



•the. ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

AMY VAN ANDEL LIBRARY – ADA COMMUNITY CENTER BEGINS TO OPEN

On February 5, the Amy Van Andel Library – Ada Community Center opened its doors to begin limited public access. This long-awaited community treasure is the result of the Township’s Envision Ada Plan, with five years of tremendous community input, dedicated volunteer leaders and the generosity of hundreds of local donors. The complete public opening and formal dedication of the building is scheduled for later this spring.



Operations

The Amy Van Andel Library is operated by Kent District Library (KDL). Current library services include online holds, curbside pickup and 30 percent public capacity access to the collection areas within the building. Be sure to refer to the KDL website kdl.org for the latest access information as the facility continues to adhere to all COVID-19 guidelines. The Ada Community Center is operated by Ada Township. Information about Community Center room use will be on the Ada Township website later this spring.

The First Few Details

Located at 7215 Headley Street SE, the two-story, 25,786 sq. ft. building is visible from E. Fulton Street. It sits just west of Ada Drive in the Village of Ada. The building was designed by the architecture team of Progressive AE of Grand Rapids and built by Ada-based Erhardt Construction.

Outdoor Area

As you pull up, you are welcomed by the United States, State of Michigan and Ada Township flags, flying prominently and illuminated at night. The building is lined with expansive windows, letting in an abundance of natural light and providing outward views of downtown Ada and a Central Courtyard. The exterior features three earth tone shades of brick, complimented by aluminum accent panels that coordinate with the window trim. Shaded tables and benches line the walkway, and there are both a walk-up and drive-up book drop. Onsite parking is available, as well as nearby street parking.

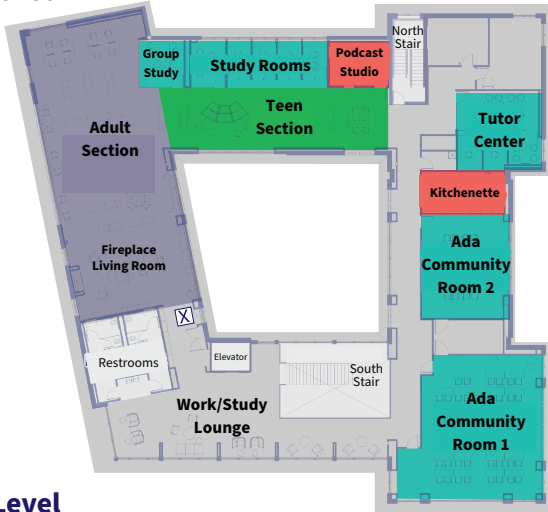
The entire building and outdoor grounds feature complimentary Wi-Fi access for guests. Wi-Fi is available seven days a week from 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. All the more reason to grab a coffee and enjoy a seat outside!



If you would prefer receiving the AdaView via email, please email the Clerk’s office at: jsmith@adatownshipmi.com.

AMY VAN ANDEL LIBRARY – ADA COMMUNITY CENTER BEGINS TO OPEN (continued)

Upper Level



The most prominent experience on the first floor is dedicated to children. More than 7,000 colorful books and media line the shelves at eye level, ready to captivate young readers. And opening soon will be an interactive play space, intentionally designed to promote early learning skills and encourage a lifetime of learning through discovery and exploration. This area also includes a family study room and an adjoining program room.

Upper Level

On the upper level, the staircase and elevator open to a second work/study lounge that offers a variety of open-concept seating options with tables, as well as more private nooks. The tall ceilings and natural light make this an ideal space to work, study or read.

The adult section features a living room with comfortable furniture, anchored by a striking stone fireplace, and the adjacent teen section provides a welcoming environment with low-slung couches and chairs. Rows of books and media across all genres line the shelves in both sections.

Multiple public computers are staged in a central area and there are six private study rooms. Additionally, a soundproof, state-of-the-art podcast studio will allow for livestreaming and recording of KDL and community podcasts and much more. Reservations can be made at the concierge desk.

An enclosed tutoring center offers a conference room setting to fit a larger group and three smaller rooms. Each space is equipped with a whiteboard to encourage brainstorming and collaboration, and the tables are outfitted with easy access to technology charging.

The second floor also houses the two Ada Township community rooms for small and large gatherings. These spacious rooms have floor-to-ceiling windows with retractable shades and the latest in AV technology, and will allow for a variety of seating configurations. Further information as to booking these rooms for family, business or organizational use will be available later this spring.

