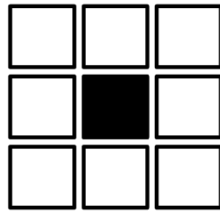


Memory Kit - Seasons
April 2024



Howard Miller Public Library

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 2024

Spring Break @ HML
4/4/24



Library Events/Programming Highlights

- The week of Spring Break, 4/1 – 4/5, saw heavy foot traffic in the library and well attended programming offered by library staff: 544 total participants for the week.
- The Library partnered again with the ZPS to present a StoryWalk® in celebration of the Day of the Young Child on April 13. The StoryWalk® is installed in VandeLuyster Square Park and will be available through mid-May for patrons to enjoy.
- Thanks to the receipt of 500 solar eclipse glasses from the STAR Network and Nasa, we gave away all the viewing glasses to local patrons so they could safely observe the last solar eclipse to be visible in this part of the world until later this century.

Staff Highlights

- The Staff Appreciation Lunch hosted by the Library Advisory Board was held on Tuesday, April 9 and was enjoyed by all! Thanks again from the staff for the recognition and great food.

Zeeland Record Newspaper Digitization Project Update

- The contracts for work from Central Michigan University to perform the microfilming and digitization of the Zeeland Record have been signed and filed with both the City Clerk and City Attorney's offices. All is set for the project to begin in the Fall of 2024.

City of Zeeland 2024 Strategic Action Plan – Library Operational Goals Updates

- Progress working towards the operational goals for the Library to be completed within 2024 include:

1. Increase community partnerships and collaborations

- a. Amanda H. met with Lynette Lam of Zeeland Festivals to brainstorm ideas for how HML can be more involved in Zeelmania this summer and Pumpkinfest this Fall.

2. Refresh/update library space to encourage usage and enhance comfort for patrons

- a. Julie R., Librarian II and Children's Specialist, and Leann Parker rearranged the Tween/Teen collections to accommodate a new Tween collection, Popular Picks. These are extra copies of popular titles for Tweens that cannot be put on hold by other Lakeland libraries so that they are more accessible for HML patrons.
- b. Rearrangement of seating area for Tween/Teens and shifting of materials for ease of access.



3. Optimize training opportunities for all staff including part-time employees

- a. 4 part-time staff and 2 full-time staff were able to participate in 6 different online professional development webinars in April.

Looking Forward

- May will provide for a break in staff-led programming as we prepare for the beginning of Summer Reading and complete the school visit tours.
 - May is Mental Health Awareness Month and a display with free informational resources will be available throughout the month.
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HML by the Numbers – April 2024

	April		
	2024	2023	% Change
Visitors	8,791	7,665	15%
Curbside Delivery	12	17	-29%
Digital Downloads	5,586	4,467	25%
Physical Items (Circulation)	27,668	26,285	5%
Computer Sessions	340	266	28%

Children's Programs:

- 13 programs – 756 participants
- 0 passive programs

Adult Programs:

- 2 program - 65 participants

Outreach Programs:

- 1 program – 4 participants