



Vol. XIII, Issue 2 • Fall 2020 • A newsletter for friends of the Public Library for Union County

## REIMAGINING, REFRESHING AND REPURPOSING OUR LIBRARY

Work has begun on a new addition and renovation project to be completed in the spring of 2021. The project will relocate and expand the children's area, provide quiet spaces for adult library users, and create operational efficiencies. The Library will remain open during the project. Here are some questions we thought you'd like answered:

### Why are the building improvements being made?

Over the past five years, the Public Library for Union County has experienced increases in:

- program attendance by families and young children
- demand and use of meeting/programming space for all ages
- technology usage by both library users and staff

This project reimagines our library space to adapt to the needs of library users today and into the future.

County demographics continue to demonstrate growth in young families; the Library continues to serve as a community hub and anchor for activity; and digital services and technology use continue to grow. The benefits of this renovation and expansion have been further magnified by our recent need for social distancing. Safe, flexible and separate areas are critical to providing all ages space to learn, connect and build relationships essential to lifelong learning and community vitality.

### What are the planned improvements?

**New Children's Library** - An 1,150 sq. ft. addition to the south front of the building and renovations of existing space to create a new Children's Library, which will include children's collections, programming space, a family restroom, storage, a service desk, and seating areas where adults and children can read and work together.

**Enhanced Adult and Service Areas** - Magazines and newspapers, large



Workers break through a exterior wall to prepare for the building addition.

print books, DVD and books on CD will be moved closer to the library's main entrance. Throughout the library, new seating, tables, outlets and counters will facilitate work, technology use and collaboration. A reconfigured check-out desk will maximize space and adapt to changing methods of providing services.

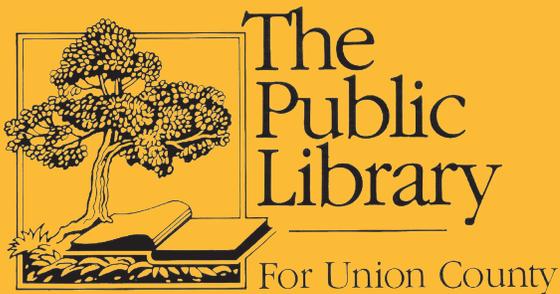
**Operational Efficiencies** - Upgrades to the heating, ventilation and cooling system and lighting will reduce ongoing operational costs.

### How will the Library secure the funds needed?

Last fall, the Library was awarded a \$750,000 Keystone Recreation, Park, and Conservation Fund Grant for this project and has also received a \$100,000 grant from the Donald B. and Dorothy L. Stabler Foundation. Together, these grants provide nearly half of the total project cost. Both grants have time restrictions and require a dollar-for-dollar match. The Library will seek community support through local foundations, businesses and individuals to secure the local match and the additional funding needed to complete the project.

Watch the library's website, [UnionCountyLibraries.org](http://UnionCountyLibraries.org) or subscribe to our newsletter for regular updates on this exciting project at our library.





## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Don Adams, *President*
- Sabra Karr, *Vice President*
- Amy Smalt, *Secretary*
- Steve Stanko, *Treasurer*
- Mary Beth Clark
- Michael Redding
- Linda Skinner
- Don Wilver, Jr.
- Roberta Greene, *Director*

The Public Library for Union County Board of Trustees hold monthly meetings via Google Meet on the second Monday of the month starting at 6:00 pm. Meetings are open to the public.

## THE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR UNION COUNTY

255 Reitz Blvd • Lewisburg, PA  
(570) 523-1172  
[www.UnionCountyLibraries.org](http://www.UnionCountyLibraries.org)

### Library Hours

- Mon.:** 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Tues.:** 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Wed.:** 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - *vulnerable pop.*  
11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. - *general public*
- Thurs.:** 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Fri.:** 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Sat.:** 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - *vulnerable pop.*  
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - *general public*
- Sun.:** Closed



## A note from the president...



Many people are surprised to find that public libraries in Pennsylvania are under the direction of the Department of Education, a recognition of the role they play in high-quality education. As a lifelong educator, I have seen our public libraries evolve to support the changes that occur in the public school curriculum and in the educational pursuits of all ages.

