

Alganssee Branch

- We finished stepping stone Project with a total of 10 Adults attending. Along with the Adult craft, there were 10 children working on the craft table. All had a good time.
- Lots of Fall crafts available for Adults, Young Adults and children every Saturday in October. Everybody welcome.
- Lots of new books for all ages with many new non-fiction for children's area.

Any questions or suggestions, please let us know.

Alganssee Branch Manager

Bronson Branch

- I attended the Youth Mental Health First Aid workshop in Charlotte last month and Steve & Krystal attended the YALSA workshop in Portage. We all attended the two days of staff training held at the Coldwater Branch this month.
- Homeschool Escapades have had 5 – 19 attendees in the five weeks of the program. Last week Steve presented a great program of Styrofoam Relief Printing and the kids had a great time. Future programs will be Collage Painting, Storytelling, Puppetry and Stop-Motion Photography.
- *Kidz Crew* will be making their own ghosts this month; working with Legos (always popular); Snap Circuits and a Gaming afternoon.
- Tweens and Teens have the Haunted Library to look forward to, plus *Through the Looking Glass* and *Tellabration*.
- We have author Kathi Waligora visiting later this month to talk about her new book.

Coldwater Branch:

The Coldwater Branch is accepting Seed Donations for the Seed Exchange. Persons can bring their saved seeds to the Coldwater Branch in a container, and complete a donation form available at the Service Desk. The Seed Saver Exchange program is dependent on donations of seed to continue its success. Please help us spread the word!

During the last week of September, the Coldwater Branch recognized Banned Book Week with a display of titles that have been challenged or banned. Banned Book Week is an annual event celebrating an individual's right to read. It highlights the value of free and open access to information. Library users were asked to vote if there were willing to risk jail time to read their favorite book. When the results were calculated 59% of votes indicated "Yes" they would be willing to go to jail to read their favorite banned book.

The Coldwater Friends of the Branch District Library, in partnership with the Branch County Literacy Council, are hosting "A Celebration of the Library and Literacy" on Monday, October 23 at 6pm. This is a joint effort to bring about awareness of the library and literacy. A very special performance from the Bel

Canto Singers at 6:30pm will be a highlight of the event. Light refreshments will be served.

Adults:

The last month saw a very busy schedule for Adult Programming. Classes included the following:

- Musical Performance
- Around the World with Doug & Julia Jackson
- Stamping Craft
- Local Author Kathi Waligora: Book reading and signing
- Matthew Ball "Boogie Woogie Kid"
- Cheese Making Class

The class schedule coming up includes "A Visit with Teddy Roosevelt", "Wine Cork Craft", "The Lewis & Clark Expedition", and "Native American Flute". Visit the Coldwater Branch to pick up information about upcoming programs or online at BranchDistrictLibrary.org

Kids Place:

October brings "Tales from the Crypt", our annual fall reading contest. There are currently have 80 children enrolled with 61 families involved. Registration is still open for children ages 2-12 years. Children can collect participation prizes, meeting goal prizes and of course, top readers at each level along with a prize for the top family of readers. These prizes are McDonald's Fun Meals, Smoothies and Amazon gift cards for the top reader and family prizes.

As always, there were ample programs for children, tweens, and families to attend. Our first Tween Program (for ages 10-12) proved successful with 17 tweens in attendance. They created magnetic slime which awesomely "ate" anything magnetic in its way! Next up for the tweens is "Get Your Glow On" in October with a variety of glow in the dark projects. Tween Programs are scheduled for the third Saturday of the month.

Other fun events included:

- Kids' Place Rocks with rock painting
- Once-in-a-Minion
- Seasonal StoryBook Art.

More seasonal Saturday fun is coming up with some pumpkin decorating "Cutest Pumpkin in the Pumpkin Patch" & "Creatures From the Crypt" featuring critters from Pruess Pets of Lansing!

We're still gathering quotes for our proposed Maker's Space and storage area. It may not happen as fast as we'd like but we're exploring all the options we can to make this vision a reality. Once again, we'll be posting and handing out our Kid

Safe Zone Free Halloween list of local events as a reliable source of information to the community.

Young Adult:

The Teen Space daily is hosting a dedicated group of young adults who are engaging with the library and using the library for a safe place, social interaction and homework help. Consistent, and well attended, programming continues for the Teens including:

- Books & Brownies Book Club
- Teen Trivia
- Book to Movie Club
- Crafternoon

The first ever teen lock in is scheduled for Friday, October 13. Teens from across the county have been invited to get locked in the Coldwater Branch from 7pm-midnight. The first half of the night will be less scary with pizza tasting, catering from The Patio, games (including a Scavenger hunt with library staff in costume) and librarian approved ghost stories. The second part of the evening will be a ghost hunt of the Coldwater Branch with the Southern Michigan Paranormals of Coldwater. Stay tuned to see what they find!

Submitted:
Kimberly Feltner

Quincy Branch

- September adult programs attendance:
 - Author Meet & Greet with Kathi Waligora, Sept 21, **49 attended**
 - "World on a String" by apron aficionado, Julia Baratta, Sept 28, **10 attended**
- Friday Story Hour has resumed after the summer events
- TEEN weekly programming is going well
 - Several Quincy High School 9th grade English classes visited early September
- Branch Managers began meetings for Summer Reading Program cohesiveness for 2018
- Staff training took place for all BDL libraries Oct. 9 & 10
- Lisa will be attending the Annual conference of the Michigan Library Association Oct. 18
- October adult program:
 - "The Orphan Train in Michigan" will be held at the Union Church Oct. 19 @ 6:30 pm; this is a lecture and visual presentation by Michigan Historical Lectures

- As with our Dog Photo Contest in August, we are currently accepting photos of cute cats. The August contest brought over 500 views to our Facebook page. (National Cat Day is Oct. 29). Friends of the Quincy Library will again provide cat treats and toys to the top three winners. (Surprisingly, we had mostly all adults enter photos for the dog contest.)

Quincy Friends will have a meeting Oct. 24 @ 4pm to prepare for the Nov. 3 & 4 Book Sale





Sherwood Branch

Greetings and Happy (early) Halloween!

What a fun month at the Sherwood Branch Library - (as all months are)

The Library is decorated in ghoulish fashion as we prepare for our costume party on Halloween. I've gotten a lot of positive feedback from the community and are expecting a great turn-out! My clerk and I will be greeting our patrons dressed as "Dracula and the Bride of Dracula!" (I will be sure to include pictures in next month's report).

The adult reading program is underway and will come to a close on November 21st. We will draw for prizes at 4pm on that day. We currently have twelve people signed up.

"Story-time for Tots" is slowly picking up - and the "Tween Crafts" on Thursdays has grown even larger! Last week we had fourteen teens and tweens for the program and have had a regular attendance of at least ten. Yay!!

I will be participating in the *Teen Lock-in*, Friday, October 13th, at the Coldwater Branch and am looking forward to lots of fun!

Till next month;

Sincerely,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Branch

- September has been a month of rearranging books in the library. What a task but it is finally finished. Story time has started back up with a story and craft each week.
- We have had many teens' programs this month but with school back in and sports starting our numbers have been down for teen programs. We have had Teen Trivia, Fandom Jeopardy, Crafternoon, Books and Brownies, and Book to Movie.
- I attended a Teen Institute in Portage.
- The annual Pine Wood Derby was held outside the library as part of the Farm to Fork Celebration. 8 adults and 23 kids participated in the derby. Everyone had a great time and I have patrons stating that they cannot wait until next year.





Respectfully submitted,
Judy Gottschalk
Manager