

The Voice of the Green Lake County Libraries

Ten Reasons Why You Still Need Your Public Library In The Internet Age

10. Your Brain – Use It Or Lose It

Recent research supports the idea that mental exercise provided by reading and thinking — from early childhood through old age — increases the brain's capacities and long-term health. Your public library is an excellent resource for brain-building tools.

9. Knowledge Is Power

What you know is an important part of who you are and it gives you the power to act. Knowledge emerges when a person wrestles with the ideas, opinions and arguments of others. Books (whether ink-on-paper or electronic texts) are a great source of ideas, opinions and arguments. Think of the public library as your knowledge utility.

8. Stories Are Magic

A well-told story will take you far away in time and space; it can even put you inside the life of a person very different from you. The powerful magic of stories transforms lives, whether told aloud to a group of wide-eyed children or jumping from the pages of the latest bestseller. Step inside your public library to see the magic for yourself.

7. The Book – Reports of Its Death Have Been Greatly Exaggerated

The publishers of *Books in Print* put 2004 U.S. book production at more than 195,000 titles, up 14% from the year before and up 72% since 1995. It is clear that most of us still find printed books to be the best package for getting the information we need and the stories we enjoy. Your public library is the place to find them.

6. It's Not "All on the 'Net" & It Probably Won't Be (For A Long, Long Time)

Librarians, archivists and computer scientists have made incredible progress in recent years toward the goal of making human knowledge available in digital formats. Yet, only a small proportion of our records has been digitized. And the long-term integrity and usefulness of computer file formats is still an open issue. The long-term viability of books and paper records is more dependable, although paper records have their own preservation problems.

5. Books and the 'Net are Great, But Libraries Offer Even More

Public libraries are strongly associated with free access to books and the Internet. But they offer much more — videos for entertainment and education; audiobooks for the visually impaired and the commuter; magazines and newspapers that cover the issues of the moment; research databases (often with the full-text of listed articles included); and electronic books. Some public libraries even lend cake pans, garden tools or toys!

4. Libraries Respond To Local Community Needs

Public libraries are rooted in local communities and are always looking for new ways to help. Each public library responds to its community's needs in its own way and to the limits of its own resources. From programs for latch-key kids to non-English language collections to photocopier and fax services, public libraries respond.

3. Access For People from All Walks of Life

Public libraries do not discriminate. They offer riches to people of all races, religions and ethnic backgrounds, whether rich or poor. All the public library asks in return is that users take care of the shared public property they borrow and that they show courtesy to other users by returning items on time.

2. Your Library Buys a Book, So You Can Borrow It (And you, and you, and you...)

Each person involved in creating the cultural products we enjoy — each author, actor, musician, editor, publisher, film director, and others as well — has a monetary stake in the sale of that product. That's why books, videos, and music will continue to be sold and not given away for free. That's why the public library's role of selecting, purchasing and managing a collection of these cultural products to be shared among the people of a particular community will persist. Free access to individuals cannot happen without financial support from the community.

And...The Top Reason Why You Still Need Your Public Library in the Internet Age Is:

1. The Public Library Is A Real Place Where Real People Are Ready to Help You.

Public libraries — like parks, museums and theaters — provide shared spaces where neighbors come together to socialize and to help each other. Library staff are usually your neighbors, too. They are trained and ready to help you find a good story or the information you may need. In a world where leisure time is filled with virtual experiences from electronic media and service is provided by recorded messages, public libraries build community by offering a place where real people may interact.

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe
Library Director
Brown County Library
Green Bay, WI
June 2005

(continued on back page)



BERLIN

The Berlin Public Library will be **very** busy during the month of January. There are three programs scheduled.

Saturday January 14 from 10-11:30 Jennifer Caravella, Family Living Educator for Waushara County UW Extension will present a program on diets. Does the borage of dieting advice and new fad diets confuse you? Jennifer will present **"Eating Low Fat and loving it."** Pre-registration is requested. There will be a drawing from those pre-registered for grocery certificates. Seating is limited so sign up early.

