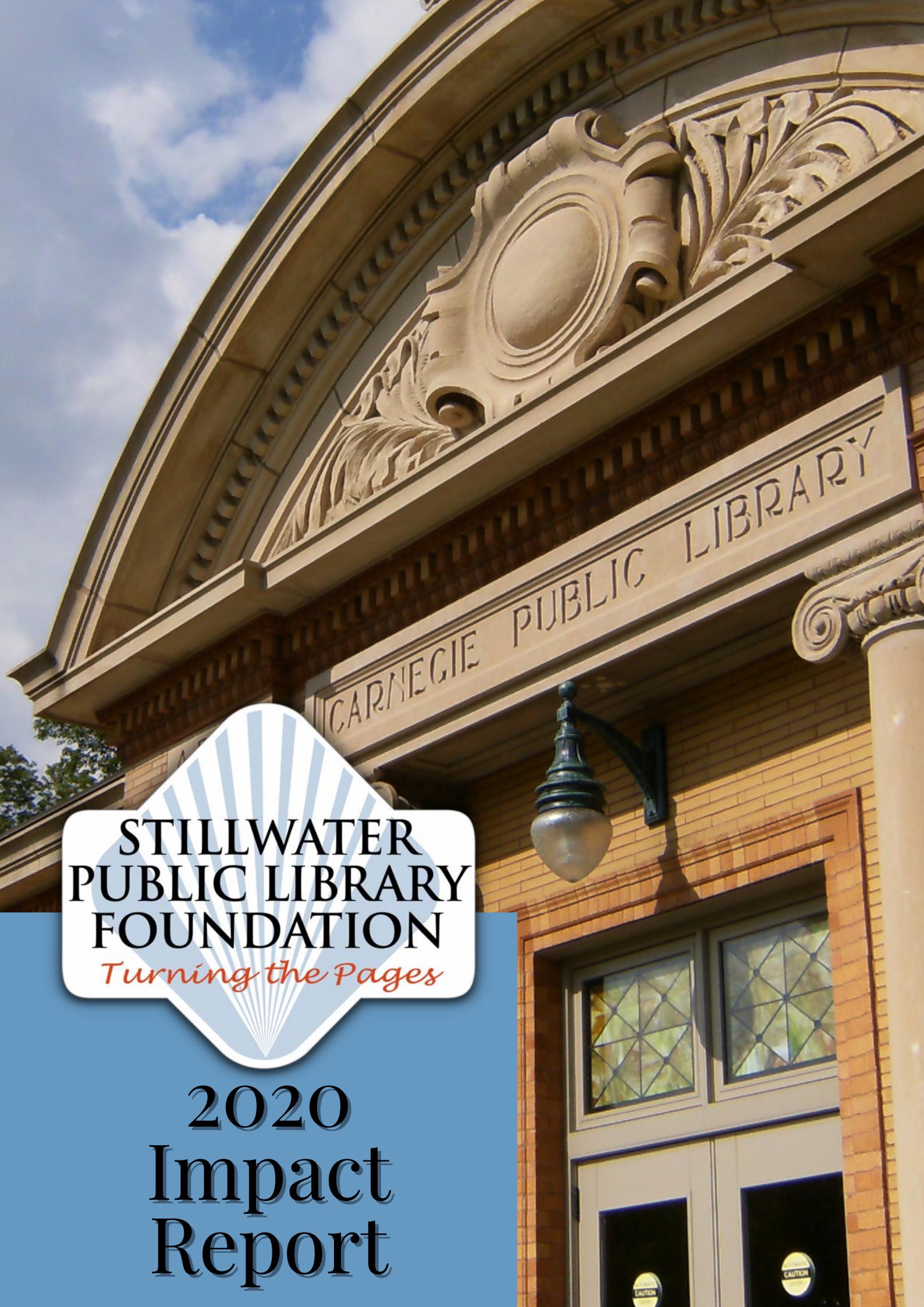


STILLWATER  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION

*Turning the Pages*

2020  
Impact  
Report



CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

# From Our President

Greetings fellow library lovers!

