

Alganssee Branch

We had several adults, teens, and children here for Holiday crafts. Everybody had a good time, talking and crafting. We had hot chocolate, tea and cookies for all to enjoy.

The crafting projects were Christmas wreaths, ornaments, and lots of different crafts with bells, ribbons and paper towel rolls. Jessie made sure children had easy crafts to paint and put together.

2016 was a pretty good year, we will try to have a better year in 2017!

Lots of new books, DVDs and magazines for all ages.

Any questions or suggestions please let us know.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jan Clark, Alganssee Branch Manager

Bronson Branch

2016 ended with a couple of very busy weeks at the library. During the Christmas break from school, we held 8 special programs and had a total of 128 children and adults attend. Four movies were shown at noon, Alex Thomas Puppeteer (excellent show) entertained the kids, and laughter could be heard throughout the building,. Joel Tacey came with his Wild Wacky Winter Comedy Show and everyone enjoyed him as usual. Tween & Teen Club and Kidz Crew made gingerbread houses for the holidays and turned into Hansel and Gretel by nibbling on the goodies as they created. The Media Center was busy every day, all day with a waiting list a few times.

This year, our big push will be getting publicity out about the great programs we have going. Steve will be starting a program for Homeschoolers on January 20 and continuing with it every Friday afternoon. We also hope to have the basement open more afternoons once we get the third person here to help.

Beat the Winter Blahs, our adult winter reading program, starts January 10 and will run for 6 weeks.

Steve and I are attending several webinars this month: Mixed-Aged Story-times, Build A Better World Youth Programming Ideas for 2017 SRC, Preschool Storytime Basics, and Playful Building Hands-on Activities. We hope to gather more ideas for programs.

Kimberly visited and filled us in on projects she is working on for the District.

Bronson Friends still have Terri Lynn nuts for sale and are still holding monthly bake sales at the White Star Auction. They are working on fund raising ideas for this year. The loan is at \$26,162.00.

Gearing up for an exciting 2017 here at Bronson and across the District!



- BDL Holiday Open House was a success. Those who attended were treated to music and refreshments as well as an opportunity to shop for last minute Christmas gifts with the Coldwater Friends of the Branch District Library book sale. A special thank you to our business sponsors for the event, Family Fare, Walmart, and Biggby.
- Attended Kiwanis meeting to learn about a potential partnership and literacy outreach program called Schools of Hope. This is a program that United Way and Kiwanis are implementing at local elementary school. It places a community volunteer in a school to assist young readers in achieving their reading goals.
- Developed a Program Evaluation Form to be used at all BDL events. This will hopefully shed some light on how patrons are learning about programs and also ask for suggestions for future programs. This is a tool being used in the whole district.
- The Coldwater Branch will be getting a head start on Spring Cleaning with some much needed weeding of certain collections. This is a continuation of work started in 2016.
- With the start of the new year, I completed my first monthly branch visit. It was great to talk to each of the branches to get an idea of community events and organizations that would be a good fit for the library to have a presence at.

Submitted by Kimberly Feltner

Coldwater Branch

Adults:



Display Case: This month's display case features wheat weaving created by Carole Bolton.



Let it Snow Craft: Primitive wood block crafts are very popular right now. Attendees to this program painted and sanded 3 blocks to create this primitive, decorative craft.



Basic Photography: Dennis James, owner of Dennis James Photography, instructed participants in the use of their cameras. They learned basic camera operations, including lenses, light, shutter speed, balance and more.



Library Bingo: Prizes were awarded to the winners. One lucky player won a \$25.00 gift card at the end of the games.



Coloring Is Not Just for Kids: Due to popular demand, the Coloring is Not Just for Kids group will continue to meet indefinitely on Tuesdays.



Affordable Health Insurance Help: The Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agencies answered questions and gave instruction to those wishing to enroll in Marketplace Insurance or Medicaid.



Staycation: a vacation spent in one's home country rather than abroad, or one spent at home and involving day trips to local attractions.

KIDS PLACE STYLE!

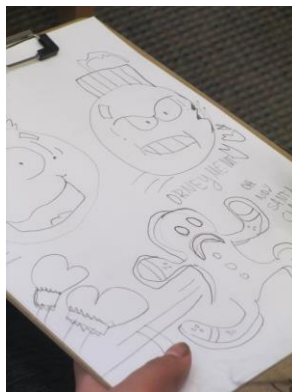
Boring was not an adjective to be heard during Christmas Break in Kids' Place. We were busy and then some. Special storytimes, cartooning, indoor snowball fights, movie marathons, winter concerts, crafts and a very special "Noon Year's Eve" party made up the long list of fun stuff to do!



