FROM THE DIRECTOR
An Update from Kelly Richards

NEW Strategic Plan: 2022–2025

I have loved and cherished the past seven years as the Director of the Muskegon Area District Library (MADL). I have been blessed to lead a team of great employees to shepherd the organization through many significant changes. The Library Board has been very forward thinking for the citizens of Muskegon County. The Board and staff listened to your requests and we accomplished many of them. This time with you has been awesome and my greatest experience in the library world. In January, I will be leaving MADL to start a new incredible adventure serving as the President and Director at the Free Library of Philadelphia. How that happened is fantastic but a story for another day.

During the past several months, we embarked on an ambitious strategic planning process which included collecting valuable information from our community through surveys and focus groups about the needs and wants for the future. We truly appreciate the participation from our community. The plan will also consider your needs from MADL as we navigate our way through Covid.

This year, MADL will begin to implement the new Strategic Plan, which will help chart its direction and focus on key goals. The Plan guides the decision-making to deliver the best possible services for the community at large. Concurrently, an Implementation Plan will be finalized. The Implementation Plan will serve as a means of monitoring and measuring success in progressing towards, and reaching the established Goals over the next three years. There will be many new initiatives to help make MADL one of the most effective and vital public libraries for the residents in our community.

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Early Literacy Stations with S.T.R.E.A.M
Fun for Kids at all branch locations!

NEW iPad Kits Now Available for Check Out

MADL is making it easy to bring accessible devices and internet access with you wherever you go. The new MADL iPad Kits contain everything you need to work, learn, or play anywhere you happen to be. Each kit includes a 10-inch iPad, wireless mouse and keyboard, a hotspot, and a convenient carrying case. A “Getting Started” guide is also included for those who are new to iPads, and it includes simple steps to get you started as well as information on how to connect to the library for one-on-one help. All MADL cardholders in good standing will be able to place a hold on an iPad Kit through the MADL catalog or by calling their favorite MADL branch.

Funding is provided in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library of Michigan.

New Look at the Montague Branch

When you visit the Montague branch, you may feel a calm wash over you. Inside you will enjoy stepping onto freshly installed new carpeting. You’ll find yourself surrounded by newly painted walls in various shades of blue. The recently renovated branch has a way of making you feel at home—your home away from home.

Our AWE Learning Stations are now installed with the latest updates for kids to enjoy whenever the libraries are open. The children’s computers feature over 100 educational titles. A child sized colorful keyboard and mouse make it easy to use. They are equipped with all kinds of content, everything from learning letters and their sounds to learning about privacy online, and learning how to code. Here are some of the games—ABC Trains, Connect the Dots, Fingertapps Paints, Our World.
MADL is joining hundreds of libraries in a national early literacy program, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, which promotes reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers and encourages parent and child bonding through reading.

Numerous studies estimate that as many as one in five children have difficulties learning to read. Reading has been associated as an early indicator of academic success. Public formal education does not typically start until ages 5–6, making parents and caregivers their children’s first teachers during the critical early years.

The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge is a simple and fun way (read a book, any book, to your child with the goal of reading 1,000 before kindergarten) to establish strong early literacy skills. Repetition is great for young children so you can count a book EVERY time you read it to your child. By participating, you can help young children gain the confidence necessary to become strong readers.

**Coming in February**

To join this program, simply go to madl.org/1000 books, register on the Beanstack app to track your activity, and start reading. If you have trouble with the Beanstack app, visit your local MADL Branch and they can help. Optional paper reading logs are available at MADL Branches so children can watch their reading progress. Stop by a MADL Branch to get a reading log and receive a brag tag for each 100 books read. After your child logs 1,000 books, they will earn a great new backpack for school.

**It’s never too early to start reading to your children!**
Literacy Village
Looking for advice on kindergarten readiness? Personal support will be available in combination with our Storyville Villages. Parents and caregivers will get guidance in building literacy learning foundations. Ages 0-5 and their caregivers. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Montague Branch
Mondays: 10:00–11:00 am

Norton Shores Branch
Fridays: 9:30–10:30 am

Muskegon Heights Branch
Fridays: 11:00 am–12:00 pm

Wimee’s Words
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays
4:00 pm

Facebook Live
Tune into the Muskegon Area District Library Facebook Page for an online LIVE show featuring a singing robot, story writing, a science bird, Spanish learning, musical guests, kid chats, daily features, and more. “Wimee’s Words” is a web based interactive LIVE kids show that encourages imagination, vocabulary building, and storytelling through puppetry, music, and wordplay. Join the educational fun where YOUR ideas could become part of the show!

Photo Scavenger Hunt
Entire month of January
Open Hours
Montague Branch
Come with your photo taking device (phone, camera, etc.) anytime during the month of January and complete our scavenger hunt around the library. Perfect for the whole family. Prizes will be awarded!

Snacktivity
Wednesdays
January 5–May 25
3:00-6:00 pm

Montague Branch
Meet at the library for games, crafts, Lego and more every Wednesday. Snacks provided at this fun activity. Drop in anytime.

Movie Time
Wednesdays, January 5–May 25
3:00 pm

Ravenna Branch
Watch a family friendly movie every Wednesday. Snacks provided.

