



## **Alganssee Branch Report**

- We had our first Young Adult Program at Alganssee, Keely brought her paints and poster paper. There were 2 teens here, the girls had a good time painting their own creations. The paintings are hanging on wall here at Library. We have another "Wild at Art" program scheduled for May 23rd at 3:30.
- Three new patrons signed up for Library cards this month, which is great! The new Adult and children enjoyed coloring, putting puzzles together and taking a lot of books home to read.
- Our March Craft was a St, Patrick's Day Lapel pin, with supplies provided. All had a good time, took their green clover pin home with them just in time for St. Patrick's Day. Five Adults attended.
- There are several programs and crafts coming up at Alganssee Library. All are welcome. I will have the programs posted on Facebook and the library website.

Thank You  
Alganssee Branch Manager

## **Bronson Branch**

- We attended two Literacy nights during March. The first was held at Anderson Elementary School and we handed out a lot of information to families. The theme this year was Fairy Tales so Principal Jent loaned me her crown and fairy wand so I would fit in. It was fun to visit with the children and parents. Ryan Elementary held their Literacy in the Spotlight with the 5th graders dressing as a famous person in history and presenting a biography about that person.
- We attended Anderson's Kindergarten Registration night, as we have done in the past, but this year we decided to register the children if parents wanted to get them a card. Jessie and I were very very busy and signed up most of the children. Perfect place to do this because they had all the information we need to register them right there that evening. Hope to do this every year and we learned from this first time and will make changes accordingly.
- Our Family Movie night in March was the best attended since the showing of Frozen! The room was absolutely packed. We had to make a couple emergency runs to buy more popcorn but everyone was patient and parents were wonderful at helping out. The movie was Ferdinand, in case you were wondering.
- Jessie, Keeley and I went to our first Science Olympiad and had fun. Children from all over Branch County were there with parents and I think almost every one passed by our table. We took our SnapCircuits along and that drew people to us. Once they were there, we handed out information

and talked with them. Another event I think the District should plan to attend every year.

- The Bronson staff took an extra hour one morning to watch the first Wandoo Reader webinar. Gave us a chance to listen without interruptions, plus we had donuts.
- We had a full class for the Bowling Ball Garden Ornament workshop and just as I was getting ready to go downstairs and set up, Steve had a family emergency and had to leave. At first, I was not sure how I was going to get everything ready and wait the desk but then I took a chance and called Linda and she and her granddaughter rushed to my rescue! While Linda covered the desk, Yulona and I set the room up and were ready to go when the others arrived. Thank you, Linda, and Yulona!
- Spring break week activities, this was one of those weeks where we questioned our thinking in planning all the events. We had a movie on Monday and Tuesday, Adult Coloring Club met on Tuesday, Wednesday was Kids Coloring, crafts, tween & teen program, Thursday Toddler Time, Puzzle Palooza, Games Galore and Teen Book to Movie. Friday was preschool Storytime and then our Read-a-thon and Pizza Party.
- The Read-a-thon was fun. Families came, sat, and read to each other; teens and tweens laid on the floor and read from books and Hoopla and then everyone enjoyed the giant pizzas. Good program.
- Jeanne Berg led our book discussion of A Man Called Ove and we thank her for doing that. It was a lively discussion with everyone joining in.
- I appreciate Steve and Jessica very much, they are both always willing to jump in and help when and wherever needed. We could not do what we do at Bronson without this team effort!

## **Quincy Branch report**

- I attended the Quincy Business Expo Saturday, March 24; approximately 300-400 walked through; 65-70 vendors participated
- An annual report of the Quincy Branch statistics and a review of the year's programs was presented to the Quincy Township Board.
- 4 Teen programs were offered in the last month. The teens seem equally excited to see either Jessica or Keely when they arrive for the programs.
- Adults and teens enjoy colors sheets and a colored pencil station which is always available
- It was a pleasure to have Tom Lowande visit our branch to view our facility.
- Spring Break seemed much quieter this year; more local families must have traveled.
- National Library Week will offer bookmarks and candy for the public.
- Quincy's One Book, One Community discussion will be led Saturday, April 14 by Jeanne Berg.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Wood

