brought down for residents.

“It's not fair that our families have to pay their mortgage, two car payments and then get hit with a $30,000 lien on their house,” he said. “We can find a way, with our AAA bond rating I hear so much about, to harness it with interest rates the lowest they've been in almost 100 years to improve our roads.”

Clean and green

 Asked how the candidates hope to promote a more green Birmingham, and hopefully move toward cleaner energy, most of the candidates agreed that the city is already a leader in recycling opportunities both curbside and at bins placed around the city’s downtown and park spaces.

“Rebuilding is less green than taking an old house and renovating it to make it livable,” DeWeese said. “Rebuilding is not very energy efficient. I think one of the areas we need to look at is finding incentives to modify houses instead of just tearing them down.”

Host agreed, saying he and his wife took advantage of federal tax credits when they put solar panels on their early 1900s home.
“All of these houses built 100 years ago are in excellent condition,” he said. “We need to incentivize with money to rehab their structure or add a structure on to accommodate that second kid or whatever their reasons.”

Host said he thinks Birmingham is “overwhelmed” with contractors and developers, and in the future those builders who want to demolish and build new from the ground up should face additional taxes.

Longe noted the potential for city services to make clean energy changes, like electric lawn mowers and golf carts on municipal courses.

Parking shortage
Just about two months after a $57.4 million parking structure bond failed with voters, the candidates were asked how they propose to move forward with alternative plans to alleviate parking shortages downtown.

Boutros, who is running as a write-in candidate, said the commission should look for opportunities beyond the North Old Woodward parking structure to erect a new deck.

“Yes, the people have spoken, and they don’t want a parking structure where it was proposed,” he said. “But we need to seek alternatives, either add stories on existing structures or I’m not opposed to private partnerships that create more opportunity than just a parking structure, like housing or retail on the first floor.”

Many of the candidates suggested the Triangle District, with space near the 555 Building, as a good place to build a new structure. Bordman, though, was quick to remind the crowd that there is currently no city-owned property available in the Triangle District or in the Rail District. Building there would involve taking space via eminent domain, and residents would have to foot the cost to pay fair market value for the land, along with the cost of demolishing the structures there.

Baller was vocal ahead of the bond vote about his dissent for the N.O.W. structure proposal, and lamented not being able to delve deeper into the topic at the forum because of time limits.

Sky high
Speaking of high interest in the city’s downtown district, the candidates were asked whether ordinances should be changed to allow for taller buildings in that area.

Most of the commission hopefuls said that situation should be analyzed on a case-by-case basis. Bordman suggested, for instance, that the current ordinance that limits buildings to 80 feet in height and five stories could be stretched to the same height, but containing seven or eight stories.

But why is all the focus on the downtown anyway, some candidates asked? Longe, Wilde and Baller all expressed a need for dollars to be spread into the neighborhoods.

“We shouldn’t have to pay for our roads. We shouldn’t be saying we need to get handicap-accessible play equipment,” Baller said. “We shouldn’t have to wait for a bond issue or a vote for parks. We should just get it done.”

Next’s next chapter
Also in need of attention outside the bustle of downtown is the local center for residents 50 and older, known as Birmingham Next. The nonprofit currently operates at the Midvale building, owned by Birmingham Public Schools, which donates the space as an in-kind agreement, along with utilities. As baby boomers age into senior status, the hope is that Next can grow to accommodate all of the potential new members.

But the usual question once again surfaced: Where would the money come from to do that?

“Birmingham, obviously, could spearhead the effort for the senior center, but what about Beverly Hills, Franklin and Bingham Farms, whose residents are also utilizing the facility? Obviously, it will be more costly if we do this alone,” German said. “So what’s first? Do we wait for the schools to force Next out, or do we proactively go out and look for funding?”

The candidates finished the forum with their closing remarks, and asked the audience for their vote on Nov. 5.

The Birmingham Area Cable Board taped the event, and the forum can be viewed online anytime on the city of Birmingham’s Vimeo page, as well as on the city’s cable access channel.
Commission candidates share top priorities, strengths, weaknesses of city

Susan Bromley  
Hometownlife.com  
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

We asked the eight candidates for Birmingham City Commission to share what their top two priorities are if elected on Nov. 5, and also what they see as the city’s greatest strength and its greatest challenge.

This is one of several articles on the candidates in a series. Word limits were given, and any responses that exceeded the limit were cut-off and denoted by an ellipsis (three dots).

What are your top two priorities if elected? Why?

Clinton Baller: “Resident engagement, as outlined above (in his response to why he is running for office) and all it entails for addressing resident concerns, is by far #1. In contention for #2 is a Plan B for the N.O.W. project, putting those new resident engagement strategies to work to come up with a world-class civic improvement for a world-class city.”

Patty Bordman: “Maintaining fiscal oversight to continue the four-year reduction in milage/tax rates and AAA bond rating; pursuing ordinance changes to encourage reasonably priced housing options so people at various life stages find a home in Birmingham; determining a sustainable funding plan for senior services for our “experienced” residents.”

