

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018



# FROM THE DIRECTOR



When one thinks of public education, most often public schools or colleges and universities come to mind. However, there is a third type of public education institution – public libraries.

Unlike the public school system, which exists to educate children ages 5 to 18 with a curriculum of general knowledge, and public colleges and universities whose missions are to confer credentials in specific subject areas, with the object often being employment, public libraries are educational institutions whose mission is to bolster the knowledge of anyone, of any age, in any subject area – without the burden of tuition.

The actor Harrison Ford learned carpentry skills from books borrowed from the Encino Public Library, which allowed him to support himself until his big break came in *Star Wars*. Famed illusionist Jason Bishop first taught himself magic as a teen using books from local libraries in Allentown, PA. Bishop now has one of the largest touring magic shows in the United States.

Van Buren District Library's core mission is to provide educational opportunities and resources to assist our partner educational institutions, in addition to providing tools to help the average citizen succeed in any area that matters to them. Two of these tools are our early literacy classes and the Princeton Online Tutoring Center.

Reading is the foundation of every other educational pursuit; if one may read, one may teach themselves virtually anything. Our series of early literacy classes helps local children learn the foundations of reading such as sounds, vocabulary, and comprehension. Literacy classes conducted by the Library form part of a sound academic foundation, preparing Van Buren County's youth for success in school and in life.

Our Princeton Online Tutoring Center, available through the Library's website [VBDL.org](http://VBDL.org), is available to provide one-on-one assistance to students from degreed, vetted tutors in over 40 topic areas. In addition to live personalized tutoring sessions, the Princeton Online Tutoring Center also offers extensive test preparation resources for Advanced Placement (AP) and SAT examinations, including practice tests, course materials, and college application resources.

In addition to its scholastic features for students, the Princeton Online Tutoring Center also offers resources to assist job seekers of all ages find employment, including personalized,

live job search assistance, and help writing résumés or drafting cover letters. Job seekers may also drop-off their existing résumés or cover letters for editing and content suggestions with a guaranteed 24-hour turn-around time.

In addition to early literacy classes and the Princeton Online Tutoring Center, Van Buren District Library offers events to enlighten in other ways, including social and hands-on experiences. In 2018, Van Buren District Library offered a series to educate people in Van Buren County about their Amish neighbors. Free classes were conducted at several Library branches on Amish history and culture. These classes were so well attended the Library organized an Amish Meet and Greet in Lawrence. The event was an opportunity for local residents to meet their fellow citizens in the Amish community, and learn more about them through personal interaction. The Meet and Greet featured food and opportunities for area residents to conduct trade with members of the local Amish community.

Also in 2018, the Library brought New York Times bestselling author William Kent Krueger to Van Buren County for an in-person appearance and lecture. Mr. Krueger told the packed audience the story of how he became an published author by writing early every morning at a small café, why he decided to write in the mystery genre, the genesis of his main protagonist Cork O'Connor, and why he decided to deviate from writing mysteries to author the acclaimed stand-alone novel "Ordinary Grace." He also took the opportunity to candidly share his experiences inside the Hollywood machine.

To further support and share the arts, the Library sponsors events such as concerts by varied performers including the Flamenco/Heavy Metal/Fusion guitarist Gladius. VBDL also cosponsors activities such as the Southwest Michigan Writers Conference, a day-long gathering designed to provide advice, instruction and camaraderie for writers interested in becoming self-published authors.

Van Buren District Library is proud to offer a variety of learning opportunities to people of all ages, interests, and needs. In 2019 the Library will continue to offer high quality education of exceptional value to the citizens of Van Buren County. It is our hope that people will rely on Van Buren District Library to train for and find employment, to prepare their children for school, to learn new skills, and to dream new dreams.

Thank you for your support of the Van Buren District Library and its mission of education for all.

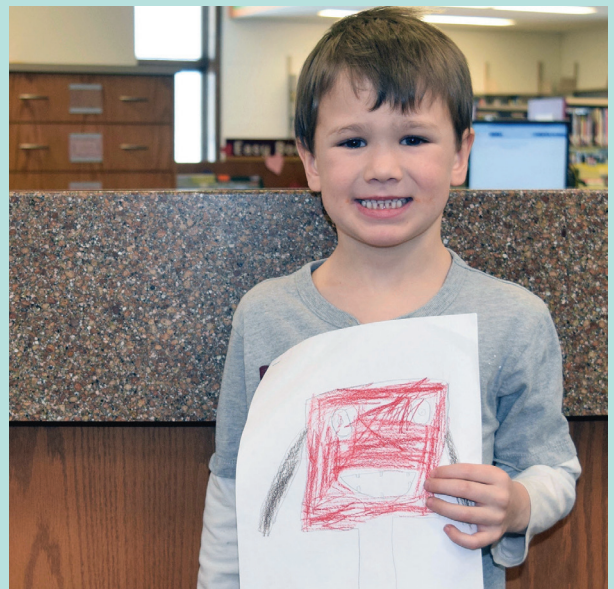
Sincerely,  
Dan Hutchins  
Director  
Van Buren District Library



