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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### VBDL OBSERVES NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

DECATUR, MICHIGAN - - - Van Buren District Library is joining the ranks of thousands of individuals, corporations and organizations that observe October as National Bullying Prevention Month.

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, more than one out of every five students reports being bullied. The Center for Disease Control states that students who experience bullying are at increased risk for academic problems, sleep difficulties, anxiety and depression.

Throughout October, VBDL invites patrons of all ages to stand up against bullying by participating in a variety of programs that encourage and showcase diversity and acceptance.

Patrons in Lawrence may join the month-long Affirmation Stone Hunt while those in Bangor are invited to make and share kindness cards. Antwerp Sunshine Branch in Mattawan invites the public to add a kind word or action to its Unity Chain.

VBDL also encourages patrons to join the librarians for Unity Day, October 25. All staff will Wear and Share Orange to show they are “united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion.”

For a complete October program schedule visit the library online at [VBDL.org](http://VBDL.org) or the nearest branch. Van Buren District Library is headquartered in Decatur with branches in Bangor, Bloomingdale, Covert, Gobles, Lawrence and Mattawan.

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Decatur \* Bangor \* Bloomingdale \* Covert \* Gobles \* Lawrence \* Mattawan