FROM THE DIRECTOR

An Update from Kelly Richards, Director

OUR FUTURE IS BRIGHT!

We extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to our community for its tremendous support to pass our millage. On August 2, Muskegon County residents voted on an operating millage renewal and increase. The 1.249 millage renews the operational funding for a 10 year period through 2025. The Muskegon Area District Library serves 20 local governmental units. We offer educational programs and services, on-line and in-branch materials, technology and friendly and knowledgeable staff.

The community showed its support by voting in favor of the millage. We are thrilled with the positive outcome and support. We know how much you value your libraries and we will continue to serve as a community anchor.

The MADL Board of Trustees congratulates all of the many, many groups, such as the Library’s Friends, citizen’s committee, patrons, business leaders, government officials, vendors, suppliers, neighbors, friends, community groups, faith-based and school organizations who showed their support.

This property tax millage provides 83% of the operating funds for extensive services offered at 10 community branches. With this millage renewal, MADL plans to enhance its services and programs in three strategic areas:

• Early Literacy Outreach
• Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
• Lifelong Learning Opportunities

We extend our sincere appreciation to all of our dedicated supporters who “Love Your Library!” We will continue to work hard to meet the needs of our community by providing extensive services and programs to enrich lives.

State Librarian Randy Riley Visits MADL

State Librarian Randy Riley visited the Muskegon Area District Library on Wednesday, July 20. While here, he addressed the question, “Do we still need libraries?” He enthusiastically reported how communities love their libraries and how important they are in strengthening the community for its betterment. “Libraries have to be committed to being a key player in the community—they have to be embedded in their communities,” he said.

You may have heard some people say, “Well, we can find everything on the internet,” Riley explained. “The internet is a tool—it’s not doing everything. It can’t hold your hand, it can’t direct you. That’s what a good librarian can do—help you get the information you need.”

Technology is a key element of what libraries offer their communities. Libraries are not just about books. They also provide great programs and services, learning and entertainment resources and equal access for all.

Randy also visited the Muskegon Heights, North Muskegon, Muskegon Township and Norton Shores branches. He witnessed first-hand the great value we bring to the community.

ELEPHANT & PIGGIE TO VISIT IN OCTOBER

Elephant and Piggie is a book series for early readers by Mo Willems. The series, which debuted in 2007 with two books, is done in a comic book style, and features two friends: an elephant, Gerald, and a pig, Piggie. The books are written in conversational style with Piggy’s words appearing in pink letter bubbles and Gerald’s appearing in grey letter bubbles. The books often address issues of friendship. Two books in the series have been listed on Time magazine’s Top 10 Children’s Books of the Year: Today I Will Fly and Elephants Cannot Dance!

Movies, Movies and more Movies – at your Library Branch...

Check out the wide variety of movie programs offered this fall at your local Library. Fun and entertaining events for children, teens and adults are planned for your enjoyment. Look for the movie icon in the program listings!

Did you know you have access to nearly 14,000 DVDs with your MADL Library card? Last year, patrons from the community checked out close to 120,000 DVDs. See all we have to offer, including new releases, classics, television series and more at madl.org.

Thank you!

Many thanks to Muskegon County residents for voting to pass the Muskegon Area District Library millage. Your support and dedication are greatly appreciated!
CHILDREN’S programs

Back to School I Spy
September 1 – September 30
Norton Shores Branch
All through September, find all the backpacks hidden in the children’s section and receive a small prize.

Back to School Bash
Saturday, September 3
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Ravenna Branch
Whether you’re dreading the first day of school or can’t wait for it, stop by the Library for snacks and games with friends and say goodbye to summer vacation.

After School Movies
Thursdays
3:15 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Kids and teens are welcome to join us at the Library every Thursday while school is in session for a family-friendly movie. Popcorn will be provided while supplies last.

Pajama Party
Monday, September 19
6:00 pm
Egelston Branch
Happiness is...Pajamas + pizza + pillowcase craft. Come enjoy all three. (Stories too of course) The best part is you get to come in your PJs. Ages 3-10. Call 231-788-6477 to register.

