

— Quincy Branch Library —

Note From Branch Manager—Sarah Strong

October 2023

I hope you all enjoyed your summer and are excited for all the upcoming fall activities coming in our community. I wanted to touch on a few things I'm getting excited for & some of the exciting things that have happened at the library -

Summer Reading is officially over & the final numbers are as follows:

- ◆ Early Literacy – 9 registered; 6 completed
- ◆ Kids – 95 registered; 51 completed
- ◆ Teens – 16 registered; 7 completed
- ◆ Adults – 28 registered; 15 completed
- ◆ Registered: 148 Completed: 79

Every August, the whole district doesn't host any programming so we can spend some time in our community. This August we attended the Jennings open house, worked our booth at the Branch County Fair, did temporary tattoos and book marks at Kids Day in the Park, handed out sweet treats at Quincy Daze, and had our Summer Reading Program Wrap Up foam party at Heritage Park. We spent a lot of time out in our community and had such a wonderful time!

Our program attendance numbers have been slowly increasing and I love that. If you haven't checked out our FUN upcoming programs (for kids, teens, and adults), please stop into the library to pick up a current event guide

or visit branchdistrictlibrary.org/calendar#/events/

I would absolutely love to see you here! Please come say hello and see what we have been doing at the library!



Did you Know...

Every year there is a reunion for anyone who attended a one room school. We come from all different schools. This year we had 36 in attendance. We enjoy good stories, good food and have a good afternoon. We also had school photos that several people brought to share at the reunion. Some of the schools represented were Todd Town, Williams, Mudge, Lake, Bethel, Lusk, Dorrance, Shooks Prairie, Lenawee Junction, Brown, Centennial, Fenn, and Moore.

If you attended a one room school, please join us next year on the second Sunday of September. Dinner is pot luck so bring a passing dish. Also, please bring your own table service. Coffee and lemonade provided. Hope to see you September 8, 2024.

If you have questions, please call Wava Jean Gano
517-639-4449





**Quincy
Branch Library
1910**

This Issue

Volume 41; Number 4
Fall

Contact Information

Address

11 N. Main Street, Quincy, MI 49082

Email

quincy@branchdistrictlibrary.org

www.branchdistrictlibrary.org/quincy

Phone

517.639.4001

Ext. 400 Circulation Desk

Ext. 401 Sarah Strong

Quincy Library Hours

Mon 10-5:30 Thu 10-5:30

Tue 10-5:30 Fri 10-5:30

Wed 10-6 Sat 10-1

Sun-Closed

The Branch District Library System has six library branches to serve you:

Algansee, Bronson, Coldwater, Quincy, Sherwood and Union Twp.



BRANCH
DISTRICT LIBRARY

In Appreciation for Donations:

In Memory Of....

Lyle Wilcox

Jane Baldwin

Cesaria Birk

Dr Ray Kranz

Bob Mitchell

Barb Rice

Bill Laurell

Dan Ludlow

From:

Dr Neil & Phyllis Wilcox

Dr Neil & Phyllis Wilcox

Quincy American Legion Auxiliary

Mary Jo Kranz

Mary Jo Kranz

Mary Jo Kranz

Connie Harmon

Mike & Ann Nowicki



The Quincy Branch Library memorial program has been in place for a number of years which offers individuals the opportunity to give toward book purchases *In Memory of* or *In Honor of* someone special or a special occasion.

Checks to the **Quincy Library Foundation** can be mailed to 11 N. Main Street, Quincy, MI 49082 with information containing the individual's name and who the gift is from. Please provide a name and address of a family member and the library will send a notification card to the family indicating that a gift has been given in their loved one's name.

New books are purchased for the library collection according to need, but we gladly welcome subject matters or titles also that reflect the person in whose name the gift is being given. Book plaques are added inside the book front cover before being displayed on library shelves.

Gifts can also be designated to our Project Fund, which is used for library building needs. Previous projects have supported new lighting, a book drop and shelving.

Library Shelf Sitters are still available at the library for \$20



You are currently receiving this newsletter from the Friends of the Library. If you would like your name removed from the mailing list, please email us at: quincy@branchdistrictlibrary.org or call the library at 639.4001

Story Time!

Miss Sarah visits Jennings Elementary and Little Orioles Preschool every week to read!



The secret to a well balanced life is a cup of tea in one hand and a book in the other.

