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Teen area facelift

We are even exploring a different option for doing things like playing movies and video games in the Teen Program Room (we currently share a projector with adult services), so we can be cutting edge tech-wise!"

"Other than this, we're just keeping steady with teen programs," Chris continued. "Attendance has been fantastic, and the teens are more enthusiastic than ever about what we do. It's been such a great mixture of crafts, games, movies, snacks, and more! I'm gearing up for our Summer Library Program and Summer Reading Program, where I expect we'll have even better participation than last year!"

"Personally, I think it's just wonderful to see actual dollars and cents being spent on the teen space and programs! Teen departments are often under-funded at other libraries, which of course creates a cycle of low turnout, which makes people want to fund even less, and so on. But here the teens and I feel so supported! It actually does make a huge difference, and the teens comment on it all the time. They really love seeing that we care enough to make real changes!! So thanks to the Friends of the Library and everyone else for everything!"

Leslie Schultz started as Adult Services Director at the library in November. She earned her master's degree in library science from Drexel University in Philadelphia and most recently worked in North Carolina



Recent Memorials

- In memory of Colonel Russ Jorns from PHS class of 1948: [Arlington: A Color Guide to America's ost Famous Cemetery](#) by James Gindlesperger
- In memory of Catherine (Cathie) Leonard Koehn from PHS class of 1953: [Ireland's Wild Coast](#) (DVD) by PBS

Friends of the
Portage Public Library
253 W. Edgewater St.
Portage, WI 53901

March
2018

Friends of the Portage Library

Friends of the Library Board of Directors

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If you have questions about the Friends of the Library contact any of the above board members, or send email to portagelibraryfriends@gmail.com

**The Library will be CLOSED
Friday, March 30
for in-service**

Ahead for kids, families

From the Children's Department:

- Sat. March 3: FamilyFunEvent @ 10:00 will feature the Portage High School Jazz Band
- We'll kick-off National Library Week on Monday, April 9 with Family Fort Nite @ 6:15; bring blankets, etc. for fort building! We'll sit around the campfire to read and make indoor s'mores
- Mon., May 21: "Make-it-Monday" & "After School Blast" combine for one big gardening program @ 3:30. We'll plant the library garden beds, learn about composting, and make a plant craft to take home. Ages K-5th grade.

Check the Children's Department Facebook page for awesome photos of ALL our programs!



Inventory complete, search begins

Presently the collections in the Portage Library contain over 75,000 books, DVDs, and other materials, according the Library Director Jessica Bergin. A three-day library-wide inventory in January produced a report accounting for 99% of these items. Further investigation so far has located about half of the missing items.



"Now we're on a treasure hunt," says Bergin, "to see which of the remaining 500 items are truly missing."

The inventory process required library staff to work in teams to survey the entire collection. Staff members used scanners linked to laptops set up on movable carts, moving from shelf to shelf to record the barcode on each item.

The most recent previous inventory of the library took place six years ago. Given that length of time, Bergin was concerned that many more items might be missing. "We want our catalog to be accurate," she commented. "After all, most of the collection is acquired by spending tax dollars. We want to be good stewards." Though the process required that the library be closed for three days, there were few complaints from patrons. Bergin expects that in the future, inventory will occur perhaps annually in some form. She's pleased with the results of this recent survey and is grateful now to have "a base line" for future inventories.

Teen area getting facelift soon

The final phase of the 2013 Portage Library renovation will occur this spring. Patrons will notice changes occurring in the space formerly occupied by the Children's Department and now designated for Teen Services.

- A long, tall counter with stations wired for electrical access will be constructed to create study stations for teens.
- One wall presently covered with felt board will be transformed into separate sections (cork board, dry erase, metal sheet, and chalk board) to allow for varied activities.
- One drywalled side of the activities room will be uncovered to allow natural light to enter.

According to Library Director Jessica Bergin, the Portage Foundation reserved money at the time of the original renovation so that the needs of Portage teens could be identified and appropriate plans implemented. Chris Baker, Director of Teen Programming, summed up discussion of the renovations, saying, "Finally, we plan to get some new furniture and paint the whole space to give it a fresh, distinct look."

