



Alganssee Branch

- We had a duct tape craft, everybody invited, lots of ideas by patrons. A rose and several purses and billfolds were made. I made a beautiful small purse, that I use!
- My clerk Jessie is the creator of all our crafts. She does a great job and I appreciate her help.
- We still have lots of duct tape supplies, whenever patrons come in they are welcome to make their own creation.
- There were several patrons here to put together Easter items such as their own cards and baskets to take with them.
- We have Lots of new books and DVDs for all ages, come in and check us out. We are here to help, any questions or suggestions please let us know.

More programs scheduled for May, which are listed on Alganssee Branch-Branch District Library Calendar.

Respectfully Submitted
Alganssee Branch Manager

Bronson Branch

As we are working on summer scheduling for programs and the reading club we have to keep in mind that May still comes before all of those activities start and it has kept us busy!

I attended St. Mary's Kindergarten round-up in April getting a chance to talk to families as they were enrolling their children for the fall. Handed out a lot of District information, bookmarks and candy. We hope to either get back to the school to talk to all students about the summer programs or have them visit the library for tours.

I stopped by the High School and spoke with Principal McCrea about a bulletin board or showcase we might use to promote books and the library and he had one available right next to the Media Center that we will be able to use. He also pointed out that he does a newsletter that he sends home with the kids and would be glad to include any information/happenings we have going on here in Bronson and in the District.

Jessica Tefft and I met with Mr. McCrea a couple weeks later to talk about the teen summer reading program that Jessica has setup. He was very receptive to having Jess and Steve come to the school to present to the students. They were able to go in on a Monday and speak with over 300 students during classes in the morning. The next day we had kids returning their registration forms looking forward to the start of the program in June! Great job Jessica!

Jessica will be holding the Teen Trivia Extravaganza in Bronson on May 11 and then each month during the summer. She will also start the Teen Writers Club here in Bronson. Excited to see these programs take off. She has numerous other programs planned for the teens over the summer.

Steve continues programming with the tweens and teens and the homeschoolers. His last Homeschool program had 20 in attendance and that was after his preschool story-time in the morning where he had 39 show up. He had a busy day that day.

Family Lego Night is May 24.

We held the Bowling Ball Garden Ornament workshop, nine attended.

Krystal has been such a big help with covering the desk so that program planning can be done. Also, great to have her here when programs are happening and it would normally leave one person at the desk. With two, we are able to cover the desk and the media room.

Soon it will be time for school tours, then on to our "Build A Better World" Reading Club.

Coldwater Branch

The Coldwater Branch launched a new program in late March of this year, called the Seed Saver Exchange Program. The public could check out up to ten different types of vegetable or flowers seeds to get a jump start on their garden planting. This program was crafted by staff member Loretta Sherfield, who spent countless hours contacting seed companies for donations and organizing 100's of seed packets! Patrons who checked out seeds were asked to let one of the plants go to seed and then donate those back to BDL. We are looking forward to Fall when donations from our very own patrons can be collected and continue the program into next year. Still wanting to get your garden started? Stop down at the First Floor and check out some great varieties of seeds!

Also during last month, the Coldwater Branch along with the Coldwater Friends of the Branch District Library hosted the Annual Friends Meeting on April 24, 2017. Representatives from five of the six branches' Friends groups were on hand to hear from two speakers, the BDL Director and Director of Marshall District Library. The Friends groups then individually presented what they were currently working on and tasks that they would be focusing on in the next year.

Adult Events:

- To celebrate April is Poetry Month multiple programs were held!
 - Poetry Workshop on Haiku
 - Poetry Reading
 - Poetry Contest: Saw 9 entries and the poems were judged by local English teachers. The top three poems were selected and awarded cash prizes. 1st – Pat Weaver, 2nd Prize – Kathy Barnes & Betty Taylor, and 3rd – Kathy Will. Poems are on display on the first floor.
- Fairy Jar Craft: Partnered with the English as a Second Language Program at Lincoln to introduce students to the library. Students completed a craft and then toured the branch. Library card applications were handed out for any who were interested in getting a library card.
- Spring Flower Craft: Participants were able to make April Flowers out of Book Pages and Paper and even a pedestal vase.
- Revisiting the Civil War in Music and Word: A great time was had by participants who attended this informational and creative program. They were treated to Brian and Darlene Hackett as they shared the Civil War with narration and hammer music.
- Astro-Photography: Local Photographer Dennis James is back at it with a great presentation for those who are longing to check out space.

Also the Adult Program Coordinator, Denise Yennie, participated in a continuing education opportunity. She took an interactive workshop titled "Building Great Programs in their 20's and 30's".

Kids' Place News:

- In celebration of April is Poetry Month, children were tasked with creating original works of poetry. In the Library Lines Poetry Contest, several children were awarded prizes. First Place winners received a Subway Meal, Culvers Token, and Cottage Inn Nino pizza Coupons. The other winners received a Culvers Token and Cottage Inn Nino pizza coupons.

