



Bronson Branch:

The past weeks have been busy with spring programs coming to an end, getting ready for staff conferences and plans (exciting plans!) for the summer library activities.

Steve attended a LEGO roundtable gathering hosted by Woodlands Library Cooperative and came back with many ideas for future programs. He said it was definitely worth attending.

I attended the Loleta Fyan Small & Rural Libraries Conference. What a fantastic conference! Eight-two different sessions were offered during the conference making it a difficult task to decide which ones to attend. My choices ended up being: A Matchmaker A Matchmaker: How To Connect People With The Stories They Love, Facebook and Twitter Hacks, United for Libraries-Members Only Resources for Library Trustees, Friends and Staff, It's Already a Makerspace, Public Libraries & Public Relations, Engaging Your Community's Teen Writer's & Readers, Staying Friends with Friends, High Attracting Budget-Friendly Technology for Small Libraries, The Price Is Right! PopCulture Programming for Any Budget, The Blossoming Library (In house programming) and Storytime Programs Transformed.

Over 30 vendors were set-up for us to visit, ask questions and gather information from. We had special speakers George Needham and author Alison DeCamp, both very interesting and entertaining. The food was great, the setting was WOW! and I'm glad I had the opportunity to attend!

Steve and Katelyn will be attending the 2016 Library of Michigan's Beginning Workshop May 18-20. I'm sure they will come back with many ideas too.

We are gearing up for summer programming. We are getting ready for the end of the school year class tours and plan on doing another presentation at the schools to remind them of the summer reading club.

The Friends of the Bronson Branch held the District Wide Friends meeting in April and invited Paul Ryan, President of Friends of Michigan Libraries, to be the guest speaker. There were 30 Friends members and staff in attendance, refreshments were served and everyone had a chance to visit. Next year the meeting will be held at the Coldwater Branch.

The Friends EXTRA BIG Book Sale will be May 24-28 and the 2016 Tea and Garden Tour is scheduled for June 11 (tickets are available)

The Bronson Township repaired the front steps into the library. The steps were sinking and starting to crack in multiple places. Appreciate them taking care of it as soon as the weather warmed up. The Library was hit by the storm a couple weeks ago and suffered quite a bit of shingle damage. The township contacted their insurance company and are taking care of repairs to the roof.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynnell Eash
Bronson Branch Manager

Quincy Branch

The Blues pianist event was well attended by 85 people. Refreshments were served afterwards with a couple Friends helping.

Children's Book Week was observed, Story Hour children received a book to keep that week.

Michigan Week will be observed this week with many displays and Michigan trivia

Sue Houchen will bring her "Quilts Talk to Me" program this Thursday at 6 pm

Sherwood Branch

Greetings!

The month of April was exciting in so many ways ~ We celebrated National Library week with refreshments and book bags for our patrons. It was a great opportunity to express our gratitude to all of the wonderful people who enable us to keep doing what we love. Also during National Library week, I copied a post from the "Highlights" website and re-posted it on our Sherwood library Facebook page. The post read, "Destroy the myth that libraries are no longer relevant. If you use your library, please share." This particular post has generated 7.9K likes, 119K shares and has reached 5,939,748 people! The post went "viral" in just a few short days! It was absolutely awesome to see and read all of the responses from so many individuals, both near and far, how they support and utilize their local libraries! Since that posting, our Sherwood Branch Facebook page has received approximately 450 - 500 new "likes" ~ Which puts us at a grand total of 881 likes!

I'm happy to announce that Sherwood has acquired a "Friends Group", it's a small group, but a group, nonetheless! We attended the district wide Friends group meeting together and came back with some neat ideas.

Art classes with Kathy on Tuesdays are still going, although we will be suspending them throughout the summer months, they will start up again in September. We're very fortunate to have her here!

Summer Reading is almost upon us (already) - We have some great programs scheduled and I'm currently working on scheduling a couple more, as well as some adult crafting programs.

Until next month ..

Sincerely,

Traci Counterman ~ Sherwood Branch Manager

Lucille E. Dearth Union Twp. Branch

This month I was busy with weeding. As of this date I am completely done with the weeding for this year. My main reason for this extensive weeding was new shelving ordered and I wanted to be able to move collections to new areas in the library. The new shelves arrived today and so I will be working on moving books to their new locations.

The Begingergarden class from the elementary school paid a visit to the library on April 12. They enjoyed lunch, a craft, chalk drawing on the sidewalk, games, and Mrs. Ronda reading a few books. Each child received a small bag with goodies from the library to take home with them.

I made three preschool visits this month and one Community Unlimited after school program. I have enjoyed visiting the kids, reading them a book, and a craft. This month the preschool kids each made a May basket and we were able to surprise some seniors that live at Butler Apartments. Many of our older patrons live in this complex and came to the library stating how much fun it was for them to receive the basket.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Gottschalk