2020 was a year of turmoil and adjustment for everyone. If you would have asked me at the beginning of 2020 what I thought the biggest challenge was going to be, my answer would not have been reimagining how the foundation keeps moving forward during a pandemic. I consider myself very fortunate to have had such a strong board going into 2020 that was willing to work with me as we reimagined how to meet regularly. Not only did they openly accept changing our meeting format to virtual meetings, but they also remained unwavering in wanting to support our wonderful local library.

Please let me say how proud I am of our library. Curbside pickup was new in 2020 and greatly utilized. The library staff put in countless hours trying to make sure we had access to our favorite books to escape the reality of 2020, and the resources for those in school to still do their research projects. The staff's love for our community is shown through their resilience and willingness to serve the community in any way they could this last year.

The foundation helped the library purchase hotspots and their data plan. These have been a blessing to our community, allowing patrons to access the internet from home. Students were able to use them for distance learning when they could not be in the classroom. Others who had lost their jobs due to the pandemic were able to look for a new job thanks to the availability of the hotspots.

The board and foundation director worked tirelessly with Rich Sommer, Lee Valsvik and Spike Carlsen to reimagine For the Love of the Library and turned it into an amazing virtual event. For the Love of the Library proved how important the Stillwater Public Library is to our community. So many people were willing to support the event not only financially but also to share their time and their reasons of why the library is so important to them. The stories shared were truly inspiring and amazing to hear.

Finally, let me say thank you. I should have said it many times by now and yet this seems to be the first I am saying it. The library remains a gem of the city and is no less a central hub for support during a pandemic. Your love for the library completely amazes me. Thank you for all your support for the library. Without it, nothing mentioned above would have been possible.

With gratitude,

Shawn Glaser  
2020 Foundation President



# Our Story So Far

## OUR MISSION

To engage the community and its resources to expand the reach and impact of the Stillwater Public Library.

The mission of the Stillwater Public Library Foundation is to raise funds to enhance the library's materials, programs, services and historic renovation beyond what the city is able to provide in tax monies.

Since 2008, because of donor support, the foundation has given nearly \$1 million to fund:

### MATERIALS

- new copies of beloved, worn-out books
- up-to-date editions of favorite nonfiction materials
- multiple copies of popular, new books to shorten waiting lists
- support for newspaper subscriptions, which are ballooning in cost and becoming ever-more valuable to patrons

### PROGRAMS

- opportunities to learn, to connect, and to grow
- summer of enrichment, engagement, and fun for kids
- special programs and classes throughout the year for children, teens, and adults

### SERVICES

- Sunday hours
- Wi-Fi hotspots available for checkout
- a Volunteer Coordinator to arrange valuable support for the library staff

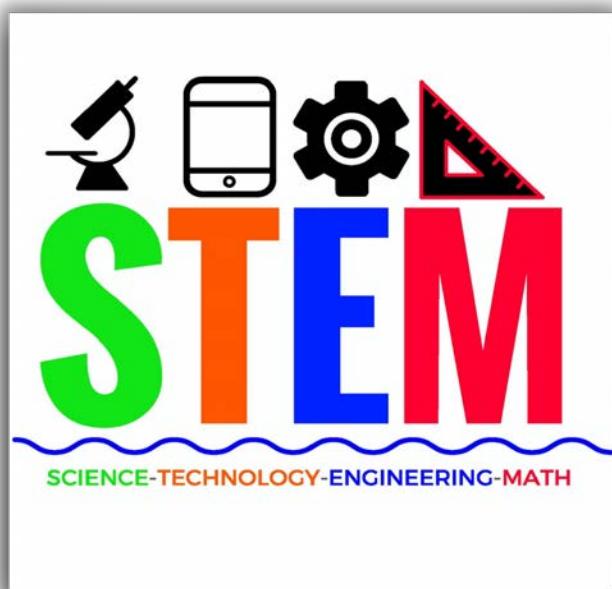
### HISTORIC RENOVATION

- masonry restoration
- awning sun shade on the terrace

## OUR PURPOSE

The foundation shares your love and appreciation of Stillwater's beautiful and historic library and serves to support the Stillwater Public Library.

Our Vision: The Stillwater Public Library is celebrated as a world-class library!



# The Library & Alliances

Before a public library was established in Stillwater, the city had a history of making reading materials available to its residents through a library association and a lending library. Neither of these organizations was a true public library, however, because citizens had to pay per use for the service. In 1897, voters (men) went to the polls and passed a referendum to establish a city library.