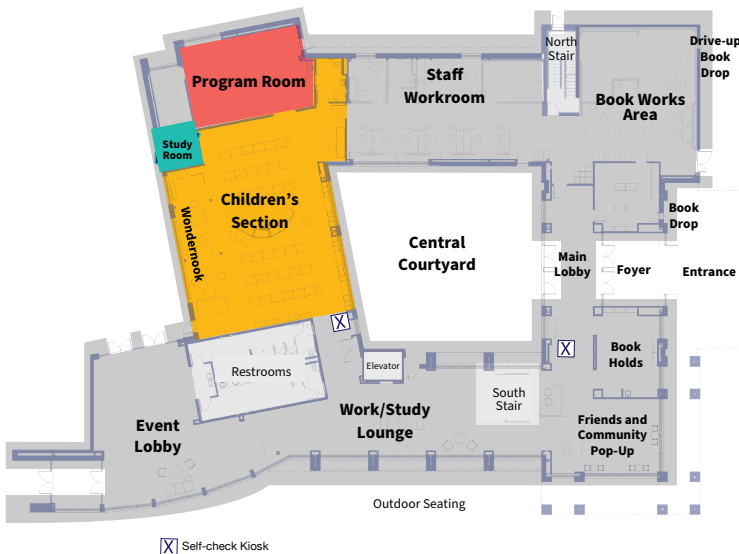
Residents who do not have a KDL library card can register at the library or online through the KDL website kdl.org.

Stay tuned for updates and be sure to follow the Amy Van Anandel Library on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/KDLAda/>

Hours of operation:

Monday	9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday	12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday	9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Labor Day to Memorial Day only)

Ground Level



Here is a first look at what's inside, with many more details to experience as the building opens fully in the spring.

Ground Level

The entryway foyer will offer residents community resources, a library calendar of events, tax forms, etc. As you pass through the foyer, you immediately experience the view of the Central Courtyard. It's a brilliant outdoor quiet space, surrounded by glass windows on both floors, complete with outdoor seating and tables.

The lobby features a concierge desk and self-check kiosk, along with a book hold area and book return. This area also includes a pop-up corner for Friends of the Amy Van Anandel Library and other community activities.

The lobby leads to a spacious work/study lounge with seating and tables, and a dramatic open staircase and elevator provide access to the second floor. The interior space is bright and inviting, with streamlined décor, contemporary fixtures and thoughtful design touches. A separate "pre-function" lobby provides additional space for gatherings and small events.



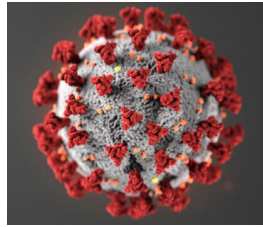
ADA FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS –

GARAGE SMOKE DETECTORS?

If you have never thought of it, you are not alone. Smoke detectors are required on all levels of your home and in each bedroom, but not the garage. This past year we had three garage fires, two did extensive damage to the homes while a third was extinguished by the homeowner prior to our arrival. What made the difference? The third home had a smoke detector in the garage. Honestly, until this year I never thought about this. It makes sense though. With so many flammable items in a garage—vehicles, trash cans, gas cans, mowers—the potential for fire is there. I would suggest if you add garage smoke detectors, you install the type that would be wired with your current detectors so all would alert regardless of the fire’s location. If you have questions about this or any smoke or carbon monoxide detectors, give the fire department a call.

ADAPTING TO COVID-19

This has been a challenging year for everyone, including the fire department and our response to incidents. You may have seen our team around town now wearing masks when more than one responder is in the vehicle. That is one step we have taken to prevent the spread of the virus. On an airborne precaution medical response, we also include goggles and gowns, which are cleaned or replaced after the incident. Fortunately, we have had a very limited response to these types of incidents. We have learned to adapt and that includes our trainings. We have set up a second training room to assure classroom sizes of less than 10 members while still maintaining social distancing. The second classroom is actually an apparatus bay with video equipment for a virtual training while live training is conducted in another classroom. For less than \$200 we were able to set up a projector and screen to assure safe training for our team.



BURN PERMITS

With springtime nearly upon us so is the opportunity to clean up the yard from downed branches and twigs. If you plan to burn your yard waste, remember a burn permit is required. To obtain one is a simple phone call to the Township office (616) 676-9191. Here are the guidelines: fires must be out by dark, means of extinguishment present, 50 feet from structures, and someone in attendance at all times.

Open burning is permitted throughout the Township until April 30th. From April 30 – November 1, burning is not permitted in the restricted area. (Restricted area is south of Fulton and west of the Grand River.)