- Awesome Librarian

**New York Times
Best Sellers Fiction**

Vince Flynn: Code Red

By: Kyle Mills

Holly

By: Stephen King

Fourth Wing

By: Rebecca Yarros

23 1/2 Lies

By: James Patterson

Things We Left Behind

By: Lucy Score

Harry Potter Murder Mystery!

Time to put on your investigator hat on! Let's see if you can solve this murder mystery—Harry Potter Style!

Snacks and drinks provided!

Friday, November 10th, 6:00 pm

Registration Required



FAMILY FRIGHT NIGHT
SAT. OCT 7TH

JOIN US AT THE COLDWATER BRANCH FROM 4-7 PM
FOR OUR ANNUAL FAMILY FRIGHT NIGHT
WITH TRICK OR TREATING,
GAMES, CRAFTS, & AN

ENCHANTED FOREST
HAUNTED

Put November 3 & 4 on your calendar for the next Friends Book Sale!



Remember! Friends Book Sales are the first Friday & Saturday in June & November

Friends of the Quincy Library Update:

Dear Friends,



I hope everyone had a fabulous summer, and now are enjoying the start of fall. Everyone at the Quincy Library had a very busy summer. Sarah and Brittany had so many wonderful programs for kids, teens, and adults. The Friends were busy selling pies and making snacks for Quincy Daze.

As fall rolls in be sure to check out the library for all kinds of amazing fall programs for all ages.

The last Friends of the Library meeting will be Oct. 24th at 4 pm. We will be electing officers for next year and wrapping up plans for winter programs.

Hope to see you there!

Jody Willard, Friends president



HOOPLA

3-Step Sign Up

1. Download the app or go to hoopladigital.com
2. Log in with your library card
3. Instantly borrow eBooks, audiobooks, comics, movies, and more. 24/7 with your library

Upcoming Events:

Kids Events:

National Sports Day Craft

Let's create our own posters to show the team and/or player we care about the most our love and support!

Monday, Oct. 16, 3:30

Pumpkin Painting

We're going to have a pumpkin painting party!

Monday, Oct. 23, 3:30

Halloween Game Day

Halloween-themed Game Day! Come dressed in your Halloween costume to get a bonus prize!

Monday, Oct. 30, 3:30

Life-Sized Scarecrows

To continue with the Fall spirit, we're going to make our own life-sized scarecrows on paper.

Monday, Nov. 6, 3:30

Movie Day—Free Birds

Join us for a cozy movie day at the library with popcorn and a sweet treat!

Monday, Nov. 13, 3:30

Thanksgiving Bingo

It's B-I-N-G-O time! Come play for a chance to win a prize!

Monday, Nov. 20, 3:30



BRANCH
DISTRICT LIBRARY

Teen Events:

Monster Mash Mad Libs

Let's kick off spooky season with some Monster Mash Mad Libs!

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 3:30

Pumpkin Painting

We're going to have a pumpkin painting party!

Wednesday, Oct 18, 3:30

Halloween Scavenger Hunt

Locate Halloween-themed items in the library and the first 2 players that find all of the items will win a prize.

Wednesday, Oct. 25, 3:30

Salt Painting

Come experiment and try something new with salt painting

Wednesday, Nov. 8, 3:30

Rock Photo Holders

Come make some fun and unique photo holders out of rocks.

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 3:30

Unicorn Fluffy Slime!

We're going to make fun multi colored slime!

Wednesday, Nov 22, 3:30

Friends of the Library BOOK SALE

Quincy Branch
Library

11 N Main St., Quincy, MI

Friday, November 3

10:00-5:30

Saturday, November 4

10:00-1:00

\$1.00 to fill a bag

Buy a new book bag for

\$10.00 and fill for free

We're looking for
volunteers!

If you would like the
help out please let
Sarah or Brittany
know!



Having Fun at the Library!



Stuffy Sleepover!

These cute guys had a great time
hanging out all night at the library!



Making Stuffies!

Digital Library

Great digital resources to keep you connect-
ed to the library. Just use your library card,
from ANY location!

Libby: E-books, Audiobooks, and Magazines.