The winning poems are on display in Kids' Place!

Level A: (5-7 yrs)

Madison Everline-1st with
"Library"

Aivry Chavez-2nd with "I Turn
Colors Any Day"

Level B: (8-10 yrs)

Joshua Gentry-1st with "My Favorite
Library"

William Case-2nd with "My Nook"

Adira Jaros-2nd with "Library Book,
Library Cat"

Eysha Chavez-4rd with "Yellow"

Several younger siblings, who were not eligible for prizes, still entered amazing works of poetry. Ben Everline, age 3 & Deliah Sutton, age 4, both wrote works titled "Books"

- Saturday events included Easter crafts, learning about spring storm preparation and being Money Smart! [Money Smart Week](#) is a yearly initiative between the American Library Association and the Federal Reserve Bank to encourage financial literacy skills within your community. This year Kids' Place partnered with Honor Credit Union. All children who attended the program on Saturday, April 29th received a free book and goodie bag which included a voucher for \$10 towards a savings account with Honor. *Thank you Honor Credit Union!*
- Kids' Place is excited to launch a new program. [Book to Boogie](#) is a monthly series that pairs picture books with dance and movement activities for preschool story time. The series is curated by **Kerry Aradhya** of [Picture Books & Pirouettes](#) and written by a different guest writer each month. We hope that children's librarians, as well as classroom teachers and dance educators, will find these activities useful and fun!



Teen Happenings:

- Teens are continually interacting with the Teen Service Librarian and are looking forward to their soon to be new Teen Space in the basement!
- Candy Scavenger Hunt: The names says it all and trust me the teens loved it!
- Six Word Memoir: Teens were challenged to create a meaningful phrase using only 6 words. Trust me it is harder than you think!
- Coldwater Branch YAC group met and finalized several programming events. The group learned of the grant award from the Branch County Community Foundation and were very excited! Without the help of the YAC group this project would not have happened, and we are so thankful for their teen insight.

All three departments are finalizing their Summer Reading Programs. 2017 is gearing up to be a solid year to celebrate a fun filled Summer of "Building a Better World."

Submitted:
Kimberly Feltner
Coldwater Branch Manager

Quincy Branch

- Our children's room is a busy place. The Lego table and coloring sheets are always available
- Our Story Hour loved the Michigan Read "Bubble Gum, Bubble Gum" in the month of March; they had sticky maple syrup for snack one Friday; covered the topics of Wind, Chickens, gardens,
- Guitarist Pat Taylor shared with the children on April 28 and will be returning in July
- Children were encouraged to create their own Limerick during the month of April – Poetry month and "Make the Librarian Laugh"
- National Library Week offered book bag giveaways, treats and library trivia
- ALL of Jennings Elementary were excited to walk up to the library for a visit on April 13 to present a "big check" for \$ 1310.05, but due to the threat of rain I went to the school where they had prepared a reading song and were proud to give me what had been collected. Their March is Reading Month theme was "Read – Save the Library!" The teachers were thanked for showing the children what is important in their community.
- I attended the Quincy Business Expo and greeted hundreds – many were introduced to our library services that they had not been aware of.
- The first Teen Trivia program was great fun for two teens with Jessica; they are anxious for the next teen event.
- The Genealogy Workshop led by Bonnie Sherman was attended by 6
- The One Book, One County book discussion was attended by 8 and Jeanne Berg did a wonderful job. Everyone commented on how much they enjoyed it.
- The Quincy Library Restoration Committee had a Pancake Breakfast April 30 at the Stables Restaurant and received \$801 in donations.
- Author Jan Corey Arnett presented her Michigan Barns program Thursday, April 27 to a crowd of 23 people.
- Children's Book Week was celebrated the first week of May with suckers and books for the Story Hour children.

Sherwood Branch

Greetings!

We've been busy in Sherwood this past month -

We painted flower pots and planted sunflower seeds for some of our special moms in the community. We painted birdhouses that the kids were able to take home and hang outside.

I was able to attend the "Showcase" program that was held at the Union City Elementary School last month. It was a fun time. I had the pleasure of meeting many new people, some of which were unaware that Sherwood has it's very own library. Disheartened to say the least, but at the same time very exciting that I was able to share the fact that we actually do exist! Tomorrow night I will be attending the Union City High School "Resource Night" and will visit the Middle School later on this month.

Kathy Barnes is holding art classes at our library the first and third Tuesday during the month of May. Hopefully she will continue on again this fall if there is enough interest.

Cindy from Center Stage Florist is coming on May 23 to do a Fairy Garden program for those of us who signed up.

Summer Reading sign-up will begin first full week of June with the 13th being the actual start date.

Until next month -

Sincerely,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager