

Fall 2025

BRIGGS  District Library

# LIBRARY MUSINGS

Briggs District Library Newsletter

## Renovation Project

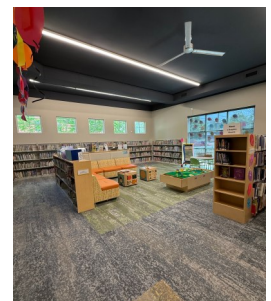
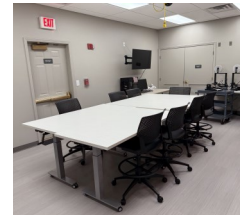
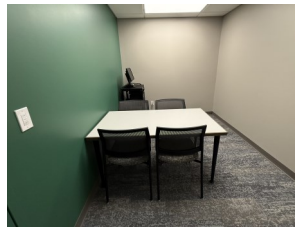
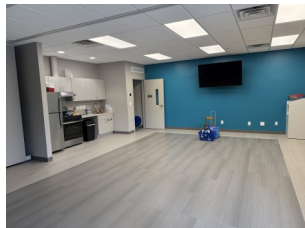
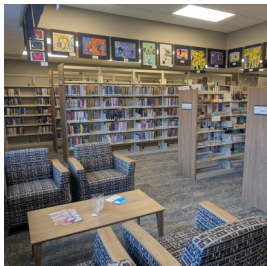
It is hard to believe that one year ago the library was operating out of a temporary location while its permanent location was under going a major renovation. Today, the library has been re-opened six months, and it has been wonderful to see how appreciative and excited about the updated facility the public has been.

The major outcomes of the renovation include a new main entrance; more seating areas; an electric fireplace; an updated children's area with train tunnel entrance; two study rooms; a makerspace room with a 3D printer, cricut machine, a green screen, and two virtual reality headsets; and a 60-person meeting room that can be split into two thirty-person rooms, and contains a small kitchen space. When not being used for library programs, the meeting room is free for library district residents to use during library hours, and available for after-hours use for a fee.

The 1.6 million dollar project was funded in large part by congressional directed spending, four grants, donations from businesses and individuals, and several fundraisers totaling \$1,249,022.

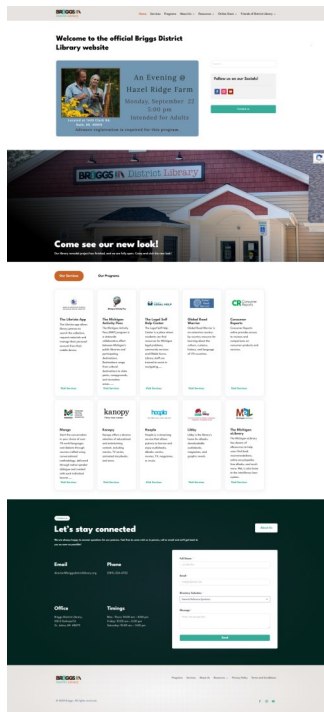
The library used Wieland, a construction management company out of Lansing, and hired four sub-contractors from the St. Johns area. At least four other local businesses were associated with the project in various capacities.

The library is so grateful to the community for all your support through out this entire process.



News

The library is excited to launch its updated website! The new, more modern look is designed to be more user-friendly and easier to navigate. The changes also bring the website into compliance with the new ADA accessibility rules. On the Resources page there is a new feature which allows individuals or organizations to reserve the library's meeting space(s), makerspace room and study rooms online. The site continues to include information on library services including online resources, upcoming programs, and library publications such as the strategic plan, annual report and most recent newsletter.



Visitors can also see how to get a library card, request an item for the library's collection, and information on the library board. There is a link to the library's online store and one to make payments online.

Library Hours

**Monday –Thursday**  
10:00 am—8:00 pm

**Friday**  
10:00 am—6:00 pm

**Saturday**  
10:00 am—3:00 pm



The Friends of Briggs District Library is a 501(c)(3) organization established in 2024 to assist in fundraising activities, and the general promotion of Briggs District Library.

You can show your support of the Friends of Briggs District Library by participating in some of their on-going events.

**Used Book Sales** -- The group has a dedicated book sale room at the library. This room is open during the library's normal operating hours. All sales are by donation. There is a secure lock box in the room where individuals can leave their cash donations, and a QR code to make a donation via Cash App

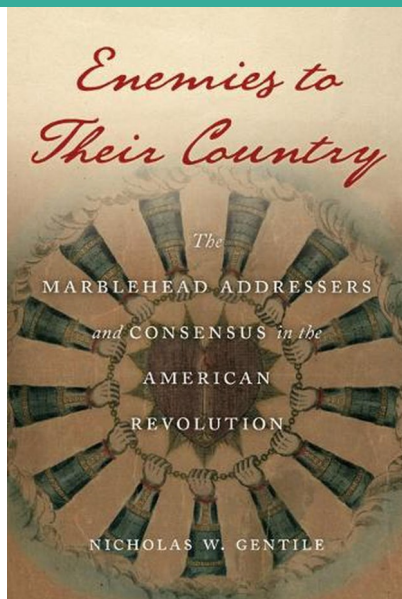
**Kroger Community Rewards** -- Sign up for Kroger Community Rewards to donate to the Friends of Briggs District Library every time you use your Kroger Shopper's Card.

