



Show your support for VBDL with a cool sticker!

But wait, we don't have any cool stickers... yet!

That's where you come in.

We need your help deciding which VBDL logos and mascot images should be transformed into awesome stickers! Throughout September, you can vote for your favorite image in each category either on Facebook or by filling out this [Google form](#). The most popular image in each category will be made into a sticker!

The categories are:

- VBDL Mascot: Bookeater
- VBDL Mascot: Jojo the Giraffe
- VBDL Logo
- Bonus Category

Make sure to cast your vote for your favorite in each category!



WE NEED YOUR HELP DECIDING WHAT VBDL IMAGES SHOULD BE MADE INTO STICKERS!



VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE!



Southwest Michigan Reads 2024

TOBIN BUHK

author of *Killer Women of Michigan*

TUESDAY, SEPT. 24
6:30PM

ARCLIGHT BREWING COMPANY
544 NORTH MAIN ST.
WATERVLIE, MI 49098



This free event is sponsored by:



Southwest Michigan Reads 2024

They used arsenic to obtain chemical divorces and strychnine to settle scores. They bludgeoned husbands to make way for lovers. They murdered for money, for revenge, and for pleasure. They are the killer women of Michigan.

Join Southwest Michigan Reads for an evening with Tobin Buhk, Michigan freelance author specializing in historic true crime, on **Tuesday, September 24, 6:30pm**, at Arclight Brewing Company in Watervliet!

This event is free and open to the public. A book signing will follow Buhk's presentation. Food from Hendo's BBQ will be available for purchase beginning at 6pm.

Southwest Michigan Reads is sponsored by Coloma Public Library, Dowagiac District Library, Hartford Public Library, Lawton Public Library, Marcellus Township Wood Memorial Library, Paw Paw District Library, Van Buren District Library, Watervliet District Library, the Friends of the Lawrence Library, and the Friends of the Van Buren District Library.

Friends' Grant: Branch Highlights

Bangor Branch: Upgrades to the activity room electronics for Lunch and Learns and rainy day movies.

Bloomington Branch: Purchasing an automatic



stapler and a small laminator to use for projects at the branch.

Webster Memorial Branch: To improve programming, we are buying a craft cart for adult craft programs, a new Story Time rug, and a hot plate for teen cooking classes.

The Friends of the Library

The Van Buren District Library is fortunate to have three active Friends groups that play a vital role in supporting the library through fundraising and advocacy. The time and dedication these Friends devote to improving their library and community is invaluable. By joining a Friends group, members not only enhance the library but also enrich their own lives in several meaningful ways.

- **Supporting the Community:** By joining a Friends of the Library group, you help raise funds and advocate for programs, resources, and services that benefit your community.
- **Being a part of a like-minded network:** Joining connects you with others who share a love for reading, learning, and community service.
- **Advocate for literacy and education:** As a member, you can actively promote literacy and lifelong learning in your community, ensuring that everyone has access to essential educational resources.

Interested in joining the Friends of the Van Buren District Library, Friends of the Antwerp Sunshine Library, or Friends of the Lawrence Library? Visit [VBDL's website](#) for more information!



New Story Time Rug at the Webster Memorial Branch!

Thanks for the Summer Adventure!

We hope your summer was filled with adventure, both inside and outside the library. We certainly had an incredible time with our Summer Reading Program at all of VBDL's branches! We were thrilled to have so many friends join us in amazing adventures.

This year, we had an incredible **1,210 children** and **297 adults** participate across all VBDL locations. What an outstanding turnout!

Throughout the summer, readers earned thousands of books, snack prizes, and grand prize tickets. Great job to all our readers!

We can't wait to see you again for next year's Summer Reading Program.



Millage Moving Forward!

In May 2024, the residents of Van Buren District Library's service area voted "yes" to a millage increase of 0.4 mills. We at VBDL would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your support. We're excited to share that we are already hard at work fulfilling our promises!