# 2018 VOLUNTEERS

Marianne Abbott	Dick Crites	Loretta Hiemstra	Jeri Mills	Jane Ross
Julie Aguilar	Bruce Cutting	Amy Higbee	Carol Nelson	Cheryl Rumer
Charlette Cruse	Phil Decker	Alicia Hileski	Kelly O'Leary	Rich Rumery
Jerry Anderson	Phil DeYoung	Catherine Hulin	Deb Overhuel	Paul Schultz
Gordon Andrews	Mindy Donovan	Keely Ingalls	Carmen Pajevich	Deb Slater
Ian Andrews	Ginny Drogula	Kim Ingalls	Fabiola Pantoja	Theresa Soloma
Mia Andrews	Jade Druyor	Karen Jensen	Bonnie Pardike	Darlene Spalo
Anne Arthur	Sue Dunton	Natalie Kelly	Sue Percival	Mary Spencer
Kaley Athey	Wendy Estrada	Cailin Kessen	Jan Petersen	McKinley Springett
Joyce Beedie	Barb Farris	Clay Kessen	David Podolak	Judy Stackpole
Adam Bemis	Nancy Ford	Kira Kessen	Emma Pratt	Debby Stassek
Lucile Bergen	Laci Fryman	Terra Klein	Madison Pratt	Nolan Stratton
Josie Bull	Bette Glindmeyer	Char & Paul Kolon	Linda Read	Bonita Suter
Micki Burns	Libby Godwin	Cindy Kusmack	Keely Ingalls	Marlene Suter
Denise & Sal	Cheryl Goodreau	Janelle Latham	Wayne Rendell	Anita Thomas
Campagna	Phyllis Graham	Rick Leestma	Carolyn Stuckum	Marilyn Vana
Bethany Carlson	Jasmine Grosel	Joel Macyauski	Michelle Renee-	Mary Webster
Deborah Chandler	Alan Grossmann	Emma Madden	Vyverman	Lexy Wickett
Ana Chin	Sandra Hanson	Betty Markel	Joyce Riggins	Missy Wickett
Kriss Colgren	Anne Hawkinson	Linda Marshall	Helene Rivers	Ron Wilde
Julie Collard	Jeff & Theresa Heaton	Lynn Martin	Jean Robinson	Luanne Wright
Diane Corradini	Jackie Hemingway	Ron McAdam	Sarah Rodriquez	Marty Youngblood
Becky Crites			Faith Rogers	

## VBDL MASCOT CONTEST WINNERS



Left: Emma Brown of Decatur, first place winner (JoJo the Giraffe). Right: Levi Brown of Mattawan, runner-up (The Book Eater).



# WE ARE VBDL!



We read 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten!



We create art!



We collaborate with area schools!



We provide education for all ages!



We participate in community events!



We support the Teen Creative Writing Challenge!



We bring talented authors to the District!



We have a happy, helpful staff!

# 2018 STATISTICS

## EVENTS & CLASSES

EVENTS & CLASSES:

**1,874**

ATTENDANCE:

**19,972**

SUMMER READING  
PROGRAM

ATTENDANCE:

**2,441**

## ITEMS

ITEMS CHECKED-OUT:

**268,292**

ITEMS LOANED  
TO OTHER MICHIGAN  
LIBRARIES: **13,125**

ITEMS BORROWED  
FROM MELCAT FOR  
VBDL PATRONS: **16,373**

## PEOPLE

SERVICE POPULATION:

**44,265**

NUMBER OF VISITORS:

**177,642**

TOTAL ACTIVE,  
REGISTERED  
CARDHOLDERS:

**17,510**

## COMPUTERS

NUMBER OF PUBLIC  
COMPUTER HOURS:

**20,399**

NUMBER WIFI LOGINS:

**44,590**

EBOOKS, FILMS, TV, AND  
MUSIC STREAMED OR  
DOWNLOADED: **31,029**

## MATERIALS CIRCULATION BY COLLECTION

CHILDREN:

**88,138 (33%)**

ADULT: **62,783 (23%)**

DVDS & AUDIOBOOKS:

**64,375 (24%)**

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

**27,538 (10%)**

DIGITAL:

