

Alganssee Branch

We had 3 sessions of Adult programs for building a snowman with wooden blocks, with 15 attending altogether. All materials provided. Everybody had a good time, with a unique snowman to take home.

Children that came in with their parents had several Holiday crafts to work on.

We are planning Valentine crafts for all ages in February.

Thanks to Linda Lyshol the parking and ramp for Alganssee Library are all cleaned off when I come in. I really appreciate. I also appreciate Linda, John, Kimberly and Teen Jessica for their visits every week, I always have questions for their help! Gina is also a big help!

Looking forward for a great 2018 year at our Libraries.

Wishing all a wonderful 2018

Alganssee Branch Manager

Bronson Branch

Bronson Branch was strangely quiet over the Christmas break this year. We had special programs and had nice groups attend those but overall so different from other years. Pippin Puppets performed a wonderful show one afternoon, Despicable Me 3 was shown another day and the basement was open several days for kids to play with the marble run, Legos, color pages and play computers.

Our 2018 activities have begun with Kidz Crew having a Lego Challenge, who could make the fastest car, and then create something on the Lego wall. Teens had their Book to Movie program and a completely new group showed up for that. This year we are going to try a couple new programs and see how those go. We have all ages covered in programming now with Toddler Time for 0-2 years, Friday Tales 2-5 years, Kidz Crew 6-10 years, Tween and Teen Club 11-17 years, Teen programs 13-18 years, Homeschool Program, adult programs 18 and up & family programs.

Our first Monday open was actually busy! Many of our regulars came in but we also had folks stop in who did not realize that Monday was a new day for us. Many people expressed their thanks for the new hours.

I contacted the Bronson Township board to let them know the new schedule and they were very happy to hear the news. I attended the Bronson City Council meeting with Linda to let them know the new hours and tell them about our programs. I attended the Bronson School Board meeting and the news of the added day brought applause from one of the board members. While there, I was able to make contact with all three principals and a teacher, set up a meeting with the Anderson Elementary principal and met with her the following day. We had a great discussion and both left the meeting excited about working together. We will be on the schedule to attend their literacy night and kindergarten registration evening in March. Have an appointment to meet with Mr. Heifner from Ryan School later this month.

Many exciting things are planned for 2018!

Coldwater Branch

- The Coldwater Branch will be closed on Sunday, January 21 for Hawver Steam Way and Carpet to clean the carpets. They will also be coming in the following week to also deep clean the chairs.
- Recently the Coldwater Branch experienced an outside water feature, with a pipe bursting in our exterior north east corner of the building. A steady arc of water shot out over our air conditioning unit. Fortunately, Aker Plumbing was able to come right out and get that fixed for us.
- Holbrook Heritage Room: Staff and volunteers have been working to clean and organize the room. The Digital Book Scanner, a gift from the Dave Renshaw family, is now in the room! This will allow us to digitally preserve precious books, yearbooks, local history documents for future generations.

Adults Programs:

Two Adult Programs were held after the start of the new year with a total of 30 attendees! They were Healthy Living for your Brain and Body by the Alzheimer's Association and a Block Snowman Craft. Coming up in February is a heartwarming Valentine's Day Craft.

During the Holiday Season, the Coldwater Branch boasted a wonderful collection of Dickens' Christmas Villages from the private collection of Ken Zielke that was a great festive fit. If anyone is interested in sharing their collections, contact the Coldwater Branch.

Kids' Place:

Programming during the Holidays and Winter Break sure kept the children busy!

- The "Book and Cookies with Santa" was a great success with over 125 caregivers and children in attendance. Steve Kasperski did a great job as Santa with Julie Bucklin taking some great family photos. And of course, the free books and Swallow's Nest gift certificates made the event memorable.
- The most popular of all our Staycation programs proved to be the Tween Snow Party and Frozen Funnies with cartoonist, Jonny Hawkins. The tweens in particular had an afternoon of fun ranging from "Pin the Nose on the Snowman", making igloos from sugar cubes, marshmallows and frosting, to the grand finale of a boys vs girls snowball fight!



