



Newwaygo Area District Library

Director's Report

In his book, "Palaces for the People: How Social Infrastructure Can Help Fight Inequality, Polarization, and the Decline of Civic Life," Eric Klinenberg said that when we invest in social infrastructure, such as libraries, parks, and schools, we reap benefits such as interaction with people from our community, and connection to a broader public.

Local residents learning about ancient languages.



Former *Newwaygo Carnegie Library*.

Klinenberg's use of the term "Palaces for the People" actually comes from Andrew Carnegie. Carnegie was committed to the idea that the U.S. was a country where people could improve their lives. His experience of being a poor immigrant's son but rising to become a wealthy entrepreneur influenced him in later years to invest his funds in education, science, music, and PUBLIC LIBRARIES, the greatest of which he called, "palaces for the people."

In this age of cell phones, tablets, and computers, the danger as a society is that people tend to grow socially isolated. Social infrastructure such as Newwaygo Area District Library (NADL) is a glue that binds communities together. By "social infrastructure," Klinenberg meant the physical spaces and organizations in our communities that mold the way people interact. It is just as real as water, power, or communications, but it is often more difficult to recognize its importance. ¹

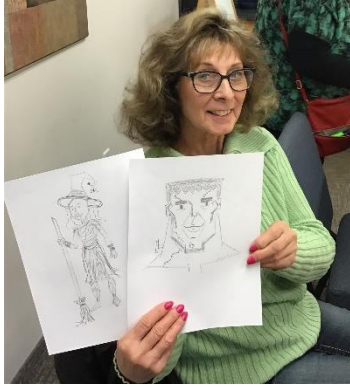


Residents learning watercolor painting.



Community children sharing at a summer reading event.

Not many places in our communities remain open to everyone and require nothing of visitors. But at libraries such as NADL, anyone and everyone have access to friendly, knowledgeable staff; social interaction; on-site resources and information; technology and scanning helps; computers stations; study rooms; magazines; books; arts and humanities instructions and classes; lifelong learning explorations and resources; and literacy learning opportunities such as story-times and book clubs. ¹ "The Complicated Roll of the Modern Public Library by Jennifer Howard. Originally published as "Something for Everyone" in the fall 2019 issue of *Humanities* magazine, a publication of the National Endowment for the Humanities."



Local people learning cartooning, sharing at an author talk, and winning a prize from summer reading.

At NADL, people make copies and send faxes for minimal cost. Cardholders may also check out much more than books. NADL offers free check-out of digital books; DVD movies; laptops; hotspots; cameras; board games; puzzles; STEM kits such as Legos and Ozobots; cake pans; metal detectors and hand tools.



Adults and teens learning to paint.



But, as Skye Patrick, Director of Los Angeles County Library system has said, "Libraries are not about books (*or any other thing*), they're about people."¹

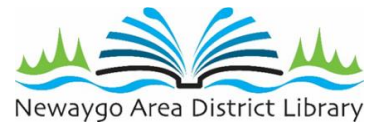
Do you know someone who needs help searching for a job; studying for an exam; researching a topic; applying to college; using a computer or tablet; investigating a new hobby; in need of access to reading materials or even just a quiet space to meet or relax? Remind them to visit the one place in our community that exists especially for them.

There is something for everyone at NADL. It truly is **your** place in the community to **learn, connect, and explore**. We look forward to seeing you!

Kelly Tinkham
Director Kelly Tinkham
March 6, 2023.



Learning winter sowing and beekeeping.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT NEWAYGO LIBRARY

BABY BABBLETIME: A special storytime for babies! Mondays at 11 am. Come enjoy developmentally appropriate activities for your little ones, aged birth to two. Meet in the lower level with Mrs. Tammie.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME: Tuesdays at 11 am. Three stories plus a craft are shared in the lower level.



SPRING WATERCOLOR: Sat. Mar. 25, 10:30am–12:30pm. The Newaygo Library is happy to host local artist Lori McElrath-Eslick to instruct a Spring Watercolor class. Lori is a very talented artist who has taught numerous classes at the Library, and we are excited to have her back. Registration required. This class is supported by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

CHILDREN'S APRIL TAKE & MAKE: Mon. Apr. 3–Sat. Apr. 8. ALL WEEK LONG! Newaygo Library will have An Easter Basket Take & Make craft kit available for children ages 12 and under.



DIAMOND PAINTING—Seasons of Trees: Sat. Apr. 8, 10:30am–12:30pm. Join Mary at the Newaygo Library for a Diamond Painting Workshop. Diamond Painting is similar to painting by number, except that instead of using paint, you are using tiny, flat-backed resin diamonds, applied to a canvas with a charted design. It's fun and easy! This class we will be doing a Tree for each season. Registration required. This class is supported by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

MOVIES AT THE LIBRARY: Wed. Apr. 12, 3:30pm–5:00pm. Come join us in the Children's library to watch the film *Hop* (2011).

