



Patron Comments

May 5, 2017:

Comments and/or Suggestions:
Let us know what you think?

5/5

Linda Dull does a
fantastic job at the Branch District
library. She goes above and beyond
to make sure the programming
is excellent. She is enthusiastic,
kind, and engaging. My three
children absolutely adore
her and so do I.

Laura Monroe

July 19, 2017:

Comments and/or Suggestions:
Let us know what you think?

7/19/17

The curb at the end of driveway is a
nuisance. It is hard to get through when
trucks are sitting out there.

Ted Locklin

July 24, 2017:

Comments and/or Suggestions:

Let us know what you think? Love and appreciate our kids dance staff! They dedicate so much time and effort to the programs they host for our children! The Summer reading program is such a great program to keep my kids busy and to help them learn new things. The kids also love the prizes! I cannot say thank you enough for all they do!

7.24 JCR

August 16, 2017:

Comments and/or Suggestions:

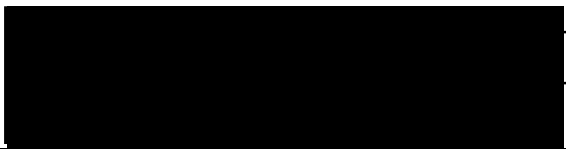
Let us know what you think? Gentle man was upset and kept switching computers, said that we needed to [REDACTED] and be quiet and then after arabic boys came in he actually said racial slurs and said those [REDACTED] need to leave. Then said that Cheryl was [REDACTED] bc she wasn't helping him asap and she had helped him she was getting another worker to help. He was very angry, frustrated, keep hushing everyone and looking very mean @ myself and children. we were being quiet.

el

August 16, 2017:

Comments and/or Suggestions:

Let us know what you think? / sat in library on
 the computer & a few little boys
 were being a little noisy. This older
 guy told them "Shh!" really loud &
 said the words [REDACTED]
 under his breath.



August 17, 2017:

Submitted on Thursday, August 17, 2017 - 14:43

First and Last Name (Optional):
 Telephone Number (Optional):
 Email (Optional):

Subject (Optional):

Message Body:

It is a tremendous distraction to have open conversations going on in the computer area. It is especially noticeable with the young Arab males. I've witnessed patrons telling them to be quiet on several occasions. One man even went so far as to speak loudly to them.

I myself have told them shhhh several times. One day when I did it the child told me to shhh. After speaking to him another patron in the room thanked me for speaking up. They aren't just talking to the person next to them. They are talking to other boys across the room. It isn't appropriate behavior in a public space where other people are trying to work. Anyone around them is distracted. There are other areas of the library where they can play games and talk.

Newspaper Coverage

July 5, 2017, Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Page 3:

Library hosts craft night for families

Dearth Union Township Branch Library hosted a "Build a Better World Fun Night" last Wednesday. Young patrons were invited to visit the library to create a variety of crafts, including a craft bot, marble maze, perch tower, balancing robot and monster bookmark. Youngsters showed their creative side and enjoyed the opportunity to visit with each other at the library.



Chris Gottschalk assists young patrons in building craft bots, which used an electric toothbrush for power to draw hands-free with three attached markers. (Photo by Alona Hayden)



Eleanor Bailey gets crafty during the event. (Photo by Alona Hayden)

July 5, 2017, Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Page 5:

Library hosts "Journey to the Center of the Earth"

Dearth Union Township Branch Library hosted "Journey to the Center of Earth" last Thursday at Union City Elementary School, in conjunction with Community Unlimited. The engaging program educated young audience members on fossils, earthquakes, dinosaurs, paleontology and volcanoes. Participants were called to the front to assist in fun activities such as digging for dinosaur bones, making a volcano explode and creating a lava lamp. Youth were also instructed how to create their own volcanoes and lava lamps at home. (Photo by Alona Hayden)



Devin Gottschalk assists in making a volcanic eruption. (Photo by Alona Hayden)

July 15, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A3:

Library's Kids Place hosts cup stacking event for children



Children at the Coldwater branch of the Branch County Library had fun building with cups as part of the 'Build a Better World' themed summer program. COURTESY PHOTO

By Karri Gruner
kgruner@thedailyreporter.com

COLDWATER— Coldwater branch of the Branch County Library attendee's, young and old, enjoyed Mr. Jim as he led a rambunctious hour of cup stacking fun on June 29, in the Kids' Place.