Have you participated in forensics in the past and wondered how students are doing now or always wondered what forensics was like? Thursday January 19 at 6:30 you will have the opportunity to **watch Berlin High School and Middle School students in action.** Don't miss this unique opportunity.

Is it a struggle to get your child to do homework and apply themselves in school?

Sign up for the program Wednesday January 25 at 6pm. Amy from the Sylvan Learning Center will talk about motivating your child.

The program is free, but sign up is requested. Sitting is limited so sign up early.

These programs are all free.

MARKESAN

The Markesan Public Library was the hub of activities during the Chamber of Commerce event *Home Spun Holidays* on December 9 and 10.

The library was filled with Decorated Christmas trees. Clubs, businesses, and families brought in trees decorated with a theme. The public was able to vote for the favorite tree. The favorite tree was decorated by St. John's Lutheran Ladies Aid of Markesan. We provided our meeting room for a cookie walk and a make-~~u~~-take class in scrapbooking.

Library staff had a kid shopping corner where children were able to come in a buy an inexpensive gift for parents, grandparents or siblings. We even wrapped and put a tag on it. We also had other make and take crafts for children. The used book sale brought in people and reduced our stock of donated and weeded books. The starting spot of the horse and wagon rides was right in front of the library.



GREEN LAKE

The Caestecker Public Library is hosting **Winter Music by the Fireside** again this year. This popular program helps fill our cold Wisconsin days with pleasant company, great music, and a warm fire. For more details about the talented musicians we will be featuring this year, please contact the library or stop by for a schedule of events.

The library will be starting a book discussion group this winter. If you are interested in participating, please contact the library at 294-3572 to sign up. Books are still being selected and any input from potential members is welcome.

Due to the popularity of our **movie programs for children**, the library will once again be purchasing presentation rights for films. We will begin our 2006 season this winter with some of the recent blockbuster releases. Look for films like Madagascar, Valiant, and Bambi II to be shown this winter at the library. Exact dates have not been set yet, but flyers will be handed out at school and the library with full details.

Due to an anticipated rise in heating costs this winter, the library has turned down the thermostats during open hours. **Please plan on being comfortable at the library in sweaters rather than t-shirts.** We will still have the fireplace burning on wintry days, but it can get chilly working at computers or writing. We appreciate you helping us save on our heating costs this winter.

PRINCETON

The Princeton Public Library is celebrating its 21st year in its present building. In honor of this milestone, the library will sponsor a year-long celebration that will include educational programs, performance arts, special exhibits, contests, and more. The “21-derful Years” celebration begins in January with several programs for adults. On Tuesday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. (snowdate: January 11) visit the library and meet Betty and Ebe Schreiber who will share their expertise on African violets. They will also have many of their plants on display January 9 - 14. On Monday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. (snowdate, January 24) you’re invited to drop by to learn about the history of ice skates. Local collector Lue Smith will do a show and tell on the evolution of ice skates from bones that were strapped on with hide strips to their present day counterparts. Part of her collection will be on display at the library throughout January. Both programs are free and open to the public.

January is National Soup Month. The library and its neighbor, the Country Café, invite you to enter our annual soup recipe contest. Recipes for soups, stews, chowders—whatever your specialty—may be dropped off at the library any time on or before Saturday, January 28 (or submitted electronically to duhr@princetonpublib.org). All entrants will receive a souvenir booklet of the 2006 recipes; winning recipes will be served for a week in February at the Country Café. Good luck and bon appetit!

Nothing goes with a bowl of piping hot soup better than a chunk of crusty homemade bread. Learn all about the mysteries and non-mysteries of yeast breads at a **bread-making class with Laird DeCramer** on Monday, February 13 at 6:00 p.m. DeCramer, who bakes all his family’s bread, will walk participants through the various stages of dough-making and requests that everyone bring a two to three quart bowl and a mixing spoon.

Story time for preschoolers begins Wednesday, January 25 at 10:30 and continues through April 12. Sessions typically last 30 - 45 minutes, include several stories, activities, a craft, and snack. Preschool storytime provides opportunities to learn social skills, to develop and nurture a lifelong love of reading, and to work on kindergarten readiness, as well as a chance for parents and childcare providers to network. Drop-ins are welcome and registration is not required.

