

Welcome to BDL's newest trustee representing the Union Twp. Area, Joe Lynch!

## **Union Twp. Branch Break-in**

There is not much new to report that the Board didn't already learn at the May meeting. The 18-year-old suspect confessed to breaking into both the library and the convenience store on M60. The township worked fast to make the building secure and get a replacement window ordered, for which we are grateful.

## **Summer Reading**

It's here, and the most normal-feeling one since 2019. Our SRP kickoff party at Heritage Park in Coldwater was a great success, with about 200 in attendance. Jessica did a fantastic job planning a great afternoon for all, and we had participation from all library branches. Events continue for the next several weeks, and we are so excited!

## **BDL Staffing**

Longtime Heritage Room volunteer, Natha Olds passed away in mid-May. A gregarious and eager helper for visitors to our local history room, Natha always had time to share a moment of kindness to all, and she will be missed.

Andrea Tennyson has started as the clerk at the Union Twp. Branch. Teresa Kunkel was hired as the Algansee Branch Manager. At risk of jinxing things, BDL is fully staffed for the first time in over a year! Kimberly has been doing a fantastic job onboarding so many new staff lately, but I'm glad she can get a break from it now!

## **Book Clubs**

After a pandemic-induced hiatus, we are happy to share that in-person book clubs are back at multiple BDL branches, and even outside our walls with our Books and Brew book club at Biggby, and a lunchtime walking bookclub in Coldwater.

## **Facilities News**

At the Algansee branch, the entrance ramp has been moved so there is less of a problem with pooling water at the entrance. At the Coldwater Branch, STP painting has been doing a fine job on the exterior and are nearly finished. They will be submitting quotes for interior work we could do in the cold wet months if approved. The Coldwater Friends of the Library were also joined by the Odds and Ends 4H club to spruce up the paintings at the library.

Aker, inc. has also been out to do some maintenance on both our main air conditioning unit and the smaller unit that operates year-round for the server room.

## **Bookmobile News**

After authorizing the start of the project last month, our selected vendor, Matthews Specialty Vehicles was unable to make us the vehicle we had selected due to parts availability. We have had to modify our order a bit, but have kept the order within the approved amount authorized by the Board.

## **IT Happenings**

The iPads approved for purchase have all been deployed. The one that aged out will be prepped for resale to the public at September's Apple Fest in Coldwater. Desktop computers that were swapped out this spring will be offered for sale at Strawberry Fest this month.

At the Sherwood Branch, Starlink satellite Internet service was installed. We are running in it in a test capacity concurrently with our existing Frontier DSL service for a month or so, since our previous experience with satellite internet service was lacking. So far, however, this service is living up to the hype and delivering the fast speeds it promised.

BDL was asked to submit a short writeup for a spotlight in this year's Evergreen Annual Report.

## **Meetings Attended**

County Commissioners, Butler Township, Coldwater DDA, Cultivating Community meeting.

## **Millage News**

The Yes Committee in support of the 2022 BDL Millage Renewal ballot measure filed paperwork with the County, secured some donations for advertising, and has contacted the Daily Reporter to run two articles, the first of which has already been printed.

[Our millage information page](#) on the website has been updated to include the latest in our [strategic plan completion progress](#). With the bookmobile in the works now, 49 out of 56 actions are completed, 3 are in progress, 3 are yet to come, and 1 is currently not possible. I'm very pleased with how we've done here.

The county has provided a proof copy of the August ballot, and our millage proposal looks to be in order.

## **COVID Update**

There were a couple uses of the temporary leave policy in the past month, including yours truly. There were no instances, however, of employee-to-employee spread.

Submitted by John Rucker

## Programming

I had a second session of Getting Started with Libby, one of our digital library services. The small group learned how to download the app and sign up. I demonstrated how to borrow digital content like magazines, audiobooks, and ebooks. I will be leading a Hoopla 101 class this week to introduce that great digital library service to patrons.

I lead the first session of the new Books and Brew book club at Biggby Coffee. The book for May was *A Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. The second session is coming up on June 22 and we will be discussing *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman.

The Summer Reading Program is here and people are completing their challenges and already winning prizes. Entries for the annual Summer Coloring contest are being returned. With dozens of activities happening across all six locations there is something for everyone this Summer at BDL!



## Michigan Activity Pass

Did you know that a BDL library card allows you to discover Michigan's premier cultural & natural attractions for free or reduced costs?

The Michigan Activity Pass [MAP] presented by The Library Network program is a partnership between Michigan's nearly 400 public libraries and hundreds of Michigan's state parks, historic sites, cultural attractions, campgrounds and recreation areas. The program is designed to enhance the learning experience for people of all ages through books and other library materials, and to provide reduced cost or complimentary access to arts, cultural, and outdoor organizations across the state of Michigan.

Library patrons from BDL can print a pass, either from home or at the Library, to one of the hundreds of participating institutions at the [Michigan Activity Pass website](#). Some partners offer complimentary or reduced price admission; others, discounts in their gift shop or other exclusive offers for MAP pass holders only. This great program is presented by The Library Network and supported in part by the Library of Michigan with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Why not make 2022 the year of seeing what Michigan can offer?

Submitted by Kimberly Feltner

- The 2022 Summer Reading Program has launched! We are starting our third week of it today, and the reception from patrons has been wonderful. Our branches have done such an incredible job of decorating their spaces!
- The SRP Kickoff was held at Heritage Park on June 2, from 4PM to 6PM. There were booths representing all branches of the Branch District Library, Carey's Bakery food truck, and Jonny Hawkins' drawing classes. It was so much fun and nearly 200 patrons attended the kickoff celebration!
- Attended the Branch County Community Network meeting on June 15, 2022.
- Spent some significant time this month training with our new branch managers. I am so excited to have Christina, Sarah, & Teresa on board!



Submitted,

Jessica Tefft

