

VBDL Spotlight Programs

January

Webster Memorial Library Decatur

Cyber Security: Keeping your Children Safe Online with Det. Ben Ludwig, Van Buren County Sheriff's Dept.
Thursday, January 18, 6:30 pm

Covert Branch

Documentary and Discussion "The Seven Five"
Wednesday, January 10, 5:00 pm

Antwerp Sunshine Branch Mattawan

An Evening with the Friends of Poetry
Monday, January 29, 5:00 pm

February

Bangor Branch

DNA and Your Genealogy Research
Tuesday, February 27, 6:00 pm

March

Gobles Branch

What Kind of Building is That? A survey of local architecture
Tuesday, March 6, 6:30 pm
Gobles United Methodist Church

Bangor Branch

Mipro Paranormal Investigations
Tuesday, March 27, 6:00 pm

Lawrence Community Branch

Amish Culture with Susan Miller from Shipshewana's Menno-Hof
Wednesday, March 28, 5:30 pm

Visit us online at VBDL.org

VBDL Welcomes New Director

The Van Buren District Library Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome Dan Hutchins of Rochester, Michigan, as the system's new library director.

According to Chairperson Sandy Hanson, the board is looking forward to working with Hutchins and benefitting from his innovative ideas.

The Detroit area native began his library career at the Rochester Hills Public Library while still in high school. He received his bachelor's degree from Oakland University and his master's in library science from Wayne State University. Since then, he has worked in public and academic libraries for more than 20 years. Most recently, Hutchins served as Director of the Harrison Township Library.

The public is invited to an Open House welcoming the new director to VBDL, Tuesday, December 19, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, Webster Memorial Library, Decatur.



Dan Hutchins, Director, VBDL

Create a VBDL Mascot Contest!

Van Buren District Library needs a mascot! Any patron with a valid VBDL card is eligible to submit their ideas or rough sketches between January 2 and January 25.



Entries must include: 1) Character's Name, 2) Short Description and/or a rough sketch, and 3) What the character likes about Van Buren District Library.

The rules are simple: 1) All patrons with a VBDL card are eligible (VBDL employees and their immediate families are not eligible), 2) Entries must follow the above guidelines, 3) VBDL retains the right to alter any rough draft/image to meet the District's needs (Do not submit completed images), 4) All entries become the property of Van Buren District Library and will not be returned.

The new mascot will be used as a promotional tool for library programs and events. Hopefully, VBDL can locate a talented individual who can create a costume the library can use in parades, community events, and school visits.

Entries will be accepted at each VBDL location and via email to mascot@vbdl.org. The winner will be announced January 31 and will receive a \$50.00 gift card.

First Annual VeeBee Awards

VBDL wants patrons to determine what the best books are of 2017 by participating in the first annual VeeBees! The VeeBees are VBDL's version of the Academy Awards.

Between January 8 and 27, patrons may nominate the best books of 2017 in the following categories: Adult Fiction, Adult Nonfiction, Young Adult Fiction, Graphic Novels: J Graphic, Y Graphic, Adult Graphic; Picture Books, J Fiction and J Nonfiction. Nominations are also accepted for a Lifetime Achievement Award.

The top three nominees in each category will be in the running for the VeeBees. Patrons will determine the winners during the official voting period, February 1 - 24. The red carpet, white-glove ceremony is Friday, March 2, 1:00 pm, at VBDL Covert Branch. The public is invited to attend!



VBDL Story Time Stories, Rhymes, Songs & more!

Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Wednesday at 10:30
am
January 10 - March 21



Bangor Branch

Wednesday at 10:00 am
January 3 - March 28

Bloomington Branch

Thursday at 10:30 am
January 4 - March 29

Covert Branch

Tuesday at 11:00 am
January 9 - March 27

Gobles Branch

Wednesday at 10:30 am
January 10 - March 28

Lawrence Community Branch

Wednesday at 10:30 am
and 3:30pm
January 3 - March 28



Webster Memorial Library Decatur

Wednesday at 10:00 am
January 10 - March 28

Join us for the annual Spring Concert

The Friends of the Lawrence Library invite the public to the group's annual spring concert, **Friday, March 16**, Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence.

This year's concert features the **"Voices of the Future" choir from Paw Paw High School**. The audition-only ensemble performs many styles of choral music, including classical, contemporary and pop.

Doors open at 6:00 pm. The concert begins at 6:30 pm. **The event is free and open to the public.**



VBDL Wiggle Time Sing! Dance! Play!

Lawrence Community Branch

Wednesday at 11:30 am
January 3 - March 28

Webster Memorial Library

Friday at 10:00 am
January 12 - March 30

Antwerp Sunshine Branch Mattawan

Last Wednesday of
the month at
10:30 am



Van Buren Reads 2018

Van Buren Reads is excited to announce the 2018 visiting author . . . in January! The mystery author appears at the Van Buren Conference Center, Lawrence, Tuesday, October 2, 6:30 pm.

Thanks to the continued collaboration between five library systems in Van Buren County - Hartford Public Library, Lawton Public Library, Paw Paw District Library, South Haven Memorial Library, and Van Buren District Library - Van Buren Reads is able to sponsor a well-known author who has written 20 books.

While the exact identity is embargoed for a few weeks, here is the author's description of the popular protagonist: "He believes in family. He believes in justice. He believes you make commitments and stand by them. He's become a wonderfully complex character."

Stay tuned . . .

VBDL.org

Teen Creative Writing Challenge 2018

Van Buren District Library is pleased to announce the dates for the 2018 Teen Creative Writing Challenge. Students in grades 7 through 12 are encouraged to enter their work in the categories of fiction, poetry and cover art beginning February 1. Submissions will be accepted through April 14.

The contest awards cash prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25 in the writing categories and \$75 for cover art. The winning entries will be published professionally in a trade paperback with the winning art gracing the cover.

The awards ceremony is Saturday, June 16, Mattawan. Partner organizations include Lawton Public Library, Paw Paw District Library, South Haven Memorial Library and Van Buren District Library.



VBDL Book Clubs Check-out what we're reading!



Join the discussion
at the VBDL branch nearest you!
Here's a sneak peek at January's titles:

Bangor Branch

Ta-Nehisi Coates'

"Between the World and Me"

Monday, January 15, 1:30 pm

Webster Memorial Library - Decatur

Paula Hawkins' "Into the Water"

Monday, January 15, 6:30 pm

Lawrence Community Branch

Jeannette Walls' "Half Broke Horses"

Thursday, January 17, 1:00 pm

Antwerp Sunshine Branch, Mattawan

John A. Farrell's

"Richard Nixon: The Life"

Wednesday, January 24, 6:30 pm

Very Ready Reading for newborns through 24 months!

Prepare your child

to read in 7 ways:

**Sounds, Words, Rhymes, Books,
Stories, Songs, Playtime**

Tuesdays at 10:30 am

February 13 - March 27, 2018

Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Michigan Blood Drive

Monday, January 15

2:00 - 6:30 pm

Webster Memorial Library



Phone: 269.423.4771 or visit miblood.org

Van Buren District Library

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