Game Night
Wednesday, September 21
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Play a variety of games including The Game of Life, Operation, and other family-oriented games. Call 231-739-6075 to register.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover
Friday, September 30
4:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Bring along a stuffed friend for an afternoon Storytime program and craft, then tuck in your friend for an overnight. Saturday morning pick-up your stuffed friend and find out what everyone was up to overnight. Bring a stuffed friend you won’t mind leaving at the Library overnight. Ages 3 and up. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

Find Elephant and Piggie
October 1 – October 31
Norton Shores Branch
Elephant and Piggie are visiting the Library—find all their books’ characters hiding in the children’s section and receive a bookmark you can color.

Creature Feature
Monday, October 17
3:30 pm
Ravenna Branch
A classic comedy film with a bit of scare thrown in—the Library will be showing The Ghost and Mr. Chicken, starring Don Knotts, for audiences of all ages to enjoy. This G rated movie is approximately 90 minutes long.

Creature Feature
Monday, October 24
3:30 pm
Ravenna Branch
The movie Casper will be shown at the Library. This film is rated PG and runs for approximately 100 minutes.

Halloween Party
Saturday, October 29
10:30 am
North Muskegon Branch
There will be games, crafts, and tons of fun. Wear your Halloween costume and win a prize. This is a party for kids up to 12 years of age. Cider and donuts will be served. Call 231-744-6080 to register.

All Hallow’s Read
Saturday, October 29
2:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Fun activities, treats, and a book swap to finish. Please bring one gently used children’s spooky or scary book to swap with another child (bring a book that is ok to give away). Costumes welcome. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

I Spy Table
December 1 – December 30
Norton Shores Branch
Visit our I Spy table and see if you can find all the items on our list. Turn in your completed list for a sticker.

Dory December
December 1 – December 30
Ravenna Branch
All through the month of December kids ages 3-10 can come into the Library and “find” Dory. Six pictures of Dory will be hidden throughout the Library. Find them all to receive a prize.

Holiday Party
December 3
10:30 am
North Muskegon Branch
Get in the holiday spirit with some games, crafts, and refreshments for kids 12 and under. Call 231-744-6080 to register.

Christmas Minute to Win It
Tuesday, December 6
6:00 pm
Egelston Branch
Think you have what it takes to be the Minute to Win It champion? Test your luck when you team up to compete in challenges against other teams. For ages 8 years and older. Call 231-788-6477 to register.

Finding Dory
Tuesday, December 13
3:30 pm
Ravenna Branch
Kids, teens, and adults are welcome to join us for a showing of Finding Dory.

International Games Day
Saturday, November 19
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Come anytime to enjoy board and tabletop games. All ages are welcome to join the fun.

Nerf Battle
Saturday, November 19
2:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Be part of an epic Nerf Battle with Joel Tacey. Registration required – space limited. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

Magical Monday
Monday, November 21
3:30 pm
Ravenna Branch
To celebrate the cinematic release of Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them we will have a showing of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone along with Harry Potter inspired snacks and games. Muggles welcome.

Harry Potter Party
Wednesday, December 14
4:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Join us for a fantastic celebration of Harry Potter. Enter to win a copy of the book Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them! Ages 5 and up. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

Family Film Series
Wednesday, December 21
2:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Join us for pop, popcorn, and the movie Zootopia.

Family Film Series
Wednesday, December 28
2:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Spanish for Kids with Ms. Catalina
Certified Montessori teacher Catalina Leo Escudero offers free classes in Spanish to children ages 3–6. Parents are encouraged to stay and participate with their children. Registration is required. Mondays
September 12 through October 31
Time: 4:45 – 5:30 pm
Montague Branch
Call 231-893-2675 to register.

Santa and Mrs. Claus
Tuesday, December 6
4:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Call 231-780-8844 to register.

Muskegon Heights Branch
Take your picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus and hear Mrs. Claus read a story. Holiday crafts and treats, too. Call 231-739-6075 to register.
Elephant & Piggle: Live @ MADL
Come meet Mo Willems’ beloved book characters Elephant and Piggie. Hear one of their hilarious stories, take a picture with them, and make a craft. Be sure to bring your camera. Share your pictures on our Muskegon Area District Library Facebook page.

