February Report of the Librarian- Adult Services

We launched a program called Book Bundles the first week of January and as of January 30th, we have fulfilled 18 book bundles. The program works with people filling out a preference sheet and then library staff choosing books to correspond with their preferences every few weeks. We have had one patron go through four book bundles already. Two patrons have filled out surveys and they were both positive. Book Bundles have also helped other employees on staff be able to choose and recommend books, which is one of our favorite things to do.

Limberlost employees are doing a great job of promoting this service and we have had four bundles go out for patrons at Limberlost. The next step would be to combine our doorstep delivery program with the book bundle program to possibly make it so that patrons didn’t even have to stop in to pick up their book bundles, which would make it a true subscription service.

One of our volunteers named Ann has been doing an amazing job of going through a huge slide collection we unearthed in the genealogy room. We have been in contact with a few different libraries to see what equipment they use to digitize these types of film and have set up a field trip to Huntington to see what would work best to get our materials transferred and viewable by patrons. They have a piece of equipment that might work that might fit in the budget. Some of the pictures from the slides hold pictures of buildings and areas that are not even around anymore. Ann is currently using an old projector borrowed from the fire station.
More and more people are learning about our many unique collections and if I had $1.00 for every time someone mentioned how surprised they are by all that we have to offer, I would have a lot of dollars. Board games, art prints, binge boxes, vinyl records, fitness equipment, and even puzzles are becoming increasingly popular. A patron also just recommended a foreign film collection and I have been pleasantly surprised that it seems to be circulating extremely well.

I just had an employee from Butler Library ask about our cake pan collection so Sarah ran a report of our cake pan circulations and we sent them that as well as how our cake pans are stored, organized, cataloged, and the instruction sheets that go along with them. Katie had an email from the state library saying that we had one of the largest cake pan collections and asking for more information. Being able to try new collections and having the freedom to fail has made our library extremely successful and relevant in a time when many libraries are seeing decreases in circulations. Adapting and meeting patron needs is important to everyone at the library responsible for purchasing materials.
Limberlost has done a great job of communicating different things needed and suggestions for improvement. Everything I have ever asked them to do, they have done so willingly and with a smile and I appreciate how everyone takes such pride in the building and our collections. Bingo is going very well at Limberlost. Last time Brittany hosted, she had to add a few tables because 28 people attended. She also has a loyal group of patrons who attend her book club.

The adult department is also in the process of weeding. Time has really flown since I started on this side and I can’t believe it’s time again. So far, most of nonfiction is finished and we are partway through mysteries. I’ve only finished paperbacks and mysteries at LB and am partway through nonfiction. It’s so much nicer going to LB since the renovation because it is so bright and cheerful now.