November always seems to be one of those months that breezes by quickly. This month the play area theme was a construction zone and the scavenger hunt was themed around it. Little people are always excited to see what the new theme is each month. We had a month full of storytimes, afterschool programs, a therapy dog visit, a homeschool program, and teen programs. The Rome City branch also had a month full of storytimes, afterschool programs and a therapy dog visit. Each library location also has changing weekly crafts that people can stop by and create at any time. This month included, fall stained glass, a felt leaf garland, a paper turkey and a paper plate gnome.

The storytime survey results are all in and we will be adding storytime sessions here at Kendalville on Mondays at 10 am and Tuesdays at 11:30 am. These will be in addition to our other storytime sessions that are held on Tuesdays at 10 am and Thursdays at 6 pm. Each storytime session does require registration, drop ins are welcome as long as there is space available.

Along with the adult department, we were a part of the annual Community Learning Center Christmas Market. The library had a booth that included a free wrapping paper station, Christmas trivia with library swag for prizes, a photo backdrop for pictures and items people could check out. We were also a part of the CLC’s Christmas lighting event and provided free hot chocolate and library flyers. It was a chilly and fun evening.

The coordinator of the area Junior Achievement program reached out this month to see if I would be interested in teaching JA to ninth graders at the high school. I have taught JA sessions in other schools before and I really enjoy how the program is set up. These sessions will focus on soft job skills such as cell phone etiquette, interviewing, and workplace communication. It is a fun way to get to know area teachers and their students.

At the end of November our Santa letter mailboxes went up in the youth areas here at Kendalville and Rome City and at Life and Family Services and the Community Learning Center. Each year we also drop off special stamps, envelopes and pens to LFS and the CLC and their staff respond to the letters that are dropped off at their locations. This year we had a few area school classes drop off letters from their students. We have had a few children ask when their letters would arrive, to which we responded that the North Pole was a long way from here and it would take a little while for a letter to come to their house. It is such a special way to bring some of the magic of the holidays to our community.

Sincerely,
Mary Graber
Apron Art at Rome City

Strawberry Turkeys at Rome City

Holiday Market at the Community Learning Center