Pierre Boutros (write-in): “First, it is our responsibility to find a permanent home for our senior center. Its current location is simply too small. Second, all three phases of the library renovation should be completed. For children and adults, this is our epicenter for lifelong learning and must meet modern standards.”

Carroll DeWeese: “One, restore public trust in the city and get citizen involvement and awareness. Two, get more residential focus in neighborhoods and downtown, including more affordable housing and places to shop, strengthened cultural institutions, accelerated infrastructure management, reducing city tax rate, addressing parking, and keeping Birmingham as the place to be.”

Jake German: “To build bridges between the downtown business owners and developers and the neighborhoods is number one and making sure that all residents feel that their voices are being heard as we embark on the 2040 Master Plan process is number two. All stakeholders and residents should feel they have a…”

Brad Host: “1) Rationalize regulations for development. The current master planning process includes discussion about zoning changes within neighborhoods to encourage redevelopment of lower-cost, higher density housing. Yet, little redevelopment has resulted in lower-cost housing options. How will changes benefit existing homeowners? 2) City commission listens to the needs of the neighborhoods.”

Therese Longe: “Upgrade and improve our neighborhood parks, because they are important to our quality of life, preserving open space and attracting families. Develop a sustainable funding plan to improve services and activities for our increasing population of older residents, who deserve to have the resources they need to stay in Birmingham.”

Matt Wilde: “Our Children, and our seniors,”
What is the biggest challenge facing the city and how do you plan to address it?

Baller: “Restoration of faith in government. I will address it by listening more than I talk, by inviting and providing genuine accountability, and by engaging residents in solutions to the problems they care about.”

Bordman: “Unimproved roads! The resident-initiated system to secure paved roads is not satisfactory. In recognition, the Commission established a committee tasked with recommending a different system. The Commission should not consider any new petitions until the committee delivers its report.”

Boutros: “The city is divided physically. With citywide smart development, streetscape and parking improvements, we can create one Birmingham by blurring the line between the east and west sides of Woodward to create one vibrant place to live, work and play.”

DeWeese: “Over the years Birmingham is the place to live, work, and play — a model of how to govern. Recently, public trust has been hurt. I plan to lead by example, listen to all, and get more transparency in government.”

Germann: “At this moment in Birmingham’s history, I think the biggest problem facing the city is division. Our citizens need to feel that their concerns are being equally and equitably considered and come together after the polarizing bond vote. My profession ...”

Host: “Our biggest challenge is eliminating the disconnect between the residents’ priorities and the City’s. I plan to prevent government from leveraging residential property taxes to facilitate private development. Development should be encouraged without taxpayer funds/bonds involved.”

Longe: “We need to improve the way the City engages with residents to increase transparency, responsiveness, collaboration, and accountability. Residents need to be reassured that they will be heard for the City to move forward on a vision for our future.”

Wilde: “Too much fighting and angst among our residents. I want our community to relax and realize how fortunate we are. There are many young families, me included, who are busy with life, work and raising children. Most do not have ...”

What do you see as the city’s greatest strength? How can you help build upon that?

Baller: “Our schools, but the city has little influence beyond cooperating with the district as much as possible, which it should do. After that, our downtown and our neighborhoods. You build on those strengths by never letting your guard down.”

Bordman: “During the Master Planning process, Andreas Duany reported on “overwhelmingly high” satisfaction level of residents. Duany attributed this “exceedingly rare” survey result to: proximity of Downtown to neighborhoods, school quality and good governance. I will work toward even higher satisfaction.”

Boutros: “Families and businesses want to invest in Birmingham. From reducing the tax levy and retaining our AAA bond rating, to reimagining Old Woodward, my fellow Commissioners and I have proven that when we work together, amazing things happen in Birmingham.”

DeWeese: “Birmingham is an exciting, walkable community that appeals to all for living, work, school, and play. Continue to follow policies that encourage making Birmingham the place to be and becoming even more appealing for all of its residents and stakeholders.”

Germann: “The city is exceptionally well managed; a AAA bond rating doesn’t happen by accident, nor does reducing taxes, which the city has managed for the last four years. I’d like to see Birmingham continue down this healthy fiscal road and ...”

Host: “Our schools, our downtown, our tree lined streets, our quiet neighborhoods, our parks, our police and fire departments, and our reliable public services are our strengths. I will do everything I can to make them more resilient and exceptional.”

Longe: “We have wonderful civic organizations and residents who care deeply about our city. I want to get these experts engaged at the beginning of the planning process to develop creative solutions to our problems that are informed by residents.”

Wilde: “Our Schools, Birmingham Public Schools has been a top school district in Michigan for decades. Strong public schools are the backbone to any great community. We need to support our schools and our children.”

Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley0.
The historical Greenwood Cemetery will host its fall tour Sept. 21, with docents in character to tell participants about the city’s earliest residents.

Photo provided by Leslie Pielack, director of the Birmingham Museum

BIRMINGHAM — Whether it’s ghostly legends or true tales from generations past, there’s something about fall that makes for good storytelling.

