Mundy Monthly Report
(November, 2022)

STATISTICS
• 6 adults scheduled 1:1 appointments for genealogy, career, and technology assistance.
• Take-home crafts
  o 28 Make your Own Felt Skull Kit for Day of the Dead (all handed out)
  o Made 22 DIY Dreamcatchers (2 remain)

PROGRAMMING
• Board Game Café – (11/5 2-4pm) 6 children (age 5-14)
  o Children read the instructions to learn how to play unfamiliar games as well as practiced taking turns and teaching the rules of games they had played before.
• Make Your Own Mini No-Bake Pumpkin Pie – (11/19 2-4pm) 2 children
  o Children learned to read a recipe, were introduced to the abbreviations for measurements, and practiced financial literacy by “shopping” for ingredients (including making decisions about which ingredients to buy using their budget, giving the “cashier” the appropriate amount of money, and counting back change as a “cashier”). We also read There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie, and one of our participants asked to read and be in charge of “story time.”
• Beaded Napkin Holders – (11/23 2-4pm) 6 children aged 6-14
  o Participants had the opportunity to create beaded napkin ring holders for everyone attending their Thanksgiving celebration. Napkin ring holders were created using pipe cleaners, pony beads, and alphabet beads, and participants spelled their family member’s names as well as Thanksgiving themed words such as family and thankful.
• Dia de los Muertos Picture Frame Passive Craft – (11/1 to 11/11) 6 participants
  o Picture frame templates and instructions were provided for participants to cut out a picture frame, fold the doors of the frame, and decorate it. Information was provided to share the importance of pictures of deceased loved ones in the celebration of this holiday.
• Write a Letter to a Veteran – (11/11 to 11/30) 10 participants
  o Envelopes, paper, and Veteran’s Day themed coloring pages were provided for young patrons to write a letter to a Veteran in their life.
• Turkey Scavenger Hunt – (11/1 to 11/30) 24 participants
  o Ten turkeys were hidden for the children to find in the library. The turkeys were labeled with a number and a corresponding letter. The children had to find all ten turkeys and fill the letters into the correspondingly numbered blanks to decode the secret message (“Read More Books”).
• Turkey Scavenger Hunt Part 2 – (11/21 to 11/30) 15 participants
  o As many of our regular young patrons had completed the first turkey scavenger hunt, I created a new worksheet with fifteen hidden turkeys. (“I am thankful for my favorite author”).
• **Be A Voter: Vote for Your Favorite Author** – (11/4 to 11/18) 4 participants
  o “Ballots” were created with popular children’s, middle grade, and YA authors, books, and series. Participants were asked to cast their ballot in the ballot box at the Welcome Desk, and in return they received a “Be a Voter” sticker. Favorite authors included Dr. Suess, Eric Carle, Jason Reynolds, and Angie Thomas. Favorite books included *Goodnight Moon, Green Eggs and Ham, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Long Way Down*, and *The Hate U Give*. Favorite series include *Dog Man, Curious George, Pete the Cat, Captain Underpants*, and *The Hunger Games*.

• **Reading with Ms. Mary** – (11/02, 11/09, 11/16) 15 attendees

• **Device, Technology Help, and Reader’s Advisory: Providence House** – (11/17) 8 attendees
  o Charlie Radin and Zulay Lindsay brought selected Mundy Branch titles and requested holds for patrons to check out and offered software and hardware help to residents. They checked out 10 titles and Charlie fixed software and hardware problems for 7 patrons.

• **MOST Future Innovators** – (11/10) 2 attendees

• **Thread Needle Thimble** – (11/8, 11/22) 4 total participants

**COLLECTION**

- Added new picture book categories Dinosaurs, Science, Sports, and Tough Topics to make the section more approachable. Began moving books to the new sections but this will be an on-going project.

