

I'm excited to share that we'll be partnering with Quincy Schools at the Alganssee Branch this summer for the "Meet-up and Eat-up" program. A weeks' worth of breakfast and lunch will be handed out for those aged 18 and under starting later this month!

Finances

- State Aid payments have started being dispersed. We also have our final property tax payments received for the year. Receipts have come in somewhat above budget estimates, and will be shown in the June financials next month.
- Kimberly and I conducted our annual insurance review. With a VIN assigned for our bookmobile recently, we have started the process of getting the bookmobile added to our insurance.

Personnel

- Meghan Babbitt has started with the library in our Interlibrary Loan department. It is great to have her join our team!
- We have had two rounds of interviews so far for our open Sherwood clerk position.

Facilities

- Per our policy to dispose of library materials and equipment, I have donated some of our plexiglass left over from our covid response to the Franke Center for the Arts in Marshall, as it is useful for music applications. I also offered some to the Tibbits Opera House.
- At the Coldwater Branch, MI Gas Utilities replaced the gas meter. They also took delivery of some new shelving for teen space paid for by a grant from the Branch County Community Foundation. Ludwick Electric came to finish wiring the office cubicles we installed last October, along with a couple other small jobs. Specialists from Mulder's moving came to re-secure to the wall a shelving unit that had come un-moored, and inspected the rest for safety. Finally, we heard from the Courthouse that the County will soon begin to enforce their parking ordinance again after many years and that library staff, like courthouse staff, should not park in the center aisle of the parking lot.
- In the heat of early June, we had air conditioning issues at Alganssee, Coldwater, and Sherwood Branches. We had to replace a window unit at Alganssee, and the others are also back to working now.

- All but one of the furniture purchases authorized at the last regular meeting have been ordered. So far, we are within budget, and I wouldn't anticipate that changing. Items are starting to come in, though some items are estimated to not arrive until October.
- I have sought quotes for the installation at the Coldwater Branch of the electric charger for the bookmobile's auxiliary power. The charger itself is already here for the selected contractor to install.

Information Technology Department

- I finished deploying the new printers. Per our policy to dispose of library materials and equipment, I donated a large printer and spare toner and parts to the Branch County Children's Museum. Other printers and technology were offered to staff per the policy, and the remainder will be for sale during Strawberry Fest at the Coldwater Branch on June 17th.
- Working with the Cataloging department, we have added some new features and procedures for our new and growing "Library of Things" collection. Stay tuned for more information later this year!
- Rather behind schedule I'm afraid, I deployed the first of the replacement branch servers purchased some time ago to Algansee. Unfortunately, I ran into an issue with a product from one of our vendors and have to hold off on deploying the remaining four until we get it taken care of.

Meetings Attended

Coldwater DDA, DDA Committee, DDA training, Algansee Township, Woodlands Advisory Council.

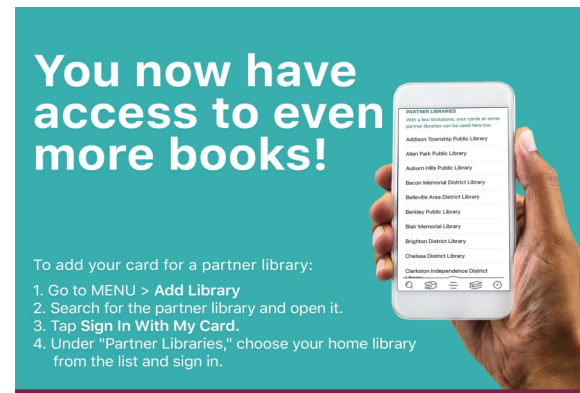
Submitted by John Rucker

The library presented to the Coldwater City Council on May 22 to install a permanent StoryWalk in Heritage Park. This has been a several years project in the making as a partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater. Heritage Park was identified as an ideal location due to presence of an already established Kiwanis project and the popularity of the park. The city passed Resolution no. 23-38 authorizing the installation of the picture book display. The city has also agreed to help BDL with the installation of the 18 signs that will display deconstructed children's book. The books will spread out from sign to sign along the path in the park. BDL has agreed to change out the picture book three to four times a year. After our announcement came out, the library and Kiwanis was approached by the Great Start Collaborative. This group was developing a plan to install their own StoryWalk but once they learned of the library's plans reached out. After some extra meetings and phone calls, we are able to bring the Great Start Collaborative on as a second partner for this project! The StoryWalk signs have all been ordered and anticipated delivery is August.

Some HUGE Libby news happened in the last month. First you can now download the Libby app on a Kindle Fire. Prior to this we were having to side load the app on these devices. This became more of an issue since the discontinuation of the Overdrive app at the beginning of 2023. Also some super exciting news for our patrons. Now they can now borrow ebooks and audiobooks from seven other digital collections in the State of Michigan. That means you can have up to 70 items borrowed at one time! Also having access to multiple digital libraries is reducing time patrons are waiting on holds list for popular digital content. You can add these additional digital libraries in the Libby app by "Add Library", find the partner library, and add your library card number!

I hosted two programs at the Coldwater Branch. First up was Morning Book Club. We discussed the wonderful, chart-topping, book *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. I also held my last planned session of "Getting Started with Libby". These tech sessions have been drawing low attendance and library staff will provide help on an individual basis with our digital library services.

Training continues with our new staff. Meghan Babbit has been hired as a Interlibrary Loan Clerk. She comes to BDL with a library background and is currently attending library school. Meghan is settling in well in her new role. Meagan Marsh is creating amazing video



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- Midwest Collaborative for Library Services
- Suburban Library Cooperative
- Up North Digital Consortium
- White Pine Library Cooperative (Fuel Your Mind)



The Libby collection is brought to you by the Woodlands Library Cooperative.

content for our social media and attending library programs across the district for the marketing department.

Meetings in the past month included Vested Insurance with John for our annual review of the library insurance policy.

Submitted:

Kimberly Feltner

- Summer Reading is underway! We are two weeks in and at just over 700 registrations for the program. We have 8 patrons who have completed the challenge already and many many more people who have finished at least one activity! (576, to be exact!) Our Summer Reading Wrap-Up Foam Party on July 31st will have a food truck (On the Roll) and a dessert truck (Carey's Bakery) for patrons to partake of if they wish to do so.
- I am in the beginning stages of planning for our first ever 1000 Books before Kindergarten graduation! It will take place in August and it will include all kiddos who have reached the 1000 book goal for the program. We will have a short graduation ceremony (Including caps & gowns) and refreshments.
- The more planning that Coldwater staff and I do for Family Fright Night, the more excited we are! This year's theme of "Fairytale" is going to transform the basement into an enchanted (turned haunted) forest, and the Coldwater library branch into a wild ivy-laden destination with multiple fairies. It's going to be fantastic!
- I have attended several meetings this month including: Great Start Collaborative meeting, a Coldwater Public Library meeting, BCCN meeting, and a program planning meeting for the Coldwater Community Center at the Beech House.