



Along the Way

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Anna Bristol, President
Mary Depinet, Secretary
Barbara Blem, Treasurer

Address:

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www.waylibrary.info

Hours:

M-Th 9 am -8:30 pm
F-Sat 9 am -5:30 pm

Mary Meyer, Editor



DIRECTOR'S REPORT: LIBRARY LEVY IN MARCH

As the new year begins, the library staff is enthusiastic about several programs which promise to lift the spirits during the cold winter months.

We're also looking forward to providing information for the Support Your Library Campaign Committee. The committee will launch its campaign for the library's March 2 operating levy with a grand kick off at 3 p.m. on Friday, January 16, at Schaller Memorial.

If approved by voters, the 1-mill levy on the March 2 ballot will raise about \$470,000 annually to make up for the drastic cuts in state funding which have plagued libraries since 2000.

In Perrysburg we are fortunate to have a beautifully refurbished li-

brary, thanks to voters who approved a bond issue in November 1999.

Despite its larger size, Way now functions with 24.2 full-time-equivalent employees, compared to 26.1 in 2001. Utility costs have soared, for homeowners and for public facilities alike.

The Board of Trustees has turned to a levy as a last recourse, after implementing numerous cost-saving measures.

If the levy passes, the library will:

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

Nancy J. Kelley, Director

'Who Whacked Willard at Way' on Feb. 28

On Saturday, February 28, the Way Public Library Foundation will present its first-ever interactive murder mystery. This not-to-be-missed event begins at 6:30 p.m. and includes fabulous food and entertainment by The Wrecking Crew. Guests will be asked to solve the mystery.

The cast includes Jody Alexander, Patrice Spitzer, Ken Cappelletty and Judge S. Dwight Osterud.

Tickets at \$60 per person may be purchased by calling 419-874-3135, ext. 170.



Marge Gallagher, Wayne Koskinen and Joan Foster join other local notables in the mystery play cast.

Next Reel Talk:African

Way's popular classic film series Reel Talk starts off the new year with a great American film, "African Queen." The film will be shown on Thursday, January 15, at 10 a.m. in the lower level meeting rooms.

This series is free to the public, and refreshments are served.

Frank Murphy, an English tutor and director of the Funhouse Writers' Group at the Collingwood Arts Center, will moderate the film discussion.

The library's Wednesday morning Book Discussion group will open the year with "African Queen," and members will attend the film as part of their discussion.

Events: January

January 1 — The library is closed.

January 2-31 — St. Rose Preschool displays artwork in youth area.

January 6,13,20,27 — Paws with a Heart.

January 8 — Preschool Storytime registration begins.

January 8,15,22,29 — Time for Twos.

January 20,21,27,28 — Preschool Storytimes.

January 10 — Preschool Fair.

January 15 — Book Sale.

January 17 — Book Sale.

January 22 — Mother Goose registration begins.



Leo Darmofal, left, and Richard Baranowski.

Vets honor Way staff

American Legion Post 28 Historian Leo Darmofal took a moment at the annual Veterans Day dinner on November 10 to honor Way librarian Richard Baranowski for his service to local veterans' programs. Mr. Baranowski has organized library programs recognizing veterans, aided the Post's flag disposal program and collected veterans' photos for the Local History Room.

Aprons to be featured in February program

Aprons, aprons, aprons. They were an important ingredient in domestic life for hundreds of years.

On Saturday, February 7, Way Library will present a new recipe—a unique program featuring assorted aprons from throughout history.

The program will be sponsored in conjunction with the Wood County Historical Museum. The museum

previewed the special program at its annual Old Home Holiday Tour in early December. Mrs. Snow Woman, pictured at the right, was one of the apron models, sporting a pink dotted apron with pictures of a harried woman busy doing her chores.

An intergenerational program on aprons will be held on Friday, February 6. Stay tuned for more information on the dozens of very special aprons, each with its own colorful history, which will be part of the show.



Al Huber, Way volunteer, 96 years young.

Library recognizes staff, volunteers

Way Library held its staff and board recognition dinner on October 23. The Friends of Way Library funds this annual event.

Linda Phillips and Andrew Black, board members whose terms ended in December, were honored.

The following employees were recognized: Kathy Kahl, 10 years; Brooke Bennett, Martha Johns and

Maryann Hughes, five years.

During the holiday season, Way staff members thanked library volunteers in special ways. Book Buddies received gifts made with help from the Perrysburg Senior Center.

Volunteer Al Huber marked his 96th birthday (December 2, 2003) with a small party in the children's activity room of the library.

Children's programs set for January

Online registration will begin Thursday, January 8, for the winter **Cabin Fever** story time sessions at Way Library. Children ages 3-6 may attend. The series starts on January 20 and continues for six weeks.

The following times are available: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; and a group for 4-6-year-olds with previous group experience, Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.

The story times last approximately 30 minutes, and parents/caregivers are asked to remain in the library. Pre-registration is required and may be done online (www.waylibrary.info) either from home, or at the library during regular library hours. No phone registrations are accepted. For information, call Youth Services: 419-874-3135, ext. 116.

