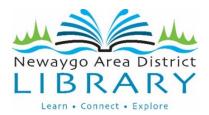
# LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT MARCH 2025



Library programs are a vital component of a community's cultural and educational landscape. They not only enhance access to knowledge and learning but also bring people together, foster creativity, support workforce development, and improve health and well-being. For local libraries, these programs are central to their mission of serving the public good and ensuring that all members of the community have the resources they need to thrive. Through well-designed, inclusive programs, libraries truly serve as community hubs, enriching lives and strengthening the social fabric of the areas they serve.

Here are a few of the fun things we did in the past few weeks!!



MIDDLE SCHOOL CHESS CLUB - The downstairs library was full of young people and energy every Tuesday in January and February as our Chess Club Participants solved chess puzzles, played against their peers, and made new friends. Supported by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

We were so excited to have the 3rd graders from Newaygo Elementary visit us as part of their reading challenge! The students took a little tour and then chose books to read while they were here. They got cozy in our Story Time area, at tables, bean bags, and couches to dive into reading!





It was so AWESOME having local author, licensed counselor, and trauma therapist Lisa Saruga at the Newaygo Library for an Author Talk! She spoke about her debut book "The Trauma Tree: Going Beyond Survival, Growing Toward Wholeness". Supported by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

March is Reading Month and in the Children's library, we celebrated "Books We Love" There were blank hearts that children could write the title of their favorite book on, to be displayed for others to check out. We received over 100 hearts from patrons!!



### 1. Library Staff Opportunities.

- ✓ Director Franklin LLC Board & Advisory Meeting 2/13/25; NADL Board Meeting 2/18/25.
- ✓ Monthly Staff Meeting All Attended.
- ✓ Tammie and Carly had a table at Newaygo Elementary Literacy Night 3/6/25;
- ✓ Cheryl presented library information with a Library Genre Bingo game to Newaygo Middle Schoolers 3/7/25.
- ✓ Our Fourth Annual Chili Cook- winner is Barb!

### 2. Programming Participation – February 2025.

- ✓ Candle Making Adult 11
- ✓ Chess Club 10 to 18 yrs. 20
- ✓ Count the Candy Hearts Children 76
- ✓ Chili Cook-Off 29
- ✓ Adult Book Club 2
- ✓ Lisa Saruga Author Talk 13
- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Visit 2 days Total 125
- ✓ Diamond Painting Locker Magnets 10 to 18 yrs. 23
- ✓ Adult Drop-In Craft 24
- ✓ Adult / Teen Winter Reading 50
- ✓ Leather Journal Stamping Ages 10 18 yrs. 9

#### 2. Collection Management and Development.

✓ Added: 75 new physical items.

### 3. Grants and Donations.

- ✓ FACF Newaygo Area District Library Fund has \$3,300 available for library circulating materials.
- ✓ FACF John and Ailene Pugno Community Fund for NADL has \$300 available for 2025 plus an additional \$300 of unspent money in past years, making a grand total available of \$600 for 2025.

### 4. Wowbrary Newsletter – 483 Subscribers; Remind Subscribers –190;

#### 5. Social Media.

✓ FB: 1894 Follows; Instagram: 291 Follows; Twitter: 33 Follows.

### 8. Library Circulation.

✓ 26 new library accounts.

Mary Franklin, Library Director

Mary Franklin



# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT NEWAYGO LIBRARY

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

# WE ALL LIVE HERE – APRIL ADULT BOOK CLUB: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Join Jessica to discuss *We All Live Here*, a book about Lila Kennedy and her unruly blended family. It turns out even the family you thought you could never forgive might have something to teach about love, and what it actually means to be a family.

# FORAGING & WILD TENDING: April 3rd 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Come join Katie and Luke Venechuk, foraging instructors from In Your Element Wellness, as they share about how foraging for wild foods can enhance lives, and discuss the amazing edible plants and mushrooms that are all around us. They'll also talk about identification of some key wild foods of the season, safe and ethical harvesting practices and more! This program is supported in part by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

# SUPER SMASH BROS TOURNMENT: April 4<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

You've been asking for it! Here it is! This Spring Break, we'll be hosting our first Nintendo Switch Super Smash Bros Tournament for ages 10 - 15. Free to enter and you don't need to bring your switch or controllers. Only 16 slots available and prizes for all participants, so sign up with a friend soon! Parent permission required.

# ADULT DROP-IN CRAFT DIY MASON JAR BIRDFEEDER: April 7th - 12th

The Adult Drop-In Craft for APRIL will be a DIY Mason Jar Birdfeeder! The early bird gets the birdfeeder, so come in make this craft before the supplies are gone! This craft is supported in part by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council. All supplies will be available upstairs in the Local History Room during Library hours. QUANTITIES ARE LIMITED. Adults and Teens ONLY. LIMIT One Per Person. This is a Drop-In craft. Supplies are not available to make this at home

# FUN WITH WATERCOLOR - AGES 10-18: April 19th 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

We are excited to offer a Fun with Watercolor class for 10 - 18 year olds on April 19 from 10:30 - 12:30! During this class, you will learn some artistic skills and create a painting to take home. This class will be taught by children's book illustrator and author, Lori McElrath-Eslick. Registration required. This class is sponsored by the Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

# SUCCULENT CAN CREATIONS DROP IN CRAFT AGES 10-18: April 21st – April 26th

Celebrate Earth Day and express your creative self by upcycling a tin can into a Succulent Can Creation! Ages 10 - 18 can stop by the library the week of April 21 -26 (or until supplies last) to decorate a tin and then plant a succulent to take home. This drop-in craft is sponsored 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: <u>remind.com/join/nadl1915</u> or Text @nadl1915 to 81010



JOJO

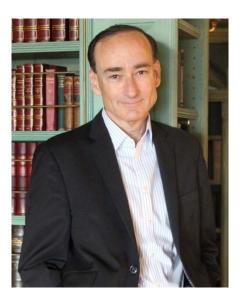








# FEATURED AUTHOR FOR APRIL



Chris Bohjalian is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of 25 books. His 25th book, THE JACKAL'S MISTRESS, is now on sale. He writes literary fiction, historical fiction, thrillers, and (on occasion) ghost stories. His goal is never to write the same book twice. He has published somewhere in the neighborhood of 3.5 million words. His work has been translated into 35 languages and become three movies (MIDWIVES, SECRETS OF EDEN, and PAST THE BLEACHERS) and an Emmywinning TV series (THE FLIGHT ATTENDANT). He has two other novels in development for TV series as well.