If you need fodder for the campfire, the Birmingham Museum has got you covered. The historians over there will be hosting plenty of opportunities this month to learn more about the city’s storied — and sometimes spooky — past.

First up will be an installment in a three-part joint lecture series at the Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill St., Sept. 19. Museum Director Leslie Pielack will highlight three generations of the Allen family and the mark they made on Birmingham during a crucial time in the city’s development.

“The Allens left their mark on the cultural, as well as the political, landscape of the city,” said Pielack in a press release. “They created a new home in a country estate-like setting that was really a clever mixture of a preserved historic structure with a modern twist.”

The result was the 1926 Allen House, the home of the Birmingham Museum. Despite a period of personal and economic turmoil in the 1910s-1930s, the Allens invested heavily in the quiet village of Birmingham and launched it into a fast-growing community.
The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, and will be the first of three in the series. The free joint lecture series events are always popular, Pielack said, so registration is encouraged and can be done on the library's website, baldwinlib.com/calendar.

Those who prefer to take their history al fresco can join museum volunteers at Greenwood Cemetery on Saturday, Sept. 21, for a tour of the city's first settlers in their final resting place.

Tours of the Greenwood Cemetery happen just twice a year, and the fall tour is always a big draw, with many of the docents leading participants through the oldest part of the property in character.

That includes John West Hunter and Elijah Willits — you might recognize those surnames from street signs around town — and the earliest occupants of the cemetery, Polly and Cynthia Ann Utter, who are infamously murdered in their home in 1826.

“We are learning new things about our early settlers all the time,” said George Getschman, a board member of the Friends of the Birmingham Museum, which coordinates the cemetery tour program. “In some ways, it is hard to keep up with the new information we continue to uncover, especially relationships between people and other connections.”

For example, one of the subjects of the fall tour is Olivia Prindle Hamilton, the wife of pioneer settler John Hamilton. As it turns out, she was the youngest of three sisters, all of whom married early Birmingham settlers.

“In the past, visitors would simply pass the grave and read ‘Olivia Hamilton’ without having any idea the rich context and implications of three sisters coming to the same wilderness with their husbands, and how that affected their lives,” said Pielack in an email. “Their connections to each other become an important way to tell the bigger story.”

The tour begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 21. Tickets cost $10 for adults, $5 for students and $20 for families of four. Greenwood Cemetery is located on Oak Street, two blocks west of North Old Woodward Avenue. Tours begin at the east gate, rain or shine. There is no parking in the cemetery.

For more information on both events, call the Birmingham Museum at (248) 530-1928 or visit bhamgov.org/museum.
En joy beers, brats and books at Franklin library’s Oktoberfest

By: Tiffany Esshaki | Birmingham - Bloomfield Eagle | Published September 30, 2019

FRANKLIN — Not all of the fun festivities that fall brings are for the kiddos.

The grown-ups deserve a good time too.

That’s what they’ll get at the third annual Oktoberfest at the Franklin Public Library Oct. 4. Sue Levytsky, the president of the Friends of the Franklin Public Library, said the event is a good fundraiser and an even better night out for Franklinites.

“In the summer we do so much that’s family friendly downtown, with the Movies on the Green and the Round Up on Labor Day weekend. It’s nice to have something to celebrate in the fall, and this one is a little more geared toward the adults, with the music, the terrific food (and) the beer, of course,” said Levytsky.

The Bavarian-style celebration will take place in a tented biergarten, just next to the library’s new outdoor reading garden. Guests will be able to peruse an assortment of craft beers provided by the Farmington Brewery, dig into a traditional German-style menu catered by Frank N Dean’s and enjoy treats from the Franklin Cider Mill. High-energy oompah music, performed live by the Kielbasa Kings polka band, will get everyone out on the dance floor.
“What’s been really great to see is the younger people who’ve been coming, the groups of young couples,” Levytsky added. “If they live in the village, they can walk up, and it doesn’t involve getting dressed up. It’s not a big ticket price — $50, I think, is affordable for most people. And everyone really seems to enjoy getting together (with) other people in the community.”

All that fun will benefit a good cause, Levytsky explained. Along with the price of tickets, proceeds from a silent auction will be put toward library projects, like summer reading programs, building repairs, audiobooks and DVDs for residents to borrow, furniture upgrades, and more.

“We usually raise a little less than $3,000. But we started out small, and now that we’re growing, we’re looking for bigger sponsorships to host bigger events and maybe bringing more money,” said Heather Mydolski, the event chair. “Our tent is bigger; our band is bigger this year. Everything is bigger.”

Auction items in the past have included gift cards for popular restaurants, yoga studios, salons, gourmet markets, spas and other goodies. A crowd favorite, Levytsky said, was an outdoor copper fire pit filled with an assortment of craft beers and artisanal spirits.

“The merchants around here are always anxious to get involved and introduce themselves to the community with donations,” she said.

Oktoberfest will be held 6-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4. Tickets cost $50 each and can be purchased at the library. For more information, email librarian Teresa Natzke at tnatzke@franklin.lib.mi.us.

