

The Voice of the Fond du Lac County Libraries

WHAT CAN YOU GET FOR \$5.50 A MONTH?

\$5.50 doesn't go very far these days. It might cover lunch at a fast food restaurant, a couple gallons of gas, a used paperback book, or a video rental. Or it can buy you one month's use of your local library's resources.

Of course, libraries don't charge a monthly fee for a library card and there's no ticket booth at the door. But \$5.50 a month is about what taxpayers in the Winnefox Library System pay for library service. This is based on the amounts levied by cities, villages, towns, and counties for library service and the average home cost in this area.

For that you get direct access to the collections of books, magazines, videos, and other materials in 30 public libraries in five counties and indirect access to materials in libraries around the country through Interlibrary Loan. Through the library's web site you get access to online resources such as Overdrive audiobooks and the Heritage Quest and Auto Repair databases, and research assistance at any time of the day or night through the AskAway reference service.

Libraries offer other benefits to the community as well. The summer programs that most libraries offer encourage children to read and help them retain reading ability over the summer (studies have shown that children who participate in public library summer programs do better in school the next fall). Library meeting rooms give community groups a comfortable place to meet. And libraries are often a repository for local history and genealogy resources.

All in all, libraries are one of the best bargains around. For an insignificant amount you get access to a whole world of literature, information and knowledge.



NORTH FOND DU LAC

Although it is not even close to Thanksgiving, Spillman Public Library is thankful for all the recent community and institutional support. Thank you to our book donors for all the books and other media that went to our annual book sale. It was a success, with \$550 raised from the sale of withdrawn or donated materials. This year we also enlisted the help from Kohl's A-Team, who helped set up and organize our event. Spillman became eligible for two \$500 grants through this foundation, which will go toward new items for our children and children's programs.

Spillman also became the recipient of a children's book donation by Divine Savior in North Fond du Lac. Young children of the school earned points for time spent reading. Children read over 1,370 books and were able to donate 11 new books to the Spillman Public Library.



In the month of May, Spillman hosted two new workshops designed to help people in difficult economic times. On May 7th, U.S. Bank of North Fond du Lac Branch Manager Vicki Woschnick and Financial Consultant Doug Eyssautier explained about recent FDIC changes and credit scores. Doug Eyssautier was there to answer any investment questions.



On May 11th, Lyle Mercer and Sharon Rasmussen, who are Master Gardener volunteers, led a seminar on Rain Barrel Technology. They provided information and examples of rain barrel and rain garden construction. Almost 25 people attended to learn about conserving water and preventing rain water runoff.

Thank you to all who are working to offer more to the community of North Fond du Lac.

CAMPBELLSPORT

Volunteer Opportunities at the Campbellsport Public Library

Business is booming at the Campbellsport Public Library. During the first four months of 2009 the Library has seen a 17.65% increase in circulation as compared to the beginning of 2008. In other words, the Library has already lent out 16,843 items this year. Every month more and more people are visiting the Library to use a public internet station. The six computer stations have been used 2,363 times already this year.

All this activity is very exciting. The staff is thrilled with the increased traffic and to have the opportunity to help so many of our neighbors. The down side to being so busy at the check-out counter is that many of our big projects are being pushed to the wayside. We are hoping that teens and adults in the area would volunteer to help us catch up with some of our projects.

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OAKFIELD

Survey Results

The library conducted a survey this spring to help determine which library services and materials are considered most valuable by residents of the Oakfield area. The survey was mailed with the school district newsletter and was also available at the library and on the library's website. The ten highest ranked services were as follows:

1. Children's Book Collection
2. Adult Book Collection
3. Young Adult Book Collection
4. Interlibrary Loan
5. Summer Reading Program for Young Adults
6. Storytime for Preschoolers
7. Summer Reading Program for Children
8. Children's Video Collection
9. Computers and Internet for Adults
10. Adult Magazine and Newspaper Collection (tie)
10. Adult Video Collection (tie)

The items in the survey getting the most "Not Important" selections were "Electronic Games for Adults" and "Electronic Games for Children," followed by "Movies Shown at the Library for Adults."

