

#### BRANCH REPORTS June 2017

# Algansee Branch

- We had 2 main programs in May, Mother's Day Flower Pots and Armed Forces Day. The patrons painted flower pots and planted flowers to take with them. We furnished all of the materials. Jessie Clark plans all of the crafts, I am very thankful for her help at our Library.
- For Armed Forces Day, cards were available to send a note to our troops overseas. We have 8 cards all ready to send out.
- A total of 15 patrons attended our programs for the month.
- Summer Reading sign-up will start the week of June 12th and continue with a program from, Ann Arbor Hands on Museum, on June 17th at 12pm. We have a lot of projects going on with this program, it should be fun for everyone. We hope to have the program outside under awnings! Everyone is invited.
- We will have two more Summer Reading "Build a Better World" programs in June and July. We have planned for a fun summer, and hope we have a good crowd!
- We have a new flagpole and flag put up, and give Thanks' to Jeff and Austin Wood. I am so happy to have a regular flagpole up. I feel better about opening the Library with our flag in sight!

Respectfully Submitted Algansee Branch Manager

# **Bronson Branch**

Summer Reading is off and building! (Build A Better World, our theme for this year)

- One hundred forty-three adults, teen, kids and toddlers have signed up so far and we keep adding more every day.
- We had 16 classes come to tour the library and hear about our summer programs. I was able to go to Ryan School and speak to all grades about the programs too. The High School continues to help promote the teen programs for us and that has helped tremendously.

- We held the Tween/Teen Mystery night with "The Case of the Looney Librarian". The kids had a blast and so did all the volunteers and staff who were our actors in the mystery. We will definitely be doing more Mystery programs for kids and teens.
- Steve and I attended Coffee and Chat at the Head Start to talk with parents about the library. We also got to read to the children and visit with them for a bit.
- We attended the 5<sup>th</sup> grade welcome night at the High School and handed out information about the libraries and how to get library cards.
- Family Lego Night was a success and we will hold more of those.
- We have a full summer planned with 5 special entertainers coming in, Storytime for 0-5 year olds, Crafts for 6-10 yr olds, Programs for 11-18 yr olds and events for the whole family.

#### Be sure to join a Summer Reading Program at your local library!

### **Coldwater Branch**

First, I would like to thank the board again for allowing the Coldwater Branch to be closed on May 22 and May 23. The book move took both days and in that time staff moved close to 10,000 items. In the basement, the Young Adult collection is at home in the new Teen Space. Adult Fiction and Non-Fiction are both present in the brightly-lit third floor. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the Coldwater Friends of the Branch District Library who were a huge part in helping BDL weed the collection. Countless hours were spent sorting books for their book sale and boxing up others to be sent to Better World Books. Without the assistance of Jeanne Berg, LuAnn Watson, and other Friends, we would have never been able to quickly and efficiently clean out the collection in time to move the books. The Friends are also keeping the outside of the Coldwater Branch looking great with planting and maintaining the flower beds. It is nice to walk up and see all their hard work in bloom!

#### Adult Events:

- This month's display case is an assortment of tools from Judy Groholske, volunteer with the Holbrook Heritage Room. It is a great collection covering a variety of tools used for a multitude of circumstances.
- Programming
  - Coloring Club: Even into the summer, our dedicated participants of the coloring club make an appearance every week.
  - Rare Books: Julie E Moore, owner of Sheldon Fine Books since 1974, will presented a brief lecture on the subject of rare book collecting. Patrons were able to bring and have her evaluate a personal book.

- Downsizing and Planning for "Peace of Mind": A great program for those who wanted to prepare their important documents for an emergency situation that could happen to anyone.
- Interested in Buying a Home: An area specialist for the USDA Rural Development authority treated participants to information on how to purchase a home.
- Stop Motion/Time Lapse Animation: Photographer Dennis James was back to teach how to photograph multiple objects over time and turn them into creative animations. As always his classes are popular with those who are interested in learning more about cameras and photography.
- Holland and Belgium in the Spring: Travel with Dolores Tichenor, retired math professor from Trine University, to various places in Holland and Belgium in an hour or less. Her photos and video and descriptions will help you learn about these two countries or help you reminisce about your visits there.
- Summer Reading Program: The Reading Contest has been set up and will start the week of June 19. Adults can read a book and then fill out a simple reading review and be entered into a weekly drawing for one of the 6 gift cards for various locations.

### Kids' Place News:

- Programming:
  - Mother's Day Event: A group of moms and children spent the morning making unique window clings, painting tote bags and having their nails painted on Saturday, May 13, as well as enjoying the refreshments provided. This program was made possible through the generous financial support of Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial. The following volunteers also provided the necessary help to make this a memorable morning: Amey Elkins-Little, Patty Roberts, Quincy Cadet Girl Scouts along with Shay Mains and Hannah Jackson.
  - Who Gives A Quack?: What fun was had by the group of children and adults who attended our story time. For this event, staff reached out to Coldwater Hospice to help promote the 2017 Annual Duck Race by having Fluffy the Duck Mascot join in on the fun. Miss Mary read stories, provided a snack, and craft. Fluffy gave the children a rubber ducky and then waddled them down to the Meeting Room for a visit with some other special ducky friends.
  - End of School Year Fun: During this time, we ended our regular Spring/School Programming. It was a sad time for Kids Place staff since several of the young patrons start school next year and we will no longer see them weekly!
  - Our Home School events ended with a bang with special guests Mike Lyshol and Cindy G. who shared stories of living in Alaska This was the



final wrap up of a 2-year adventure exploring the USA!