Afternoon Movie
Second Thursday of the month
January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12
5:00 pm

Muskegon Heights Branch
Watch a family friendly movie every second Thursday. Snacks provided.

History Talks:
Pirates on the Great Lakes
Thursday, January 13
6:00 pm

Ravenna Branch
Join us for an interactive program about piracy on the Great Lakes, and learn how it was very different from what you might have imagined or heard about. Get to know the real-life Great Lakes pirate, Dan Seavey, and his exploits which included the hijacking of a ship in West Michigan.

Take It Make It: Valentine Cards
Available beginning Tuesday, January 18.
Visit any branch to pick up your free craft kit and make valentine cards for family and friends. If you bring some back to the library, we will get them to local nursing homes. Available while supplies last.
Music Play Patrol
Third Tuesday of the month
January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17
10:30 am
Zoom
Sing-a-long with Mr. Frank as he teaches us about instruments, music, sounds, and more. Perfect for classrooms to join. Registration required on the madl.org calendar. A Zoom link will be emailed to you before the program.

Snowflake STEAM
Thursday, January 20
3:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Join Ms. Diana to conduct a variety of snowflake science and frosty experiments: everything from making crystals to creating snowflake art. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

History Talks:
Pirates on the Great Lakes
Thursday, January 20
6:00 pm
Muskegon Township Branch
Join us for an interactive program about piracy on the Great Lakes, and learn how it was very different from what you might have imagined or heard about. Get to know the real-life Great Lakes pirate, Dan Seavey, and his exploits which included the hijacking of a ship in West Michigan.

Love Bug Bingo
February 1 to 14
Dalton Branch
It’s February and love is in the library. Pick up your Love Bug Bingo card at the desk, search the library to find the bugs that match your card, mark them down, and return to the desk for a prize. Ages 10 and under.

Lego Building Challenge
Thursday, February 17
3:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Build and compete or just build—we’ll provide the Legos. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Kids Paper Craft
Third Monday of the month
February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16
4:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Bend, fold, glue, and press! Make a boxy paper creation from a flat piece of paper and turn it in to a 3-D figure.

Family Fun Night:
Library Olympics
Go for the Gold in our Library Olympics. Compete in our version of some of your favorite olympic events, try to make it through our obstacle course, make crafts, and learn about how the Olympics started in Greece and about the host country of China. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Norton Shores Branch
Monday, February 21
6:00 pm
Montague Branch
Thursday, February 24
6:00 pm

Spring Equinox Celebration
Saturday, March 5 & 12
11:00 am
Dalton Branch
Create a piece of art that includes 12 things, in honor of the Spring Equinox on March 20, when we will have an equal amount of day and night time, 12 hours each. Artwork will be displayed until March 18. Patrons will be able to vote on their favorite. The winning artist will receive a gift grab bag. Call 231-828-4188 to register.

Take It Make It:
Spring Craft
Available beginning Monday, March 7. Visit any branch to pick up your free craft kit while supplies last.

Make a Sock Book Worm
Monday, March 7
3:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Need a reading buddy? We’ve got you covered. Miss Diana will show you how to make your own Book Worm out of a sock. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

At time of publication no programs are planned for the Holton Branch due to upcoming renovations. Watch the madl.org calendar for changes and updates.

Having trouble registering on the madl.org calendar? Visit or call your local branch and we will help!
Families welcome!

**Make it @ Montague Salt Painting**
Thursday, March 10
5:30 pm
**Montague Branch**
Create a beautiful piece of art using three simple ingredients.

**Family Fun Night: How Does Your Garden Grow?**
It’s time to think about spring planting. Decorate a pot to start your indoor garden and “borrow” seeds from MADL’s Seed Library to get planting at home. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

**Bow WOW Readers**
Third Monday of the month
March 21, April 18, May 16
5:30 pm
**Norton Shores Branch**
Fourth Wednesday of the month
March 23, April 27, May 25
5:30 pm
**Library for the Visually & Physically Disabled**
Bow WOW Readers is a once-a-month read-aloud program that pairs people ages 6 and up with trained therapy dogs and handlers from the MLOTCP for reading. Register for a time slot on the calendar at madl.org.

**Easter Egg Hunt and Crafts**
Saturday, April 2
10:30 am
**Egelston Branch**
Search for Easter eggs, and take home a craft. Fun for everyone.

**Easter Egg Drop**
Saturday, April 9
11:00 am
**North Muskegon Branch**
Join the fun at Walker Park between the Library and City Hall. Meet the Easter Bunny as he assists the Friends of the Walker Library in dropping approximately 5,000 candy-filled eggs for children to collect. Age groups are 0-4, 5-7, 8-10 and 10 & up. Younger children will start first.

**Family Game Day**
Wednesday, April 6
3:00 pm
**North Muskegon Branch**
Bring the whole family for an afternoon of fun-board games, puzzles, charades, Pictionary, or active video games. Snacks provided.