Monday, October 3
3:00 – 4:30 pm
Muskegon Township Branch

Tuesday, October 4
4:30 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch

Saturday, October 8
10:30 am
North Muskegon

Saturday, October 8
2:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Monday, October 12
4:00 pm
Egelston Branch

Monday, October 17
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Muskegon Township Branch

Wednesday, October 19
6:00 – 7:00 pm
Egelston Branch

Wednesday, November 2
3:00 – 5:00 pm
Ravenna Branch

Saturday, November 19
10:00 – 11:00 am
Muskegon Township Branch

Monday, November 21
4:50 – 6:00 pm
Dalton Branch

Wednesday, November 30
3:00 – 5:00 pm
Ravenna Branch

Saturday, December 7
10:00 – 11:00 am
Muskegon Township Branch

Monday, December 9
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Dalton Branch

Wednesday, December 28
11:00 am – 7:00 pm
Holton Branch

Bow Wow Readers
Bow Wow Readers is a read-aloud program that pairs kids with registered therapy dogs and handlers from the Muskegon Lakeshore Obedience Training Club. Share a book as you sit and read aloud to a furry friend and practice your reading skills with confidence. Registration required, and spots are limited. Kids age 5 and up will be scheduled for 15-minute time slots.

Tuesday, September 6
4:30 – 5:30 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch

Saturday, September 6
6:15 – 7:00 pm
Fruitport Branch

Tuesday, September 6
6:15 – 7:00 pm
Fruitport Branch

Wednesday, September 14
6:00 – 7:00 pm
Montague Branch

Tuesday, September 20
6:15 – 7:15 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Tuesday, September 27
6:15 – 7:15 pm
Egelston Branch

Tuesday, October 4
6:15 – 7:00 pm
Ravenna Branch

Monday, October 12
6:00 – 7:00 pm
Montague Branch

Tuesday, October 18
6:15 – 7:15 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Tuesday, October 25
6:15 – 7:15 pm
Egelston Branch

Tuesday, November 1
6:15 – 7:00 pm
Muskegon Township Branch

Wednesday, November 9
6:00 – 7:00 pm
Montague Branch

Tuesday, November 15
6:15 – 7:15 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Tuesday, November 22
6:15 – 7:15 pm
Egelston Branch

Make Music @ MADL with KANA MUSIC
Join KANA MUSIC for a free music class designed for families with children ages 0–10 years old. Enjoy making music with instruments, singing, movement, stories and a musical instrument craft. Registration limited to 15 children and their parents or caregivers.

Monday, September 19
5:00 pm
Montague Branch

Monday, September 26
5:00 pm
Egelston Branch

Monday, October 3
5:00 pm
Ravenna Branch

Monday, October 11
5:00 pm
Fruitport Branch

Monday, October 17
5:00 pm
Muskegon Township Branch

Monday, October 24
4:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Tuesday, November 1
11:00 am
North Muskegon

Tuesday, November 7
5:00 pm
Ravenna Branch

Tuesday, November 15
5:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch

Thursday, November 24
5:00 pm
Holton Branch

Baby Time
Aimed exclusively at infants ages 0 to 18 months and their caregivers. Baby Time introduces babies to music, rhythm, and rhyme—all important pre-lingual and pre-literacy skills.

Tiny Tots
Tiny Tots is a special story time for children 0 to 36 months with their caregivers. Little ones will enjoy books, games, songs, and other age-appropriate story related activities.

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

Preschool Storytime
Preschool Storytime is 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 & more.

MONDAYS
Egelston Branch: 9:30 – 10:15 am PRESCHOOL
Egelston Branch: 11:15 – 11:45 am TINY TOTS
Muskegon Township Branch: 1:00 – 1:45 pm PRESCHOOL

TUESDAYS
Ravenna Branch: 9:30 – 10:15 am PRESCHOOL
Norton Shores Branch: 10:30 – 11:15 am TODDLER
Holton Branch: 11:15 – 11:45 am TINY TOTS

WEDNESDAYS
Dalton Branch: 9:00 – 9:45 am PRESCHOOL
Norton Shores Branch: 10:30 – 11:15 am PRESCHOOL
North Muskegon Branch: 11:15 – 11:45 am TINY TOTS
Montague Branch: 1:00 – 1:45 pm PRESCHOOL

