



Coldwater Branch: During January, the Coldwater Branch had an engaging display to entice users to read the books before viewing the upcoming TV shows and movies in 2017. It was well received and most likely be making an appearance again later this year.



#### District Wide:

- Did 2 separate branch visits with the Teen Services Librarian. Branch Managers were able to sit down and brainstorm ways to engage the teens of Branch County. There were many great ideas and connections made to jump start the process.
- Presented at the Kiwanis Club regarding upcoming programs and BDL services.
- Met with the Coldwater Chamber of Commerce to discuss Chamber benefits and advertising.
- Participated in Bronson's Take your Child to the Library Day on February 4. It was a wonderful event coordinated by Lynnell Eash with both children and parents alike enjoying all the activities. I was able to show off some of BDL's digital services for children and adults and assist some users in setting up Hoopla accounts.
- Coming up is the Branch County "One Book, One Community" Read. This year's title is *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger. Copies of the books are available for check out at any of the 6 locations and on Hoopla. Book Discussions will be held at all branches during the month of March.

# ADULT PROGRAMMING REPORT

## FEBRUARY 2017

### Architectural and Real Estate Photography Free Workshop:

**Dennis James of  
Dennis James  
Photography**



**presented a program on Architectural Photography. It covered interior, exterior and panoramic photos of architecture.**



### Valentine's Day Craft/Wall Hanging:

**Participants made a rustic Valentine's Day Wall Hanging. The class will be offered a second time later in February.**

**Blind Date with a Book: Patrons were able to check out specially wrapped "blind date" books.**

**The genre of the book was given on the wrapping but the title and author were a mystery. When they finished the book, they were then able to enter a "rate your date" drawing for a cash prize.**



## **Alganssee Branch Report**

One Book One Community is in full swing. The book this year "Peace like a River" by Leif Enger. If you would like to participate in this year's Book Discussion, we have books available and a CD is available also. Alganssee Library Book Discussion is Thursday March 16th at 9:30. Jeanne Berg will be leading our discussion, I am happy she will join us,

Although we didn't have much participation we had several crafts for Winter and Valentine's Day available

I have 2 Summer Reading Programs scheduled so far, I am checking into more. We will have to move most of our programs to the Pine Ridge Church because of space and weather. I would much rather have programs at our Library but doesn't work most of time.

I have been ordering new books and DVDs for all ages for 2017.

Any questions or suggestions please let us know.

Respectfully Submitted

Alganssee Branch Manager,  
Jan Clark

## **Bronson Report**

The past month we have been working on coming up with ideas to promote and display our books more. We have some great ideas for the children's section but then decided our next problem is the kids aren't coming into the library as much during the school year. I contacted the principals at Ryan and Anderson Elementary Schools and asked if there was a way I could talk to the teachers to let them know about all the wonderful children's books we have sitting on our shelves.

Mr. Heifner sent out an email to his teachers and I had two teachers contact me. After a phone call and discussion regarding what books their students would be interested in and how many books they would like to borrow for their classrooms, arrangements were made and sixty-five books were out the door for the next month.

I asked Mr. Heifner if there was a bulletin board or showcase in the school where we could setup a display of books from our library and he had a bulletin board

showcase right next to the lunch room so that every child in the school would be walking by there at least once a day. I was able to put in a neat display of junior graphic novels and got lots of comments from the kids as I was working on it. A sign went in the case letting them know those books would be back in the library on February 22 for check out.

Mrs. McCrea invited me to come and speak at the next staff meeting on February 13 at Anderson. I will take a couple boxes of K-2 books along and see if any of the teachers would like to borrow for their classrooms also.

I will be contacting St. Mary's yet to see if we might work something out with them in the near future.

I spoke at the First Congregational Woman's Fellowship last week. It had been a couple years since I had been there and they just wanted an update on what was happening at the library in Bronson and also in the District.

Krystal Loughman has been hired as our second public services clerk. She will be starting her 21 hours on February 21. Looking forward to Krystal joining us. This will give us the opportunity to expand the after-school programs finally.

Saturday, February 4, we celebrated **Take Your Child to The Library Day**.

Linda, Kimberly, Jessica and Pat came to help us and our Friends and volunteers were there too.

We had a giant T-Rex (Jessica Tefft) and then Clifford the Big Red Dog (Avery) walking through the library visiting with children and providing great photo opportunities.

Stan the Dinosaur Man was there with a fantastic display of dinosaurs and he was able to have fun discussions with kids of all ages about anything and everything regarding dinosaurs.

Hugh worked the dino coloring page table and watched over the Lego display that Elijah had created. (Elijah attends our Tween/Teen program) I told everyone you can tell how great a display is by how many fingerprints are on the glass by the end and boy were those showcases in need of a cleaning!

Kimberly was setup in the Media Center with a display of BDL materials and was ready with a multimedia Hoopla presentation.

Julia B demonstrated spinning with drop spindles, showing different fibers and products made from those fibers. Margaret and Julia both were spinning, crocheting and answering questions the entire time.

At the Lego, dinosaur and spinning tables we had books set out to further interest people on those subjects.

