



Comments:

Submitted on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 - 14:55

Submitted values are:

==Your Name and Contact Information==

First and Last Name (Optional): Jennifee Kroncke

Telephone Number (Optional):

Email (Optional):

==Your Message==

Subject (Optional):

Message Body: While qt the library yesterday with 2 young girls, one asked who the statue is at the door, no one knew. I felt this was something that should be known. I looked for a plaque-did I miss it? Anyways who is it?

BDL Response:

From: John Rucker <RuckerJ@branchdistrictlibrary.org>

Subject: Re: Patron Feedback from the Web Site Form

Date: August 18, 2020 at 3:44:11 PM EDT

To: imkroncke@yahoo.com

Hi Jennifer,

Hmm, there might have been a plaque before I started here, but for the last 17 years I can say there hasn't been one. Either way, what we have here is a copy of a statue of an Amazon from Rome, Italy. That statue, held now in the Capitoline Museums, is itself a copy of a much earlier statue made by the Greek sculptor Phidias in 435 BC, but which is lost to history. Here is the one in Rome: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amazon_statue_types#/media/File:Amazona_\(C._Albacini,_MRABASF_E-70\)_02.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amazon_statue_types#/media/File:Amazona_(C._Albacini,_MRABASF_E-70)_02.jpg)


We have this statue as part of the Lewis Collection, named for local businessman, Henry Lewis, who was an avid art collector and brought back many original and reproductions from his trips to Europe. He was the first president of the Coldwater Library Board in 1881, and donated his collection to the library in 1895. Subsequently, much of the collection was sent to museums in the state, but here in Coldwater pieces from the collection may still be found at the Wing House, the Tibbits Opera House, and of course here at the library.

Looking back at what I just wrote, I think you're absolutely right, this information should be displayed by the statue!

Thanks for writing us today, best wishes!

Yours,

John



Amazon Mattei


This marble statue, brought to Coldwater in the late 1800s, is a copy of a statue held in the Capitoline Museums (Rome, Italy), seen at left. That statue is itself a copy of a much earlier bronze statue by the Greek sculptor **Phidias**, dedicated in the Temple of Diana at Ephesus in 435 BC.

In Greek mythology, the **Amazons** were a tribe of fierce warrior women believed to live in Asia Minor (the modern country of Turkey). There is some evidence that this mythology has its roots in the real-life ancient female warriors of the Scythian and Sarmatian peoples.

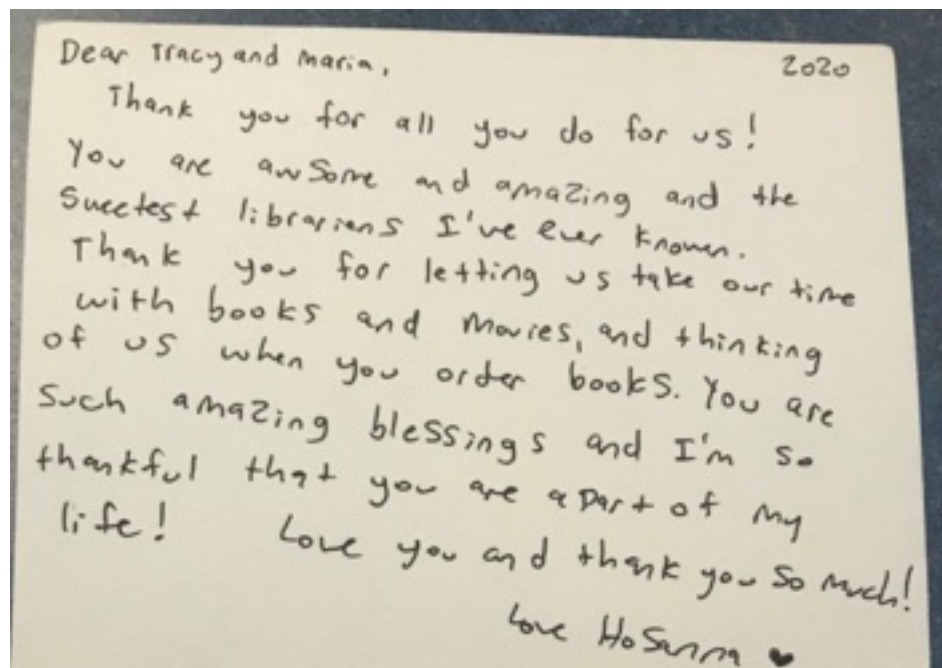
The prototype of this statue was discovered in 1770, as a Roman marble copy of the Greek bronze original. It made its way to the art collection of the **House of Mattei**, one of the most powerful noble families in Rome from the Middle Ages onward, giving this style of Amazon statue its name.

