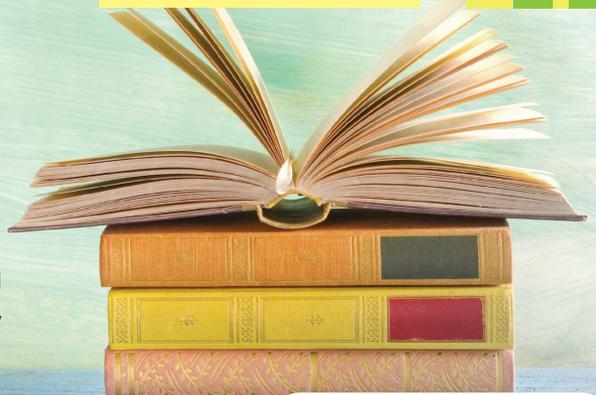


Fall Winter 2019-2020
wicksonlibrary.org

Frankenmuth
James E. Wickson
District Library



cover to cover

library newsletter

CONNECT
Dream
DISCOVER



from the director's desk

by **Pamela Williams**

Kindness Matters

Fall and winter months are library conference season, a valuable time to exchange ideas with other libraries in the state. The Michigan Library Association conference featured the director of a much larger library than ours (with numerous staff members and a richer budget) who graciously shared his experiences, offering nuggets of wisdom on how to make libraries function better in their communities. This School Library Journal Librarian of the Year spoke on the topic of creating a library culture of Kindness, Empathy and Love. His words rang true as I realized that the secret to the success in his large library is what our small libraries (and towns) have known all along.

As you enter the Frankenmuth Library, we hope you feel welcome. We might know your name (Norm!), have your card number memorized, or even ask how your grandchildren are doing. You may get phone calls about a book we reserved for you because we know you are a fan of that author. Our goal is to provide the best service, from the simplest problem to the more difficult challenges. Our relationship-based service is intentional; it's what we do to ensure we are giving you the best of us.

A culture of community kindness is nothing new in our town. We see evidence of this on the playing field (win or lose), the caring for families in crisis, and assisting the most vulnerable. You know the stories; you hear them and you see the results of people investing in one another. Kindness is personal. It's what Frankenmuth does best. It's how we roll.

In a world where hurtful words tend to spill out and de-escalation is a new skillset, let's practice kindness, empathy, and love, because according to the SLJ Librarian of the Year, "It's contagious." We believe this, because we witness it every day at the library.



Early Literacy - More Than Books

by Cheri Stainforth
Early Learning Specialist



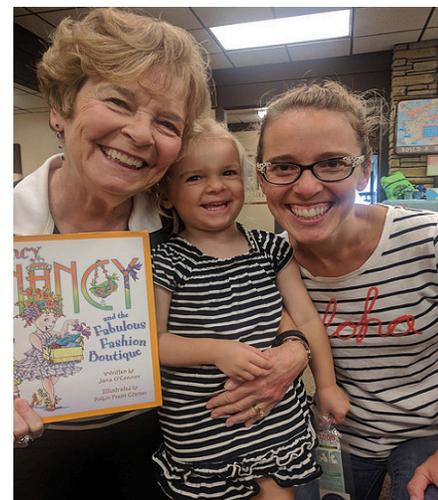
Most people know that listening to stories and reading books are very important aspects of early childhood development. Did you know that certain kinds of play also contribute? With a generous donation from the Gleaners, we were able to upgrade our kids' kitchen area, purchase new musical instruments, and add to our sensory toys.

If it has been a while since you visited our Children's Wing, you might not know that we added an interactive sensory wall for kids of all abilities. The wall includes engaging tasks such as lacing shoes, zipping coats, unlocking treasures, and learning about cause and effect. The children also have a new dress up station where they can foster their imaginations.

Dramatic play improves communication and encourages development in small and large motor skills. Putting on a costume and buttoning or zipping uses fine motor skills. Acting out a character who may be a dancing ballerina requires large motor skills. Imitating words or phrases associated with the character they choose to be also increases their vocabulary. Collectively, they contribute to early literacy.

Recently we have added VOX print books with an audio reader attached to the cover. The VOX reader narrates enabling kids to read and listen simultaneously. This improves sight word recognition, increases comprehension and allows the student to hear the tone and pace of a skillful reader.

If you have a child who has not yet entered Kindergarten, we encourage you to sign up for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. This program is an investment in your child's future. Research shows that home literacy or reading for 20 minutes a day increases reading readiness when entering school. Any child in your family from newborn through the time they start Kindergarten can participate. We love to help with your child's literacy skills.