Hoopla: Movies, TV, Music, E-books, Audio-
books, Comics, Craft Classes

Mango: Instructions in over
70 languages

Consumer Reports: Ratings and
reviews for thousands of products

Tutor.com: Live daily online tutoring

Ancestry Library: Genealogy
(In-Library use only)

ABCmouse.com: Interactive
Educational Games for kids
(In-Library use only)

**2023 Quincy Branch Library
Advisory Board**

Teddy Sinclair—President
Barb Rockhold—Vice President
Connie Karney—Treasurer
Judy Dobson—Secretary
Bonnie Frick—Trustee
Carol Ludlow—Trustee

2023 Friends of the Library Board

Jody Willard—President
Bonnie Frick—Vice President
Teddy Sinclair—Treasurer
Wava Jean Gano—Secretary
Sarah Gruner—Publisher

Quincy Branch Library Staff:

Branch Manager—Sarah Strong
Clerk—Brittany Gemmill

Join or Renew Your Membership



ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Friends of the Library invite you to renew or begin your membership at any time, though membership typically begins January of each year. Please complete the information below, enclose a check payable to: *Friends of the Quincy Library*. Mail to the library or to: Teddy Sinclair, 490 Clarendon Rd., Quincy, MI 49082. The Friends of the Library are responsible for the continuance of the newsletter and assisting with many of the library's programs.

Name _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Membership: \$5.00

October 2023

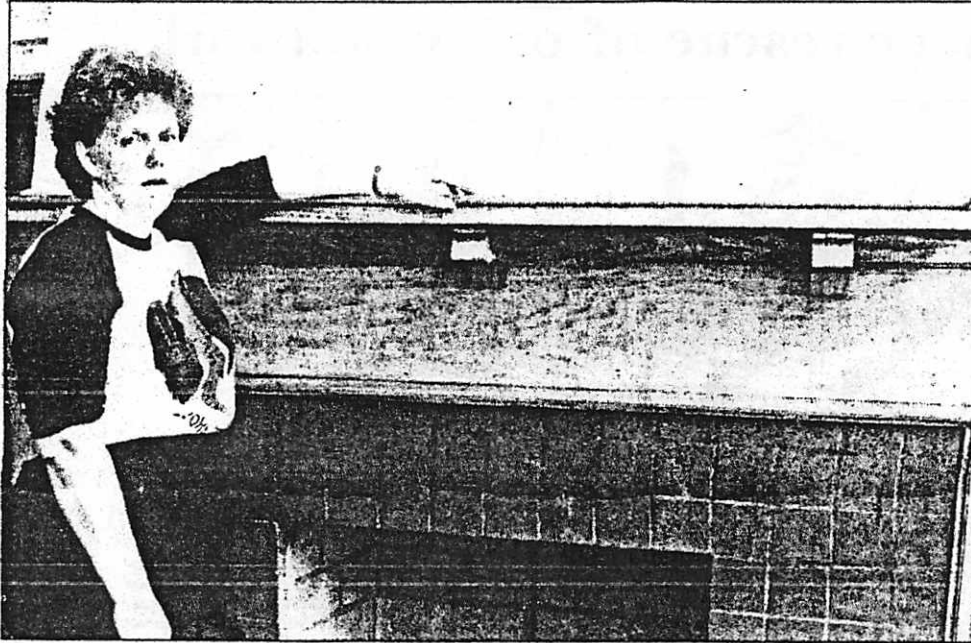
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Quincy Branch Library
11 N Main Street
Quincy, MI 49082

Return Service Requested

Non Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
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Quincy, MI

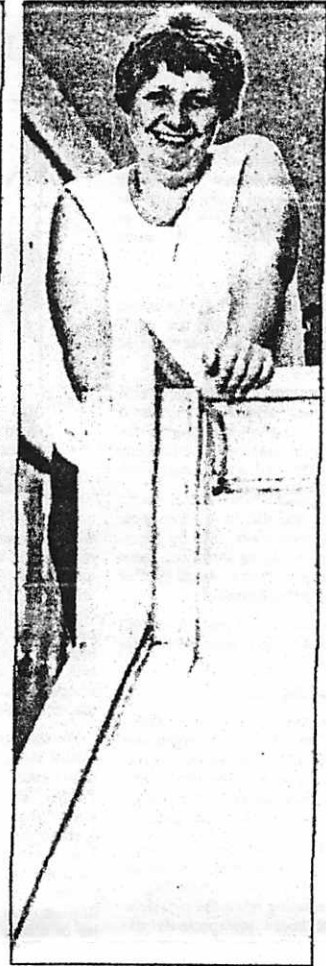


See what has been uncovered from all the grime in the former kindergarten room at the Quincy middle school—the attractive oak mantel of the fireplace. Showing it off is Mary Gale, the Quincy middle

school teacher who instigated the community effort to strip and clean the middle school woodwork. The room is now the classroom of Sharon Ferriss, 6th-grade science teacher, who said she intended to

make it a centerpiece of her classroom rather than to use it as a place to stack equipment in front of.