When local attorney S. Blair McBeath heard that Andrew Carnegie was giving money to cities for libraries, he applied for and received a grant for \$27,500 for the construction of the building if the city would provide the site and ensure funding for library services. The Stillwater Public Library has undergone three major renovations since 1902, and each time the community has generously provided private dollars to supplement what the city was able to provide.

## 1

### THE CITY OF STILLWATER

The funding authority for the library. The city levies property taxes, which provide the primary funding of the library's operating expenses. The city appoints the library director and a nine-member board of trustees to govern the library.



## 2

### FRIENDS OF THE STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Established in 1999 as a nonprofit 501(c)(3), after the library's second expansion and renovation. It raises money to support the library through memberships and two significant book sales each year.



## 3

### THE STILLWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in 2008 to enhance the library's materials, programs, and services in ways that would otherwise not be possible.

# The 2020 Library In Review

Stillwater Public Library

2020 | YEAR IN REVIEW

Top Ten Checked Out Titles in Stillwater



**SERVICES ADDED IN RESPONSE TO COVID**

- Express Hours
- Curbside Pick-up
- Virtual Programming
- Take & Make Kits
- Book Bundles
- WiFi Hotspots & Laptops

 9,208 Curbside Pick-up Appointments

 1,847,614 Estimated Steps Walked by Staff to Provide Curbside in 2020



**7,652**  
New physical materials added

**117**  
Virtual Programs Offered

**3,494**  
Virtual Program Views

 **763**  
New Cardholders

 **78,467**  
Visits to our Website

 More than **210,000**  
Items Checked Out

Note: 2020 statistics are preliminary. Final numbers will be submitted to the state this spring as part of the annual Minnesota Public Library Report.

**STILLWATER**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

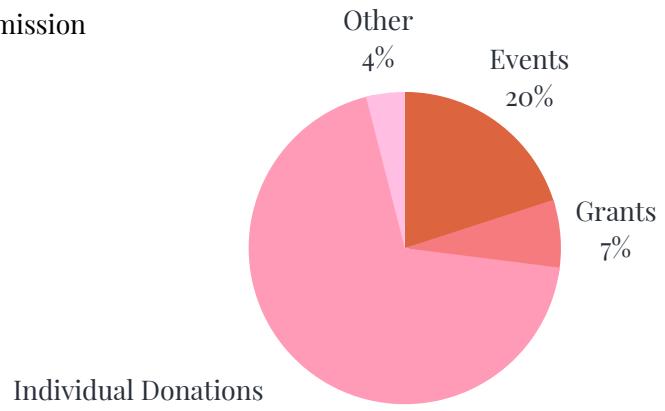
224 Third St N | Stillwater, Minnesota 55082 | (651) 275-4338 | <https://stillwaterlibrary.org/>

# Our 2020 Impact

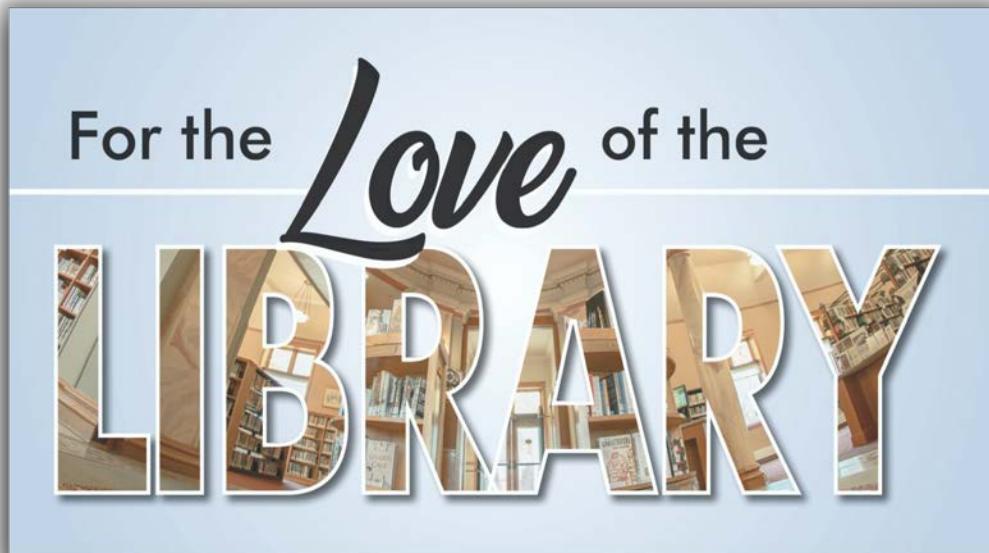
Donor support makes our work possible! Our mission is funded through individual contributions, grants and events.

