

Algansee

Our month of exploring space began with our home planet. We used playdough to create a visual display of the Earth's layers. Then we learned about the moon and its phases with Oreos. We explored the sun with the help of our new Immersive Reality kits. The kids loved using the headsets to "see" the sun in space. To wrap up the month we discovered the constellations. Each of the kids created their own projectors using paper tubes, a picture, thumbtacks and a flashlight.

Sneaky Squirrel has had the kids searching the library each week. They even began creating props for him and his adventures. The Book Buddy program is still going strong.

Our Adult Crafts and Projects have been filled to capacity and drawing many out of area patrons. Linda helped them create fall gnomes to hang on their doors and air freshener that smelled amazing!



Our story time crew focused on leaves, trees and nuts this month. We had a wonderful nature walk at the beginning of the month searching for signs of fall. We also learned several new poems and songs as we read our books each week.

I've ordered additional legos for Lego Club. It is always fun to see what they create and to watch them work together on their ideas. We chose an older film for Family Movie Night. The kids giggled their way through *The Adventures of Ichabod Crane* as parents remembered the long forgotten parts. The Harvest Festival was wonderful! We had an apple stacking contest, anti-gravity challenge, and scarecrow scavenger hunt. We finished our night with puking pumpkins. I loved hearing them count down for our science fun.

We are also excited to report that we will officially be relocating to a new building. The Algansee Township board voted to renovate the current Township Hall site to add facilities for our library. I look forward to having more space for our programs in the future.

Submitted by: Teresa Shilling

Bronson

October was filled with lots of programs about leaves, apples and pumpkins. We were able to use up more of the mummy crafts we had prepared for Family Fright Night by turning them into a Grab n Go craft so that even more kids could enjoy them. Patrons had fun searching the library for Halloween characters and then trading them in for a piece of candy. Homeschool Escapades included programs with Games, Puppetry, Art Steve's Way and Scary Stories.



Anderson Elementary has been using the library to check out books about animals for the first graders to use for research. Love seeing their reports and what they learned about the different animals and their take on them. Very happy all those books are being used too.

We had 30 puzzles donated for our puzzle exchange shelf so we will have a nice selection to start winter with. We pulled our winter/Christmas puzzles back out for everyone to enjoy during the season.

I attended the Bronson City Council Meeting and the Bronson School Board Meeting this month.

Elections were held in the township hall but we were able to plan our programs around the setup and day of. Township reminded me that next year there will be at least 3 possibly 4 elections and we will plan accordingly. Very grateful for the Bronson Township Board and their willingness to work with us and allow us the use of their space.

Friends are selling the Terri Lynn Nuts again. Unfortunately the extras are stored in the office entirely too close to my desk. Purchases can also be made online at bronsonfriends.terri Lynn.com. The Friends Fall Book Sale is Nov 16-18.

The Friends held their annual Make A Difference Day event at the end of October and Modern Woodmen of America matched the money raised. That money will be used to purchase books for the branch.

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

FRIENDS OF THE BRONSON BRANCH LIBRARY
2023 TERRI LYNN NUT SALE

Whole Cashews	\$13.00
Honey Roasted Cashews	\$13.00
Milk Chocolate Cashews	\$13.00
Pistachios	\$13.00
Almonds	\$13.00
Dark Chocolate Almonds	\$13.00
Pecan Halves	\$13.00
Pecan Pieces	\$13.00
Deluxe Mixed Nuts	\$13.00
Light (English) Walnut Halves	\$13.00
Sweet & Salty Trail Mix	\$10.00
Chocolate Bridge Mix (fruit & nuts)	\$10.00
Dark Chocolate Cranberries	\$10.00
Chocolate Peanuts	\$10.00
Gummi Bears	\$10.00

(1 pound bags)
 Make checks payable to: Friends of Bronson Library
 Visit our on-line store at bronsonfriends.terri Lynn.com

Coldwater

It is definitely [sweater weather](#) at the Coldwater Branch. We are honoring Native American Heritage Month and we have book displays set up around the library. Our Teen Advisory Council is hosting a Pet Supply Drive for the Branch County Humane Society. This took place the first full week in November. They collected cleaning supplies, food, leashes, blankets, litter and spent time caring for the animals.



Erica has had excellent attendance at the Tuesday morning storytime; average attendance is 25. Sarah's Night Time Story is starting to gain momentum and is regularly attended by several families. The Coldwater Branch has received several accounts of verbal praise for the free toiletries we offer. The story walk has been replaced with a new story themed for winter. We have been encouraging people from the community to go check it out!



The Coldwater Branch is welcoming Southwest Michigan's UIA for several Library Pop-ups. A regional representative will be available on Monday, November 20 and December 11 from 3-6pm to offer in-person assistance with filing unemployment claims. In addition, we will continue to receive our library pop-ups from Integrated Services; who assisted unhoused residents, on Tuesday's from 11-noon. The Coldwater women's restroom partitions are getting a repaint. The existing paint has been scratched off and vandalized. The painting will start on November 15.

A few of the many programs for Teens in November include: Teen Space Mini-Golf, Leaf Painting, Trivia Night, Art Club, Anime Club and The Young Adult Book Club. Upcoming programs in Kids Place include; Homeschool Hangout, Mommy and Me Yoga, Builders Club, Movie Night, Thanksgiving Party, and two weekly story times. For Adults events we have, The Morning Book Club and Beer Brewing 101, Winter Bird Feeding, and The Woodland Mushroom Art. Our all ages/family program, Teddy Bear Prom, has been sponsored by Meijer. At this program families and children will get to experience the magic of an enchanted prom. Children will get to take home a handmade stuffed animal.

