

## **Algansee**

### **Daily Business**

May was a very busy month for Linda and I at the library. I attended the Friends of the Algansee Library and the Algansee Township meetings. We hosted the Branch District Library Board of Directors meeting. I completed two webinar trainings. We also did some rearranging to maximize space.

We wrapped up our Five Senses unit at Story Time. The kids enjoyed the Porcupines paired with the sense of touch the best. We played with and textured play dough after our story.

STEM went outside for the month of May. Our animal tracking program was our biggest attendance program for the month. We read a story on the porch about Native American folklore with the track of each forest animal in the Great Lakes region. Then the kids compared their feet to the animals. It was a great time with 23 participants!

Our Crafts with Linda crew has also been growing as some of our patrons get bolder. Thirteen kids created pompom creature crafts with Linda. More and more of our Amish kids are participating in the programs.

Adult crafting had its usual participants making beautiful projects. The family calendars were quite popular.

The porch is looking beautiful again with the plants Bob, A, Pig and Basil in the urns out front. The kids are very proud of them. We have also had good use of the tic-tac-toe and chess games that are out on the porch.

This month I found myself reflecting on the people at our library. I had a mom come in, who's child has recently begun attending programs. She came in to share that her daughter had gone home giggling that she finally had friends. It caused me to pause and consider how much this library impacts the people here. Our kids have a safe place to meet up with their friends. Those who are lonely come in to talk. Some find the crafts to be an escape from home situations. Others just call to have someone to talk to, since they are unable to leave their homes. We offer a refuge at no cost to so many wonderful people. I'm thankful for that. It is so much more than just a place to pick up books.



## Summer Reading Program

- We kicked off our Summer Reading program with an afternoon of fun, ice cream and yard games at the Alganssee branch.
- Our SRP kick off at Paula Preston's Daycare was a success. We read *Can I Join Your Club?* in the kids club house outside and then created our own clubhouse badges.
- We had a full house for Cupcake Creations. I think the parents enjoyed the program as much as the kids.
- Popsicles on the Porch has had great attendance. We are reading from *My Hero, My Dog*. The kids will vote for their favorite nominee at the end of July.
- The kids learned how to make their own bubble solution at the Bubble Party and we had bubbles everywhere.



Submitted by Teresa Shilling

## Coldwater

Summer Reading is in full swing at the Coldwater Branch!!! We have something planned for nearly every day of the week. Some of our programs include Mad Science, Birding 101, Flashback Game Night, Monarch Mania, Teen Trivia, Dove the therapy dog and Nerf Wars.



We kicked off the first weekend of Summer with a Books and Breakfast Program. We were All Together Now with crafts like coloring, scratch art, bookmarks and bracelet making. We provided donuts, fruit, sweet bread and water for breakfast. Branch District Library was invited to speak as guests for Coffee Hour at the Hope Cafe on June 6th. Our Teen and Children Service coordinators spoke about upcoming events and Summer Reading.

In May, we purchased \$4,619 in books for the library. We also had 4,901 people visit the library. Keep your eye out for new furniture; orders have been placed for new furniture on the public and staff areas of the library.

Upcoming Programs: TikTok Dance Classes, Story times, Birding 101, Yoga, Nerf Wars, and if you haven't done so it's not too late to sign up for SUMMER READING!!

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

## Quincy

Here is a quick summary of the fun things happening at the Quincy Branch -

- We pulled the Graphic Novels from our juvenile and young adult collections and put them into their own section. We've had a lot of positive feedback from kids and parents alike even in the short time since the change has happened.
- We had ten classes from Jennings Elementary come visit us at the end of the school year to see the building. I also got to talk to them about the Summer Reading Program, all of our fun programs coming up, and different things the library offers (that it's more than just books!). It was such a fun groups of kids!
- We have put up inspirational quotes in the teen area and it looks wonderful! Such a positive contribution to the teen corner!
- We have had a lot of attendance for our kiddo programs so far for Summer Reading. Tie Dyeing went wonderfully with 28 in attendance! The puffy chalk art program was so much fun and messy with 29 in attendance! Such a great start to Summer Reading! 😊

We had a very busy and productive month overall and I'm very happy with our program attendance! Stay tuned to see what other fun things we have happening this next month! Come join in on our Summer Reading ■F■U■N■!

