



# Well, that was one for the books.

2020 Annual Report



# Our community relies on the library

With uncertainty all around in 2020, Elkhart Public Library was the place people came - whether in person or online - to get answers and access credible information.

Not surprisingly, our Digital Library became a valuable destination for people working and studying at home during the pandemic. We responded to needs by adapting our services to introduce curbside pickup, and when we could, we brought the community fresh events to enjoy. And our signature program, the Summer Reading Challenge presented by Welch Packaging, kept more kids engaged and improving their literacy and creative skills away from the classroom.

We don't want to repeat 2020, but it will be a year Elkhart Public Library can look back on and feel pride in the services we offered the community.



**241,000**

people reached on Facebook; 24.1% increase\*



**86,000**

Facebook page engagements on all posts



**+ 2,000**

new followers; 18.4% increase\*



**3,750**

Programs in a Box given out weekly for kids



**38,000**

minutes of video views on Facebook



**86,200**

total video views



**+ 20,000**

social media views on our pre-recorded storytimes



**+ 3,000**

people attending virtual programs

**24%**  
increase\*

average monthly page views on our digital library resources

**33%**  
increase\*

in use of Creativebug

**76%**  
increase\*

in use of Brainfuse, our tutoring and homework resources

**11%**  
increase\*

in use of reading materials resources (Hoopla + PressReader + Libby together)

\* in comparison to statistics reported from 2019 annual report





58%

**Summer Reading Challenge** participants who completed three weeks of reading, earning a free book and entry into a prize drawing



### Curbside Concerts

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It's been very interesting to watch during the pandemic as libraries reinvent themselves and become creative in what they bring and how they serve the community. **The Curbside Concerts surprised me and I was pleased with it.**

**Jim Griggs**

shown dancing with partner, Judy, at  
Curbside Concerts, Sept. 26  
Band: High Gravity

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900

Children receiving free books during our **Free Books to Feed Minds** events, a partnership with Elkhart Rotary Club







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We planted a garden, did science projects, researched birds, and went on walks. There was a lot (to do in Beanstack). **With the shutdown, we couldn't go very many places, so it was good to have that variety for my girls.**

**Brenda Hunsberger**

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Participant in EPL's Summer Reading Challenge presented by Welch Packaging



Informing, inspiring and empowering our diverse communities

[MyEPL.org](http://MyEPL.org)