THURSDAYS
Fruitport Branch: 10:00 – 10:45 am PRESCHOOL
Fruitport Branch: 11:15 – 11:45 am TINY TOTS

FRIDAYS
North Muskegon Branch: 9:30 – 10:15 am PRESCHOOL

FIRST AND THIRD FRIDAYS
Norton Shores Branch: 10:30 – 11:15 am BABY TIME

LEGOS AND FRIENDS
Join fellow LEGO fans and show us your skills. Build alone or with friends to make a masterpiece for display in the Library. We provide the LEGOs. You provide the creativity. No experience needed to join the fun.

Wednesdays
September 7 – December 14
3:00– 5:00 pm
Montague Branch

Montague Branch
Saturday, September 17
10:00 – 1:00 pm
Muskegon Township Branch

Saturday, September 17
2:00 – 3:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch

Monday, September 19
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Dalton Branch

Wednesday, September 21
3:00 – 5:00 pm
Ravenna Branch

Wednesday, October 12
3:00 – 5:00 pm
Ravenna Branch
Movie Pop Quiz
Every week in December a different movie quote will be posted at the MADA Branch libraries and also on our Facebook page. If you guess the movie quote correctly, your name will be entered in a drawing for a refillable Weste popcorn bucket filled with goodies. You can make your guess and enter once per week. OPEN TO ALL AGES.

Teen Club
Join us for fun teen activities! Call 231-780-8844 or check the online calendar at www.madl.org for more details. And, of course, there will be snacks.

Back to School Yoga
Tuesday, September 20
3:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Stressed over the new school year? Come stretch it out and learn some relaxation techniques.

Find Bill Cypher
October 1 – October 31
Norton Shores Branch
The villain from Gravity Falls has snuck into the Library—find all the Bill images and decode his messages for a special surprise.

Creature Shop: Intro to Basic Plushies
Tuesday, October 18
3:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Make your own plushies (stuffed creatures) and learn some basic sewing stitches. If you want to make a plushie based on a character, bring your own fleece fabric and poly stuffing—otherwise we’ll provide materials.

Short Films & Chill
Tuesday, November 15
3:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
We’re going to watch animated shorts (first come, first choice). Optional: Bring a set of earbuds you want to customize with embroidery floss, friendship-bracelet style.

Quick Crafts
Tuesday, December 20
3:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Need a quick gift or a chance to unwind? Still working on your plushie? Come craft with us—make jewelry or keyrings or something new.

Adult programs

Make a DIY Cheese Tray
Saturday, September 10
11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Make a chalkboard cheese serving tray. Materials provided. Call 231-739-6075 to register.

From Page to Screen
Saturday, September 10
1:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Rebecca by Daphne DuMaurier. Release date of 1940. Directed by Alfred Hitchcock; starring Laurence Olivier, Joan Fontaine. A self-conscious bride is tormented by the memory of her husband’s dead first wife.

‘Girls Night In’ Movie Night
Wednesday, September 14
6:00 – 8:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Fire and Ice. Release date 2001. Starring Lark Voorhies and Kadeem Hardison. The host of a late night talk show falls in love with the daughter of a Georgia politician. Part of the BET Arabesque series and also on our Facebook page. If you guess the genre to the Community Center answer period at the end.

Create.A.Frame Studio Canvas
Saturday, September 17
10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Fruitport Branch
Special Location: 4845 Airline Road
Paint your own canvas. Prepaid sign-up is $12. $5 will be reimbursed at class to the first 20 paid registrants by the Friends of the Fruitport Library. Cash only registration at the Fruitport Branch. This program is for teens and adults. Visit the Fruitport Branch at 47 Park Street to register.

Tips on Saving Money & Energy At Home
Monday, September 19
6:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Saving energy at home is easy. Learn about time-tested tips you can do around your home to help save energy and money. DTE Energy customers can also get started with several FREE energy saving products. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Walker Memorial Library
Tuesday, September 20
6:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Join us to find out what the Friends are doing. The meeting is followed by an open reception with refreshments. There will be a presentation of the 8th Annual Friend of the Year Award and the Teen Volunteer of the Year Award.

