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LAKE LAND KITCHEN REMODEL
BEFORE AND AFTER

In the renovations that began last winter, you will find new cabinets, counter tops, additional outlets and a new double sink functionally enhanced by the freshly installed instant hot water heater. Also included is a new partition wall, complete with a coiling window and solid door allowing for a finished separation of the kitchen and conference room. The LLC Kitchen Committee members, Terry Cross, Kelly Schroeder and Julie Veneziano, did a fabulous job renovating our kitchen. They worked with DeBoer Construction and Williams Cabinets. The kitchen has always been too small for 10-15 people to use it daily. The new design and additional floor space solves the crowding and lack of work-space issue. We are still working on how best to use the back training area, but the new roll-down window will allow privacy AND easy access to the kitchen for staff and participants! Our current coffee and lunch area is too small to social distance and/or to have more than a few people eating at once. We will determine the best and most flexible use of the training space as a whole since we need to adapt to different needs at different times. Bravo to everyone involved. We hope some day you can all visit and see it for yourself.

Best viewed online for hyperlinks - www.llcoop.org/newsletter.shtml
Hello fellow Lakelanders! In 2019, we put up a reports site (www.llcreports.org) that allowed us to post standard reports in one place and allowed member access to archived reports as well. This was well received and we are working on expanding both the number, type and presentation of the reports to include additional system, individual member and custom reports in graphical, table, filterable and interactive formats.

The above combined image is of 4 basic reports we have available (currently there are over 2000 system and individually filtered reports live). If you are curious, click the image above to follow the link and you can access a larger image view and several additional examples. We are working with a few members on creating report content and we appreciate their creative input on current data and being curious on what else could we do.

“We’re here to report... you up!” –Hans & Franz as librarians

MCLS has announced that MeLCat lending and borrowing will be restarted on Monday, August 10. If your library chose a date later than August 10 in the MeLCat survey, your library will be restarted on the date you chose. Please continue checking in and returning MeLCat items to their owning libraries. There are still several libraries in Michigan that remain closed and not accepting MeLCat returns. If the label maker indicates that a library is temporarily closed or not participating, send those items to the MCLS office (ZY001). The RIDES label maker changes daily as more libraries resume service. Always print RIDES labels as you are shipping items back through Lakeland delivery.

I have some audiobooks that I have listened to:
Almost Everything by Ann LaMott on OverDrive, The Flight Portfolio by Julie Orringer on RBdigital, Bookshop of the Broken Hearted by Robert Hillman on OverDrive, All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr on OverDrive. I am currently listening to The British Are Coming: The War for America, Lexington to Princeton, 1775–1777 by Rick Atkinson.

I decided to read The Stand by Stephen King, which I had picked up in high school at one point and never finished. Why not, right? The perfect time for a pandemic story. Next up is The Institute.

– Carol Dawe, Cooperative Director

– Kelly Ann Schroeder, Administrative Assistant

I am listening to a lot of Sarah Jarosz. All her albums are incredible but the most recent one, World on the Ground, is terrific. Rhiannon Giddens is really great too. Wayfaring Stranger with Francesco Turrisi on There Is No Other is really moving. Both are pretty new releases. James Taylor’s American Standard is fabola. Mandolin Orange: Blindfaller. And anything and everything by the late Blossom Dearie. I am so sorry I just found her music a few months ago.

– Carol Dawe, Cooperative Director

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– Sheryl VanderWagen, ILS Manager
Cedar Springs Public Library: Belle checking out a favorite at the Library. No, it’s not “The Princess and the Frog!”

Coopersville Area District Library: The library had a 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Reader accomplish his goal! One of our youngest patrons, Leo Hall, read 1000 Books Before Kindergarten and earned his certificate and a cool 1000 Books T-shirt. The library received a grant from our local foundation last spring to support its promotion of the “1000 Books Before Kindergarten” program. This popular initiative is aimed at preschool-age children and their families to increase the time that caregivers spend reading to little ones. The grant money will be used to purchase materials that will allow the library to distribute “1000 Books Before Kindergarten” totes designed to get kids registered and reading. The library is constantly adapting to the needs of its community. This year the library expanded the “1000 Books Before Kindergarten” program to include on-line access to the program. The new Beanstack app lets caregivers log the books they read on-line to earn badges and fun incentives that keep kids and families interested in reading. Reading together is the single most important activity families can do to support literacy and education with their kids. The library is grateful for support from the Foundation.

