

Adult Services Report of the Librarian October/November 2024

October was jam packed with outreach programs and activities. On October 1, Mary and I hosted an outreach table at the first Homesteading Conference held by Purdue Extension at the CLC. On October 9, I hosted a table at the CLC for a Veteran's Outreach Event held by Jim Swartzlander. Amanda Blackman was kind enough to lend us Russell Frehse's military uniform to display and we took other materials located to our local history and the military. On October 16, Limberlost was a host for Lakeside Holidays. On October 17, Mary, Brittany, and Leah hosted a gift-wrapping station at the CLC Holiday Market. We also helped with the planning, setup, and cleanup.



We have recently switched Grace's outreach times to assisted living facilities. She will now see Chandler Place, Lutheran Life, and Orchard Pointe on the third Wednesday of the month and Lutheran Life visits the library for activities on a Monday. Grace visits Atz Place on a different Monday. This helps with time off requests on Fridays.

The adult department has continued to focus on programming at Limberlost and it is really paying off. Our patrons are responding to our efforts and the feedback has been great. We are currently working on Winter Reading planning and planning for February for both locations.

Training:

I have been part of a group called HALO, which is an adult programming group, for quite some time. The facilitator moved on to a different position in a different library and so it did not disband, Brittany and I now run this group. We are responsible for facilitating the organization, setup and running of meetings.

Mindy also tasked Mary and me with running an all ages programming roundtable. We hosted the second one at Peabody Public Library in Columbia City and got to tour their facility. They have recently made a few changes, especially in the youth area.

Collections:

We have been working hard on collection development at both Limberlost and Kendallville. Library IQ has been so helpful for running reports to see what books and materials do and do not check out. It is important to maintain the collections, especially with an upcoming building project and renovation so we know exactly how much space our collections require.

Floater:

Lastly, I just want to write how much I appreciate Dawn, who is our floater. She is amazing at proofing the adult flyers for the newspaper, helping with Legos, and helping cover vacations and time off. As a manager, having Dawn available makes my job just a tiny bit less stressful, especially with desk coverage and time off requests.