Aquarium Repair Completed

It’s a situation no aquarium owner wants to happen: a complete removal of all aquarium contents to make a repair. Yet that’s exactly what happened recently with the Phyllis Donner Aquarium at MCPL Wausau, though we’re happy to say the repairs were completed without the loss of any aquatic life.

The aquarium was constructed in 2012 by Las Vegas-based Acrylic Tank Manufacturing (ATM), famous for their Animal Planet television show “Tanked.” In December, Darren Letner, owner of Tank Mates LLC in Wausau and the aquarium’s caretaker, noticed a few spots at the bottom of the aquarium where the seal holding in 650 gallons of saltwater was starting to deteriorate.

A plan was devised that required Letner to empty the entire tank – sand, rocks, fish and all – into six large plastic tubs and kept at a steady temperature of 78-79 degrees. An ATM employee was flown in – the tank is still under warranty – and the entire perimeter of the tank received a fresh application of sealant that should keep the inhabitants safe for a long time, if not forever.

Such a move is stressful for the fish: “It’s something you don’t ever want to have to do,” Letner said. In fact, Letner said they were prepared to lose some aquatic residents, including the most sensitive fish like the Emperor Angel and Copperband Butterfly. But to our delight, all of the creatures pulled through the ordeal, which lasted about 48 hours, and seem to be readjusting to their environment just fine.

In fact, a couple of days after the repair was finished, Letner pointed out a couple of Chromis fish vigilantly guarding a group of tiny eggs; a sign that life goes on!

Chad Dally, Library Specialist

Upcoming Events

Did you know the library schedules a variety of fun and educational events for all ages every month? Check out the interior of this newsletter or visit www.mcpl.us/events for the latest information!
**Knit Night / Needle Arts**
Thu., 6:30pm: 3/2, 4/6, 5/4 @ MCPL Wausau
Wed., 4–6:45pm: 3/15, 4/19 @ MCPL Marathon City
Tue., 3–6pm: 3/28, 4/25 @ MCPL Rothschild
Knitters and crocheters are invited to gather for a night of crafts and socializing! A

**The History of The Beatles**
Thu., 3/2, 6:30pm @ MCPL Wausau
An overview of the music of the Fab Four by Lawrence University music professor Carl Rath! A

**Library Learning:**
Tue., 3–6pm: 3/14, 4/11, and Thu., 6–8pm: 3/9, 4/11

**Hobbies and Crafts Night**
Mon., 3–8pm: 3/20, 4/17, 5/15 @ MCPL Hatley
Hobby and craft enthusiasts are invited to create and socialize! Bring your ideas and supplies. A C

**Water Action Volunteers (WAV)**
Tue., 3/21, 5:30pm @ MCPL Stratford
Learn how you can join WAV and help monitor small bodies of water in your community! A

**MCPL Movie Night: “Arrival”**
Thu., 3/23, 6–8pm @ MCPL Wausau
Rated PG-13, 116 min. A

**Passport Event**
Mon., 3/27, 6pm @ MCPL Edgar
Apply for your U.S. passport! A

**Quilting and Beyond in the Afternoon**
Tue., 1:30–3:30pm: 3/28, 4/25 @ MCPL Stratford
Quilters young and old, experienced and beginners, are invited to gather to learn, create, and share. A

**Library Learning: Facebook Fundamentals 1**
Tue., 3/28, 2pm & Wed., 3/29, 5:30pm @ MCPL Wausau
Registration required: 715-261-7230. A

**Traveling Trunk: 100 Years of Fashion**
Thu., 3/30, 6:30pm @ MCPL Spencer
A historical presentation by Anna Chilson Straub from the Marathon County Historical Society. A

**Native Prairie Plants and Animals**
Tue., 4/4, 9am @ MCPL Spencer
Learn about prairie animals and which types of prairie plants you could plant in your own yard! A

**Medicare Cost Saving Options**
Wed., 4/5, 11am–1pm @ MCPL Hatley
Stop by to speak with Mike Graper of the Aging & Disability Resource Center. A

