



BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

www.BranchDistrictLibrary.org



Alganssee Branch



Bronson Branch



Coldwater Branch



Quincy Branch



Sherwood Branch



Union Twp. Branch

Dear Library Supporter,

2013 is passing fast for those of us at the District Library who meet the changing needs of our patrons for books and technology. After years of fund raising, the Bronson Friends of the Library completed construction of a new media center. Your District Library has now fully equipped the center, and it is used monthly by 500 people on site and by 2,000 via wireless connection.



In 2013, the Library expanded programming for all age groups, offering so far this year 309 programs for children, 40 for young adults, and 68 for adults, with more planned for the holiday season. These programs served more than 7,500 children, 400 young adults, and 700 adult patrons. Staff at the Holbrook Heritage Room have responded to 225 phone requests, 163 internet requests, and assisted more than 1,065 patrons on site seeking historical information. The Library has printed, free of charge, nearly 3,500 resumes for patrons. Our library IT staff helped the Union City American Legion create an online index of veterans honored on the Union City Veterans Memorial Wall. The Library's 6 branches attract 15,000 visits a month, and wireless internet use continues to grow to 17,500 a month. With a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for 25 books, 3 films, and additional resources, the Library established the Bridging Cultures Bookshelf, presented to the public on November 9 at the Coldwater branch, to encourage diverse perspectives on the people, history, and culture of Muslims in the US and around the world.

Despite these accomplishments, the Library continues to face serious financial challenges. The drop in penal fines that began in 2010-2011 has continued through 2013, reducing Library operating funds by \$200,000 a year or by 23% since 2011. See bar chart on next page. To address this shortfall, the

Library must continue in 2014 reduced hours at the Coldwater branch, a reduced book budget, and reduced hours and benefits for the Library's hard-working staff. Budgets, monthly income/expense reports, and detailed finance and use statistics are all available at the Library's website.

Your Library relies now more than ever on strong community input and support. One generous donor supplied funds to continue the award-winning Mango language program this year and will do so next year. Another donates funds to purchase Caldecott award-winning books each year. Others donate in memory of loved ones. As you reflect on what you value and plan your gifts, we hope you will remember and support the services provided by your Library. You may direct your gift to the District Library, to the Holbrook Heritage Room, or to any particular branch or service.* The Library will use each gift as you direct to benefit the people of Branch County.

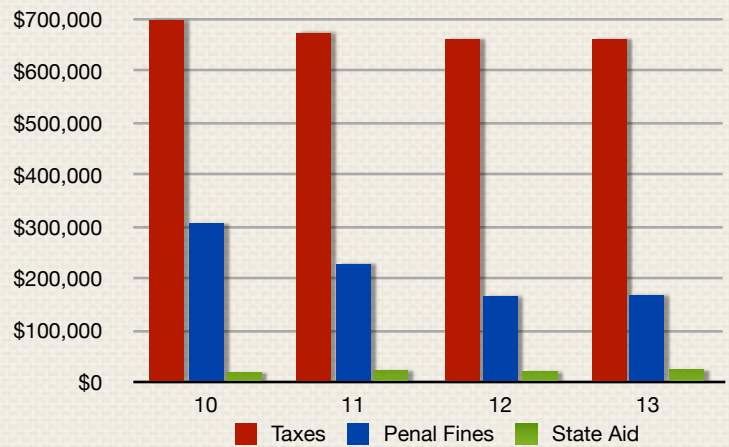
We appreciate your support and thank you!

Evette M. Atkin
 Evette M. Atkin, Director
 Branch District Library

Carole Bolton
 Carole Bolton, President
 Coldwater Public Library Board

Dorothy Cherry
 Dorothy Cherry, President
 Branch District Library Board

BDL Operating Revenue
 2010 - 2013



*Your donation to the Branch District Library remains an itemized deduction on your federal income tax return.



Touch-a-Truck Petting Zoo
 @ Coldwater Branch



We Geek Halloween
 @ Lucille E. Dearth Union Twp. Branch



FBI Visit
 @ Sherwood Branch



Kalamazoo Nature Center
 @ Quincy Branch



Summer Reading Program Winners
 @ Bronson Branch