The Franklin Public Library is located at 32455 Franklin Road in downtown Franklin.
You're running late to work, driving down 10 Mile in Novi. You don't have time to make it to Starbucks up in the West Oaks shopping center near Interstate 96 or up near Grand River and Beck.

Novi Public Library director Julie Farkas now hopes the library may become your stop for coffee on the way to work.

After closing the Read-A-Latte Cafe for several months to switch over to a new provider, the space in the building at 45255 W. 10 Mile has reopened with expanded hours and a brand-new menu.

The highlight of the menu? The Seattle siren of coffee herself, Starbucks.

"I think you wanted a good quality, well-known coffee service," said Julie Farkas, the city's library director. "I think we're stepping up our game by doing that. It's something people recognize and associate with and have a following with as well."

Most of the coffee chain's drink line are available at the library, save for a few items. It's run by Chartwells, a food service company that has obtained the rights to serve and sell Starbucks-branded coffee drinks at the library.
In addition to most of Starbucks drink menu being available at the cafe, customers can also purchase a wide array of snacks, including candy, chips and baked goods. In addition, some lunch items are available, like sandwiches, flatbread pizzas and soups, all made to order, a far cry from the previous cafe.

"Most of it was pre-packaged, pre-purchased," Farkas said. "Where this can be made right on site where it's daily and fresh."

The cafe reopened at the beginning of the school year, but now boasts extended hours for even when the library is closed. The cafe is open from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The addition of Chartwells, which provides food service for the Novi Community School District, also meant students could get involved. Several students now work at the cafe, with more coming in the near future.

"It was an opportunity for us to partner as three to bring in an educational component," Farkas said. "This was a great way for us to partner with the school district more."

The unique offerings makes the Novi library stand out, Farkas said. She cannot think of another library in the region that has such offerings, especially in a time when libraries are moving away from cafes and going more toward vending.

Evol Gazzarato, food and nutrition director for Chartwells in the Novi schools, said the relationship with the library is unique to the company. They operate a small shop at the Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills, but nothing like what's now at the Novi Public Library.

"Typically, libraries don't even have this scale of a cafe," she said.
As a part of the arrangement to build the new library over the last decade, Farkas said the community has always asked for a food service option inside the library. She thinks the new items will go a long way in making the library a destination for Novi residents.

"I think we were looking for a bigger and better opportunity in terms of product," she said. "When we were building this building, the community wanted a cafe. And we wanted to keep that standard service with a full-service cafe."

Contact David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.
Why Can’t New York City Build More Gems Like This Queens Library?

The Hunters Point Community Library is one of the finest public buildings New York has produced this century. But it cost more than $40 million, took a decade and almost died.

By Michael Kimmelman
Sept. 18, 2019

Against a phalanx of mostly dreary new apartment towers, the soon-to-open [Hunters Point Community Library](https://www.nytimes.com) by Steven Holl Architects is a diva parading along the East
River in Queens, south of the famous Pepsi sign. With its sculptured geometry — a playful advertisement for itself — it’s even a little like the Pepsi sign.

Compact, at 22,000 square feet and 82 feet high, the library is among the finest and most uplifting public buildings New York has produced so far this century.

It also cost something north of $40 million and took forever to complete. So it raises the question: Why can’t New York build more things like this, faster and cheaper?

Opening Sept. 24, Hunters Point is surely what Queens Library officials and the borough’s former president, Helen M. Marshall, had in mind when the project was proposed more than 15 years ago: a crown jewel among Queens branches, at a singular, symbolic spot facing the United Nations and Louis Kahn’s exalted Four Freedoms Park across the water.

On dark days and evenings, its enormous, eccentric windows will act like inviting beacons of light, attracting eyes and feet. They carve whimsical jigsaw puzzle pieces out of a cool, silvered-concrete facade.

That facade is a load-bearing structure, allowing the library’s liberated interior to spiral some 60 feet upward and outward from a shallow canyon-like lobby, unfolding in elevation as a sequence of tiered desks, book stacks and social spaces. The inside is mostly warm bamboo, with spectacular views.
Along the East River, the library looks toward the United Nations. Behind it, the growing apartment towers in Hunters Point. Credit Winnie Au for The New York Times

Outside, there’s a lovely new triangular ginkgo garden, a kind of mini-Place Dauphine, by Michael Van Valkenburgh. For a growing, diverse community, the whole project is an instant boon and a locus of neighborhood pride for Long Island City.

Over the years, it became a poster child for the perils of public architecture in New York, as if the ambition of its design and not the city’s broken bureaucracy was to blame for the library’s extended timetable and escalating budget.

From the start, pea counters in the city’s Office of Management and Budget didn’t see why Hunters Point needed a big fancy library, notwithstanding all the new apartment towers going up, bringing in droves of young families. The pea counters held the project up. Delays raised costs.

I spoke with Chris McVoy, a partner at Steven Holl Architects. (Steven Holl was the library’s architect; Olaf Schmidt, the project architect; Mr. McVoy also played a key role.) Mr. McVoy defended the city, blaming the troubles mostly on complications with construction.