**Creative Writing Workshop for Adults**
Thu., 6–8pm: 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27 @ MCPL Wausau
Produce creative writing to share with fellow adults for constructive feedback! A

**Along the Railroad Tracks of Marathon Co.**
Mon., 4/10, 1:30–2:30pm @ MCPL Stratford
Discover local railroad history in this presentation by Gary Gisselman from the Historical Society. A

**Library Learning: Wisconsin’s Digital Library**
Mon., 4/10, 2pm @ MCPL Hatley
Learn how to access free e-books and audiobooks! Registration required: 715-446-3537. A

**Fairy Houses for Adults**
Mon., 4/10, 6pm @ MCPL Edgar
Wed., 5/3, 1:30–3pm & Thu., 5/4, 6:30–8pm @ MCPL Wausau
Create your very own fairy house! A

**Vinegar and Oil**
Tue., 4/11, 6pm @ MCPL Stratford
Learn new ways to use common, popular herbs, including creating your own herbal vinegar. A

**MCPL Live! Author Patricia McConnell**
Tue., 4/11, 6:30pm @ MCPL Wausau
Author and animal behaviorist Patricia McConnell will discuss her book “The Education of Will.” A

**MCPL DIY: Watercolor Bookmarks**
Wed., 4/12, 1:30pm & 6:30pm @ MCPL Wausau
Create your own bookmarks using different techniques! A

**New Technology & Equipment Petting Zoo**
Thu., 4/13, 4:30–6:30pm @ MCPL Wausau
Crafting machines, cameras, a drone and other high-tech gadgets to view and try! T A

**Library Learning: Facebook Fundamentals 2**
Tue., 4/25, 1:30–3pm @ MCPL Wausau
Wed., 4/26, 5:30–7pm @ MCPL Wausau
Registration required: 715-261-7230. A

**Meet the Spirit Emergency Medical Team**
Tue., 5/2, 9am @ MCPL Spencer
Medical staff will discuss local emergency services provided by ambulance and helicopter. A

**Intro to Food Preservation and Dehydration**
Mon., 5/8, 6pm @ MCPL Mosinee
Learn how to preserve a variety of foods with Jackie Carattini of Marathon County UW-Extension. A

**Library Learning: Introduction to Gmail**
Thu., 5/18/17, 10:30am @ MCPL Rothschild
Registration required: 715-359-6208. A

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**C = Children | Tw = Tweens (grades 4-6) | T = Teens (grades 6-12) | A = Adults**
**Make your own pipe cleaner pet!**

Kids visited our Wausau Headquarters recently to celebrate a day off of school with some pet-themed activities and crafts. One of the crafts involved making “pipe cleaner pets” using just a few simple items. Folks who missed that event can still make a pet of their own by following the directions below!

**Supplies:** scissors, pipe cleaners, pencil, tape.

**Instructions:**

1. Wrap a pipe cleaner around the pen or pencil to form a spiral. Leave a straight, unwrapped section at each end of the pipe cleaner to act as the neck and the tail. Slide the pencil out and set it aside.

2. Using a scissors, cut out one of the pet faces seen here. Tape it on the “neck” end of the pipe cleaner.

3. Using another pipe cleaner, cut two pieces that are each 3-4 inches long to be used for the pet’s legs.

4. Slide one of the pipe cleaner pieces through the spirals near the pet’s neck and bend each side down to form the pet’s legs. Repeat this step with the second pipe cleaner piece toward the tail end of the pet to form its back legs.

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*Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist*

**Story Times 2017 Winter-Spring**

Introduce your child to the joy of reading! Our weekly story times feature standards-based storytelling, songs, games, puppetry and fingerplays!

