



Comments

Submitted on Thursday, October 20, 2016 - 13:07

Submitted values are:

==Your Name and Contact Information==

First and Last Name (Optional):

Telephone Number (Optional):

Email (Optional):

==Your Message==

Subject (Optional): coldwater new chairs

Message Body:

Please replace the old delapetated wooden uncomfortable wooden chairs

With ones like Bronson has please

Date unknown:

Comments and/or Suggestions:

Let us know what you think?

Really loving hours now and being open on Sunday!

Thanks so much for all the great workers too!

Empty lined area for additional comments.



Autumn beauty

Deerth Union Township Library in Union City sponsored a floral craft for community members last Thursday. Cynthia Shattuck of Center Stage Florist led library patrons in creating sunflower centerpieces. Everyone had a great time and took home beautiful arrangements. (Photos by Donna Claar)



Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, Saturday October 15, 2016, page A7:

BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

'Death and Mourning in the 1860s' draws crowd

By Julia Baratta
For Gatehouse Media

BRONSON – The Bronson Branch of the Branch District Library recently had a coffin in the basement of the building and there was a body in it as well.

Steve and Carol Bavin of Coldwater presented a program about "Death and Mourning in the 1860s" on Oct. 6, with many visuals for the attendees to see. The front of the basement was reminiscent of a parlor from homes of that time and included many of the traditions from a funeral.

It was established that the deceased was William Frederick with his wife Mary beside the casket. He

had chosen to serve in the Confederate army, rebelling against the family and died while in the service. This introduced the reason for the flag on the coffin and the various practices being performed during the mourning time.

The front parlor was the common location of the body while the preparations were being made for the service.

The flowers were brought in to cover the disagreeable smell that came off the decomposing corpse. Clocks were stopped at the time of death and many things were covered with a black veil.

The widow was expected to wear black and many



Steve and Carol Bavin pose with the casket in the "front parlor" at the Bronson Library after their program about traditions in the 1860s. JULIA BARATTA PHOTO

times that required that she dye a few pieces of her good clothing. It was a common practice that she would be

in full black for the first year and day after the death of her spouse. After that, touches of white would be

allowed and considered respectful. She was also then available to consider remarrying.

The casket was made of wicker and back then that was the most expensive unit a family could purchase.

Within it were several items of significance to the family and the deceased. William's uniform was not on him but folded and included along with a Bible and other symbolic items.

There were many superstitions that people feared in the 1860s. Many of them related to the person's soul having an easy departure to the next world.

These included the clocks being stopped, not looking

into the deceased's eyes, and covering the mirrors in the home.

Hair art was very popular during this time with locks of hair being inserted into brooches, made into jewelry and used for pictures that would be hung on the wall.

The Bavins have presented their program in several states and are regular participants in the Civil War Days held in Coldwater on Memorial Day weekend. The wicker casket has been donated for their programs by Dutcher Funeral Home. They have been reenacting for almost ten years and share their research with the public in the form of programs and talks.

Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, Thursday October 27, 2016, page A1 & A5:
BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

Magic of Harry Potter



Kids enjoy the show at the Library. COURTESY PHOTO

For The Daily Reporter

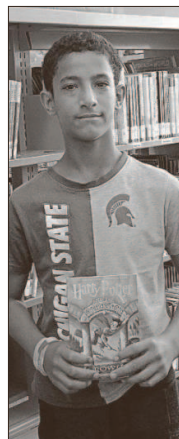
COLDWATER — B.J. Mallen performed a variety of tricks in a mixed group of all ages with a tie-in to the first book of the Potter series, “The Sorcerer’s

Stone.” This book is the Kids’ Place of the Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library’s October Family Book Club read. The next program that is part of our Potter theme will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Nikki from Pruess Pets of Lansing will be sharing a variety of live creatures with the theme of “Muggle Creatures: The Key to Mystical Beginnings.” The event is appropriate for all ages.

BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

More Magic of Harry Potter



LEFT: B.J. Mallen performs for kids at the Library. RIGHT: Abdullah O. He won a copy of “The Sorcerer’s Stone” by being B.J.’s audience participant for the mind-reading portion of the program. COURTESY PHOTOS

Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Wednesday November 2, 2016, page 3:

Fall fun at the library

Dearth Union Township Branch Library recently hosted a pumpkin coloring craft. Youth of all ages attended and enjoyed the opportunity to color and take home their own pumpkin. (Photos by Andrea Tennyson)



Coldwater Daily Reporter, Thursday November 3, 2016, page A1:

KIDS' PLACE

Harry Potter series a huge success

For The Daily Reporter

COLDWATER – The Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library's Kids' Place recently hosted Muggle Creatures from Hogwarts known in Muggle language as Pruess Pets of Lansing.

Nikki from Pruess brought a hairless rat, guinea pig, Starfish, Chinchilla, a 74-year-old tortoise, tarantula and a snake.

She shared myths about each creatures as well as facts. The library's final presentation in its Harry Potter series will be held at 11 a.m. on Nov. 12 with Farmer Kate discussing Herbology 101: Plant Magic.



Kids had the opportunity to pet a 74-year-old tortoise at the library Saturday.



ABOVE: Kids look at a Star Fish Saturday among many other animals during the Harry Potter event. COURTESY PHOTOS

LEFT: The library's Kids' Place held its Harry Potter series with many in attendance.

Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, Friday November 18, 2016, page A1 & A5:

HISTORIC BUILDING

Quincy library restoration fund nears goal



The rusting eaves and enclosed gutters on the Quincy library will be restored. DON REID PHOTO

By Don Reid
dwreid@aol.com

QUINCY TOWNSHIP — Since the end of August, a committee raising funds for repair of the Quincy branch of the Branch District Library’s eaves and gutters collected \$32,450 of the needed \$50,000.

With work set to begin soon, Quincy Township

Treasurer Constance Karney said after a Tuesday meeting that they hope to have the rest of the funds before Christmas.

Grand River Builders found the steel gutters around the building failing from lack of maintenance and poor quality construction on the historic building, which houses the township hall in the basement.



Karney

should last 50 years. The restoration company also found it will need to repair the original steel soffit and fascia on parts of the

The restoration firm will install custom copper

liners in the current gutters, which

building, as well as some internal wood framing. The builder will add more outlets to improve the gutter performance.

The committee of Karney, Bob Stewart, Bonnie Frick, Candace Newkirk, Jodie Willard and Teddy Sinclair has sought contribution from the community.

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LIBRARY

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About 90 percent came in after the Quincy Friends of the Library newsletter went out, including one from Rochester, New York. The Quincy Rotary Club gave \$500.

“People have been very nice and very generous,” Karney said, going over 11 pages of donors. She said

the small amounts of \$10, \$20, and even \$100 are adding up.

The library bake sale put in \$300 of its proceeds, and money will also come from the library book sale.

The committee also plans a silent auction at the December Quincy Lights program on Dec. 2. It will be in the large hall of the SCP building from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Branch County

District Library operates the library, but the township is responsible for the structure.

Working with Quincy Village, handicapped parking was added in front, and repairs have been made to doors. The slate roof was repaired several years ago and is in good shape.

Even with those improvements, the township will still need to make other repairs in the future.

The Quincy Library building is on the national historic register. According to the state, C.W. Bennett, a Quincy resident, donated his entire estate for the founding of the Quincy Library. It cost \$8,500 and used architecture similar to Carnegie libraries built around the same time. The library was dedicated in memory of Bennett’s son and constructed in 1910.