



Algansee

I received my certificate for Red Cross Training. What a good idea for training, to keep us all refreshed for an emergency, made me think!

We are still doing very good with our Grab & Go Bags. Linda Pickford, our clerk is very good with craft ideas and puts together our bags! The bag for November 9-13 is a Pilgrim Hat Centerpiece and already there is only one bag left! Lots of good craft projects coming up for December and into 2021.

We are still cleaning every hour and storing books and videos in the back room for 7 days quarantine.

I am hoping we can get this virus out of the world soon so we can all go back to normal!

Happy Holidays to all!

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Clark, Algansee Branch Manager

Bronson

Not sure where the past 3 weeks went but here we are mid November already. The elevator was repaired in time for the township to hold voting in the Township Hall. We were very glad to have the elevator up and running again too. Election day was very busy downstairs and we were busier in the library that day as people came to get books and nuts.

I continue to stay in touch with Brussee/Brady and Mulder's Moving and Storage.

We worked on 2021 Grab and Go kit ideas and have those on paper through April.

I attended the 2-day virtual Michigan Library Association Conference. Very interesting but lots of sitting instead of dashing from room to room for programs.

We will be holding our first live Zoom story time Nov 12!

Our Friends held their annual Make A Difference Day event. They had a busy morning and sold quite a few nuts. We haven't heard yet how much money was raised.

Submitted by Lynnell Eash, Bronson Branch Manager

Coldwater

Here at the Coldwater Branch, we've continued to work hard on creating great virtual programs and take-home activities for our patrons. We have planned kits and programs for all ages out through February 2021.

For adults, we currently have a crochet produce bag kit assembled by craft expert Cheryl Lawrence. Next month, we're giving out holiday-scented bath bomb kits. Some of our staff are working on a series of how-to videos about making snowflakes beyond the usual folded-paper approach. Techniques covered will include crochet, detailed paper cutting, baking, and crystal growing.

Kids' Place staff have given out several popular kits for kids of a variety of ages. We were happy to see all 30 of our pumpkin painting kits go to good homes. Children's Services Coordinator Linda Dull is working on a new series of monthly five literacy practice sheets beginning in November. These sheets will complement our monthly literacy activity calendar as well as our recurring Movin' and Groovin' video program series. Upcoming programs for kids include holiday ornament kits. Every year, we give away books for the holiday season; this year, we have 75 books generously donated by the Coldwater Kiwanis that will be available to tie in with the Santas' visit. Children will be able to send in letters to Santa, who is looking forward to reading and replying to them!

Kids and families are invited to explore our new Story Walk, which can be found on the west side of the building. This Story Walk, designed by Linda Dull, gives families a series of activities to go with each page of an engaging picture book. As an outdoor activity, a Story Walk is ideal for social distancing and is available 24 hours a day.

The Coldwater Branch has also been hosting our district-wide teen program kits. This month, Teen Services Coordinator Lindsay Villa has put together DIY bath bomb kits and holiday card kits. Teens are encouraged to send their card to an essential or health care worker that they care about.

Between programming and our daily tasks, Coldwater staff have kept busy. We have increased our curbside and outreach services. In addition, many parents and students have reached out to us looking for resources to help them transition to virtual school. We also welcomed our newest team member, Yasmen Alsuraimi, who will be joining us as a public services clerk.

Quincy

The Advisory Board met for the first time last month since March. The socially distanced meeting enabled them to vote on board members and have their annual Foundation meeting. The Quincy Friends group also had one social distanced meeting in October to vote on members. A few projects were discussed for over the winter until their next planned April meeting. The friends will be providing 10 One Book One County books in goodie bags for patrons in February/March.

Children's Book Week was celebrated last week with goodie bags filled with a new box of crayons, coloring book, cute build-a-turkey sticker sheets, puzzle sheets, candy and free Thanksgiving themed books.

I attended a three day virtual MLA (Michigan Libraries Association) conference which was full of authors and their books, but also pertinent topics on libraries dealing with the public during these trying times.

I was able to put together a nice packet of information and pictures to mail to an elderly gentleman in Texas who is a descendant of C.V.R. Pond. Pond who was quite a stellar Quincy citizen serving in many capacities are furthered the village in great ways. I printed off photos of his fireman's Chief hat and belt that we have on display in our glass case.

