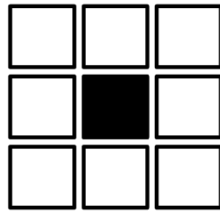


Family Wood Burning
Event 7/13/23



Howard Miller Public Library

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

July 2023

Elephant and Piggie
Storytime Event 7/19/23



Library Events/Programming Highlights

- The 2023 Summer Reading Program themed *All Together Now* has been very successful in attracting participants to log their summer reading and participate in the library events.
- HML partnered with the Zeeland Historical Society to bring in librarian and Zeeland native, Adam Oster, to present on the history of poor farms and poorhouses in Michigan. An engaged audience of 27 enjoyed this event and lively discussion about this little-known piece of Michigan history.
- The mayor, his wife and the library director were the guest judges in the annual Howard Miller Library Pet Show where Chonkers the Rooster won Best in Show! All 8 pet participants and their families received award ribbons for showing off their pets.

Staff Highlights

- Amanda participated in the 7/31 Monday evening Zeelmania festivities on behalf of the library and hosted a superhero mask craft and green screen photobooth opportunity. Kids could make their masks and then pick a digital background to be imposed on a picture of them wearing their mask creation. The photo was texted or emailed to their caregivers' devices.



Other

City of Zeeland 2023 Strategic Action Plan, HML Action Step #5

- Create New Workstation in Workroom:

Tim Maloney, IT Director, has engaged Town and Country Group to install new data drops in the back workroom of the library. This will facilitate creating a new workspace for staff and upgrade our data connection for 2 current workstations.

Ben Kiewiet, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, is researching options for purchasing needed furniture including adjustable work surfaces, file cabinet, and credenza to match existing furniture in workroom.

Zeeland Record Digitization Project Update

- The University of Michigan Library is considering taking over this project. They anticipate letting us know their decision by mid-September. The scope of the project includes the re-digitization of the publication, 1893-2005 from microfilm and digitization of paper copies from 2006 to present. The final digitized content will be hosted by U-M Libraries in one of their digital collection databases and will be freely available to anyone for perpetuity if they accept our project.

Looking Forward

- The Summer Reading Program will end on August 5th and library staff will take 2 weeks off programming to reset and prep for the Fall season of activities. Prizes will continue to be awarded through September 5th.
- Fall program planning is complete and staff are working on developing program events for Winter and Spring.
- HML will partner with a new non-profit organization in the area, Empowering Youth Global Connections, to provide new multicultural learning and appreciation programs for young patrons. These will be offered quarterly with the first one happening in the Fall sometime between September and November on a half day or day off from school.

HML by the Numbers – July 2023

Children's Programs:

- July: 22 programs – 718 participants

Adult Programs:

- July: 2 programs - 67 participants

Outreach Programs:

- July: 1 program – 175 participants

SRP Numbers as of 7/31/23

Challenge Name	Readers Count	Completions
Summer 2023: All Together Now (Children's ages 3-12)	423	242
Summer 2023: All Together Now (Teens ages 13-17)	169	104
Summer 2023: All Together Now (Early Literacy ages 0-2)	212	91
Summer 2023: All Together Now (Adults ages 18+)	229	137
Total	1,033	455

Last year's numbers were 1,163 total readers with 530 completions. This is a 11% decrease in readers and 16% decrease in completions thus far. Final 2023 numbers will be available after 8/5/23.