

Alganssee

Linda did an amazing job with our Adult programs this month. The turtle sand art paintings were beautiful! We received so many positive comments about that craft and the Floral Candles.

Adventure Club has brought new families into our library this summer. We started our summer with a bang, literally. Paint bombs were back by popular demand. Next up we had the kids compete to find the gummy worms hiding in plates of whipped cream. But they had to do it blind folded with their hands behind their backs. I feel safe saying that this had the best parent reactions this month. There was also a water fight in the backyard and a bubble party.

I am very proud of our kiddos. They keep requesting for a turn to read during Popsicles on the Porch. Each of the books that we've read from were checked out this month. I feel like we may beat summer slide. They are also checking off their Summer Reading activities very quickly this year.



Carnival Party did not have the attendance I had hoped for, but the kids did love the slushies and games. Magic Tree House had parents joining in, teaching the kids how to build with boxes and lots of tape. My heart warmed when the kids debated which *Magic Tree House* book was the best. 😊 The Great Nerf War was a wonderful success. We had kids come from out of our area and when a group of Amish boys arrived, there was some hesitation, but everyone was playing together in no time. I was concerned about the heat, so I brought popsicles and water out for everyone.

They were sweaty, but they asked if we would do it again. I promised the kids we would.

Storytimes are still going strong. My favorite from this month was reading *Whose Nest is This?* and using grass to create nests of our own as we searched for birds on our bingo sheet.

Fall programs have been submitted to the marketing department. We will have a few changes and additions. I'm excited for the new programs that Linda and I have been working on. We've seen increased circulation on our educational kits, so I've ordered additional ones for younger ages. We have also had many new homeschool families begin visiting us regularly. They are happy with our book collection and I look forward to when we will have the space to expand it.

Respectfully Submitted by: Teresa Shilling

Bronson

We have had a fun busy summer so far and anticipate a couple more weeks of seeing lots of readers and having more great programs.



This summer we have had two special programs, Bubble Science and Cotton Candy Science and both were excellent programs with a room full of excited kids and adults. We have also had a treasure hunt, created maps, turned names into art, painted a sunset, learned to use story stones and watched some fun adventure filled movies. Teens

learned about unbreakable codes, created constellation jars and roller coasters and made some tasty strawberry Boba Tea. Adults made patriotic clothespin wreaths and are already excited about the fall craft programs.



We had 69 people turn in sheets for the coloring contest this year and two of our entries were district wide winners.



A special smile moment happened this month when a mom came in and told us that when her little boy woke up on his birthday she asked him what he wanted to do today his reply was, "I want to go to the library so I can tell Miss Lynnell, Miss Jessie and Mr. Steve that today is my birthday and I am 5 now", so that's what they did. Happy birthday to a future reader!

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

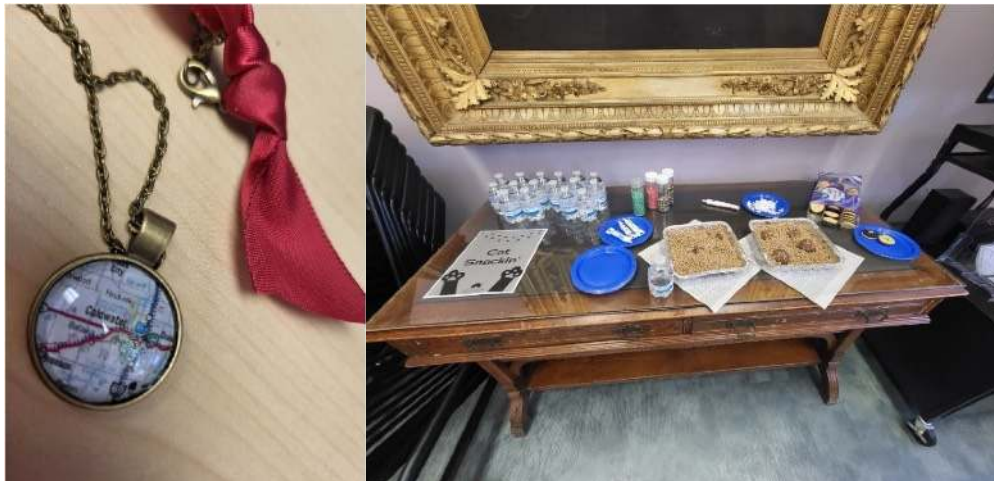
June was a steady month for the Coldwater Branch. We saw a lot of eager-to-read faces as we kicked off the Summer Reading Program! We also have a Big Foot at the book return.

