

Personnel

I join others in this packet in welcoming Alisha Morris to the team, we are very excited she has joined us!

Taxes

The L-4029 form has been submitted to the county and all other local government bodies that need a copy.

Facilities

At their August meeting, I shared with the Alganssee Twp. Board your commitment to contributing to the renovation of the existing township hall for use as a library. They also approved the contract to start construction on the new township hall which should be completed next year, after which renovations for the library can commence. With any luck, about a year from now we may be able to hold a meeting in our new space!

Partner Contracts

Allen Twp. has approved our draft contract with them that the BDL approved in April! Ben Jewell and I will attend an upcoming Allen Twp. Board meeting to sign the contract.

Our library attorney, Anne Seuryneck, continues to work on a draft updated contract for Sherwood. Anne would actually prefer that we have two agreements: one for our use of the facilities, and one for library services. I'll share more as I learn more. Since all of our agreements for library services combine a lease agreement with library services, we may want to revisit all of our agreements in the future based on Anne's work.

Insurance Transition

The last two activities are completed with us signing up with the Michigan Township Participating Plan ("Par Plan"). We had a Par Plan visit to the Coldwater Branch, resulting in only one item of recommended staff training in the future (fire extinguishers). We also got our account setup for the municipal HR advice and legal service they provide for clients. HR Muni looks to be a great resource for us moving forward, yet another Par Plan perk!

IT Department

We are in the process of implementing a new service with our Evergreen system that will better ensure patrons receive text messages from the library. I hope to have all the pieces ready in the next few weeks.

Meetings and Training

Safety in Libraries Webinar. Coldwater Library Advisory Board, Alganssee Twp. Board. Library of Michigan Directors. Frontier Communications regarding options to upgrade our service at Sherwood.

Submitted by John Rucker

Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is [Library Card Sign-up Month](#). This is the time when Branch District Library joins the ALA and libraries nationwide to remind everyone of the value of their library card.

BDL is partnering with local businesses during the entire month of September as part of our celebration. From dining to auto detailing, your library card will unlock local deals. Savor restaurant discounts, blossom with floral savings, and shine up your ride - just by showing your library card. These partnerships will highlight the value of having a library card for more than books!

Marketing

There is always something that needs to be promoted at BDL! From our digital services, new books, or one of our 100 events every quarter, the marketing team works hard to keep the public informed. Over the last few months, this has included a radio interview and submitting press releases. Sadly, the local paper was only able to cover one library event.

Our [Fall Event Guide](#) is now available. Packed full of free events for all ages there is something for everyone at the library!

Meetings and Training

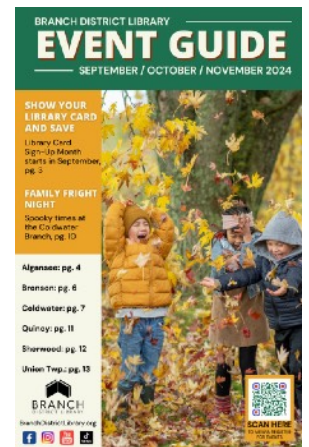
- Kiwanis Division Council Meeting about the Coldwater StoryWalk® project
- Altrusa International of Branch County
- Unique Management about a new way to communicate with library patrons.
- Webinar from Midwest Tape titled "A Library's Guide to Building a Long-Term Digital Strategy"

Human Resources

I conducted an orientation for Alisha Morris, our newest Coldwater Public Service Clerk. Welcome, Alisha to the library!

Submitted,

Kimberly Feltner



-and that's a wrap on the 2024 Summer Reading Program! We had over 1000 people register for SRP this year and 412 completed the program. We had 9 grand prize winners at every branch and everyone was absolutely thrilled with their prizes. The SRP program ended with a fun foam party at Heritage Park on July 31st from 6pm-8pm. 441 people attended.
- The library had a booth at the Branch County Fair again this year. We offered library card sign ups and information about the resources that the library offers. We also gave out sensory strips as a giveaway, along with pens. We had a total of 1477 people visit our booth over the week.
- The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program had 8 graduates this year, 4 of which are children of BDL staff! The graduation party was on Saturday, August 17th and graduates received the following on completing the program: a Squishmallow (with a graduation cap on the head), a book, and a certificate of completion. We had refreshments and a great time!
- Meetings: I attended the Coldwater Public Library meeting on 8/5 and have a meeting with the Beech House tentatively scheduled for next week.