

# The Daily REPORTER.com

THE DAILY NEWSPAPER  
FOR BRANCH COUNTY —  
COVERING COLDWATER,  
BRONSON, QUINCY, UNION  
CITY AND TEKONSHA

ARAB AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

## Library hosts traveling exhibit

**Christy Hart-Harris**

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COLDWATER — The Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library will be displaying an informative pair of traveling exhibits from the Arab American National Museum now through Feb. 27.

The exhibit consists of two panels — one displaying the three major monotheistic religions, Christianity, Judaism and Islam and the other examining the holidays celebrated by each religion.

Metropolitan Detroit's Arab American

National Museum presents an Arab American story with interactive hands-on exhibits. The museum commits to “Dispel the many misconceptions about Arab Americans and other minorities.”

The exhibit had been traveling to different libraries in the Metropolitan Detroit area.

“They were excited to have a library from out of the Metro Detroit area contact them about displaying the exhibit,” said Evette Atkin, Director of the BDL.

Denise Yennie directs

SEE EXHIBIT, A3



Traveling exhibit from the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn Michigan displaying similarities in the three monotheistic religions. CHRISTY HART-HARRIS PHOTO

## EXHIBIT

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the adult program at the BDL.

“Denise contacted the organization and set up everything,” Atkin said.

According to the Arab American Institutes website, in 2009 Michigan

had the second-highest population of Arab Americans of all the states at 191,607.

“We wanted this in the library as a way to encompass the entire community,” said Atkin. “To show that there are more similarities than differences.”

As part of the experience, the AANM

provides comment pages for viewers to express their thoughts regarding the exhibit's information. Although the exhibit has only been on display since Wednesday, patrons' responses have all been positive and appreciative of the provided information. One patron said, “This is wonderful,”

while another said, “This is great, but maybe needs more publicity.”

To see the display, visit the Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library located at 10 E. Chicago St., Coldwater.

For additional information on the AANM visit [www.arabamerican-museum.org](http://www.arabamerican-museum.org).

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COLDWATER BRANCH LIBRARY

## Reading Month celebrated with special events

By Christy Hart-Harris

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COLDWATER — The month-long celebration of reading at the Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library will kick off this Saturday at 11 a.m. on the third floor Kidsplace.

“The Doctor is in — Dr. Seuss, that is” is the theme

as local celebrities will be reading their favorite Dr. Seuss stories.

Featured stories include “Oh The Places You’ll Go!” read by Peter Rogovich, Jefferson School Principal; “The Sneetches,” read by Legg Middle School teacher Janine Sharrard and The Daily Reporter editor Jamie Barrand reading “And to

Think I Saw it on Mulberry Street” and “Are You My Mother?”

Other activities will be offered throughout the day with March Reading logs also available. Top participants will receive prizes.

Reading Month is a way to encourage reading and to support success in school. Parents can read aloud to

their children and ask questions about content and pictures to strengthen comprehension. If the child can read, take turns reading aloud.

Parents are the most influential model in a child’s life — it’s important to make reading fun.



SEE LIBRARY, A3

## LIBRARY

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March Reading Month at the library is open to pre-school through high school aged children. Completed logs should be turned in to the Kidsplace by March 31 to receive prizes.

Kidsplace also offers story hour and play groups to area children beginning at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Tuesdays are sensory story hour for children ages 2 to 5. Wednesdays feature laptime story hour for ages 9 months to

2 years; On Thursdays is story hour for ages 2 to 5 is offered and Friday’s feature a play group for ages 2 to 5.

Additionally, The public is welcomed to join the Branch District Library and the MSU Extension office for a simple food demonstration on Tuesday at 1 p.m.

A discussion on the book “Thunder Dog” by author Michael Hingson will be held on March 14 starting at 6 p.m.

For more information contact the Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library at 278-2341

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013

75 CENTS

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MARCH IS READING MONTH



## The places you'll go

**P**eter Rogovich, Principal at Jefferson Elementary, reading "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" by Dr. Seuss to kick off March is Reading Month at the Coldwater Branch Library. Librarian, Linda Dull sits with the children as they listen to the story.

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## NEWS

### MCLAUGHLIN FAMILY STARTS FUND AT BCCF

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HELPING LIBRARIES, CLUBS, TROOPS

## McLaughlin family starts fund at BCCF

COLDWATER — Knowing that there are many local needs that aren't being met, Rosella McLaughlin and her son, Dr. Jerry McLaughlin, have created a legacy fund at the Branch County Community Foundation (BCCF) to meet those needs and to honor members of their family who have passed — father and husband Ralph McLaughlin and sister and daughter Janean McLaughlin Kistel. The fund will help support local libraries, 4-H clubs and Boy Scout troops.

Knowing the family had deep roots to Branch County, they were recently approached by a BCCF Board member, and the family was eager to set up the legacy fund through the Foundation's Legacy Society. The Legacy Society recognizes individuals and couples who have notified the Foundation that they have included the Foundation as a beneficiary in their will or other deferred giving plan.

