



Big Changes Coming to Pentwater Library

Finally, all the planning to transform the Pentwater Township Library into a bright modern library are completed and the work will soon begin on March 13.

Project Refresh includes completely rearranging the library interior with new furnishings, new carpeting and paint, and modern computer stations. A new tutor room, a new multi-purpose room, and a new public restroom are also part of the changes. Also in the plans is a more robust Wi-Fi network both inside and outside the library.

“This is a most exciting time for Pentwater Library since this building was first built more than 20 year ago,” said Library Director Mary Barker. “The world has changed dramatically in the last 20 years and these changes are reflected in Project Refresh. More emphasis will be on creating new kinds of interior spaces. Across the country, libraries are changing and our library is changing as well,” she said.

Many of the changes have already been accomplished including more magazines and books available online through the library’s website. The website itself has also been revamped. Patrons can now download streaming videos from Up North Digital, our Overdrive connection.

“We have been actively upgrading the collection with new books and DVDs in areas where we know our community has special interests,” Barker added.

“When the library reopens in early June it will be like walking into a whole new library. We can’t wait to show it off,” Barker said.

Pentwater Township Library Board Members

Every four years the residents of Pentwater Township elect members of the library board. This year there were only five candidates for the six seats on the board. The four incumbents who won re-election in the non-partisan election were Kendra Flynn, Valerie Church-McHugh, Elaine LeTarte and Nancy Peterson. Joan LundBorg is a new member of the board elected along with the four incumbents in November.

To complete the six-member board, Cynthia Maguire was selected. The new board will hold office for the next four years.



Library Book Club
The Hart Library is helping us during our closure and has copies of the Pentwater Library Book Club’s book selections:

March 13: What Alice Forgot
by L. Moriarty

April 10: I Always Loved You
by R. Oliveira

May 8: Underground Railroad
by C. Whitehead

The club will be meeting at the Friendship Center during the Refresh Project.

Pentwater Township Library Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, April 11,
May 9 @ 5:00 p.m. at
Farmers Insurance, 65 S.
Hancock, Pentwater, MI

Adult Winter Reading Program:
Build a Better World
ends one week early on
March 10, 2017

Timeless Trivia Game
The last two Trivia Games (March & April) will not take place. Watch for it to return next winter.

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon & Thu 9 am—8:30 pm
Tue, Wed, Fri 9 am—5 pm
Sat 9 am—2 pm

In the Meantime...

For those who haven't already heard, the library will be closed during Project Refresh. Our last day of service will be Friday, March 10. From now until then any materials that are checked out will have a June 6 due date. All items are to be kept until this date. Drop box will not be available. We plan to reopen the library at the end of May.

All electronic materials will continue to be available to Pentwater Library patrons, but you will need your library account and pin numbers to access those materials. Before March 10 you can call the regular library number (231)869-8581 to get your numbers or just stop in the library and ask. After March 10, our regular library internet and phone service may be disconnected and our temporary phone number during the new construction will be 231-220-1770



The Journey to the Library Refresh Project

Any major project is a journey that has a beginning and an end. This is the story of that journey.

Initially, the library board saw that space in the present library was very limited and looked at a possible expansion. But it was soon revealed that the present site did not lend itself to expansion because the village wellhead was too close to the site.

The board then looked at alternative sites, but a professional feasibility study revealed most folks wanted the library to stay exactly where it was and there would unlikely be enough financial resources to make a new library possible anyway.

The library board then hired a new Library Director and the work began seeking proposals for



redesigning the library. When the bids came in, the board chose the same firm that many years ago managed the design of the present library, Library Design Associates, Inc. of Plymouth, Michigan.

In the last ten or so years, many generous residents, both seasonal and year-round, have donated to the library's capital fund to allow the project to move forward without the need for any additional taxpayer dollars. That alone is kind of remarkable on a \$300,000 project.

New furnishings have already been ordered and carpet and paint colors have been selected and on March 13 one of the first things that will happen is all the present books and materials will be loaded onto special carts, wrapped and shipped off to a warehouse for temporary storage before the dirty work in the library begins.

Included in the dirty work is the cutting into the concrete pad to place new wiring and cabling. Electrical and plumbing work comes next to provide a nice new bathroom and well placed electrical outlets so patrons can charge computers and phones that they bring to the library.

Painting and placement of shelves and cabinets will all be done after new carpeting and flooring is in place and then the new furnishings, including new computer stations, will come in and finally, all the new electronic equipment will be installed, configured and tested before we open the doors to our transformed library.

At the end of the Project Refresh journey, Pentwater will have a library where things are easier to find in a brighter and fresher atmosphere that reflects all the best things about our unique community, to serve both our year-round and seasonal residents for many years into the future.



The Outside is Next

At the end of May, the interior of the library will be transformed and planning will begin on some major exterior landscaping changes. Just how much can be accomplished over the summer is uncertain mostly because of budgetary concerns. We are hoping for some additional financial support for the landscaping changes. Anyone interested in providing help on sprucing up the outside of the library can send a check to the Pentwater Township Library at P.O. Box 946, Pentwater, MI 49449.



Many Thanks Are Due to All Donations

Project Refresh would not be happening except for the generosity of hundreds of Pentwater Township Library patrons, both those still with us and those who have passed on. Over the past years their selfless and in many cases anonymous donations are making it possible for us to take the Pentwater Library to the next level of service for our community. Not every community supports its library the way we do here. Our community truly loves and uses its library and that is the main reason that our library won national recognition as Star Library by the Library Journal. Thank you for your continuing support.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Not only do our regular patrons show their love for our library, but countless businesses and individuals do so much to make our library one of the best. Our community is so blessed to be a place where when we see a problem there is always someone there help to fix it.

When we realized that the library needed to be cleared of everything to make the renovations go smoothly, we began to look for places where the staff could function to carry out some of the routine and not so routine work of the library office functions. **Farmers Insurance** stepped up big time by donating office space for the library during the Project Refresh. The library staff still has work to do during the closure, and they will be doing computer training, planning for Summer Reading Program, finalizing the Summer Series, working on policies, handling accounting, paying bills, working with the renovators, and countless other tasks. We will not be checking out materials at this location, but will be having meetings with the library board. **Thank you so much to our local Farmers Insurance Agency.**

Another big thank you goes to **Monroe Storage** for donating storage spaces for many things like supplies, records and additional items that need to be moved away from the renovation mess.

We would also be remiss if we didn't thank our local businesses like **Fair Trade** on Hancock Street for donating to our Adult Winter Reading Program and **Village Grounds** for allowing us to serve some great coffee to library patrons. Also thanks to **Fudge and Frosting** and **Cosmic Candy** for keeping our special events at the library supplied with festive treats.

And finally, but not least, a special thank you to **Mark Bailey** and **Ted Hammerle** for always being here when needed, especially during the Halloween Parade.

Thanks also to all those who help in so many ways too numerous to mention. Your efforts to help our library are much appreciated.



Pentwater Township Library
 402 East Park Street
 Pentwater, MI 49449

Temporary Phone 231-220-1770
 Email: librarian@pentwaterlibrary.org
 Website: www.pentwaterlibrary.org

Important Dates: March 10, last day library is open before Project Refresh starts.



Temporary Library Office Space:
65 S. Hancock in the Farmers Insurance building. Please hold checked out items until Library re-opens.

Temporary Phone: 231 220-1770



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

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PENTWATER, MI 49449

PERMIT #15

BOXHOLDER

PENTWATER, MI 49449

Library Floor Plan

Reconfigured floor plan for Project Refresh. This plan and additional timeline information is also available on our website www.pentwaterlibrary.org