**Duct Tape Pouches**
Thursday, April 7
3:30 pm
**Norton Shores Branch**
Use fun and funky Duct tape and heavy freezer bags to make an awesome bag to carry your pencils, Legos or whatever else you want. Ages 5–12. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

**Easter Egg Hunt**
Saturday, April 9
10:30 am
**Holton Branch**
Participate in an Easter Egg Hunt in Downtown Holton Park, meet and take pictures with the Easter Bunny and make a craft. Bring your own basket. Please stop by the library or call 231-821-0268 to register.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**
Families welcome!
1, 2, 3, Play with Me
Wednesdays, April 13–May 11
11:30 am–12:45 pm
Ravenna Branch
The Ravenna Branch will join the
Family Place Libraries national
network to provide a welcoming
community environment with
resources that families need
to nurture their children’s
development, beginning at birth,
to help with school readiness.

Join us for a five-week series of
parent/child workshops focusing
on: Early Literacy, Speech &
Language, Child Development,
Nutrition, and Music & Movement.

Families will meet community
professionals who can answer
questions, provide insight, and
build awareness around services in
the area (at no cost). Families are
asked to commit to all five weeks.

Ages 0–3 and their caregivers.
Registration required on the
madl.org calendar.

Family Fun Night: Harry Potter
Spells will be flying at our Harry
Potter Family Fun Night. Join us for
a magical evening of Harry Potter
trivia, games, crafts and food just in
time for the new Fantastic Beasts
movie. If you come dressed as your
favorite character, you can enter
our costume contest. Registration
required on the madl.org calendar.
Montague Branch
Thursday, April 21
6:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Monday, April 25
6:00 pm

Take It Make It: Shrinky Dinks
Available beginning May 2.
Visit any branch to pick up your
free Shrinky Dinks craft kit while
supplies last.

Squirt Gun Painting
Saturday, May 14
10:30 am
Egelston Branch
Did you know art can be a bang?
Use a squirt gun to make the
ultimate painting to take home and
hang on your wall. Ages 4 and up.

Family Fun Night: Dog Man
Police Academy and Cat Kid
Comic Club
Join the Dog Man Police Academy
and the Cat Kid Comic Club for
games, activities, crafts and food
inspired by two of your favorite
characters. Registration required
on the madl.org calendar.
Montague Branch
Thursday, May 19
6:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Monday, May 23
6:00 pm

T-Rex Tea Party
Saturday, May 21
1:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Join us for various dinosaur
activities including: stories, a craft,
Dino-dancing, tea, and more. We
promise you’ll have a roaring good
time. Registration required on the
madl.org calendar.

Make It @ Montague: Dinosaur Suncatcher
Thursday, May 26
5:30 pm
Montague Branch
Join Kristina as she shows you how
to make a scary or cute dinosaur.
CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

Families welcome!

ABC’s of Cooking
Join Read Muskegon for a six-week course for caregivers and their children that includes literacy activities and child-friendly recipes cooked on site. Great for families with children ages 3–5. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Holton Branch
(Location may change due to library remodel)
Fridays, April 1–May 6
10:00 am–12:00 pm

ABC’s of Art
Join Read Muskegon for a six-week course for caregivers and their children that includes literacy activities and art projects on site. Great for families with children ages 3–5. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Muskegon Heights Branch
Thursdays, February 3–March 10
11:30 am–1:30 pm

ABC’s of Sound
This class takes a closer look at phonemic awareness through interactive stories and activities. For families with children ages 3–5 who have already attended an ABC’s of Cooking or Art class.

Muskegon Heights Branch
Fridays, March 11–April 15
10:00 am–12:00 pm

Holton Branch
Fridays, May 13–June 17
10:00 am–12:00 pm

January 10–May 7

Storytime

Tiny Tots
A special storytime for children 0 to 36 months with a caregiver. Little ones will enjoy books, games, songs, and other age appropriate story related activities.

Toddler Time
Created for 2 and 3-year-old toddlers and their caregivers, Toddler Time includes books, fingerplays, music, crafts, movement, pre-reading games, and more.

Preschool Storytime
Geared toward 3 to 5-year-old children and their families. This program will engage children in books, fingerplays, music, crafts, movement, pre-reading games and more.

Family Time
Designed to reach children ages birth through elementary, Family Time includes elements of Preschool Storytime, Toddler Time, and Tiny Tots.

MONDAYS
Egelston Branch: 9:45–10:15 am Tiny Tots
Ravenna Branch: 10:00–10:45 am Family
Muskegon Heights Branch: 11:30 am–12:00 pm Tiny Tots

TUESDAYS
Dalton Branch: 9:15–10:00 am Family
Norton Shores Branch: 10:30–11:15 am Toddler
Montague Branch: 11:00 –11:45 am Family

WEDNESDAYS
Holton Branch: 11:15 am–12:00 pm Family
Norton Shores Branch: 11:15 am–12:00 pm Preschool

FRIDAYS
North Muskegon Branch: 9:30–10:15 am Toddler
Muskegon Township Branch: 10:00–10:45 am Family
North Muskegon Branch: 11:00 am–11:45 pm Preschool

Watch for special Money Smart Storytimes at your branch in partnership with Michigan Financial Wellness Network in April.
Spring Break Fun!

