

Alganssee

Summer Reading Program

I have had so much fun working with our area youth learning about the oceans and all that is in them. Our Tuesday Tales crew has been giving their suggestions each week of what we should learn the following week. They had some great ideas. We learned about the cows of the sea, manatees and they created their own manatee puppets. Then it was discovering jelly fish and sharks. I have enjoyed my time working with the kids at Paula's Daycare and we have had some extra visitors show up too. Our Thursday Story Time Kids have also been busy discovering the ocean deep. We learned about the first lady to swim with sharks and who became a famous scientist, along with the creepy creatures in the trenches. They have created ocean sensory bottles and discovered the zones of the sea by making an ocean density jar. Which some of our littlest patrons have enjoyed seeing when they came in for their weekly book swap.

Our final Summer Reading Program numbers are in. We had 10 adults participate with 4 completing. 3 teens signed up with none completing. 35 children, and 34 of them completed all their activities and received their prizes and the back to school bag from the Alganssee Friends group.

Our new copier has been receiving good use from the Amish community who are restocking their homemade card supplies after a very busy wedding season. We have also seen an increase in library use from this portion of our community. I've been handing out bookmarks with our hours and phone number on them. I explained to them that they can call in and renew a book if they can't make it to the library in time. Also that they can use the drop box on the porch whenever we aren't open to return their books. This seems to have encouraged material checkouts.

Upcoming Programs

The Tuesday Tales will continue at Paula's Daycare at 10:30 each week. We will be offering Little Explorers Story Time on Wednesdays at 10:30 at the library for ages 1-6. Thursday afternoons at 4:30 we will be exploring the books in our collection with our 6 and up crowd. I have paired an activity with

each series we will sample from. I have to admit that I am excited about this upcoming program. We will explore diaries, create comics and Lego villages, and even try our hand at some crime solving. We will be offering Teen crafts each Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 and an adult craft the first Tuesday of each month at 12:30.

Our Friends group will have their next meeting on Tuesday, September 6th at 5:30. They are currently seeking new members and have created their own book club. They will be discussing *The Broken Road* by Richard Paul Evans in September.

Submitted by Teresa Shilling

Bronson

[to be delivered in person at the meeting!]

Coldwater

In Coldwater we made a splash by wrapping up our summer reading program. We gave out hundreds of weekly prizes for kids and loads of goodies for teens. The total number of summer reading participants for the district was 1,009.

At the end of July we partnered with Branch Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine; for a Back to School Event. This event provided back to school supplies for the community. At the event we had 9 people sign up for library cards and 264 kids participate in a Dr. Seuss hat craft.



This week is the Branch County 4-H fair. The library has an informational table and some really awesome library swag for the public. Swag includes: color changing straws, bookmarks, stickers and information on library events and services.

August is a recharge- program free month. However; our staff will be visiting the back to school open houses. We will provide information on upcoming programs and services the library

offers. On August 21st our parking lot lines will be re-striped.

Something to look for in September; the Apple Fest and Craft show is on September 17th. At this event the Friends of the Library will have a book sale and a Chair-ity Art Auction. To add to the events; from 1PM- 3PM, Scoop the Balloonatic, will be at the Coldwater Library. He will be performing balloon creations!

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

Quincy

July was such a fun month! We got some things accomplished in the branch and had a few fun last summer programs before we move into the school season.

