

Algansee

There were no programs in August. I have to admit that I was skeptical of this policy when I took this position, but I was thankful for the break. While it felt like I spent very little time at the library this month, I was able to talk with so many people about it at the fair and events. It also helped to build enthusiasm for the upcoming programs and fine tune plans.

We did see an increase of computer questions this month. I assisted several patrons with creating resumes and others with basic computer functions in Word documents. Our copier has seen a lot of work this month from wedding cards at the beginning and school copies at the end.

I have an outreach patron whom I have been working with for the past year, whose vision has continued to decline. We found some creative solutions this month to keep her reading and John assisted in finding additional resources. Resources for dementia has sadly been one of our biggest requests recently. I plan to spend some time this month to find better materials for them. We have a few patrons who visit here for a place to rest when they aren't taking care of their parents. The new Keurig has been warmly welcomed by these individuals. I have fulfilled many patron requests for materials this month and have more in next month's cart.

I am excited for the upcoming program schedule. I had my first trip back to the daycare for Tuesday Tales and the kids grew so much in just a month! We read *Please, Please the Bees* and then read from one of our new board book series, *Discover the Busy World of the Beehive*. Afterwards we danced to communicate like bees and had a Benedict Breakfast of toast and honey. Then our "Big Kids" were in after school to build solar passive house designs out of cardboard boxes. We will be using them to conduct experiments on Thursday to kick off our month of learning about green energy sources.

Sneaky Squirrel made his debut to encourage the kids to read. We are starting our Book Buddy Adoption Program this month in addition to last year's Crafts with Linda and Lego Club. Our adult craft classes are nearly at capacity with reservations. Linda will be teaching paint pouring at the first class and how to make your own lip balm for the second. The first movie of the school year will be *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*, and our monthly game night will also be Mario themed. We have snacks planned for the kids and a Mario Kart obstacle



course outside. We are looking forward to having everyone back at the library after our break.

Submitted by Teresa Shilling

Bronson

August has been a time of vacations and prepping for the fall events we have planned. Steve will be doing a Tween/Teen (ages 11-17) program each Monday and calling it Coffee House. Coffee, hot chocolate, and some sort of snack will be served along with a craft or game. It gives teens a chance to visit with each other and just have fun. He had 3 attend the first program.

I am trying another time slot for Stories and More (ages 6-11). It will be each Wednesday at 3:30 and for the first one we had 5 attend. We read a couple books about rocks and then used Gem Blocks to dig out our own special stone to take home. Toddler Time (0-3) and Preschool Friday Tales (3-5) both started with a nice size group attending.

Jessie has Adult Crafts (18+) planned for each month and those usually have all spaces filled.

Steve and Jessie both worked the library booth during Fair week.

We have been doing a weeding project in the children's section.

The Friends purchased a bike rack for the parking lot entrance area.

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

August was a mellow month for the Coldwater Branch as we did not have any events or programming taking place; however, we did host the first annual 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony. This event was open to all children that completed the challenge. We had 8 graduates.

We received all of our furniture for the extremely modernized Teen Space. The circulation desk and chairs function beautifully in the area.

In August, we purchased \$2,123 in materials (books, audiobooks and DVDs) for the library. We started a Puzzle Exchange; the idea is for patrons to leave a puzzle and take a puzzle. We also had 5,543 people visit the library in August. The library of things is gaining momentum. The karaoke machine has been checked out again along with some cookie cutters.



September is library card sign-up month and our display reflects all the wonderful things a library has to offer.

We have lush fall programs upcoming in September: Yoga, Henna, Locker Magnets, Bad Art Night, Storytimes, Fall into the Forest A Guided Nature Walk @ Rotary Park

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

Quincy

Here is a summary of the fun things happening at the Quincy Branch -

- Brittany and I attended the open house for Jennings Elementary to kick off the school year. We had many conversations about the library and things we offer with new families.
- The library had a booth at Quincy Daze that was put on with the Friends of the Quincy Library. I had a lot of good conversations with new families that have moved to our area recently. We're excited to welcome new families & faces into the library!
- We got our carpets and windows cleaned in the branch & it looks fantastic! Very thankful for that.

- We've been busy getting programming planned for the winter months that are coming soon. Stay tuned!

We had a nice August getting things ready for programming to start back up, working out in the community, and had some planned staff vacation. We're so excited about our upcoming programs!

Submitted by Sarah Strong

Sherwood

Greetings from Sherwood!

Summer is over and time is flying -

We did our Noah's Ark babies workshop the first week of September and had almost 30 kids in attendance. We definitely had a full house and it was wonderful!

Story time has started back up after the August break, and we also have a few other programs coming up later this month.

We have been conducting more interviews to fill the clerk position.

The construction crew is still working on the exterior of our building. They're hoping to be wrapping it up by the end of next week! It looks great and many people have stopped in just to tell me how great everything is looking!

Materials ordering is going well -

Until next month,

Best regards,

Traci Counterman (Sherwood Branch Manager)

Outreach

Kinderhook Township Hall has been added to our pop-up schedule. Their visits will be on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month (excluding the Thanksgiving holiday, of course). The first visit was on September 14th.

I will be attending the Community Baby Shower event again this year handing out more finger puppets and early literacy information. This will be on September 23rd.

The pop-up at the Coldwater Lake Association building has been going well so far. On my second visit, I had 6 people stop by and 3 items were checked out. One of my visitors was a board trustee from the Wauconda Area Public Library, IL, who came to see and ask about the pop-up idea to take back to her own library!

I have not yet heard from Matthews Specialty Vehicles about our next step with the bookmobile, which would be when they have our newly made vehicle and the engineers have finished their design drawings. Once they have that, we can start doing things like picking an exterior design! I last heard from Matthews in early August that the company building the vehicle should be almost done and ready to ship, so I am hoping to hear from Matthews any day now.

Submitted by Cheryl Lawrence