2020 INCIDENT RESPONSE

Our year finished with fewer responses than 2019, which was our highest ever at 755. The increased activity for 2019 included two ice storms and the high winds event. In two days, we responded to over 40 incidents for the February 2019 storm. During the ice storms, we had as many as 7 units on the road at once responding to trees and wires down in all areas of the Township. Below is a summary of our 2020 incidents by type. If you ever have questions about our incident activities, feel free to call the Fire Station at (616) 676-2376.

2020 FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE

Medicals	280
Vehicle accidents	60
Fire alarms	98
Structure fire	9
Auto aid to other departments	51
Grass fire / illegal burn	22
Vehicle fires	8
Service calls / assist citizens	12
Good intent / odor investigation	13
Hazardous conditions / CO alarm	18
Other calls / wires	30
Water rescue	4
Total incidents	605

ADDRESS SIGNAGE

House numbers are required at or near the front door and must be a contrasting color from the home. Homes more than 90 feet from the road or not visible from the road require a sign at the roadway visible from both directions. On private drives, help us out and clearly mark your driveway from the private drive. Do you have questions about your home and our ability to locate it? Call us! We would be more than happy to answer questions or make a visit to assist you. The reflective green and white address signs you see around town are available from the fire department, and made while you wait. For more information, contact the Fire Station at (616) 676-2376.



NOTICE: The Spring Ada-Cascade Clean-Up Day will NOT be held.

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions and required planning time, we will not be holding the spring 2021 Ada-Cascade Clean-Up Day. Please plan accordingly. See below for a list of resources to manage your materials.

Alternative Resources Available for Managing Trash, Reusables and Recyclables

For more information, contact the Ada Parks Department at (616) 676-0520.

<p>General Waste and Yard Waste</p> <p>Kent County has information on yard waste disposal and other materials: http://www.reimaginetrash.org/material/yard-waste/</p> 	<p>Re-Usable Household Items</p> <p>Salvation Army accepts household items at their stores and drop-off boxes: www.satruck.org https://www.salvationarmy.org (888) 868-9305</p> 	<p>Scrap Metal and Appliances</p> <p>Padnos handles scrap metal recycling and appliances. They have drop off services. https://padnos.com/</p> 
<p>Electronics</p> <p>Comprenew handles electronics: https://comprenew.org/</p> 	<p>Paper Shredding</p> <p>Shred-It handles paper recycling: www.stericycle.com (616) 984-7977</p> 	<p>Household Hazardous Waste</p> <p>Kent County Public Works has drop off sites and collection days: recycle@kentcountymi.gov (616) 632-7941</p> 

CEMETERIES

Ada Township has two cemeteries – Ada Cemetery on Fulton Street and Findlay Cemetery on Two Mile Road. Burial and crematorium spaces are available for purchase by Ada Township residents only. Ada Cemetery is always open. Findlay Cemetery is open on Wednesdays and Fridays through Sundays, beginning April 1. When Spring weather improves, Township staff will be cleaning up winter debris and leftover gravesite materials. If you have items on your family’s gravesite(s), please remove by April 1.

ADA/CASCADE RESIDENTS

Did you know??

Permits are required for the installation of replacement *furnaces* and *water heaters*.

We have trained staff to inspect your new replacement furnace and water heater. An inspection ensures that the new equipment is safe and in compliance with the 2015 Michigan Residential Code.

Before signing a contract to have these items replaced, make sure that the contractor will obtain the necessary permits and coordinate inspection upon completion of the work.

Inspections cover important safety items like gas piping, venting and combustion air requirements.

For more information, please contact Cascade Inspection Services at (616) 949-3765.



LEAF PICK-UP DAYS

Two curbside, leaf bag pick-up dates will be available for Ada Residents. You will need to purchase bags ahead of time and use them for your leaves. Ada Township no longer sells leaf bags, but they can be purchased at many retail stores; however, they must be leaf or lawn waste bags. Leaves and other compostable yard waste will be all that is allowed in the bags. Have your bags out next to the road at your residence on the following dates.

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

For more information, contact the Township Hall at (616) 676-9191, Ext. 23.

ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Events for March, April, May 2021



www.AdaHistoricalSociety.org
 (616) 676-9346
 7144 Headley St., P.O. Box 741
 Ada, MI 49301
AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

MUSEUM HOURS

The museum is temporarily closed to visitation and Society activities are taking a pause. Be assured a great deal of planning, committee work, research, and exhibit preparation are going on behind the scenes. We look forward to sharing much more of Ada's story with you as soon as safely possible.

