



Coldwater Library celebrates Earth Day

Christy Hart-Harris
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Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, Wed. April 3, 2013

VOLUNTEER

From Page A1

and then submit the resumes or applications for nomination. They would then be forwarded for final approval by the commission.

Board members also agreed through their liaison assignments they would try to get the word out about the available board positions.

Others boards to be filled at the end of the year include:

- Human Services, one member by Oct. 1

- For the end of the year the board will seek applicants for one opening each on the Airport Commission, Airport Zoning Board of Appeals, Building Authority and two on the Commission

on Aging

- The District Library Board will have three seats for Coldwater, Bronson and Union City

- The Planning Commission has three openings representing transportation, public health and a local municipality

- The Department of Public Works has an opening at-large and for someone representing Kinderhook

Do you wa

Want to kn in our tow

Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, Mon. April 8, 2013

COLDWATER - The Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library will be hosting an event in celebration of Earth Day. The event will take place on the third floor—kid's place—on April 20 at 11:30 a.m.

Jim Brandon of Nottawa Gas company will discuss "Natural Bird Habitats and Feeding."

Children are encouraged to bring an adult "who may also like to participate in the wonders of the world of birds."

Birds are an important part of the Earth's ecosystem. According to the endangered species international organization they "help maintain sustainable population levels of their prey and predator species and, after death, provide food for scavengers and decomposers."

With their efforts, as pollinators or through seed dissemination, several birds are vital in plant reproduction.

The ESIO website states, "Some birds are considered keystone species as their presence in an ecosystem affects other species indirectly."

Earth Day was founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson and was first recognized in 1970 as a way to promote ecology and respect for life along with an awareness of the growing air, water and soil pollution issues.

Earth Day is a public holiday observed on April 22. However some observe Earth Day around the time of the March Equinox.

Earth Day can be celebrated by outdoor activities such as planting a tree or flowers, cleaning up littered areas and/or conducting recycling and conservation programs.

Earth Day aims at inspiring awareness and appreciation of the environment.



To date, more than 150 people have participated in the Branch District Library's Geek the Library initiative. To see more photos or to get involved, visit www.branchdistrictlibrary.org. PHOTO COURTESY BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

Coldwater Daily Reporter, Sat. April 13, 2013



Sue Hawkins, Kandi Heal and Wyatt Heal enjoy the new roomy Dearth Media Center, now open at the Bronson District Library, the Bronson Branch. ARDIS BAAD PHOTOS

New library addition open

By Ardis Baad
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BRONSON — The Branch District Library-Bronson Branch has opened its new addition, the Dearth Media Center.

The 625-square foot room houses all of the computers, tables and chairs for wi-fi use, a microfilm reader and a charge desk. The adult books on first floor are now in rows with handicapped access.

There is another 625-square foot room beneath the media room in the basement that will be used by the Bronson Township Board.

The entire library is now monitored by cameras. The cost for the project was \$100,000. It was funded by the Bronson Library Friends of the Library.

An open house for the



Librarian Lynnell Eash stands at the new charge desk in the new media center.

new addition will be held sometime in May, said Lynnell Eash, librarian.

The Bronson Branch, at 207 N. Matteson St., is open from 10 a.m. to 6

p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

For more information call 369-3785.

LIBRARY

Adult events offered

By Christy Hart-Harris
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COLDWATER — The Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library will be offering special events for adults on the third floor meeting room.

On April 25 beginning at 4 p.m. the public is invited to join Melissa Sussex “as she shares memories, pictures and mementos of her cruise from Istanbul, Turkey to Venice, Italy.”

Guests will enjoy an “in-depth look at the culture and natural beauty of the

SEE LIBRARY, A3

*Coldwater Daily
Reporter, Tue.
April 16, 2013*

LIBRARY

From Page A1

Greek Isles.” Her stops included Ports in Mitilini Greece, Kusadasi Turkey, Split Croatia and more.

On May 15 at 4 p.m. guests are also invited to join Dr. Edward G. Bolton for an introductory lecture on 18th century medicine.

Bolton, formerly in the British Highland Infantry Brigade, has witnessed extensive services and battle

field surgeons, learning modern techniques by using the latest surgical apparatuses and is capable of treating patients with herbal advice.

The CBBDL flyer on the event states, “The topic will be given from the male perspective and is not suitable for small children. Easily offended ladies may find some better, suitable seating in the hallway.”

For more information contact the CBBDL at 278-2341.

3 THINGS TO DO

1 ‘The Sleeping Beauty ‘

WHAT Stevens Puppets presents “The Sleeping Beauty.”

WHEN Wednesday, April 17, at 4 p.m.

WHERE The Quincy Branch Library, 11 N. Main Street, Quincy

DETAILS Hand carved, beautifully costumed marionettes enact the play, with the help of skilled manipulators. Accented by Tchaikovsky’s music, the dramatic and humorous script by Peabody Award winner Martin Stevens, and the gorgeous costumes by his wife Marge, make the familiar tale live again.

WHO All ages are invited to join in for cookies and fun after school.

COST This free program is being provided by the Baldwin Endowment Fund.

INFO For questions, call the library at (517) 639-4001.

*Coldwater Daily
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April 17, 2013*

Tutors, board share stories

Christy Hart-Harris
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COLDWATER — Branch County Literacy Council board members and tutors gathered at the Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library Thursday for a luncheon.

