

The Voice of the Marquette 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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PACKWAUKEE

Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales

2006 Packwaukee Summer Library Program

Free 45 minute programs will be held on **MONDAYS** at 4pm. Open to all ages and abilities.

July 3rd will bring the balloon-twisting-whimsical-animal-making Balloon Kid to Packwaukee! But that's not all! Another treat will be on hand –ever make a creature cupcake? Miss Karen, our baker extraordinaire, will provide the cupcakes if you provide the creative decorating spark! (Some tasting required).

July 10th Pets take the cutest pictures! Our scrap booking consultant (a huge success last year!) is back. We will experiment & “dress up!” some scrapbook pages that feature our animal companions. Supplies will be provided, so bring pet pictures and a big smile because Winnie-the-Fox will be here and ready to pose with YOU for your keepsake photo!

July 17th Detective Heiser with the Marquette County Sheriff's Dept will be explaining the talents of his working dog, Coal. Coal is a 5-year-old black Labrador and has been working with the force for 4 years. This partnership reflects a unique career path as well as a focus on discipline and training.

July 24th Bear with us!!!! In cooperation with the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation, attendees will be able to touch bear pelts, examine replica bear skulls and scat. Bears around here? Sure enough! Local wildlife technician from the DNR will explain about the bear sightings and experiences in Marquette County.

June 19th -July 29th (for 6 weeks)

Packwaukee Public Library will provide incentives for book reading and participation. A daily reading record to encourage and reward reading will be provided by Packwaukee Library. For further info call: 608-589-5202.

Remember, our used Book Sale at the Packwaukee Brat Fest- Saturday, July 29th in the Town Square!!



MONTELLO

Montello Public Library's Summer Library Program will run each Friday from June 16 to July 7. Mary Poppins started things off, followed by the New Zoo "Zoomobile," the Critter Man, and a picnic on the last day to celebrate. The goal of the Summer Library Programs is to promote reading among young people in Montello and to have staff members do foolish things if the kids made their goal.

WESTFIELD

This spring, the Ethel Everhard Memorial Library celebrated National Library Week, Poetry Month, and Young People's Art Month. These activities concluded with the production of a 10'X 6' community painting organized by local artist, Otella Bautmier. Participants tried their hand at "Action Painting." This style of painting was made significant in the western world of art through the efforts of Jackson Pollock.



Our Teens and Tweens Art and Poetry Contest was held throughout April. We received 52 poetry entries and 12 art entries. The annual Culvers Drawing Contest for kids received 40 entries.

Currently, our summer program schedule is underway. We are offering reading challenges for children, teens and adults. To add to the fun, several local businesses have donated incentives for each age group. Kids' performers will include singer-songwriter, Bill Kehl, live animal handler, Dennis "Dino" Tlachac, Jane Swiggum's Black Light Camp, and a petting zoo sponsored by 4-H. Other weekly programs will feature games, stories, crafts, and a pet photo contest. Please call or stop in for dates and times: (608) 296-2544.

The Friends of the Library held their Annual Book and Bake Sale in June and are planning a silent auction for the second week of July. Up to 100 items, from furniture to gift certificates to a variety of other items will be up for bid.



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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

Marquette County Libraries

ENDEAVOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

413 Academy Blvd. Endeavor, WI 53930
608-587-2902
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
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
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
Monday 9-5
Wednesday 9-5
Friday 12-50


OXFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

129 South Franklin Ave. Oxford, WI 53952
608-586-4458
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

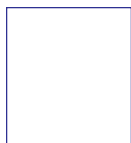
PACKWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

N3511 State St. Packwaukee, WI 53953
608-589-5202
www.packwaukeeelibrary.org
Monday 12-7
Tuesday 12-5
Wednesday 12-5
Thursday 12-7
Friday 12-5
Saturday 10-2

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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