



Alganssee

Attendance 162, Hours 117, 5 faxes sent, 11 training hours

We have several signs out to show that we are open. Although we can only have 3 in the Library at a time with face masks, patrons are staying on the porch waiting their turn. We are now open Saturdays.

Our Summer Reading Program was presented with Bingo cards. Patrons came and got their Cards, and could get up to 4 Bingos. Each Bingo was a chance to get their name in a drawing for one of lots of really nice prizes.

We are still cleaning every hour. A hand sanitizer station is at the door for all to use.

We can not have craft tables yet, maybe soon.

I am still ordering new books and videos to update our collection.

No MeLCat ordering yet, maybe they will open soon. All takes time to go back to almost normal, we hope.

Thank You,

Janice Clark
Alganssee Branch Manager

Coldwater

Here at the Coldwater Branch, we've seen business pick up, although the library is still far quieter than usual. We've been using this time to do some weeding and rearranging. We finished making more room in the basement for the growing young adult collection, and we also now have an open space on the third floor that will hopefully be home to a new project soon! This shake-up wouldn't have been possible without help from Ben Lyon, Angie Clark, and Teen Services Coordinator Lindsay Villa.

Our staff have been hard at work creating virtual programs and take-home kits. Loretta Sherfield of the Interlibrary Loan Department has put together how-to videos for a decorative beehive craft and a recycled tee-shirt tote. Cheryl Lawrence recently completed a five-part crochet-a-long series guiding viewers through a teddy bear project. Meanwhile, Cheryl Graham led a video about the Japanese holiday, Tanabata, a program that was complete with take-home kits and a Tanabata wishing tree in Kids' Place. Linda Dull and Angie Richards have continued to bring Kids' Place activities to our patrons with virtual programming for kids of all ages. Linda and Angie are hard at work retelling fairy tales, assembling activity kits, and even filming on location, plus organizing outside presenters who produce programming accessible to BDL patrons at every branch. In addition, Assistant Director Kimberly Feltner recruited some of the Coldwater staff to

explode a watermelon with rubber bands for a new Facebook video. Everyone is still hard at work planning and producing content that will go live this fall.

Our largest program of the year, the Summer Reading Program, was tempered in 2020 by the trying circumstances in which we find ourselves. The streamlined program had some success at Coldwater where we had 20 children, 2 teens, and 8 adults complete the program despite everything. In addition to the grand prizes, Linda repurposed a batch of pre-pandemic supplies, from bubbles to books, into smaller prizes for kids!

Lastly, BDL, and the Coldwater Branch especially, are saying goodbye to longtime employee Loretta Sherfield at the end of the month. We will miss her MeLCat expertise, craftiness, gardening knowledge, and especially her baked goods. Public Services Clerk Julie Smith will be training to take over Loretta's position.

We're all finding ways to keep busy, hope for the best, and find creative solutions to adapt to interesting times. We're looking forward to autumn and the new school year.

Submitted by Keeley Briggs

Quincy

Very few patrons are using the curbside option. Most all patrons have entered the library with a mask. Those that may have forgotten, have taken a mask without resistance. There is still low attendance since opening our doors to the public more than seven weeks ago.

The only perk to the low attendance is the continuation of completing projects and having the ability to participate in webinars and virtual conferences as follows:

July 21 Booklist Fall YA Announcements

July 24 Booklist Graphic Novel author Panel

July 27 Bibliotheca "Using Technology to safely reopen and strategically pivot during the COVID-19 crisis"

July 29 Michilib-I MiYouth Virtual meeting

July 31 "What is a School (!) if the Building's Closed?": Libraries in Response

August 4 WebJunction "Reopening Archives, Libraries and Museums: Materials Testing and Resource Overview"

August 5 & 6 ALA United for Libraries Virtual conference

August 12 Michilib-I MiYouth Virtual meeting

I submitted a couple more story times to the Marketing Department if needed.

I have volunteered for either of the new committees being formed in relation to our local schools' needs and I have also made contact with Quincy Schools.