“Donation and grant funding for our library is a great example of investing to grow those intangible benefits that are difficult to quantify, but continue to accrue over a lifetime and thereby impact people's lives in many positive and unexpected ways.”

~ SPLF Donor



# Our 2020 Events

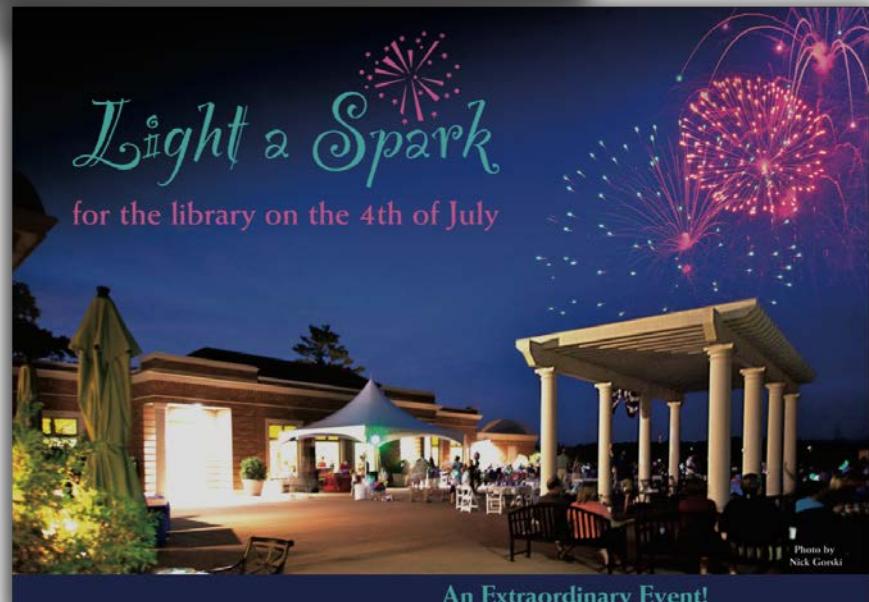


## OUR FIRST VIRTUAL EVENT

Nearly 300 people attended our first virtual event featuring Rich Sommer & Friends.

### OUR SIGNATURE EVENT

Celebrated on the 4th of July, Light a Spark has been our signature event. Sadly, due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event was canceled in 2020. We hope to bring you this event again in the future.



An Extraordinary Event!



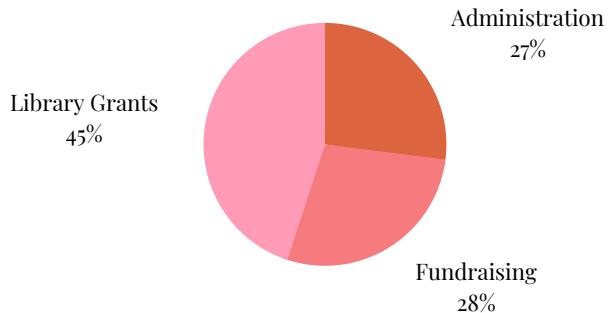
## APPRECIATING OUR DONORS

Celebrating the impact of the foundation made possible because of the generosity of donors.

# Our 2020 Financial Statement

The strength of the foundation is evidenced by a strong record of fundraising events and initiatives, leadership and management, financial stability and accountability, and most importantly a committed, diverse and rapidly growing pool of generous donors.

Since the foundation began in 2008, donations have steadily increased in number and size.



"Money moving in the direction of our highest commitments nourishes our world and ourselves."

