

VBDL Spotlight Programs

Antwerp Sunshine Branch Mattawan

Monday, June 12, 6:30 pm



The Beatles' Alter Ego: Sgt. Pepper's
Lonely Hearts Club Band

Bangor Branch

Wednesday, July 12, 11:00 am
Bangor Historical Museum Tour

Bloomington Branch

Saturday, June 10, 2:00 pm
From the Shadow of JFK:
The Rise of Beatlemania

Covert Branch

Wednesday, June 28, 1:00 pm
MSU Extension: Robotics
Learn how to build and operate robots!

Gobles Branch

Saturday, June 24, & July 22, 10:30 am
Nature Walk on the Kal-Haven Trail

Lawrence Branch

Friday, June 30, 1:00 pm
STEM Challenge

Webster Memorial Library Decatur

Saturday, July 22, 1:00 pm
Women's Self Defense

visit us online! VBDL.org



Summer Activities for all ages June 12 - August 5

Whether you're in Bangor, Bloomingdale, Covert, Decatur, Gobles, Lawrence or Mattawan, Van Buren District Library has summer programs for all ages and interests.

Between June 12 and August 5, each location offers incentives for kids (and adults!) to read throughout the summer. Families are reminded that VBDL is the community resource that can help children avoid "summer slide," the tendency to forget or lose some of the reading proficiency gained during the school year. The youngest family members not yet old enough for school can hone early reading skills by participating in VBDL's 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten.

Summer reading and more is available to everyone with a valid VBDL card. Learn more about library programs and services by visiting the nearest location or visiting us online at VBDL.org.

All About Town: Morris Family Paintings Revealed



Van Buren District Library is the honored recipient of a gift with great local historical importance. Director Ryan Wieber says thanks to the generosity of Richard, Ron and Sheridan Morris, portraits of the county's first settlers have a new home at Webster Memorial Library, Decatur.

Those first settlers, Dolphin and Nancy Morris, were Decatur Township's only family until 1831. The couple's second home, a larger, more permanent structure than the original log cabin, was the site of tragedy in 1879 with the unsolved murders of the Morris' son and daughter-in-law, Charles and Esther. While the house has since burned down, the mystery of the murders remains.

The 1860s-era portraits of Dolphin and Nancy hung in the Morris homestead for many years and remained, until now, in the possession of the Morris' descendants.

Van Buren District Library unveils the paintings for the public during All About Town: the Morris Family Paintings Revealed, Thursday, June 15, 6:30 pm, Webster Memorial Library, Decatur. The program is free and open to all.

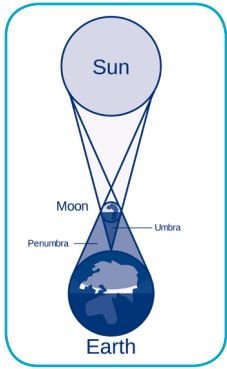
Teen Creative Writing Challenge Awards

The winners of the second annual Teen Creative Writing Challenge are the honored guests at this year's award ceremony, Saturday, June 17, 2:00 pm, at VBDL Antwerp Sunshine Branch, Mattawan.

The Challenge offered students in grades 7 - 12 the chance to compete for monetary awards in fiction, poetry, and new this year, cover art. According to Jeffrey Babbit, VBDL Clerk and Marketing Assistant, 43 students submitted official entries.

The event is a collaborative project between Lawton Public Library, Paw Paw District Library, South Haven Memorial Library and Van Buren District Library. Additional support provided by Friends of the Antwerp Sunshine Library, Friends of the Gobles Library, and Friends of Van Buren District Library.





The Great American Solar Eclipse 2017

Richard Bell of the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society provides insight into one of nature's greatest phenomena. In August, a total solar eclipse will cross the United States from coast-to-coast. Learn about this momentous event and how to view it safely! Free eclipse glasses while supplies last!

Antwerp Sunshine Branch: Wednesday, July 12, 5:30 pm
 Bangor Branch: Friday, July 14, 1:00 pm
 Covert Branch: Monday, June 26, 1:00 pm
 Lawrence Branch: Wednesday, July 26, 4:00 pm
 Webster Memorial Library: Monday, June 19, 6:00 pm

Meet Up, Eat Up!

The Decatur Public Schools is offering free lunches for any child 18 and under at Webster Memorial Library, Decatur, on the following dates:

Wednesdays, 12:00 pm
 June 21 - August 2

Fridays, 11:30 am
 June 23 - August 4

Adults may enjoy lunch for a nominal fee.



Van Buren Reads Get Caught Reading and Win!

Have your photo taken with a Wade Rouse/Viola Shipman book and we'll give you a chance to win a \$100 Visa Card between June 15 - August 15, 2017!

Meet author **Wade Rouse**
Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 pm
Van Buren Conference Center

Fatal Crossing: The Mysterious Disappearance of NWA Flight 2051

VBDL's Covert Branch welcomes author Valerie van Heest, Wednesday, June 21, 6:30 pm.

The award-winning author and underwater explorer worked with national-



ly acclaimed author Clive Cussler in an attempt to find the submerged wreck of NWA Flight 2501, which disappeared over

Lake Michigan, June 23, 1950, with 58 souls onboard.

Join us for the rest of the story! Free and open to the public.

Story Walk at Portman Nature Preserve
 28549 49th Avenue, Paw Paw
Wednesday, August 2, 10:30 am
"The Foolish Tortoise"

by Eric Carle



A tortoise, tired of being slow, impatient to get up and go.

Up Close and Personal with Furry and not so Furry Friends!

Animal Friends from Arlington Trading Post Feed Store

Bangor Branch
 Monday, June 19, 10:00 am

Indiana Wild Zoo

Webster Memorial Library, Decatur
 Wednesday, June 28, 1:00 pm

Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary

Covert Branch
 Wednesday, July 12, 1:00 pm



Country Lakes Alpacas

Antwerp Sunshine Branch, Mattawan
 Wednesday, July 26, 10:30 am

Dynamic West's Exotic Animals

Bloomington Branch
 Thursday, July 27, 2:00 pm

VBDL.org

Get more program information online!

Show Your VBDL Card and Save

Show your valid VBDL card at 14 businesses in Mattawan and save 5-50%! Enjoy a summer reading special, June 12 - August 5! For more information, stop by VBDL Antwerp Sunshine Branch or find us on Facebook! Need a card? Find out how to get one at VBDL.org.

Red Cross Pillowcase Project

The American Red Cross Pillowcase Project teaches children in grades 2 - 6 how to prepare for an emergency. Each child who



attends learns emergency preparedness and helpful coping skills, plus they each receive a workbook and pillowcase. Class size is limited. Registration is required.

Saturday, June 17, 1:00 pm

Bloomington Branch

Wednesday, June 28, 1:00 pm

Antwerp Sunshine Branch - Mattawan

Monday, July 10, 1:00 pm: Covert Branch

Build a Better Library

The Gobles Branch is hosting the ultimate Makerspace Monday, June 19 - July 31. Each Monday, patrons are invited to visit the library and draw or build their visions of a future VBDL Gobles Branch. The library is providing all materials; patrons supply the creativity. Help us Build a Better Community!

Help save lives! Give Blood!

Michigan Blood Drive

Monday, July 10

2:00 - 7:00 pm

Webster Memorial Library

200 North Phelps Street

Decatur MI 49045

Drop-in or request an appointment at miblood.org



Van Buren District Library

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