

Alganssee

Our March programs: Preschool storytime had a beach party and leprechaun gold hunt. Teens were invited to hear Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (BCCADSV) and discuss how young people can be active contributors and make a difference in their community. The Adult Craft created jewelry using bottle caps and resin. We had a great Kids Craft Creating with Duct Tape. One little girl made a very stylish purse and then filled it with library books to take home to read.

We will have our One Book One County book discussion on March 30 at 1:00.

I have talked with the Wood family about setting up the little room to the north of our adult book area as a behind the scenes work area. Set up a table for staff to prepare craft kits and get programs ready. It would also be an area where a staff person could sit to work on the laptop. They are agreeable to the idea and we will work together to move some furniture and get things set up.

Attended the Alganssee township meeting to give them a monthly report. They are pleased with the way the branch is coming along.

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Bronson

Steve had a great Tween and Teen program with 10 kids attending. The program was called, A Minute to Win It! Crazy, funny challenges that had the kids laughing and cheering each other along. There was also food so that was a plus. Teens also attended the Branch County Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (BCCADSV) program.

Our Family Fun Night - Electronics and a small group but they sure had fun. Dot and Dash were a big hit. Adult Craft was Creating with Pistachio Shells. Always a fun program and attendees are pleased with what they create. Our One Book One County book discussion will be held on Thursday March 24 at 6:00.

Jessie set up a display of books that date back to 2018 that have never been checked out. So many books came in during the pandemic shut down time and people never saw them. We have had several borrowed already so it is a good display to have.

I was asked to speak at the Homeschool Co-op at Lockwood Church during their community helpers program. Presented to 38 children and 7 adults and invited them to our Homeschool program at the library too.

I was invited to attend a Connect Effect Preparation meeting at the Bronson High School and asked Sandi Podolan to attend too. "Bronson Jr./Sr. High School has partnered with L.A. Stewart Presentations to bring a school and community climate improvement program titled, Making It Cool To Be Kind! (MIC2BK) Through this program, students at Bronson High School will learn how to treat one another with kindness, respect, and encouragement both in person and online. They will also be presented with an opportunity to positively impact others in their community through a 2-day event called The Connect Effect Conference." The library will take part in the conference on Friday March 25th. In the morning we will attend an organizational fair for the students which gives us a chance to talk about the library and our importance in the community. In the afternoon we will meet with students to plan implementation of proposed service projects to help others in the Bronson community. My proposed service project will be the installation of 1 or 2 Little Free Libraries. The teens will hear our ideas and then they get to decide which projects they would like to work on. I think this will be a fun and interesting program to be part of.

For the first time in 3 years the library has been asked to come to Kindergarten Registration at Anderson Elementary School on Tuesday March 29th. So happy to be a part of this program again.

Spring is right around the corner!

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

The Coldwater Branch continues to be busier, a welcome change from this time last year. Coldwater staff have worked like champs this past month on cleanup projects and a major catch-up on purging expired patron records to conform to our recently updated privacy policy. They verified and deleted just under 6,000 of the 9,000 total deletions, and in record time!

We are excited to have a quote to present to you for painting the exterior. Also, the public copy machine died after 6 years of use. The refurbished replacement was \$2000, inside of the Director's purchasing authority, and should be installed in the next few days.

The Branch County Literacy Council is resuming in-person instruction at the Coldwater Branch.

We look forward to Christina Holibaugh joining us as the new Coldwater Branch Manager next week, and we welcome Elizabeth DiDonato as our new Coldwater representative on the BDL Board!

Programs offered this month*Children*

Story times, STEM challenge

Teens/Tweens

Anime Club, Art Club, SAT Test Prep, March Madness Book Brackets, Poetry Writing

Adults/All Ages

Emergency Preparedness, One Book One County Discussion, Game Night, Grab and Go Kits

Submitted by Jessica Tefft, Kimberly Feltner, and John Rucker

Quincy

We offered an adult Cookies, Cocoa & Coloring event again this month.

The February adult Winter Blahs contest had 159 entries. The Friends of the Library provided a goodie basket and a \$25 Meijer card. Both winners were very pleased.

Our Grab 'n' Go kits are often all gone before the week is done. We are pleased patrons still enjoy them and want them to continue.

The additional teen and children's programs have been scheduled for our branch with Teen Coordinator, Sandi Polodan, and Children's Coordinator, Valerie Albright. Their programs sound like great fun.

The One Book, One County book discussion will take place Saturday, March 26 at Quincy, facilitated by Jeanne Berg once again. The non-fiction book selection is "Written in Bone".

Programs are all set through the summer as well as Summer Reading prizes and ideas. Hopefully this will be of help to the next Branch Manager. I'll be anxious to see the great ideas a new individual will offer.

My last day at the library will be March 30. I have so enjoyed my 22 years with the Branch District Library System and have certainly been enriched by my time here. I have thanked the Quincy Library Advisory Board for their outstanding dedication to this library branch over the years. The Quincy Township, local NIKA Club, and the BDL Board are to be commended as well for the great support.

Respectfully submitted for the final time,

Lisa Wood

Sherwood

Greetings from Sherwood ~ Spring is in the air!

We've had a solid attendance for our kids and teen programs this year!

We had an adult program earlier this month that had pretty low attendance, but there were things that came up for others who intended on coming. We have a couple more adult programs coming up later this spring and into summer, so we'll work on getting that attendance a little higher.

We've been weeding our shelves, making room for the new materials.

Book and movie orders are going smoothly.

We'll be working on some Spring cleaning in the afternoon of our staff inservice day. We've got a couple of cabinets that seem to, on occasion, eat things, much like a dryer eats socks!

When it gets a little warmer out and I'm able to open the windows, I'll be repainting the floors. I'm not happy with how the last paint has held up. We're definitely not using the same brand, so hopefully next time it holds up much better!

Until next month,

respectfully,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager



Union Twp.



We started our month with a jar of conversation hearts and a game of guessing how many there were. Judy set it up with 483 candies contained in the jar and Lynn Wages guessed the closest number, winning the jar. We have now planned an activity a month for families to participate in such as guessing games and scavenger hunts. They really enjoy the time at the library and it gives them a chance to be familiar with the building, collection and the set up of

the facility. We are currently running a St. Patrick's Day scavenger hunt with small prizes for completing the hunt and new books if they find the large leprechauns.

The Grab 'n Go kits for the month included a Heart Wreath for children (2/7), Creating STEAM's Valentine Puppets (2/7), Teen Potpourri Box (2/28) and Paper Roses for the Old Time Crafts (2/28). Oregano was the Spice Club selection (think Italian food!) and the Lit Kit was a mystery book.

Our weekly Branch Manager meetings kick off every week on Zoom and we had our first Summer Reading Program (SRP) planning meeting on February 1. Other virtual meetings included SRP at the Detroit Zoo (2/15) and MI Youth Quest update meeting (2/16). I attended a webinar about the Best New Picture Books published in 2021 (2/23) and was pleased to see that we owned several of the titles mentioned.



Through the month of February, the table display featured several of the books that were named at the ALA Youth Media Awards. We were excited to share these award-winning titles with our younger patrons!

In-person programming began in February with Take Your Child to the Library Day and the Union Twp Branch offered cookies and cocoa, make a newspaper pot and plant a literary seed, and the Valentine guessing game. Sandi from Teen Services also conducted a couple of programs on Wednesdays.

Thanks for your work on the BDL board!



Julia Baratta, Union Township Branch Manager

We also received some sweets and appreciation from our patrons...all on the same day!! Very thoughtful...