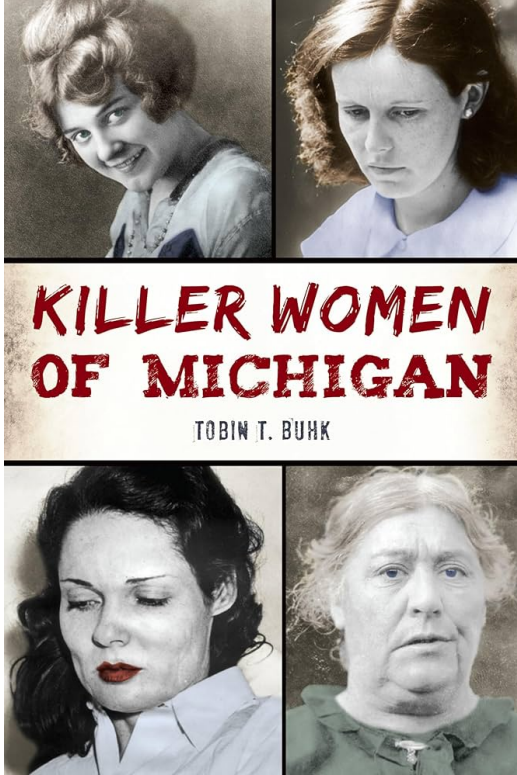
- In July, we added new hotspots to our collection, providing VBDL patrons with on-the-go internet access.
- In June, our branch managers were offered full-time positions, allowing them to dedicate more time to serving the community and providing more stable hours for our branches.
- We've also submitted new programming budgets to the Board for approval, aiming to significantly enhance the programs and events offered at all VBDL branches.
- Additionally, progress is being made in developing a book delivery service for VBDL patrons who are homebound due to illness or infirmity.

Van Buren District Library Book Clubs

[Looking for a book club to join?](#) Or maybe you're just looking for some book ideas? Find some amazing reads at a VBDL Book Club near you!

**Gobles, Lawrence,
Antwerp Sunshine Branches**

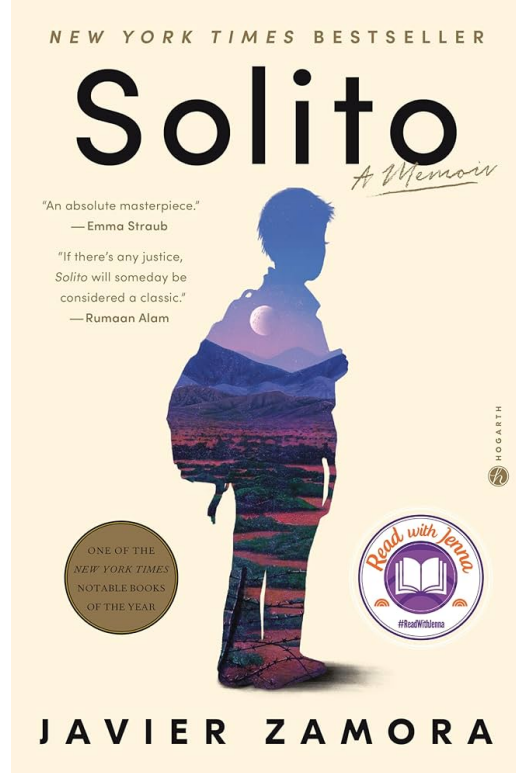
Covert Branch



Send chills down your spine as your read about Michigan true crime.

This year's Southwest Michigan Reads is being read by several VBDL book clubs. check it out and discuss the devious details of the Killer Women of Michigan!

Gobles Branch - Tue, 9/17 @ 5pm
Lawrence Branch - Wed, 9/18 @ 1pm
Antwerp Sunshine Br. - Wed, 9/18 @ 5:30pm



Nine-year old Javier Zamora could not have imagined the difficulties that awaited him as he left his small town in El Salvador to travel to the United States border.

In this memoir, Zamora recounts the dangers and the kindness he experienced during his 3000-mile journey as a child.

Covert Branch - Mon, 9/23 @ 5:30pm



Van Buren District Library | 200 N Phelps St | Decatur, MI 49045 US

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