NEW EXHIBIT ABOUT ADA'S EARLY YEARS

Ada Is...Rooted In Trade

200 years ago, Ada was part of an international fur trading network. Experience the interaction of cultures centered around Ada's trading post that helped establish our community today. Details for an exhibit opening will be made available.

March 11, April 8, May 13 – Monthly Board Meetings

3:00pm via Zoom. Board meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month and are open to the public. We welcome your involvement. Please email or call AHS for information on how to connect.

SOMETHING TO OFFER? VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Ada Historical Society is a non-profit cultural organization with a mission to preserve, share, and celebrate the unique history of the Ada community. Volunteers are our heart and soul. If you care about Ada too, we'd love to work with you.

AHS offers many ways to connect – for long-time residents or those new to the area – in working with the artifacts, creating and hosting programming and events, leading school visits, being a docent, gardening, and so much more. No experience necessary. If you're looking for a something new in the year ahead, please give us a call at (616) 676-9346 or email AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com.

CENTENNIAL PROPERTIES PROGRAM

The Ada Historical Society recognizes homes and commercial buildings 100 years of age and older with a "Centennial Home" or "Centennial Property" exterior historic plaque. AHS wishes to honor the importance of historic properties and the value they add to our community today.

Thirty-two plaques are already in place! See if you can spot them in the village and on homes across Ada Township. Find photos of all the homes on our Facebook page.

Check out our website www.AdaHistoricalSociety.org for more information on the program and an application. Call with any questions.



Two of the many new Centennial Properties receiving recognition: The Averill Museum (1870) and the Nonna's Pantry/Scoopers building (1860).

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Contact Information:

Phone: (616) 676-0520 **Fax:** (616) 676-5870

Email: adaparks@adatownshipmi.com

Website: www.adatownshipmi.com

Office in Ada Park: 1180 Buttrick Ave., Ada, 49301

Mailing address: P.O. Box 370, 7330 Thornapple River Dr., Ada, Michigan 49301

Mission: "To provide all community members with diverse recreational opportunities including access to premier natural, historical and cultural areas that enhance our quality of life and inspire the preservation of nature."

ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS & PRESERVES

Ada Township Park 1180 Buttrick Ave. 57 acres. Park office, Learning Center, shelters, arboretum, softball and soccer fields, tennis and pickleball courts, basketball court, playground, pond, trails, picnic areas.

Roselle Park 1010 Grand River Dr. NE. 247 acres. Restrooms, meeting room, picnic area, playground, paved and non-paved trails, observation decks, natural areas, Grand River shoreline.

Legacy Park 7450 River Street in Ada Village. Thornapple River view, playground, picnic plaza, paved trail, restrooms, Van Andel Family Pavilion.

Leonard Field Park & Ada Covered Bridge 7490 Thornapple River Dr. 2 acres. Softball field, bike path, Thornapple River overlook deck, Ada Covered Bridge.

Carl Creek

Crossings Preserve

6230 Grand River Drive. 8 acres. Non-paved trails, creek access.

Grand River Natural Area

Grand River Drive, enter via Ada Moorings. 110 acres. Trails, bike path, Grand River shoreline.



Walking and Bike Paths: Located throughout the Township and in several Parks. Maps available.

PARK RULES AND USE

COVID-19: Some facilities and amenities may be limited in use or closed. Recommended protocols are still in place.

Park Hours: Park grounds are open dawn to dusk.

Dog Policy: Township ordinances require dogs to be on a leash and cleaned up after in all parks and preserves.

Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Alcohol is not allowed in the parks or park facilities.

UPDATES ON PARKS, PRESERVES & TRAILS

New Email Address: adaparks@adatownshipmi.com

The Parks Department has set up a new email address for communicating to the Parks Department. Please make a note of it: adaparks@adatownshipmi.com.

COVID-19 – Please Keep Safe

While most outdoor amenities and restrooms remain open, indoor facilities remain limited for use. We ask everyone to practice social distancing, good sanitation and wear masks as directed.

Wi-Fi Service Available in the Parks

Thanks to a grant from Kent County, public Wi-Fi access is now available in Ada, Legacy, Roselle and Leonard Field parks. Access will appear on your device as "Name of Park Public Wi-Fi".

Mailing List for E-Newsletter

The Parks Department is setting up for a new newsletter that we can send out via email and post to our website. To be placed on the mailing list, please email us at adaparks@adatownshipmi.com.

Facility Reservations and Rentals

We are taking some reservations for facility use and rentals, although many COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines are still in place. Contact the Park office for availability, restrictions, scheduling and fees.