~Lynne Twist  
author of  
*The Soul of Money*

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	
\$273,412	Contributions
\$ 71,122	Events Income
\$ 17,493	Investment Income
TOTAL	
\$362,027	
COSTS, OTHER DEDUCTIONS	
\$ 58,750	Library Grants
\$ 36,942	Fundraising & Events
\$ 35,364	Management & General
TOTAL	
\$131,056	
NET REVENUE	
\$230,971	
ASSETS	
\$ 5,009	Reserve Savings
\$ 97,280	Endowment
\$ 19,259	Restricted Cash
\$ 415,051	Unrestricted Cash
TOTAL	
\$536,599	

# From The Library Director

2020 was a challenging year for our community and the world. We endured tragedy and isolation, but events also brought us closer together. We focused on what mattered most and on making changes for the better. Not surprisingly, your creative and dedicated library staff rose to the occasion with aplomb.

A week after the library closed its doors due to the pandemic, a contact-free option to pickup requested materials was made available in our parking ramp. It's estimated that staff walked more than 1.8 million steps to provide this valued and needed service. Virtual programming was up and running shortly thereafter. Later, we began lending Wi-Fi hotspots and laptops so that patrons in need of internet access would have the necessary resources. Take-and-make kits proved very popular with patrons of all ages—with themes that ran the gamut from arts and crafts to science, engineering, technology and math.

While closed to in-person visits, the library completed a major plaster renovation project on the upper level. Our general fiction and mystery books were covered with a protective wrap while the ceiling and dome were repaired and repainted. A multi-year masonry restoration project continued, and we expanded our exterior Wi-Fi footprint, too. Behind the scenes, staff were busier than ever!

In August, the library entered its Express Services phase, and patrons were welcomed back inside the building during limited hours as we balanced issues of safety and access. To prepare for reopening, we installed plexiglass barriers, made available additional hand sanitizing stations, put up social distancing signage, upgraded the HVAC filters, enhanced cleaning and disinfection protocols, and more, to create a safe environment for everyone.

On a personal note, my wife took an interest in genealogy during the pandemic and, through the use of library resources available to anyone, discovered her great-grandmother had Stillwater roots and lived not far from this amazing library!

Libraries have a history of evolving to meet community needs. The speed with which change was imposed on us over the past year felt heightened, but our ability to respond and adapt remained constant. With much-needed support, including your support, Stillwater Public Library looks forward to brighter days ahead and continuing its tradition of exemplary service to the community.

Thank you for the difference you make.

Warmest regards,

Mark Troendle  
Director, Stillwater Public Library



# Our Board & Staff

## OFFICERS

Shawn Glaser  
*President*  
VP, Bank Services Director  
First State Bank And Trust

Summer Seidenkranz  
*Vice President*  
Owner  
National Refund &  
Marketing Services, Inc.

Dustin Moeller  
*Treasurer*  
CPA  
Foley, Kalseim & Co., LTD.

Paige Hoyle  
*Secretary*  
Retired

## STAFF

Alicia Gordon Macalus  
Executive Director

Susie Danielson  
Volunteer Coordinator

## BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

Ann Brownlee  
Veterinarian & Owner  
Grand Avenue Veterinary Center

Ryan Collier  
Principal Architect  
Google Cloud

Amber Dailey-Hebert, Ph.D.  
Director, Faculty Center for Innovation  
Professor, Leading Adult & Organizational  
Learning Graduate Program  
Park University

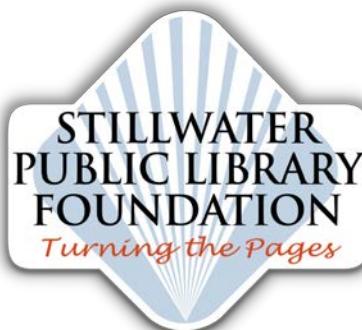
Sandy Ellis  
Project Manager & Event Coordinator

Roger Funk  
Retired  
Teacher, 3M, Army/Army Reserve, Store Owner

John Gray  
Retired  
Nurse

Kevin Sandstrom  
Attorney  
Eckberg Lammers P.C.

Mark Troendle  
Library Director  
Stillwater Public Library



Stillwater Public Library Foundation  
224 North 3rd St  
Stillwater, MN 55082

Phone: 651-504-2350  
Email: [splf@stillwaterlibraryfoundation.org](mailto:splf@stillwaterlibraryfoundation.org)

[www.stillwaterlibraryfoundation.org](http://www.stillwaterlibraryfoundation.org)