Pet Care Tips and Tricks
Thursday, September 29
7:00 pm
Dalton Branch
Dr. Karen House from Glenpark Animal Hospital in Muskegon will share animal preventative health care that can help you save money. Dr. House will also talk briefly about general animal noise phobias—fireworks, hunting season noises, etc. There will be a short question and answer period at the end.

Pet Care Tips & Tricks
Thursday, September 29
7:00 pm
Dalton Branch
Dr. Karen House from Glenpark Animal Hospital in Muskegon will share animal preventative health care that can help you save money. Dr. House will also talk briefly about general animal noise phobias—fireworks, hunting season noises, etc. There will be a short question and answer period at the end.

MADL Thursday Night Music Club:
Matthew Ball: The Boogie Woogie Kid
Tuesday, September 29
7:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Matthew performs classic rags, boogie-woogie and blues piano favorites from the swingin’ era of the 20s 30s and 40s that capture the spirit and tradition of celebrated American piano masters.

Live @ the Library: Froncek and Friends
Tuesday, October 4
6:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
In a word—JAZZ. Legendary local drummers—Tom Froncek and two of his jazzmeister friends bring the best of the genre to the Community Center stage.

Banish and Ban and Read Freely
Wednesday, October 5
6:30 pm
North Muskegon Branch
Concerned community members will exercise the right to intellectual freedom by reading aloud from books that are banned or challenged in libraries and school districts across the nation. Show your support by coming to listen; you might be surprised to find that a book you love has been under attack. Refreshments will be served.

Computer Helpdesk LIVE!
Tuesday, October 11
6:00 – 7:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Get basic help from staff with eBook devices, email, digital photos and all things computer. Make sure to bring the device you are having problems with. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

Book Signing Event for the West Michigan Authors Group
Saturday, October 22
11:00 am – 2:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Local West Michigan authors will be on hand to sell and sign copies of their books.

‘Girls Night In’ Movie Night
Wednesday, October 12
6:00 – 8:00 pm
Muskegon Heights Branch
Mystere. Release date 2003. Starring Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, and Kevin Bacon. With a childhood tragedy that overshadowed their lives, three men are reunited by circumstance when one has a family tragedy.

MADL Thursday Night Music Club:
Brother Big Sister
Thursday, October 13
7:00 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Bring a friend or the whole family and join your fellow music lovers for free live concerts. This brother and sister duo from Northern Michigan covers the music spectrum with entrancing harmonies, ingenious musical arrangements and an original acoustic sound that makes each performance an experience.

From Page to Screen
Saturday, October 15
1:30 pm
Norton Shores Branch
Mystic River by Dennis LeHane. Release date 2003. Directed by Clint Eastwood; starring Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, and Kevin Bacon. With a childhood tragedy that overshadowed their lives, three men are reunited by circumstance when one has a family tragedy.

Computer Helpdesk LIVE!
Thursday, October 20
2:30 – 4:00pm
Norton Shores Branch
Get basic help from staff with eBook devices, email, digital photos and all things computer. Make sure to bring the device you are having problems with. Call 231-780-8844 to register.

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**Learn to Sew**  
Saturday, November 19  
11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
**Muskegon Heights Branch**  
Come and learn some of the basics of sewing. Attendees will learn how to do basic stitches by hand with a brief introduction to simple sewing machines. Materials provided. This program is for teens and adults. Call 231-739-6075 to register.

**Needle Felted Ornament**  
Saturday, December 3  
12:30 pm  
**Dalton Branch**  
Explore the art of needle felting, a quick and easy way to add embellishment to plain felted knitting. Create your own unique ornament using wool fibers and a special felting needle. In addition to the ornament everyone will receive a needle and felting foam to continue at home. Call 231-928-4188 to register.

**Book Discussion Groups**  
Community book lovers meet once a month at the Library to discuss the book selection for that month. Visit your Library for copies of the featured books. Newcomers always welcome. No registration required.