Fran and Linda greeted everyone coming in, handing out "I Love My Library" book bags, a schedule of events for the morning and directing them to the free books provided by Scholastic books. (each child got to pick one free book to take home) Fran worked the refreshment table serving cookies, crackers and water.

Downstairs Julie H. helped children make crafts at the duct tape table or directed them to the mural coloring table.

There was also the popular Lego cart and wall for kids to try and it was a major hit.

Steve Watson provided storytelling and his son Miles demonstrated scarves and beanbag juggling.

The Wii was setup for anyone wanting to play and a few gave Library Bingo a try. Kids and adults could enter door prize drawings for a small bike, duct tape kit, Lego starter kit, can of dinosaurs, youth coloring book, teen coloring book, denim comforter, crochet lap blanket, or a crochet lap throw.

Rosalie was there taking pictures of anyone who wanted to stand next to T-Rex or Clifford. She also covered the event for the Daily Reporter, Bronson Journal and Sturgis Journal.

Pat K came to work the desk so that Steve and I could be part of the program. I just pretty much ran around like a chicken with its head cut off. The day was a success!

Tween & Teen Club met and Steve presented a few classic animal stories. Misty of Chincoteague and Big Red, Rascal and Where the Red Fern Grows. These were books that hadn't been checked out lately so he wanted to present them to a new audience. As usual, along with a book discussion they got a pizza snack!

One of our teens is a champion Lego builder so we asked him to come to **the Kidz Crew** and show them how to build vehicles. We had fun (yes I did too) creating funtastic autos to race down a cardboard race track and then compete to see who could get theirs to land closest to a certain mark on the floor. Not to brag but I landed square on, boy were they impressed!

We had a second teen come to the next program and show us how to fold paper cranes after we talked about the book, "**Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes**".

Our Home School program began 4 weeks ago and each week more families have come. We have had fourteen different children attend with 10 being the most present at one time. These children range from 4-14 so Steve has a variety of activities for them to do.

The first week they were given a string, a pencil and a square of paper and asked to create something. They have done drawing, water coloring, played with Legos and worked the marble run. During March is Reading Month Steve will be focusing on storytelling and puppetry.

BDL Teen Services Librarian, Jessica Tefft, brought the Anti-Valentine Scavenger Hunt over to us and the teens have had a blast searching the library to find the hidden cards. It has been fun to watch them work together with others they are meeting for the first time to find all 18 cards.

We feel that all the programs this month have been very successful and worthwhile. We have added new patrons, new Hoopla and Evergreen fans and brought life back to some books that have not seen the outside world for quite a while. Now, on to the next month!

## **Quincy Report**

The Quincy Township has paid the first Grand River Builders bill. Estimates are forthcoming for work on the three entrances/doorways from the company. The front step restoration is still scheduled for April or May, weather permitting. Further estimates will be coming for painting, as this is not a service Grand Rivers offers.

The adult Winter Blahs reading contest is running for the full month of February. A nice goodie basket has been furnished by the Friends of the Library.

Sue Houchen's presented last week on Jennifer Chiaverini's books, "Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" and her newest, "Facts and Traitors" to a group of 30.

Patrons are reading "*Peace Like a River*" for our One Book, One Community discussion on March 11. Jeanne Berg will be leading and refreshments are planned.

Bonnie Sherman is leading a Genealogy workshop in March 18. She had great discussion when she offered this workshop last year at Quincy.

Several spring and summer programs for children and adults are already booked for our branch. We will have no problem using up our Quincy Promotions budget.

## **Sherwood Branch**

Greetings!

The Sherwood Library continues our "Twins and in between" program on Thursdays. We made some great heart sun-catchers this month in honor of Valentine's Day. I think we set a record high number of crafty participants. Exciting! Sadly, I couldn't get some of our "camera shy" kids into the photo.

We have been gearing up for the much anticipated 2017 Summer Reading and are looking forward to "building a better world!" -





### **Dearth Union Twp. Branch Report**

We started the new year with a Winter Fun Magic Show. Over 40 kids and adults enjoyed the performance by Eugene Clark. Many kids were invited on stage to be part of the snowy fun with magical effects like the "snowflake miracle," "hot chocolate fiasco," and the "snowman illusion."

This month I have been working on upcoming programs and contacting performers for our summer reading program. I also have been continuing my weekly visits to the preschool.

I have two volunteers at this time who are removing books from the shelves, cleaning the shelves, and returning the books to the shelves. This is great having them at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Gottschalk



### Spa Day @ the Library

What a morning! We had appointments for 75 young patrons which broke down to 4 girls per 10 minutes! Thanks to the great volunteer help, we were able to keep a steady flow of happy patrons moving through. Every registrant received a spa bag with hand lotion and nail polish to take home. They also were able to make either a small jewelry bowl or a barrette while munching on cookies from Bob Evans and washing the goodies down with bottles of Culligan water. Hannah Jackson and Shay Mains did a great job prepping and finish coating Bekah's nail art. And the hair chalk artistry of Terah Richhart was something to behold. We hope to hold another pamper party in the fall or early winter later this year. Thanks again to Studio 17, Holiday and Hampton Inns, Bob Evans Restaurant, Carol & Bob McHolme, Coldwater Culligan and all our terrific teen volunteers! (along with the Public Service Staff who helped us put labels on, stuffed bags, counted flowers and all the other small but vital tasks we needed completed!)



