

The Voice of the Marquette 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)

PACKWAUKEE

New hours and for Packwaukee Library in 2006:

Monday	12:00-7:00
Tuesday	12:00-5:00
Wednesday	12:00-5:00
Thursday	12:00-7:00
Friday	12:00-5:00
Saturday	10:00-2:00

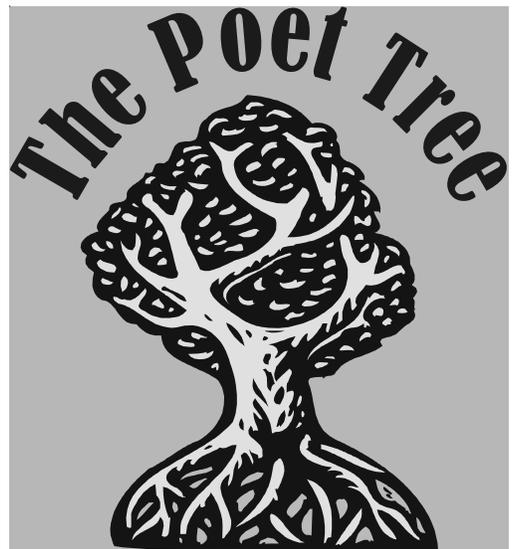
Currently on display at Packwaukee Library are **photographs by Charly Makray-Rice**, local nature photographer, essayist, and owner of Muir Prairie Photography. She specializes in photographing the bounty of wildflowers and landscapes special to Marquette County. Charly has published her photographs and essays and holds the honor of being one of the few to have both essays and photos archived by the National Library of Canada (Ontario). Her photographs are available to view at Packwaukee Library until Feb. 28th.

When you come to see these art photographs, feel free to check out our Book on CD collection. Several unabridged titles include: *Friends, Lovers, Chocolate* by Alexander McCall Smith, *Bucking the Sarge* by Christopher Paul Curtis, *Have Spacesuit Will Travel* by Robert Heinlein, *Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator* by Roald Dahl, *The Body in the Library* by Agatha Christie, *A Theory of Relativity* by Jacquelyn Mitchard, and—if you missed the movie try the CD—*Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo.

MONTELLO

The Friends of the Montello Public Library have concluded **another successful Silent Auction** to raise money for the library to be used for special projects and materials outside of the regular budget. For years the Friends have been able to help the library purchase furniture, a new automation system for circulation, shelving, and public computers. They have also sponsored guest artists for childrens' programming and featured poets for the highly successful Poet Tree literary series.

The director of Montello Public Library, Bruce Dethlefsen, wants to thank the Friends organization for their ongoing dedication. "We couldn't serve our patrons without the Friends," he said.



OXFORD

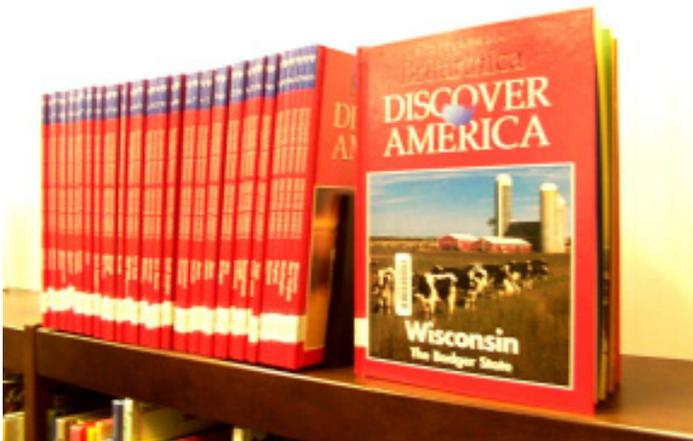
The Friends of the Oxford Public Library held their **2nd Annual Holiday Decorating Contest**. Community members were encouraged to brighten up and decorate the outsides of their homes with seasonally appropriate themes. Cash prizes were awarded in various categories including; Most Outrageous and Best Theme (Penguins won). Funding was provided by Alliant Energy. It was fun for everyone and certainly added some holiday beauty to the town.

WESTFIELD

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY MAKE DONATION

The Friends of the Westfield Library have donated a new 51 volume set of books called Discover America. This new set by Encyclopedia Britannica features one book for each of the 50 states, plus 1 book of state facts. Each book describes the history, industry, environment, and sports that make that state unique. With detailed descriptions and simple organization, Discover America serves as a perfect tool for research and reports. Its one book per state design makes this set ideal for classroom projects and library research, allowing for use by many students at the same time. Each book is full of color photos, statistics, maps, and flags.

This beautiful set is a much needed addition to the Westfield library's collection, made possible by the generosity of the Friends group. If you would like to join the Friends of the Ethel Everhard Memorial Library call the Library at 296-2544, or Gene Kohnke at 296-2612.



*My love
for the
library
speaks
volumes*

CELEBRATE
LIBRARY LOVERS'
MONTH
@ your library

February is Library Lovers' Month.

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



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 10-6
Tuesday 3-6
Wednesday 1-6
Thursday 10-6
Saturday 10-3 (closed the 5th Saturday of each month)

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