

## Alganssee

March was a great month for material circulation. We've had most of the Amish school teachers utilizing the copier for prints, but only a few checking out books for the schools. This month we had a few more begin borrowing books. We've also had new homeschooling families begin using our materials and programs. It was also a busier month for patrons requesting computer help.

Our Adult programs began with Pipe Cleaner Flower Bouquets. They did turn out quite lovely, and I was hacked by our attendees for my lack of crafting skills. We started a new program, Coffee and Craft, where adults can bring in a craft to work on, or just come in to socialize with other adults. We wrapped up the month with a Homemade Dryer Sheet class.



Storytime was fun, as always. We began with *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* and *Pigs A to Z* to kick off our month of exploring letters and their sounds. We fed our cardboard pig stacks of pancakes after they matched big and little letters. Paula saved the day with some bear books when I realized that I had left the books on my desk while packing the storytime bag with craft supplies. We colored pictures of bears while learning about them. The following week we finally got to read our book, *A Bear Ate Your Sandwich* and created letter sandwiches. (A BAD sandwich was Bread, Apple and Donut.) We wrapped up learning about frogs and played frog life cycle memory. It worked well since we had a lot of big kids during spring break.

Sneaky Squirrel has acquired a new member. The kids explained the club mission and got to crafting.



STEM began with Mission Demolition. The kids got tore apart a laptop that Erica Ewers had donated and other electronics. Light up Cards was my favorite project this month. One of our girls drew a dragon on her card and used a red light to make its eyes glow. It was awesome! All the kids were so creative. Snap Circuits was by far their favorite project. Potato Power was great for their math skills.

Our Friday programs have all been good, but Museum Party was packed. We had 25 attendees in our library. They put together a 3-D puzzle of Remy. Searched the library for Dexter, who had stolen the library keys. There was a bubble gum blowing contest with the Easter Egg Island Head on an island of dum-dum suckers. They danced around a "campfire" like cavemen. The favorite activity was the war between the Cowboys and Romans. They made Lincoln log forts and created catapults to fling ping pong balls at the enemy camps.

I attended the Alganssee Friends Meeting, where they made plans to host the County Friends of the Library Meeting next month. We had our One Book One County discussion of the book, *Remarkably Bright Creatures*. The Summer Reading Program activities have been submitted for the next event guide and online calendars.

Submitted by Teresa Shilling

## Bronson

Spring has been a busy time at the library this year. We started the first day of spring by attending Anderson Elementary's Kindergarten Registration and setting up a table with information about what the library has to offer. The next day we joined United We Read in going to the local schools to read to the kids. Jessie and I read at Anderson and Steve read at St. Mary's.



During spring break we held our second Stuffie Sleepover and this year 40 stuffed critters spent the night at the library. We took photos of the animals watching a movie, having snacks, playing games, doing puzzles, having storytime, riding the elevator and many more activities. The next day the kids came to collect their stuffed friend and enjoy a pizza party. Each child received a craft made by their critter and photos of the fun they had.



Our Homeschool program varies in attendance but one week we had exceptional attendance with 23 children plus parents coming to the program. The same day our Stories and More program had 17 children plus adults attend.

For the great eclipse on April 8th we handed out 350 glasses and set up the tv to broadcast the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse:Through The Eyes of NASA program. We had many phone calls and many new people in the doors asking for glasses the morning of but by then we were out of glasses.

Headstart will be bringing 54 children to tour the library in April and we have already started taking reservations from the elementary schools for May tours.

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

## Coldwater

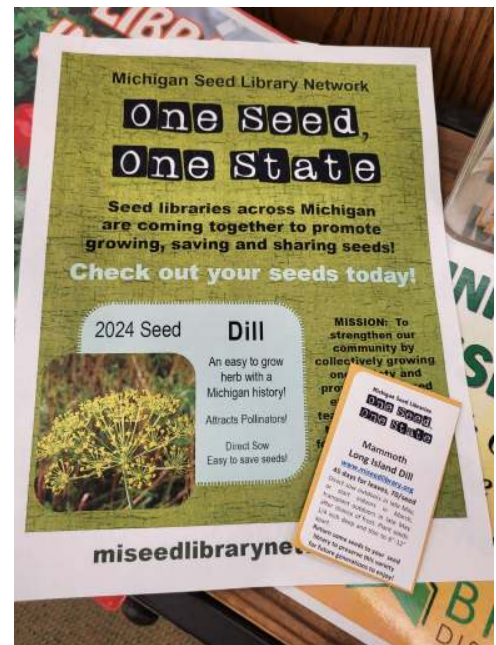
March was a huge success for the Coldwater Branch. We hosted a standing room only, popular program Soarin' Hawk Raptor Rehabilitation. Over 125 people attended this informative program. The group of volunteers brought 4 raptors and explained about wildlife conservation and uniqueness of each species. Speaking from experience it was intimidating being in the presence of such powerful predatory birds.



