



It's been quite the month for webinars and meetings:

- Branch County Commissioners x2
- Branch County COVID-19 Update x2
- Library of Michigan Directors x2
- Coldwater DDA
- Millage Law Workshop
- Michigan Uniform Chart of Accounts Requirements
- Woodlands Advisory Committee
- TechLogic RFID installation training
- Coldwater Advisory Board
- Bronson Friends of the Library
- Coldwater Friends of the Library

Many of the above points resulted in further planning and work, some of which we'll be hearing more about later.

There was also major IT work this past month:

- RFID Hardware deployment
- Prepping Bronson Branch to reopen
- WiFi hotspot deployment

A big shout out to Curtis and Angie in the IT department for all their work with the above. This department runs smoothly in large part thanks to all their diligent efforts. I am beyond excited about getting the WiFi hotspots out into circulation at long last, and I appreciate the shout out from the Michigan Townships Association that you'll find in our publicity packet.

Keeley and I finished the Request for Proposals for the Coldwater Branch Library Exterior Painting project and posted it. It's on the website for search engines to index and advertisements are going out in all the papers.

Congratulations to Julie B. For her successful presentation at the Michigan Library Association's Spring Institute today! She gave a talk on how agriculture can be part of the STEAM equation. I'm sure she'll share more in her report next month.

Finally, I echo Keeley's sentiments in wishing Linda Dull all the best as she starts a new phase in her life. She has left her mark on the library in working the reference desk, working on collections, working as the children's services department, and most recently as a creator of many video programs over the last year, among much more. Best wishes Linda, and you'll be missed!

Submitted by John Rucker



The IT department and I had training with TechLogic on the installation of the RFID hardware. Several branches have received their antenna readers. I have met with almost every branch manager to discuss their specific plan for tagging. We will start tagging at the Sherwood branch on March 15. Remember this is our staff touching every single item on our shelves and adding an RFID tag inside. Our current count of items across the district is over 100,000 items. Staff will be taking advantage of the upcoming Spring in-service day to put some serious hours into this project. You can plan on hearing about this project for the next several months!

BDL had a great social media shout-out from the Michigan Townships Association. They shared our WiFi2Go program as an example of how libraries are helping their communities get connected!

I reached out to every school in Branch County and the BISD to provide a flyer with library services. It included information that was specific to the educational community. I heard back from several schools and have offered teacher sign-up drives if they want.

I attended the newly formed Branch County Partner Meeting. This monthly meeting will discuss workforce development opportunities and issues in Branch County. Since the library offers many great resources for job seekers, I was glad to be a part of it.

I took a lot of webinars in the last month. There are still plenty of free learning opportunities on great library topics. I did realize that taking three in one day was a little too much and don't plan on doing that again!

- Millage Law for Libraries: Know before you go for one provided by the Library of Michigan
- Connecting Michigan Taskforce Broadband Virtual Listening Tour provided by Connected Nation Michigan
- LUCC Library Unconference on COVID Communications provided by the American Library Association
- Uniform Chart of Accounts Update Webinar provided by Library of Michigan
- Ballot Success: A Case Study with Riverside Public Library
- Overview of Beanstack Mobile App and Web Service with Zoobean
- Practical Ways to Attract New Library Customers and Retain Them! provided by Orange Boy

Submitted,  
Kimberly Feltner





- BDL is giving out trees from the Neighborhood Forest organization for Earth Week! This organization is dedicated to planting trees across the nation through the hands of both children and parents. Trees are given to the host (BDL) and our patrons will register for a tree of their own to be given out by BDL during Earth Week 2021. (April 22-30)
- Branch managers, the Management team, Kid's Place Coordinator, and the Teen Services Coordinator met on March 2nd to continue planning for the 2021 Summer Reading Program.
- Library1 Cards: Pansophia Academy has been contacted about our Library1 Card project and I'm looking forward to eliminating barriers for another Branch county school.
- One Book One County 2021 is here and our discussion events are next week! *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is the 2021 book for the community read event. We will be having two online discussions concerning the book on Monday, March 22 at 6PM and on Saturday, March 27 at 10AM. The wonderful Jeanne Berg will be hosting these discussions.
- BDL received \$1000 grant from the APEX Energy Solar grant. This will help cover a 1/4 of the cost of a new library service, Playaway Tablets. The tablets have learning apps that have a powerful impact on development and education and these tablets ensure that everyone can access them. G
- Teen Subscription Boxes are a new service BDL is doing as a nod to "March is Reading Month". Teens can ask for a box filled with books of their choice of genre, sweet treats, and some BDL swag.
- Grab & Go bags are continuing to be a huge hit with our patrons. These are just some of our happy patrons and their kits!

Submitted,

Jessica Tefft



"Tween Sushi Club" Grab & Go Kit



"I love you to pieces" Grab & Go Kit