WELCOME BACK TO THE NEWSLETTER!

Cooperative Director - Carol Dawe
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We’re back! It’s been a while since you’ve seen this newsletter (and some of you may have come on board after it became inactive!) but we’re back on track for this to be released every other month. So be sure to keep track of your noteworthy events and new members, and watch out for emails from Amber calling for submissions!
WHITE CLOUD COMMUNITY LIBRARY

White Cloud Community Library hosted an Under The Sea Pop-up Museum from February 15th to March 4th. Families called to sign up for a 45 minute walkthrough of the museum and its eight interactive exhibits. These exhibits included comparing yourself to a life size painting of a blue whale heart, fishing for critters that live in Lake Michigan, a touch pool, bioluminescent circuits, and more! The community response was positive and the library plans on doing another one next year with a dinosaur or outer space theme.

GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Last month, Georgetown partnered with the Senior Center to provide a Valentine’s Tales & Tea program which included refreshments and short stories/poems read by library staff. The program was a success with over 80 people in attendance and people already asking about plans for next year.

Also, GTPL has started offering a Travelling Collection to local facilities, starting with senior housing and working towards some local businesses. We will have a cart of materials available at each location and will rotate the collection every other month. The goal is to reach community members who may not normally visit the library.
LIBRARY NEWS

IONIA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The SS Peter & Paul school recently sent a donation to the library ($509.70) with the expressed purpose that the funds go to the ICL new building fund. I have attached our Thank You card to the school and a photo that the school took when our children's librarian went over to accept the donation.

Below is a link to a story that the local paper did on the larger project of the school, https://www.thedailynews.cc/articles/saints-peter-and-paul-catholic-school-celebrate-catholic-schools-week/

MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

MADL Offers New Phone-A-Story Service

Adults and children use any telephone to listen to a taped story. Options include pre-recorded short stories, poems, or excerpts from longer books, recorded by library staff. Stories for both kids and adults are available and update every Friday. You can access the stories 24/7.
QUILT HOP

March is National Quilting Month, a month-long celebration of quilts, quilters, and quilting established more than 30 years ago by the National Quilt Association. We will be celebrating this year with a Library Quilt Hop in partnership with the Coopersville Area District Library, Gary Byker Library of Hudsonville, Georgetown Township Public Library, Herrick District Library and Spring Lake District Library.

So, what is a Library Quilt Hop? This is when a group of libraries get together and create a Quilt Hop Library punch card to help encourage quilters to visit their locations with special events, displays, and prizes offered. Get your Quilt Hop Library punch card free at any participating library.

While at each participating library, check out local quilters’ works on display, as well as great selections of quilting books! See a book you like on display? Check it out using your library card and find inspiration for your next quilting project! Check out the schedule of classes being offered so you can learn new skills or just have some fun. Pick up a brochure at the library for details or check out our website loutitlibrary.org to register for classes.

Each participating library is offering a $25 gift certificate for a local quilt store to one of our lucky Library Quilt Hop participants. Loutit District Library is partnering with Abbi Mays Fabric Shop in Muskegon.

Bring your Quilt Hop Library punchcard with you to be punched at each library by a staff member. If you have at least 3 punches, turn in your Quilt Hope Library Card at any of the participating libraries by April 5, 2022 to be entered into the raffle for a gift certificate. To remind you of all the fun you had participating in our Library Quilt Hop, we would like to offer you a free Quilted Bookcase Pattern. The pattern and instructions may be found at https://bit.ly/LibraryQuiltHop2022. Each library you visit will give you a special mystery selection of fabric strips to use as the books in your quilt. Visit each library to receive more strips.
STEFANIE REED

Stefanie Reed started as the director of the Flat River Community Library in June 2021. Prior to this position, she was the Youth Services Supervisor at Henika District Library. She received her English degree at Central Michigan University and got her MLIS from Clarion University of Pennsylvania (and somewhere in the middle got an MFA from University of Colorado-Boulder). She was an enthusiastic patron of Flat River before joining the team and is very excited to be local again (and no longer commuting 2 hours every day).

NEW MEMBERS

SEASON PYCRAFT & LORENA BARANOWSKI

Salem Township Library would like to announce that Season Pycraft has joined us as our new Assistant Director and we hired an additional circulation team member. Her name is Lorena Baranowski and she will be focusing on our social media and marketing efforts. Please help us welcome Season and Lorena!

KAMEY KRUM-HOWE

The Cedar Springs Public Library would like to introduce their new Library Director, Kamey Krum-Howe. Kamey previously worked at the Flat River Community Library in Greenville, MI where she was the Reference and Circulation Librarian. Her experience includes over 30 years of serving community members in both private and nonprofit sectors. Kamey started her new position as Director on January 3, 2022. Congratulations, Kamey!
RETIREMENTS

THOM RILEY
Thom Riley will be retiring from his role at Lakeland after over twenty years of service to our member libraries. His last day will be on April 1, 2022. From Thom: “I'm proud to have been a part of the Cooperative growing from what it was to all the amazing things it has become. The friendships, support and just plain adventure I've shared with so many of you has made my time with the Cooperative the peak of my working career.”

WANDA MESBERGEN
Salem Township Library: Salem Township Library would like to announce that Wanda Mesbergen has retired this February from her position as Assistant Director. She has been with the Salem Township Library for 24½ years.
GOODBYE, OVERDRIVE!

On February 23, the Overdrive app was removed from app stores across devices. Users who have the OverDrive app installed will still be able to use it without disruption. All users can continue to access your library’s OverDrive website. Later this year, Overdrive will share more details on how OverDrive app users will be encouraged to switch to Libby and the plans and timing for the eventual retirement of the OverDrive app.

ILS CORNER

On February 28, 2022, the telephone number for Lakeland’s Shoutbomb text messaging service converted to a new toll-free number. Text messages now come from that toll-free number and patrons who wish to sign up for text messages, must use the new toll-free number to subscribe. Please update any information you provide to patrons. The old number, 616-432-2161, is no longer in service. The new number is 1-844-226-9466.