



Along the Way

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Hours:

M-Th 9 am -8:30 pm
F-Sat 9 am -5:30 pm
Mary Meyer, Editor



LEVY COMMITTEE HOLDS KICKOFF PARTY

The Support Your Library Campaign held a festive kickoff party on Friday afternoon, January 16, at Schaller Memorial.

The committee is launching its effort to pass Way Library's first-ever operating levy. The 1-mill, four-year levy on the March 2 ballot seeks to raise about \$475,000 – the amount of state library funding which has been cut back during the past several years.

The new tax would cost the owner of a \$200,000 home about \$62 annually, or 17 cents per day.

"We remain very grateful to voters who approved (in 1999) a bond levy to renovate and expand the library," said Nancy Kelley, Way Library director, at the event. "Additional funds raised by the Way Library Foun-

dition allowed us to add many handsome features which make the library a community showcase."

Way Library has not increased its staff numbers, despite its doubled size. In fact, Mrs. Kelley observed at the kickoff party, the library would have had to ask voters for operating funds even if the new, expanded library had not been built.

"No one anticipated the extent of cutbacks libraries would face during this economic downturn," she said.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for the levy campaign should call Elaine Bishop at 419-872-0254.

If the levy passes, the library will:

- Restore Sunday afternoon hours.
- Lift the freeze on and



Long-time library supporters Jean Duston, left, and Adelaide Morse, with special guest, The Cat in the Hat. Dr. Seuss's 100th birthday is March 2.

increase print and CD/DVD budgets.

- Increase after school children's programming, drop-in storytimes and adult programming.
- Add free computer classes.
- Restore free use of library meeting rooms for non-profit groups.
- Increase online services for patrons.
- Keep in stride with new technology.

If the levy fails, we must:

- Continue to be closed on Sundays.
- Close on Fridays.
- Eliminate evening hours.
- Reduce print/CD/DVD budgets by at least 50%.
- Cut back on children's programming.
- Forego technology updates.



The levy campaign steering committee: back row, from left, Lisa Richard, Elaine Bishop, Nancy Kelley, Lee Gagle, with Mayor Jody Holbrook. Front: Barbara Blem, Jan Barley, Mary Meyer, with the Cat in the Hat (AKA Moe Ibarra).

Events: February

February 5 — Registration begins for Fridays With My Friend.

February 7 — Memories of the Apron Fashion Show, 1-2:30 p.m.

February 9,10,11: Levy information meetings at Way Café.

February 19 — Time for Twos and Red Cross Babysitting class registration begins.

February 20 — Fridays With My Friend (Apron Theme), 1:30-3 p.m.

February 26 — Reel Talk: You Can't Take It With You, 10 a.m.

February 28 — Who Whacked Willard at Way, 6:30 p.m. The library will close at 3:00 that day.

Children's art : Westside Montessori.

Way Public Library Foundation to present 'Who Whacked Willard at Way?' on Feb. 28

The Way Public Library Foundation invites you to solve a murder!

The Foundation will present the interactive murder mystery "Who Whacked Willard at Way?" on Saturday, February 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the library.

The mystery will unfold throughout the rooms of the library as guests receive helpful clues to aid them in the search for the mystery murderer. While solving the crime, guests will enjoy delectable grazing stations and refreshments.

Following the evening of sleuthing, live entertainment will be provided by the band "The Wrecking Crew."

Emceed by WTOL-TV news anchor Chrys Peterson, this unique whodunit features command performances by Perrysburg residents, in the roles of such colorful characters as Mabel Sable, Princess Liza Lott Somnavitch, Lera Luscious, Emma Tayshon, Arman Goodall, Mikey X. Splane, Fitz Auvanger and Spam Spayed. The thespians include Joanie Foster, Marge Gallagher, Jody Alexander, Patrice Spitzer, Dwight Osterud, Wayne Koskinen, Ken Cappelletty and Donald Fraser.

Tickets, at \$60 per person, are available at the Way Library Information Desk, or by calling 419-874-3135, x170. All proceeds benefit the Way Public Library Foundation Endowment Fund.



Sleuths will comb the library for clues to the murder mystery.

Reel Talk, Feb. 26: You Can't Take It With You

Way Library continues its popular classic film series Reel Talk on Thursday, February 26, with "You Can't Take It With You." Based on the Hart-Kaufman play, this movie won a 1938 Oscar for best picture.

Guest speaker is Channel 11 film critic Bill Roe. Admission and refreshments are offered free of charge.



New children's program has tails wagging

Reading to the Dogs, on Tuesday evenings through February 3, has turned out to be a popular way for children to practice their reading skills. Above, Bill Hamilton and Grant Glanville, right, with Paws With a Heart therapy dog Ruby. Right photo, Julia Edinger has an attentive listener for her book.



Preschools profiled

Lutheran Church of the Master, directed by Sandi Fraker, above, was one of nine schools at the Preschool Fair on Jan. 10.

Library-to-patron e-newsletter now offered

Way Library now offers an electronic newsletter service called "BookLetters" which enables patrons to have personally selected information on "hot" new books sent directly to their email address.

To sign up, point your web browser to www.waylibrary.info. Click on the Reader's Resources link on the right menu bar. To subscribe, click on the link called Newsletter Signup on the left menu bar.