**25,435 (9%)**

## MATERIALS COLLECTION SIZE BY FORMAT

**206,219**

BOOKS: **154,116 (74%)**

DIGITAL: **30,453 (15%)**

DVDS: **13,523 (7%)**

AUDIOBOOKS:

**3,498 (2%)**

MAGAZINES:

**4,629 (2%)**

## COMPARATIVE BRANCH CIRCULATION %

ANTWERP:  
**72,342 (27%)**

BANGOR:  
**34,255 (13%)**

BLOOMINGDALE:  
**22,693 (8%)**

COVERT:  
**12,997 (5%)**

WEBSTER:  
**69,377 (26%)**

LAWRENCE:  
**26,800 (10%)**

GOBLES:  
**19,140 (7%)**

DIGITAL:  
**10,688 (4%)**



# STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018

	INDIVIDUAL LIBRARY MAJOR FUNDS				
	GENERAL FUND	ENDOWMENT FUND	TOTAL-MODIFIED ACCRUAL BASIS	GASB NO. 34 ADJUSTMENTS	LIBRARY AS A WHOLE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES-FULL ACCRUAL BASIS
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
TAXES	\$1,919,064	-	\$1,919,064	-	\$1,919,064
STATE SOURCES	32,082	-	32,082	-	32,082
PENAL FINES	147,326	-	147,326	-	147,326
FEES AND BOOK FINES	36,869	-	36,869	-	36,869
INVESTMENT INCOME	15,318		15,318	-	15,318
LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER	132,808	7,634	140,442	-	140,442
TOTAL REVENUES	\$2,283,467	\$7,634	\$2,291,101	-	\$2,291,101

## 2018 DONORS

Dennis & Cathy Anderson	Friends of the Van Buren District	Neurosurgery of Kalamazoo, P.C.
Sandy Augst	Library Bangor Branch	Dick & Hiroko Majewski
Terry & Ruth Ausra	Friends of the Van Buren District	Paul & Karen Makay
Tom & Sandra Bennett	Library Bloomingdale Branch	Midway Electric
Boyd & Joanne Bessey	Friends of the Van Buren District	Kathy Miller
Matthew & Dannielle Black and family	Library Covert Branch	Doug & Anne Olsen
Bloomingdale Communications	Friends of the Van Buren District	Jerry & Bonnie Osborne & Family
George & Catherine Bolton	Library Gobles Branch	Amy Pachay-Kish
Anco & Mary Broekhuizen	Friends of the Van Buren District	Elaine Phillips
James Campbell	Library Lawrence Branch	Red Arrow Dairy
Thomas & Carolyn Carlson	Judy Fusko	Chris Rajzer
Lillie Clarke	Carrilou Gale	Blaine & Bobbie Rex
Donald & Joanne Cole	Albert & Charolette Gearing	Jan Roeder
Jim Creagan	Charles Goodrich	Sampsell & Madden Family
Decatur Study Club	Greenleaf Trust	Gary & Diana Sherburn
Don & Karolyn Drenth	Don & Sandy Hanson	Steven Shults
Employees of Overhead Door of Kalamazoo	William & Shirley Hartley	John Sila
Craig & Cathy Ericksen	James & Margaret Hertel	Sprout Family
Barbara Farris	Tim & Judy Janssen	Beth Stebbins
Fredrick & Linda Fish	Bruck & Judy Kish	Lynn & Sharon Stevens
Leo & Ann Flory	Clarence & Helen Kooy	Michael Swogger
Friends of the Van Buren District Library	Robert & Lisa Kuehnle	David Tate
Friends of the Van Buren District Antwerp Sunshine Library	P.J. Lashley	Diane Taylor & Family
	Mr. & Mrs. William Lauritsen	Village of Lawton
	Mark & Kristin Lautner	Jeff & Sharon Vliek
	Tom & Jennifer Lodge	WalMart
	Mattawan Business Association	

**STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE/  
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018.**