There were specific obstacles like the resignation of the former Queens library president, a big backer and fund-raiser for the building, and a dockworkers strike in Spain that held up glass shipments. Credit goes to the local City Council member, Jimmy Van Bramer, a former library official, who helped keep the project alive when City Hall seemed ready to let it die.

Whatever the specifics in this case, the issues around public architecture in the city are bigger than Hunters Point. It’s not hard to find architects, clients, builders, public officials and others familiar with the city’s capital construction program ready to unleash symphonic tirades about New York’s crazy procurement rules, about the petty, internecine squabbles among city agencies, about the city-required shotgun marriages.
between architects and contractors, the costly and onerous liability regulations, notoriously late payments and a vast, sclerotic bureaucracy that squanders millions of tax dollars by causing needless, yearslong delays in the name of value engineering, then scapegoats architects. What’s supposed to safeguard taxpayers’ money and the public interest ends up doing the reverse.

The library is full of nooks and corners, illuminated by big windows with sculptured walls covered in bamboo. Credit Winnie Au for The New York Times
Following the lead of the federal government, New York during the Bloomberg years started the Design Excellence Program to inject architectural distinction into public buildings. The Queens Public Library system became an early adopter.

A prequalified list of local architects was compiled. Architects big, medium and small signed up for the privilege and opportunity. Gifted young firms got to burnish their portfolios. Slowly, New York began to produce some remarkable public buildings (fire and police stations, libraries, housing projects) — architecture worthy of the city, which helped spread beauty and dignity in far-flung neighborhoods.

Architects were willing to run the gantlet of bureaucracy back then because they had design champions like David Burney, who oversaw the Department of Design and Construction for the city.

Today, City Hall has all but abandoned design excellence. A disconnected mayor demonstrates zero interest in good design or architecture or much of anything related to the physical fabric of the city and urban planning.

I toured Hunters Point with Thomas J. Foley, deputy commissioner of the D.D.C. He acknowledged problems with the city’s construction process, lamenting the lack of a preapproved “excellence” list for contractors, or some equivalent filter to weed out the bottom feeders in construction and attract better firms.
Jobs are now awarded to the lowest “responsible” bidders, which effectively means the lowest bidders. An architect on the excellence roster recently described to me a project on which the low bid was from a contractor with a long record of failure. The D.D.C. had just put the contractor on notice for the company’s inability to complete other projects, the architect said. Needless to say, the contractor got the job anyway. With predictable results.

How can the city attract good builders if the hiring process favors bottom feeders?

Or attract the best architects if the city often strips them of basic tools they employ to ensure the work is carried out properly?

The city also does its budgeting year-by-year. How can any public agency plan a multiyear building project when it can’t even be sure the money it needs will be there?

No wonder the golden ticket for many city agencies is the so-called “pass through” contract, which means a project has received ample private funding up front and is being overseen by an organization responsible and competent enough to handle construction itself. A few weeks ago, the New York Public Library unveiled its new Van Cortlandt branch in the Bronx. Library officials made sure to structure the financing to get the pass through.

Construction was completed on time and on budget.

Which means the city can clearly do better.

Earlier this year, D.D.C.’s current commissioner, Lorraine Grillo, released “A Strategic Blueprint for Construction Excellence.” It outlines a plan to eliminate redundant reviews and reduce costly delays, holding contractors to higher standards. That all sounds great — if it also guarantees good design isn’t shortchanged.
At Hunters Point, construction workers were putting the finishing touches on the ground-floor community room when I visited; cushy furniture had been moved into the sunny teen area, smartly quarantined on an upper story and partly cordoned off with glass, to buffer sound.

Bleacher seats in the children’s wing. Credit Winnie Au for The New York Times

Chairs at the adult desks are by Jean Prouvé. They’re by Aalto in the big, two-story children’s wing, on the south end of the building, cozily nested inside a bamboo-paneled sling bulging over the lobby. The children’s wing is among the nicest and most artful spaces I have seen in any new library building. A big eyelid window, beautifully sculptured, on the wing’s second floor frames a killer view over Gantry Plaza State Park, with Manhattan in the background.

From the lobby I climbed the zigzagging stairs that trace the funny, lively, meandering incision cut into the library’s west wall by the huge central window overlooking Manhattan, the stairs ascending past stepped tiers of desks and upper floors that seem to float as if in midair. As the building rises there is a constant shifting of forms and views, a weightlessness and dynamism. The staircase summits on a roof terrace with bleachers overlooking the city.
New York deserves an engaged and mindful government that grasps the virtues of good design and what it can do for communities. “When it is good,” as the critic Ada Louise Huxtable wrote half a century ago, “this is a city of fantastic strength, sophistication and beauty.”

It is the sort of city that produces public buildings of substance and whimsy like Hunters Point library. And doesn’t take decades and squander fortunes to do so.
High-profile architecture firm Snøhetta has completed an impressive new library at the Temple University in Philadelphia, just in time for the new semester. The library features a striking exterior and boasts some sustainable design, including a large green roof.