MADL at the Movies
Join MADL at the Cinema Carousel Tuesday, April 5 for a great movie as we celebrate Spring Break. You will need to show us your MADL library card to get a free ticket. (Sorry only MADL library cards accepted). We’ll provide the ticket and the Cinema will provide the pop and popcorn. More details coming soon!

Candy Bar Bingo

- **Egelston Branch**
  - Monday, April 4
  - 10:30 am

- **Muskegon Heights Branch**
  - Monday, April 4
  - 2:00 pm

- **Norton Shores Branch**
  - Monday, April 4
  - 2:00 pm

- **Ravenna Branch**
  - Wednesday, April 6
  - 2:00 pm

- **Montague Branch**
  - Wednesday, April 6
  - 3:00 pm

- **Library for the Visually and Physically Disabled**
  - Thursday, April 7
  - 10:00 am

- **Muskegon Township Branch**
  - Friday, April 8
  - 11:00 am

- **Dalton Branch**
  - Friday, April 8
  - 2:00 pm

- **North Muskegon Branch**
  - Friday, April 8
  - 3:00 pm

Spring in to STEAM
Build it, grow it, draw it, or make it. See cool things you can do with everyday objects. Visit multiple stations for different fun activities focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

- **Ravenna Branch**
  - Monday, April 4
  - 1:00 pm

- **North Muskegon Branch**
  - Monday, April 4
  - 4:00 pm

- **Dalton Branch**
  - Wednesday, April 6
  - 11:00 am

- **Norton Shores Branch**
  - Wednesday, April 6
  - 2:00 pm

- **Muskegon Township Branch**
  - Thursday, April 7
  - 2:00 pm

- **Montague Branch**
  - Thursday, April 7
  - 4:00 pm

- **Muskegon Heights Branch**
  - Friday, April 8
  - 11:00 am

- **Egelston Branch**
  - Friday, April 8
  - 2:00 pm
Teen Video Game Night
Thursdays, January 6–May 26
4:00 pm
Ravenna Branch
Hang out and play Nintendo Switch party games. Snacks provided.

Teen Club
Second Tuesday of the month
January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10
4:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Join us at Teen Club for crafts, trivia, book discussions, and more.

Dragon Eye Necklace
Wednesday, January 12
3:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Are you excited for the Game of Thrones prequel House of the Dragon or do you just love dragons? Make a dragon eye necklace with us using nail polish. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Paper Creation
Second Friday of the month
January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13
4:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Make a 3-D model of popular characters from TV, video games, and anime using a piece of paper.

MiLibrary Teen Quest
Beginning February 1, teens can search for clues on participating libraries’ websites, solve a mystery, and be entered to win a $25 Meijer gift card. Watch for more information at madl.org/teenquest.

Lip Balm and Mermaid Sugar Scrub
Tuesday, February 1
3:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
First, we’ll show you how simple it is to make your own homemade lip balm. Then we’ll show you how to leave your skin feeling magical when you make your own mermaid sugar scrub using coconut oil, sugar and food coloring. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

School Color Wreath
Saturday, February 19
1:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Show your Norse or Rocket pride by making a school color wreath out of bandannas. It’s really easy and will look great in your room. Ms. Diana will show you how. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Make It @ Montague: Wish Bracelet
Wednesday, February 23
3:30 pm
Montague Branch
Drop in after school to make a cute and colorful wish bracelet.

Green Screen Basics
Wednesday, March 2
3:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Join us to make your own short movies using green screen technology. We’ll show you how. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Video Game Day
Wednesday, April 6
3:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Are retro games your thing? Go head to head with each other on our Atari or SNES.

Duct Tape Wallets
Thursday, April 7
3:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
We’ve got the duct tape, you bring the creativity. Ms. Diana will walk you through how to make your own wallet out of colorful duct tape. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Super Smash Bros Ultimate Tournament
Thursday, April 7
4:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Think you’re good at Smash Bros? Think you can keep your opponents off the stage? Test your skills against others in this unofficial tournament at the library.

Make It @ Montague: Dotted Sharpie Mugs
Wednesday, April 27
3:30 pm
Montague Branch
Drop in after school to make a personalized mug that expresses who you are.

Video Game Day
Wednesday, May 18
3:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Are retro games your thing? Go head to head with each other on our Atari or SNES.
**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**Descriptive Movie Afternoon**  
First Monday of the month  
Jan 10 (note date change)  
*No Man’s Land*  
Feb 7: *Godzilla vs Kong*  
March 7: *Here Today*  
April 4: *Black Widow*  
May 2: *Luca*  
1:00 pm  
**Library for the Visually & Physically Disabled**  
Come sit back and enjoy a movie at the LVPD. Watch on a large TV with descriptive audio so that anyone can enjoy. Light refreshments provided.

**Craft Clutch**  
Fridays, January 7–May 27  
1:00 pm  
**Muskegon Township Branch**  
Bring your own craft supplies and chat with other crafters while working on your project. All crafts, skill levels, and newcomers welcome.

**Trivia Night**  
Second Tuesday of the month  
January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10  
6:00 pm  
**North Muskegon Branch**  
Are you a Wise Guy? A Smarty Pants? Go head to head against others and prove it! Refreshments will be served, prizes will be awarded, and it’s free. So, come out, test your knowledge, and exercise your mind! Open to anyone 16+. Registration required on the madl.org calendar. (Can’t make it to the library? Play along on Facebook.)