Bike Paths and Non-Motorized Trails

We again want to thank all our residents for supporting the new trails millage. Funding from that millage will start being received at the end of 2021. The funds will be used for increased maintenance on the trails, repairs to asphalt and bridges that are worn out, new signs and maps and new additions to the current trail system. Several projects are being planned for this coming summer.

Please report any issues or concerns regarding the paved trail system to the Park office at (616) 676-0520 or adaparks@adatownshipmi.com.



Photo credit: Ken Coviak

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Grant Application for Leonard Field Park Improvements – Public Meeting set for March 8

Following the new park Master Plan, we will be implementing improvements to the park over the next few years. As part of the process, we are applying for a MI DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund grant this spring to help support improvements along the riverfront 2022 through 2024. A Public Meeting and Input session is planned for March 8, 2021 during the 7:00 p.m. Township Board meeting. Letters of support and pledges for contributions are welcome at this time. For details, contact the Park office.

ROSELLE PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Plans for a new park shelter, accessible picnic area and improvement to the playground and parking lot are underway. Construction is planned for 2023. Pledges for contributions are welcome at this time. Contact the Park office on how your donations can help.

DONATIONS, CHARITABLE GIFTS AND PLEDGES FOR SUPPORT

As a government entity, donations to Ada Township are tax deductible. Contact the Park office for details.

Current opportunities include:

- General gifts to support facilities, trails and programs are always welcome and appreciated.
- Engraved pavers may still be ordered for the new Amy Van Andel – Kent District Library and Legacy Park. Orders taken now will be placed at the locations in the spring. For details, see: www.ournextchapterada.org.
- For Roselle Park, pledges and donations are being accepted to help support a new shelter, accessible picnic area, accessible picnic tables, trees, and a playground structure. Naming opportunities available for several items. Construction is planned for 2022.



PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMS

We still hope to host and facilitate summer concerts, family and youth programs, outdoor fitness opportunities and other activities this year. Planning and confirming programs months, or even weeks ahead of time is a challenge with COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainties. Please contact the Park office for details or to be put on our mailing list for updates. Events and programs are also posted on our website and the Ada Village page on Facebook.



2021 ADULT SOFTBALL TEAM REGISTRATIONS

We begin accepting 2021 registrations for adult softball teams February 15, 2021. Forms and fees are due by March 16, 2021. These include leagues for men's slow pitch, men's fast pitch, and coed slow pitch. The entry fee is \$735 per team which includes softballs, umpire fees, awards, MASA fees and tournament. Contact rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com for information.



INSTRUCTORS WANTED

We are seeking experienced instructors for future recreation, education and community enrichment programs. Contact the Park office for more details, an application or to set up an interview.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Thanks to all our volunteers that helped out in 2020! We hope to get more active again this spring and as COVID-19 restrictions lighten up.

Upcoming volunteer opportunities include assisting with gardens, grounds, trails, habitat stewardship, office clerical tasks, and youth programs. Individuals and groups are welcome. Contact the Park office for an application, interview or schedule of events.



TOWNSHIP

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE
P.O. Box 370
Ada, Michigan 49301

PRSR. STD.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 657

CALENDAR (2021) SPRING ISSUE

MARCH

- 2 Zoning Board of Appeals - 4:30P
- 8 Downtown Development Authority - 8:30A
- 8 Ada Township Board Meeting - 7P
- 11 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Advisory Board - 8:30A
- 11 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting - 3P
- 18 Planning Commission - 7P
- 22 Ada Township Board Meeting - 7P
- 13 Ethics Board Meeting - 6:30P
- 15 Planning Commission - 7P
- 20 Spring Leaf Pick-Up
- 26 Ada Township Board Meeting - 7P

MAY

- 10 Downtown Development Authority - 8A
- 10 Ada Township Board Meeting - 7P
- 11 Zoning Board of Appeals - 4:30P
- 13 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Advisory Board - 8:30A

APRIL

- 8 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation Advisory Board - 8:30A
- 8 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting - 3P
- 12 Downtown Development Authority - 8A
- 12 Ada Township Board Meeting - 7P
- 13 Zoning Board of Appeals - 4:30P
- 13 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting - 3P
- 18 Spring Leaf Pick-Up
- 20 Planning Commission - 7P
- 31 CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY**

PLEASE WATCH OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.
www.adatownshipmi.com
MANY OF THESE MAY BE "VIRTUAL" MEETINGS.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

(remove & save)

AdaView is published by **Ada Township Board**.
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