Be sure to look for the Branch District Library at the Coldwater's Christmas Parade on December 2. We will be pushing festive book carts and sporting holiday spirit.

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

Quincy

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

- Update regarding the permanent story walk: The Quincy Village Council approved the request to put in a permanent story walk in the Quincy Park (kiddy corner from the Quincy Library). The next steps are to secure funding for the project and get the materials ordered. Keeping my fingers crossed that we'll be able to install in the Spring of 2024!
- We have officially hired a new clerk for Quincy - YAY! I'm excited to announce that Cortni Hull has joined us and is learning so much about Library Land. Welcome to the BDL family, Cortni! 😊
- Our fall book sale, put on by the Friends of the Quincy Library, was a huge success! The library was very busy both days and a lot of the materials went to good homes!
- We hosted many kid, teen, and adult fall and/or Halloween programs - and all of them had good turn outs. The kids & teens really enjoyed doing the pumpkin painting this year. They all turned out super cute!

I hope you're all staying warm and have fun things planned during the start of this wonderful holiday season!

Submitted by Sarah Strong



Sherwood

Greetings from Sherwood!

It's hard to believe it's already the end of the year, but here we are, getting our Thanksgiving Day crafts out and around!

We hosted the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society with "The Great Eclipse 2024" program last week. The Great Eclipse will take place on April 8th, 2024. We had a very nice turnout and our attendance numbers were smile worthy. Mr. Bell, (the program host), informed us that unless we're right in the "path of totality", it isn't going to be a totally "epic" event for those of us here in Michigan. Sadly. (But we could take a field trip to Indianapolis and have a perfect view??) There was a lot of good information packed into that hour.



We're currently weeding our Young Adult section. We've gotten a lot done already, but we're hoping to have the entire library weeded by the end of the year!

Casey, our new clerk, is working out wonderfully! The kids have taken a shine to her and our programs have had a consistent attendance. Yay!

We still have lots of fun things coming up to round out the year. Check out our calendar of events!

Until next month,

Warm regards,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.

Hello to Dinovember Month!

Yes, you heard it right! Union is all set for Dinovember Month and have some fun activities planned such as Scavenger Hunts, Dinosaur fun Facts, Crafts, Dinosaur Story Times, Coloring Sheets, a visit from a Dinosaur and of course lots of Dinosaurs all around the library. The dinosaurs are all having fun at the library playing games and watching TV.



This month we also have an adult DIY Holiday Wreaths program at the end of the month that we already have 2 patrons signed up for. Chess Club, Book Discussions, Patriotic Necklaces, Lego Club, what am I Grateful for? craft and Granny Squares are scheduled throughout the month.



All the programs are in the calendar up to February 2024 and my final materials order has been placed for the year. I have a future meeting with the Friends Group and the Auxiliary in the next couple weeks. I also have been in contact with the Principal at Union City High School and Andrea and I will be going in to the school during their lunch hour to sign students up for Library 1 cards. Andrea has been putting together amazing passive crafts weekly and setting up the fun scavenger hunts which the kids are doing daily.

Last month was very busy with Family Fright Night, Fire Safety Day, All Staff Training Day and other meetings in between. Halloween BINGO was a huge success with 15 patrons with their families. DIY Pumpkin design was a lot of fun and some of the kids used sharpies to decorate their pumpkins and others used assorted Halloween stickers. The Union Twp. Branch entered into the local community Annual Scarecrow Contest and received a special mention to the top 3 most creative/artistic. Only 15 businesses took part in this annual contest and we are excited to be apart of it next year.



Hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving break with family and friends! Until next month.

Submitted by Maria Piper

Outreach

I received permission from California, Kinderhook, and Coldwater Lake Association to set our pop-ups inside their buildings during the cold season. Due to lacking access to their building, the Butler Twp. stop has been placed on hiatus until warmer weather. Erica, Christina, Nicky, and Megan M. have all been an incredible help with these stops

I accepted an invitation to attend a Santa's Village event at Fairgrounds in early December, where Erica and I will be providing an activity. I've also confirmed with the Coldwater recreation department that I will attend and provide an activity for 2024's WinterFest.

My first major order for a starting bookmobile collection has been submitted! I used my materials budget for this year to kickstart the juvenile collection for the bookmobile. A good chunk of the order was collection staples such as the Harry Potter series, Elephant and Piggie, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Dog Man. Other items of note are a series of non-fiction books about different animals, some newer or popular fiction, a handful of Vox books, and a handful of large print juvenile fiction. These large print items will be cataloged with the regular juvenile fiction, as studies have shown that some struggling readers do better with the larger and easier to read font.

A few months ago, I applied for the Lois Lenski Covey Foundation Bookmobile Grant, which awards money to bookmobiles for purchasing children's books (age range of preschool through 8th grade). I received word on November 6th that my application was selected to be a recipient, and we will be receiving \$1,500. I was also given strong encouragement to reapply for the grant next year with updates to our program. The cycle for this grant will start again in February. I am hoping to use this grant allotment to either add newer kids books or a large set of phonics learning books.

Submitted by Cheryl Lawrence