

JULY 2022

LAKELAND NEWSLETTER



WHAT'S INSIDE

<i>Welcome.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Library News.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Staff News.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Program News.....</i>	<i>4</i>

HAPPY SUMMER READING!

Cooperative Director - Carol Dawe
Editor-In-Chief - Amber McLain

We know June has been busy with Summer Reading, and we hope it's been going well for each and every one of you! This issue of the newsletter is packed with good news, so keep on reading!



LIBRARY NEWS

NEWAYGO AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

The Newaygo Area District library recently placed three WIFI-enabled, solar-powered charging benches in downtown Newaygo. Placement of these benches extended the digital reach of the library beyond its campus, thereby providing 24/7 connectivity to downtown residents, local restaurant and business traffic; and to tourists and business travelers. In cooperation with the City, one bench was placed at Linda's Chapel near the Newaygo Post Office; one was placed near Timbertown Coffee Co.; and the third was installed in front of the renovated Newaygo County Museum & Heritage Center. These benches allow users to charge their devices by plugging in or through touch-free charging. Each is able to simultaneously connect up to 16 devices at a time to free WIFI.



KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY

While visiting a KDL branch, have you ever forgotten to bring a spare diaper? Wished you had a wet wipe? Realized you needed a hygiene item and didn't want to leave the library to pick it up? Good news! Every KDL branch now has a hygiene locker stocked with items like tampons, deodorant, oral hygiene products and more.

Kent District Library is pleased to partner with Feeding America of West Michigan to present Gather 2 Grow: Lunches at the Library, a summer food program at 15 KDL branches and the Bookmobile. Anyone 18 years old and younger (or up to age 26 with different mental or physical abilities) can come and pick up a free, nutritious lunch Monday through Friday, June 6 through August 12.



FREMONT AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

The Fremont Area District Library received a grant from the Gerber Foundation for two "Family Workstation Carrels" from TMC Furniture. These workstations offer a space for a parent/caregiver to use a computer while putting their young child in a safe place beside them.



STAFF NEWS

KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY

Kent District Library is pleased to welcome Kiosha Jeltema as the Regional Manager 1 at the Kentwood and Gaines Twp. Branches.

Jeltema will supervise branch staff to ensure efficient and effective delivery of library services and will serve as a community liaison representing Kent District Library. "It is a pleasure to join the amazing KDL team," Jeltema said. "I am excited to work side by side with so many passionate individuals, and I look forward to serving the community in an effort the further all people."

Jeltema has thirteen years of experience working for nonprofit agencies, including direct service, supervisory and leadership roles. Most recently she served as a Business Solutions Manager for West Michigan Works! the local workforce development agency.

Kiosha earned her bachelor's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her Master of Social Work from the University of Southern California. A California native, she most enjoys the four distinct seasons Michigan offers. Outside of work she enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband and one-year-old daughter.



MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY

The Board of Trustees of the Muskegon Area District Library is pleased to announce the selection of Ron L. Suszek, II as the new MADL Library Director. Suszek has extensive experience working in public libraries, including a seventeen-year career in leadership positions. He has managed a wide range of services including public programming, technology, collection development and logistics.

Most recently, he served as Library Services Administrator with the San Antonio Public Library, (SAPL) in San Antonio, Texas. At SAPL, he worked to overhaul the digital experience for library users by developing services and collections to meet the needs of a growing and culturally diverse community of nearly two million. He was actively involved in San Antonio's digital inclusion network and worked to provide essential access to support digital literacy efforts in one of the nation's least connected cities. Prior to his five-year service with SAPL, he worked at Grace A. Dow Memorial Library in Midland, Michigan for ten years.

"I am excited to be a part of the Muskegon Area District Library, working with the dedicated people at MADL who serve the community in such meaningful and transformative ways," says Suszek.



PROGRAM NEWS

SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS DISTRICT LIBRARY



Saugatuck-Douglas District Library once again participated in "Pride in the Park", a community event on June 4th celebrating the beginning of Pride Month. The event, in downtown Douglas, featured booths representing local organizations, businesses, and churches, with music, food, and displays for all ages to enjoy. Our booth highlighted the many wonderful books and authors that represent the LGBTQ+ community. We had button making and bookmarks, as well as info about our Library programs. It was wonderful to see the support for this event and for our local LGBTQ+ community. Our diverse and caring communities enrich all our lives, and we are proud to be part of, and support, all.

REYNOLDS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

The Timothy C. Hauenstein Reynolds Township Library would like to invite everyone to our first annual Food Truck Rally. (See Attached Flyer) We are collaborating with some local businesses and the Village of Howard City to put on this event. There will be 15 food trucks, 45 craft vendors, 200 cars in the car show and over 50 teams in the basketball tournament. There will be a little something for everyone. The Friends of the library will also be doing a book sale that day.



PROGRAM NEWS

LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

We are enjoying the use of our brand new Makerspace room! We have hosted many programs already this summer including this fun mermaid tail canvas painting event with local artist, Gail Suess-Brandow. It fit nicely with the summer reading theme "Oceans of Possibilities" and was great to bring in some of our younger patrons.



As part of our recent expansion, we put up a new donor wall in our café area recognizing patrons who donated to our building expansion. This includes a family who did a pop can drive and who came in and helped with cleaning after the expansion, and another family who did a bake sale raising money to donate. It has been great to see entire families work to donate to our library!



PROGRAM NEWS

LOUTIT DISTRICT LIBRARY

When we found out we would no longer be able to host the kick off party for our summer reading program “The Grand Adventure” in Grand Haven’s Central Park, we were pretty disappointed. However, with some reimagining, we were able to host an incredible program for 650 patrons on Saturday, June 4 in the library building. The program featured activity stations, a live band, and carnival food. One perk of being inside is that our librarian Kate Tobin was able to create balloon arches to decorate the building without worrying about them popping or blowing away. They were a huge hit and created a sense of wonder for patrons walking in the doors.



COOPERSVILLE AREA

Maranda stopped by the Coopersville Area District Library on June 13th to help them kick off their annual summer reading program! Check out the video, in which she interviews some super readers, Youth Librarian Mr. Zach, and more!

<https://www.woodtv.com/video/kicking-off-the-2022-summer-reading-club/7756834/>



Plus, check out the completed narwhal from the last edition of the newsletter! How cool!