Local businessman, **Henry Lewis**, was an avid art collector who brought many original pieces and reproductions back to Coldwater from his trips to Europe, which he kept in his art museum (now the **Masonic Temple**). Lewis's wife, **Alma Lewis**, was the first President of the **Ladies Library Association**, formed in 1870, which was housed in what is now the **Putnam Funeral Home** building across Chicago street from the present library building. You can see an impressive portrait of Alma on the 4th floor of the library in our meeting room, with several other paintings from the **Lewis Collection** in the hallway.

Henry Lewis was the first President of the **Coldwater Free Public Library**, established in 1881, and he donated more than three thousand items from his collection to the library in 1895. Over the years, much of the collection was sent to other museums in the state, but here in Coldwater pieces may still be viewed at the **Wing House Museum**, the **Tibbits Opera House**, and of course here at the library.


August 2020

Card received at the Sherwood Branch



Publicity:

Union City, Hometown Gazette, August 19, 2020 page 1

Branch District Library Continues to be Open

The county's six-branch library system continues to operate under a staged Reopening Plan. Currently the library is in Stage 5 and all branches are open regular hours. Library hours can be found on our website at BranchDistrictLibrary.org/ hours. Library patrons are invited to use computers, fax paperwork, or browse library shelves for books or

movies to enjoy at home. Masks are required to enter our buildings unless you are medically unable to wear one.

We ask that all library items be returned to our outdoor drop boxes at any branch.

Curbside pickup is available Monday through Friday at all branches. If you would like to use our

curbside pickup service, you can place a hold on an item in our library catalog, or call the service desk at your local branch. You'll get a call or an electronic notice when your materials are ready. When you arrive for your pickup, park in one of the designated spots at the library and give us a call.

We are excited to share

that the state-wide lending program MeLCat, is back online! MeLCat gives you access to thousands of books and movies from libraries across the state. You can resume borrowing by placing requests for items at MeL.org or by calling any of our six branches for assistance.

Don't forget virtual library programming is still

available on the library's website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel. Check out a variety of storytimes for children, classic storytime for adults, craft programs, and music programs in the convenience of your own home. New great virtual library programming will resume September 8. Stop at the Union Twp. Branch on

Thursdays at 10:30 for our outdoor "Music with Munchkins" program. Little ones will be treated to an exciting time of music, movement, and activities, with appropriate social distancing.

For more details about Branch District Library and to see our complete Reopening Plan visit BranchDistrictLibrary.org

Coldwater, The Daily Reporter, August 20, 2020, page A3



Branch County libraries are back open. You can now check out books and other materials as well as browse through materials. (DON REID PHOTO)

Branch Libraries reopen in stage 5 of plan

By Don Reid
@DReidTDR

BRANCH COUNTY — All six Branch District libraries are open. There are some changes in operation under its staged reopening plan.

Currently the library is in Stage 5. All branches are open regular hours which can be found on its website at BranchDistrictLibrary.org/hours.

Patrons are invited back in to use computers, fax paperwork or browse library shelves for books or movies to enjoy at home. Masks are required to enter the buildings unless you are medically unable to wear one.

The current plan

requests all library items be returned to the outdoor drop boxes at any branch.

Curbside pickup is available Monday through Friday at all branches. To use curbside pickup service, place a hold on an item in the library catalog, or call the service desk at your local branch.

Patrons will get a call or an electronic notice when materials are ready. To pickup, park in one of the designated spots at the library and give them a call.

The library staff said "We are excited to share that the state-wide lending program MeLCat, is back online! MeLCat gives you access to thousands of books and movies from

libraries across the state. You can resume borrowing by placing requests for items at MeL.org or by calling any of our six branches for assistance."

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