

119 North Fourth Street  
West Branch Michigan 48661  
p: 989.345.2235  
f: 989.345.8735

**HOURS**  
Monday & Wednesday

10 am-6 pm

Tuesday & Thursday  
10 am-5 pm

Friday & Saturday  
10 am-2 pm

**STAFF**

Director

John S.

Technical Processor

Amy W.

Program-

Coordinator

Amanda S.

Children Librarian

Sandy O.

Circulation Staff

Ellie M.

Michelle C.

**—BOOK NOOK—**

Used & collectable books for sale.

**Hours**

Monday-Thursday  
10 am - 4 pm

Friday & Saturday  
10 am-1:30 pm

100% volunteer staffed—please call ahead for



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

WEST BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

120 YEARS OLD

SEPTEMBER 2, 1905



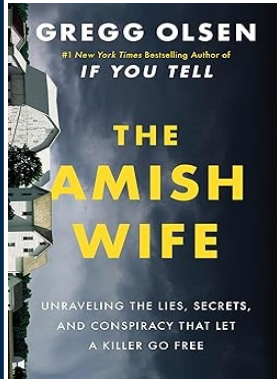
The West Branch Hotel, the first in the city.

On September 2, 1905 the City Council signed Ordinance number 33 establishing the West Branch Township school library as the West Branch City Library. The newly appointed library board held their first meeting and elected **George Donovan**, chairman; **Arthur L. Nauman**, treasurer; and **James B. Ross** as secretary.

This first city library resided on the third floor of **the West Branch Hotel** (near the present day Mercantile Bank), which was owned by D. Wright and Company. Fire destroyed this block on July 3, 1906.

Technical Assistance provided by appointment only Tuesday-Friday 1:30-4:00 PM

**READ BOOKS, BE KIND, STAY WERID**



**Title:** *The Amish Wife*  
**Author:** *Gregg Olsen*  
**Date:** *Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025*  
**@ 2 p.m.**

In 1977, in an Ohio Amish community, pregnant wife and mother Ida Stutzman perished during a barn fire. The coroner's report: natural causes. Ida's husband, Eli, was never considered a suspect. But when he eventually rejected the faith and took his son, Danny, with him, murder followed.

What really happened to Ida? The dubious circumstances of the tragic blaze were willfully ignored and Eli's shifting narratives disregarded. Could Eli's subsequent cross-country journey of death—including that of his own son—have been prevented if just one person came forward with what they knew about the real Eli Stutzman?

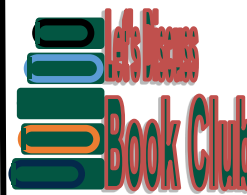
The questions haunted Gregg Olsen and Ida's brother Daniel Gingerich for decades. At Daniel's urging, Olsen now returns to Amish Country and to Eli's crimes first exposed in Olsen's *Abandoned Prayers*, one of which has remained a mystery until now. With the help of aging witnesses and shocking long-buried letters, .

CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS SANDY  
 SHE IS OUR NEW CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN  
 WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT  
 \*\*PRESCHOOL STORYTIME\*\*  
 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025  
 @ 11 A.M.



**SATURDAY STORY TIME**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2025 @ 11-1:00 P.M.**

**The BOOK NOOK**  
*September Sale*  
**NON-FICTION & WESTERNS**  
**5 FOR A \$1.00**



**October 9, 2025**  
**@ 2 p.m**