Time for Twos registration has begun. Beginning January 8, this is a series of four 20-minute programs for 2 year olds along with an adult. The toddlers and their caregivers will join in songs and rhymes and listen to stories. Children must be 24-36 months old for this group focused on what books are and how they are read. Preregistration, again, is required and must be done at the library [see above]. Two sessions are offered: 9:30 or 10:30 a.m. on Thursdays for four weeks.

The ever-popular **Mother Goose** story times for children ages 12-23 months and their adult caregivers once again will be offered on Thursdays, February 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 9:30 or 10:30 a.m. A Way staffer will lead music, finger plays and motion activities. Online registration begins on Thursday, January 22.

Book Sale Jan. 15 & 17

Curl up with your own special reading material this winter!

The Friends of Way Library will hold their first book sale of the year on Thursday, January 15, from 4 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, January 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lower level of the library.

Going to the dogs... with a good book

First through fourth graders can bone up on their reading skills at the library on January 6, 13, 20, 27, and February 3, by reading to a Paws with a Heart therapy dog in the children's area of the library, 7-7:20 or 7:30-7:50 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

Booking meeting rooms

Interested in booking a meeting room at Way Library? Online booking is now available.

Log onto the library's website (www.waylibrary.info). Be prepared to provide information on the event, including organization/contact persons, and whether special equipment is needed. An email will be sent to the booking party, confirming the registration or requesting additional information.

The Meeting Room Policy is online.

Computer classes begin January 5

Mousercise!, 1-2:30 p.m., January 5; 6:30-8 p.m., January 6; 10-11:30 a.m., January 21. Free.

Job Search I, 10-11:30 a.m., January 7; 10-11:30 a.m. Free.

Job Search II, 10-11:30 a.m., January 14. Free.

Microsoft Excel I, 6:30-8 p.m., January 8. \$15.

Microsoft Excel II, 6:30-8 p.m., January 15. \$15.

Windows I, 1-2:30 p.m., January 12, 6:30-8 p.m., January 13; 10-11:30 a.m., January 28. Free.

Windows II, 1-2:30 p.m., January 19; 6:30-8 p.m., January 20. \$10.

Microsoft Publisher I, 6:30-8 p.m., January 22. \$15.

Microsoft Publisher II, 6:30-8 p.m., January 29. \$15.

Microsoft Word I, 1-2:30 p.m., January 26; 6:30-8 p.m., Jan. 27. \$10.

Preschool Fair slated for January 10

The eighth annual Perrysburg Preschool Fair will be held in the Youth Activity Center of the library on Saturday, January 10, from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Parents who are searching for a preschool for Fall 2004 are invited to visit with representatives of Perrysburg preschools. Stop by the fair any time dur-

ing the morning hours.

The schools will not register children during the event, but parents will be able to schedule visits to the schools.

The Perrysburg Preschool Directory, with information about local programs, will be available free at the fair as well as after the event.

Out of Supplies?

You're working on a report at the library, and you run out of supplies. Here's a way to save a trip to the store and help the Friends of Way Library, all at the very same time:

Way Café sells school and office supplies, with prices ranging from 10 cents to \$3.25. Pencils, envelopes, notebook paper, index cards, crayons, and many other items are for sale.

WAY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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The spirit of giving: alive and well at Way Library

The holidays have come and gone, but the warmth and spirit of the season linger at Way Library.

Tyler Farkas, 19, of Perrysburg had only one wish for Christmas.

"Books," he told his mother, Chris Shannon, when she asked what to send in his holiday gift box. Not food or toiletries or electronics...just good old-fashioned reading material.

Since November, Tyler has been stationed in Afghanistan with a military police unit of the U.S. Air Force. He and his fellow soldiers crave books and magazines from home.

Mrs. Shannon, a realtor with Sulphur Springs, telephoned Nancy Kelley, Way Library director.

Mrs. Kelley donated more than a cou-

ple of good books. She and Anna Bristol, president of the Friends of Way Library, bundled up at least 50 titles from the gently used collection pegged for the Friends' book sales. Mrs. Bristol designed special book marks with a message to the troops.

Mrs. Shannon took them to Pak Mail at Perry's Junction shopping plaza on Eckel Junction Road. Chad Helbert, Pak Mail manager, prepared a large package for shipping to Bagram Air Base, home of 6,000 American soldiers on duty in Afghanistan.

Pak Mail shipped them without charge.

Way Library patrons answered the call for Teddy bears, donating dozens of them to a special Sierra's Bears Christmas tree in the children's area.

The bears will go to bereaved parents



Chris Shannon, right, and Chad Helbert, Pak Mail manager, prepare the books donated by the Friends of Way Library for shipping to Afghanistan.

or caregivers who have lost a child.

Ruth and C. William Epperson of Perrysburg started the holiday season with a gift in honor of their grandson, Michael William Epperson, 2, of California. To teach Michael the spirit of Christmas giving, they donated \$100 to the Way Public Library Foundation for the purchase of Thomas the Train pieces for the children's area.