

Chelsea District Library
Director's Report
June 2015

My Dear Friends,

I have been offered and have accepted the position of Executive Director of the Westport Library in Westport, Connecticut. My family and I have discussed this opportunity at length and we are eager for this next exciting adventure as a family.

Throughout my years in Chelsea, I have had the honor and privilege to work alongside a world-class staff dedicated to advancing learning, literacy, civic engagement, innovation, and service that is second to none. With a Board of Trustees committed to the long-term vitality of the library in the community, and with our Friends of the Library and 140+ library volunteers constantly providing all of the resources we have needed to create our magic, I have been incredibly fortunate and lucky these nine years in Chelsea. I am awed at our enviable and lengthy list of astonishing accomplishments.

I have had the remarkable fortune to contribute to community life in Chelsea in diverse and meaningful ways and to be a part of the fabric of this community, meeting many life-long friends along the way. Chelsea is a magical place. Anyone who has ever given anything to Chelsea received a great deal more in return. Such is the secret to our community success.

My last date will be Friday, July 10. In the meantime, I will do everything that I can to ensure a seamless transition for your next leader.

I am so proud of our exceptional staff and of our many community partners for the journeys we have taken together. It has been an honor to work side by side with all of you.

Thank you. Thank you for giving my experience in Chelsea meaning, passion, and purpose.

Sincerely,

Bill

Questions from Last Board Meeting

- None

Library Board

- Finance Committee
 - Is scheduled to meet on June 16 and 23 with the library's administrative team to review the proposed 2016 library budget.

Budget & Finances

- 2016 Operating Budget Planning
 - The Finance Committee will be meeting with senior staff several times over the next month to review, provide feedback, and make recommendations to the proposed budget. We anticipate one final meeting at the end of June before delivering the budget to the Board of Trustees at its meeting in July.
 - Budget hearing for the public is scheduled for Tuesday, August 18 and final approval of the FY 2016 will be scheduled for the Board of Trustees Tuesday, September 15 meeting.
- Library Financial Audit
 - We are pleased to announce that the 2014 audit of the library's financial statements is complete. The auditors met with the Library Board of Trustees in May.

Staff

- Staff Members Celebrating an Anniversary
 - Ron Andrews, 13 years
 - Emily Meloche, 5 years
- 5H Community Read
 - Last month our planning committee chose Jack Ganto's book *Hole in My Life* for the communities of Chelsea, Dexter, Grass Lake, Manchester, and Stockbridge as its 2015 community read.
 - The kick-off event will take place after Labor Day on Saturday, September 12 as part of the Heritage Day festivities in Grass Lake.
- Summer Reading Program for Children and Teens
 - Sign up for the Summer Reading/Summer Learning Game and earn prizes all summer long! How does the Game work? Simple! Just register during our **Summer Reading/Summer Learning Kickoff** on June 10 or any time after, and start reading! For every 5 hours you read, you get a small prize and an entry into our Grand Prize Drawing. Keep on reading; after 20 hours, you get a free book! Preschoolers will count books rather than hours for prizes. Earn extra entries into our Grand Prize Drawing by coming to a summer program, exploring the Discovery Center at the youth information desk, checking out a Challenge Card, and more! This year's Grand Prizes include Cedar Point tickets, a 3-month pass to the Chelsea TreeHouse, a LEGO® Technics set, and a Rainbow Loom kit, just to name a few! All Grand Prize entries must be turned in by 12 noon at the Finale on July 29. Grand Prize winners will be announced after the Finale at 2:05pm on the Library Lawn.
- Summer Reading Program for Adults
 - Adults can join the summer reading program fun too. Here's the details:
 - Starting June 10, stop in to the library to register for our Adult Summer Reading Game, receive your game card and find out about some of our summer programming. Earn your first prize by reading and recording 3 books on your game card or completing 5 activities. Keep going to earn drawing slips for a chance to win additional prizes!
 - Round 1 prizes:
Receive one of these after reading your first 3 books or completing your first 5 activities. \$3 Gift Card to Zou Zous | \$3 Gift Card to Chelsea Bakery | \$3 Library Fine Waver | A bag of Ghirardelli Milk Chocolate.
 - Round 2 prizes:
For each additional book read or activity completed you can receive a drawing slip for a chance to win one of these prizes: A Made in Michigan Basket (\$50 Value) | \$50 Gift

Card to Thompsons | \$50 Gift Card to Common Grill | \$50 Gift Card to Chelsea Alehouse Brewery | \$50 Gift Card for Gigi's Flowers & Gifts.

- Remember to turn in all slips on or before July 29th! - See more at: <http://chelsea.lib.mi.us/srp>
- Sounds & Sights on Thursday Nights
 - Sounds & Sights kicked off another year in Katie's Korner on the Library lawn with our 7th Annual Comedy Showcase. The program will again bring live stand-up comedy to entertain the crowds at Sounds & Sights on Thursdays in June. The comedians start at 6:30 pm, so get here early to stake out your space on the library lawn! Many thanks to our partner in this event, the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase, and to the Friends of the Chelsea District Library, whose support makes this event possible.
 - This year our line-up includes:
 - June 18 – Andy Pitz
 - June 25 – Tony Deyo

Friends of the Library

- Don't miss any of the Friends book sales this summer. The dates are June 13, July 11, July 25, and August 8. The Friends book sales offer hundreds of gently used books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks at bargain prices. Fill up a grocery sized bag for just \$5, or join the Friends and receive one of our useful, eco-friendly Friends tote bags for free. All proceeds from our book sales go directly towards supporting many of the wonderful library programs that you have come to look forward to, including Comedy Showcase and the Summer Reading Program. The Friends thank you for your support!

Professional

- Professional Exchange Program
 - Nosiviwe Lutuli, our delightful exchange professional from South Africa, arrived in the United States over Memorial Day Weekend. Not only has the program fostered the exchange of ideas between our two libraries, but it has also given the community a wonderful opportunity to learn about life in South Africa. "Vidie," as her friends call her, has been very active in the community, helping to promote collaboration between our two libraries by visiting community members at the Chelsea Senior Center, Rotary Club, and schools, among several others. Her last day in Chelsea will be June 19 before she returns home. If you haven't had the chance already, please drop by and visit her.
 - My sincere gratitude goes to Maureen Nelson for being such a generous host family to Vidie while she is away from her loved ones. Thank you Maureen!

Meetings/Conferences Attended

- 2016 Budget Meetings with Staff, 5/11, 5/14, 5/27
- Finance Committee, 5/12, 6/2
- Rotary Meetings, 5/12, 6/2, 6/9
- Management Meetings, 5/12, 6/9
- Board President Meetings, 5/14, 6/4
- Investment Advisors, Chelsea State Bank, 5/18
- Board of Trustees Meeting, 5/19
- Chelsea Sun Times Interview, 5/29
- Meet & Greet, Professional Exchange Program, 6/1
- Andy Ingall Going Away Party, 6/9
- Summer Reading Program Kick Off Event, 6/10
- Stand-up Comedy Showcase, 6/11

Respectfully,

William Harmer