There are so many great reasons to read. Here’s one more: the annual **Milwaukee Bucks Library Reading Challenge**. This reading incentive offers vouchers for free tickets to Milwaukee Bucks’ games on Saturday, April 1, 7:30 p.m. or



Members of the Princeton Library’s knitting circle helped make winter cozier for many folks in Green Lake County.

They knit and crocheted hats, scarves, and the like for Green Lake County’s Angel Tree Project. Members are modeling some of their projects. For more information about the Angel Tree Project, please contact 920.294.4070.

Sunday, April 9, 2:30 p.m. for third through eighth graders who read and record 500 pages or more between January 4 and March 4. Friends and family members may order reduced rate tickets at the same time for group seating. Visit the library soon to pick up your reading record, additional information, and some great reads!

The **First Tuesday Book Discussion** is moving to the **second Tuesday of each month!** The February title is Ann Packer’s *Dive From Clausen’s Pier*, a novel set in contemporary Wisconsin; copies of the book are available for check out at the library. Discussion will begin with a potluck supper at 5:30, February 14. This group is open to the public. Please call for information on the March and April titles.

The library will offer several late winter classes on **tatting, a form of lace-making, and penny rugs**. The library also hosts an on-going knitting (crocheters and other needle-crafters welcome) circle with instruction available. This group meets on selected Mondays at 6:00 p.m. Please call the library or check our website for dates and times. All sessions are free and open to the public.

Do you have a drop or two of theatre in your blood? If so, your **talents would be most welcome** as the library is sponsoring a production of the perennial crowd-pleasing melodrama. Rehearsals will begin late this winter for a springtime production. Please call the library or check our website for updates.

Knitting and crocheting are all the rage regardless of age. These three ply their craft and yarn at the Princeton Library which hosts a knitting circle with instruction for all levels of ability. Please call the library for a class schedule.



Hurricane Katrina Relief

Many Winnefox member libraries have been collecting money to restore damaged libraries in Mississippi. Funds collected here are being sent to the Harrison County Library system. Harrison County includes the communities of Biloxi and Gulfport which were heavily damaged and six of the ten libraries in the county remain closed.

If you wish to contribute you can turn in a check at your local library, made out to 'Winnefox Library System'.

(continued from front page)

Sources:

10. Your Brain – Use It Or Lose It: Dr. Robert S. Wilson and colleagues reported on a link between mental activity and prevention of Alzheimer's Disease among a group of 801 Catholic nuns and priests in the following article: "Participation in cognitively stimulating activities and risk of incident of Alzheimer disease," JAMA: the Journal of the American Medical Association.) 2002 Feb 13; volume 287, number 6, pages 742 – 748.

7. The Book – Reports of Its Death....:

1 R.R. Bowker May 24, 2005 Press Release found at: www.bowker.com;
2 R.R. Bowker historical book production statistics found at: www.bookwire.com.

6. It's Not "All on the 'Net'":...: Even while praising the power of Google, Washington Post writer Joel Achenbach acknowledges that: "...most old books remain undigitized. The Library of Congress has about 19 million books with unique call numbers, plus another 9 million or so in unusual formats, but most have not made it onto the Web. That may change, but for the moment, a tremendous amount of human wisdom is invisible to researchers who just use the Internet."

"Search For Tomorrow: We Wanted Answers, And Google Really Clicked. What's Next?" By Joel Achenbach, Washington Post Staff Writer, Sunday, February 15, 2004; Page D01

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe New Director of Winnefox Library System & Oshkosh Public Library

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe has been chosen to replace retiring director John Nichols by the Winnefox Library System and the Oshkosh Public Library boards of trustees. He will start at Winnefox in early January.

Jeff has a wide range of experience in libraries of different sizes around the country. His most recent position was been director of the Brown County Library in Green Bay and he worked as a reference librarian at Oshkosh Public Library from 1989 - 1992.



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



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

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