Children were taught how to make several fa-

mous structures from around the world, to include the Taj Mahal. This summertime library event, part of the 'Build a Better World' theme, was sponsored by Century Bank and Trust, Asama Manufacturing and Maroa Farms.

For more information of upcoming events at the Branch District Li-

brary, visit branchdistrictlibrary.org.

CHANNEL CONVERSION						
	CODICAST Holland	CODICAST Saugatare/Douglas	CODICAST Three Rivers	CHARTER Ottawa	CHARTER	
CBS WWMT	3	3	3	3	3	3
CW WWMT2	3.2	17	17	17	7	7
CBS WLNS	6					

July 17, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A3:
BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY



Mikayla Everline, 11, shares her project ideas with Coldwater City Manager Keith Baker during the Branch District Library’s summer program. KARRI GRUNER PHOTO

Youngsters pitch design ideas to city manager

By Karri Gruner
 kgruner@thedailyreporter.com

COLDWATER — Coldwater City Manager Keith Baker met with fifth- and sixth-graders recently as part of the Branch District Library’s summer learning program.

This year’s theme of “Build a Better World” had the students taking on the pseudo project of redesigning the main four corners in downtown Coldwater and pitching their ideas to Baker.

To prepare, the pre-teens watched a video from Michigan State University on community and gathering areas last

week. The video helped the students develop broader ideas, which they took to pen and paper to design a plan for the “new and improved” four corners.

Future events

For more information on future events at the Branch District Library, visit branchdistrictlibrary.org.

Mikayla Everline, 11, had ideas of a fountain and solar powered LED lights, while Vinnie Beekman, 10, wanted to move the cannon and statue and add more trees.

Nolan Foster, 8, wanted to create a more kid-friendly area, so his design included a giant capture the flag game with red and green lights.

Baker was enthusiastic about the ideas presented by the participants.

July 19, 2017, Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Page 5: **Library hosts Book to Movie Club event**

Deerth Union Township Branch Library hosted a Based on the Book Movie Club event for local teens last Wednesday. Participants enjoyed popcorn and a showing of "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children." The next Based on the Book Movie Club event will be held Thursday, August 17, at 1 p.m. The featured movie in August will be "Beauty and the Beast."



July 19, 2017, Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Page 6: **“Laugh Out Loud” program hosted by Library**

Dearth Union Township Branch Library, in partnership with Community Unlimited, hosted “Laugh Out Loud,” by Karen Czarnik, a program that teaches acting and improvisation skills, and invites youth to get up and moving. CU students, in addition to library patrons, led by Czarnik, participated in a variety of activities, including sharing jokes, making silly sounds and dancing. (Photos by Alona Hayden)



Top Left: CU staff member Ashley Watson gives an impressive impersonation of a race car. Top Right and Bottom Left: CU students share ideas and come up with a team name. Bottom Right: A young lady shows off her amazing hula hoop skills. (Photos by Alona Hayden)



July 20, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page B8:

Tweens use their imagination at the Library



The 'Build a Better World' theme for this year's summer program at the Branch District Library, continues to entertain students of all ages. COURTESY PHOTO



The Creative minds of youngsters are put to the challenge at the Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library. COURTESY PHOTO

For The Daily Reporter

COLDWATER— Tweens have found the Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library the place to be on

Thursday afternoons, at 1 p.m., with plenty of activities using their imaginations and building materials. Coming soon is the Boat Building Extravaganza which

will involve the tweens designing, building and then launching boats which will hold them. All the boat building activities have been sponsored through the gen-

erosity of QS/Togo. For more information on the summer activities scheduled at the library, visit branchdistrictlibrary.org.