Kids' Place has been a steady hang-out for families. Books or play, we are happy to be that destination spot. The kids' programs for June included Fun in The Sun, storytimes, trivia, and Mad-Science came from Detroit with some really amazing experiments. In July, we have DIY Toad Houses, Teddy Bear sleepover, Yoga, and a movie night.



Teen Space was slightly busier this June compared to last year.

The teen programming for June included: decorated tote bags, watching adventure movies each Monday and making a map pendant necklace. July teen events include a Live Action Oregon Trail, Break-in Box, Constellation Jars, Monday Movie's and the BMX Stunt show at Heritage Park. Sadly, Nicky is leaving Branch District Library to go back to teaching. We are happy to announce that Emma will be the new Teen Service Coordinator. Emma is working on her Masters in Library Science and has been at BDL, nearly 2 years.



For our all-age programs in June, we had a Crazy about Cats party, where participants used patches to make cat tote bags, made cat toys, and enjoyed some cat-litter cookies (actually Grape Nuts cereal and no-bake cookies). July's all-age program is a personalized tie-dye beach towel.

The adult programs consisted of Afternoon Tea, Era's Tour Watch Party, and Trivia for Adults. July adult programs are heavily craft based: Candle Painting and Dried Flower Suncatchers.

We will have a break in programs for August. Be sure to stop by the Branch County Fair to see our smiling faces! We will also be at the Coldwater schools for open houses.

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

Union Twp.

Happy 4th Everyone!

Union has been very busy with the Summer Reading Program, Mad Scientist Workshop, Weekly Storytimes, Scavenger Hunts, and visits from Paula for Adult Chair Exercises. We had some community members help with the judging for the Summer Reading coloring contest. All the kids and adults loved this year's coloring page - great job Ben for designing this! Two weeks ago, we had Community Unlimited for a visit and they had fun learning about Flags for Flag Day.



I have been on vacation for a bit getting married and enjoying some sunshine. I definitely got back before the hurricane was hitting in that area. Thank you to all that covered the branch while I was away. BIG shout out to Meghan for holding down the branch—appreciate you so very much! Thank you, Kimberly, and Meagan for helping with coverage and helping with Mad Scientist Workshop! Love the teamwork! Week 5 of Summer Reading and still going strong and we have a lot of patrons coming in weekly to claim their prizes and show us their cool passports. A lot of patrons are going on a lot adventures this summer!

Upcoming Programming:

DIY Lego Stamping, Friendship Bracelets, Cross-Stitching for Beginners, Mr. Jim Balloon Sculpting and Tie-Dye Creations.

Submitted By Maria Rathbun

Outreach

Not much new has happened in the Outreach department, other than acquiring two new Library by Mail applicants and possibly a new regular patron at one of the Pop-ups.

A grant I submitted to the Coldwater Township Sunrise Rotary has been approved to move forward in the process. My next step is to attend a meeting to give a quick presentation. I will be doing this for their meeting on July 18th, and the members will vote on the proposal the week after.

I have sent any bookmobile related art I received over the last two months to Matthews. I will be scheduling a meeting with my contact to talk about the art concepts for the vehicle wrap. It is my understanding that the wrap design part of the process may take a little while, as it may take several revisions.

The bookmobile made it in a survey conducted by the Coldwater Lake Association! I happened to attend the Association's pancake breakfast fundraiser, and members were handing out a survey asking how well they are doing with communication and other events they hold. The bookmobile was listed among other options under "Association Events I do/would participate in". The Association served over 1000 people at this breakfast, and one survey was given to each attending household. I am considering altering the pop-up/bookmobile schedule to include attending this breakfast for the extra exposure and library access.

Submitted by Cheryl Lawrence