The Charles Library at Temple University was created in collaboration with Stantec and serves as a research library. It more than doubles the amount of study spaces offered by its 1960s-era predecessor, the Paley Library, and the 220,000-sq-ft (roughly 20,000-sq-m) building is expected to receive up to 5 million visitors per year.
Its exterior is defined by granite and glazing, with large wooden archways cut into the building at its three main entrances. The wooden archways continue inside to form a central atrium, which is topped by an oculus that offers natural light inside. The overall design is somewhat reminiscent of Snøhetta's Calgary Central.

*The Charles Library at Temple University features a large atrium at its center*

Michael Grimm

Like Calgary Central, the atrium serves as a central waypoint from which the library's interior can be easily navigated. Multiple meeting rooms and study spaces are available, as are computer areas and an automated book storage and retrieval system nicknamed "BookBot." The BookBot spans three levels and provides access to a total of 1.5 million books, with a maximum capacity of 2 million.

At the top of the library, reached by an eye-catching stainless steel staircase, lies a pair of glass-encased reading rooms.
The Charles Library at Temple University is topped by a large green roof
Michael Grimm

The Charles Library at Temple University is slated to receive LEED Gold certification (a green building standard) and features significant sustainable design. In addition to a focus on ensuring natural light inside, roughly 70 percent of the building's roof surface is taken up by a green roof which hosts 15 different species of plants and grass.

The green roof is used to manage stormwater runoff, which is then stored and filtered in underground storage tanks. The system has a maximum capacity of around half a million gallons (roughly 1.8 million liters) and reduces the city water supply usage needs of the library.

The Charles Library at Temple University was completed in August at a construction cost of US$135 million.

Source: Snøhetta
Upcoming Events of Interest

Parenting Strategies - Potty Training  
*Wednesday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. Registration required.*  
Jessica Cortez, LMSW, will give tips and tricks related to potty training.

Annual Tween Halloween Lock-in  
*Friday, October 25, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.*  
For children in grades 4 to 6. Enjoy a spooky night at the Library with snacks, face painting, a movie, and our Library Ghost Walk. Come if you dare! Registration and a signed permission slip are required for this event.

The Spooky Monster Magic Show  
*Sunday, October 27 at 3:00 p.m. Registration required.*  
Join us for a one-of-a-kind magic show filled with face-paced fun, lots of audience participation and Gordon Russ the Magician!

Friends of the Library Semi-Annual Book Sale  
*Friday, Nov. 1 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.*  
Members Preview Night (Memberships are available at the door)  
*Saturday, Nov. 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.*  
*Sunday, Nov. 3 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.*  
Half Price Day  
*Monday, Nov. 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*  
Bag Day - Buy a bag for $5.00 and stuff it to the brim with books

Idea Lab: Screenprinting Drop-in  
*Saturday, November 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*  
Learn the process of screenprinting while making your own tee-shirt.

Page to Screen  
*Sunday, November 3 at 1:00 p.m.*  
Watch a film and then stay to discuss both the film and book that inspired it. November's film is "Jackie Brown," (R), based on the book, "Rum Punch," by Elmore Leonard.

National Novel Writing Month  
*Monday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m. Registration required.*  
Kick off NaNoWriMo with local author Elizabeth Heiter and her handy guide to writing - and getting published! We'll also provide writing prompts and tips to get writing.

Digital Magazines with RB Digital  
*Monday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m. Registration required.*  
An Adult Services Librarian will teach you how to check out full color magazines online or with your mobile device. You must have a valid BPL card. Bring your mobile device and all passwords.

The Escape Line, with Dr. Megan Koreman  
*Wednesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. Registration required.*
Dr. Megan Koreman recounts how, in 1942, 320 ordinary men and women formed the Dutch-Paris resistance network to smuggle civilians and Allied aviators out of German-occupied Europe. The talk is based on her book, The Escape Line: How the Ordinary Heroes of Dutch-Paris Resisted the Nazi Occupation of Western Europe.

**Next Nonfiction Book Club**  
*Thursday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m.*  
Join members of the management team of the Baldwin Public Library to discuss a different nonfiction book each month. This month's selection is "Musicophilia," by Oliver Sacks. This discussion will be hosted by Kristen Tait, Circulation Services Coordinator. When you visit Next, you'll be given a copy of the book, provided by the Baldwin Public Library.

**Teen Hangout Night**  
*Thursday, November 14, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Registration required.*  
Grades 6-12: Play Nintendo Switch or PS4, watch a movie, eat some pizza, make a craft, or just hang out with your friends.

**Family Storytimes @ the Museum: Chomp, Stomp, Growl & Roar! Dinosaurs!**  
*November 14 at 6:30 p.m. Registration required.*  
Join us for stories, songs, and activities hosted offsite at the Birmingham Museum. Admission to the story time is free.

**Birmingham’s First Families: The Peabodys**  
*Thursday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. Registration required.*  
Spanning generations, Birmingham’s Peabody family left its mark and formed lasting relationships on the entire Birmingham community. But it was Peabody’s Restaurant that became the social anchor and ‘home away from home,’ for the city’s residents. When it closed for good in 2016, the city mourned the loss of this place and the people that had become so much a part of everyday life. Join Library Director Doug Koschik and members of the Peabody family and staff to share memories and create a video record of the legacy of this very special place.