(Voice Photos)

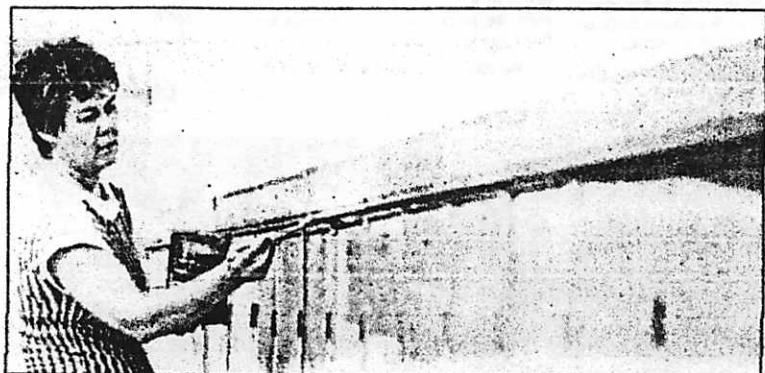


Mary Ellen Newton, president of the Quincy Education Association (QEA/MEA-NEA), at the top of one of the newly cleaned oak bannisters in the Quincy middle school.

Stripping the woodwork in Quincy

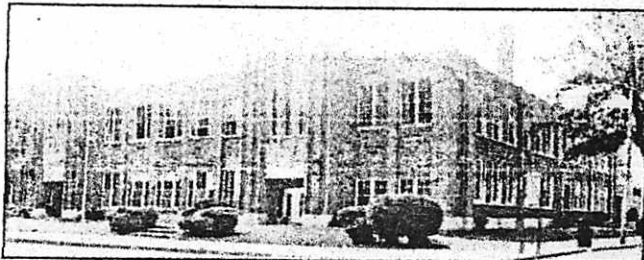


Tackling one of the 25 or so oak doors in the Quincy middle school—a hot way to spend a hot summer day. Left to right: teachers Mary Gale and Mary Ellen Newton.



A long ways to go on the oak framing in a corridor of the Quincy middle school—Gail Banker, a mathe-

tics teacher in the middle school.



Pride is renewed in the Quincy middle school—a building that was surely the pride of Quincy when it was built in 1931. It is considered a

good example of school building architecture at the time it was built.



Quincy Historical Society
 Founded 2008
 10 E. Jefferson St.
 Quincy, MA 01908

Museum Tours & Info: 517-639-4595

Teachers engineer rescue of oak woodwork

QUINCY

With its terrazzo stairways and corridor floors, oak woodwork throughout, and exterior of brick and cut limestone, the building which is now the Quincy middle school was obviously built to be the pride of the small town of Quincy as well as provide an outstanding education facility for its youth.

It housed grades K-12. It was innovative. Its kindergarten room, for example, had a fireplace to offer a cozy and inviting environment for the first days at school.

"It was surprising that they were able to build it then," said Oscar Fischer, a retired Quincy teacher who taught for many years in the building. The building was built in 1931—when the country was entering the Great Depression.

Time, wear, and dirt have taken their inevitable toll over more than 50 years. No where has the aging shown up more than in the oak woodwork, which Fischer remembers as being beautiful.

But once again the oak woodwork will be *leading its rich beauty to the building.*

Here is what happened.

A middle school teacher, Mary Gale, was working late in her classroom one day. She overheard talk about PAINTING the woodwork. Horrified, she swung into action, arousing her middle school colleagues to what was about to happen.

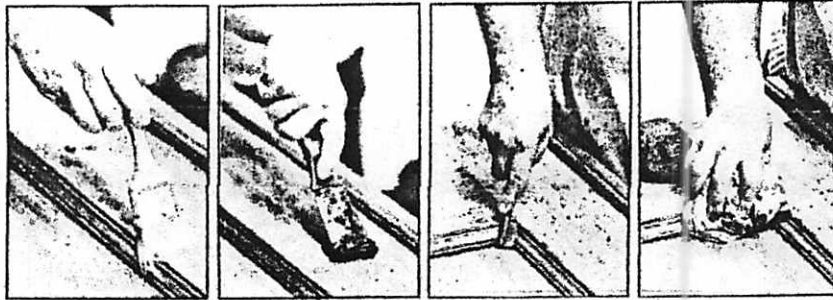
A bit later Mary Ellen Newton, president of the Quincy Education Association (QEA/MEA-NEA), was attending a school board meeting when the president of the school board unexpectedly directed a question at her. "Are you a SOW?" he wanted to know.