LIBRARY AS  
A WHOLE  
STATEMENT OF  
ACTIVITIES-  
FULL ACCRUAL  
BASIS

EXPENDITURES/ EXPENSES:	GENERAL FUND	ENDOWMENT FUND	TOTAL-MODIFIED ACCRUAL BASIS	GASB NO. 34 ADJUSTMENTS	
SALARIES	\$1,035,536	-	\$1,035,536	2,081	\$1,037,617
PAYROLL TAXES	77,179	-	77,179	-	77,179
INSURANCE (HEALTH, LIFE, DISABILITY, W/C)	85,232	-	85,232	-	85,232
PENSION	176,069	-	176,069	(17,013)	106,056
OFFICE AND LIBRARY SUPPLIES	8,801	-	8,801	-	8,801
POSTAGE, PRINTING, COPYING	20,476	-	20,476	-	20,476
GAS AND OIL	3,347	-	3,347	-	3,347
JANITOR SUPPLIES	4,594	-	4,594	-	4,594
PROFESSIONAL FEES	92,780	-	92,780	-	92,780
DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS	1,383	-	1,383	-	1,383
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	25,956	-	25,956	-	25,956
UTILITIES	50,607	-	50,607	-	50,607
TELEPHONE	13,536	-	13,536	-	13,536
TRAVEL	11,618	-	11,618	-	11,618
PROMOTIONAL AND READING PROGRAMS	26,096	-	26,096	-	26,096
GENERAL AND VEHICLE INSURANCE	7,975	-	7,975	-	7,975
MAINTENANCE	39,748	-	39,748	-	39,748
CONTINUING EDUCATION	4,180	-	4,180	-	4,180
CAPITAL OUTLAY	93,010	-	93,010	(40,233)	52,777
AUDIOVISUAL, BOOKS, AND PERIODICALS	207,330	-	207,330	(167,594)	39,736
INTERNET FEES	18,253	-	18,253	-	18,253
TAX REPAYMENT	117,343	-	117,343	-	117,343
MISCELLANEOUS	58	-	58	-	58
GRANT	20,000	-	20,000	-	20,000
DEPRECIATION	-	-	-	205,604	205,604
TOTAL EXPENDITURES/ EXPENSES	\$2,141,107		\$2,141,107	\$(70,155)	\$2,070,952
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES</b>	\$142,360	\$7,634	\$186,866	\$70,155	\$220,149
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>					
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN(OUT)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION</b>	\$142,360	\$7,634	\$186,866	\$70,155	\$220,149
<b>FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION-BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	1,706,875	184,980	1,704,989	589,516	2,481,371
<b>FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION- END OF YEAR</b>	\$1,849,235	\$192,614	\$1,891,855	\$659,671	\$2,701,520

# LIBRARY LOCATIONS & HOURS



## WEBSTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY DECATUR

District Administrative Offices

200 North Phelps St, Decatur, MI 49045

Phone: 269.423.4771 | Fax: 269.423.8373

[www.facebook.com/VBDLWebsterMemorial](http://www.facebook.com/VBDLWebsterMemorial)

### HOURS:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.\*

Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\* Webster Memorial Library closes at 7:00 p.m.,

Monday – Thursday, between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

## ANTWERP SUNSHINE LIBRARY

24823 Front Ave, Mattawan, MI 49071

Phone: 269.668.2534 | Fax: 269.668.5332

[www.facebook.com/VBDLAntwerp](http://www.facebook.com/VBDLAntwerp)

### HOURS:

Monday – Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday & Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## BANGOR BRANCH LIBRARY

420 Division St, Bangor, MI 49013

Phone: 269.427.8810 | Fax: 269.427.0588

[www.facebook.com/bangorbranch](http://www.facebook.com/bangorbranch)

### HOURS:

Monday-Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday-Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

## BLOOMINGDALE BRANCH LIBRARY

109 East Kalamazoo, Bloomingdale, MI 49026

Phone: 269.521.7601 | Fax: 269.521.7614

[www.facebook.com/VBDLBloomingdale](http://www.facebook.com/VBDLBloomingdale)

### HOURS:

Monday-Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday-Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## COVERT BRANCH LIBRARY

33680 M-140 Hwy, Covert, MI 49043

Phone: 269.764.1298 | Fax: 269.764.0433

[www.facebook.com/covertbranch](http://www.facebook.com/covertbranch)

### HOURS:

Monday-Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## GOBLES BRANCH LIBRARY

105 East Main St, Gobles, MI 49055

Phone: 269.628.4537 | Fax: 269.628.0362

[www.facebook.com/GoblesBranchVBDL](http://www.facebook.com/GoblesBranchVBDL)

### HOURS:

Monday-Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday-Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## LAWRENCE BRANCH LIBRARY

212 North Paw Paw St, Lawrence, MI 49064

Phone: 269.674.3200 | Fax: 269.674.3704

[www.facebook.com/lawrencecommunitybranch](http://www.facebook.com/lawrencecommunitybranch)

### HOURS:

Monday-Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Thursday-Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARIANNE ABBOTT	Bloomingdale
DENISE CAMPAGNA	Lawrence
BRUCE CUTTING	Antwerp Twp., Chair
ELIZABETH GODWIN	Decatur
SANDRA HANSON	Van Buren County
CATHERINE HULIN	Gobles
BETTY MARKEL	Bangor
WAYNE RENDELL	Covert, Vice-Chair

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