

Alganssee

We wrapped up the Summer Reading Program with 28 out of 30 children completing the program. We were very happy with those numbers. Our Friends group provided notebooks and folders for each child who finished. The Friends also gave ice cream coupons to the teens and adults who completed the reading program. Storytime ended in July and we are planning on starting back up with it in September. We are working on our programs and craft kits for September through December and will have something for children, teens and adults at the Alganssee Branch.

Kimberly brought the RFID wand to us and we were able to go over our entire collection looking for missing items.

We got the shelves in the second room moved around and books put back in place. The DVD rack arrived and is filled.

I attended the Alganssee Township board meeting and gave a report about the library.

Linda and I worked the library booth at the fair and appreciate air conditioning more and more. I will be attending the Quincy Elementary Open House this week.

Continue working on programs for the rest of the year.

Our BDL 30th Anniversary Open House will be held Wednesday August 25 3:00-5:00.

Lynnell Eash

Bronson

Summer Reading completed and we were pleased with our numbers for the program. We also had wonderful attendance at our summer programs and look forward to starting again in September. I attended the Little Hands Garden Family Fun Festival and held four story sessions for attendees. It was a very fun event and I hope to go again next year. For those wondering, Little Hands Garden is a pick your own bouquet, family run flower and vegetable farm. The owners children have attended storytime in Bronson and they asked if I would come and hold a storytime there. I never turn down a chance to do that so of course I went! We are working on completing plans for fall programs for all ages.

Steve, Jessie and I each took turns working the library booth at the fair. We were able to share news and information with a lot of people.

There will be 5 school open houses held in Bronson this week and we plan to attend all of them.

Our BDL 30th anniversary Open House will be Friday August 20 11:00-1:00

Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

The Coldwater Branch has been quite busy with the end of Summer Reading 2021. This year, we registered 136 children, 21 teens, and 46 adults for the SRP challenge at this branch!

Recently, staff member Ben Lyon has put on creative programs such as tie dye and spray paint art for teens. Ben and fellow public services clerk Cheryl Lawrence worked together to plan a Pet Palooza event with a buffet of DIY dog treats and cat toys. Due to uncooperative weather, we didn't have the patron or pet attendance we hoped for; however, we retooled the program into take-home activity kits that were "sold out" only a few hours after being announced online!

We partnered with the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency to bring a second vaccination clinic to the library. Eleven shots were given out as well as several BDL-branded coffee mugs.

Throughout SRP, we offered weekly activity kits for children of all ages, ending with farm- and jungle-animal-themed kits. Other grab-and-go kits for July included watercolor stencils and beginner calligraphy for teens as well as resin bookmarks for adults.

We will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Branch District Library next week! The Coldwater Branch will be kicking off the festivities on Monday, August 16th, at 11 AM. We encourage all members of the public and the board to swing by for a visit!

Our staff has a lot of exciting events lined up for September and beyond! Look forward to new kits for kids and adults as well as the return of story time, teen anime club, board game night, and family movie screenings, plus a brand new yoga series and even cooking and nutrition classes through MSU Extension.

Submitted by Keeley Briggs

Quincy

Our last event of the Summer Reading Program was "Lunch with Lisa" and we had 15 enjoy oversized books/Story Time and individual Pizza Hut cheese pizzas. We offered 8 Juvenile programs during July with 180 children attending.

This month we offered one last Monday Munchies day as we did once in June and July and a dozen children took advantage of that lunch bag. The hope was for 20 children each month and we gave away 52 lunch bags over the three events. Each bag contained items a child could enjoy if an adult wasn't home (an individual microwave macaroni and cheese, Sun Chips, crackers, fruit snacks, cookie and drink.)

August 9 was National Book Lovers Day and we can never not recognize that one! We had lots of books and goodies to offer adults and children.

For several weeks we will have a September 11th/Patriot's Day display in remembrance of the 20th year of the 9/11 tragedy.

The Shamulus Trust monies have been appreciated and we have purchased juvenile books using up the allotted amount for this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa L. Wood

Sherwood

Greetings from Sherwood and a Happy Summer to all!

The pace in Sherwood has picked up tremendously and we're so happy to see our numbers increase on a daily basis.

It's hard to believe we are already in the midst of Fair week! In fact, I had the opportunity to work a shift at the fair last night and had the pleasure of speaking to over 175 people who stopped by our booth! It was a tiring night, but at the same time I find it exciting to share all of the great things we have to offer to the public and brag about the upcoming programs our branches will be hosting.

As we look toward the fall months it brings lots of programs with it; (Don't forget to submit your recipes for the cookbook I'll be putting together later on this year.) It's a program slated for September but any early submissions are welcomed!

Next week I will be attending Union City's Elementary open-house. Hopefully we can get some new library cards set up and make lots of new friends! I look forward to the day I can get back in the school to read to the classes!

Until next month - best regards,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union

July was all about reading for enjoyment, fun and prizes! We had over 40 children complete SRP along with seven teens and four adults! In addition, five young people completed the Union Township Branch Challenges and received a \$10 gift card to Union Station! Now we are getting ready to kick off the school year...

The "End of Summer Reading" party was enjoyable with Kyle Brisendine of Willow Farm LLC who brought friends! Eleanor and Hobbs were fun guests at the party and loved to be petted by the children. Kyle also demonstrated the art of spinning wool into yarn using a spinning wheel. Each attendee received a goodie backpack, a prize from the Friends of the Union Twp Branch, and several books from the prize cart. Looking forward to 2022 SRP with an ocean theme...



Throughout the month, we continued to offer Grab 'n Go craft kits that were critter related. Kangaroos from the desert (7/5), Create a Pet (7/12) and an Alpaca (7/19) wrapped up our summer of "Tales and Tails". The Lit Kit featured Amazing Tigers! and a fun tiger craft with links to making more animals and creating their own zoo! The newest Horsey Lit Kit contained materials to make their own horse rubber stamp. Cilantro was the featured Spice Club offering. We also have a Teen craft (CD Case Maze-7/26) and an Old Time Craft (Papermaking).

On the virtual side of things, I attended School Library Journal's Picture Book Palooza and won Tales of a Dairy Godmother: Chuck's Ice Cream Wish by Viola Butler from Feeding Minds Press to add to the collection. I also caught the Junior Library Guild's presentation with author Elisha Cooper. I won a copy of his book Yes & No at the Shenandoah University Children's Literature Conference so was excited to see his work space and listen to the discussion. Speaking of discussion, I was informed that my proposal "A is for Ag in the STEAM equation" was accepted for the Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy Conference in October. I will present and then attend the conference. I attended last year and enjoyed it so am pleased to go again this year. The theme is outreach so hoping gain some insights and practices to use here in Branch County!

As we look to August, there is a full month of community outreaches that we will participate in. Judy and I will each work at the BDL booth during the Branch County Fair. We will also be making appearances at the various school open houses including "Charge into Kindergarten". The end of the month has a couple of exciting days at the library. On August 27 from 2 to 4 pm, we will be hosting our open house for the BDL 30th



anniversary celebration. The next day is "Celebrate the St. Joe" and Union City folks are providing a number of fun activities all related to the river. The library will have a Storywalk, a craft, and a spinning wheel demonstration. We encourage everyone to stop by both events and enjoy the Lucille E Dearth Union Township Branch!

Looking forward to seeing you in August!

Julia Baratta, Union Twp Branch Manager