Algansee

To celebrate 100 years of Winnie-the-Pooh we read a story about the beloved bear and his friends each week. Each story was followed by activities, songs and art.



The STEM Robots brought in a crowd again. This month they made and collected the Obstacle Course Robot. We had box building for the kindergarteners and water art for the preschoolers so that everyone had an activity. At Builders Club there was a group creating with Legos, while another was building marble run challenges.

Water coloring was a fun Tuesday activity. By the end of the month, they'd learned how the paint moved and their paintings became much more detailed. Our teens are continuing with their normal line up. Since all the copies of the book they requested were checked out, we read a You Choose Adventure about Sea Monsters. It was a lot of fun and naturally they had to go back and try every option at the end. We received a donation of stamps and materials for Junk Journals. Our teens have put them to good use. ☺

Amber did an amazing job helping the adults make the faux stained-glass lanterns. They all turned out beautifully. Tamara Bontrager taught a full class on Sourdough. Participants will be returning next week to ask questions on what they've experienced in the past two weeks.

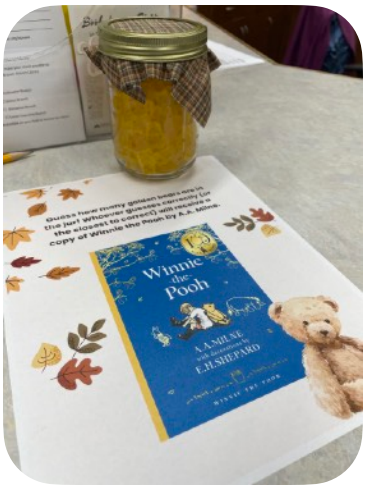


The kids carved out six different Ralph the Pumpkins to experiment on. They requested that we try different amounts of the ingredients to see if they could get a bigger reaction, and even tried everything backwards. It was so much fun and I was so happy to see them thinking like scientists. After our chemistry lesson, they enjoyed rolling their pumpkins down the hill and launching them to see how far they could send them flying.

Breathe Free Duct Cleaning cleaned the ducts and replaced our furnace filters. The community puzzle has returned and the fireplace has been drawing patrons in to linger and rest. With harvest nearly complete, it feels like everyone is looking forward to a restful season. We have certainly seen an increase in puzzles and games being checked out. I have added a few more toys to be played with inside the library, as we are noticing more parents and grandparents bringing children here for a place to play and get out of the house.

Submitted by: Teresa Shilling

Bronson



We had a beautiful, warm, and festive October here in Bronson!

We had a great turn out for our Winnie the Pooh birthday party, with kids enjoying treats, watching 1970s Pooh Bear episodes, coloring, playing games, and doing a papier-mâché craft to celebrate the beloved character turning 100.



The BDL staff members who volunteered to be judges read and voted on the submissions for the first ever Little Horrors short story writing contest. They selected a piece called "No Echo" by Suzi Walters. She expressed how excited she was and came in right away to receive her prizes. We've already had questions about when next year's contest will be and are exploring other writing contests and programming ideas.

Steve has continued to have great attendance with his teen program, a new record for the year with 24 kids coming in to enjoy snacks and do projects with him. The teen group we have enjoying the library after school hours has increased for the season and they bring a very fun energy into the building and we enjoy having them.



We are so excited to be moving forward with our ADA door installation, the company we are using A-1 is assembling materials and should have an installation date for us shortly. After seeing many patrons struggle with opening the door all of us here are so thankful for this upcoming upgrade!

October officially marked my first 90 days as the Branch Manager for Bronson. It has been such an exciting first few months and I have had an overwhelming amount of much needed support from everyone across the district, especially my staff here. We continue to prep for the first programming season we got to plan together and I'm looking forward to spending my first holiday season in this beautiful building.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

Alisha Morris, Bronson Branch Manager

Coldwater



Fall is here but November is just heating up! The Coldwater Branch hosted all of Max Larsen first graders for a field trip. Around 250 students and teachers got to be our guests and explore the library. The students got a glimpse of Teen Space and got to explore the offerings of the kids area. The students were such excellent library guests and demonstrated exemplary library behavior. Kids' Place hosted a papier-mâché piggy bank craft. It was sticky and messy but so much fun!

The teens celebrated National Jersey Day by enticing those to wear a jersey and stop into the library for a prize and check out some sports reels. Upcoming teen programs include eraser stamp carving and teen trivia.



For the adults our security guard Trey, lead a program about basic home repairs. Our guests came to ask questions and learn some basic tricks of the trade. Lastly, our Holbrook Heritage Room Coordinator Brittany, and I hosted a local history book club. We read *Waiting For Home: a Richard Prangley Story*. Brittany brought so much additional information to the book club including the state home scrapbooks, Richard's file which included some of the awards he received and newspaper articles of stories he mentioned in the book.



Coldwater has hired a new circulation clerk; Boston, will be joining the team soon and we look forward to having another staff member.

Lastly, the Winter Event guides have arrived and we are so excited to spread some holiday programing cheer!

Submitted by Christina Holibaugh

Quincy

We've had a blast this month with our fun, fall programs! Here is a summary of the fun things happening at the Quincy Branch:

- Boo Bash was a new Halloween program we tried at Quincy since the district didn't host Family Fright Night this year. We had 68 patrons come through during our 2 hour program.

The kids were over the moon happy with all the things we had. We ended up doing 4 games, 1 craft (you got to take a fun Halloween coloring book home too at the craft station), some really yummy snacks, spider suckers, and they got to make some fun drinks and put eyeballs they could eat in the drinks :)

- The Murder Mystery Company came and hosted a murder mystery and we had a ball figuring out who the murderer was at the Billionaires Ball! We had 21 people attend the program with only 2 no show that registered. I will call that a win! The Murder Mystery Company was such a WONDERFUL host! The actor and actress that came were phenomenal and kept the show going but not in a rushed pace. It was a really fun night & we can't wait to have them back next year!