The McLaughlin's have

a strong tie to Coldwater. Ralph was born in 1914 in West Unity, Ohio, and Rosella was born in 1918 in Burr Oak, and they were married in 1937. They resided in Coldwater after marriage, and during the war owned the McLaughlin Feed Mill on Monroe Street. They both worked at the Coldwater State Home, Rosella owned a catering service, and then Ralph was a fur buyer after retirement.

The McLaughlin's had two children, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Ralph passed away in 2009; daughter Janean succumbed to breast cancer in 1995.

When asked why they wanted to give back to the community, Jerry commented, "Because the community supported us. During the war, the local farmers supported the feed mill business, and when dad didn't have a steady job after the war the community hospital forgave

our debts. We weren't unique though; it was a tough time then, and it's a tough time now for many organizations. The libraries, 4-H, and Boy Scouts gave us skills, educational tools, and a competitive attitude to use long after we grew up began our life's work."

In addition to creating the legacy fund, the family gave an immediate donation of \$5,000 directly to the Branch District Library through the BCCF.

"When I was a kid, I spent a lot of time reading but our family only had a couple of books, so I was at the library often. Donating to the library is just one way we can say thank you to the kind librarians who found me books to read and who encouraged my interest in science at a young age," said Jerry, whose career was spent as a professor and researcher.

The family also felt a connection with 4-H since Ralph went to Michigan State University on a 4-H

scholarship for some "short courses" in agriculture, and as a boy Jerry was a member of Boy Scout Troop 59 and moved on to become an Eagle Scout.

"These community organizations helped shape who I am and how our family was able to grow and thrive in this competitive world."

As many know, the Branch District Library and branches recently put out a statement saying decreasing millage funds, penal fine funds from the courts, and the poor economy in general make "the immediate future admittedly a bit bleak. We've made some very painful cuts which we hope are temporary, but honestly we just don't know what the future holds."

Donations like the McLaughlin's will help support the local libraries during this tough financial time, and the McLaughlin's hope that other local families will be encouraged to contribute through the BCCF.

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## KIDS PLACE

# Special visitor at library

**Christy Hart-Harris**

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COLDWATER — On March 23 at 11:15 a.m. the Coldwater Branch of the Branch District Library will have a special visitor for children and adults of all ages.

Abbey Adams, a trained service dog, will be in the Kids Place on the third floor of the Library.

The event is the Children's version of the Library's "One Book, One Community" read.

Abbey is excited to meet new friends at the Library and will help her human companions, Wade and Sue, share her story and their journey together. As part of



**Abbey**

the presentation Audrey Os-  
ofsky's book titled "My Bud-  
dy" will be read.

"My Buddy" is based on a wheelchair-bound young boy with muscular dystrophy and his golden retriever helper dog, Buddy. The two close friends work together as a team to accomplish the many tasks a day brings.

For more informa-  
tion contact the library at  
278-2341

OH

Midday Daily 4:  
0-5-8-3  
Daily 3:  
9-4-0  
Daily 4:  
2-0-1-6

Keno:  
02-08-11-19-21-27-28-31-  
36-37-41-44-47-53-55-64-  
65-67-68-69-73-74

Daily 4:  
7-6-9-7  
Hoosier Lotto:  
07-22-35-40-41-43

Candice Phelps at 651-5407 or at phelps@sturgisjournal.com

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? By Rosalie Currier | Staff Writer

# Addition to Bronson library should be ready by mid-March

By Rosalie Currier  
currier@sturgisjournal.com

The library in Bronson is in a century old Carnegie building. Several years ago, the Friends of the Library, the Dearth Foundation and the community built a handicap accessible entrance, said Lynnell Eash, librarian.

This month Brussee/Brady, Inc. of Three Rivers is completing a media center, a \$250,000 addition, made possible through the same three groups, she said.

A 25 foot x 25 foot media center and a 7 foot x 18 foot office space, was built on the same level of the library. On the ground level (or slightly below) the same size rooms are being finished — one for library storage and the other for storage for the Bronson Township.

The ownership of the community building is a little confusing, Eash said.

A 1940s court agreement gives ownership of the building to Bronson Township, she said. The township and City of Bronson care for the building and grounds. The township has an agreement with the



ROSALIE CURRIER/JOURNAL

**Will Prescott, forman for Brussee/Brady, Inc of Three Rivers, and Librarian Lynnell Eash, discuss the former outside wall of the 100-year-old Carnegie building. It is now the inside wall of the new media center at the Branch District Library, Bronson Branch.**

Branch District Library to house the Bronson Branch on the second floor. The county library system also owns the books, equipment, furniture and pays staff.

The new additions are paid for by generosity of the community, including a sizable portion from the Dearth Foundation.

The media center will

be ready for patrons by mid March, Eash said.

While the added space is important for patrons, keeping the historicity of building in tact is also important to Eash.

Brussee/Brady restored windows, replicated the wood work and generally were careful to keep historical features true to the period, she said.

### CARE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT SOMETHING?

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