**Dungeons & Dragons in the Stacks**  
Wednesdays, 5:30–8:00 pm  
January 12, February 2, March 30, May 4  
**Norton Shores Branch**  
Maybe you’ve heard of a strange and mythical game involving many sided dice and fighting monsters. You’re intrigued but don’t know where to start. Staff from The Griffin’s Rest game store will explain the basic elements of the classic role-playing game for beginners and players looking to practice. Attend one or all sessions. Ages 13 and up. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

**Expungement Workshop**  
Friday, January 14  
Monday, March 21  
Friday, April 8  
3:00 pm  
**Muskegon Heights Branch**  
If a prior criminal conviction prevents you from finding a job or starting a career, this workshop could help. Learn more about how the Clean Slate law helps expunge records so that you can legally state that you’ve never been convicted or arrested for that crime on job, school, and/or housing applications. Expungement can help you find full-time employment and create financial stability. West Michigan Works will help with the steps necessary to file a Set Aside application.

**Board Game Night**  
Third Wednesday of the Month  
January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18  
6:00 pm  
**Library for the Visually & Physically Disabled**  
Come on in and play some board games. We will have many to choose from. Light refreshments provided. Fun for all ages.

**100 Years of the NAACP in Muskegon County**  
Take a look back at the NAACP’s 100+ year history in Muskegon County with video interviews of local residents. One of those residents will be on hand to share their experience.

**Muskegon Heights Branch**  
Thursday, January 20  
5:30 pm  
**Norton Shores Branch**  
Wednesday, February 9  
7:00 pm  
**North Muskegon Branch**  
Wednesday, February 16  
6:00 pm

**Coming Soon!**  
**New Laketon Township branch at the Reeths-Puffer Administrative Offices**
Knitting with Tina
Thursday, January 20
5:00–7:00 pm
Montague Branch
Learn to knit a cowl. Bring your favorite 100g skein of DK or Worsted weight yarn and corresponding 16” circular needles (check your ball band for needle size) to knit a cozy cowl to keep you warm this winter. Learn how to knit in the round and a k(knit)4, p(purl)2 rib pattern. Some supplies will be available, but you are encouraged to bring your own needles and yarn. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Creative Creatures and Basic Cartooning with Corinne Roberts
Monday, January 24
7:00 pm
Zoom
Learn basic cartooning techniques with professional artist, Corinne Roberts. All ages welcome. No prior drawing experience is needed. All you need is paper, pencil, and eraser. Registration required on the madl.org calendar. A Zoom link will be emailed to you before the program.

Euchre Night
Last Wednesday of the month
January 26, February 23, March 30, April 27, May 25
6:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Are you a hardcore Euchre player? Have you only played once? Do you want to know what Euchre is? Come join us and we’ll teach you how to play and provide some competition for more experienced players. Open to anyone 16+. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Book Blizzard Bingo
February 1–March 31
Pick up a bingo card at any MADL Branch, snuggle up with good book, and complete a bingo for a chance to win a great prize. Ages 18 and up.

Make It @ Montague: Home Spa Day
Thursday, February 10
5:30 pm
Montague Branch
Join Kristina to make mint face scrub, bath bombs, and vanilla coffee sugar scrub. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

Live at the Library: Serita’s Black Rose
Tuesday, February 1
6:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Self-professed “Funkateer”, Serita Crowley of Serita’s Black Rose, brings a raucous mix of funk, rock, blues, Neo-soul, and Americana that will shake the ground beneath your feet.

VITA Tax Help
The VITA program provides free tax preparation to low to moderate income families and individuals. Our volunteers are trained and certified to help you get any and all credits and refunds that you are due. If you are interested in finding out more about our VITA service, email vitataxes@goodwillwm.org. Call 211 after January 17 to schedule your FREE VITA Tax Preparation appointment.

Muskegon Heights Branch
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, February 1–April 13
10:00 am–1:00 pm and 2:00–4:00 pm
Egelston Branch
Wednesdays, February 3–April 13
11:30 am–3:30 pm

History Talks:
Great Lakes Fur Trade
Thursday, February 10
6:00 pm
Ravenna Branch
Hear about the trade that first brought Europeans to Michigan and the Great Lakes. Handle furs, learn what makes them valuable, and get to know the French voyageurs who helped pave the way for Michigan’s later populations. All ages welcome.
Knitting with Tina
Thursday, February 17
5:00–7:00 pm
Montague Branch
Learn to knit fingerless mitts in the round.
Bring approximately 150 yards of your favorite fingering weight yarn along with size 2.5mm dpns (double point needles) and either a 9”–11” size 2.5mm circular needles or 2, 16” or 24” (1 in ea. length is preferable) 2.5mm circular needles. All of these techniques will be demonstrated if time allows. Some supplies will be available, but you are encouraged to bring your own needles and yarn. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

A Fashionista’s Guide to Purses on a Budget
Thursday, February 17
6:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Do you like purses and handbags but don’t know much about them? Tanisha will go over some different brands and give some tips on buying online.