**Family Story Time**

- MCPL Wausau — Saturdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Athens — Tuesdays, 10am
- MCPL Edgar — Thursdays, 9:30am
- MCPL Hatley — Tuesdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Marathon City — Thursdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Mosinee — Wednesdays, 10am
- MCPL Rothschild — Thursdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Rothschild — Thursdays, 2:30pm
- MCPL Spencer — Wednesdays, 10am
- MCPL Stratford — Wednesdays, 10:15am

**Play & Learn Story Time**

- MCPL Wausau — Fridays, 9:30am
- MCPL Athens — Tuesdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Edgar — Thursdays, 10am
- MCPL Hatley — Thursdays, 10am
- MCPL Mosinee — Wednesdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Rothschild — Thursdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Spencer — Wednesdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Stratford — Wednesdays, 10:45am

**Preschool Story Time**

- MCPL Wausau — Wednesdays, 10:30am
- MCPL Wausau — Thursdays, 10:30am

**Tales for Tots**

- MCPL Wausau — Tuesdays, 10am
- MCPL Wausau — Tuesdays, 10:30am

**Book Babies**

- MCPL Wausau — Mondays, 10am

**Daycare Story Time**

Area daycare providers may schedule a morning or afternoon story time at MCPL Wausau on Thursdays. Call 715-261-7220 to add your group to the schedule.

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**Events for Kids and Teens**

Did you know the library schedules a variety of fun and educational events for children and teens every month? Check out the interior of this newsletter or visit [www.mcpl.us/events](http://www.mcpl.us/events) for the latest information!
March Month of Crafts
3/1–3/31 @ MCPL Mosinee
A variety of crafts celebrating different themes, with different activities each week! C

Magic Tree House Madness
Thu., 3/2, 4pm @ MCPL Waupun
A fun-filled event based off the popular “Magic Tree House” book series! C

Makerspace Fridays
Fri., 4pm: 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5, 5/12 @ MCPL Edgar
Children, tweens and their parents or caregivers are welcome to join us to get creative! C

Outside the Lines: A Family Coloring Party
Sat., 10:30am–1:30pm: 3/4, 4/1 @ MCPL Hatley
Sat., 1:30–3:30pm: 3/4, 4/1, 4/5 @ MCPL Waupun
Families are invited to relax and color together! C

Coding Games for Teens
Mon., 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3 @ MCPL Waupun
Tweens and Teens are invited to learn about creating computer games using Scratch programming. T

Crazy 8 Math Club
Mon., 4pm: 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15 @ MCPL Edgar
This weekly program will show kids the math behind some of their favorite activities! C

Meet a Sheriff’s Dept. K9 Team!
Tue., 3/7, 9am @ MCPL Spencer
Meet Cory Gladden and his K9 partner, Radar! C

Home School Huddle
Tue., 1pm: 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/9 @ MCPL Edgar
Home schoolers are invited for an hour of programming designed just for them! C

LEGO® Block Party
Tue., 3:30pm: 3/7, 4/4, 5/2 @ MCPL Mosinee
Sat., 11:30am–1:30pm: 3/11, 4/8 @ MCPL Rothschild
Mon., 6–8pm: 3/13, 4/10, 5/8 @ MCPL Waupun
Tue., 3:30pm: 3/14, 4/11, 5/9 @ MCPL Marathon City
Build creative projects using LEGO blocks! C

Teen Advisory Group
Tue., 6:30pm: 3/7, 4/4, 5/2 @ MCPL Waupun
Make a difference at the library! TAG is a great volunteer opportunity for teens (grades 6-12). T

Sensory Story Time
Sat., 9:15am: 3/11, 4/8 @ MCPL Waupun
Engage your child’s senses through movement, stories, music and play! C

Teen Time
Tue., 3–6pm: 3/14, 3/28, 4/11, 4/25 @ MCPL Waupun
A variety of teen-friendly activities! T

Celebrate 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
Sat., 3/18, 10:30am @ MCPL Wausau
Stories, activities and an introduction to the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. C

Building Adventures
Sat., 1:30–3:30pm: 3/18, 4/15 @ MCPL Wausau
Mon., 6:30pm: 3/27, 4/24 @ MCPL Spencer
Children and their families are invited to create together using a variety of building materials! C

Family Fun Night: Who’s Pete the Cat?
Mon., 3/20, 6pm @ MCPL Edgar
Stories, crafts and more! C

