

The Voice of the Winnebago County Libraries

A LIBRARY CARD: A VITAL SCHOOL SUPPLY

Libraries across the country note that a vital school supply for all students and parents is a library card.

Last year, the Menominee Public Library visited the city's three elementary schools on the first day of school to sign-up children and adults for its new "Smart Card." The card uses technology that helps the library and library patrons manage Internet access, printing, and photocopying as well as traditional borrowing of library items. Children's Librarian Jodi Bird reports that between 50 and 75 children signed up for a library card last September. The library plans to repeat the first-day-of-school visits again this year.

Milwaukee Public Library ran a library card sign-up program with the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association last year. Nearly 2,000 children got new library cards and a back-to-school pencil. The library has partnered with local television stations in previous years as well as doing outreach at back-to-school fairs and other events for children and families. "A first library card is a really exciting milestone," said Lorelei Stark of the library's marketing department. "We try to make it fun."

A library card is a ticket to a world of learning and opportunity. Whether children are attracted to facts, fiction, or fantasy, librarians are on hand to help recommend materials suitable for various ages and interests. Libraries play an important role in the education and development of children. Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifelong learning.

And, our libraries offer more than books. Children can use library computers, get help with homework, or check out CDs and videos. Our state's library websites provide homework help around the clock through quality online resources such as www.BadgerLink.net and live help from professional reference librarians at www.AskAway.info.

Programming at libraries ranges from children's story time to pre-teen and adult book groups as well as informational and entertaining programming that reach out to families. A recent study by the American Library Association showed 44 percent of survey respondents said they use the library as a place for the family to spend time together.

Library cards are free to children as well as to adults at Wisconsin's 387 public libraries. Get a library card. It's a vital school supply and the smartest card you can own.



Elizabeth Burmaster
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

The Superintendent of Public Instruction provides direction and technical support to public schools in Wisconsin. In addition, the Department of Public Instruction assists administrators of public schools with a broad range of programs and professional services. They distribute the money that the state and federal governments give to schools. They also offer guidance and counseling and develop public library resource information.

MENASHA

The Children's Dept has launched a new initiative for September and October: A "Free-quent Reader" Club for kids! Any child who is interested in joining receives a small library-card sized club card with room for eight stamps. Each week a child checks out books, they receive a stamp on their club card. Children who use their library card to check-out receive an extra stamp! All children who fill their eight stamps by the end of October will receive a brand new book of their choice during Children's Book Week, Nov. 13-18. Happy reading!

Food for Fines returns this year from November 4th through 11th. Bring in \$1 worth of non-perishable food and pay off \$2 in library fines. All food items will be donated to the Neenah-Menasha Red Cross. Return all your late library materials and have your fines cleared if you bring in non-perishable food items to the Circulation Desk. Food items will be given to the Neenah-Menasha Chapter of the American Red Cross
General Guidelines: \$1 worth of non-perishable food will pay off \$2.00 in fines. Items must be free of damage and not expired. Food items will be applied toward fines only-not lost or damaged book charges. Items are accepted starting on November 4th. Food will be accepted at either the Neenah Public Library or Menasha Public Library.

Our hours have changed along with the season. School year hours are:

Monday-Thursday	8:30 am to 8:30 pm
Friday	8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday	8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Look for our new website to be unveiled sometime this fall. We are working to make the site more interactive for everyone by incorporating things like reviews of books written by our patrons, blogs from librarians, and lots more. So keep checking www.menashalibrary.org.

OMRO

PAWS, CLAWS, SCALES , AND TALES 2006 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The summer reading program ended with an outside achievement day event Wednesday August 16, 2006. This summer we had 77 participants who read or were read to for a total of 42,980 minutes. 307 cards were turned in, with each card representing 140 minutes. I believe these children are destined to do well in school this coming year! Congratulations to all the readers.

Our performers were varied this summer, from the Soda Pups, Zoomobile, Mikael the Mime, Stuart Stotts, and the new performer, Connor Sullivan, a balloon artist. All entertaining and enjoyed by 370 children and 111 adults.

Thank you to the following supporters: Omro Study Club, Omro Service League, Friends of the Omro Library, Omro Cheese House, Omro Lions Club, Winnefox Library System, Ethyl Benjamin, Timber Rattlers, Pizza Hut, Omro Hardees, Stephanie Vold, Connor Sullivan, Helen Moller, Jean Brogaard, Sharon Schraufnagel and our staff members who always put in the extra effort to make this event a success—Julie, Connie, and Marlene.

We also had fun with the Adult and Teen Summer Reading Program. These participants were lucky winners in the weekly drawings: Stacey Wright, Mackenzie Gumz, Danielle VanLanen, Cori Gumz, Michelle Kretzman, Lisa Babcock, and Larry Wright.