History Talks:
Great Lakes Fur Trade
Thursday, February 17
6:00 pm
Muskegon Township Branch
Hear about the trade that first brought Europeans to Michigan and the Great Lakes. Handle furs, learn what makes them valuable, and get to know the French Voyageurs who helped pave the way for Michigan’s later populations. All ages welcome.

Drawing Space Adventures with Corinne Roberts
Monday, February 21
7:00 pm
Zoom
A drawing class for the whole family. Learn how to make some out of this world works of art. All ages welcome. No prior drawing experience is needed. All you need is paper, pencil, and eraser. Registration required on the madl.org calendar. A Zoom link will be emailed to you before the program.

Soul Food Exchange
Thursday, February 24
5:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Learn a little about the history of soul food and share your love of it as you exchange your favorite soul food recipes with others.

MADL Thursday Night Music Club presents Serita’s Black Rose
Thursday, February 24
7:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
A raucous mix of funk, rock, blues, Neo-soul, and Americana that will shake the ground beneath your feet.

Lost in Michigan
Wednesday, March 16
6:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Mike Sonnenberg, author of Lost in Michigan: History and Travel Stories from An Endless Road Trip, showcases interesting and historic locations from around Michigan and tells fascinating stories about them. He will be showing some of the photographs he has taken and talking about his travels around Michigan. Sonnenberg’s work has been featured in the Detroit Free Press and he is considered a “Michigan Expert” by USA Today.
**Montague Branch**

This class will be an open knit class to finish up our beginners knitting class series. Bring your works in progress from previous classes and we will try and make them finished objects for show and tell! Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

**Drawing Mythical Creatures with Corinne Roberts**

Monday, March 21

7:00 pm

**Zoom**

Join a drawing class that is great for the whole family. Use basic shapes and simple line techniques to create classic and your own imaginative Mythical Creatures. All ages welcome. No prior drawing experience is needed. All you need is paper, pencil, and eraser. Registration required on the madl.org calendar. A Zoom link will be emailed to you before the program.

**Seed Swap**

Monday, March 28

5:00–7:00 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**

Our Seed Library is entering its 5th year and to celebrate we are hosting a seed swap. Bring your own varieties of fresh heirloom seeds to share with fellow gardening enthusiasts and go home with several more varieties. It’s like a potluck but with seeds.

**Community Appreciation Day**

Tuesday, April 5

**All MADL Branches—ALL Day**

It’s National Library Week and our chance to celebrate our library users! Join us for treats and giveaways throughout the day.

**Live at the Library: Plain Jane Glory**

Tuesday, April 5

6:30 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**

Laura and Michael Boxer on fiddle, guitar and vocals return to our stage with their special brand of folk and Americana. Refreshments provided.

**Poet Kip Sorlie**

Thursday, April 7

6:00 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**

In celebration of National Poetry Month, North Muskegon welcomes local poet Kip Sorlie. His stories set to rhyme tell of a little boy who grew up on Drummond Island, a Soldier who served four tours of duty in Vietnam, and a cowboy who aged in Montana and South Dakota. These life experiences provide the words that come from his pen. Refreshments provided.

**Winter Skin Care: Get back your glow**

Michigan winters can be hard, especially on our skin. Our skin is our largest organ and sometimes we don’t treat it as well as we should. Let Krystal George, from The Tish, show you how to ditch that winter dryness and head into spring with glowing skin.

**Norton Shores Branch**

Monday, April 11

6:30 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**

Monday, April 18

6:00pm
**Make It @ Montague:**
**Wine Glass Bunny Candle Holders**
Thursday, April 14
5:30 pm

**Montague Branch**
Join Kristina to make a candle holder perfect for the season.

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**Legal Aid of Western Michigan:**
**End of Life Planning**
Thursday, April 14
6:00 pm

**Muskegon Township Branch**
Have questions about simple wills, powers of attorney, and medical directives? Join Legal Aid of Western Michigan to learn about the basics on these end-of-life planning choices that can greatly reduce stress for you and your loved ones.

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**MADL Thursday Night Music Club presents**
**Entourage**
Thursday, April 21
7:00 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
The repertoire of this versatile trio from Grand Rapids includes jazz, swing, bossa nova, ballroom and much more.

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**Rosie the Riveter**
Wednesday, May 4
6:00 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**
Angie Morthland of the American Rosie the Riveter Association will join us for an enlightening talk on Rosie the Riveter and women in the workforce during World War II. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

**The Thrill of the Mushroom Hunt**
Wednesday, May 11
6:00 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**
Are you curious about the many mushrooms you see popping up every fall and spring? You’re not alone. Library Assistant (and fungus enthusiast) Noah Hanes will present an interactive presentation covering the basics of mushroom identification, their role in the environment, and more. Registration required on the madl.org calendar.

**Alice In Wonderland Sensory Garden**
Saturday, May 14
2:00 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**
Originally created by students at North Muskegon Schools, the sensory garden has gotten an Alice in Wonderland themed glow up. Come check our new and improved garden and enjoy refreshments courtesy of the Walker Friends of the Library.

