

### Alganssee Branch

- We had 1 Adult craft, putting together a puzzle and eating pizza. Puzzle all finished and pizza gone!
- February 9th a fun Valentine craft for all ages! 9 a.m. until noon.
- Lots of new books and DVDs, come in and check us out.
- Robins have been sighted in our area, maybe early Spring!
- Spring into your Library!

Any suggestions or questions, please let us know.

Thank You  
Alganssee Branch Manager

### Coldwater Branch

The Coldwater Branch, in partnership with the Coldwater Friends of the Library, were participants of IceFest 2019. The theme was “Once Upon a Time” and library activities included a special storytime in Kids Place and a warming booth manned by the Friends President, Jeanne Berg. She handed out Friends group information and provided snacks. With the cold weather, the ice sculpture lasted several days after the event.

**Adult Programs:** We are hosting an “Adult Winter Reading Challenge”. For every book read, an entry slipped can be filled out and turned in for a chance to win a gift certificate. The more you read the better chance you have to win! There will be 4 winners drawn weekly for the chance at a gift certificate from The Patio, Jeannie’s Dinner, NCG Cinema, or El Cerrito. There are still 2 weeks left in the program so feel free to join in for a chance to win!

Coming up is a Social Security Workshop on February 21. Topics to be discussed include: Social Security facts to know, how Medicare and Social Security work together, how working in retirement could impact your benefits, how spousal and survivor benefits work, timing options for your benefits Taxation of Social Security benefits. There are still seats available so if you are interested get registered as soon as possible.

**Kids’ Place:** We’ve enjoyed the instruction of Grace Cornett in January and February with her Gracious Art programs. Grace has been instructing the youth in attendance about drawing and painting seasonally appropriate scenes. The results were as diverse and unique as the children in attendance.



Due to the terrible winter weather, we only had one Tween for January's Tween Club. However, she had fun with the Makey Makey's. We will be reintroducing these at our February Club meeting, along with some other neat electrical circuit Valentine fun!

Looking ahead to our Healthy Heart event on Saturday, February 23. This program is in partnership with the ProMedica Coldwater Regional Hospital. Families and children will learn about healthy eating and exercise to promote healthy, happy hearts as a conclusion to Healthy Heart month.

***A special shout-out to the following patrons for helping provide Saturday programs:***

- **Kathy & Tyler Thomas:** Shadow-riffic crafts exploring Groundhog's Day and shadows. Tyler is a Boy Scout who needed some public service to earn a badge!
- **Christy Fraley** for offering Valentine Paper Quilling. Christy gave of her time, materials and even provided cookies!
- **Julia Littley**, who dressed as a Storybook Wizard for our Ice Fest program. Julia is such a great help with anything involving dress-up!

We're also gearing up for our March is Reading month challenge. We're planning to partner with the Battle Creek Bombers for some free stash. There will be weekly Kids' Place scavenger hunts for our young patrons as well. They'll earn tickets for our grand prize drawings for each completed hunt. This all kicks off on Saturday, March 2 with our live Cat in the Hat program.

**Teen Space:** Teens in February will be participating in a fun program "Are you Smarter than a Librarian". They will be going against library staff to participate in several trivia categories for the ultimate prize, bragging rights. Also, in February is the Cocoa and Constellations program. This will be a tease for our Summer Universe of Stories theme and February should pan out to be a clear (but cold) month to view the stars

The next big program at Coldwater for Teens will be a gaming tournament challenging the teens to Smash Bothers. Video games in the library provide valuable benefits including drawing teens (and their parents) to the library, creating positive connections between the library staff and teens, and can foster positive teen relationships between the group.

Submitted:

Kimberly Feltner

### **Quincy Report**

Even with four days of weather closures in January, the Quincy Branch had 974 patrons visit the library in January and 1547 items were circulated.

An adult Coloring, Cookies & Coffee Saturday morning event was offered with refreshments and soothing sounds of the beach.

The adult Winter Blahs February contest is underway with a great prize basket full of goodies, compliments of our Friends of the Quincy Library group.

I was able to view and listen to an adult Summer Reading webinar which took place on a weather closure day. Good information and ideas were offered. A webinar is certainly much more convenient than driving in inclement weather.

A giant Valentine card making workshop for teens was offered. Also, a Cocoa & Constellations event was planned the evening of Feb. 13, but did not take place due to weather closure. The teen Kindle winners were very pleased after the completion of the Winter Read Challenge. Of the thirteen system-wide, three Quincy teens participated in the challenge, one of which read the most minutes overall. He recorded 1560 minutes and is an avid reader.

Renee and I each attended Webby training with John Rucker. The information was very helpful and as always, presented in a very helpful manner.

Recently a couple of Story Hour daycare children's hats went missing, but thanks to the security camera footage, we were able to confirm with the mothers that the hats never walked in the library doors on the children's heads ☺. One hat has been found in the babysitter's backyard fort.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Wood

## **Sherwood Branch**

Greetings from Sherwood!

We are well on our way into the new year and boy has it been busy ~

January 2nd was the beginning of our district wide "Teen Reading Challenge." A Sherwood patron (Michelle), won the Kindle prize and was happy beyond words! (Pic included).

We've implemented a new program that we are hoping will help encourage our younger patrons to be more "Money Smart." This is a program where kids (between the ages of 3-18), are able to earn "Library Loot." There are several ways in which to earn loot:

1. Check out five books; \$1.00
2. Attending programs; \$1.00
3. Bring report cards in and share them with us; \$1.00
4. Encouraging and promoting positivity; \$1.00
5. Bringing friends to the library; \$1.00
6. After-school homework, 1/2 minimum; \$1.00

The kids each have their own envelope here to save their loot in until it's time to spend it. The first day of "Library Shopping" will be February 26th. We are encouraging them to save their loot so that they will be able to buy the bigger things, and while doing this, we hope to help teach them the value of money or even, (fake money), in this case. But nevertheless, we're

hoping to play a small role in teaching them to be responsible and the types of behaviors necessary to earn these rewards. The items for sale are simply random things that we have purchased from the "Dollar Store." Thus far it's going great and the kids are very excited about this adventure.

Our juvenile and teen program attendance has been steady. For the Sherwood programs, we did "Sand art in a bottle", "Hats off to you", and "Glass bead sun-catchers." On top of 'our' programs, we also have the Coldwater Teen Service staff ladies who venture over every month to host our "District Wide Teen Programs."

On the 15th of January, we celebrated "National Hat Day. The kids got to decorate and personalize their very own ball caps. They had a great time and came up with some pretty creative ideas. I have included pictures.

Lastly, we celebrated National "Wear Red Day" on February 1st in honor of women's health day. (Pic included).

Until next month, think warm thoughts!

Traci Counterman - BDL Sherwood Branch Manager

### Union Twp. Branch

January has been a slow month for us here in Union City.

- I have spent the month looking at programs for the coming months. I have also spent time in the stacks making sure things were in the correct spot and some weeding of books.
- Our winner for the Teen Winter Reading Challenge is Shayden Mains who received a Kindle.
- Upcoming programs include visits to the preschool and Community Unlimited after school program. Plans are set for an adult mason jar craft, teen programs and a winter reading program.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Gottschalk

Union Township Branch Manager

(Photos from Sherwood)