Genre-specific newsletters, Bestseller and Award Lists and an Author Directory are available, as well as Way's own e-newsletters: Moe's Bookmark, Juvie's Choosies, Picks of the Month and New Tech Books.

'Memories of the Apron' set for Feb. 7

Way Library and the Wood County Historical Society will host a free fashion show entitled "Memories of the Apron," on Saturday, February 7, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on the lower level of the library.

The event will celebrate aprons of all ages, shapes, sizes, colors and fabrics. Specialty aprons will include reproductions from the Victorian and Civil War eras, from the late 19th century, as well as many authentic and interesting aprons from the 20th and 21st centuries. A narration on the history of aprons will accompany the interactive fashion show.

Guests are invited to wear their favorite apron to the show, as well as to bring their favorite memories of aprons.

Aprons will be on display throughout the library from January 23 to February 28.

Anyone who has a special apron story to tell may stop by the display on the main floor and fill out a form.

Way Library's intergenerational program Fridays With My Friend on February 20 will continue the apron theme. Joann Ward, as an apron-clad Martha Washington, will be on hand.

This program is all about tying one on ...an apron, that is! For more information, call Debbie, 419-874-3135x109, or Anna, x108.



Karen Studenka of the library staff models colorful aprons.

Libraries: A Bargain!

Public libraries can save you money – big time!

"Give Your Budget a Money Makeover," an article in the December 2003 Better Homes Homes & Gardens, singles out libraries as one of four major methods of cost savings for families.

"Of course, libraries are a great source of books, magazines, and newspapers that you don't have to buy yourself," the article states.

Citing expenses for a weekly movie rental (\$4 each), a CD per month (\$16), and four books on tape (\$30 each), the author estimates families can save at least \$520 per year.

Add in subscriptions and new books worth \$155, and you're up to \$675 annual savings, the author notes.

Levy information at Way Café Feb. 9-11

Do you have questions about Way Library's 1-mill, four-year operating levy on the March 2 ballot?

Informational meetings will be held at Way Café on February 9-11: On that Monday, at 10 a.m., on Tuesday at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m., Way Library Director Nancy Kelley will answer questions and provide information on the levy.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

AARP Tax Help now setting appointments

The AARP tax consulting service for low and middle income taxpayers is again up and running at the library.

Appointments must be made in advance by calling the Information Desk at 874-3135, x119.

After making an appointment, each taxpayer needs to verify his or her social security number by bringing a social security card, last year's federal income tax form, or a social security benefit letter.

Last year's tax forms are also helpful, according to Walter Hales, who coordinates the free service.

Way Library is one of more than 20 sites for the program—and has been for 30 years.

The volunteers will be available for 9:15, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. appointments on Wednesday and Thursday, and occasionally on Tuesday and Friday mornings, said Mr. Hales.

Legion designates Way for historical books

American Legion Post 28 recently designated Way Library as the central repository for several sets of wartime rosters kept for years at the Legion's hall at Schaller Memorial in Perrysburg.

Included are "The Official Roster of Ohio Soldiers and Marines, World War I," a 23-volume set, and "The Official Roster of the Soldiers of the

State of Ohio in the War of the Rebellion," a 12-volume set, as well as a volume containing military records of Ohio residents who fought in the 1846-1848 Mexican-American Conflict.

Legionnaires presented the books to Richard Baranowski, librarian. The sets will be located in the Local History Room for in-house use only.

And the winners are....

The winners of the prestigious 2004 American Library Association's awards of excellence in children's literature have been announced:

Newbery: Kate DiCamillo's "The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup and a Spool of Thread."

Caldecott: Mordecai Gerstein's picture book "The Man Who Walked Between the Towers."

Way is proud to own these books!

WAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Country Garden Club continues assistance to library

Perrysburg's Country Garden Club continued planting support for Way Library with an annual contribution, part of a \$75,000 commitment to the library.

On Tuesday, January 20, CGC President Jan Landwehr presented a \$15,000 check to Way Library Director Nancy Kelley for landscaping on the library grounds.

When the library completed its expansion and renovation thanks to a bond levy approved by voters in 1999, the local garden club stepped forward to provide some of the "extras" not within the construction project budget. The club has given \$60,000 to date, with the last installment of the pledge due in March 2005.

Mrs. Kelley thanked Mrs. Landwehr for the CGC's generous donations. She noted that the library staff frequently hears praise for the landscaping around the parking lot, made possible by the club's support.

Within its walls, the new library has special features such as fireplaces and flat-screen TVs, thanks to private donations to the Way Public Library Foundation.

Outside the facility, the Country Garden Club has landscaped the grounds and provided furniture for the patio.

*"The library construction project was given a great boost by the Country Garden Club."
Nancy Kelley, Way Library Director.*



Country Garden Club President Jan Landwehr, left, presents a \$15,000 check to Nancy Kelley, Way Library director.

Also on January 20th, the CGC took advantage of the pleasant library setting to make its annual gift to the Wood County Park District's W.W. Knight Nature Preserve.

Neil Munger, director of the Park District, accepted a \$10,000 check from CGC member Joan Foster. Mrs. Foster is a new trustee of the Way Public Library Foundation.