GARDENING 101-- with Elizabeth Pitzer: Thu. Apr. 13, 6:00pm–8:00pm. Cultivate your green thumb: come and learn how to prepare a vegetable bed, select vegetables and flowers that attract pollinators, and everything else you need to know to plan and maintain your garden! Attendees will be able to leave with up to four heirloom seedlings to get you started. Registration is required.



WONDER KIDS BOOK CLUB—Because of Winn Dixie: Sat. Apr. 15, 11:00am. On Saturday, meet in the Conference Room with Mrs. Tammie to discuss the story and have a pizza party—invite a friend! Audio-enabled copies of the book available. Ages 8–12, RSVP required.



A BIRD IN THE HAND: Thur. Apr. 20, 6:00pm–7:00pm. Local Birder, Terry Grabill made a marathon effort to see as many species of Michigan birds as possible in 2021. "A Bird in the Hand" will bring stories from the road as Terry birded 36 days, drove over 33,000 miles and recorded 323 bird species. Terri is a life-long Newaygo County resident and a retired science teacher.

POETRY WORKSHOP with Madeline Boss: Sat. Apr. 22, 10:30am–12:30pm. Madeline Boss, published author, poet and speaker, will be hosting a poetry workshop at the library. Her class will give attendees and introduction to poetry, and she will share about her personal writing process. Participants will have time to free-write, and they will receive an NADL notebook to take home and continue their poetry journey. This class is supported by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

Would you like to be notified by text of Newaygo Library events?

Sign up for our events reminder program! "Remind" will send out a text and email about events going on at NADL. To sign up, go to: remind.com/join/44kk72 or Text SIGNUP to 616-432-2161

May ADULT BOOK CLUB: Thursday, May 18, 2:00 pm



HOMECOMING by KATE MORTON

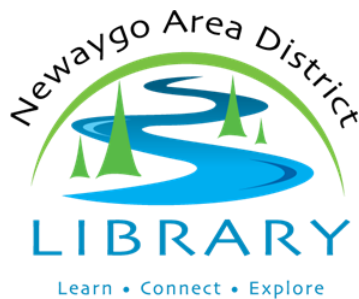
An epic novel that spans generations. Homecoming asks what we would do for those we love, and how we protect the lies we tell. It explores the power of motherhood, the corrosive effects of tightly held secrets, and the healing nature of truth. Above all, it is a beguiling and immensely satisfying novel from one of the finest writers working today.

Books will be available in the upper level of the Library or on Libby by April 11.

We will meet as a discussion group on May 18 in the Conference Room.



Coming Soon!



MyLibrary App



Read Squared App (Reading log)



Remind (Text notification for library events)



hoopla App (Instantly borrow digital materials)



MeL (Books and databases)



Shoutbomb (Text notifications for library account info)



libby App (Digital books)



1. Library Staff Opportunities.

- ✓ Director Tinkham: 2/16 NC Directors’ Meeting; 2/21/23 NADL Board Meeting; NC Board of Commissioners’ Meeting.

2. Collection Management and Development.

- ✓ Development: Added: 106 new physical items.
- ✓ Management: Withdrawal of magazines dated prior to January 2022; and Large Print books last circulated 2019 or before.

3. Grants and Donations.

- ✓ 1/20/23: Rich and Kerriann Meeuwenberg donated \$500 from their FACF donor advised fund to help fund the NADL 2023 summer reading program.
- ✓ 1/31/23: NADL received a private donation of \$2,500 to be used for general needs, including programming.
- ✓ 3/1/23: In process of writing a Dollar General grant request to purchase two new children’s educational computers and audio-enabled books.
- ✓ 3/2/23: Submitted a Letter of Intent to the Great Lakes Energy People Fund for a possible \$5,000 grant to purchase seven new public computers.

4. Wowbry Newsletter – 148 subscribers/521 emails sent; **Remind Subscribers** –126; **ShoutBomb Subscribers** – 89 users/50 texts sent.

5. Social Media.

- ✓ **FB:** 1406 Likes; 1526 Follows; **Instagram:** 257 Follows; **Twitter:** 27 Follows.

6. Building & Maintenance.

- ✓ January 2023: Received replacement door to be installed on bench near Timbertown Coffee Shop. Vos Glass inspected the bench near Linda’s Chapel to correct the problem with the fractured vinyl on the glass panel. Installations should happen when the temperatures begin to rise.
- ✓ Feb 16: Kone performed routine maintenance on the elevator.
- ✓ Feb 20-22: Leader Lights re-inspected all lights in the facility, changed out ballasts and corrected previous work.