Here is a summary of the exciting things happening at Quincy:

- We swapped our Young Adult & Large Print book collection. We even got some rope lighting to go on the Young Adult section to make it more welcoming for them to come hang out.
- We pulled all of the beginner readers from the picture book collection to make it easier for parents to pick books out for their kids starting to read on their own.
- All of the parents were excited about their kiddos winning grand prizes for finishing summer reading but the teen parents seemed to be the most excited. One mom even got teary-eyed because the Kindle Fire 7 had been an item on their Christmas list last year that they weren't able to get for him. It was definitely a heartwarming experience to be able to do that for the family.
- I got in touch with the Jennings Elementary principal about doing a few story times in classrooms this year. We were both very excited for this opportunity!
- The library was able to attend Kids Day in the Park for the first time this year and they had an amazing turnout. We did temporary tattoos & button making with the kiddos and they all seemed to love doing them. Even some parents were intrigued with the button maker. It was a very fun event to attend and I'm hoping to be back next year!
- We got our gutters cleaned out and roof fixed. There was some wood going bad so they fixed the wood and repainted the wood parts to help hold up in the weather.
- Our carpets got cleaned and it's so wonderful and clean in here now!

Submitted by Sarah Strong

Sherwood

Hello from Sherwood!

Our branch is currently in the process of getting central air installed in our building. We're also in the process of getting quotes for a building facelift. It was approved by the Village Council, so I've been scouting and contacting contractors to do the exterior work. Last week left me feeling optimistic after speaking to one of the gentlemen interested in doing the job. I'll keep you updated on that!

We survived SRP 2022! Our decorations are down and we're looking forward to 2023. I've already got some thoughts on programs for next year.

We've registered a handful of new patrons over the past couple of weeks.

I'll be attending one of the Union City open houses at the school on August 18. We have crafts for the table and I've also come up with some odds and ends swag to hand out.

I'll be working a fair shift this week. It'll be nice to get out there and connect!

We are currently in the process of weeding hard. Seems like we run out of room on the shelves around this time every year!

Until next month,

Best Regards -

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.

Summer reading continued to progress nicely as we took on the crazy days of summer! We had additional visitors coming in for special programming as the local Community Unlimited summer program participants were regulars every couple of weeks. We played with the Hula Hoops and checked out the books in the collection. They were a fun group and very excited to visit the library!

Our Grab 'n Go kits were so popular this summer that most of them were picked up by Tuesday of the week they were introduced! We continue to offer 20 kits each time and they are all gone! For the month of July we had Rainbow Fish (7/4), Sea Dragon (7/11), Clothespin Shark (7/18), TP Roll Octopus



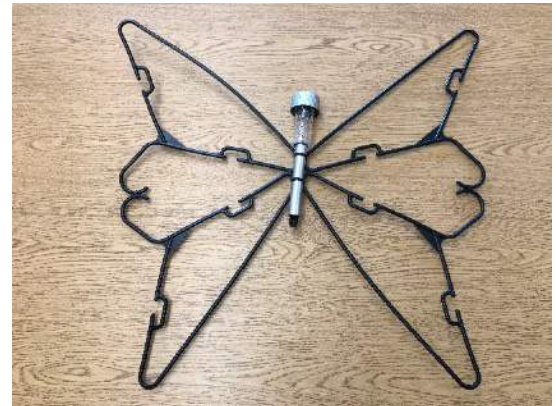
(7/25), and for the Old Time Crafts there was a Seashell Angel (7/18). Coriander was the Spice Club selection.



We had the Caribbean Steel Drums from Dynamic School Assemblies come for our second big program and had 53 participants! We called it Drums and Doughnuts with homemade doughnuts from Kim Mathiak of Burlington... the doughnuts are always a hit! Our final SRP program was the end-of-summer party where prizes were handed out and ice cream was enjoyed! A special thanks to Union Station Food and Ice Cream for providing additional prizes for those who completed the program. We were pleased with the results of 7 adults, 13 teens and 50 children finished the summer reading program. An additional five participants completed the Union Township Branch Summer Challenge.

Another program we offered was Old Time Crafts

Live! with the opportunity to make butterflies out of clothes hangers. Participants made the butterflies and added a solar light for the head and body. A fun craft!



We will be taking a programming break for the month of August but will not be taking a break from offering new services for our patrons. We will have some new options in September and I look forward to sharing them with you!

Until then, thanks for supporting our work!

Julia Baratta

Union Township Branch Manager