

Alganssee

We started our month with Potions Party. The kids got to see the magic of science as we viewed and sampled naturally glowing food.

Corn Hole Challenge got quite competitive. The trophy was a corn cob with googly eyes and a crown.

The kids created thankful mobiles, turkeys, Indian corn and turkey headbands this month with Linda. It's amazing what she can create from leftover craft supplies, cardboard and pinecones.

We had to skip a few story times due to my laryngitis, but I was read to by my older kids at Little Explorers this month. They enjoyed our many art projects.

Our crafting adults enjoyed a paint and pour art class and learned how to make their own wax melts.

Everyone took turns reading the letters during Tea and Story Hour.

Builders Club is still popular with our kiddos. Legos are still their favorite with Brain Flakes and Lincoln Logs as the next most requested building materials.

Rusty is our newly elected Library Mascot. We had a lot of fun learning about the election process with Bob the Building Beaver (named by the Tuesday Tales kids) and Rusty Raccoon this month.

We are preparing for a busy December with Santa visiting the library. There is also a North Pole express mailbox for letters to Santa.

Have a wonderful December and Merry Christmas!

Submitted by Teresa Shilling

Bronson

Coffee House for Tweens and Teens has been having a good turnout of kids. They worked on making Christmas decorations by repurposing books. They turned out so nice that everyone on staff had to make one too! The craft was just as popular during Homeschool Escapades. Even young children, with a little help from adults, were able to fold pages to



create a Christmas tree. We also experimented with Busted Canvas and that will definitely be a craft project during 2025.



The Toddlers and Preschoolers had fun learning about Thanksgiving and making a handprint picture to go along with the book *Turk and Runt* by Lisa Wheeler.

Adults had fun with Wine Bottle Art and will be making Elf Feet door hangers in November.

We continue to register kids for the Library1 program.

I was able to attend the Bronson Township meeting and the Bronson City Council meeting.

We are working on programs for the next event guide and looking at summer reading ideas.

94 days until spring!

Submitted by Lynnell Eash

Coldwater

It's cold outside, but at the Coldwater Branch programs are just heating up! The kids area continues to have an expanding Homeschool Hangout and Get Craftin' crowd. Teen programs have been relatively slow, but we have seen an improvement in our passive programs in Teen Space. Emma has kept programs out for patrons to try in their leisure time (passive programs). The adult programs are well attended and craft heavy because our Coldwater patrons love to craft. The adults had 8 attend Crafternoon and 9 attend the DIY Holiday Crafts program.

In November we were able to add some new materials to our collection of Playstation 5 and Xbox One games. These are available for our patrons with an adult card to check out. We were also able to have several group visits to the library to learn about what materials the library has to offer. Two of the groups were adult ESL and one group was an adult group from the Waldron Center. Some of these guests were excited to get cards and checkout materials. We provided all the groups with a wealth of information on what the library offers.

New Developments: The bathroom remodel project will begin in early January 2025

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

Quincy

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and got to eat lots of delicious food with your families.

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

- There has been a lot of sicknesses going around, so we've just been trying to stay afloat here at Quincy 😊
- Our kiddo programs haven't slowed down - it's been controlled chaos over here & it's fantastic! We got to make stenciled canvas bags, abstract turkey paintings, and blow-up turkeys.
- Santa even came to the library recently and did some crafts with the kiddos. That was a big hit! All the kiddos had an opportunity to tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas & get their picture with him.
- We got our carpets cleaned and they look great! Having them cleaned professionally even saved me from having to replace some of our carpet squares. YAY!

Merry Christmas & a very Happy New Year to all. Stay safe and warm this delightful, magical holiday season! 🧊🌲🌟❄️

Enjoy these wonderful pictures of some of our F*U*N programs!



Submitted by Sarah Strong

Sherwood

Greetings and Happy Holidays!

Sherwood doesn't have a lot to report this month.

We did an adult "Spa Night" with almost a full house in attendance.

Our children's and young adult programs are well attended each week. We'll be doing movies and pizza next week and most likely a couple of other impromptu snack/movie days during Christmas break.

We have more great programs coming up throughout the end of the year!

Best regards! Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.

Happy Holidays!

December is upon us, and we're wrapping up the year in the best way possible – with fun and festive moments. It's been a month full of decorating, meetings, and trainings. I had the opportunity to attend a virtual training with Ryan Dowd on "Managing Your Own Emotions During Conflict," which was incredibly insightful. Meghan and I also participated in the CSLP Summer Reading Kick-Off Training, which is always an exciting way to gear up for the next year. The theme for 2025 Summer Reading is *Color Our World*, and we're already buzzing with ideas for the upcoming program!

Speaking of planning, Meghan and I are in the process of booking presenters for the 2025 Summer Reading Program and planning engaging crafts. We've got some great ideas in the works that we can't wait to share.

This month, I'll be attending a Township meeting, and last Saturday I had the pleasure of joining the Friends Group for the annual *Breakfast with Santa* event at the Union City First Congregational Church. It was a heartwarming event, with 35 volunteers helping with cooking, setup, cleanup, and assisting with the check-in process. A total of 141 people had signed up for the event – 75 kids and 66 adults – and while some couldn't make it, we were thrilled to welcome additional families who came on the day. Santa was, of course, a huge hit, and the kids were so excited to share their Christmas wishes. It's always such a joy to be part of this special, festive tradition.

To top it off, the *Toys for Tots* event was being held at the same time, so every child had the chance to pick out a toy before they left. It was wonderful to see so many kids leave with big smiles on their faces, and I'm so grateful to be a part of this community-centered event.





Meghan and I have also been busy with planning for the spring and summer months. Meghan has been reaching out to seed vendors, and we've already received responses from a few companies offering free seed donations for the Spring. In the process of booking Author, Herbalist, and Speaker Bevin Cohen to make a visit to the library next year.

As I reflect on the year, I am filled with gratitude. I'm incredibly thankful for the amazing management team, the marketing team, and the entire BDL team. A special shout-out to Meghan – my hardworking and dedicated clerk. Together, we collaborate, brainstorm, and create exciting new programs that have brought in more and more patrons. It has been a busy and successful year, and I am so proud to be a part of this amazing journey. Together, we've made the library a fun and exciting place for our patrons to visit.

Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing holiday season. Here's to 2025 – may it be even more exciting and fulfilling than the year before!

Submitted by Maria Rathbun

Outreach

Placing orders for the bookmobile's opening collection is still underway. I have received all of the selection lists from our vendor. Now, I am in the process of whittling these lists down and placing orders. While some of these are a little harder to shrink, few of the easier and smaller lists have already been finished and ordered: adult audiobooks, large print non-fiction, young adult graphic novels, and some adult non-fiction.

Speaking of bookmobile, I received another update from Matthews: at the time of this writing, quality control has cleared our bookmobile. However, there is an external outlet that is not working properly. Once this issue has been fixed, we will be receiving a call to schedule delivery.

Submitted by Cheryl Lawrence