**Community Events** -- The group participates in various community events throughout the year, so be sure to stop by and say hello when you see them out and about.

**Volunteer** -- The group is always looking for new members to join the group. Find them at community events, on Facebook, at their book sales or email them at [friendsofbriggslibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbriggslibrary@gmail.com) for more information

**Attend a Meeting** -- The group meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm at the library.

## Upcoming Programs



Local author, Nicholas Gentile will discuss his new book *Enemies to Their Country: The Marblehead Addressers and Consensus in the American Revolution* on Wednesday, October 8th from 6:30-8:00 pm.

In 1774, a group of elite men in Marblehead, Massachusetts, ignited a firestorm when they thanked the royal governor, even as their town clamored for independence. This is the story of a town divided.

*Enemies to Their Country* delves into the year following this controversial address, chronicling Marblehead's struggle for unity amidst the burgeoning revolution. This microhistory of a vital town, the second largest in Massachusetts at the time, reveals the complexities of the American Revolution.

Through compelling, untold stories of individuals and families, it illuminates a politically polarized community wrestling with consensus during a time of profound conflict.

Join documentary filmmaker, Ric Mixer on Saturday November 22nd at 1:00pm for a presentation on the *Edmund Fitzgerald*. Millions of television viewers recognize Ric Mixer as a shipwreck researcher, diving over 100 shipwrecks in the Great Lakes, including the *Edmund Fitzgerald*. He has produced over 30 programs for PBS and the Outdoor Channel, and appeared as a shipwreck expert on the History and Discovery Channels. In 2019, Ric joined Detroit Public Television to produce on-line content as a multimedia producer for their series "Great Lakes Now".



Ric served as SCUBA cameraman on underwater expeditions to the Great Lakes largest shipwrecks, the *Edmund Fitzgerald* and *Carl D. Bradley*. He has interviewed dozens of shipwreck survivors over the past 15 years, including two from the 1913 Storm, two from the 1940 Armistice Day Storm and survivors from the largest shipwrecks in lakes Michigan, Huron and Erie. He's been Emmy-nominated and has taken several awards including the Addy, Aurora, Michigan Association of Broadcasters Best Use of Medium, AP, UPI and was the 2007 Vescio award winner for a video on mental health advocacy. With over 20 years of stories on historical preservation, Ric was awarded the *2009 Award for Historic Interpretation* by the Association for Great Lakes Maritime Historians.



Back to School



The Global Road Warrior database was designed for students doing country reports, educators, travelers, and anyone who wants to learn about the world and its diverse cultures.

This resource contains country guides for 175 countries covering 119 topics including culture, banking, business, demographics, education, food, history, holidays and festivals, travel, language, money, points of interest, religion, security, and national symbols.

Library patrons can access Global Road Warrior using the library’s computers, or from anywhere in the world by visiting the library’s portal at [www.briggsdistrictlibrary.org](http://www.briggsdistrictlibrary.org), and signing in with their library card.



**MANGO**

Language is an Adventure

Start the conversation in your choice of over 70 world languages and dialects through courses crafted using conversational methodology, delivered through native speaker dialogue and created with each individual learner in mind. Mango also includes courses for individuals learning English and for those who want to learn American Sign Language. Mango is free with a Briggs District Library card and can be accessed through the Library’s website or by downloading the app.

Contact Us

**Library Director: Sara Morrison**  
[director@briggsdistrictlibrary.org](mailto:director@briggsdistrictlibrary.org)

**Assistant Director: Brett Harger**  
[bharger@briggsdistrictlibrary.org](mailto:bharger@briggsdistrictlibrary.org)

**Program Librarian: Erin Favior**  
[efavior@briggsdistrictlibrary.org](mailto:efavior@briggsdistrictlibrary.org)

**Community Outreach Elizabeth Janetzke**  
[ejanetzke@briggsdistrictlibrary.org](mailto:ejanetzke@briggsdistrictlibrary.org)

Library Board

<b>Rebecca Daman</b>	<b>Chair</b>
<b>Kimberly Skorna</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
<b>Kendel Darragh</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Renae Larsen</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Brad Jorae</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Kimberly Kellogg</b>	<b>Trustee</b>
<b>Shannon Silvernail</b>	<b>Trustee</b>