



## Director's Report

**DATE:** April 17, 2023

### **Administrative**

Contacted Desha County Judge Tindall concerning two Library Board positions that are opened and informed him the Region was installing new flooring in the Dumas Branch. Filed the six Friends of the Library group's 990 N federal filing. I filed the Arkansas Annual Survey for the region. This is mandatory in order to receive state aid from the State.

The first week of March was busy with writing emails to the Representatives and attending sessions at the State Capitol. I was able to speak out against SB 81 but unfortunately it passed and is now act 372. SB360 was introduced to waive sales tax on books and other educational materials for public libraries. However, this bill was sent to the Revenue & Tax committee and never heard from again. New bills should go into effect on July 1, 2023.

I was contacted by the Mayor of Watson concerning the closing the library. It was officially closed by us several years ago and has been operated by volunteers. The Mayor informed us the city was officially closing it as well because of lack of use and were just letting us know so we could remove any material we still had there. Watson was on our Nursing Home rotations of Large Print material so we did go and retrieve those materials.

### **Technology & Branch Updates**

Monticello, Star City, and McGehee participated in Oral Health Week in February. There were over 60 Arkansas Libraries participating in the event. Together they distributed 5000 kits containing toothbrushes, toothpaste and dental floss. I ordered and setup the new Early Literacy Computer at the Warren Branch. This was purchased with the \$5000 grant they received from the Foundation for Rural Service Community Grant Program.

We closed the Dumas Branch the last week of February to install new flooring throughout the building. We also were able to freshen up the bathrooms with a new coat of paint. Dumas also upgraded four of their public computers during the time as well. Our next project will be the flooring in Eudora some time this year. Eudora will also be getting a new handicapped parking in the front of the building very soon. We had security cameras installed in Lake Village. Hopefully this will cut down on nuisance complaints.

### **Community Engagement & Outreach**

I was invited back to Kansas to conduct their two-day Applied Public Library Education training for new Library Directors. The attendance was good and the attendees were great. I was also invited to speak at the Association for Rural & Small Libraries Solo Librarian zoom meeting in February. Unfortunately, it happened during the winter weather and too many people had a problem logging on so it has been rescheduled for May.

### **Meetings & Workshops Attended**

Arkansas State Library Board Meeting – February 10, 2023, Little Rock, AR  
Arkansas Library Directors Meeting – February 10, 2023, Little Rock, AR  
Arkansas Library Association Conference Committee – February 21, 2023, via Zoom  
Arkansas House Judiciary Committee – March 7 & 9, 2023, Little Rock, AR  
Desha County Boardband Meeting – March 8, 2023, McGehee, AR  
Drew County Quorum Court Meeting – March 13, 2023, Monticello, AR  
Kansas Applied Public Library Education – April 4 -5, 2023, Junction City, KS