We have lots more pictures of happy girls. And the feedback comments were very encouraging. A very intense but rewarding event.



# WHAT IS PIXILATION?

That is the question, Alex Thomas and Friends answered for 24 young people on Saturday, January 14. If you'd like to check out the neat little film our youth produced, please stop in Kids and ask to borrow the DVD of their production! Every person in attendance received a copy.



Graham C: Story Time Snacks  
Anonymous: Some really good books!  
Monies are starting to arrive for Summer Reading!  
Coldwater Friends of the Library  
Century Bank & Trust  
H.C. Starck Manufacturing



## Summer Reading Update:

Linda and Angie meet with Deb of American Flower Trends. She will be presenting Flower Arranging in July. And along with Deb, Linda has been busy emailing, calling and contacting summer presenters. Here's a sample of what's lined up as of this writing.

Summer Kick-off: The Magic of BJ Mallen

Emili Sherefield: Sidewalk Chalk Artist (and let's pray it doesn't rain this year!)

Carmen Carpenter: Worm Farming & Composting

Mr Jim "Stack It Up Around the World"

Patriotic Art

Biz Aid: Recycling and “What Can You Make with This?”  
Jenny Rubenacht: Building a Better World Through Friendship.  
MSU Extension Service: Build A Better You  
Air Zoo: Large Floor Science (with the City of Coldwater Parks Program)

Still waiting on confirmations: Scott Morrison (architecture), Elite Martial Arts, Miss Maggie from Southern Michigan Gymnastics (a huge favorite with our younger set), Theresa Broadwater & Kite Building, Kosachuk Signs (banner material for the children to use), CORE Kids from Western Michigan and the list goes on. Our summer is shaping up to be memorable. We'll keep you posted.



Linda D. will be meeting with Julie Santure of the City Parks Program this month. We're hoping to hold several large scale events at the Recreation Center, as well as register their children for SRP. We're also hoping to visit the park once a week to read to the younger children. We should know by the next newsletter how this partnership will look for 2017.

Linda is registered to attend Spring Institute in March. She's looking forward to seeing the various vendors and hearing what's new in library world for the children.

She has also been busy applying for some grants through Clemens Food and the Walmart Corporation. Here's hoping for the best. The grant from Walmart is earmarked for a new program that she and Angie have put together tentatively entitled: "Joyful Noise & Creative Mess": An Introduction to Great Composers and Artists through Children's Literature. Just need some money to make it happen.

Angie has been working with John and Curtis to get an online voting program for our "March Reading Madness". It is shaping up to be quite the fun experience! Keep checking the website as we're planning to roll out the voting by the end of February.

Our Upcoming Event fliers to Coldwater Community Schools seem to be taking off. We filled our Crazy 8 Math Club for the first time!

Linda D. has asked Lorrie Loveberry if she would be willing to be our CHC contact and get information to the young parents regarding our programming. She has taken programming fliers and.....

# UPcoming EVENTS

Saturday, Feb 18: Black History Celebration with Soul Food & Spirituals-Miss Margie C.

Saturday, Feb 25: Movie Matinee



Saturday, March 4: March Reading Madness Kick-off with Cat in the Hat-Live!



Saturday, March 11: Traveling Tales:



**And be sure to check out the pictures of regular programming fun below.**







**We saw our shadows but we don't mind more winter.  
Cuz we're having lots of fun in Kids Place!**



## Board Report February 2017

Since hiring on January 17, I've been busy cultivating relationships with both teens and coworkers, planning programs, and meeting community members. I have created a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and enticed 6 teens to join. Together with YAC, I spent 10 hours compiling a grant proposal from the Branch County Community Foundation that required teen participation in order to qualify. I've also presented to the Kiwanis club and am hopeful for that partnership. I've visited most branches twice and have had the opportunity to sit down with each of the branch managers. I also had the chance to work on developing the Young Adult book collection, ordering and weeding accordingly.

In January, I held a Grant Writing workshop in Coldwater and had 10 teens show up. Thus far in February, I've planned 2 passive programs for Coldwater and total teen attendance is at 71. That is up significantly from last month, and we're only halfway through February. I've also implemented a monthly passive program for teens for the other five branches.

The passive program for February was a LOVE STINKS! Scavenger hunt. It seems to be a big hit!



Judy was able to work some magic and Union City High School allowed me to come in and speak with their Interact club. I feel encouraged about the impact that we can have there. The teens were more than receptive to talking about library programs, what they'd like to see at the Union branch, how Summer Reading works, etc. Perhaps the most disheartening aspect to the visit was their shock at the programs that are offered at the library. They had no idea that the Summer Reading Club even existed.

I am also going to be in the English classes at Quincy High School on March 6-9. Bronson and Coldwater high schools have been unresponsive thus far, but I've no doubt that I'll be in there shortly.