Several volunteer tutors and board members shared their encouraging and triumphant stories of tutoring English for non-English speaking and illiterate adults and children in the community.

According to literacy statistics, about 15 percent of Branch County adults

read at the lowest level of literacy.

The BCLC is a non-profit organization. Funding is provided through United Way giving, Altrusa, the Branch County Community Foundation, Walmart Distribution, Michigan Gas Utilities, private donations, memorials and grants.

Qualified tutors must be 18 years of age or older, be able to read and be willing to volunteer an hour a week to help someone read.

A 30-minute training session is conducted prior to becoming a tutor and



Board members and tutors gathered in the library for a Literacy Council Luncheon.

once completed, the tutor will be introduced to a student in need of literacy tutoring.

All services offered by the BCLC are free to Branch County residents. Children can be tutored by a volunteer with a referral

from the school or a parent. Parents are urged to be involved in the tutoring process.

Currently, the tutors are teaching several Arabic, Japanese and Spanish-speaking community members. A majority of

the students are literate in their own language but not in the English language and are seeking assistance to obtain a GED, to be promoted within their current

SEE LITERACY, A3

LITERACY

From Page A1

employment and to obtain citizenship in the United States.

Many of the tutors work with the students for upwards of a year to fully support and reach the student's set goal for the program.

The Coldwater library donates space for the students and tutors to use each week. However, some of the tutors work with the students at their homes.

"We're grateful for the support of the

community and to the library for providing us space for tutors and students," said president of the BCLC and tutor Jean Milnes. "It's so rewarding to see the students obtain their goals."

The luncheon was a way to show support and appreciation for the board members and the volunteer tutors.

Lynda Chan, executive director of the BCLC, said, "Without the volunteers, there would be no literacy program."

Mary Jo Kranz, Betty Lynd, Detlef Olsen, Claudia Parker, Cindy Wakeman, Nancy Aldridge,

Martha and Steve Bartlett, Mary Carpenter, Charlene Hall and Carol Hodson were among the volunteer tutors who attending the Thursday afternoon luncheon.

Claudia Parker said, "I'm a substitute teacher and have been tutoring since last June. I've always had a heart for the Muslim community, and I wanted to get involved and develop a relationship and learn about their culture and all the things we have in common."

Volunteer tutor Mary Carpenter said, "I'm working with a lady that is trying to earn her

citizenship. I've been tutoring for literacy for many years — I tutored in New Mexico for a while."

The BCLC believes literacy tutoring will "enhance economic opportunities and quality of life for adults through improved literacy."

The public is urged to support the council by either volunteering as a tutor or board member, inviting the BCLC to speak at organization meetings, telling someone about the organization or sending a tax-deductible donation. To learn more about the BCLC contact Chan at 279-9833.

Coldwater Daily Reporter, Fri.
May 3, 2013

Neitzert's donates plants for Mother's Day

By Christy Hart-Harris
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COLDWATER — The Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library will be hosting a Mother's Day giveaway on Saturday,

May 11 on the third floor Kidsplace.

Neitzert's Greenhouse and Florist in Coldwater will be providing plants for the event. Fathers are encouraged to bring their children to receive a

beautiful plant to give to their mother or a special woman on Mother's Day.

Neitzert's will be donating a flat of plants to the Kidsplace.

"A flat is about 48 plants — probably marigolds,"

said owner Kathy Neitzert.

"We like doing projects for the kids," she added.

Each child is limited to one plant. For more information contact the Kidsplace at (517) 278-2341.

ANNIVERSARY



Mr. and Mrs. Kaniewski

David and Patricia Kaniewski celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past Monday, May 6.

Their children and grandchildren are extremely proud of them!

Coldwater Daily
Reporter, Thu.
May 9, 2013

*Congratulations
Pat!*

SAVE MONEY

Vargo hosts coupon workshop at Branch District Library

By Christy Hart-Harris
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COLDWATER — Stephanie Vargo will be hosting a coupon workshop at the Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library (CBBDL) on Thursday, May 23, from 6-7:30 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend the free event.

Vargo will be sharing her secrets and knowledge on using coupons to lower one's weekly grocery price tag.

Topics including where to find coupons; organization of coupons; how to combine sales; stacking coupons; maximizing savings; and planning will be discussed during the workshop.

Vargo has taught coupon workshops for some time and created a shopping comparison website — www.couponingsmarter.com — for consumers to compare five stores for the best prices.

For more information or to reserve a spot at the workshop, contact the CBBDL at (517) 278-2341.



Stephanie Vargo

COLDWATER LIBRARY KIDSPLACE

Branch District Library celebrates Armed Forces Day

Christy Hart-Harris
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COLDWATER — The Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library will be celebrating Armed Forces Day—May 18 at 11:30 a.m.—on the third floor in Kidsplace.

The public is encouraged to attend this event

to meet Abraham Lincoln and friends.

Hal Nottingham will be playing Lincoln and other Civil War re-enactors will also be attending.

“I am a success today because I had a friend who believed in me and I didn't have the heart to let him down,” said Abraham Lincoln.

“President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to come together and thank our military members for their patriotic service in support of our country. On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace

separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force Days. The single day celebration stemmed from the unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense,” according to the U.S. Department of Defense.

For more information contact the CBBDL at 278-2341.

