

Adult Services Librarian Report September 2026

Programming

Summer Art Series: Paper Roses

Madeline led six adults in a summer art workshop focused on creating paper roses using old books. Participants learned how to showcase their own creativity and practice fine motor skills, attention to detail, and most importantly using old book pages to learn how to upcycle and repurpose things into something decorative and joy bringing. Through her guidance and welcoming approach, Madeline fostered an inclusive environment where both experienced artists and beginners felt comfortable exploring their artistic talents and connecting with fellow artists.



Flourishing Series – Kick Off

Flourishing Together is a welcoming community series hosted by Becky McMarrow, with many professional licensing, focused on building meaningful connections while supporting personal well-being. The series invites community members to connect, share ideas, and learn from one another as they explore what it means for individuals and communities to flourish.

Sessions offer a variety of opportunities for connection and personal growth, including communal drumming, community letter writing, and Qi Gong, a gentle movement practice similar to Tai Chi. Additional sessions encourage

meaningful conversation and collaboration around ways to build healthy, sustainable connections with ourselves and others.

The variety of activities makes the series accessible to people with different interests and comfort levels, while creating opportunities for participants to meet new people, learn something new, and strengthen their connection to the community. Participants are welcome to attend individual sessions or take part in the full series.

JobPod Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Panel and Job Fair

The JobPod community event and job fair was a successful evening that brought together local employers, job seekers, community partners, and library supporters. The event highlighted the important role the JobPod and library play in connecting community members with employment opportunities and resources.

County Executive Tom Nelson and Mayor Tony Penterman both spoke during the event, offering words of support for the JobPod and the library and recognizing the value these services provide to the community. A special thank you goes to Library Board member Cindy for speaking and representing the Library Board, as well as James, the Assistant Library Director. We are also grateful to Danielle Zeamer, our JobPod staff member, for her support and work in helping make the event successful.

The panelists were welcoming and engaging, answered many questions from attendees, and continued conversations with individuals following the panel. Several local businesses participating in the job fair reported having multiple viable applicants from the evening, demonstrating the event's direct impact in connecting local employers with potential employees.

Several local news outlets were also in attendance and expressed enthusiasm about covering the event and featuring JobPod and this event in their segments. Their interest provided an additional opportunity to raise awareness of the JobPod and the resources available through the library.

The success of this event reflects the strong partnerships between the library, JobPod, local government, businesses, media, and the community. We look forward to continuing to build on these connections and provide opportunities that support workforce development and economic well-being in our community.



Collection Development

Collection development will continue to be a key area of focus for the Adult Services Librarian as the library works to make full use of our new collection management software. The new system provides more nuanced tools and data to support thoughtful curation, ongoing collection maintenance, and the development of an even more robust and well-balanced collection. It will allow us to make more informed decisions about what to add, retain, weed, and evaluate based on the needs and interests of our community.

As staff become more familiar with the new software and its capabilities, we will also continue building expertise in specific collection areas. This combination of stronger tools and staff knowledge will support a more intentional approach to collection development and help ensure that the library's collections remain relevant, diverse, responsive, and valuable to the community.

Volunteers

An additional volunteer position has been added to support the Little Free Pantry, with two new volunteers joining the effort to help maintain this valuable community resource. Volunteers assist with sorting community donations,

checking expiration dates, keeping the shelves stocked and welcoming, and helping ensure that food safety practices are followed.

The Little Free Pantry continues to be a great example of community members coming together to support one another. The addition of dedicated volunteers helps ensure that the pantry remains organized, accessible, and a welcoming resource for those who need it, while also allowing the library to better manage the ongoing community donations.