

Support & Public Services Report to the Mead Library Board of Trustees

Submitted by Cheryl Nessman

May, 2026

Staffing:

- We are in the process of hiring a new Associate Librarian for the Circulation area
- We are working with the consultant on a position description that will combine Library Assistant and Cataloger duties in hopes of getting that approved and posted before summer
- The following staff members attended the Wisconsin Association of Public Libraries Conference in Elkhart Lake in April:
 - Circulation Library Assistant
Adult Services Librarian
 - Adult Services Associate Librarian
 - Deputy Director
 - Children's Librarian - presented on Ready Set Prek
 - Children's Librarian

Programming/Exhibit/Outreach Highlights:

- May-Aug:
 - The 7th annual MeadCon was a huge success with over 400 attendees.
 - [Pre-registration](#) for the Summer Reading program is underway. Some of the fun activities that are planned include:
 - Summer Math Adventure (May 26-Aug 8)
 - Tween Summer Science Club (Wednesdays, June 10-July 8)
 - Acuity Cool Picks Summer Reading Program Kickoff for Teens (June 16th)
 - Kids on Canvas (June 18th)
 - Red, White & Read: Craftsavaganza (July 2)
 - Dinosaur Dimension Show (July 7)
 - Stuffed Animal Sleepover (a family favorite! July 14-15)
 - Be My Neighbor Storytime (Tuesdays July 14-Aug. 4)
 - Milwaukee Public Museum Dinosaur Hunt (Aug. 1)
 - Tween Steam Camp (Aug. 3-6)
 - Bubble Bash at the City Green (Aug. 12)
 - Build Your Own 3-D Dragon (Aug. 20)
 - Amanda Strojinc will be serving as [Mead's STEMist-in-Residence](#) with programming on gardening, homesteading, and culminating in a community project to beautify a portion of the library's landscaping.

Patron Services

- We are implementing LibraryIQ and SmartyCat services which are designed to help with collection management and evaluation, as well as with targeted marketing of materials. LibraryIQ also allows libraries to customize the statistical dashboard to assist with programming and outreach efforts.
- Staff have begun enforcing the new food policy contained in the updated Code of Conduct. Things have been going smoothly so far.
- The 24/7 Holds Lockers are still very popular and completely full most days, resulting in a backlog of holds a lot of the time.
- The Programming 4 the Unhoused working group has been working on bringing outside resources in for our library users. Aubrey and Aleah worked with a Navigator at the Job Center of Wisconsin to create appointments that Library Staff will field so the navigator can best help individuals while at the library. Cheryl and Katie have been working with some local attorneys to start a Free Legal Help Clinic at the library, and they've also been working with HHS to create a health hub.

Collections

- We continue working to combine our Young Adult and Adult Graphic Novel/Manga collections
- There is a new Role Playing Game (RPG) collection between the magazines and Imaginarium on 2nd floor.