Quincy is prepared for returning to curbside service for our patrons and we are sure facilitating copies and faxes will be very appreciated by the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wood

Sherwood

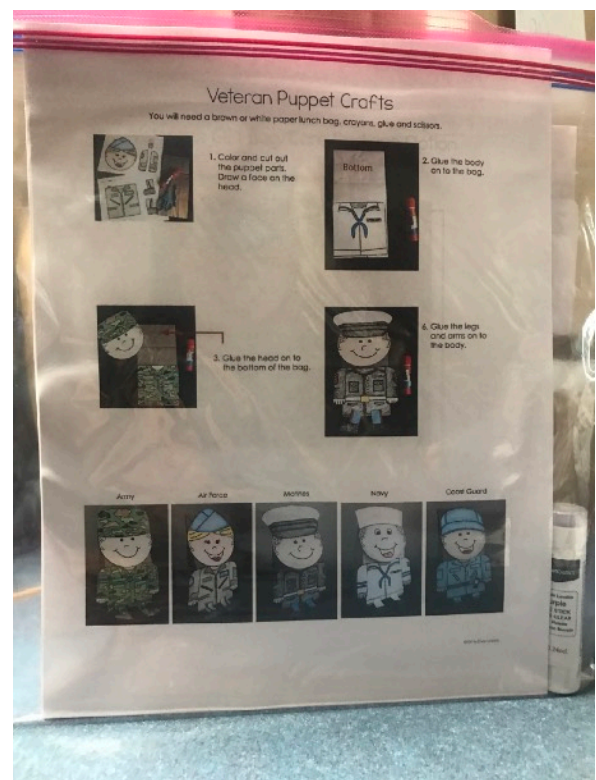
Greetings ~

I wish I had more to report but other than our super cute Grab & Go kits and training webinars, it's been a little slow.

Hopefully in the near future we'll have more going on! I did, however, include a picture of our Veterans Day craft we have going on this week! A huge "Thank you" to all of our Veterans out there!

Until next month, stay safe!

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager



Union

At Union Township, there is continued moving of materials as we adjust the flow of the collections and introduce new areas for patrons to appreciate. Expressions of gratitude for the new audio book section have been shared as well as the magazine shelving. New children's and young adult book displays have been introduced and a large print section is in the works. The ongoing book sale has diminished our numbers with plans for a children's book sale in the future. It has worked well though as the sale books cover the big tables discouraging sitting and staying for any prolonged amounts of time.

Online learning opportunities have abounded this month with both Judy and I participating in several. Judy attended "From Potluck to Projects to Planning" through Wisconsin's Columbus Public Library. I learned about the planning of Escape Rooms (MLA 10/6), Five Kinds of Non Fiction for Children (SLJ 10/21), Storytelling Math (SLJ 10/21), and Level It Up! (Colorado State Library 10/27). In addition, I attended the two day Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy Leadership Institute and Conference with over 20 sessions to participate in during the conference and for the next several months. Well worth the registration cost! I am looking forward to checking on the ones I missed and watching some a second time.

I have also sat in on a MI Youth meeting (10/7), MI Library Quest (10/13), and the National Take Your Child to the Library Day meeting (10/21). The Union Township Board met on October 13 and I updated them on what was happening at the library during the public comment time.

Union Township's contribution to the Facebook content included a demonstration on an embroidery technique called Chicken Scratch (10/12) and the reading of *Together We Grow* by Susan Vaught for story time (10/22). The BDL FB page also featured the video of Abra Berens, author of *Ruffage*, talking about her MI Notable title. She was the author Union Twp was going to host for the state wide program.

Our Grab 'n Go kits have been finding homes throughout Branch County as we offered Old Time Crafts- Chicken Scratch (10/5), Creating STEAM- Fire Safety (10/12), Dancing Scarecrows (10/19), and Witch Puppets (10/26). The Dancing Scarecrows were displayed downtown by several businesses during the annual Scarecrow Contest that is sponsored by the Green Thumb Garden Club.



Thank you for appreciating the efforts of BDL employees!

Julia Baratta

Union Township Branch Manager