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**World War II through The Eyes of a Tank Commander**
Monday, May 16
7:00 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Retrace the steps of Sgt. George Rinsema, who fought in the European theater of World War II. Clyde & Beth Rinsema, George’s son & daughter-in-law, share George’s journey. Sgt. Rinsema arrived in France on the Normandy coast after D-Day, saw action in the Battle of the Bulge, fought at the Siegfried Line in Germany, crossed the Rhine, and in 1945 met the Russians at the Elbe River in central Germany. Sgt. Rinsema’s amazing story includes his own personal combat photographs taken with a ‘liberated’ German camera.

**Legal Aid of Western Michigan:**
**Renters Rights**
Thursday, May 19
5:00 pm

**Muskegon Heights Branch**
Falling behind on rent? Eviction threats? Unsafe housing conditions? Tenants can face a lot of legal questions. Join Legal Aid of Western Michigan to learn about landlord/tenant law in Michigan, and to understand your rights and responsibilities as a tenant.

**MADL Thursday Night Music Club presents**
**Adams Family**
Thursday, May 19
7:00 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Rediscover a treasure trove of 1950’s-60s music with the exceptionally tight vocal, guitar and rhythm arrangements of this quartet.
Senior Navigation Services
Are you over age 60? If you need help finding a primary care physician, applying for benefits (veterans, food stamps, Medicaid), paying for medications, obtaining durable medical equipment, financial assistance for hospital bill payment, utility assistance, and food or housing, the Senior Navigator from the Health Project HUB can help with answering questions and linking you to services. No registration required—just drop in.

Montague Branch
Second Tuesday of the month
January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10
1:00–3:00 pm

Dalton Branch
Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month
1:00–3:00 pm

Norton Shores Branch
Third Wednesday of the month
January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18
1:00–3:00 pm

Muskegon Township Branch
First and Third Friday of the month
10:00 am–12:00 pm

Ravenna Branch
First and Third Friday of the month
1:00–3:00 pm

Used Book Sales
North Muskegon Branch
Saturday, April 23
9:00 am–3:30 pm

Norton Shores Branch
Friday, May 6
9:00 am–5:00 pm
Saturday, May 7
9:00 am–3:30 pm

Downton Abbey Teatime Returns
A second movie, Downton Abbey: A New Era opens March 18 and MADL is inviting you back for tea with the Crawleys and their staff. You’re invited to wear a lovely hat and/or period clothing (optional) and join fellow DA fans to enjoy clips from the PBS series, games, trivia and more. Registration required on the madl.org calendar or call your local branch.

North Muskegon Branch
Wednesday, March 9
6:00 pm

Norton Shores Branch
Monday, March 14
6:00 pm

Egelston Branch
Tuesday, March 22
6:00 pm

Ravenna Branch
Wednesday, March 23
6:00 pm

Montague Branch
Thursday, March 31
6:00 pm

Muskegon Prescribes
Food for Health
Learn to eat right through this 12-week cooking and nutrition program MADL is offering in partnership with Community enCompass and the YMCA. Participants will learn cooking skills in this hands-on class, as well as learn nutrition facts and participate in light physical exercise like yoga and meditation. To register, email lauren@communityencompass.org or call the Branch.

Montague Branch
Tuesdays
January 11–March 29
1:00–3:00 pm

Norton Shores Branch
Wednesdays
January 12–March 30
1:00–3:00 pm
Tech Talks: Open Hours
Need some assistance with a device or have questions about an app? Stop in at our Tech Talks Open Hours to get help with technology. Available on a first come, first serve basis.

**Dalton Branch**
Second Monday of the month
(No March session)
January 10, February 14, April 11, May 9
3:00 pm

**Egelston Branch**
Monday, March 7
2:00 pm

**Library for the Visually and Physically Disabled**
Mondays, 2:00 pm
January 24
February 28
March 28
April 25
May 23

**Muskegon Heights Branch**
Fridays, 3:00 pm
February 18
March 18
April 15
May 20

**Muskegon Township Branch**
Monday, February 7
1:00 pm
Thursday, February 24
5:30 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**
Thursday, January 27
2:00 pm
Thursday, March 24
2:00 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Tuesday, February 15
2:00 pm
Tuesday, March 15
6:00 pm
Tuesday, April 19
2:00 pm

**Ravenna Branch**
Wednesday, February 2
5:30 pm
Wednesday, March 2
1:00 pm

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**Tech Talks: Computer Basics**
Having trouble getting started with computers? Need a refresher course? Join Jackie to learn how to get started with computers. She’ll cover some beginner controls and shortcuts, common lingo, and basic internet safety. Register on the madl.org calendar.

**Dalton Branch**
Second Monday of the month
(No March session)
January 10, February 14, April 11, May 9
3:00 pm

**Egelston Branch**
Monday, March 7
2:00 pm

**Library for the Visually and Physically Disabled**
Mondays, 2:00 pm
January 24
February 28
March 28
April 25
May 23

**Muskegon Heights Branch**
Fridays, 3:00 pm
February 18
March 18
April 15
May 20

**Muskegon Township Branch**
Monday, February 7
1:00 pm
Thursday, February 24
5:30 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**
Thursday, January 27
2:00 pm
Thursday, March 24
2:00 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Tuesday, February 15
2:00 pm
Tuesday, March 15
6:00 pm
Tuesday, April 19
2:00 pm

**Ravenna Branch**
Wednesday, February 2
5:30 pm
Wednesday, March 2
1:00 pm
LET’S TALK ABOUT BOOKS
Community book lovers meet once a month at the Library to discuss the book selection of the month. Visit your Library for copies of the featured books. Newcomers always welcome. No registration required.

