

The Voice of the Fond du Lac County Libraries

FIVE THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Recently the opinion research organization Public Agenda surveyed cross-section of civically-active adults and national and community leaders on their attitudes towards public libraries. In June, their findings were released in a report: Long Overdue: A Fresh Look at Public Attitudes About Libraries in the 21st Century.

Among their key findings:

Libraries Are Highly Valued.

Libraries received the best grades of any of the community institutions covered in a national survey. Nearly half the public gave libraries an "A" – higher than public schools, the police and the local news media. More than 6 in 10 "strongly agree" that public libraries are essential for "maintaining a productive community."

Libraries Are Important 21st Century Resources.

The public considers having computers and Internet access in libraries essential, and many also want libraries to provide other multimedia resources. Almost two-thirds of Americans say that having enough computers and online services should be a high priority for libraries.

Voters Love Libraries.

Those who vote in nearly every local election, and who volunteer and donate to charities, are big fans of libraries. Nearly three-quarters have a local library card. Six in 10 of these civically-engaged folks would favor a tax increase to cover library needs, compared with about half of less-engaged citizens.

Libraries Use Tax Funds Wisely.

More than three-quarters of library users believe libraries spend tax dollars well. Even among non-users, 6 in 10 say they believe libraries use their funds wisely.

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NORTH FOND DU LAC

Popcorn was offered as a special treat to those that came into the library on **National D.E.A.R Day** which was celebrated on April 12th. This acronym stands for Drop Everything And Read Day. Several library patrons made the comment that they didn't need a special day for that but just a good book that made them stop everything and take time to finish it because they "had to find out what happened."

Both the library director and the children's librarian took part in the **Development Days at the Early Learning Center** in the village. This event is a collaborative effort sponsored by the NFdL School District and the Advocap Head Start Program. Their logo is "Working Together For the Success of All." Our Public Library was just one of the entities in the village that made its presence known to the parents and children who came to this. Hopefully, this helped develop awareness of available community resources that are willing to work with parents to help their children succeed.

This Summer's Reading Program theme is Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales. Elementary age boys and girls are offered a weekly craft program. Special displays, events, and guests will include a member of the Fond du Lac Kennel Club, a traveling Wolf Education trunk from the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, a staff person from the Fond du Lac Humane Society, and a Fond du Lac police officer from the K-9 unit who will bring his working dog for a demonstration. This qualifies for the PAWS in the summer theme.

Pet birds that a library staff person is "**bird sitting**" for the summer for a local elementary teacher will be brought to visit a story time. These will furnish the **CLAWS** of the summer program. A fish bowl on the circulation desk has two goldfish swimming round and round to carry out the **SCALES** in the theme idea. The **TALES** in it will be provided at every children's program with entertaining stories read by children's librarian, Hanna Wetherbee.

Spillman Library is trying to encourage all ages of readers to participate in its Summer Reading Program. A Teen program is being offered with the theme **Creature Feature** with a weekly prize drawing for those that read for at least 20 minutes a day. Adults have a **Reading is A-Lure-ing** theme for their program and can deposit their daily reading slips in a styrofoam bait bucket for a chance at a weekly prize. Besides books, magazines and books on cassette and CD also qualify as eligible formats.

Preschoolers will still have their weekly story time/craft programs offered during the 6 week summer program. So no matter what your age, you are eligible and invited to join one of your local library's summertime offerings.

CAMPBELLSPORT



Winnie-the-Fox made a special appearance at the Campbellsport's elementary schools to let them know how important it is keep reading this summer.

This summer we are hoping to encourage families to **spend some time at the Library together by holding programs in the evenings that are interesting to people of all ages.** Our first evening program is on Tuesday, June 20 at 6:30 pm. DNR Warden, Doug Bilgo will be at the Library to talk about fishing opportunities in the area. On June 27 at 6:30 pm, local animal groomer and vet tech, Wendy Carroll be coming to the Library to demonstrate dog grooming and on July 11 at 6:30 pm, the Fond du Lac Police K-9 Unit will be at the Library to demonstrate all the wonderful things these dogs do to help keep people safe. Free refreshments will be served and door prizes will be given away at all of these programs.

For the first summer ever, the staff at the **Campbellsport Public Library is also encouraging teens to spend some of their free time reading by holding a teen summer reading program.** Teens are asked to keep track of their time spend reading novels, newspapers, magazines and even blogs. Once they have read 140 minutes, they can enter their name into a random drawing. One lucky winner for six weeks in a row will receive a prize worth \$30. At the end of program a grand prize drawing will take place where the winner will receive a guitar and case.



FOND DU LAC



Students from Riverside Elementary School in FDL presented Cheryl Loehr, Assistant Director, with a check for \$200 to be used for programming.

