

## VBDL Story Time

Stories, Rhymes, Songs & more!

**Antwerp Sunshine Branch  
Mattawan**

Wednesday at 10:30 am  
April 4 - April 18

**Bangor Branch**  
Wednesday at 10:00 am  
April 4 - May 30

**Bloomingdale Branch**  
Thursday at 10:30 am  
April 5 - May 31

**Covert Branch**  
Tuesday at 11:00 am  
April 3 - May 29

**Gobles Branch**  
Wednesday at 10:30 am  
April 4 - May 30

**Lawrence Community Branch**  
Wednesday at 10:30 am  
April 4 - 25

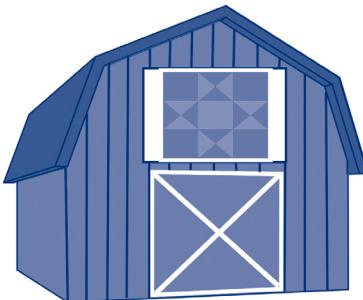
**Webster  
Memorial  
Library  
Decatur**  
Wednesday at  
10:00 am  
April 11 - June 6



**Michigan Blood Drive**  
**Monday, April 9**  
**2:00 - 6:30 pm**

Webster Memorial Library - Decatur

Phone: 269.423.4771  
or visit [miblood.org](http://miblood.org)



## Following the Barn Quilt Trail with Suzi Parron

Van Buren District Library welcomes Suzi Parron to two locations in May. The author of "Following the Barn Quilt Trail" and "Barn Quilts and the American Quilt Trail Movement," visits Webster Memorial Library, Thursday, May 17, 6:30 pm, and VBDL Bangor Branch, Thursday, May 24, 6:00 pm.

Barn quilts are a unique method of honoring a family member or simply decorating an old or new barn. Patterns are usually a traditional geometric block design, however, there are thousands of patterns and colors from which to choose. The evolution of quilt trails began in Ohio more than 15 years ago when an Adams County resident painted a quilt block on an old tobacco barn. What was meant to be an individual tribute transformed into a "clothesline of quilts" within driving or walking distance.

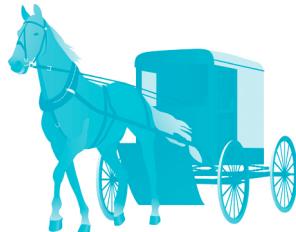
Anyone interested in learning how to create and paint a quilt block is invited to Parron's workshop, Saturday, May 26, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, also at VBDL Bangor Branch. All programs are free and open to the public.

## Amish & Mennonite History and Culture

The Amish-Mennonite story comes to VBDL Antwerp Sunshine Branch during National Library week courtesy of Shipshewana's Menno-Hof. Susan Miller, managing director of Menno-Hof, presents a multimedia experience into the unique world of the Anabaptists, Monday, April 9, 6:30 pm.

Miller shares her personal experience growing up Amish and answers frequently asked questions such as How many Amish live in North America? Are there different kinds of Amish? Are all Amish farmers? and Do the Amish reject all modern technology?

The program is free and open to the public.



## Open Mic Poetry Reading

VBDL Bangor Branch commemorates April as Poetry Month with an Open Mic event, Tuesday, April 17, 5:30 pm.

Poets of any age are invited to read an original poem or bring a favorite to share. Preregistration is required to reserve a spot.

The Academy of American Poets launched National Poetry Month in 1996 to "highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets." Since then, the annual event has grown to be "the largest literary celebration in the world."

The Academy also observes Poem in Your Pocket Day during National Poetry Month. On April 26, poetry lovers are encouraged to carry a favorite poem throughout the day and share it with others, whether at the library, grocery store, gas station or school.

For more information or to register for Open Mic, visit the branch at 420 Division Street, Bangor, or phone 269.427.8810.

"We make out of the quarrel with others, rhetoric, but of the quarrel with ourselves, poetry."  
- William Butler Yeats, from *PER AMICA SILENTIA LUNAE*