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Variety defines adult programs

- Feature-length movie each Monday 10 am, Bidwell Room;
- Crafternoon Series, March 6, 1 pm and 5 pm; March 12, 1 pm; March 13, 5 pm; March 26, 1 pm; April 3, 1 pm; April 9, 1 pm; April 23, 1 pm; May 1, 1 pm; May 14, 1 pm (check at library for specific craft project)
- Cr-after Hours with Sarah, March 20, 5:30 pm; April 17 pm, 5:30;
- How To Series; March 26, 6:30, Starting a Small Business; April 16, 6:30 pm, Fitness for Spring; May 21, 6:30 pm, Gardening 101.
- Culinary Series, March 12, 5:30 pm. Why Detox; April 9, 5:30 pm, Will it Waffle? May 14. 5:30 pm, Lovely Lavender workshop
- Travel Series: March 22, 4:30 pm, Walk with Egyptians; May 24., 5:30 pm, African Safari
- Knitting at the Library, Tuesdays, 11 am, Reading Room
- Genealogy at the Library, 4th Tues, 1 pm., Bidwell Room
- CREATE @ the Library, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays each month, 6 pm Bidwell Room

Did you know that . . . ?

Wireless printing is now available at the Portage Library?

You may use your Smartphone or laptop to print from anywhere.



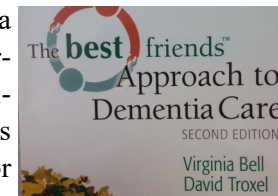
Pick up your pages at the library for 25 cents a page for black & white, 50 cents for color. The library has taken out a year's subscription for this service. (See Portage Library Website for details.)

Questions about your membership status?

Are you one of those busy people who doesn't remember if you sent your check for membership renewal for Friends of the Library?" Just call membership chairperson Eileen Marshall at 742-0270 , or pop her an email to get your question answered.

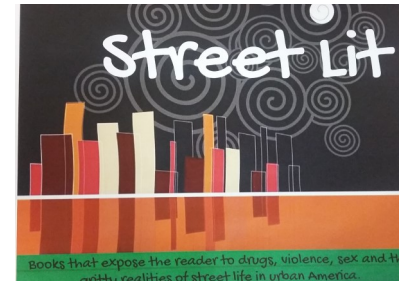
Print resources for caregivers donated

To help meet the growing need for resources for caregivers, the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Columbia County recently donated a series of 15 books to the Portage Library and all other libraries in the county. Topics range from handbooks for caregivers to specialized topics such as caring for patients with Alzheimer's.



'Urban Fiction' explores modern themes

The fiction shelving in the main library contains a special section featuring works labeled "Street Fiction," also called "Urban Fiction." These contemporary works, often by African American authors, explore modern socio-economic situations and are generally set in modern cities.



Check the offerings displayed in the Library collection, or check recommendations from the Goodreads website online.

Coming Soon! Teen and adult graphic novels will be featured in a new section on Crescent non-fiction shelves by the DVDS.



Time to renew your support of Friends of the Library

Annual Membership (Jan. 1—Dec. 31)

- Membership renewal New Membership

Please check the desired category

- Individual \$10
 Family \$20
 Business/Patron \$50

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

YES, I would like to receive information & newsletters by email to reduce mailing & copying costs.

Please indicate your areas of interest:

Children's Department

- Baking

Teen Department

- Baking

Library Book Sale

- Pre-sale sorting
 Staffing the sale
 Set-up or clean up

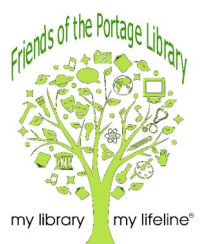
- Friend's board member
 Participate in book discussion
 Grounds beautification
 Provide refreshments

Please detach & return this section to:

Friends of the Portage Library

c/o Portage Public Library
 253 W Edgewater St.
 Portage, WI 53901

You will also find membership forms at the library.



Support from Friends of the Portage Library helps provide funds for adult, teen and children's programs, including supplies for programs and activities. On

February 27 and 28, toddlers at Story Time heard the story of The Three Little Pigs, and had a chance to practice building with big but lightweight blocks.

Remember to register *The Friends of the Portage Free Library Inc.* as your choice for charitable organization to receive a portion of the purchase price for items purchased at smile.amazon.com. Once you have registered, just remember to return to Amazon Smile. every time. Between Oct. 1 and



Dec. 31, Friends of the Portage Library earned \$23.39 in rewards from Amazon Smile.