

# Shhhut! about libraries

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The Voice of the Marquette County Libraries

## 8 WAYS LIBRARIES ARE GOOD FOR THE COUNTRY

Libraries are here when they are needed, ready to enrich our minds and defend our right to know, just as other institutions protect our safety and property. Without sound minds, however, the American dream of safe streets and secure homes will never be fulfilled.

Libraries safeguard our freedom and keep democracy healthy. It will take all of us, in a spirit of pride and freedom, to maintain libraries as



### 1. Libraries inform citizens.

Democracy vests supreme power in the people. Libraries make democracy work by providing access to information so that citizens can make the decisions necessary to govern themselves. The public library is the only institution in American society whose purpose is to guard against the tyrannies of ignorance and conformity, and its existence indicates the extent to which a democratic society values knowledge, truth, justice, books, and culture.

### 2. Libraries make families friendlier.

The American family's best friend, the library, offers services guaranteed to hone coping skills. Homework centers, literacy training, parenting materials, after-school activities, summer reading programs—like the families they serve, libraries everywhere are adapting to meet new challenges.

### 3. Libraries return high dividends.

What do Gallo wines, the I Can't Believe It's Yogurt chain, and billboard-sign giant Metromedia have in common? Libraries made millionaires out of each of these companies' owners by

providing crucial start-up information when they were no more than wannabe business titans. Libraries are there to help people with more personal goals, too. The seed money expended for these and other success stories? Less than \$20 per capita per year in tax dollars.

### 4. Libraries build communities.

Libraries validate and unify; they save lives, literally and by preserving the record of those lives. Community-building means libraries link people with information. Librarians have become experts at helping others navigate the Internet. Before there was cyberspace, there were libraries, paving the way for the superhighway.

### 5. Libraries value the individual.

Library doors swing open for independent thinking. Libraries offer alternatives to the manipulations of commercialism, from the excellence of public-television productions to the freethinking of renegade publishers and the vision of poets and artists outside the mainstream business of art and literature.

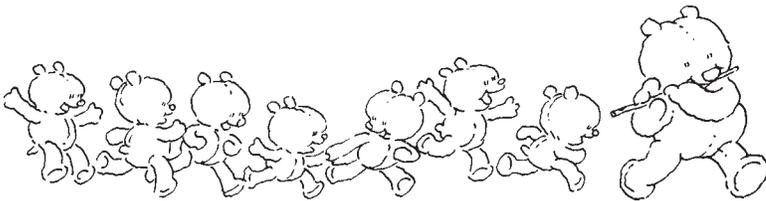
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## PACKWAUKEE

There are over 30 bears in Packwaukee! In the Library of course! Our library has small cubby bears, a “bride” bear and numerous polar bears. Multi-colored: pink, yellow, tan and brown bears line the shelves, as well as Fozzie, Penworthy, Pooh, and Paddington watch over the children’s area.



Show here is Justin Meyer, who proves bears are fun for all ages! Justin volunteered to showcase the book: “Making Traditional Teddy Bears” by Donna Gibbs. This book will give you the opportunity to create your own heirloom bear to cherish. The author gives simple instructions and designer kits for making new bears as well as how to rejuvenate a battered old friend. The “bear clinic” guides you through the process of restoring a bear to its former glory. So dust off our old Care Bear, check out Jan Brett’s version of *Goldilocks and The Three Bears*, curl up by the fire and READ!



## NESHKORO

Finally! The road construction that started in May is over. The main street is paved and the sidewalks are in with decorative brick pavers. The construction project was a challenge for both the library and businesses in the community. Some days it was almost impossible to get to the library but our patrons overcame the obstacles to get here.

Seeing the finished road construction, it was worth all the inconveniences. Outside the library we now have a nice landscaped planting and park bench for our patrons. The village has a new memorial park across from the post office and a new park by the river.

With the holiday season fast approaching the library again will have craft projects and gifts that kids can make for presents. I know how busy the holidays are so we have come up with easy gift ideas for the kids. These include tasty treats, clever can crafts, and fun care packages.

We also have on display all of our holiday books—from crafts to tasty festive foods. We will have our collection of patrons’ favorite holiday cookie and holiday recipes available. Make sure to get your copy. Many of the recipes are quick and easy.

## OXFORD

The Friends of Oxford Public Library and the Alliant Energy Foundation announce the first annual Oxford Holiday Decorating Contest. The contest is open to all homes within the Oxford village limits. First prize is the December alliant energy bill paid in full up to \$150. Second prize is \$50 towards the December Alliant energy bill.

## WESTFIELD

### Successful Book Fair

The Friends of the Ethel Everhard Memorial Library once again sponsored an Usborne Books book fair this year during Westfield's Taste N Tour, November 26 and 27. Candy Kohnke, daughter-in-law to Friends of the Library president Gene Kohnke, and an Usborne Books consultant, ran the book fair. Shoppers could buy books to take with them, or place book orders from the Usborne catalog. The Friends of the Library received FREE Usborne books, worth half the value of the total book sales that weekend! THANK YOU Candy, Friends, and everyone who bought Usborne books over Taste N Tour weekend.

