Dear Budget Committee members,

We look forward to talking with you (virtually) this week and expressing our approval and support of the 2021 budget proposal for the Colby Memorial Library. Given the uncertainty of our times, we felt it important to submit a budget that is slightly less than last year's.

Our staff has worked very hard this year to provide patron services, both in person and virtually, and we are submitting a budget that will ensure this work can continue in the next year.

\*Adjusting our facilities and protocol for the safety of our patrons

\*Planning for and implementing safe curbside services as soon as the Governor's Stay- At -Home Order was lifted

\*Providing onsite appointments in the library since the end of August. We started at three and are now open four days a week

\*Enhancing digital book collections

\*Providing children’s programming by creating Take-Home craft packets, hosting outdoor story hours, reading gatherings, and providing a hybrid Summer Reading Program and online reading programs

\*Offering virtual story hours and crafts

\*Hosting Library Groups outdoors safely, such as our Book Group

\*Our staff has made strong community outreach by phoning house-bound patrons inquiring about their general needs

\*Offering expanded WiFi service outside the building

\*Utilizing the CARES Act where appropriate, thereby saving money for Danville

We are so fortunate to have such competent and dedicated staff. They have worked so hard implementing a safe lending process, community outreach and helping to keep our community connected. This was such an unexpected challenge for our new Library Director, Ann Massoth, and she has led the Library through this challenge brilliantly.

Mary Elizabeth Seals

Sarah Gannon-Weston

Ed Lang