Muskegon Township Book Club
Third Monday of the month
10:30 am
Muskegon Township Branch
Tuesday, January 18 (note day change)
February 21
March 21
April 18
May 16

Tuesday Evening Book Club
Third Tuesday of the month
6:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
January 18: The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell (Great Michigan Read)
February 15: Behind the Beautiful Forevers by Katherine Boo
March 15: Hidden Figures by Margot Shetterly
April 19: And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie
May 17: The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams

Ravenna Reads Book Club
First Wednesday of the month
6:00 pm
Ravenna Branch
January 5
February 2
March 2
April 6
May 4

Wednesday Night Book Club
Second Wednesday of the Month
6:00 pm
Library for the Visually & Physically Disabled
Jan 12: Room by Emma Donoghue
Feb 9: A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman
March 9: The Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood
April 13: The Future We Choose by Christiana Figueres and Tom Rivett-Carnac
May 11: The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell (Great Michigan Read)

Dalton Book Club
Fourth Wednesday of the month
6:00 pm
Dalton Branch
January 26: The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell (Great Michigan Read)
February 23: The Person Librarian by Marie Benedict
March 23: The Moonlight School by Suzanne Woods Fisher
April 27: Home Safe by Elizabeth Berg
May 25: The Printed Letter Bookshop by Katherine Reay

Book Discussion Group
First Thursday of the month
10:30 am
Norton Shores Branch
January 6: The Women of the Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell (Great Michigan Read)
March 3: Hamnet by Maggie O’Farrell.
April 7: Sand, Stars, Wind, & Water: Field Notes from Up North by Tim Mulherin.
May 5: This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger.

Sand, Stars, Wind, & Water: Field Notes from Up North with Author Tim Mulherin
Join author Tim Mulherin as he discusses his collection of nonfiction essays and stories focusing on a number of themes: identity, place, and belonging; an enduring best friendship; and the increasing interest in and pressure on Michigan from visitors and how to respect this great national treasure and the people who call it home. Books will be available for purchase.

Norton Shores Branch
Wednesday, April 13
7:00 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Tuesday, April 26
6:00 pm
Ravenna Branch
Thursday, April 28
6:00 pm
**Bead Garland**
Create the perfect accent piece for your shelves or table centerpiece to celebrate love all year long.

**North Muskegon Branch**
Monday, February 7
6:00 pm

**Egelston Branch**
Tuesday, February 8
5:30 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Wednesday, February 23
6:30 pm

**Bed Spring Snowman**
Turn an old rusty bed spring into an adorable snowman for your winter home décor. Registration required on the madl.org calendar or call the library.

**Egelston Branch**
Tuesday, January 11
5:30 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Wednesday, January 26
6:30 pm

**Pinecone Flowers**
Easy pinecone flowers inspired by Mother Nature make a cute magnet, a bountiful garland or lovely barrette.

**Egelston Branch**
Tuesday, May 10
5:30 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Wednesday, May 25
6:30 pm

**Wood Block Photo Holder**
Make your own wood block photo holder out of scrap wood and display pictures.

**Egelston Branch**
Tuesday, March 8
5:30 pm

**North Muskegon Branch**
Monday, March 14
6:00 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Wednesday, March 23
6:30 pm

**Wooden Bunny**
Celebrate Spring with a rustic wooden bunny constructed from round and oval wood pieces.

**North Muskegon Branch**
Monday, April 11
6:00 pm

**Egelston Branch**
Tuesday, April 12
5:30 pm

**Norton Shores Branch**
Wednesday, April 27
6:30 pm

**BED SPRING**
Snowman

**Turn an old rusty bed spring into an adorable snowman for your winter home décor. Registration required on the madl.org calendar or call the library.**

**Bed Spring**

**Snowman**

**Turn an old rusty bed spring into an adorable snowman for your winter home décor. Registration required on the madl.org calendar or call the library.**

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**Pinecone Flowers**
Easy pinecone flowers inspired by Mother Nature make a cute magnet, a bountiful garland or lovely barrette.

**Wooden Bunny**
Celebrate Spring with a rustic wooden bunny constructed from round and oval wood pieces.
Thank you Sponsors!

Our Bookmobile brings greater mobile outreach services. Check out the Bookmobile schedule and hours at madl.org/hours_locations/bookmobile.php

Muskegon Area District Library
Board of Directors

The Muskegon Area District Library holds regular meetings at 4:00 pm on the third Monday of each month. Visit madl.org to see the meeting schedule and a list of Board members.

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231-737-6248, ext. 110 Fax: 231-737-6307

Editor, avara@madl.org

You Can Help

Strong libraries help build strong communities. Your investment in our library is an investment in the lifelong learning of our residents and of future generations. If you would like to donate on-line to our Foundation, please visit madl.org, or contact the Director of Finance for more information.