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DIG IT: Anythink hosts month-long series celebrating gardening and backyard farming

Part of comprehensive 2019 library programming initiative

THORNTON, Colo.–Feb. 12, 2019–This March, Anythink customers are invited to explore all things gardening and backyard farming with Dig It. From indoor planting to creating your own food business, Dig It provides opportunities for people at all experience levels and ages to learn and share new skills. To help meet the diverse interests of the community, Anythink has partnered with a variety of partners and experts, including <u>The GrowHaus</u>, <u>Colorado State University Extension</u>, <u>Butterfly</u> <u>Pavilion</u> and the <u>Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society</u>. Through these partnerships and programs, the library aims to empower individuals to take pride in their passions and environment, while also celebrating Adams County's established agricultural roots. Each Anythink location will host several opportunities for all age ranges to participate.

"As we celebrate Anythink's 10-year anniversary this year, the library staff is reflecting on the interests and passions of our community and creating district-wide initiatives surrounding those interests," says Anythink Director of Innovations and Brand Strategy Stacie Ledden. "From Anythink's community gardens to our annual embryology programs to the goats that have become synonymous with Anythink – not to mention the deep agricultural history we have here in Adams County – gardening and backyard farming are wildly popular. Our community will love the slate of programs we have in store for Dig It this March."

Dig It is the first in a series of three district-wide celebrations hosted by Anythink in 2019. Combined as Dig It | Pop It | Own It, this comprehensive programming initiative provides opportunities throughout the year for the community to discover their passions. In May, Pop It will celebrate all things pop culture in conjunction with <u>Denver Pop</u> <u>Culture Con</u> (formerly Denver Comic Con). In September, customers are encouraged to further develop career and life skills to help them get ahead with Own It. Together, Dig It

| Pop It | Own It provides a platform for Adams County residents to create community, explore culture, and nourish personal and professional aspirations.

– Dig It Programs –

Below is a small sampling of upcoming Dig It programs. For a complete list, visit *anythinklibraries.org*.

Bug Safari with the Butterfly Pavilion Wednesday, March 13, 10:30-11:30 am

Anythink Commerce City, **7185 Monaco St.**, **Commerce City**, **CO 80022** We're going on a Bug Safari! Experts from the Butterfly Pavilion will be our guides as they introduce us to live invertebrates from around the globe and teach about their characteristics, where and how they live, and why they are important in our world. Appropriate for all ages. Participants must be at least 3-years-hold to hold Rosie the tarantula.

Vermiculture with The GrowHaus

Thursday, March 14, 3:30-4:30 pm

Anythink Wright Farms, 5877 E. 120th Ave., Thornton, CO 80602

The GrowHaus is a nonprofit indoor farm, marketplace and educational center with a mission of providing a neighborhood-based food system for its community. Join us to learn about vermiculture, a process that uses worms to decompose organic waste that results in nutrient rich soil. This program is appropriate for grades K-5. Space is limited; registration recommended. Please visit our online calendar to register.

Become a Farmer's Market Vendor with CSU Extension

Saturday, March 16, 10:30 am-1 pm

Anythink Wright Farms, 5877 E. 120th Ave., Thornton, CO 80602

Ever wanted to be a vendor at a farmer's market? Colorado State University Extension will lead this workshop on the Colorado Cottage Food Act, the act that allows for selling food products directly to consumers in the state without licensing. Experts will detail how to safely operate a food business from a home kitchen. Participants will learn about basic food safety, including storage, transport and sales, and will acquire resources for taking the next steps towards achieving your farmer's market dreams. Light snacks will be provided, but feel free to bring a packed lunch. Space is limited; registration required. Please visit our online calendar to register.

Building Raised Planting Beds

Thursday, March 21, 6-7 pm

Anythink Perl Mack, 7611 Hilltop Cir., Denver, CO 80221

Have you dreamed of growing vegetables in your own front yard? This year, make those victory garden visions a reality with help from professional carpenter Ryan Harris. Using simple tools and techniques, you'll learn everything you need to build a raised garden bed. Just add dirt! Best for teens and adults. Space is limited; registration encouraged. Please visit our online calendar to register.

About Anythink[™]

Anythink is a new style of library – a place of unlimited imagination, where play inspires creativity and lifelong learning. Anythink serves the residents of Adams County, Colo., with seven libraries and a bookmobile. With a focus on innovation, Anythink's award-winning approach to library service is recognized by industry leaders and organizations across the globe. For more information, visit anythinklibraries.org.

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