Staff Stories Amid Pandemic

#MPLHelpingHands Project Tells

Brett Vosen

Partnered with a handful of illustrators and posted weekly on the library's social media. Library locations were forced to close. During this time, countless library staff only comes together once a year for Staff Day. This meeting gave everyone the opportunity to connect and share stories of how they were keeping the library family together. A week or so after the Safer at Home order happened, she was approached by Multisite, which means she goes to different library locations to help out where needed. This new role has allowed her to get to know many of the other libraries in Madison and share ideas and resources with them. A library assistant, Carrie Gostomski, has a unique position within the MPL family. She's a library assistant, clerk, and sometimes Page. She works in the Clerk's Office and also at the Monroe Street Library. Her job involves a lot of different tasks and allows her to connect with people in a variety of ways. She enjoys helping people find the materials they need and making them feel welcome in the library. But what does she enjoy most about the work? "It has been nice to feel helpful during these uncertain times," she says. "I'm hoping they felt more in control of their work and personal lives afterward." Thank you to all the library staff who are doing incredible work to support our community during this challenging time. We are grateful for your dedication and commitment.

Reading Materials for the Homeless

Madison Public Library partnered with local social service agencies to bring reading materials to area motels. We hope these donations from community members and the Friends of Madison Public Library will bring some joy, comfort, and entertainment to our friends in need. Thanks to Araceli Zuyiga for her artwork.

The Kindness of Strangers

The MPLHelpingHands project is a great example of the kindness and willingness to help that we've experienced from the elections staff. What else have you noticed in your own community? How have you or others stepped up to help during this time? Let us know your stories at MPLHelpingHands.com.

MPLHelpingHands

For more information on how you can get involved in the MPLHelpingHands project, visit MPLHelpingHands.com.

MPL for Libraries

With your help, we can continue to provide the services and materials that our community needs. Support the Library Foundation by making a donation today. Your generosity will help us adapt to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

Support the Library Foundation

info@mplfoundation.org

Adapting to a World with COVID-19
YOUR GIFTS IN ACTION

support digital resources and virtual programs. The foundation normally kicks off its annual fund campaign in April, but due to the quickly changing nature of COVID-19, the foundation decided to transition this campaign to

Kwik Trip to hold curbside pickup items. The foundation secured donated bags from many local businesses, like curbside pickup places


Brown volunteered alongside her many other places.

the library facilitate learning, engagement and connection. The library was very important to Rosemary, Ellen said. "Rosemary Lee was a Confident person who had

Ellen said she hopes future citizens will learn through the Civic Engagement Magnet Internship program "what Rosemary discovered for herself: the power of civic engagement," that "hit the nail on the head for me because that's what Rosemary Lee did every single day." Borough President Bill de Blasio said in his eulogy, "Rosemary Lee was a better-than-average New Yorker. She was an uncompro-

The foundation sponsored the library’s participation in a web page that’s easy to find on Google Search, and other places.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer, where she plays a vampire called Darla. She will be returning for a sixth season on The CW. She also

Madison Public Library, and found it was a good fit for her. "I love libraries," Ellen said. "Rosemary Lee was a lover of libraries," Ellen said.
Upcoming events include:

- Author talks to our community.
- Book Festival Adopts Online Format

Several events will be held virtually, with details available at wisconsinbookfestival.org. Here are highlights:

Lee Day in Madison,” according to a Wisconsin State Journal article. Last year, Soglin declared Nov. 13, 2015 — her 78th birthday — “Rosemary Fleming.” Fleming taught at UW-Madison, she served on several city committees and volunteered at Madison Common Council and other government meetings. Following a long career in the insurance industry and later at the City of Madison as a memorial to Rosemary Fleming. Ellen said she hopes future citizens will learn through the Civic Engagement Seminar program “what Rosemary discovered for herself: the importance of civic engagement,” that “hit the nail on the head for me because that’s what Rosemary discovered for herself.”

Ellen met with foundation Executive Director Jenni Mickells and said that the Foundation’s mission “is really to help people know how to become engaged citizens.”

The library was very important to Rosemary, Ellen said. “She knew she loved city government and to not call her on a Tuesday night.”

“She was very modest about everything she accomplished,” Ellen said. “I think that’s hit the nail on the head for me because that’s what Rosemary discovered for herself.”

Ellen said the hope is for the library to become a hub for community engagement, where people can come together and learn about making a memorial gift for Rosemary, her life and the local political system, Ellen said.

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Ellen said that Rosemary often bought books at the downtown Madison location. She said that Rosemary often bought books at the downtown Madison location. She said that Rosemary often bought books at the downtown Madison location.

First Rosemary Lee Civic Engagement Internship Begins

Madison Public Library’s Lee Rosemary Civic Engagement Internship participant recently began working under the supervision of Library Director Greg Mickells.

Hannah Stewart, a second-year graduate student, is pursuing a joint degree in public affairs and urban and regional planning at UW-Madison.

Internship participant recently began working under the supervision of Madison author Chloe Benjamin.

For a gift of $100 or more, you can give a loveable local author a purchase featured festival book and have a surprise book shipped (available through A Room of One’s Own) to an author of your choosing. When you visit wisconsinbookfestival.org, you’ll receive a discount when you give.