- Potions & pumpkins had 11 in attendance and the kids (and even one adult!) absolutely loved making the potions. They really liked adding all of the "ingredients" into the potion. The last potion we made was a love potion. None of the kids wanted to fall in love but it was the recipe with the most ingredients to add so that is truly the only reason we made a love potion. 😊 They enjoyed making the pretend pumpkins too but their favorite was filling it up with candy to take home. So much fun was had!

- We got a new copier in the branch! To most that doesn't seem like a big change but it is for Quincy. The Friends of the Quincy Library have historically owned the copier in this branch (until this new one) which means we had to keep track of prints separately from BDL printer. The printing/coping process will be a little easier and streamline now that we don't have to keep them separated + it prints in color which is a big upgrade for us!

- The Friends of the Quincy Library hosted their bi-annual book sale on November 6th and 7th. They had over 60 patrons come through their sale and they got rid of so many items! The next sale will be the first Friday and Saturday in June!

I hope you all have a wonderful, safe, and happy Thanksgiving. 🦃🍽️🍂

Tis the season to be thankful and I am beyond thankful for my BDL family and everything the library does for me and for the Quincy branch 🧡

Submitted by Sarah Strong

Sherwood

Greetings from the West side!

We are quickly wrapping up the end of the year. Material ordering is almost complete. We only have a couple more items to order for next year's early spring crafts, and then we'll be completely done.

We made "Witches Bells" for the adult craft last month. It was well received and people called all week to sign up even after the program was full. We're planning on increasing our available spots for adult crafts next year. Hopefully, this will ensure we'll have a full house for each craft.

We painted pumpkins with the kids last month. That is always a popular one!

We are in the middle of a huge weeding project. That should keep us busy until the end of the year.

We have some really great programs in the near future. We'd love to see everyone.

Best regards, until next month,

Traci Counterman - Sherwood Branch Manager

Union Twp.



November is here and so is the time change! We have a lot of great programs coming up, but before I get into that: did you hear the news about this year's Scarecrow Contest?

The Scarecrow Contest, sponsored by the Green Thumb Garden Club, just announced the winners and this year we received 1st place! How exciting! Thank you to all that had a chance to vote in this year's Scarecrow Contest. Every year we have fun creating new ideas and this year's idea we centered around Winnie-the-Pooh to celebrate the 100th Anniversary.



Bevin Cohen and his wife Heather presented "The Art of Herbal: Tea Tasting Experience" at the end of October and we had 15 patrons come for the event. Bevin shared his knowledge and expertise on the history and folklore of the various herbal ingredients and everyone enjoyed trying different herbal teas.

Join us this month at the Broadway Grille in Union



City Thursday, November 12 at 4 pm. This month's book selection is *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Such a great story and I am looking forward to discussing this New York Times Bestseller book. A feel-good story that is now in the process of becoming a feature film adaptation – how exciting!

October was full of fun Halloween events and not so scary programs!







Death Café program is going well and this month we had 5 patrons attend which included a new patron that had never been to this library before and only lives 10 minutes away. She was very excited about attending this program and said she will return next month as well. I am excited to see more patrons checking out this program Next program date for Death Café is December 3rd at 5:30 pm. Check it out if you want to learn more about it.

Lastly, I am working on end of year ordering, future programming and decorating for this year's Photo's with Santa which will be held Saturday December 5th, 9 am – 11 am Sponsored by the Friends Group. A lot coming up and before we know it will be 2027.

Submitted By Maria Rathbun

Outreach

The bookmobile spent a weekend in the shop to have our Starlink installed on the roof. While it was there, we had a couple of other maintenance tasks done. Soon enough, we will be making a stop at Pell's to have our winter tires put on. At the moment, we are just waiting for the weather to drop a little bit more before we do.

Our pen pal program between assisted living residents and a Pansophia class of 4th graders is going better than I had expected! We have a total of 12 adult participants to our 13 students who returned parent permission forms. Students will write their responses to their first official letter from their pals when we make our school stop this week (on 11/2). Letters between parties are short-answer responses to prompt questions, making this task quicker for the students to perform during their time at the bookmobile.

Speaking of school stops, I am writing my report from our first stop at the newest addition to the schedule: Bronson Jr/Sr High School. One of the teachers there is very familiar with the bookmobile and worked with the school admin team to bring us in. The school has a library, but no librarian to staff it. While we are here for everyone, the admin team is using this teacher and her classes as a sort of guinea pig for the rest of the school. If things go well with these classes, the other teachers may be more excited about giving their students time to visit the bookmobile as well.

In the coming couple of weeks, Bill and I will slowly move some materials around the shelves to make a couple of small changes. Currently, the end of the adult fiction section is placed on a cart by the driver's side desk. The plan is to put enough materials from the passenger side (where the rest of the adult materials reside) into storage so we can keep all of the adult books on the same side. This will free up the aforementioned cart by the desk to have more space for the juvenile fiction. As we purchase more materials, particularly the graphic novels, making space for them is becoming harder. This is a good thing, seeing as all of our juvenile graphic novels are circulating very well!

Upcoming events: Coldwater Christmas Parade (Dec. 5th), Indoor Christmas Market (Dec. 11th). Join us at the Indoor Christmas Market and learn how to gift wrap a book in an easy, fun, and creative way!

Submitted by Cheryl Lawrence