## Sherwood Branch report

- We've been having a blast in Sherwood! If you haven't already seen the pictures of our castle the kids constructed out of the boxes our new cabinets came in, they're posted on our BDL FaceBook page - please check them out! The kids had a blast and although it's been almost three weeks since its construction, they're still playing in it and making it their own.
- We are still holding art classes with Kathy on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Tween Crafts are every Thursday at 3:30. We also have several teen programs scheduled throughout the month. I've also acquired a large coloring page and have set it out as a passive program - it's been deemed the "Community Coloring Page" and is taped to one of the tables here in the library. It's been great to see the participation from not only the kids, but the adults as well.
- I am again visiting the Community Unlimited Preschool in Union City. I was so happy to be asked to come back and read to the class once a week. I visit on Tuesday afternoons and have already made twenty new friends. Yay!
- The Sherwood Branch will be having our One Book One County book discussion this Friday afternoon.
- I attended Spring Institute this year in Grand Rapids. I did come back with a few new ideas and will work to implement a couple of them this summer. I also attended a "Teen Services Un-Conference" on Monday in Holland. What a great day! I can't say enough good about all the information we were given and the time I was able to spend brain storming with other library staff members throughout the state. It was a great day well spent!
- It's hard to believe that we will already be starting Summer Reading sign-ups next Month! If it would ever quit snowing, it'd probably be a little more believable.

Until next month:

Sincerely,

Traci Counterman~ Sherwood Branch Manager

## Union Twp. Branch report

Many interesting things were happening this month that kept us very busy. We started off the month with the One Book One County Read and we have 8 patrons currently reading the book. Our book discussion will be in April for A Man Called Ove.

Our Adult Spring into Reading program was officially over on March 20<sup>th</sup> the first day of spring with 7 adults completing the program. We originally had 11 patrons sign up so I was pleased with our final number. Four of our patrons were lucky to win a \$25.00 gift of their choice to Jack's Grocery or Walmart. Our four winners were Lois Williams, Linda Miller, Janice Major and Jessica Denning.

Camri, our public service clerk, attended the Middle and High school parent-teacher conferences and I attended the Elementary Exhibition promoting our library and our summer reading program. The Middle and Elementary were well attended so we were able to reach a lot of kids about the summer reading program.

Again, this year we participated in the 2018 Ready to Read Michigan program.

The program promotes the importance of reading aloud to young children throughout the state. We received from the state the book, "I Got The Rhythm" by Connie Schofield-Morrison and bookmarks. We received four of these books one of which is now part of our collection. The other three books were presented to the preschool, Begindergarten, which previously was Young 5's, and a first-grade class during March is reading month along with bookmarks.

My monthly visit to Community Unlimited was just before St. Patrick's Day so I read the book, How to Catch a Leprechaun, and then the children were asked if they found a pot of gold and a leprechaun gave them six wishes what would they wish for. The picture from the Hometown Gazette is below showing the kids with their wishes.

I would like to thank the board for the opportunity for the staff to attend conferences. I was able to attend the MLA Spring Institute at Grand Valley State University for 2 days of conferences. My favorite keynote speakers were Kevin and Stephanie Kammeraad who took us on a literary journey around the world with stories, songs, and facts from each of the seven continents. I was also able to connect with Jeff Jantz from Wayne State University who teaches chess to children who don't know how to play. He makes it simple by mini games and chess exercises to introduce the game so they are only learning one or two pieces or concepts at a time. Since the Friends of the Library have now installed a hop scotch board and a checker board outside and have ordered outside checkers I feel that in the future we can have chess men also for the patrons to use. Also looking into maybe classes here on how to play chess.

To end the month, we had an Easter egg hunt with over 400 hundred eggs hidden outside. We had over 35 participants who had a ball. 24 special eggs were hidden and the lucky child to find one received a special gift.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Gottschalk

### *Library visits after school program*

Mrs. Judy Gottschalk from the Union City Friends of the Library came to visit the elementary After School Program last Thursday and read a story about Leprechauns. The group then made happiness clouds. (courtesy photo)