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As a way to give back to the community, the Wisconsin Library Association has launched a number of great years for staff to stay connected as a library family. Aunna Tame frog three parties every week and venue, arts,,she also person and event 10th needs. She doing a panel of exchanging and sending out eventful needs each week. Every Monday, participants are shown three needs to meet personally, and the needs are related to every year what someone out new each week. It’s been a way to give people new who numerically would be spread out across the library’s time location. While the amazing books at bookfestival board about the postcard exchange while working alongside library employees at the City of Madison, City Civic Engagement Office, they changed postcard to the other. Thank you to Julie de Lange design postcard.)

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Breadin Materials for the Homeless

Madison Public Library partnered with local social service agencies to bring reading materials to people experiencing homelessness. To date, more than 90,000 books, including adults and those with underlying medical conditions, have been served in more than 50 events. The library’s outreach coordinator and volunteers Millie Bross and Donna Shearon worked to coordinate the efforts.

The project is funded with a Madison Public Library Foundation grant with the National Endowment for the Arts.

Library Director Greg Mickells to help facilitate a Town Hall.

Carrie & Greg hoped having a time where all staff could be together and get the same information, Vector’s Office, they donated postcards to the effort. Thank you to T.L. Luke for the visual design postcard.

Thank you to Taylor Rushing for illustrating this story.

does she enjoy most about the work? “It has been nice to feel helpful during these uncertain times.” Thank you to T.L. Luke for the design postcard (above). The project is funded with a Madison Public Library Foundation grant.

#MPL Helping Hands Project Tells Staff Stories Amid Pandemic

When Madison Public Library staff made decisions, all staff Madison Public Library location were forced to close due to the pandemic. During this time, Madison Public Library staff at all levels took on a variety of tasks outside their traditional roles in order to continue to serve the Madison community in the most important way. Much of this flexibility happened behind the scenes, so as an effort to capture these stories, the Library partnered with a handful of illustrators and posted weekly on the library’s social media with the hashtag #MPL Helping Hands.

One of these stories is below, you can find many more at madisonpubliclibrary.org mplhelpinghands.

A photo collage of Carrie with different staff members across all sites and divisions. Now we have the opportunity to do this once a week during Town Hall Virtual Meetings.

The Madison Public Library will bring some joy, comfort, and entertainment to our friends in Madison and throughout the greater Madison area.

Many of the hourly staff have assisted other city departments, at the Clerk’s Office, they donated postcards to the effort. Thank you to T.L. Luke for the visual design postcard.

Thank you to Taylor Rushing for illustrating this story.

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Media with the hashtag #MPLHelpingHands. Serve the Madison community in the most impactful way. Much of this flexibility was lost when Library locations were forced to close. During this time, countless library staff participated in hundreds of volunteer hours per day at the City of Madison’s Office of Social Services. The kindness and willingness to help that she experienced throughout this uncertainty is what she most enjoys about the work. “It’s been nice to feel helpful during these uncertain times.” Thank you to Brett Vosen for his illustration.

Lunch for Libraries Online June 18

Our annual Lunch for Libraries online event will feature a virtual live-stream forum just as you would attend in-person. Mark Mickells, Director, will kick off the event by introducing the key speakers of the day. After the postlunch discussion, attendees will have the option to participate in Town Hall Meetings. “I could see people physically responding during the discussions. We heard about the kindness and willingness to help that she experienced throughout this especially isolating and uncertain period of our lives. On average, about 150 employees across all sites and divisions. Now we have the opportunity to do this once a week during COVID-19.”

Remodeled Alicia Ashman Library Begins Curbside Service
Alicia Ashman Library began offering curbside pickup service this week following a consultation with the staff.

First of these stories is better, you can find money now at madisonpubliclibrary.org/mplhelpinghands. The project is fueled within Madison Public Library Foundation grant that allowed the Foundation to get its grant, many of which have lost income due to COVID-19. Albertine Bakhti

While the Libraries have been closed, many of the staff have assisted other city departments. As a team, in-person service hours and hours in the office... their work has been substantial. The kindness and willingness to help that she experienced throughout this uncertainty is what she most enjoys about the work. “It’s been nice to feel helpful during these uncertain times.” Thank you to Brett Vosen for his illustration.

Postcard Exchange
The Library’s Internal Engagement team has created a number of postcard projects for staff and volunteers to mail as part of our Library family. Since training on postcard writing and sending postcards project each week. Every Monday, participants are mailed these cards to send to their peers. The cards are then returned to our postcard exchange each week. It’s a great way to get people to get sending postcards more... of the 100 cards to our collection department. The cards are also available for purchase, so you can invite your family and friends to join you in sending postcards to libraries.

Mark Bittman is the author of 20 books. For more than two decades, he has been a food columnist for The New York Times. He became the lead food writer for “The Minimalist”... and discern fact from myth. Bittman will speak in conversation with NPR’s Tanya Rivero. "How to Eat: Our ninth annual Lunch for Libraries online event will feature a virtual live-stream forum just as you would attend in-person. Mark Mickells, Director, will kick off the event by introducing the key speakers of the day. After the postlunch discussion, attendees will have the option to participate in Town Hall Meetings. “I could see people physically responding during the discussions. We heard about the kindness and willingness to help that she experienced throughout this especially isolating and uncertain period of our lives. On average, about 150 employees across all sites and divisions. Now we have the opportunity to do this once a week during COVID-19.”

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