

Recent Gifts and Memorials

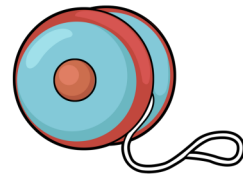
GIVEN BY	ITEM	IN MEMORY OF
Portage High School Class of '53 Judith Kuse & family	<u>Moda All-Stars—Lucky Charm Quilts: 17 Delightful Patterns for Precut 5" Squares</u>	Mary Lou Sullivan Campion
Judith Kuse & Family	<u>Teammate: My Journey in Baseball and a World Series for the Ages</u> by David Ross and Theo Epstein	James O'Hara
	<u>The Cubs Way: The Zen of Building the Best Team in Baseball and Breaking the Curse</u> by Tom Verducci	James O'Hara

Summer Reading Program prepares for launch!

Summer Library Program for ages birth to 12 years will run June 1-July 27. Registration can be done online or in person at the Children's Desk. Kick-off for the summer will be a free program by Mark Hayward, the Yo-Yo Guy @ 6:30 p.m. on June 1 in the Children's Program Room. Funding provided by Friends of the Library.

Book Buddies for students going into 1st-5th grade will be every Monday, 9:30-10:15 a.m., June 5-July 24. Teens and adult volunteers will be on hand to listen to kids read and sign their summer reading slips.

Preschool Story Time for ages up to 5 years, Wednesdays, June 7-28 @ 10-10:45 a.m. Check the Portage Public Library: Children's Department Face Book page for more detailed information on all the free, family friendly programs for the summer.



June 2017 Friends of the Portage Library

**Friends of the Library
Board of Directors**

- Jane Considine, President
- Lawrence Gramer, V-P
- Sue Martin, Treasurer
- Mary Grimm, Secretary
- Dorothy Baldwin
- Jean Damm
- Linda Floeter
- Joan Indermark
- Marvin Jensen
- Eileen Marshall
- MacKenzie Rietmann
- Ed Zydowsky

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

Save the date for
Pizzazz!

**A celebration of our library
Saturday, Oct. 14, 3:30—6 pm
Entertainment, beverages,
appetizers, raffle & much more!**

Genealogy guru provides help to many

Searching for information about the death of your ancestors from Columbia County, WI? You can begin your search in the Sanderson Room at the library. Binders there contain information on all burials on record in Columbia County cemeteries, as well as on details from obituaries from Portage newspapers from 1850 on.

For further help, Portage Library staff may direct your questions to local volunteer Anna Mae Axness. Beginning 15 years ago, Axness spearheaded the effort to gather local geneological information. She's developed an Excel 2010 file with more than 80,000 entries from Columbia County cemetery. Names of the deceased are organized first by city/village/township, then by cemetery, then alphabetically. Local IT professional Josh Ciolosz created a link making the file accessible through the Museum at the Portage Website (portagemuseum.org).

Considering the extensive project, Axness credits numerous volunteers such as Char Sauer, presently of Franklin and formerly of Fall River, for going through microfiche records of newspapers from 1850 on. Numerous other volunteers, including students from Portage's River Crossing School, went on foot into each of the county cemeteries in order to document information and photograph headstones.

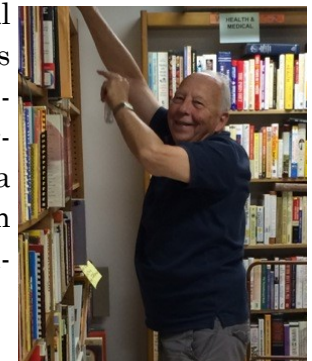
Axness combines her experience in local research with a passion for genealogy. Depending on the questions, she may send queries on to the State Historical Society. She also recommends a number of online resources including U.S. Census Records and Find-a-Grave.

Marv Jensen honored for service to library

The Columbia County Library System Board recently selected Marvin Jensen of Portage to receive an award as Library Advocate of the Year for 2017. Jensen, who's served on the Board of the Friends of the Portage Library for more than a decade, was commended for his leadership and service.

Specifically, as chair of the annual book sale sponsored by the Portage Friends each July, Jensen has spearheaded efforts resulting in steadily increasing receipts. As a consequence, the Friends' support of library programs has expanded significantly.

