2020 wasn’t the year we expected it would be, but there was still plenty to celebrate . . .

Between January 1 and March 14, **1,918** people attended our many programs for all ages, including art classes, early literacy and reading enrichment programs, and health and wellness presentations.

With health and safety policies in place, staff returned to the public on July 6, we introduced monthly Take & Make Craft Kits for children and adults. By the end of December, we had given out **1,211** kits to children and **893** kits to adults for a total of **2,104** kits!

On October 13, we began our partnership with HBM Architects and initiated the design of our new addition, with plans to break ground in June 2021.

During the months that we were open to the public for appointments and services, **1,464** people took advantage of our additional services including notary, faxing, test proctoring, and obituary retrieval.

We added **7,109** new items, including Binge Box movie collections, the Gale LegalForms Database, and kindergarten-readiness learning program Miss Humblebee’s Academy.

We made the difficult decision to close the building to patrons and staff beginning March 15. On March 14, patrons flocked to the library to stock up, checking out a record-breaking **2,631** items in a single day!

With our building closed, our digital outreach increased with **794** Facebook and Instagram posts. Musical Therapist Hannah Gonzalez and animal expert Outback Ray joined us live for engaging children’s programs.

Adding a YouTube channel to our social media allowed us to share even more! Storytimes, origami lessons, yoga sessions, craft tutorials, art classes, and book previews were viewed **2,801** times.

We offered reading and activity challenges for all ages, created a chalk obstacle course, built a candy chute for an early Trick or Treat, and partnered with several of our local businesses for our Downtown Amherst Winter Storywalk!

With health and safety policies in place, staff returned to the library on May 11 to prepare for the launch of our Curbside Pickup service on May 18. In May and June, we circulated **3,925** items through Curbside Pickup.

On a rescheduled Primary Election Day, Amherst School District voters approved our $.73mill expansion bond **Issue 11: Amherst Public Library Improvement Bond** at the end of April.

We ended the year in style with our brand new New Year’s Eve Celebration kits with hats, noisemakers, activities, recipes, and more for all ages! We distributed **112** kits with celebration supplies for **571** people!

After a rescheduled Primary Election Day, Amherst School District voters approved our $.73mill expansion bond **Issue 11: Amherst Public Library Improvement Bond** at the end of April.

Amherst Public Library
2020 Annual Report Highlights
2021 wasn't the year we expected it would be, but there's still plenty to celebrate. 

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