

COMMENTS AND PUBLICITY

October 12, 2023

Comments

| BRANCH UNION | Tell us how the library is doing. Turn this card in at the library or by mail. |
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Publicity

WTVB Radio, September 19, 2023

Unveiling of Story Walk installed by Branch District Library set for Friday in Heritage Park

By Jim Measel

Sep 19, 2023 | 5:36 PM

COLDWATER, MI (WTVB) - After being rained out on September 8, the unveiling of the new Story Walk that has been installed by the Branch District Library is now scheduled to take place this Friday morning, September 22, at 10:00 a.m. in Coldwater's Heritage Park.

The Story Walk includes 18 picture book display signs along the walking path between the Browne Recreation Center and Borden Field.

Library Children's Services Coordinator Erica Donihue told the City Council in May that the permanent Story Walk would allow the library to share children's literature that is written in many of the languages known in Coldwater.

Parking for Friday's free event is available at the Coldwater Recreation Center.

The first book selected is "We Laugh Alike / Juntos nos reímos: A Story That's Part Spanish, Part English, and a Whole Lot of Fun" by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand with illustrations by Alyssa Bermudez.

The StoryWalk Project was created by Anne Ferguson and developed with the help of Rachel Senechal.

StoryWalk® projects have been installed in all 50 states and even internationally.

The Coldwater project was made possible with the support of the Kiwanis Club of Coldwater, Kiwanis Childrens Fund, Branch County Great Start, and Apex Clean Energy.

The Daily Reporter, September 23, 2023, page A1

New story walk unveiled at Heritage Park

Don Reid

Coldwater Daily Reporter | USA TODAY NETWORK

COLDWATER — Parents and children can read as they walk along the path across from the Browne Recreation Center in Heritage Park, thanks to donations to build a story walk.

The 18 powder-coated aluminum picture book frames on posts with pages of stories placed underneath plastic protection tell a story children and parents can read together.

Assistant Branch County Library Director Kim Feltner said, "Reading exercises your mind! What a great combination to exercise your mind and your body at the same time."

Feltner added, "This project could not have been made possible without tremendous support from our community, the city of Coldwater for letting us install it at their beautiful park."

"Literacy has always been an important object of the club, trying to be actively involved," said Mark Hann of the Coldwater Kiwanis, whose club spearheaded the fundraising, at Friday's dedication.

Great Start Collaborative and Kiwanis Children Fund also participated. Apex Solar pledged funds to continue to change the stories every three months and to provide copies of the book featured on the walk for the library. Coldwater Municipal Services completed the installation.

Amy Galliers of Great Start promised, "I'm pleased to announce that we have additional funds coming to our community for the fiscal year. We will be partnering even more with the library and Kiwanis. So keep your eyes and ears open."

Fourth-grade students of teacher Jennifer Henry from nearby Lakeland Elementary were on hand for the dedication Friday morning with community and library officials.

Contact Don Reid: dReid@Gannett.com.



Lakeland Elementary fourth graders Liam Dinda, Danelsy Pena and Hema Jobi read the starting page of the story walk in Heritage Park Friday. DON REID/COLDWATER DAILY REPORTER

WTVB Radio, October 5, 2023

Branch County Community Foundation awards over \$37,000 in grants to 11 organizations

By Jim Measel

Oct 5, 2023 | 1:50 PM

COLDWATER, MI (WTVB) - The Branch County Community Foundation has announced that through the Community Good Grant cycle this year, a total of \$37,903 was granted to 11 different organizations and programs in Branch County and Colon.

Funding for this year's recipients was made possible by the Foundation's Forever Fund, the Irv & Kathy Harris Memorial Fund, the Homelessness Prevention Fund, The Ralph and Rosella McLaughin Fund, Rice Family for Understanding Fund, and the Early Childhood Investment Fund.

Executive Director Erica Heminger says, "It is so important for BCCF to continue to invest in the organizations that make such a great impact in Branch County and Colon. Every year, the need for local solutions not only changes but also increases for our community. That is why unrestricted dollars are so important. These dollars allow the Community Foundation to focus on the specific needs of our community at any given time."

Those who received full funding include the Children's Museum of Branch County for a new exhibit, **The Branch District Library to expand their Library of Things,** Branch Pride for their Housing Stability and Homeless Prevention program, and Coldwater Housing Matters for new intentional furniture for their renovation of the shelter, the Union City Community Chorale for scholarships for youth members, and Coldwater Township Sunrise Rotary for their Promise Program.

Partial funding for projects and programs include The Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence for flooring updates at the shelter, Junior Achievement for their Financial Literacy Programming in Branch County, Oasis of Love Family Church for their Pay it Forward distribution, the Boy Scouts of America for their building capacity in Branch County, and the Coldwater Community Center for their historic renovation.

Grant applications for the Community Good Grant Cycle are accepted each year during the month of August for projects and programs that directly benefit Branch County and/or Colon.

For more information on qualifications, visit the Community Foundation's website at www.BrCoFoundation.org or call the office at (517) 278-4517.

The Daily Reporter, October 10, 2023, page B5



BRANCH DISTRICT LIBRARY FIRST NOTICE OF 2024 BUDGET HEARING

October 16, 2023 5:30 P.M. Coldwater Branch Library 10 E. Chicago, Coldwater MI

TAKE NOTICE: On October 16, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. the Branch District Library Board shall conduct a public hearing on its proposed 2024 budget of estimated revenues and expenditures.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Copies of the budget will be available for public inspection at each branch location – Algansee, Bronson, Coldwater, Quincy, Sherwood, and Union Twp., or on our website: https://www.BranchDistrictLibrary.org/budgets.