QEA joins up

That is how she learned there was a Save Our Woodwork movement afoot.

She and the QEA quickly joined up, providing support for Gale in a community volunteer effort to strip and clean all of the oak woodwork in the building.

There was plenty to do in a building



You may feel like you should have covered a few yards in the time it takes you to cover a few inches in stripping and cleaning woodwork. You first spread on solvent with a brush, then scrape it off along with the grime it has loosened.

For hard-to-get-to places such as the molding in corners, you use an old toothbrush to clean out the grime and solvent. Finally, you wipe it all clean with a rag.

with 14 classrooms and about 25 (all oak) doors. The stairways have oak bannisters and oak frames the hall lockers and doors. In the classrooms the oak includes molding that frames the blackboards, the fireplace mantelpiece in the former kindergarten room, and drawers and cabinet doors such as in the room where high school commercial (business) subjects were formerly taught.

Volunteers—QEA members and other school staff, parents and other community members, retired teachers such as Fischer, and students—started the task about the middle of July, working through the hottest summer since 1936. They were racing to finish as much as possible ahead of the custodians and painters, who were having to do the final finish-up and cleaning prior to the opening of school this fall.

Newton estimated that as many as 70 different people had worked on the job.

The woodwork has cleaned up beautifully, according to Newton.

The woodwork itself has shown evidence of pride and being well cared for over the years, said Gale. It bears few bad scars or carving of initials.

"We could sandpaper out some of the

initials," mused Newton, "but they are really part of the building now."

The proposal to paint the woodwork came after Quincy residents approved a bond issue which included renovating the middle school.

The board then discovered that stripping and refinishing the woodwork alone would come to about \$14,000—an expense that the bond issue would not cover. So it turned to the next possible solution—painting the woodwork at a total cost of about \$4,000.

"Without the effort of Mrs. Gale and community people," said Richard Tait, the Quincy superintendent, "we would not have been able to save the woodwork. It's just a fantastic effort that has brought the community a little closer together to preserve a little bit of the

past."

Kingscott Associates Inc. of Kalamazoo, the architectural firm hired to direct the renovations, was simply delighted, according to Phil Kabza, the architect with the firm handling the project.

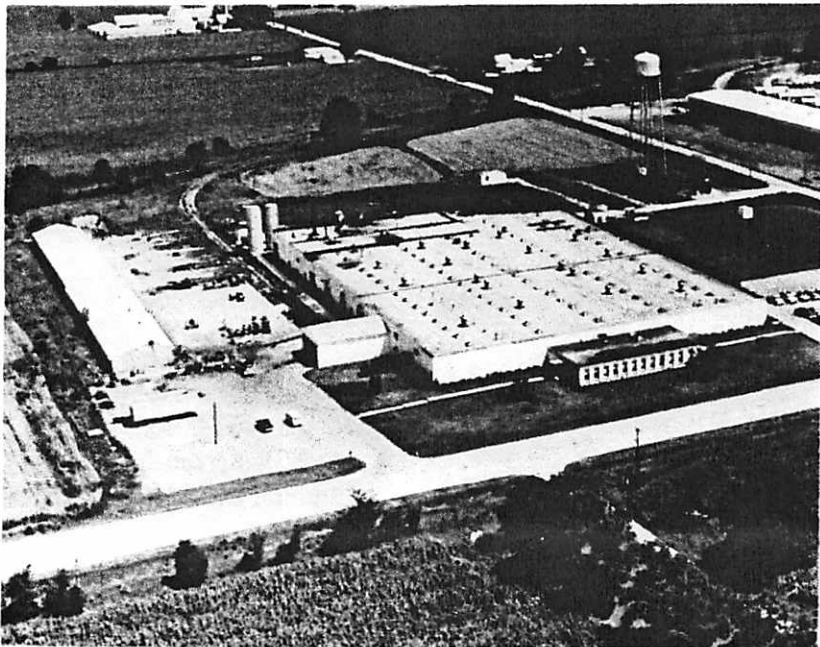
He had favored stripping and refinishing the woodwork but had understood the board's financial limitations.

"We are thrilled to see the community has cared enough to do that," he said.

Kabza said the community sensed—rightly—that the building has historical value. He said it is good example of architecture of school buildings that were constructed during its period.

The Kingscott firm, he said, has done a lot of work in school architecture and historical preservation.

Thanks to Donna Ford for this article now in Quincy Historical Society archives.



Can anyone identify this picture?