

The Voice of the Green Lake 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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GREEN LAKE

Changes are Coming!

Library director, Tasha Saecker, has left the Caestecker Public Library to become director of the Menasha Public Library. The interim director is Linda Denell. It is hoped that the library director will be hired by late summer. If you are interested in applying for the library director position, please visit the library's website: www.greenlakelibrary.org for full details.

Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales at the Library!

The Summer Reading Program will run the full month of July with programs and events each weekday during the month except for July 3rd and 4th. Mondays are the days when the library hosts professional children's performers at 10 am. This year our performers include a magician, jugglers, singer and live-animal handler. Tuesdays are days that children are welcome to come and play board games together at 10 am. Wednesdays we have craft days for preschoolers through elementary-aged children at 10 am. Thursdays are movie days at 10 am. Finally, Fridays are for stories with 10 am story times for preschoolers through first graders.

Summer Programs for Adults!

The library will be showing movies every Tuesday night at 7:00 pm throughout the summer. On Saturday, July 8th at 10:30 am, Mike Brumley will be doing a Ducks Unlimited presentation.

Artists of the Month for the summer are:

Photographer, Marcia Pockat for July
Artist, KC Simmers for August

Please join us for any of our programs. We welcome visitors as well as residents with free library cards.

BERLIN

The Berlin Public Library had a shade gardening program on May 20th. Master gardener Tom Fojtik presented shade gardening to an audience of 26. Tom had handouts with colored photos of his favorite perennial shade flowers. Some of the flowers Tom talked about were Astilbe, Turtlehead, Jacobs Ladder, Bugbane, Hydrangea, Japanese Painted Fern and Toad Lily.



Master gardener Tom Fojtik giving a presentation at the Berlin Public Library

June will start our busy summer with summer reading programs for children, young adults and adults. On June 17 a representative from Demco Company demonstrated book repair.

June 22 there will be a program at 7pm. on prairie gardening sponsored by the Friends Of The Park. Professor David Barnhill from UW-Oshkosh will be the presenter.

PRINCETON

It's summer and time for summer library reading programs! Everyone is invited to be part of the fun. "Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales" is the series theme for preschoolers and elementary students. Children may participate in this program on many different levels, attending programs if they're able to, or simply registering and recording their reading. In any case, they will be eligible for all sorts of great goodies, including free Timber Rattler tickets, ribbons and ice cream at the Green Lake County Fair, State Fair passes, free admission to Mt. Olympus Water Park at Wisconsin Dells, plus other great prizes!

Teens and adults have their own summer reading program. It's simple and fun, too—register and record titles or reading time for weekly drawings and other giveaways! Here's a list of upcoming July events:

- Thursdays all summer long, 10:00
Bridge Lessons & Playing
- Monday, July 17-August 14, 11:00
Brown-bag Lunch & Cribbage
- Wednesday, July 19, 10:30 Dairy
Fun & Yum—Cow Tales & Ice Cream
- Wednesday, July 26, 10:30
Balloon Kid performance & demo

These events are all free and open to the public. Please call the library, check our webpage, or watch the weekly Princeton Times library column for August events, including crafts and cooking classes for kids, and knitting circle, or for additional information on any of the above.



The Princeton Library's back yard—it's not just another pretty place. While this lovely garden area, planted and maintained by the Princeton Garden Club, is a beautiful place to relax with a book or enjoy lunch, it also serves as a classroom and performance area for the library. Pictured is Judy Ohlsson who recently gave a workshop on making designer birdbaths and stepping stones. Special thanks to the Garden Club and to Ohlsson, who will be back this fall for a mask-making event.

The Princeton Library and other area libraries are collaborating with the Green Lake Festival of Music for free children's programming at Thrasher Opera House in Green Lake. Please call the library or visit www.greenlakefestival.org for more information.

The Princeton Library Friends will host the food stand at the flea market on Saturday, July 15. You can support this group that does so much for the library by signing up for a work shift—there's a sign-up sheet at the library circ desk—or by stopping by for a delicious burger or brat or a cold beverage that day.

Don't let Highway 23 construction scare you away from the library or other Princeton destinations. The detour for local traffic is short, very well marked, and goes right by the library! On Flea Market Saturdays, the highway will be open for parking in the lot across the street from the park like always!

Space—or lack of it—is a growing problem at the library. Look for a few changes over the summer to ease things. First, a storage area will soon become a computer lab, with the four public access Internet stations moving there. This will free up some areas for additional shelving. Secondly, we hope to purchase at least one laptop, providing more Internet access even though we don't have room for additional desktops!

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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

Green Lake County Libraries

BERLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

121 West Park Avenue Berlin, WI 54923
 920-361-5420
www.berlinlibrary.org
 Monday 9-8
 Tuesday 9-8
 Wednesday 9-8
 Thursday 9-8
 Friday 9-6
 Saturday 9-5 (Summer 9-1)

CAESTECKER PUBLIC LIBRARY

518 Hill Street Green Lake, WI 54941
 920-294-3572
www.greenlakelibrary.org
 Monday 9:30-6:00
 Tuesday 9:30-7:00
 Wednesday 9:30-6:00
 Thursday 9:30-7:00
 Friday 9:30-6:00
 Saturday 9:30-12:30
 Sunday 1:00-4:00

MARKESAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

75 North Bridge Street Markesan, WI 53946
 920-398-3434
www.markesanlibrary.org
 Monday 10-7
 Tuesday 10-6
 Wednesday 10-6
 Thursday 10-7
 Friday 10-6
 Saturday 9-12:00 (Summer-closed)

MILL POND PUBLIC LIBRARY

151 North South Street Kingston, WI 53939
 920-394-3281
www.millpondlibrary.org
 Monday 1-6
 Tuesday 1-6
 Wednesday 9-11 & 1-6
 Thursday 1-6
 Saturday 9-11

PRINCETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

424 West Water Street Princeton, WI 54968
 920-295-6777
www.princetonpublib.org
 Monday 9-6
 Tuesday 10-8
 Wednesday 10-8
 Thursday 10-8
 Friday 9-5
 Saturday 9-1

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:



Winnefox Library System
 Attn: Mark Arend
 106 Washington Avenue, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901
 920-236-5222 Email: arend@winnefox.org



Winnefox Library System
 106 Washington Avenue
 Oshkosh, WI 54901-4985
www.winnefox.org