**Idea Lab: Using the Die-Cutter**  
*Thursday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. Registration required.*  
Cut paper, vinyl, and other materials on our die-cutter - great for papercrafts!
Baldwin Public Library Trust Meeting
Monday, October 21, 2019
Rotary Tribute & Donor Rooms
Immediately following regular Board meeting

Agenda

Call to order and establishment of a quorum

I. Consent Agenda
   All items on the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and approved by a roll call vote. There will be no discussion of these items unless a board member or a citizen so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered as the last item under new business.
   A. Approval of the September 16, 2019 minutes
   B. Acceptance of the September 2019 receipts of $1,760.74
   C. Approval of the September 2019 disbursements of $15,251.99

II. New and Miscellaneous Business

III. General Public Comment Period
   The Library Board values public meetings and welcomes your comments on Library issues. The Board respectfully asks that comments be made as concisely as possible. We welcome your comments but cannot debate items not on the agenda.

IV. Adjournment
   Motion: To adjourn the October 21 Trust Meeting.

The next Trust meeting will be held immediately following the next regular meeting of the Baldwin Public Library Board of Directors on Monday, November 18, 2019.
1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Tera at 6:26 p.m.

Library Board present: Bob Tera, Ashley Aidenbaum, Melissa Mark, Frank Pisano, and Dave Underdown.

Absent and excused: James Suhay.

Library Staff present: Doug Koschik, Director; Rebekah Craft, Associate Director; and, Paul Gillin, Administrative Assistant.

Members of the public present: None.

2. **Consent Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve the consent agenda, which included the Trust minutes, and receipts and disbursements.

1st Aidenbaum  
2nd Underdown

A roll call vote was taken.
Yeas: Tera, Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, and Underdown.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: Suhay.
The motion was approved unanimously.

3. **New and Miscellaneous Business:** Pisano thanked contributors to the Trust for their generous donations, including Mrs. Francis.

4. **Adjournment:**

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

1st Underdown  
2nd Pisano

Yeas: Tera, Aidenbaum, Mark, Pisano, and Underdown.
Nays: None.
Absent and excused: Suhay.

The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 21, 2019.

Melissa Mark, Secretary

Date
Baldwin Public Library Trust: September 2019

September receipts totaled $1,760.74. September disbursements totaled $15,254.99.

The current value of the Trust is $1,749,338.46, divided up in the following way:

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<tr>
<td>Total non-endowment funds</td>
<td>$534,538.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total endowment funds</td>
<td>$1,214,799.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total non-endowment funds</td>
<td>$534,538.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total of all Trust funds</td>
<td>$1,749,338.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The principal of the endowment funds is $828,859.98.

**Includes memorials and donations from the Friends of the Baldwin Public Library.

To date, fundraising efforts for the Youth Room expansion and renovation, net of expenses, have resulted in $216,722.17 in receipts plus $7,800.00 in pledges, for a grand total of $224,522.17. This includes money received from all Youth Room-related events, including the 2017 and 2018 Books and Bites fundraisers.

As of September 30, 2019, the amount of money in the Trust that is undesignated stands at $345,241.17.
### Baldwin Public Library Trust

**Portfolio Performance Benchmarks**

*As of September 30, 2019*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>2019: YTD</th>
<th>2018: Entire Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;P 500 (Equity benchmark)</td>
<td>18.74%</td>
<td>-6.24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Aggregate (Bond benchmark)</td>
<td>6.43%</td>
<td>-1.20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blended Return of Both Benchmarks*</td>
<td>15.66%</td>
<td>-4.98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baldwin Trust’s Portfolio Return</td>
<td>13.28%</td>
<td>-8.30%</td>
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**Trust’s Portfolio Performance Compared to Blended Return of Benchmarks**