**OUTREACH/COLLABORATION**

- Charlie Radin went to PSLA Fowler and met with their librarian to discuss areas for collaboration. They hope to have a library card signup day at the school, and are in the process of finding a window in school and library schedules to put it on the calendar. For now, he is sending our flyers and events to her to post on teacher and student bulletin boards.
- Zulay Lindsay and Charlie Radin visited Providence House on 12/17 for Device and Technology Help, and Reader’s Advisory. Charlie worked with our contact, Susan, to design and display a flyer on each of the facility’s floors. This small marketing effort reminding seniors in writing when we could be on site worked well as 7-8 people waiting when we arrived.
- Our Virtual Court Access devices were dropped off and installed on 11/10. We are excited to be able to offer this service to patrons
- Delaware 2nd grade scheduled all 4 classes to come to the library in December

**FACILITIES – BUILDING AND GROUNDS**

- CR I reset the table flanking the back of the Welcome Desk, turning it into an information station with library events, programming, and marketing. We are displaying Trek Boxes, information about adult programs, and our usual child craft (shout-out to LA Jessica!). Anecdotally, I do observe people regularly finding the information table and engaging with the resources!
STAFF

- Three new pages were hired and began working the week of 11.07.22. Ian Daigneault and Karah Morton have both been excellent additions to the Mundy crew—fast learners, creative and willing to help. Unfortunately the third page had personal issues preventing her from working at this time.

- Anne Gregory
  - Attended the Security Committee meeting – 11/9
  - Attended Librarian III meeting – 11/15
  - Attended the NYS Dept. of Tax and Finance Taxpayer Assistance Program webinar – 11/18

- Laura Keller
  - Submitted all final children’s collection orders for the Collection Development Committee, closing out the fiscal year for 2022. This included:
    - 1 cart of print titles for branches, and 1 cart for central, with a combined total of 448 print items
    - 1 cart of J-DVDs for branches with 41 titles and 263 items. And 1 cart for Central of 51 titles and 51 items.
  - Attended City Youth Services meeting at Central – 11/30

- Charlie Radin
  - Participated in the final 3 sessions of NYSL’s The Pursuit of Equity e-course on 12/2, 12/9, and 12/16. Session 3 covered examining implicit and/or unconscious biases, with tests and robust discussion. Session 4 covered Cultural Humility, the practice of truly meeting people where they are and being sensitive to their culture and life experience in programs and library services. They also spent a good deal of time discussing UNC Project Ready’s equity-based curriculum (https://ready.web.unc.edu/), which aims to introduce youth-led, culturally responsive programming in libraries for all youth in marginalized communities.
  - Continued to post news, events, photos and shares from our library system on the Mundy Facebook page.

- Jessica Shaffer
  - Created a base template for Mundy Branch Library Programming Newsletter and Calendar
  - Created a veteran’s/military themed book display for Veteran’s Day
ANECDOTES & PHOTOS

Laura Keller writes: A woman came in who had recently moved to Syracuse from New Jersey, and was looking to create a resume. She had very little computer knowledge, and clearly seemed to be very intimidated by using one. I sat down and worked closely with her until we completed an initial resume together. She was extremely grateful and appreciative of the help.

Charlie Radin had a great time at the Providence House Library Pop up. He writes: The one-liners and anecdotes were flying fast and furious at this event! Suffice to say that Red, Susan, Patricia etc. were delighted to have Zulay and I visit, and we’ve already scheduled a follow up event on 12/15.

Jessica Shaffer shares several stories that show how much impact Mundy Branch has on our patrons. She writes:

- Helped a patron searching for children’s books about a parent’s addiction and treatment in rehab. The patron expressed that she was very grateful for our help, because it was hard to explain to her daughter that her father did not want to be away and did not leave them, but that he is trying to get better for both of them. While our library did not have any titles, I was able to provide her with a list. (11/9)

- A patron brought in a letter from the IRS that told him he still had time to file his taxes for 2021 to claim stimulus payments. I referred him to PEACE, INC for tax preparation and helped him schedule his appointment for the next day. He was worried that he might be unable to find his Social Security card so we looked up the procedure to obtain a replacement card and he was reassured that the library staff would be able to help him through the process if necessary. (11/14)

- Provided assistance to a patron newer to the area and looking for a local church of her specific denomination. The patron has felt very lonely and isolated after moving to a new area without family and with Covid concerns, so she was excited to find a place to connect with the community in both the library (she loves to read and is interested in a knitting/crocheting group) and in fellowship in a new church. (11/15)
- A patron who has been visiting regularly since October shared that he appreciated the resources we provided, because he was the victim of identity theft and was using the library to provide information to the police regarding the identity of whom he believed was responsible. After about a month of using library resources to help him understand the police reports he was given, he shared that he was feeling relieved that the situation was nearly resolved.