Hello, I'm Clarence, the library elf. I am here year round and while you may not always see me, the kids are always looking for me. There is so much happening in the library I can't wait to tell you about all we did this past year….or more formally called "The Annual Report". As we move along, you will see that I am everywhere in the library.

The library has 1828 cardholders with 1398 from Richland Township, 387 from Fremont Township and 43 from neighboring towns. We do not have a people counter but a few times a year we try our best to count for two weeks how many people visit the library. This year we averaged 215 people visiting a week and 25 reference questions per week.

We own 23,979 books, 1016 audiobooks, 737 dvds & blurays and 723 music cds. We also subscribe to 3 newspapers and 19 magazines. This year we had a total of 24,240 checkouts.

The library offers Overdrive for patrons to read ebooks and download audiobooks with 1918 checkouts for the year. We also offer a digital magazine subscription to over 175 magazines with 664 checkout for the year.

We share our items with other libraries through the state wide interloan system. The library loaned 928 items and borrowed 1284 through interloans. I have been warned if I do not stay out of the green totes that one of these days I may find myself at some other library.

The library had 1,164 people attend the 109 program opportunities during the year. These events included book group, Story Time, Play to Learn, Summer Reading, Winter Reading Challenge for adults & kids, A Crafty Escape for Adults, Drop in Craft, Activity Station, a lecture on identity theft, and many more.
The library offers computers and Wi-Fi services. There were 1770 patrons who used computers and 1164 who used Wi-Fi.

The library added many new things this year. I like to watch the book covers scroll on the new circulation program. I've been told not to make copies of myself on the new copier. I was also told NOT to spin myself on the new spin racks used in the juvenile and dvd sections. The juvenile and children sections are really nice with the rearrangement of the furniture.

Meet the people who make it all happen: staff who let me stay at the library, the Board of Trustees, and our Friends.

BillieJo Bluemer, Director
Lisa Edgecomb, Library Paraprofessional
Valori Kade, Library Aide
Emilie Peitsch, Student Page

Library Board - the elected volunteers who serve your library

JUDITH ZASTROW, PRESIDENT
CARL BRUSE, VICE-PRESIDENT
KAREN EARLY, TRUSTEE

SHARON KING, SECRETARY
MICHELE BELL, TREASURER
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Friends of the Rauchholz Memorial Library

WALT CRAMER, PRESIDENT
BETTY CLAUS, VICE PRESIDENT
AUDREY JESCHKE, SECRETARY
RENEE HERHOLD, TREASURER

The library is supported by a millage from Richland Township which provides 50% of its revenue. The remaining funds come from penal fines, state aid, and the contract with Fremont Township.

Total Revenue
$ 225,042.25
Total Expenditures
$ 147,133.02
Building Fund Restricted
$ 988,837.09

We had a fun year and I'm hearing the upcoming year is full of even more exciting adventures with many new things planned. We have served our community since 1942 and as we continue to do so, we plan to expand what the library offers. The goal to build a new library is still underway with fundraisers planned and we hope to be ready to proceed by 2021 (thinking of all the places I could hide in the new building!). The library sure does offer something for everyone so if you haven't visited in a while, then I suggest you stop in to check out your library. You never know what you may find (or where I will be hiding).