April 1st started our carpeting project and I am not fooling! This project has been moving at a faster rate than projected. The teen space has an entirely different look. We replaced the carpet with vinyl in both basement staff areas. The project will continue upward till completed.



April has been off to a great start. April is National Garden Month and Toni has added dozens of seeds to the seed library and received our seed of the state; heirloom Dill. We also have several Earth friendly programs in April including a Spring Floral Tree Craft, Native Bee House Craft and an Earthwise Program.



Providing the eclipse glasses gained the library a ton of attention. Coldwater gave away over 700 pairs of eclipse glasses. Library guests lined up at the door on April 8, waiting for our branch to open, people eager to receive eclipse glasses. We started distributing the glasses two weeks prior to the eclipse.

The Summer Reading Program schedule has the Coldwater Calendar packed. We will kick off Summer Break with a visit from Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary. We have programs every day of the week. Nicky, our Teen Space Coordinator, has received a grant from the Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council for a BMX Stunt Show, "Wonder Wheels." This event will take place at Heritage Park on Friday, July 26 at 5:00 PM.

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

## Sherwood

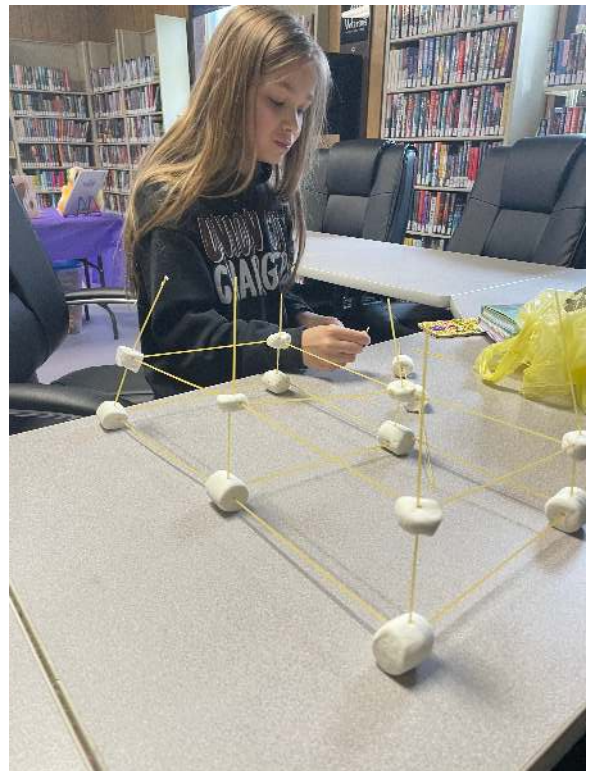
Greetings from Sherwood!

We have had a lot of successful programs this spring.

We had the moss Easter Bunny program for the adults last month and it was well received. The finished products were very cute and everyone had a great time.

Our littles made Spring Wreaths. Their wreaths turned out so good! The kids were wild and there was lots of fun to be had.

We did a marshmallow and spaghetti STEM program that the kids loved. Not sure if they loved the program or just loved eating the program, but we had a lot of fun!



Last week we did a "Golden Ticket" passive program. We've hidden 20 golden tickets in random books of all genres to be checked out. We've had quite a few kids win and one adult. When they find a golden ticket, they bring it to the desk to check out their book and collect their chocolate candy bar! We then showed the new "Wonka" movie on Friday to correlate with the theme and had several people in attendance. We served popcorn, various treats and of course, smiles. :) The golden tickets are still in the books and we're still giving out chocolate!



