

Due to some scheduled—and unexpected emergency—personal time, I had an abbreviated month.

Personnel

After conducting interviews for the open position at the Coldwater Branch, we made an offer, which was accepted, and we look forward to orientation Monday! We also received a resignation from another Coldwater Branch employee who is in university and landed a position relevant to their chosen field. We will be attempting to fill the position from our applicant pool from the prior opening before advertising again, since we had so many applications.

Facilities

Beyond what is mentioned in the Branch Reports, I need to share that the Carnegie Foundation has given the Bronson Branch a gift of \$10,000 in honor of America's 250th birthday next year. We are excited about this, and Lynnell and company are thinking about how best to make use of this generous gift. There are no restrictions, only some suggested possible uses.

IT Department

With our work in the main section of the library complete, we spent time in the crawlspace and attic of the addition / rear office area, and got another 10 network drops added to get Internet to all of the offices/rooms, as well as ceiling outlets for wifi and cameras.

I'd like to give a special shout out to Curtis for working hard to get 15 laptops prepped for a big Minecraft gaming program that the Coldwater Branch will be doing soon. It was a lot of work!

For the first time since we've been hosted with Equinox for our Evergreen library system, we had a complete day-long system outage due to a hardware failure on their end. They sent us a nice report detailing the outage and their steps to mitigate the chance of future such events. Such failures happen, and we still have full confidence in their services. We're not alone in that: Grand Rapids Public Library, our initial partner and host in the Michigan Evergreen Project is moving to hosting by Equinox after self hosting since 2008.

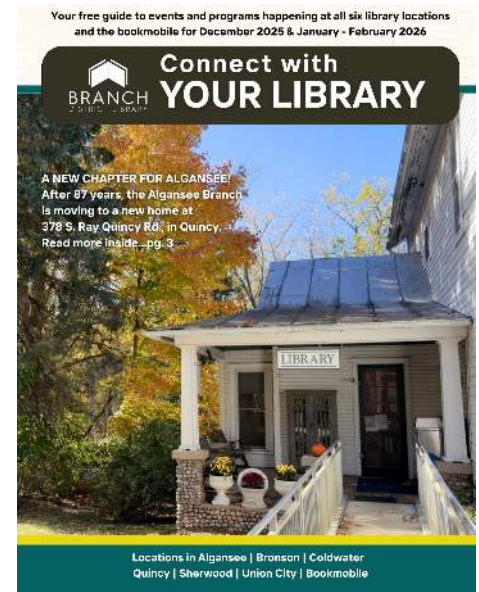
Meetings

Barnes and Noble, Teachout Security, Library of Michigan Directors, Union Twp. Friends of the Library.

Submitted by John Rucker

Winter Event Guide

The Library's new Winter Event Guide has a fresh look. We went with a larger size to make the font easier to read and to create a clearer key for the age categories. The new layout also let us cut down on the number of overall pages, which helped lower printing costs. This edition covers programs and activities happening from December through February. It includes a month-long, district-wide scavenger hunt that wraps up with a special celebration on Take Your Child to the Library Day on February 7. The main feature is the upcoming move of the Algansee Branch to 378 S. Ray Quincy Rd.. in Quincy. We took the opportunity to share some of the branch's history at the current location and to stir up the excitement for the new location. The Algansee staff are ready for their next chapter, which will include more space and modern restrooms!



Technical Services

Sarah is settling into the cataloging department and picking up new skills quickly. She recently started her Introduction to Cataloging training. Sarah mentioned she was ahead of the class, thanks to the great prep and training she got from Toni. This class will be one of eight she will take to get her Cataloging Certificate from Library Juice Academy.

Marketing

We've noticed some recent changes in Meta's algorithms that are putting more emphasis on video content. This has affected our social media reach. Posts without video aren't getting quite the same traction as they used to. At this stage in the game, we are pretty used to the algorithms changing and making adjustments as needed. We share plenty of video-based content. Meagan does a great job keeping our video content balanced, mixing collection highlights, program features, and fun staff moments.

Meetings

- Kiwanis Club of Coldwater

Submitted:

Kimberly Feltner

- Family Fright Night occurred on 10/17 and over 400 people passed through our ship-like building - gathering candy, craft kits, and lots of fun memories. Another successful year due to staff's hard work and donations from "Royal Chevrolet and Your West Michigan Chevy Dealers" and UCT.
- I am currently 3 books into my search for the 2026 One Book One County read. I can't wait to announce next month what the choice is!
- On October 22nd, I helped out the Coldwater branch with the hundreds of 1st graders that visited the library that morning! It was a blast and so fun to watch the kids experience the library for the first time (for most of them).