Adult Services November Report

Staffing:

We are at 100% staffing in the adult department. After an unusually high level of turnover, we finally found a great employee to fit our one night a week schedule. This position has been filled off and on since Matt put in his resignation to focus on his teaching job, faculty position at Trine, and part time online job. We thought we had two great fits, but health issues caused two different part time employees to put in their resignations. Having Dawn as a floater has been so helpful during the last few months.

Programs: We had less programs this month due to holiday closures, which the staff appreciated greatly. Book clubs continue to be successful. In fact, Sylvan Cellars has reached out to see if we would host a monthly evening book club so we are working out details for that. This would be on top of our book clubs we host in Kendallville and Rome City. Our cooking and baking programs continue to fill up. Madison’s craft programs continue to grow.

We have received some great feedback and suggestions from our suggestion boxes. In addition, starting in the New Year, I will begin to observe programs led by adult department staff. This will allow for a more consistent level of programming for all programmers.

We will begin Winter Reading on December 18. The theme is Don’t Flurry, Be Happy. Adults will fill out bookmarks in half hour increments in order to earn mugs. Patrons are able to choose between a green or red campfire mug. The green is pictured below:

![Green mug](image)

We are very fortunate in that our community participates in Winter Reading. I have spoken to other libraries who say that they have much more luck during Summer Reading. We have good feedback for both winter and summer for the adult department.

Collections: We are holding steady for our collections. Having notice that we needed to stop spending by November 1 allowed us to get orders in for the rest of the year in a timely manner. In addition, there are not very many new releases for the month of December.

One thing I would love to plan to focus more on next year are digital books, audiobooks, and checkouts. Some of our wait times for a single title are months at a time. Here are some wait times for some of my personal holds, just to give an idea of what our patrons wait for. For the title Killers of the Flower Moon, I am 192 in line. I started at Number 488 and placed the hold on October 17. For Michael Connelly’s new book called Resurrection Walk, I am number 313. I started out at number 527. Just today at
Limberlost, I had a patron mention that she had given up on *Spare* by Prince Harry since she had been waiting so long. That title came out in January of 2023. I hate to hear feedback like that from patrons.