Jensen is also credited as the advocate of inter-library partnerships with such area libraries as Pardeeville and Wyocena to promote the exchange of ideas. With a professional background in speech, he's known for his ability to collaborate and solve problems. Portage Library Director Jessica Bergin presented Jensen with his award at a library celebration April 14.



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

Explore **Far & Away** culture in new book group

Twelve fiction and non-fiction books will give readers a chance to learn about other cultures beginning June 5 when The Orpahn MNaster's Son by Adam Johnson will be the focus of discussion at the library at 6 pm. The story takes place in North Korea, The July 3 selection, The Morning They Cane for Us by Janine di Giovanni is set in Syria. Other countries and cultures are Northern Englad, Israel, the Great Plains of the US, Nigeria, hitler's Berlin, and the world of combat veterans, and immigrants to the US. A brochure with detailed information *Far and Away* book group selections and dates from June 5—May 7, 2018 is available at the library.

Book sale July 20-22

The official start date for the Friends of the Library book sale at the library is July 20, but members of the Friends group get early browsing and buying privileges starting at 6-8 pm on Wednesday, July 19. Doors open to the public on July 20, 21 and 22 at 9 am. The annual sale is the largest single source of income for the Friends of the Library, and proceeds support adult and youth programming all year. Donations of books, CDs, DVDs, paperbacks and comic



books can be dropped off at the library by July 7, or contact Marv Jensen by July 7 to arrange for pick up at 742-7783 or e-mail mjensen43@icloud.com.

Gift of piano welcomed, ready to make music

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor the library now has a Baldwin spinet piano available to support performances and programs.

The Board of the Portage Library Friends allotted funds to have the instrument moved and have it tuned and set up. Additional expenses, including purchase of a cover and a cart/dolly to wheel it within the library, were also covered by contingency funds in the annual budget. Board members agreed that this resources allows wonderful opportunities for library programming. Having the dolly will allow it to be to wherever in the building it's needed. Board member Lawrence Gramer deserves credit for identifying the

New adult library assistant offers variety of fresh ideas

Jennifer Blau, hired this spring as Adult Program Assistant, is eager to develop programs that not only attract library patrons. Since she's also employed as executive director at the Indian Agency House, she also hopes to draw history lovers. She mentioned the recent GeoCaching offering as a program that meets the needs of both audiences. She commended the Friends for providing funds for adult programs.

Blau grew up on a farm in the Baraboo Hills and graduated from Portage High School. She gained experience in event planning at Durwards' Glen. Her schedule is flexible, but she's always available at the library desk over the noon hour Mondays.



Ideas for future programs include a Raptors show displaying various live birds of prey, and a ukelele jam with performance and instruction opportunities. Blau mentioned Portage's "Twice Touched" event introducing local services as one she expects the library participate in next year.

Foundation awards scholarship

Portage High School student Lien Weiss, Class of 2017, recently received a \$1,000 scholarship provided by the Portage Library Foundation. The Foundation made the award available for the first time this year to a student who has volunteered for or been employed by the Portage Library.



need and arranging for the donation of the instrument.

New and renewing Friends of the Library

(from 2/1/17 to 5/15/17)

Business/Patron

Schultz Small Engine
Jean Smith

Family

Peggy Amend
Dick & Judy Chilson
William & Jean Damm
Dan & Laura George
Patrick & Michele Hartley
Kerry & Deb Lechner
Harry & Suzie Erdman
Tori Vesely & Robert Prew
Doug & Ellie McLeish
Marianne Mueller
Stewart Taylor Jr.

Individual

Kathryn Curtis
Jean Hamele
Lu Mitchell
Eleanor Voigt
Jean Pionke
Florence Schultz
Betty Christianson
Connie & Patrick Burgett Davis
Dorri Engebretson
Edith McElroy
Ethel Smith
Kevin Inslett
Marie Moe
Kathy Rowley



Check under the "Adult" tab on the library's website for information about upcoming movies on "New Movie Mondays"

Visually impaired readers relish pleasure of reading

Visually impaired readers can still enjoy books, and Portage Library staff can help locate adaptive resources. One important source can be accessed online at www.loc.gov/nls/, the website of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Through this national site, sponsored by Library of Congress, eligible patrons can check out audio-books and the equipment to access them. Also check online at <https://dpi.wi.gov/talkingbooks> for resources from the Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library.

Ask the library staff for help locating further resources.

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.