Submitted by Sarah Strong



## **Sherwood**

Greetings from Sherwood!

Summer Reading 2023 has begun and I have signed up quite a few littles and a couple of teens.

I'm doing programs as often as possible. Some days it's a little difficult being without a clerk, especially this time of the year. We're still doing interviews so hopefully something works out in the near future.

I've gotten a lot of weeding done, making space for the new!

Materials ordering is going well.

Not much else to report for this month!

Until next month -

best regards,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

## **Union Twp.**

We have been very busy over gearing up for Summer Reading! We have been prepping all the weekly challenge prizes, promoting Summer Reading, and signing up patrons on Beanstack! As the kid's sign up we are giving away free books with a bag full of goodies such as a coloring sheet for the coloring contest, Event guide, and Summer Reading bookmark.

### **Upcoming Programs for June**

- Kids Programs: Father's Day Shirt Cards, Story Time every Wednesday
- Teen Programs: Shirt Tie-Dye Fun, Stencil Revolution DIY Canvas Bags
- All-Ages Programs: Family Game Time, Pint Size Polkas, Family Bowling Fun, & A2 Magic Show
- Adult Programs: UC Society for Historic Preservation: Bobbie Mathis, & Edward Jones
- Community Unlimited will be visiting June 6, June 20 & June 27 with 30 kids and a couple teachers. Indoor and Outdoor activities are in the works which include Planting and Growing activity, Story Time, Giant checkers, Sidewalk chalk, Hula Hoops and Giant Connect 4, Bowling, Large parachute, Corn hole and Toss and Catch Ball Game.



Placed June's Book/DVD order and ordered Halloween programming supplies for Family Fright Night in Coldwater. Carpets have been cleaned and windows have been cleaned inside and out. The weeds out front are being taken care of so we won't have any more weeds coming up through the nice bricks. Working on fall programming and confirming with a couple community members to come in and do a few programs. Kid's area bulletin board is all updated (picture below) and will be taking down the Memorial Day displays and will be focusing on Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month.

Excited for Summer Reading and all the great programs planned not only for this month but all summer long!

Submitted by Maria Piper

## Outreach

- I have been doing monthly pop-up library visits at Maple Lawn for about 3 months now with the assistance of Nicky and Christina. Each visit is about 45 minutes long, during which Maple Lawn staff assist interested residents to where our pop-up is set. Items are checked out on a facility library card, and the facility keeps track of which resident takes out which books in case an item goes missing. Most of the residents require large print, so I have purchased credit card-sized magnifiers to hand out to those who would like to

check out a book that is not in large print. I plan in the near future to purchase larger hands-free magnifiers which would be available for checkout. Only 3 residents visited this month, in part due to the warmer weather, but several items were checked out and renewed.

- I attended the California Township's board meeting on 6/5 to talk about the bookmobile and ask permission to use the site as a regular stop. They have agreed to allow staff usage of the building's bathroom during our visits as well. Until the bookmobile arrives and we have a set route for it, I will be doing pop-up visits there twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. The first of these stops will be on 6/21.
- I am currently in conversation with other places at which to begin doing regular pop-up libraries in preparation for using these locations as regular bookmobile stops.
- In a recording of an Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services (ABOS)-Driven Discussion about pop-up libraries, one librarian mentioned that they will be putting together little activity kits to have available at the county fair for kids in 4-H. Having been a 4-H kid myself, I know there are several 4-H families at the fair all week long, many of which camp on the grounds because they have animals showing. I am planning to assemble kits with multiple simple activities specifically for these 4-H'ers and hand them out on Sunday of fair week (8/6). That day is the very beginning of fair week, so most of the people walking the grounds on that day are vendors setting up their booths and the 4-H families tending to animals and checking projects. I will be spending time in the coming weeks gathering ideas and printables for these kits as well as getting the word out about them to 4-H clubs.
- Strawberry Fest is this weekend, and I will be posted near Coach Eby center with a booth handing out library information as well as some fun goodies: pins, temporary tattoos, candy, and bookmarks. I am hoping for a good turn out as always.
- We recently received a VIN for the bookmobile! It's one step closer to feeling more real and tangible! Aside from this, and hearing that the Odyne battery has been attached to the vehicle and it has been sent to Morgan Olsen for the body to be built, I have not heard much else in progress of the vehicle.

Submitted by Cheryl Lawrence