**A Baker's Dozen of Staff
Favorites in Fiction
and Non-fiction**



The Moment of Lift
by Melinda Gates (NF)

The Only Plane in the Sky
by Garrett M. Graff (NF)

Maid
by Stephanie Land (NF)

Inheritance
by Dani Shapiro (NF)

Someone We Know
by Shari Lapena (F)

Good Girl, Bad Girl
by Michael Robotham (F)

*The Book Women of Troublesome
Creek* by Kim Richardson (F)

You've Been Volunteered
by Laurie Gelman (F)

Lies
by T.M. Logan (F)

*The Next Person You Meet in
Heaven* by Mitch Albom (F)

The Bookish Life of Nina Hill
by Abbie Waxman (F)

Turn of the Key
by Ruth Ware (F)

When You Read this
by Mary Adkins (F)

**Adult Programs Appeal to Wide
Range of Interests**



Speaker Luke Jordan
at Library Book Signing

“Thru and Back Again” chronicles Luke ‘Strider’ Jordan’s hike of the North Country Trail, the U.S.’s longest scenic trail.

A large and enthusiastic audience showed up in October to hear Luke talk about the challenges and rewards of his long hike. The trail covers over 4,500 miles.

After Luke’s talk, everyone had a chance to have him sign their books. Watch for future author visits on our calendar.

**Beyond the Books:
Library Partners with Winter Village**

Beyond the Books is a new initiative meeting Winter Village residents (formerly Independence Village) both at their Village location as well as at the library.

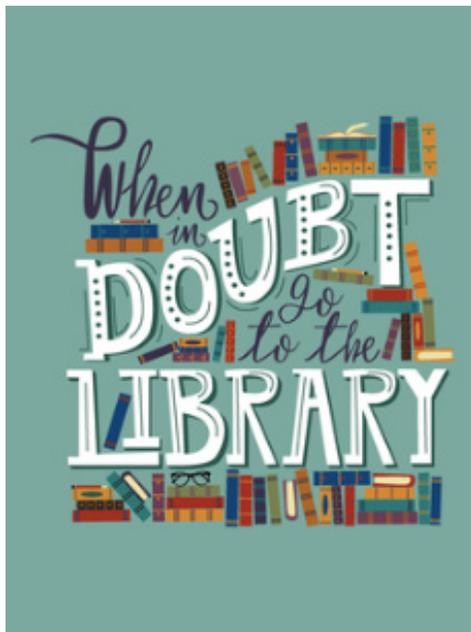
Whether helping with Reading Buddy coordination in the summer or informing people about large print and tech, all are enjoying the partnership.



Library Mah Jongg Players intently play in their first tournament. Join this fun group any Thursday at 12:30 upstairs at the Library.



Ways to Help: Donate gently used books, puzzles, and games. **Drop off used ink cartridges.** We turn these items in for cash. Remember to shop our used book sale in the basement and tell your friends. **Make a donation to the library in remembrance of a loved one. It is even fine to remember a beloved pet.** Join the Friends of the Library who run the used book sale and sponsor special events. **Volunteer.** Remember us in your will. **Make your tax deductible donation any time of year.**



Frankenmuth Wickson District Library
359 S. Franklin Street
Frankenmuth, MI 48734

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Board President Susan Piesko Steps Down After More than Ten Years

Starting October 2019, long time Board President Sue Piesko turned the gavel over to new President Dan Wortman. Piesko says, “The biggest pleasure was seeing the development of our library into the community jewel it has become. The decade plus as a district library has allowed a great deal of growth.”

Her fellow board members, including Wortman, have high praise from working with Sue through the years. They have spoken of her strong support for the library staff and all the changes that have happened during her leadership including, “improved space allocations, special areas for Teens, Tweens, and Children, and greater use of technology.” In addition, Sue oversaw the transition from a retiring library director to our current one, Pamela Williams. Pam notes that “her support has been invaluable during this transition time.” Sue states that, “Dan will be a wonderful president. He is a solid guy with a lot of experience.”

Advice Column: Go Ask Alice



Dear Alice - I've heard rumors that the library might not continue to carry print magazines! I don't want to have to start buying them just because I like to read short articles. This isn't fair. -- Jive Talker

Dear JT - Not true! Our research shows that patrons aren't reading some print magazines, so we are scaling back just on those to save the cost. Also, you will still have access to hundreds of magazines free of charge from RB Digital. Ask us how to access them all. -- Alice