

Alganssee

We had our second Kid's Craft Hour and again had a nice turn out . The children made Name Snowflakes by writing their names in block letters on a folded circle. Once cut out they had their very own unique snowflake to take home.

Seats at the Adult Craft hour are in high demand and I think once better weather arrives we may be turning people away due to lack of space. We might have to schedule a second program to fill the demand!

Now we are working on the Teen programs and trying to find ways to bring teens in for those.

Our most popular service offered right now would be copy making. There are days when we make over 100 copies for some of the local schools. Of course every time they come in we also talk about them borrowing books for their schools and hope we can change their minds.

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Bronson

Our Lego Family Fun Night in January had 2 in attendance and our February Perler Bead and Shrinky Dinks Family Fun Night had 12. It was interesting to see the range of ages who attended. March will be our Electronics night so looking forward to having a good attendance there.

Tweens and Teens have been using the library more after school and we can usually talk them into attending a program while they are visiting. Word is getting out!

We had a smaller group visit this year for our Take Your Child To The Library Day but it was great to see those who attended.

The elevator has finally been fixed! We hope there won't be any other problems with it this year.

Attended the Bronson Advisory Board Meeting, Friends Meeting and Bronson Township Meeting in February. (all on the same night)

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

For Take Your Child to the Library Day, the Coldwater Library (Saturday 2/5) was busy all day long. We had 92 kids visit Kids' Place over the course of the day to participate in activities.

Teen Services Coordinator Sandi had her first in a series of SAT prep classes, with 10 in attendance. Even more are signed up for subsequent sessions. This is an amazing program that I am so happy the library is able to offer thanks to Sandi's expertise!

Kimberly put on a program to a packed room on how to use our Libby service. By popular demand she's working up one for Hoopla next!

Another packed room was there for a lecture on Irish Immigration to Michigan by authors Elizabeth Rice and Pat Commins.

Other programs this past month include Game Nights, Anime Clubs, teen movie nights, STEM challenges, Lego time, and of course story time!

Our two new Coldwater clerks, Brittany and Erica, started and have been going through all the training. We are very happy to have them both on board!

Heavy ice, assisted by a tween's errant foot, brought down a downspout on the east side of the Coldwater library near the main entrance. No one was injured, and we should be able to get the downspout mounted again, but won't be able to until the weather improves. We continue to try to secure a contractor for exterior repairs to the library.

In the absence of a branch manager at present, Jessica, Kimberly, Cheryl Lawrence, and John have been filling in the gaps as best we can. Thanks to all the public services staff for keeping things running smoothly!

Quincy

We are currently offering our Winter Blahs contest for adults during the month of February. A goodie basket and gas card are the prizes provided by the Friends of the Library.

Take Your Child to the Library day brought in approximately 40 people during the four hour Saturday morning. Patrons enjoyed multiple board games out on the tables, a scavenger hunt to help familiarize them with the library and snack goodies to take home.

An adult Cookies, Cocoa & Coloring event was offered on an icy Saturday morning, with a few attending. We usually offer this event once in February and once in March to provide a come and go morning out for patrons with Ghirardelli hot chocolate and treats.

We have great kits planned and ready through the summer. The patrons still seem pleased that we offer one kit for each age group each month.

Sandi was a big help when she visited during a teen program recently and could take over when I had to assist patrons at the desk. It gave her an opportunity to interact with the teens. Her first program at Quincy fell on a weather closure day, but we look forward to her next program with high hopes as teen attendance has been low.

Looking forward to March and the occasional warmer days it will bring,

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wood

Sherwood

Greetings from Sherwood!

We haven't had a lot going on this month, but we do have some great programs coming up a little later this month. Today we're watching Gnomeo and Juliet for our "love is in the air " program. We'll also be enjoying some snacks. Thursday we have an adult craft "beaded jars." We've done this program in the past and people really seemed to like it. Next month is looking to be busy - we've got quite a bit on the calendar of events!

Book and movie orders are going well and we're also getting stocked up on program supplies for the year!

Until next month -

Stay safe and warm

Best regards,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.

We are ready for 2022!

Starting the new year right, both Judy and I completed our MEL Maven Badge course which exposed us to the many offerings the Michigan Electronic Library has to share. I also completed the online Beginner's Workshop which will fulfill a State



Aid requirement for BDL. In other virtual interactions, I attended the Newbery on Newbery! webinar featuring four Newbery-winning authors and a Mock Newbery committee Zoom discussion. It has been very exciting as the Newbery Award celebrates 100 years of honoring children’s literature and authors! I watched the virtual Youth Media Awards and was pleased to have a number of the winning titles in our collection!



We continue to offer Grab ‘n Go kits and are always happy to see the kits being appreciated. In January, we gave out a Sock Snowman (1/3), Creating STEAM’s Ocean’s Mystery Bag (1/3), Old Time Crafts’ Temari Balls (1/10), and Winter Sledding Guy (1/31). The Spice Club selection was Poppy Seeds (Think warm Lemon Poppy Seed Bread!) and the Lit Kit was Art. A new Horsey Lit Kit was also created and offered.

We are now using the stand along magazine racks for seasonal passive programming items such as coloring sheets, word games, and puzzles.

I helped with the planning of the MI Youth Quest for the Winter Quest Mystery for teens. It started on February 1 and will go until March 15. This is a statewide virtual program created to encourage teen involvement in the libraries and awareness of what libraries have to offer.

Thanks for your continued support of libraries and literacy!

Julia Baratta, Union Township Branch Manager