July 22, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A1:
QUINCY BRANCH OF THE BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY

SUMMER READING



Patt Taylor played some tunes for kids at the Quincy branch of the Branch District Library. COURTESY PHOTO

Nearly 300 kids participate in annual program

By Christy Hart-Harris
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QUINCY – The Quincy branch of the Branch District Library has nearly 300 children working hard to meet their goals with annual summer reading program.

Throughout the program, the Quincy branch has hosted several events including Imaginative Art sessions led by local artist Marni Szafranski, magic shows by Tim Baldwin and Joel Tacey.

Patt Taylor, a retired See LIBRARY, Page A5



Joel Tacey, Michigan's Funny Man, recently visited the Quincy branch of the Branch District Library. COURTESY PHOTO

LIBRARY

Continued from Page A1

Litchfield teacher, has entertained children with her guitar at a recent story hour and Michigan State Trooper Jerome Miller brought his canine Dakota to meet the children.

A "Shake, Rattle & Roll" Dynamic West program was also held for the children in the library back yard.

July 25, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A6:

Little Free Library ready for community

For The Daily Reporter

BRONSON — The Friends of the Bronson branch of the Branch District Library’s “Little Free Library” is set to be installed at Matteson Lake in the near future.

The little library was constructed free of charge by Adam Machino of Coldwater, who provided not only the little library, but also the mounting post.

His expertise is greatly appreciated.

The structure was decoratively painted and made waterproof by Fran Fletcher, president of the Friends.

It was presented to the Friends at their monthly meeting on July 18 where the group decided to have the library registered with the non-profit “Little Free Library” organization.

This will enable the location of the little library to be found on a map at

their website — little-free-library.org — along with all other such structures all over the world.

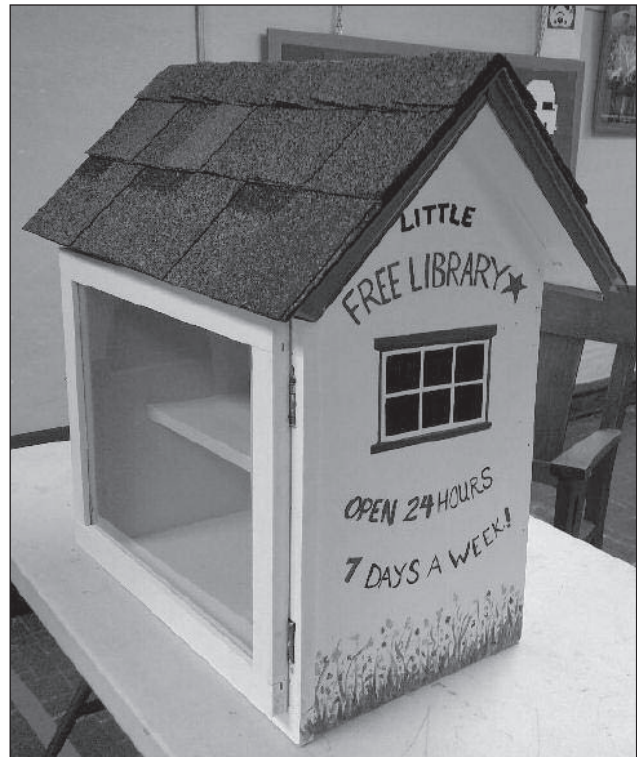
The purpose of the Little Free Library is to provide a free book exchange for everyone.

Once the structure is installed, the Friends will stock it with books which people are free to take and return or if they want to bring their own books to help stock the library, they are free to do so.

The books, which will be provided by the Friends, are donated to the book sales, or books which have been withdrawn from the Bronson Branch Library’s stacks.

No library card or fee will be necessary. This will be especially convenient for summer lake residents who would not be eligible for a library card unless they purchased one.

The Friends look forward to the installation



The Friends of the Bronson branch of the Branch District Library’s “Little Free Library” will soon be installed at Matteson Lake. COURTESY PHOTO

of the Little Free Library, where it will be available to the community.

If this project is a suc-

cess, the Friends may follow up with other little libraries in other locations.