The summer library program is off to a booming start on all fronts at the Fond du Lac Public Library. On the first day of registration over 3,417 items were checked out of the library. This represents a 12% increase in circulation over opening day last year. It is only the start of summer and already a record breaking number of 200 adults have signed up for the reading program. Business in the Children's Room, Teen Area, and on the Bookmobile has increased as well. Check out the library's website for a complete listing of summer activities: www.FDLPL.org

Buses to Books has returned this summer and is sponsored by the Fond du Lac Public Library, the Fond du Lac City Transit, and Flyway Signs. Free rides to the library and home again will be available on Thursdays during the summer months for children and teens, ages 6-17.

The library is partnering again with the Green Thumb Garden Club of Fond du Lac to sponsor the *Second Annual in the Good Old Summertime Flower Show* to be held in the Langdon Divers Community Gallery on July 14-15. Entry forms are due June 30 and are available in the library and online. The show will be judged and prizes awarded.

On Saturday, July 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. a Bag Sale will be held in the *BookCellar*, the used bookstore operated by the Friends of the Library and located on the lower level of the library. Books will be \$4 per bag. CDs and new items are not included. The store is selling out to the bare walls to make room for new inventory.

Fourth and fifth graders from Riverside Elementary School in Fond du Lac held a bake sale and raised \$200. The money was donated to the Children's Room to be used for programming.

This summer children's staff is providing a regular outreach book discussion program for teens at the Fond du Lac Boys & Girls Club. The program has been very popular.

OAKFIELD

Summer is here and the library is the hub of many activities- and the place to be when the weather is hot and humid! If you need a good book or magazine to read, a great DVD to watch, or just some "down" time, be sure to put the Oakfield Public Library on the top of your list of great places to go this summer- and often.

Special events for this summer have been planned for young and old alike. The Scavenger Hunt for the kick-off of the summer program was such a hit (over 130 in attendance) that a very involved parent offered to plan another one for the end of the summer program. How can we refuse that offer?!? The following are the special events for the rest of the summer.

June 28, 2 P.M.: Face Painting and Crafts
 July 10, 6 P.M. : Waupun Police Officer Jeannie Frost with Arco, the Canine
 July 26, 6 P.M. : Stuart Stoltz- Storyteller, Singer
 August 9, 6 P.M. : Mikael Rudolph- Mime/Comedy
 Week of August 14: End of the Summer Program Scavenger Hunt

RIPON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Meet the new Adult Services Librarian!
 Please welcome Julie Waldvogel, our new Adult Services Librarian. Julie is from Beaver Dam and she attended Ripon College as an undergraduate. She recently completed her Master's in Library Science through UW-Milwaukee. Julie will be selecting books for the young adult and adult collections. She will also be focusing on programming and outreach. We're excited to have her on board!

Classic Films on DVD

You can now find classic films featuring your favorite stars of the screen, thanks to a generous donation from the Friends of the Library. Here's a sneak preview of some of the box sets of featured actors we've added: Bogie and Bacall; Hepburn and Tracy; Judy Garland; Cary Grant; Audrey Hepburn; Marx Brothers; Marilyn Monroe; Elvis Presley; Shirley Temple; and John Wayne.

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The Public Welcomes a Greater Role for Libraries.

Interviews with nearly three dozen national and community leaders and an in-depth public opinion survey highlighted four specific opportunities for public libraries to integrate themselves more fully into the life of their communities and to position themselves as positive ‘community players.’ The four areas are:

A safe and engaging place for teens

Nationwide, there are excellent examples of teen programming at public libraries, but funding is a challenge.

Literacy skills for a strong workforce

Survey data about adult literacy and workforce development show a clear opportunity for synergy and community improvement. More than half of the public believes communities should emphasize job search assistance, and almost as many believe this should be a high priority for public libraries.

Center for community information

The public sees an opportunity for libraries to fill a gap as a “hub” for improved access to government information and services, including making public documents and forms quickly and easily available.

Greater access to technology

The public says this is a community need that is currently not being met and one it sees as a high priority for libraries.

*From a new public opinion research study. ‘Long Overdue: A Fresh Look at Public and Leadership Attitudes About Libraries in the 21st Century’ published by Public Agenda June 2005.

The complete report can be found at http://www.publicagenda.org/research/research_reports.cfm

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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Fond du Lac County Libraries

BRANDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

117 E. Main Street Brandon, WI 53919
920-346-2350
www.brandonlibrary.net
Monday 2-7
Tuesday 2-7
Wednesday 2-7
Friday 10-5
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 12-8
Friday 10-5

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 9-5 (Summer 9-1)
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 9:30-8 (Summer 9:30-6)
Saturday 10-4 (Summer 10-1)
Sunday 1-4 (Summer-closed)

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