(Continued on page 4)
Georgetown Township Public Library: As part of our new library project, we built in space that could be used for an outdoor Farmers Market. With all of the uncertainty of whether or not we would still be able to have it this year, we were not able to really start planning it until a few weeks before we were scheduled to start. The first few weeks we had 4-6 vendors but have grown to 12-14 on any given day. The Farmers Market runs on Mondays from 4-8 PM and vendors sell everything from produce and baked goods to meat, cheese, artwork, succulents, and crafts. We have also offered live music, entertainment, and food trucks as part of the experience and we have received a lot of positive feedback. AND we have another entry for the “skills library school never taught us” list: Farmers Market Manager.

Howard Miller Public Library: Here are a couple of photos showing how we are establishing social distancing. We wanted to make it fun and include early literacy activities.

Loutit District Library: We have been trying to think outside the box on how we can connect to patrons during this crazy time. One of my favorite things that we have done this year is a project called “Letters to a Librarian.” Families could sign up and then youth librarians would send each child a personalized letter. It has been a little slow going getting the letters out to our young patrons but the response has been wonderful. We have received joyful photos of kids holding their letters and the letters they have sent back to us are precious and hilarious. It has been a really fun little passive program.

Muskegon Area District Library: We keep moving forward with major projects. While MADL was temporarily closed, we had some remodeling projects that came to a halt as well. However, these projects are now back in full swing. In June, our Norton Shores branch received new carpeting, shelves, and a total redesign of the space. Now patrons can enjoy a more welcoming and open environment. The carpeting provides a more modern look and the new layout allows staff to be more accessible to patrons.
The past few months have been a challenge, to say the least. But what are things that might be born from this opportunity for creativity? "The latest pandemic has stalled regular public library operations. How can we take advantage of this time to consider real change in operations and services that will benefit our communities? What might change for the good? This webinar will address a variety of areas of services, functions, staffing considerations, community role, and building design. Participants will have an opportunity to contribute some of their own thoughts and observations... There is no fee to attend, but you must register, as space in each session is limited. Neither session will be recorded."

Tuesday, August 11, 2020: 10:00am
Register [here](#).

Wednesday, August 12: 2:00pm
Register [here](#).

Here is an opportunity for those that couldn’t travel before. “The ARSL Conference Committee Chairs and members of the ARSL Board recently met to discuss our options for holding the ARSL 2020 Conference. It was a tough but unanimous decision—ARSL 2020 will be held virtually. Registration is open now! The health of our members and communities is ARSL’s top priority. While we will miss seeing everyone in Wichita, we are excited for this opportunity to reach library professionals who will not be able to travel this year, as well as those who have never been able to attend an ARSL conference. We look forward to making this a fully enjoyable experience for all attendees, presenters, and exhibitors. We are embracing this as an opportunity to try new things! You can still count on our full schedule of professional development, networking, and socializing."
SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH WITH WONDER WOMAN

Library Card Sign-Up Month is coming! Things may look a bit different this year, but there are tools and resources available. "This September, DC’s Wonder Woman is embarking on a new mission to champion the power of a library card as Library Card Sign-up Month Honorary Chair. A founding member of the Justice League, Wonder Woman is known for strength, compassion and truth. Armed with the Lasso of Truth, Wonder Woman makes a perfect ambassador to support the value of learning and the role libraries play in transforming lives and strengthening communities through education."

BANNED BOOKS WEEK SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 3, 2020

There are so many ideas available at the website. Click the image to get there! Also, don’t forget to also check out the Banned Websites info. "The Banned Books Week Coalition is an international alliance of diverse organizations joined by a commitment to increase awareness of the annual celebration of the freedom to read. The Coalition seeks to engage various communities and inspire participation in Banned Books Week through education, advocacy, and the creation of programming about the problem of book censorship."

MITTEN AWARD ANNOUNCED THIS FALL

The top ten titles and award seals are available on the site - click the image. Results will be announced this fall. Nominations can be made for 2021! "The Mitten Award recognizes and promotes quality literature for youth in picture book format. First given in 1999 by the Children’s Services Division of the Michigan Library Association, the award is given annually to one children’s book originally published in the United States during the calendar year that has captured the attention of youth librarians throughout the State of Michigan for its ability to communicate through literature to an intended audience. The award selection work group is comprised of Michigan librarians who consider hundreds of children’s books annually to determine a winner."

THUMBS UP! AWARD ANNOUNCED THIS FALL

The top ten titles and award seals are available on the site - click the image. Results will be announced this fall. Nominations can be made for 2021! "The Thumbs Up! Award recognizes and promotes an outstanding contribution to teen literature that has both literary quality and teen appeal for those 13 to 18 years of age. The award was established in 1986 by the Teen Services Division of the Michigan Library Association. Since 2001, the selection process has also included a teen vote."