This year has certainly been one to illustrate the importance of being flexible and alert to new possibilities - in education and in all aspects of life. We are thrilled to be moving forward with an addition and renovation project that reimagines our spaces and our services and will help us to continue to be both responsive and inventive in the way we meet the changing needs of our community.

I am personally excited about the new children's library featured in this project, which places our children's collection and services in a safer, more contained area of the building. Since becoming a part of the Family Place Library Network in 2015, our programming for children has blossomed and our attendance at that programming has increased by 37%. Our public meeting rooms, which were designed for multiple use by children and adults, no longer have the capacity to support the growing services to our children and their families. The new programming room will be a center for early childhood literacy and a hub for children to support their education in science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM).

Of course, the project includes great features for those of us without young children, too! We'll find the adult collections more conveniently located near the main entrance and a comfortable new reading area, complete with a fireplace. (And a nice distance away from all those STEAM experiments!)

This is an exciting time for our community as we begin this project! I hope you will support our staff and our board throughout this endeavor. Stay tuned to our lobby, email and website to check on the progress. We look forward to our fully reimagined spaces being complete next spring!

Don C. Adams  
*President, Board of Trustees*

*Don Adams recently retired as Superintendent from the Williamsport Area School District.*

# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE BOOKS ADDED



Janice Bigelow (member) and Kandy Duncan (President) of the Lewisburg Area League of Women Voters look over the new women's suffrage books added to the library's collection.

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the American Library Association and Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission distributed 6,000 youth book sets to libraries across the country. Our library received the following titles:

## Young Adult/Adult

*Women Making History: The 19th Amendment* - Thirteen essays offering fresh insights on the complex history of the women's suffrage movement.

## Middle Grades

*The Woman's Hour Our Fight for the Right to Vote* by Elaine Weiss - An inspiring story of activists winning their own freedom.

## Children

*Around America To Win the Vote* by Mara Rockliff - A lively picture book featuring the tale of two friends spreading the message of Votes for Women!

# MARK YOUR DAY Dedicate one Day with a \$100 Donation

A special way to honor a friend or family member while supporting the library.

## Days Marked

- Lily & Brooke Best Friend Day - June 8
- Hannah Drexler - June 15
- Brooke S. - July 8
- Don & Brenda Adams - August 3
- Creative Plantscapes - Sept. 10
- M&T Bank - Sept. 21
- Fulton Bank/  
Fulton Financial Advisors - Sept. 30
- Orchard Pump &  
Supply Company - Oct. 9
- UPMC Susquehanna- Oct. 20
- Mifflinburg Bank & Trust - Oct. 30
- Heritage Springs Memory Care - Nov. 10



**Request your day:**  
<http://bit.ly/MarkYourDay>

# CONSIDER A GIFT TO SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY

As COVID-19 continues to spread, the future has never felt so unpredictable. These are challenging times for us all, and we hope you're in good spirits and health! All of our key fundraisers, that help support the general operations of the library, were canceled this year. If you are able please make a donation. Every gift big or small helps us continue to offer materials, resources and programs to *everyone* in our community. Please use the enclosed envelope for your gift or donate online at <http://Donate2PLUC>



# NEW BOARD BOOK PILLARS

Thank you to the Charles and Betty Degenstein Foundation and the G. Scott and Bessie K. Guyer Foundation for grant support to add two Book Pillars to the new Children's Library. The bookcases will hold our baby board book collection.



# \$1,000 VISA GIFT CARD WINNER

Sally Meyers was the lucky winner of this year's Annual Auction raffle ticket.

# MERRY MOOLAH! \$1,000 CASH RAFFLE

**Win some extra spending money for the holiday season!**

Purchase raffle tickets at the library beginning Oct. 1 for \$10 each. A winner will be drawn Dec. 15 and need not be present to win.

*Proceeds benefit the Public Library for Union County.*



# COMING SOON!

# Mobile Wifi Hotspots

*Check out the internet!*

A mobile hotspot from the library connects multiple computers or Wi-Fi-enabled electronics like smartphones and tablets to a mobile broadband Internet service for FREE.



Return Service Requested

255 Reitz Boulevard  
Lewistown, PA 17837  
570-523-1172  
For Union County



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