We also had our book discussion in March. Jeanne Burg facilitated the discussion. We didn't have many attendees but we sure enjoyed discussing the great book, "Remarkably Bright Creatures."

We are handing out our solar glasses to patrons. They think it's pretty cool that we have them. (Thanks, John!)

Materials ordering is going well and we are gearing up for our next round of programs.

Until next month,

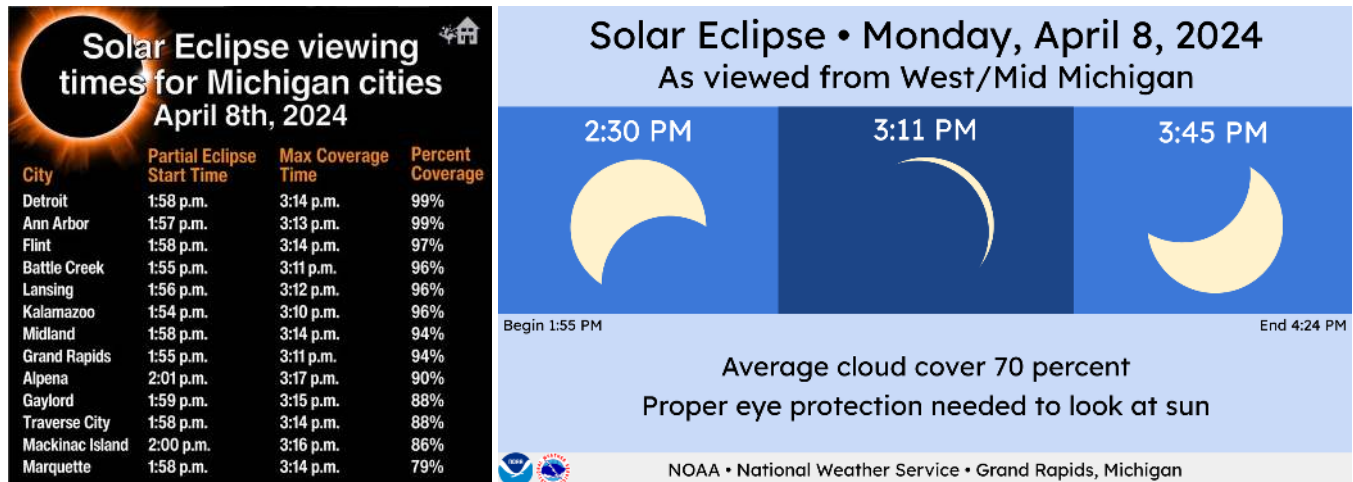
Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

## Union Twp.

April Showers Read for Hours! April is finally here and we are ready for some nice weather and the Eclipse viewing!



Looking forward to Monday's Eclipse and we are almost out of the eclipse glasses and have already given out 50 yesterday. The word is out for sure! Hope everyone has a chance to see this amazing Solar Eclipse viewing!



Upcoming Programs/Events include Celebrate Gardening with Miss Andrea, Family Board Game Fun, Storytime, DIY Puzzles, Earth Day Craft Kits, and Staff In-Service Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our daily scavenger hunts are still a huge hit and every two weeks we have a different theme and the kids are bringing in their friends to try it out. Next month programs include DIY Yarn Flower Creations, Storytime, Handmade Mother's Day Cards, Scrabble Game Day, Book Tasting Event, Movie Day, DIY Watercolor Tile Coasters and a Board Meeting here at Union.

Meghan has very busy over here with her creative side with new signage around the library and is currently working on a Dewey Decimal poster for the kids and families to reference. She has also moved a couple sections around and even made room for the board games which are a huge hit after school. We are working together to finalize all the programs for the remaining year. Just love her great ideas and organization!

We are looking forward for April 22 In-Service Day because we have quite a few projects in mind. I will be bringing some materials back to the storage unit and also some used books for the Book Sale. Dusting, cleaning and purging will also be on the agenda for the day. Can't wait for lunch as well - thank you to Jessica for setting this up! I will be attending a Township Meeting this month and I am hoping that some of the Friends Group here at Union will be attending the County Friends Group meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup> hosted by the Friends of the Algansee Library. Gearing up for Summer Reading and finalizing our passport project for the kids this Summer.

Submitted By Maria Piper