Penguin Day



Walking like Penguins



Cartooning





Who knew toilet paper could be so much fun?



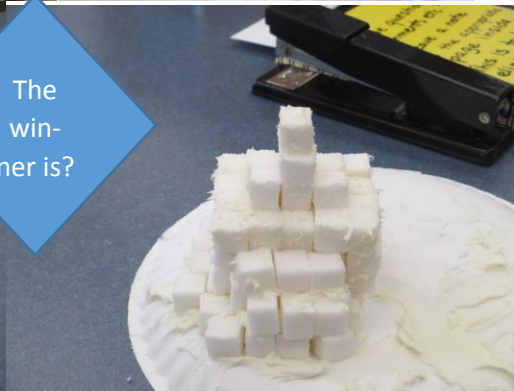
Girls vs. Boys



We've got this igloo competition!



The winner is?





And the fun continues:





And so ended 2016!



We appreciate the following people or organizations:

Bella Waller: Popcorn for our movie marathon

Annelise J: snacks for storytime

Bob & Carol McHolme: Nail polish for our upcoming spa day.

Studio 17: Nail polish for our spa day.

Coldwater Culligan: 3 cases of water for our spa day.

Holiday, Hampton & Quality Inns: Toiletries for our spa day.

Bob Evans Restaurant: Cookies for our spa day!

Empty Nest Book Club: Money for 2017 Summer Reading.



We're making plans for Summer Reading. Our sponsorship letters should be mailed within the week. And we've had some monetary support already pledged or given. So we're off to an encouraging start. Kids' Place staff plans to meet with the Coldwater Recreation Coordinator in February to see how we can partner together this summer. And Linda D. has a long list of potential presenters to contact. We've got 4 events booked as of this report!



Crazy 8 Math Club: Season 4 begins: January 12

Pixilation Workshop: Saturday, January 14

Winter Inside Out Fun: Saturday, January 14

Color Me Pretty: Spa Day: Saturday, January 21

Under the Big Top: Ice Festival Tie-In: Saturday, Jan 28

StoryBook Art: Saturday Feb, 7: "There Was An Old Woman Who Swallowed A Rose."

Make & Take It Valentine Crafts: Saturday, February 11

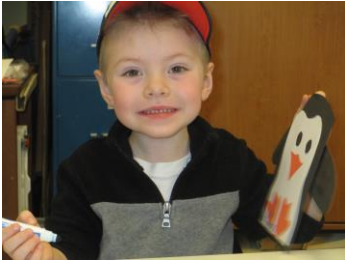
Black History Month Celebration with Margie: Soul Food & Song

March is Reading Month Kick-off with special guest: Cat in the Hat! Saturday, February 25

Our Monday Nights continue with Lego nights, movies, Martin Luther King celebration, Flannel Time Stories and 3-R Craft night.

We are experimenting with sending "Month at a Glance" flyers to the Coldwater Schools. We are going to be looking for new faces at our special events as a result.

Enjoy some of our regular scheduled programming pictures:





Until next month...Adieu.

Quincy Branch

A group of 25 enjoyed the Duct Tape Workshop presented by Joel Tacey on Dec. 29

The Quincy Township Restoration Committee and the Quincy Library Advisory Board were beyond thrilled at the \$50,000 from Quincy's capital funds to be used to pay the Grand River Builders bill. It was quite a relief to the Township Supervisor and he could hardly find words to speak. The front step restoration is scheduled with the same company for April or May, weather permitting.

Weeding and purchasing is taking place at Quincy. Many new books have been purchased already for the Large Print section.

An adult winter reading contest is upcoming in February as well as a quilting presentation for adults by Sue Houchen on Feb. 11 regarding two of Jennifer Chiaverini's books.

Sherwood Branch

Greetings and Happy 2017! It's been a little slow around here at times, so we've been able to utilize some down time for cleaning and weeding. Out with the old ~ In with the new!

Our Tween craft Thursdays are still great!

Summer Reading programs are going on the calendar and I have been reaching out in hopes of adding more as well!

We've scheduled our book discussion for the "One Book - One Community" on March 28th at 4:30pm.

Sincerely,
Traci Counterman, Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Branch

Another year is over and done. It was a great year for our branch.

We started the month with our 3rd annual Breakfast with Santa. Once again, we had an overwhelming response from our patrons and local families. We are happy to report that the men of the First Congregational Church served between 275 and 300 breakfasts. We also had an overwhelming response from corporations that helped with the food for the breakfast as well as goodies for a gift bag from Santa.

Plans are already in the works for our next breakfast.



Judy Gottschalk, Dearth Union Branch Manager