Four families took advantage of the Timber Rattlers reading incentive program and will be attending the library's Family Night on August 24th. Gunderson Cleaners also provided an incentive program for Omro readers with the "Read to Ride" and Marie Fehring was the lucky Omro reader to get a new bike this year. Thank you to these organizations in joining us to promote reading.

Join us in summer of 2007 for "Get a Clue @ Your Library".

New @ Your Omro Library

WELCOME BACK TEACHERS AND STUDENTS:

We have a range of online resources chosen specifically to help students find information for their assignments and access to the AskAway online reference service. You'll find information for students of all ages, from elementary through college.

All these resources (and more) can be accessed through our local library's page at www.omrolibrary.org.

REORGANIZATION OF MATERIALS:

We have done some relocation of our library collection. Gone is the on going book sale. We have to maximize our space and that luxury of being able to pick out a sale book had to make room for our growing collection needs.

OMRO'S VITAL RECORDS DATABASE:

Accessible from our web page: search for birth, marriage, and death records from the Omro Herald from 2002 to present.

FRIENDS OF THE OMRO LIBRARY:

First meeting of the fall will be September 21st at 4 pm. Welcome to anyone interested in promoting the library and its future needs. Future needs will include more space and developing some creative fund raising events to reach that goal. This group is also committed to having a good time. Hope to see you there!

STORY TIME AND TODDLER TIMES:

Story Time sessions are for all area children between the ages of 3 and 5. Story Time lasts approximately 30 minutes and includes picture book stories, puppets, finger plays, flannel board stories and more from 9:30 to 10:00. Starts September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17.

Toddler Time sessions are for all area children between the ages of 18 months to 3 years old. Toddler Time is a half-hour of stories, songs and activities to encourage the love of reading. An adult must accompany each child from 10:30 to 11:00. Starts September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17.

Special Holiday children's reading programs will also be held around Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentines Day and Easter.

Tammie Reimer will be our story teller this year. She comes to us with a background in storytelling and working with young children. Our young audiences can look forward to fun stories and learning new skills from these reading programs.

FUTURE TEEN COUNCIL?

We are looking into the possibility of starting a teen council. If this is something that intrigues you or someone you know, contact us at the library. Many libraries have special services and connections with the teens in their communities and we feel the time is right for us to go there. Contact us by phone 920-685-7016 or just stop in to give us your ideas.



Winnebago County Libraries

CARTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY OMRO

405 East Huron Street Omro, WI 54963
920-685-7016 www.omrolibrary.org
Monday 10-7
Tuesday 10-5
Wednesday 10-5
Thursday 10-7
Friday 10-5
Saturday 9-12

ELISHA D. SMITH PUBLIC LIBRARY MENASHA

440 First Street Menasha, WI 54952
920-967-5166 www.menashalibrary.org
Monday 9-9 (*Children's Dept. 9-8, M-F*)
Tuesday 9-9
Wednesday 9-9
Thursday 9-9
Friday 9-5:30
Saturday 9-5 (*Summer 9-1*)
Sunday 12-5 (*Summer -closed*)

NEENAH PUBLIC LIBRARY

240 East Wisconsin Ave. Neenah, WI 54957
920-751-4722 www.neenahlibrary.org
Monday 9-9
Tuesday 9-9
Wednesday 9-9
Thursday 9-9
Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-5 (*Summer 9-1*)
Sunday 1-5 (*Summer -closed*)

OSHKOSH PUBLIC LIBRARY

106 Washington Ave. Oshkosh, WI 54901
920-236-5210 www.oshkoshpubliclibrary.org
Monday 9-9
Tuesday 9-9
Wednesday 9-9
Thursday 9-9
Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-5 (*Summer 9-1*)
Sunday 1-5 (*Summer -closed*)

WINNECONNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

31 South 2nd Street Winneconne, WI 54986
920-582-7091 www.winneconnelibrary.com
Monday 10-6
Tuesday 10-6
Wednesday 10-6
Thursday 10-6
Friday 10-6
Saturday 10-1

Why buy when you can borrow?
Your public library is a goldmine of books, magazines, movies, CDs and other great stuff.

Free@your library.
Most public libraries provide computers—and classes—for kids to use, mom and dad too.

Make learning fun.
Check out reading clubs, storyhours, movies and other free programs for kids and families.

Need homework help?
Encourage your child to ask a pro—your librarian.

Keep kids reading.
The more kids read, the better they do in school. Your library has something for every age and interest.

The Smartest Card
Get it. Use it.
@your library

Look, Listen & Enjoy.
Borrow films and music for the whole family.

It's never too late!
Use the library 24/7 online.

If you don't see it, ask!
The library may be able to get it for you.

Bring the whole family!
How many places can you all enjoy together? For free!!!

Remember, learning begins at home.
See your library's parenting collection for tips on how you can be your child's first and best teacher.

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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WINNEFOX LIBRARY SYSTEM

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