

VBDL Spotlight Programs

Antwerp Sunshine Branch Mattawan

Apple Pie Baking Contest
Saturday, October 21, 2:00 pm

Bangor Branch

Paw Paw River Odyssey
Wednesday, September 20, 6:00 pm

Bloomington Branch

Healthy Foods, Healthy Families
Saturdays at 12 noon
October 7 - November 11

Covert Branch

Family Literacy Night
Tuesday, September 12, 5:00 pm

Gobles Branch

A History of Gobles: From the Gobles Brothers to the Present
Tuesday, October 10, 6:30 pm
Gobles United Methodist Church

Lawrence Community Branch

World War I and America
Open House for U.S. Veterans
Wednesday, October 18, 5:30 pm

Webster Memorial Library Decatur

Unity Day After School
Book Discussion
R. J. Placio's "Wonder"
Wednesday, October 25, 3:30 pm

Visit us online at VBDL.org

VBDL Hosts World War I and America

"This, the greatest of all wars, is not just another war - it is the last war!" - H. G. Wells, August 1914.

VBDL is proud to take part in "World War I and America," a national event that honors the memory of the nearly 9 million soldiers and 13 million civilians who lost their lives in what became known as The War to End All Wars.

Organized to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I, the project brings together members of the veteran community with the general public and features scholar-moderated programs to help illuminate the lasting legacies of the conflict.

VBDL Lawrence Branch is the host site for the District's events beginning Wednesday, October 18, 5:30 pm. The library welcomes local veterans from the American Legion for an evening of sharing memories, photographs and experiences. Additional programs feature Dr. Gordon Andrews, author of "The Sleepwalkers: How Europe Went to War in 1914," October 25; Dr. Kenneth Steuer on German Propaganda and POWs in World War I, November 1; and a Veterans' Day showing of the Academy Award-winning film, "All Quiet on the Western Front." All programs are free and open to the public.

World War I and America is made possible by a grant to the Library of America by the National Endowment for the Humanities.



September is Library Card Sign-up Month!



VBDL and crime fighting DC Super Heroes, The Teen Titans, are teaming up for Library Card Sign-up Month during September. Parents, caregivers and students are reminded that a valid library card is the first step toward academic achievement and lifelong learning.

Whether it's online access to homework help, STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) programs, Makerspaces, Story Time or cultural programs, a library card is a ticket to free educational resources and activities for students and their families.

As an added incentive, any child who signs-up for his/her first card in September receives a congratulatory gift. Also during the month, any patron who still carries a VBDL card with the old logo may exchange it for one with the bright new

logo at no charge.

Getting a card is easy! Just bring proof of your permanent address, such as a driver's license, and a new card will be yours in just a few short minutes. Not sure if you're in VBDL's legal service area? Find out at VBDL.org or at any of VBDL's seven locations.

Help Save Lives! Give Blood!

Michigan Blood Drive: Monday, October 9, 2:00 - 6:30 pm

Webster Memorial Library, Decatur
Schedule a time at miblood.org
or phone 269.423.4771 for more information.



VBDL Story Time: Stories, Rhymes, Songs and more!



Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Wednesdays: 10:30 am
September 13 - December 20

Bangor Branch

Wednesdays: 10:00 am
September 6 - December 13

Bloomington Branch

Thursdays: 10:30 am
September 14 - December 14

Covert Branch

Tuesdays: 11:00 am
September 19 - December 26

Gobles Branch

Wednesdays: 10:30 am
September 13 - December 13

Lawrence Community Branch

Wednesdays: 10:30 am and 3:30 pm
September 6 - December 27

Webster Memorial Library - Decatur

Wednesdays: 10:00 am
September 13 - December 20

Very Ready Reading for children



0 - 24 months

Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Tuesdays at 10:30 am
September 12 -
October 24

Wiggle Time

Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Wednesdays at 10:30 am
September 27, October 25, November 29

Covert Branch

2nd & 4th Wednesday at 11:00 am
September - November

Webster Memorial Library - Decatur

Fridays at 10:00 am
September 15 -
December 22



VBDL to Join Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative

VBDL is pleased to announce its membership in the Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative. While VBDL has benefited over the years from its affiliation with Woodlands Library Cooperative, the move to Southwest will allow the district to work in tandem with its closest neighbors, such as Paw Paw, Kalamazoo, Portage, Dowagiac, Marcellus, South Haven, Lawton and Hartford.

When the switch becomes official October 1, patrons who enjoy downloading materials from Overdrive may experience a slight disruption of service as VBDL patron records and advantage titles are transferred to the new site. The down time should be no more than 3 - 4 hours; however, patrons will be alerted in advance.

Stay informed with VBDL's move to Southwest by following the nearest branch on Facebook, visiting VBDL.org or talking with your local librarians.

Holiday Closings

VBDL is closed the following dates:
November 23 & 24, 2017
December 23, December 25 and 30, 2017
January 1, 2018



Geek Fest 2017

A Comic Book, Gaming, Cosplay Convention for all ages!

Saturday, October 14
11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Antwerp Activity Center next to VBDL
Antwerp Sunshine Branch, Mattawan.

Free and open to the public!
For more information, look for
SWMGeekFest on Facebook.

Hosted by Kalamazoo Public Library, Lawton Public Library, Paw Paw District Library, Portage District Library, Richland Community Library, Van Buren District Library

VBDL: Heart of the Community, October 9 - 14

Monday, October 9, 6:00 pm
Bangor Branch

"Parents as Teachers" with Kevin Merrell

Tuesday October 10, 10:00 am
Covert Branch

Story Time at Covert
Public Schools



Tuesday October 10, 6:00 pm

Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Create a Fairy Garden with Jenny Penning
from Vintage Inspired

Tuesday October 10, 6:00 pm

Webster Memorial Library - Decatur

"Down on the Farm" Family Literacy Night

Saturday, October 14, 10:00 am

Bloomington Branch

Project Linus: Blankets for Needy Kids

Saturday, October 14, 10:00 am

Lawrence Community Branch

Heart of the Community Quilt Show

Saturday, October 14, 10:30 am

Gobles Branch - Kal Haven Trail

Bike Safety & Ride with Kalamazoo Public
Safety Officers



Meet Author Wade Rouse

Van Buren Reads cordially invites you to an entertaining evening with author

Wade Rouse,
also known as Viola Shipman

Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 pm

Van Buren Conference Center
490 S Paw Paw Street
Lawrence MI 49064

Free and open to the public!

Sponsored by Hartford Public Library, Lawton Public Library, Paw Paw District Library, South Haven Memorial Library, Van Buren District Library

Van Buren District Library

Bangor - Bloomington - Covert - Decatur - Gobles - Lawrence - Mattawan