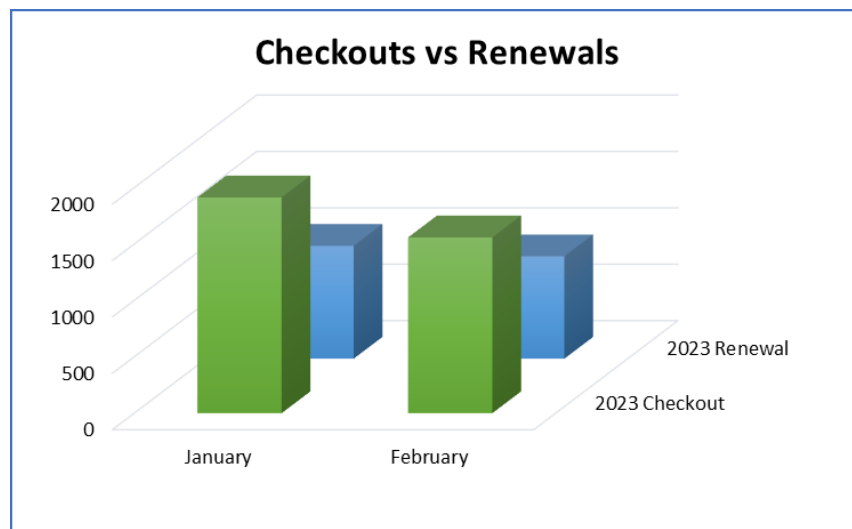
7. Lakeland Library Cooperative.

- ✓ ILS Manager Sheryl VanderWagen will retire Autumn of 2023.
- ✓ Patron Point is active for NADL patrons.

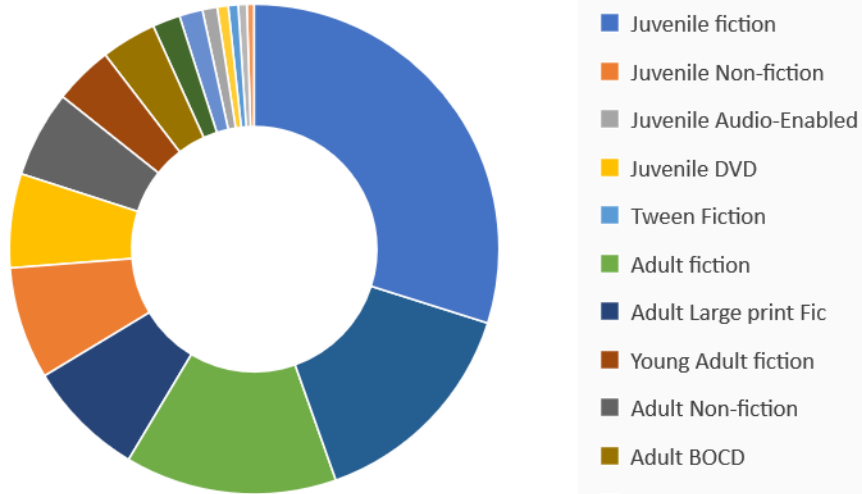
8. Covid-19 Supplies Distribution. We continue to distribute as patrons stop in.

9. Library Circulation.

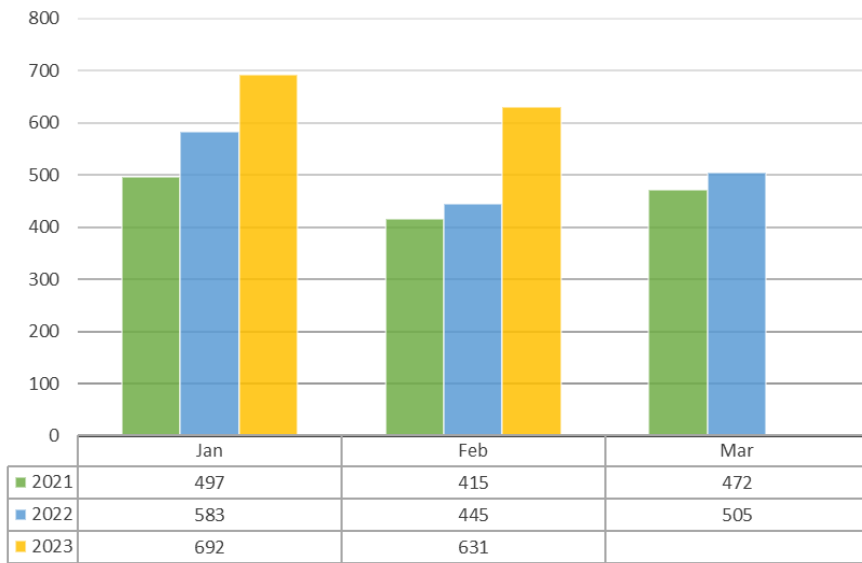
- ✓ 23 new library accounts in February.



FEBRUARY 2023 Circulation by Format



Monthly Electronic Circulation Comparison



JAN-FEB TOTAL CIRCULATION