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019: YTD</th>
<th>2018: Entire Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-2.38%</td>
<td>-3.32%</td>
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*Since November 2017, the blended return has been calculated according to the Baldwin Trust’s current allocation of 75% equities and 25% fixed income, cash, and cash alternatives.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prior Month</th>
<th>Current Month</th>
<th>Current Year to Date</th>
<th>Change in Investment</th>
<th>Investment Balance</th>
<th>Total All Funds</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>Expense</td>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>Expense</td>
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<td>08/31/19</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>2012 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>2018 Youth Room Fundraising</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<td>$3,081.91</td>
<td>$9,820.85</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<td><strong>$15,254.99</strong></td>
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<td>2018 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
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<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018 Youth Room Fundraising</td>
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<td><strong>$1,760.74</strong></td>
<td><strong>$25,216.84</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$0.00</strong></td>
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<td>Raymond James &amp; Associates:</td>
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<td>Endowment Fund Investments</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL General Spendable Funds</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$0.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,274.96</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total All Funds</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$0.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$12,810.34</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,382,991.71</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Baldwin Public Library Trust Endowment by Individual Fund
### September 30, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Number</th>
<th>Name of Fund</th>
<th>Amount of Fund</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Value as of 2019/20</th>
<th>Change in Principal</th>
<th>Change in Value of Investments</th>
<th>Endowment as of Sep 30, 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>401</td>
<td>Frances Balfour</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>Adult Reading</td>
<td>$13,691.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>402</td>
<td>Gladys E. Brooks</td>
<td>$41,437.86</td>
<td>Large Print Books/Senior Citizens</td>
<td>$56,733.62</td>
<td>($667.87)</td>
<td>$56,065.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>403</td>
<td>Jane Cameron</td>
<td>$68,770.00</td>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>$89,764.98</td>
<td>($1,108.39)</td>
<td>$88,656.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>404</td>
<td>Jane Martin Clark</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>Baldwin Public Library</td>
<td>$6,845.72</td>
<td>($80.59)</td>
<td>$6,765.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>405</td>
<td>Jan Coil</td>
<td>$10,500.00</td>
<td>Baldwin Public Library</td>
<td>$14,246.12</td>
<td>($169.23)</td>
<td>$14,076.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>406</td>
<td>Aubrey &amp; Grace Flood</td>
<td>$5,000.00</td>
<td>Youth Services</td>
<td>$6,845.72</td>
<td>($80.59)</td>
<td>$6,765.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>407</td>
<td>Paul R. Francis</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>Staff Appreciation</td>
<td>$12,844.71</td>
<td>($161.17)</td>
<td>$12,683.54</td>
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<tr>
<td>408</td>
<td>Friends of the Library</td>
<td>$32,000.00</td>
<td>Library Collections</td>
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<tr>
<td>409</td>
<td>Priscilla Goodell</td>
<td>$113,718.00</td>
<td>Baldwin Public Library</td>
<td>$155,696.89</td>
<td>($1,832.83)</td>
<td>$153,864.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>410</td>
<td>Emmelene Hornac</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td>Youth Services &amp; Adult Reading</td>
<td>$68,457.23</td>
<td>($805.87)</td>
<td>$67,651.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>411</td>
<td>H. G. Johnston</td>
<td>$6,350.00</td>
<td>Reference Collection</td>
<td>$8,639.96</td>
<td>($102.35)</td>
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<tr>
<td>412</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Jean Kelly</td>
<td>$10,508.00</td>
<td>Youth Services Programs</td>
<td>$13,750.37</td>
<td>($178.90)</td>
<td>$13,571.47</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>413</td>
<td>William Keman, Jr.</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
<td>Library Collections</td>
<td>$34,228.64</td>
<td>($402.93)</td>
<td>$33,825.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>414</td>
<td>Merle L. Roninger</td>
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<tr>
<td>415</td>
<td>Rosso Family Foundation</td>
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<td>Marion G. Sweeney</td>
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<td>Youth Services</td>
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<td>417</td>
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<td>($161.17)</td>
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<tr>
<td>418</td>
<td>Clarice G. Taylor</td>
<td>$59,852.76</td>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>$84,267.39</td>
<td>($964.67)</td>
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<tr>
<td>419</td>
<td>Eric &amp; Julie Gheen</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td>Adult Reading Print Books</td>
<td>$12,821.91</td>
<td>($161.17)</td>
<td>$12,660.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>420</td>
<td>Jeanne Thal</td>
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<td>Baldwin Public Library</td>
<td>$48,969.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>421</td>
<td>Judith Nix</td>
<td>$15,207.48</td>
<td>Adult &amp; Youth Programs</td>
<td>$18,937.80</td>
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<td>$18,692.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>422</td>
<td>MAF-Rae Dumke</td>
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<td>Architecture Books</td>
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<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>$16,014.94</td>
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<td>424</td>
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<td>Adult Reading Print Books</td>
<td>$10,431.55</td>
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</table>

**Total** | **$828,859.98** | **$1,115,269.56** | **$0.00** | **$0.00** | **($13,359.02)** | **$1,101,910.54**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Spendable Funds</th>
<th>Prior Month</th>
<th>Current Year to</th>
<th>Change in Ending Balance</th>
<th>08/31/19</th>
<th>09/30/19</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>In</th>
<th>Out</th>
<th>Investment</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>2012 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
<td>$22,516.82</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Books &amp; Bites at Baldwin Fundraiser</td>
<td>$25,618.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018 Youth Room Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
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TRUST RECEIPTS  
September 30, 2019

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<th>Trust Money Mkt General Funds:</th>
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<td>Julia W. Dawson</td>
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<td>Charles K. Sestok III</td>
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<td>Dr. Katie Shafer - Eastman, Wozniak, Groebe Pediatrics, P.C.</td>
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<th>Friends Teen Programs:</th>
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<th>Friends Youth Programs:</th>
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<th>Friends Outreach &amp; Equipment:</th>
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<th>Memorial Fund:</th>
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<th>Staff Appreciation Fund:</th>
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<td>David Underdown-Linne Underdown Hage Forester Endowment</td>
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**LIBRARY TOTALS:**

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<td>Less 0 Void Checks:</td>
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<td>Total of 16 Disbursements:</td>
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