July 26, 2017, Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Page 6:

Dearth Union Library hosts “Nerf Mobile Games” with Joel Tacey

The Dearth Union Township Library hosted “Nerf Mobile Games” with Joel Tacey on Thursday. A “battle field” was set up in the UCES yard and each child received a Nerf Shooter, a pair of goggles and either a red or blue vest. The teams were then sorted by color and placed on opposite ends of the field. Different rounds of games were played, including Capture the Flag. Many tired and happy children “crashed” at the end of the event. (Photos by Andrea Tennyson)



Above: Attending children are ready to get started with the Nerf Games. Middle Left: The red team reloads and watches for “enemy fire”. Middle Right: UCES Teacher Miss Wignall defends the blue team. Bottom: Adults are ready to begin the game.



July 26, 2017, Union City *Hometown Gazette*, Page 6: **Sherwood Library hosts Book Builder Magical Comedy Show**

The Sherwood Library hosted Joel Tacey's Book Builder Magical Comedy Show on Thursday. Tacey talked about many good books that children could check out of their local library and incorporated magic tricks with each book that he showcased. Children and adults encountered the talking sphinx, a disappearing act and many more magic tricks. The event ended with a "dance party". (Photos by Andrea Tennyson)



Above: Joel Tacey attaches spoons to a child in attendance as the child had become "magnetic".

Right: Sherwood Librarian Traci Counterman and a child in attendance at the event enjoy the "dance party" at the end of the show.



July 31, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A1:

'PILLOW CASE PROJECT'

UC Library hosts event for youngsters

By Karri Gruner
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UNION CITY – Youngsters from the Branch District Library, Union City branch, recently participated in the American Red Cross' "Pillow Case Project."

Volunteer Linda Hanes from the American Red Cross spent time with the children, teaching them about what to do in a disaster such as a fire, tornado or hurricane.

Hanes showed the students a map of where they live and potential disasters that could happen here, as

opposed to other states.

The ARC provided instructive coloring books and new pillow cases, left over from supplies for Hurricane Katrina victims.

The pillow cases included a list of items that children may want to grab in a hurry or already have packed inside it, in case of a disaster.

Cher Troup and Judy Gottchalk of the library said that they had 41 children involved in the project.

For information on future events at the library, visit BranchDistrictLibrary.org/union.



Students from the Union City Branch Library participate in the American Red Cross' "Pillow Case Project." KARRI GRUNER PHOTO

July 31, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A3:

'BUILD A BETTER WORLD'



The Branch District Library, Bronson Branch, recently held a cardboard challenge for the tweens. Above, Chloe Leland, 14, carefully designs a robot out of a large cardboard box. Below, Phoenix Haviland, 12, creates himself into a cardboard television. KARRI GRUNER PHOTO

Library hosts 'cardboard challenge' for area youth

By Karri Gruner
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BRONSON—In keeping with the "Build a Better World" theme for this summer's Branch District Library program, the Bronson branch had their teens building things as part of a "cardboard challenge."

The students were given ideas by Steven

More info

For more information about events at the Branch District Library, Bronson branch, visit www.BranchDistrictLibrary.org/bronson, or check out their Facebook page, @BDL-Bronson.

Watson of the Bronson library, but most of them already had their

creative minds whirling.

The youngsters were given all sizes of cardboard boxes, as well as duct tape, markers and scissors, to forge and design something from their imagination.

Phoenix Haviland, 12, created a television that his whole body fit into, while Chloe Leland, 14, gave life to a robot that could even open its mouth.



August 1, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A3:

LIBRARY EVENT



Above and below, children from the Branch District Library participated in an event by the Kalamazoo Air Zoo at the Henry Browne Recreation Center in Coldwater Wednesday. KARRI GRUNER PHOTO

Air Zoo of Kalamazoo pays visit to area youth

By Karri Gruner
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COLDWATER — The Air Zoo of Kalamazoo made an appearance Wednesday at the Henry Browne Recreation Center in Coldwater to share their “Fizz, Boom, Soar” program.

