

Millage Renewal 2022

As you know by now, the renewal passed with 63% of the vote! In person during the discussion section of the agenda we'll take a closer look and see what we can learn from this year's renewal process.

Summer Reading Program

As you'll see from Jessica's report, and others, this year's summer reading has been quite a success! In many ways it feels like the library is finally back in business, as we are seeing program attendance, materials checkouts, and wifi use at pre-pandemic levels. Total attendance is very close to pre-pandemic levels.

Outreach

Cheryl Lawrence and the Branch Managers have been testing our forms and procedures for the Library by Mail program. Our new postal meter has now arrived as well, so we are just about ready to officially launch the program!

Staffing

Longtime Coldwater Kids' Place Clerk Angie Richards had her last day today. We wish her well as she returns to teaching, she will be greatly missed!

We interviewed 4 people for this Kids' Place position, 3 external and 1 internal, and hope to have this position filled soon.

Caring community members are conducting a fundraiser for BDL IT and Marketing team wiz Angie Clark to help cover expenses for her battle with cancer. A full Middle Eastern take-out meal will be available to purchase at the Eby Center on August 27th from 5 to 7pm. If you're looking for a tasty dinner while supporting a good cause, come on out...cash and card accepted!



Sas-Squashing Cancer: A Benefit Dinner for Angie!!

**WHERE: COACH EBY CENTER IN
COLDWATER**

WHEN: SATURDAY, AUGUST 27TH

5:00 TO 7:00

**WHAT: TAKE- OUT MIDDLE EASTERN
DINNER.**

Including- Chicken, Rice, Pita, Hummus & a Garden Salad.
\$10 a meal. Cash and Card accepted.

Event hosted by Aira of Coldwater & Friends and Family of Angie Clark.

**ALL AGES
EVENT**

**SILENT
AUCTION**

BAKE SALE

**ALL
PROCEEDS
GOING
DIRECTLY TO
ANGIE TO
HELP WITH
MEDICAL
EXPENCES.**

Donate in person or
online at
<https://donorbox.org/sas-squashing-cancer-for-angie-clark>



Facilities

As detailed in Sarah's report, exterior maintenance has been performed on the Quincy library by the same painting and restoration company that painted the Coldwater Branch, STP Painting.

Contractors for the City of Coldwater have repaired damage to the sidewalks and turf by the large lift that STP Painting had to use to reach the top of our building. STP is covering the cost of these repairs. The City also put a concrete pad in on the west side of the building for our bike rack, which had just been on the grass for many years.

Volunteers did some major weeding and bush trimming at the Coldwater Branch, looks much improved!

Covid Update

As detailed in Kimberly's report, we have had additional covid cases on staff and use of the temporary leave policy. On August 11, the CDC issued new guidance for how to handle close contacts to positive covid cases. This new guidance may reduce the number of instances we leverage this policy since it allows asymptomatic close contacts to return to work wearing a mask, rather than isolate, and then test after five days.

IT Department

A number of additional yearbooks have been scanned by Heritage Room volunteers and added to our repository by IT staff. Some additional technology that is being cycled out has been cleaned up and readied for sale at AppleFest.

Meetings Attended

On July 20, I presented to the Branch County Business Affiliates. In addition to that, I attended the Coldwater DDA meeting, 3 Coldwater DDA Committee meetings, and the Coldwater Branch Advisory Board.

Submitted by John Rucker

Programming

July saw the end of the Summer session of the Books and Brew Book Club at Biggys. The adult book club will resume in September on the 28th. The September selection is [The Holdout by Graham Moore](#) and copies are available at the library.

Also at the end of July was an adult craft program, Ocean Cupcake Wreath. A small crowd attended and listened to the ocean music while they got crafty. I was very impressed with their end results which looked much better than my demo craft!

Community Events



Visitors to the Library Booth at the Quincy Event!

Summer is the festival season and July was no exception. I worked with Sarah (Quincy Branch Manager) at the Quincy Kids Day in the park. It was a great event and the first time, to my knowledge, that the library was able to have a booth. Sarah coordinated two special activities at the booth. Kids could make library themed buttons or get special glow-in-the-dark temporary tattoos!

BDL was at the Coldwater Back to School Bash at Branch Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine for the second year. Kids loved the Dr. Seuss hat craft put together by Christina (Coldwater Branch Manager). Nine individuals signed up for library cards at our booth.

Continuing with being outside the library, I presented to the Coldwater Sunrise Rotary. After a delicious breakfast, I shared with the group information about library services. This presentation was after the passing of the library millage renewal. Many individuals took the chance to congratulate the library on its success!



Visitors to the Library Booth at the Back to School Bash!

Continuing Education

I attended two webinars in the past month. The first was Unattended Children with Ryan Dowd. The second was *Library Signage 101: Communicate Your Message* with the Library of Michigan.

Human Resources

Two staff have donated to the PTO bank and one staff has requested use of the donated time. The Temporary Covid-19 Paid Leave has been utilized in the last month both for positive cases and close contacts. Library training continues for our new employees and they are learning very quickly.

Submitted by Kimberly Feltner

- The 2022 Summer Reading Program ended on July 30th, and we had over 1000 participants this year! We had 510 Children, 335 Teens, and 164 Adults that completed SRP activities this summer. Our BDL staff was incredible and put on several memorable programs. I am so grateful for the dedication that BDL staff has to making SRP the best every summer.
- We had two staff winners for the Summer Reading Program, Jessie Hantz from our Bronson branch and Maria Piper from our Sherwood branch.
- The Branch District Library will be hosting a series of diverse and inclusive programming throughout the district in collaboration with other Branch County organizations for the Cultivating Community initiative happening in September and October.
 - We will be having several passive programs during these months, including: story walks at our Coldwater, Union, & Quincy branches, a book display at the Coldwater branch, and a Fiber Arts display at the Union branch.
 - Our Teen Services Coordinator will be discussing the 7 elements of storytelling and how to present a teen's life through their lenses, and why their story is important to share. The aim is to develop empathy and to build understanding.
 - Our largest event will be the the Human Library: The Human Library creates a safe space for dialogue where topics are discussed openly between our human books and their readers. Human books will be able to be checked out for 20 minutes, and the event will be from 5PM-8PM on October 1, 2022.
- Family Fright Night will be happening on October 8, and we have lots of fun planned. There will be games, crafts, and a very spooky haunted circus in the basement. Those with coulrophobia should beware.

Submitted,

Jessica Tefft