The July Summer Reading Program was very different, like every other branch in our system, state and across our nation, because we saw very few families or children, we were in hopes that families would print BINGO sheets at home, but if they did, they were not turned in. We had 12 BINGO sheets turned in at Quincy, covering all the ages groups, and there were 30 entries to draw from for the prizes.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wood

Sherwood

Greeting from Sherwood!

I don't have a whole lot to report this month -

We've had some participation in our virtual programs, and those who attended said they had a great time and it was easy to follow along to finish their craft projects.

Our attendance numbers aren't as high as we'd like them to be, but we seem to be picking up steam! Yay!

Our summer prize winners were very excited about their prizes - (kudos to Jessica T. and everyone else who plotted and planned our SRP 2020)!

Until next month,

Respectfully,

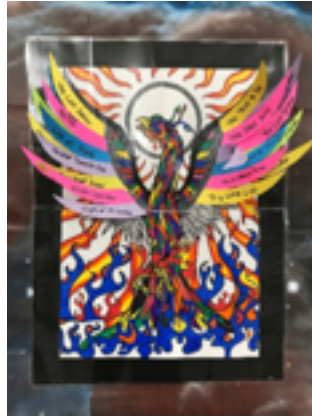
Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.

The Union Township Branch began the month of July with the Summer Reading Program, "Imagine Your Story" and had a lot of interest in the Book Bingo. We had 19 children 0-12 years old complete the program along with four young adults and eight adults. Each participant 18 years of age and under received a backpack of goodies, a toy from the Friends group, and a book from BDL. All the prizes were picked up and appreciated. We are now ready to take on the 2021 SRP "Tails and Tales"!

With the disappointment of summer reading and the impact of COVID on our community, we will be offering an extra incentive at the library. For every book read from the library, the patron is invited to throw their name in for a chance at a gift card from one of the local businesses. I am

planning to support the economy by purchasing the gift cards but will accept donations. I am hoping for an increased interest in the branch collection with a nod toward encouraging local shopping. In addition, each title read will be written on a "feather" which will be incorporated in the Phoenix picture hanging on the bulletin board. While the bird references the SRP theme, it is also appropriate for the current situation.



Moving into the collection development, we have completed the weeding project. Currently we have several loads being considered for the Baker & Taylor Sustainable Shelves program. We are also running an ongoing book sale with a lot of interest and numerous books finding new homes. There are plans to have a book sale/giveaway for the teachers at UCCS system. I am focusing on developing the collection with an eye toward assisting residents in educating the children of the area along with keeping up with the current bestsellers and newest releases.

The magazine shelves have been relocated and are working very well! I would like two (2) more to add to the area. I am considering additional magazines again with a focus toward parents and teachers for the upcoming school year with its opportunities and trials. Children's titles are also being added to complement our other offerings.



The new copy machine came on July 26 and has been greatly appreciated. The old unit was removed and taken care of by Solutions of Southwest Michigan LLC. Another short note is we had a high school student volunteer to clean the grass between the bricks. Being that it was an outdoor job, it worked with BDL's guidelines on volunteering and was so appreciated!

The laminating machine has been running almost constantly as I prepared for the start of the outside version of Music for Munchkins programs. I wrote to the Children's Librarian at Cape May County Library in New Jersey and was given permission to share their wonderful resources including song sheets and movement cards. These can be used both in person and virtually. I



have taken the time to laminate these items and they are being used at our weekly programs. They are also available for others in BDL to use for story times and programs.

Music for Munchkins began on July 23 with weekly programs planned until it is too cold to play outside. We sing, play Simon Says, move with the movement cards, and hula hoop. The hula hoops were originally purchased in order to provide social distance guidance for the participants but have now been incorporated into the program. We like to chase them down the hill!



Online interactions for the month of July have included weekly branch manager meetings, monthly staff meeting, MI Youth informational meeting, MI Library Quest organizational meeting and the webinars "Whose Turn is it Anyway? Online Board Gaming and Libraries" and "Constellations" by StarNet. I have provided several story times and a talk on biographies that have been published with a few prepared for future online content.

Thank you for your support of our work!

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Baratta
Union Twp Branch Manager