- School Visits: One from the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class from St. Charles and the other the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grade ESL classes from Jefferson. Both participated in a visual scavenger hunt involving library services, items found in Kids' and other library related information.
- Jefferson Elementary Visit: This by far was the most unique of Linda Dull's recent presentations. For this, Curtis Odom – IT Dept., videotaped Linda and a young family as they "explored" Kids' Place, how to apply for a library card and learned about the library. The Jefferson Students were amazed that Linda was on TV! The class consisted of ESL students who had never seen the library before. They were so excited to "see" the library that they were invited to come visit, which they did the following week! All the children during their visit were registered for Summer Reading. Staff look forward to continuing to build relationships with the schools represented but more importantly with the children they work with.
- Summer Reading Presentations: Linda Dull participated in the Lakeland School Parents Day. She presented to 2 different parent groups regarding library services and summer reading. Following the presentations, she was available at an information table where she registered children for Summer Reading! Linda also represented BDL at the Coldwater City Parks Summer Programming Parents night and shared library information and promoted Summer Reading. Children could sign up for summer reading and many did!

Teen Happenings:

- The Teen Services Librarian, Jessica Tefft, and I spent 2 days at Coldwater High School talking to teens regarding the library and Summer Reading Program. These visits are so important to inform students (and teachers) services that BDL has both to educate and entertain them! We talked to over 100 students in those two days and created a great new relationship with 2 teachers at CHS. Students could sign up for Summer Reading on the spot and many took advantage of that!
- Programming:
  - Teen Writing Club: Teens came together to create unique stories on the spot. They were given the first 6 words of the story and then were challenged to create the rest. The stories were truly creative and everyone had a great time.
  - Youth Advisory Council Meeting: This group, a combination of Coldwater and Quincy Teens, was instrumental in helping design the Teen Space and obtain the grant from the Community Foundation. It was exciting to show them the progress that library staff had in the last month in helping to create the Teen Space. They will continue to help shape Teen programming across the district as we hope membership continues to grow with teens from every service area.
  - Teen Trivia: Since the weather was so nice, Teen Trivia was held outside and a competitive group of teens battled it out for bragging rights of who knew the most facts in a variety of categories. The winner of course was awarded a prize!
  - Teen Crafternoon: A monthly event where the library supplies all the crafts and teens get creative. For this month, teens made decorative mugs either for themselves or for a special person in their life.

As you can see all three departments (Adults, Kids and Teens) are keeping the library very busy with programming. The staff at the Coldwater Branch, as all other locations, are working hard to provide their communities fun, educational, and FREE things for our community to do!

Submitted: Kimberly Feltner Coldwater Branch Manager

## **Quincy Branch**

- The Restoration Committee reported that funds are still available for the front step work, which is to begin this September. The gentleman with the expertise suffered a broken leg, so the timing will work out fine for after the summer reading program busyness.
- Suzi Parron, author of "Following the Barn Quilt Trail" gave a wonderful presentation for a group of about 25.
- President Lincoln had a good crowd listen to his speech from the library front steps. We are hearing that the Little River Railroad may be down for 10 months next year for boiler work, so that annual event may suffer without the train ride to the Quincy Park.
- The Friends of the Quincy Library had a good book sale and gave the proceeds to the library restoration, as well as a local NIKA ladies club that gave bake sale proceeds to the same fund.
- Summer Reading Program sign up began last week with over 200 children having come into the library already. The hope is to continue signing up many middle and high school students.
- Adults are also offered a program with a chance to win a gas card.
- Quincy is offering two programs each week through the end of July.

# **Dearth Union Twp. Report**

- This month has been busy finishing up my school visits and preparing for our summer reading program.
- I made three visits to the preschool programs and on my last visit I talked to the students about our summer reading program and give them each a handout about the reading program and activities planned for this summer.
- Rosemary, my clerk, and Traci from Sherwood participated in the High School and Middle School Resource Nights and talked to over 800 students and parents.

- My last visit to the afternoon program for Community Unlimited was spent talking about our summer program. Each child was then able to make a small gift for their mother for Mother's Day.
- I also had a program for our little patrons to make a gift for their parents for Mother's Day.
- Our bird house program where patrons could make a bird nest box or a bird feeder was very popular. This program was sponsored by our Friends of the Library.
- Each week I put out a craft for our patrons to make and we had over 25 patrons this month doing one or more of the crafts.
- The Steam kits are now ready and available for check out. I am looking forward to see how the kits are accepted.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Gottschalk