**Thursday Morning Book Discussion Group**  
The first Thursday of each month  
10:30 am  
**Norton Shores Branch**  
September 1: Brooklyn by Colm Toibin  
October 6: Mystic River by Dennis Lehane  
November 3: East of Eden by John Steinbeck  
December 1: The Muralist by Barbara Shapiro

**Tuesday Evening Book Club**  
The third Tuesday of each month  
6:30 pm  
**North Muskegon Branch**  
September 20: The Scent of Sake by Joyce Lebra-Chapman  
October 18: Mystic River by Dennis Lehane  
November 15: Me Before You by Jojo Moyes  
December 20: Don't Stop the Carnival by Herman Wouk

**MAD(L) Crafter programs for Adults**  
The MAD(L) Crafter is a craft club for adults. Jamie Jewell, crafter extraordinaire, provides the supplies and the expertise.

**Beaded Tassel Necklace**  
Make a trendy tassel necklace that will liven up your fall wardrobe. Supplies will be provided.  
Wednesday, September 14  
6:00 pm  
**North Muskegon Branch**  
Call 231-744-6080 to register.

**The Sweater (turned) Pumpkin**  
This fun upcycle project will turn an old sweater into an elegant pumpkin. This will be a perfect addition to your fall decor. Sweaters will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own to use if you have a favorite you want to recycle.

**The JOY of READING**  
Call 231-864-4770 to register.
Music for Everyone

Freegal® is a free music service from your Library. All you need is your Muskegon Area District Library card number and your audio device. Freegal offers access to about 8 million songs, including Sony Music's catalog of legendary artists, and over 15,000 music videos from popular artists. In total the collection is comprised of music from over 28,000 labels with music that originates from over 100 countries. There is no software to download. There is a free app for Android and Apple devices. Visit madl.org to access Freegal 24/7.

Muskegon Heights Branch Library—
A Gem in the Community

The Muskegon Heights Branch Library is located at 2808 Sanford Street in Muskegon Heights, the “City of Friendly People.” The branch is housed in what was once the Muskegon Heights train terminal for the Grand Trunk Railroad. The Grand Trunk Railroad traveled on the 52-mile-long Muskegon Shore train tracks. During the 1930s, it had over 75,000 railroad cars travel to and from Muskegon each year. Passenger service was discontinued in 1970.

The building was designed by architect Robert J. West and erected in 1953 by the Muskegon Construction Company. Basil P. O’Grady was the mayor of Muskegon Heights at that time.

It is a small branch with a lot of heart, located about one block from the downtown section of Muskegon Heights where many businesses and shops once bustled with activity. Today the Library remains one of the gems of its community.

How many people visit daily?
On average, approximately 200 patrons visit daily—mostly adults—many of them to use the nine computers. It is divided into two sections, one for adults and one for children. It also has a community room where many of the branch programs are held.

Unique Features
While not a museum, it proudly houses several art pieces by local artist Rita Miller, who has provided eight wood sculptures, including one of two full-sized statues entitled Mose, which are a tribute to Harriet Tubman. On the rear of the building is an outdoor mural entitled books which was painted by a former employee.

New Children’s Computers
In addition to nine computer stations primarily used by adults and teens, there are two AWE computer stations, one Early Literacy Station for use by children ages of two to eight, and one AfterSchool Edge for children ages six to 12. The latter was provided to this branch through a $3,000 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

What do patrons like about this branch?
Some of the things that patrons like most are the privacy shields at the computer stations and the new urban genre book display. This display makes the books more prominent and has increased the circulation of those authors because they are easier to find. Patrons enjoy the increased number of programs for both children and adults now being offered.

The Community Room
Another popular feature is the community room. It was updated in the past year with audio-visual equipment and a sound bar, as well as new tables and chairs purchased from grants obtained by the Heights Branch “Friends” group. The room is used on a weekly basis by Read Muskegon counselors, Omega Psi Phi fraternity, the “Old Timers” and Baker Street Block Club. A former Library employee, Major Stewart, a prominent accountant and pastor, had his book signing here for a large crowd of family, old teachers and friends. Recently, the “Young Men” Mentoring group held a program with 80 people in attendance. The room is used often by various individuals and community groups and is scheduled for use on a “first come, first served” basis.

Despite its small size, the Muskegon Heights Branch Library has a rich history and contributes much to the betterment of the community.