

- **Statistics (2021):**
 - Circulation: 16,855
 - Computer Use: 748
 - Visits: 9,780
- **Programming highlights:**
 - **Modified programming due to COVID-19 restrictions:**
 - Virtual programming
 - **Checkers TV**, featuring local performer Checkers (Joey Hamilton) went online, with weekly programming for patrons on the library's Facebook page throughout the year
 - Take and make projects
 - Take and make projects continued to be very popular! Baby Yoda crafts, handprint crafts, and toilet paper roll bats were just some of the ones we offered
- **Funding sources:**
 - **Town of Alden**
 - **The Cotton Fund**
- **2019-2020 New York State Aid for Library Construction**
 - The final outstanding element of the library construction project, the electric door opener, was finished this year. The project was closed and the final check from NYS was received and deposited.
- **Program Equipment & Facility Improvement Initiative/LED Conversion Project**
 - The B&ECPL started a new program this year, the Program Equipment & Facility Improvement Initiative. The intent of this program is to provide funding for improvements that add to the patron experience, can be implemented in the near future, and would not typically qualify for New York State Library Construction Aid. The local match for this program is even lower than with the state program, 25% of the total cost for libraries similar to ours.
 - The Alden Ewell Free Library applied to the program in order to replace the stained and crumbling drop ceiling on the main floor, a project that will be completed in conjunction with an LED conversion throughout the entire library that will be funded by the system through the NYSEG rebate program.
 - The library's application was approved, but per the NYSEG rebate program guidelines, we have to wait until 2022 to get started. We are hoping for a project start date in fall 2022, as long as all the needed materials have arrived by then.

- **2021 Library Trustees:**
 - Susan Sabers Chapman, President
 - William Chapman, Vice President
 - Joy Insinna, Treasurer
 - Anne Schmitt, Secretary
 - Gwendolyn Koelbl, Trustee

Prepared by library manager Rebecca Moe