Although most survey respondents indicated the library was open enough hours, several said it should be open more.

The results of the survey will be used as the library board and library staff plan future services and consider how best to utilize available resources. It is likely that the survey will be repeated periodically to determine if user preferences have changed or remained the same.

Outdoor Furniture

The Oakfield Public Library Board has decided to use donated funds to purchase outdoor furniture to be located in the patio next to the library's entrance. A handicap accessible table with attached seats will be acquired for

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FOND DU LAC PUBLIC LIBRARY

The library recently unveiled a new collection of resources to assist customers in living green. The *Green Neighborhood* includes books, DVDs, and more, all located in one convenient spot.



The Children's Storytime room was recently renovated and converted into an open play area for young children when it is not being used for programs. An activity wall train was donated for the area by the FDL Charity Club, the Friends of the Library, Kohl's Department Store, and the general public. More activities for children will be added to the area in the near future.

A LSTA Grant in the amount of \$13,480 was awarded to the library to create a satellite service outlet at Moraine Park Technical College. The collection will include a variety of children's and parenting materials in English and Spanish. The collection will be used by the MPTC child daycare and Spanish speaking parents and their children enrolled in English as a second language and basic education classes. Student volunteers from Marian University will also provide regular storytimes for children at MPTC.

The library and bookmobiles are gearing up for the summer library program theme, *Be Creative@ the Library*. The program begins June 15

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RIPON

On Thursday, May 14, at 6 p.m., the Ripon Public Library hosted an evening storytime for children of all ages and their favorite stuffed animal friends. At the "**Stuffed Animal Sleepover**," kids were treated to stories, music, crafts, a bedtime snack, and then they tucked their stuffed animals in for a sleepover at the library. But did the stuffed animals really sleep? Library elves photographed the overnight guests and passed the evidence along to the children the next day. It looks like they had a great time at the library and made great use of the books!



Read to Kiani, the book-loving K-9!

Kiani is a professionally trained therapy dog whose handler, Lori Kannenberg, has a passion for supporting young readers on their way to proficiency. Children who may struggle with reading, or who simply lack the motivation, get excited when they sit down to read one-on-one with Kiani. She is a nonjudgmental friend who can help a child over the rough places and boost their reading confidence. Kiani never focuses on mistakes or limitations, she just likes to share a good

story! Kiani and Lori will be visiting the Ripon Public Library on a regular basis. Those wishing to read to Kiani are welcome to register for a time slot. Please contact the library at 748-6160 to schedule your special reading time with Kiani.

We are still looking for a **few good crocheters!** Our community afghan is almost halfway complete, and we want to get it in the hands of a deserving veteran or soldier. Keep the Memorial Day spirit alive by stopping in during the library's open hours and contribute your time and skill to this worthwhile cause.

The Ripon Public Library looks ready for summer! The **summer reading** posters and brochures are out and available! Many wonderful performers will grace the "children's stage" this summer, such as the Truly Remarkable Loon, Jane Swiggum, Mime Artist Mikael Rudolph, and Mr. Billy. If that isn't enough for the kids to do, the library will also have a talent show, a crafting bonanza, special incentives for those who finish the program, and of course, storytimes!

Wednesdays are teen days, all summer long! The "Express Yourself" teen summer theme allows for all sorts of great events! Teen summer reading will kick off with "Tag the Walk with Chalk," where teens are encouraged to make their mark on the library's entryway! Other teen events to look out for are a junk band jam session, a teen 'zine, an art show, and an open mic wrap-up party.

The Ripon Public Library believes that the adults should have summer reading fun too! Adults enrolled in the "Master the Art of Reading" program will have the opportunity to master the art of candle making and of cake decorating. These programs are sure to please, and participants in the adult reading program are eligible to win prizes, including a Brewers Fun Pack for a group of four!

