

Alganssee

Daily Business

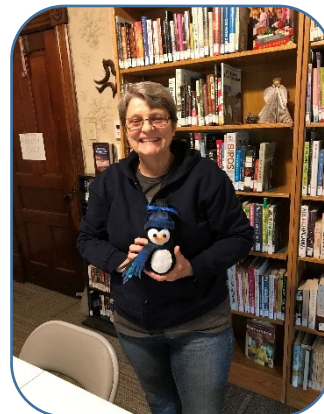
We began some new programs this month. The kids are enjoying creating animals and structures during Lego Club. Our first Family movie night was a success despite the weather. Everyone enjoyed popcorn while watching The Grinch. Many homes and trees were decorated with the crafts that Linda made with the kids each Tuesday afternoon. Joy Wood gave the children a tour of the General Store during one of our Laura Ingalls programs. Talking about the history of this community and all of the kids ancestors was a wonderful time. We focused on Christmas traditions with the little ones. My favorite moment was when one little girl drew a picture of a pig in a truck. She said that was what her daddy needed for Christmas!

Linda did an amazing job decorating the library. I do believe it helped lift up the moods of the people who visited. I love hearing everyone talking and sharing news with their neighbors here. I believe that the deep sense of community is what makes our library branch so unique.

Upcoming Events

Tuesdays at 4:30	Crafts with Linda
Wednesdays at 10:30	Little Explorers Story time at the Library
Thursdays at 4:30	Activity Time for the Big Kids - Ice Age STEM theme
Wednesday Jan 18th @ 11	Toddler Movie and Snack
Friday Jan 6th & 20th @ 4:30	Lego Club
Friday Jan 13th @ 4:30	Family Movie Night - The Croods
Friday Jan 27th @ 4:30	Family Craft - Seed Art
Thursday Jan 9th @ 12:30	Adult Craft - Snowman door hangers

Respectfully Submitted: Teresa Shilling



Bronson

Event plans for March, April and May have been turned in. We will be working in conjunction with the Bronson Area Historical Society on programs during 2023 with the first program being author Michael T. Biesiada talking about his book "A History of Gilead Township and East Michiana". We also have Stevens Puppets coming to perform at the Bronson Theater.

We held several pop-up programs during winter break and had very good attendance. We pulled the big screen TV out and played Wii games, made shrinky dinks and purler beads, played Bingo and made Christmas ornaments.

Finding a string of light-up dinosaurs at Goodwill led to creating a display of our dino books with a path of giant dino footprints leading kids from the doorway right to the cart of books. Great way to get certain books circulating again.

I've been working on contacting companies to get quotes for the isolation booth for the media center. Also getting prices on blinds for the windows and signage.

The Friends of the Library will have their first book sale of 2023 in February. There are still a few nuts left but they had a good sale during 2022.

The year is off to a great start!

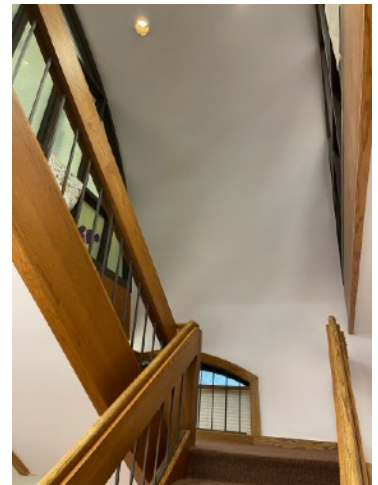
Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

Happy New Year! In Coldwater we have definitely been making some noise. Our Branch got a beautiful facelift. The entire interior has been painted with the exception of the Teen Space walls and the murals in Kids Place. The walls have been fixed. The plaster and drywall has been repaired where it was needed. In addition, we got a handicap assist installed on the West side entrance and are waiting for electricity to be run to the door.

Our staff has been extremely busy working around the chaos and putting the library back together. We have had to arrange programs and had a family movie in Teens Space; which 7 guests attended. In December, we had 4,542 people visit the library which is a 28% increase from last year's attendance. The Heritage Room had 27 visitors and will continue to have the Daily Reporter sent to Central Michigan University to be microfilmed.

Upcoming events include: Night Story Time, Anime Night, Book Club and Coldwater Kiwanis Club will host a Cardboard Sled-building workshop on January 26, to help build sleds for Winter Fest.



