

I was out of town for a chunk of time for an unexpected family need, and then more for various school functions with my children. Thanks to all for helping to keep things on track while I was away!

## **Personnel**

Cortni Hull, our Quincy Clerk, resigned for personal reasons. Substitute Lynn Marshall has moved into a regular position as clerk there. We interviewed several for the open Coldwater clerk position and hope to have that filled soon.

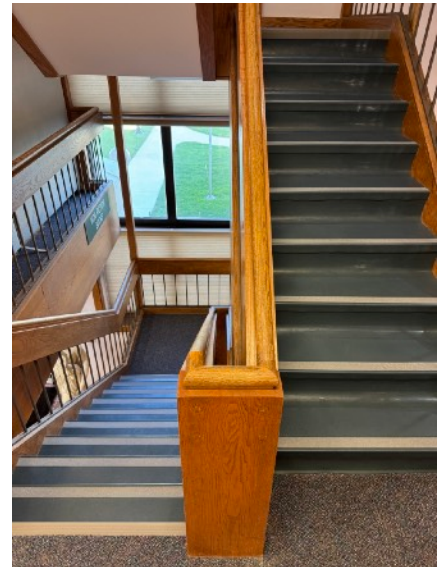
## **Spring In-Service Day**

All across the county, we were busy and had great success! We found long-lost items, we got rid of things that we should have tossed ages ago. We recycled, we cleaned, we did program planning...the works! There was so much effort all around, and Jessica made sure everyone was well fed. A great day!

## **Facilities**

### **Coldwater Branch Carpet**

The carpet project is basically finished, and two weeks ahead of schedule! All that remains is finishing up the story circle in the children's area. Coldwater staff were fantastic dealing with the confusion and mess while keeping services up and running for our library users. We had to be fully closed only two days, and simply closed affected areas as needed the rest of the time. The end result is a refreshed, happy look to the insides of the building. Thanks also to Willowbrook Interiors and Muller's Moving for the excellent job done on this project!



### **Coldwater Branch Restroom Project**

Christina and I have met with local architect, Scott Morrison, twice now for this project. To be fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), we will have to do some excavation in the restrooms to relocate plumbing. This will be more expensive than originally budgeted for, so I will be pausing on working on exterior signs until we have an idea of how much exactly this project will cost. The drawings should be done soon, and then we'll put this project out to bid.

## Sherwood Tornado

A confirmed tornado hit Sherwood on Tuesday, May 7. Thankfully, the library was fine, but the s

## BCCF Grant

I am thrilled to announce that BDL received \$1,300 from the Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Council for a teen program we'll be putting on later this summer:

// Every summer, the Branch District Library provides a Summer Reading program for the youth in Branch County. This program includes a theme, and is ignited through an engaging, entertaining experience. The 2024 Summer Reading theme is "Adventure Begins at Your Library" and the funding provided by the Youth Grant will partner in bringing Bill Nischke's Wonder Wheels BMX Stunt Show to the program. This BMX show will showcase many tricks and stunts, but also promote physical activity and healthy lifestyle through goal setting and making healthy choices. The BDL hopes to bring a positive impact to the mental and physical health of the youth in Branch County."



Congrats to Teen Coordinator Nicky Ball and the library's Teen Advisory Committee for putting together a successful application for this grant!

## IT Department

Curtis continues with the Windows 11 rollout. Coldwater is finished and he is working on branch locations now. We had a fluke failure on a network router at Union Twp. Branch. I installed our emergency spare, and then the permanent spare when it arrived days later.

## Meetings

Aside from architect meetings, I also had my directors meeting with the Library of Michigan, where I learned of the strategy of "positive pay" to combat growing check fraud, and about some recommended policies for social media. On May 16, I had a meeting with representatives from the Sherwood Village Council, at their request, to discuss revising our contract.

Submitted by John Rucker

## Marketing

Another Event Guide is in the books! Check out our newest edition highlighting our [Summer programs for June and July](#).

May is "Get Caught Reading Month". This special month reminds everyone of the pleasure of flipping through a good book's pages. Whether it's May 1st or any day in the month, the excitement for reading is in full swing. Meagan Marsh is coordinating a campaign on social media to celebrate. Patrons can take pictures of themselves or their children reading. They can submit them via social media for a chance to be showcased on the library's Facebook and Instagram pages.



*Some of our submissions for "Get Caught Reading Month"*

The Daily Reporter shifted their Community Calendar online. They will no longer print a list of upcoming events in the paper. The paper focused on the Coldwater branch as they selected events to publish. We can now highlight events happening at all our locations and supplement our publicity.

## Meetings

I attended the following meetings: Kiwanis Club of Coldwater, Kiwanis Key Club, Woodlands Advisory Council, and the Library of MI Director's meeting.

Submitted by Kimberly Feltner

- Originally to be delivered on Earth Day, (April 22) the Red Oak trees from our partnership with Neighborhood Forest arrived earlier than expected but we were able to get most of the trees to families before the weekend. Patrons ordered over 130 trees! That's doubled from last year!
- The Summer Reading Program is upon us! Registration opened on May 15th and the program runs from June 3 through July 27. This year's theme is "Adventure Begins at your Library" and the library has so many incredibly cool programs and events happening!
- I met with Kalen from the Recreation department last month to determine the best spot for our foam party (SRP wrap up party) to be held. It will be in the overflow parking area (on the grass) by the Youth baseball fields on July 31st from 6PM - 8PM. We will also have at least 2 food trucks at the event. So far, we have 4 sponsors for the wrap up party: UTC, Oriole Automotive, Asama, & Dr Arivoli from Branch Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine. We are so excited to bring back this event!
- Attended the Branch County Community Network and the Coldwater Public Library meetings.