Many of the children were able to participate in the demonstration of erupting liquids, a booming cannon, and soaring machines in the high-energy demonstration of physics, chemistry and flight science.

The support of Clemens and Asama helped to make this event possible.

For more information on future events with the Branch District Library, visit their Facebook page or BranchDistrictLibrary.com/coldwater.



August 1, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A6:

Library summer readers build and race cardboard boats

By **Christy Hart-Harris**
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COLDWATER — As the Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library's summer reading program comes to an end, local tweens embarked upon a new project.

Sticking to this year's theme of Build a Better World, the kids visited the Dr. Robert Browne Aquatic Center to build boats made of cardboard and duct tape, sponsored by Quality Springs Togo Inc. in Coldwater.

The race took place Thursday with four teams of three and three teams of two hoping their handmade boats would stay afloat while traveling from one end of the swimming pool to the other, carrying each team member.

The boats were judged on various aspects including time, creativity and float-ability.

Best in show went to Logan and Austin Foster and Alexander Richards of The Pajama Pirates.

Placing first in the three man team category was — The Mad Scientist's — Janet Rucker and Colton Calhoun.

Coming in first place for the two man team category was — Team Everline — Mikayla and Madison Everline.

Prizes were donated by Coldwater Lake Marina, The Aquatic Center, McDonalds, Adventure Zone and the Branch County Fair.



Over a dozen local tweens showed off their cardboard boat building and floating skills Thursday at the aquatic center for the Coldwater branch of the Branch District Library's boat race event. COURTESY PHOTO



The Mad Scientists, Janet Rucker, Colton Calhoun and Eric Rucker, pose for a picture before the boat race at the aquatic center. The group placed first in the three man team category. COURTESY PHOTO

August 7, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A2:



Above and below, youngsters at the Branch District Library participate in a floral arrangement class held recently as part of the library's summer program. The class was sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 52. COURTESY PHOTO

Library hosts floral arrangement class

By Karri Gruner
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COLDWATER — On July 15, the Branch District Library's Kids' Place hosted a group of 24 young patrons who worked on making fresh floral arrangements.

The children worked under the direction of Deb Gigowski of American

Flower Trends.

Some of youngsters participating were thrilled to have such a timely program, as they were preparing to compete in the annual Branch County Fair.

The program was made possible through the financial support of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 52.



August 8, 2017, Coldwater *Daily Reporter*, page A2:

Bronson Library Fun-Raiser slated for Aug. 26

By Rosalie Currier

rcurrier@sturgisjournal.com

BRONSON – Friends of the Bronson branch of the Branch District Library are hosting Fun-Raiser, a back to school party beginning at 10 a.m. on Aug. 26 at White Star Auction, Bronson.

Admission is free and the event offers something for everyone, said Fran Fletcher, president of Friends of the Library.

The Bronson High School band will open the day by playing the Viking fight song and other local musicians will perform later in the day.

The highlight will be three different auctions.

"Two with the live bid-din led by auctioneers Brent Wilber and Randy Ludwick – one for children and one for adults," Fletcher said.

The other will be a "bucket" auction.

All items in the children's auction will be kid-friendly for youth to bid on with FunRaiser dollars which can be purchased at a very high exchange rate.

It is likely to create some lively bidding, Fletcher said.

Other activities include:

- a Pinewood Derby
- Touch-a-Truck with a variety of vehicles including a garbage truck, fire truck, ambulance, police car and antique tractors,
- make-it-take-it crafts and face painting
- corn hole
- local vendors and a baked goods sale.
- concession at a reasonable price.

Local businesses have been generous in their support of FunRaiser, beginning with White Star owners, Brent and Ginny Wilber who are donating use of their buildings and

auctioneer Randy Ludwick donating his time, Fletcher said.

"The goal is to pay off the final \$16,000 of the \$92,000 media center loan which the friends group took on several years ago, Fletcher said.

The committee will accept donations for the auctions of quality household goods, collectables, tools, garden art, gift certificates, toys, bikes and games through Aug. 21.

For more information call June Wilber at (517) 369-5455 or Fran Fletcher at (517) 850-7451.