Quincy

I hope everyone had a relaxing and magical holiday season. Quincy's December was a busy and fun month.

Here is a quick summary of the fun things happening:

- Our kid story times and programs had wonderful attendance this last month. The kids really seemed to enjoy the couple science experiments that we did throughout the month.
- We had a lot of Christmas fun with kids, teens and adults. Santa even came to story time and Mrs. Clause read us a story. We also got the tutorial for how Santa eats his cookies when he comes to our houses. Very fun time! 😊
- I had another teacher at Jennings Elementary reach out to me requesting to do a story time for her class room as well. I'm excited for the opportunity to read to more kiddos. The more the merrier! They all seem to really enjoy when I come and read.
- Our materials circulation numbers have been increasing steadily over the last few months which is exciting news. I believe being snowed in a few times has helped with those numbers as well. We had plenty of patrons say they were stocking up for the storms coming in.

We're very excited for our springtime programs and have already started the planning process of our summer programs. We have some new and fun presenters coming to the Quincy Library this year.

I hope you all are staying warm!

Submitted by Sarah Strong



Sherwood

Last month went by so quickly!

We did our Noah's Ark Baby program before Christmas and had 26 participants show up. They were very excited to take home their new stuffed animals. I dropped the four leftover babies off to the kids who were sick and unable to come to the library. They were so happy!

We did an adult budgeting class on January 3rd. We had a small attendance, but the information was amazing and will be put to good use.

We've signed up a few new library cards over the past few weeks.

I'll be starting back at Union City Elementary school this week to read to classes. I'm happy to be back for weekly visits. (It's been a long time!)

We've got a few programs later this month.

Materials ordering has begun, and I'll be ordering programming supplies later on this month.

Until next month,

Happy New Year!

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.

Happy New Year! We are happy to have enjoyed the holiday time off and hope everyone had a lovely holiday season! We are ready for the new year and looking forward to sharing with everyone the updates on some of our goals for 2023!



As you have read in previous reports, we have been actively participating in the Grab 'n Go kits in Union Township with a lot of support from our patrons. For December, we provided Jingle Bell Ornaments for the Teens (12/5), Creating STEAM had Tissue Paper Christmas Trees (12/12), Painted Wooden Ornaments for Old Time Crafts (12/12) and the children got to make Yarn-Wrapped Christmas Baubles (12/19) to wrap up our 2022 offerings. The Spice Club selection was Ginger (Think Gingerbread!) and the Lit Kit feature was

Christmas Mice by Bethany Roberts. We will be continuing to offer our popular kits and I wanted to give a quick explanation of each one for you. The Children and Teens kits are age-appropriate crafts while the Creating STEAM ones are usually available to all ages. The STEAM kits focus on one of the aspects of STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. The Old Time Crafts are also an all-ages kit for those who are interested in a more difficult craft project. Each of these four kits include supplies to make the featured project, instructions which also includes a book list of related titles from our collection, and some treats like a bookmark and a piece of candy. The Spice Club kits are more focused on being used for educational purposes and include samples of the featured spice, information about the spice, a recipe using the spice and a list of cookbooks in our collection that include recipes that use the spice. The Lit Kits are for families to share the love of reading and bring the stories to life through the five aspects of early literacy: Talk, Sing, Read, Write and Play. The kit includes a free book, an activity sheet with each aspect represented, a craft (supplies included), and treats.



We were honored to have been chosen by the Rosemary Smitley family to receive memorial money after Mrs. Smitley passed away on December 5, 2022. The total is \$580 and will be used to replace the Magic Tree House series along with the non-fiction companion books. She taught second grade and was a Brownie leader so we also got a copy of a biography about Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of the Girl Scouts. I am looking to get a few character toys representing favorite literary figures to display. I have talked to her daughter-in-law who was pleased with the plans made for the memorial money. I will share pictures when I receive those items. A special thanks to all who donated to the library in honor of this special lady!

We had several participate in our annual "So This is Quizmas..." event and enjoyed looking through the holiday books on display which included stories about Christmas, Hanukkah, and other traditions of the season. For decorations during the holidays, we had a Christmas tree with bookmark ornaments along with the Grinch stealing an ornament in the children's area.



An additional tree was set up by the Roots and Shoots Seed Library and the ornaments on that one were seed packets from donated seeds.

Thanks for reading my report!

Julia Baratta, Union Township Branch Manager