Upcoming Programming:

- Get Your Bling On! Jewelry & Bling Box making along with nail polishing/appliques. A local Girl Scout troop is providing the people power for this event.
- Tween Club: Robotics with Ben Miller of the Career Center. Hands on exploration of robotics and a take home project for ages 10-12 yrs.
- Come Sail the Seven Seas with lots of pirate related fun, including an Arrgh-rated story time with Miss Mary. This program is in conjunction with the Coldwater Downtown IceFest.

Staff have been busy working on some potential new designs for the Kids' Place space. Linda has also been working on withdrawing books, Summer Reading Sponsorships, along with planning both summer and spring programs. Angie has been busy keeping our "Grab n Go" bags filled. These bags are conveniently located on the first floor and busy families can grab a special selection of items and run right back out.

Teen Events:

Programming included:

- 5 Programs including: Merry Grinchmas Party, Gingerbread Houses, Teen Trivia, Book to Movie Club, and Crafternoon. Total Attendance for these events was 54 teens. It was a quiet week during the Holiday Break with Teens coming in and out for a short stay or using the computers. We had one teen working on his book report to get ahead of the game!

Upcoming Programs:

- Wild Art: Teens will get the chance to get wild and creative with paint. This will allow them the opportunity to express themselves in a constructive manner
- STEAM Power: Teens will get the chance to develop STEAM skills in programs designed to challenge and educate.
- Ever Popular Writing Club: Teens just can't seem to get enough of the chance to express themselves with the written word!



Submitted
Kimberly Feltner
Branch Manager

Quincy Branch

- 2 teen events were held in December: *Gingerbread House Building* and a *Merry Grinchmas Party*; 10 teens attended the 2 programs
- 17 teens are signed up and are reading for the Teen Read Winter Challenge
- 44 children attended 4 Story Hour programs in December
- Scaffolding is now surrounding our building again, reminiscent of December 2017. Soffit work began, but a problem was found, resulting in additional masonry work. The brick at the top is in bad shape. The cornice that they are replacing is connected to wood which is connected to the brick. This needed brickwork has added another \$15,000 for the Township.

- Over 40 patrons did come in the library on the first Monday we offered new hours.
- Mulders Movers has provided an estimate for our branch for clearing out and storing the contents/shelving from entire main level of our building. The Township plans to repair cracked walls, paint and replace the 1995 carpet. One particular Non-Fiction wall shelving has pulled away the plaster wall, thus perpetuating the need to repair all cracks as well which resulted from roof and water issues over the last few years. (See Capital Request)
- An adult Winter Blahs contest will be offered for the month of February with a goodie basket provided by the Friends of the Quincy Library.

Union Twp. Branch

December started off with Breakfast with Santa. It was held at the First Congregational Church with over 240 people in attendance. Each family was able to have their picture taken with Santa and two of his elves. Santa presented each child with a goodie bag. While families enjoyed a pancake and sausage breakfast Santa's newest elf, the toymaker, called out ticket numbers for a Beanie Baby. Everyone enjoyed the event and are already asking about next year which will be our 5th year for Breakfast with Santa.

Cindy Shattuck of New Leaf Floral was invited to the library for a winter centerpiece. Ten ladies enjoyed making a little Christmas tree complete with ornaments and a cardinal perched in the tree.

We had teen programs of Book to Movie, Gingerbread House Building and a scheduled A Merry Grinchmas. With school closing on Tuesday we did not have anyone here for A Merry Grinchmas which is unfortunate as I am sure the teens would have enjoyed it.

I also visited the preschool twice this month where the kids were able to make a craft and enjoyed a Christmas story each time. Because of bad weather and the school closed for the day I was unable to visit Community Unlimited's after school program. I have rescheduled the American Red Cross Pillowcase Project for February.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Gottschalk
Manager