REMINDER: Remember the Westfield Library will be CLOSED December 24, 25, 26, 31, and January 1 and 2. The book drop is still open for returns and you can still access the library's website, [www.westfieldlibrary.org](http://www.westfieldlibrary.org) to place holds and renew materials.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from everyone at the Westfield Library

## MONTELLO

Story Time for pre-school children this October was so successful at Montello Public Library that the parents involved decided to continue the program on their own on Wednesday mornings. Parent-in-charge duties change every week, as does the theme, the titles of the books to be read, and of course, the refreshments served. The library provides the room and facilities but everything else is provided by the parents.

"Story Time is a great way for new families in the community to get acquainted and the reading is fun" said one mother new to the area. The library staff sees this extension of our regular programming as very inexpensive and effective.

## ENDEAVOR

Our Endeavor Historical Committee held their 2nd open house on Saturday November 13. Many of the area residents came and viewed the local history displayed. There were special displays set up by George Smith, Wilma Fredrick, Arlene Stahmer, Mike Schonasky, Renee Whaley, Alvin Egner and many other wonderful people.



*Mr. Alvin Egner stops to have his picture taken in front of one of the many exhibits.*

*An elegant atmosphere was presented by the special touches from Penny Imray (in the black dress) and a crew of volunteers. Tasty food was supplied by local people and most of the morsels came from recipes from the cookbook.*



The history committee is currently selling cookbooks as a fundraiser. These cookbooks are written with not only great tasting recipes, but also with history facts supplied by the cookbook contributors. There are pictures and articles written by local residences that

have long passed on. The Historical Committee took pride in putting together an artifact that everyone can use and cherish. The cookbooks are available for purchase for \$12.50 just contact the Endeavor Library for a copy.



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**6. Libraries level the playing field.** Economists have cited a growing inequity in America, with the gap between the richest and poorest citizens becoming wider. By making all its resources equally available to all members of the community the library helps level the playing field. Once users have access to the library's materials, they have the opportunity to level the playing field outside the library by learning to read, gaining employment, or starting a business.

**7. Libraries open kids' minds.** Bringing children into a library can transport them from the commonplace to the extraordinary. From story hours for preschoolers to career planning for highschoolers, librarians make a difference because they care about the unique needs of every individual who comes to them for help. Children learn personal responsibility by holding a library card of their own, a card that gives them access to new worlds in books, videos, audiotapes, computers, and more.

**8. Libraries preserve the past.** Libraries preserve the record; a nation, a culture, a community that does not understand its own past is mired in its own mistakes. Libraries enable us to communicate through distance and time with the living and the dead. It is a miracle kept available by the meticulous sorting, storing, indexing, and preservation that still characterizes library work—work that will carry, in the electronic environment, challenges and a price tag yet unknown.

Adapted from "12 Ways Libraries Are Good for the Country," *American Libraries* (Dec. 1995): 1113-19.

Shhhout! is published bi-monthly 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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## Marquette County Libraries

### ENDEAVOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

413 Academy Blvd. Endeavor, WI 53930  
608-587-2902 [www.endeavorlibrary.org](http://www.endeavorlibrary.org)  
Monday 10-6:30  
Wednesday 10-6:30  
Thursday 9-6:30  
Saturday 9-12:30

### ETHEL EVERHARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

117 East West Third Westfield, WI 53964  
608-296-2544 [www.westfieldlibrary.org](http://www.westfieldlibrary.org)  
Monday 9-6  
Tuesday 9-6  
Wednesday 9-6  
Thursday 9-6  
Friday 9-12  
Saturday 9-12

### MONTELLO PUBLIC LIBRARY

128 Lake Court Montello, WI 53949  
608-297-7544 [www.montellolibrary.org](http://www.montellolibrary.org)  
Monday 10-7:30  
Wednesday 10-5  
Thursday 10-7:30  
Friday 9-2  
Saturday 10-1

### NESHKORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

132 South Main Street Neshkoro, WI 54960  
920-293-4026 [www.neshkorolibrary.org](http://www.neshkorolibrary.org)  
Tuesday 11-6  
Wednesday 11-6  
Thursday 11-6

### OXFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

129 South Franklin Ave. Oxford, WI 53952  
608-586-4458 [www.oxfordlibrary.org](http://www.oxfordlibrary.org)  
Monday 10-12 & 2-5:30  
Tuesday 2-7  
Wednesday 2-5:30  
Thursday 10-12 & 2-5:30  
Friday 2-5:30  
Saturday 9-12

### PACKWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

N3511 State St. Packwaukee, WI 53953  
608-589-5202 [www.packwaukeeelibrary.org](http://www.packwaukeeelibrary.org)  
Monday 10-6  
Tuesday 3-6  
Wednesday 1-6  
Thursday 10-6  
Saturday 10-3 (closed the 5th Saturday of each month)