For more information on the Ripon Public Library's events and activities, please see www.riponlibrary.org, Ripon Teen Zone on Facebook, or call 920-748-6160.

(Campbellsport continued)

Our most ambitious project this year is to label all the kids books with Accelerated Reader labels. The AR program is used by the local elementary schools as a way to assess their student's reading progress. It is our hope that by labeling the public library books in the same way as the school library books, it will help make the public library more user-friendly. There are many books to label. Volunteers for this project could have a flexible schedule. The project could be worked on by one person or a team. To work on this project you will need some basic computer skills.

The Library also needs to add one sticker to all the DVDs and CDs. This project can also be done on a flexible schedule but it doesn't require computer skills. If you like the glory of finding lost times. We have small list of library material that is missing and needs to be found. If you like to organize items and clean we have library shelves that need some sprucing up. If you like to alphabetize we have numerous patron applications that need to be filed neatly.

The Library's basement storerooms are in need of some serious TLC. We have shelves that to be assembled and plenty of items that need to go on these shelves in an organized manner. This job will need a lot of muscle and should be done by a group. We also recently purchased a patron counter. This needs to be installed by someone who can successfully complete a home improvement project.

(Fond du Lac continued)

and offers several different activities for children. The library has partnered with the Fond du Lac Artists' Association to provide a series of art workshops for children. Each workshop will be conducted by a different local artist who will encourage kids to get creative. There will also be an evening craft program for kids and a summer lunch bunch program. Teens and adults will have their own special program.

The *Buses to Books* program will return this summer. Children and teens ages 6-17 can ride the City of Fond du Lac buses to the library and home again free on Thursdays from June 18 - August 20 by showing their library card.

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use by persons interested in sitting outdoors and reading or using the library's wireless internet service. The furniture is being purchased in memory of Helen Ost, a former library volunteer and member of the library board.

Shhhout! is published quarterly by the Winnefox Library System to provide news for and about its member libraries in Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago counties. Direct comments and inquiries to:

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Winnefox Library System
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Fond du Lac County Libraries

BRANDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

117 E. Main Street Brandon, WI 53919
920-346-2350
www.brandonlibrary.net
Monday 2-6
Tuesday 2-6
Wednesday 2-6
Thursday 2-6
Friday 11-5
Saturday 9-12

CAMPBELLSPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

220 North Helena Street
Campbellsport, WI 53010
920-533-8534
www.campbellsportlibrary.org
Monday 12-8
Tuesday 12-8
Wednesday 10-6
Thursday 12-5
Friday 10-5
Saturday 9-12

FOND DU LAC PUBLIC LIBRARY

32 Sheboygan Street Fond du Lac, WI 54935
920-929-7080
www.fdlpl.org
Monday 9-8
Tuesday 9-8
Wednesday 9-8
Thursday 9-8
Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-4
Sunday 12-4 (Summer-closed)

SPILLMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

719 Wisconsin Avenue North Fond du Lac, WI 54937
920-929-3771
www.northfonddulaclibrary.org
Monday 12-8
Tuesday 10-5
Wednesday 10-5
Thursday 12-8
Friday 10-5
Saturday 10-1 (Summer-closed)

OAKFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

130 North Main Street Oakfield, WI 53065
920-583-4552
www.oakfieldlibrary.com
Monday 1-8
Tuesday 9-2
Wednesday 1-8
Thursday 1-8
Friday 1-5

RIPON PUBLIC LIBRARY

120 Jefferson Street Ripon, WI 54971
920-748-6160
www.riponlibrary.org
Monday 9:30-8
Tuesday 9:30-8
Wednesday 9:30-8
Thursday 9:30-8
Friday 9:30-6
Saturday 10-4 (Summer 10-1)
Sunday 1-4 (Summer-closed)

