Bill and Elizabeth’s Keys to Success

1. Don’t ask for permission

If you go and ask for permission first, you are opening up the door for your superiors to say no. Instead, you should carefully plan and make a case for why it would be a mistake NOT to run with your ideas. Show your everyone how the library will benefit.

2. Take it to the streets

Do it yourself! Get off your behind and sell your ideas, programs, and services to the public and your colleagues. Think like a business person, not a librarian. If you want to be a difference maker, then you must act like an entrepreneur. Don’t wait for your director to do it. He or she has enough problems to deal with.

3. Make it fun

Give the people an experience they will remember, something that will create a buzz in the community. Instead of hiring a husband and wife duo to sing campfire songs, stage a rock & roll concert and blow the roof off. In other words, be creative. And don’t forget to make everyone, including yourself, look good.

Remember: fun = tax revenue

Bill Harmer, Head of Adult Services, bharmer@chelsea.lib.mi.us, (734) 475-8732 x218
Elizabeth Goldman, Adult Services Librarian, egoldman@chelsea.lib.mi.us, (734) 475-8732 x217
Chelsea District Library, 221 S. Main Street, Chelsea, MI 48118 | chelsea.lib.mi.us