Twin STEAM: Duct Tape Palooza!
Tue., 3/21, 4pm @ MCPL Waupun
Create a variety of crafts with colorful duct tape! Tw

Thinkers & Tinkers Week
3/27–4/1 @ MCPL Hatley
Stop by any time to try out fun new technology - 3-D pens, snap circuits and more! C Tw T

Messy Monday
Mon., 10:30am: 3/27, 4/24 @ MCPL Waupun
Slightly messy activities for children under two! C

Children’s Matinée: “Moana”
Mon., 3/27, 11am & 2pm @ MCPL Waupun
Rated PG, 113 min. C

Pokémon Pictionary
Tue., 3/28, 1:30pm @ MCPL Waupun
Players can battle for points by drawing and guessing their favorite Pokémon characters. C Tw T

Spring Craft Day
Wed., 3/29, 1–3pm @ MCPL Waupun
Partake in a wide variety of spring crafts! C Tw

Rain Dance Designs
Thu., 3/30, 12–2pm @ MCPL Rothschild
Decorate a tile and then wash with a solution to create a beautiful watercolor picture! C Tw T

Experience an Hour of Code
Thu., 3/30, 1–3pm @ MCPL Waupun
Experience a wide range of coding activities, from coding games to basic “brick-style” coding. C Tw T

Building Palooza
Thu., 3/30, 1:30–3:30pm @ MCPL Waupun
Get creative with a variety of building materials! C Tw

Minute to Win It for Tweens!
Fri., 3/31, 1:30pm @ MCPL Waupun
Compete in a series of messy games and challenges - each with a 60-second time limit! Tw

Scratch Art Creations
Tue., 4/4, 4–5pm @ MCPL Wausau
Kids can make bookmarks, drawings and other works of art using scratch art paper. C

Future Poets
Fri., 4/7, 1–3pm @ MCPL Marathon City
Celebrate National Poetry Month with writing activities, poetry readings and a scavenger hunt! C

Bookmark Palooza
4/10–4/15 @ MCPL Rothschild
4/10–4/14 @ MCPL Stratford
4/10–4/15 @ MCPL Marathon City
4/10–4/14 @ MCPL Spencer
Fri., 4/14, 11am–3pm @ MCPL Wausau
Celebrate National Library Week by creating bookmarks! Stop by any time. C

Drop Everything and Read!
Wed., 4/12, 2–4pm @ MCPL Mosinee
Make crafts inspired by Beverly Cleary and her literary character Ramona Quimby! C

Double Happiness: Origami and Poetry
Thu., 4/13, 4pm @ MCPL Wausau
Celebrate National Poetry Month by creating origami boxes that we will fill with poetry! C

Family Fun Night: Fairy Party!
Mon., 4/17, 6pm @ MCPL Edgar
Fairy-themed stories, crafts and more! C

Celebrate Earth Day!
Tue., 4/18, 10:30am @ MCPL Hatley
Sat., 4/22, 10:30am @ MCPL Wausau
Celebrate Earth Day with stories, songs and crafts! C

Tween Building Challenge!
Tue., 4/18, 4pm @ MCPL Wausau
Build structures using common household items like clothes pins and wooden craft sticks! Tw

Get Money Smart!
Tue., 4/25, 10:30am @ MCPL Rothschild
Wed., 4/26, 10am @ MCPL Mosinee
Wed., 4/26, 10:30am–11am @ MCPL Stratford
Thu., 4/27, 10:30am @ MCPL Marathon City
A special story time with money management and coin recognition activities for kids! C

Make Your Own Mini Piñatas
Wed., 5/3, 3–5pm @ MCPL Mosinee
Kids can get ready for Cinco de Mayo by creating their own mini piñatas! C

Rock and Read with Leonardo!
Sat., 5/6, 10:30am @ MCPL Wausau
Celebrate Children’s Book Week with a performance by award-winning family musician Leonardo! C Tw

Unless stated otherwise, all events are free, open to the public, and do not require registration.