

SAIL AWAY WITH SUMMER READING CLUBS



Summer is almost here, and that means it's time to travel. This year, the Des Plaines Public Library invites readers of all ages to take a voyage through books. Pirates, Hawaii, time travel and survival are all part of the fun.

Three summer reading clubs will be offered, each geared to a different age group. All are scheduled from June 4 through July 30, and all offer the chance to read for fun and prizes. Readers of all ages may participate at the main library or on the Mobile Library. Registration is required. Friends of the Library are funding the children's summer programs and are donating funds towards prizes for all age groups.

Children through 6th grade will enjoy programs and activities that take them on a "Voyage to Book Island." There will be story-times, crafts, parties, performances and more. For details, phone the Youth Services Department at 847-376-2839.

Teens in grades 7 - 12 will take a "Voyage Through Time." Activities scheduled to date

include a Dance Dance Revolution (DDR) Competition and an '80s movie night. More programs especially for teens are being planned. For information, 7th and 8th graders should phone Youth Services at 847-376-2839. Ninth through 12th graders should contact Readers' Services at 847-376-2840.

The adult summer reading club spotlights "Reading: The Key to Survival." Adults may enter the grand prize drawing for every book read. New this year: Adults may submit their entries online as well as at the library by sending an email to readers2@dppl.org. For details, phone Readers' Services at 847-376-2840.

Help for People with Limited Vision

by Bob Blanchard, Reference Librarian

The library has a treasure trove of books, magazines, maps and documents. But what if you have limited vision? Or perhaps you know someone else who has difficulty seeing. The library has a variety of assistive technology devices to help people with limited vision see or listen to printed material.

The desktop magnifier (closed-caption television or CCTV), was called a "god-send" by one patron, who saw for the first time what her great-grandson looked like when she viewed a photo of the youngster on one of the library's magnifying machines. These machines can help persons read newspapers, magazines, letters from family and friends, prescription bottles and food labels. Patrons enjoy using the machines for viewing pho-



tographs and have even found them helpful while they are knitting or crocheting.

A CCTV with a very large color monitor was recently donated to the library by the family of lifelong library patron Eleanor Reiter-Summers. The Friends of the Library purchased a very popular lightweight, portable magnifier called the Traveller. The library also recently acquired a pocket-sized magnifier called the QuickLook.

This portable machine was purchased with funds from a recent \$1,200 donation from the former Special People Inc., which was a not-for-profit organization working for the betterment of local persons with disabilities.

continued inside under calendar



A new sculpture by Joe Walters featuring plants and animals of the Des Plaines area has been installed in the Administration reception office on the second floor. Pictured are Library Director Sandra Norlin and Bob Hotstettler, Volunteer Steward at Kloempken Prairie, who served as an advisor on local flora and fauna. All original artwork in the library has been funded by donations.



Bookmark

by Bob Blanchard,
Reference Librarian



Laughter is the best medicine. I'm not a doctor – and I don't play one on TV – but if I could, I'd prescribe a healthy dose of humor for us all. Think of your library as a pharmacy where you can choose your prescription – in any format you like – to help lift your spirits. Take two of the following, or other fun stuff, and call me in the morning!

My favorite comedian is Groucho Marx, who, by the way, was an avid reader. "Outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read," he quipped. You'll find books about Groucho himself and the movies he made with brothers Harpo, Chico and, sometimes, Zeppo in our nonfiction section. Also available are DVDs and videotapes of classic Marx Brothers flicks, including *Duck Soup* and *A Day at the Races*, plus the documentary *The Unknown Marx Brothers*. On the fiction side, Groucho is featured as a detective in Ron Goulart's amusing series of mysteries.

The library has a myriad of comedy films and DVDs, from Charlie Chaplin's *The Gold Rush* (1942), hailed by critics as "the best comedy ever," to *Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit* (2005). We also have videos of popular American and British television comedy series, including *Seinfeld* and *Keeping Up Appearances*.

Books by and about stand-up comedians and other humorists, including Richard Pryor, George Carlin, Fanny Brice, Erma Bombeck and Jeff Foxworthy, are in the nonfiction section. And, some of the best stand-up work ever recorded can be found on the two-CD set, *Hey, That's Funny: Comedy's Greatest Hits*.

Of course, we have many very funny novels. Ask any readers' advisor on the third floor to suggest authors and titles.

A remarkable look at humor's life-saving power is revealed in Norman Cousins' memoir *Anatomy of an Illness as Perceived by the Patient*. In the mid-1960s, a degenerative disease almost completely paralyzed Cousins, who was given a few months to live. He released himself from the hospital, moved into a hotel room, and took megadoses of vitamin C and humor, including *Candid Camera* tapes, Marx Brothers movies and books by P.G. Wodehouse, Robert Benchley and James Thurber. His regimen soon took effect, and he later resumed a normal life.

Yes, laughter is the best medicine. Whenever you need a good chuckle, remember: your prescription is ready for pickup – at your library.

regards



Sandra K. Norlin
Library Director

Recently, while driving past the forest preserves, I indulged in a stream of consciousness that led me to connect art, controlled burns and the public library. I invite you to join me as I recreate the journey.

First, the art. We have recently installed a beautiful sculpture by artist Joe Walters in the reception area of the administrative offices in the library. At first glance it's a swirl of shiny silver and bright shadows against a pleasant blue background. As you come nearer, you see the individual components are weeds, branches, mammals, insects and reptiles, all species native to the Des Plaines River and surrounding prairie. I think it's a perfect match of truth and beauty.

I was thinking about the sculpture when I noticed the crews tending to the piles of slowly burning branches in the forest preserves. As the smoke curled perfectly upward I recalled Bailey White's novel *Quite a Year for Plums*, in which a collection of lovably idiosyncratic folks in a small town in south Georgia tend to each other. They are so kind-hearted that they listen with endless courtesy to one man's frequent lectures on the underappreciated horticultural technique of the controlled burn. At first glance this book is a swirl of amusing anecdotes and colorful characters against a background of the rural south. As you get closer, you see that the natives are deeply interesting and full of life's wisdom. More truth and beauty, I think.

And that led me to the library. A public library may seem like a swirl of books, sound recordings and DVDs, or people at computers, programs and meetings. But look closely, and you will see that people are making their own connections of truth and beauty in the one place that provides these opportunities for everyone in our community.

Sandra K. Norlin

KidsMark

By Veronica Schwartz, Head of Youth Services



Ahoy there, mateys! This summer, the Youth Services Department is taking a *Voyage to Book Island*, and we want you to come along. The waters may be treacherous, so hide your treasure maps, be on the lookout for dark ships flying the Jolly Roger, and grab one of the following books to prepare you for your adventure.

Read the tale of real female pirates Mary Reade and Anne Bonney in *The Ballad of the Pirate Queens*, written by Jane Yolen and beautifully illustrated by David Shannon. For more information about Mary Reade, Anne Bonney and a host of other real pirates, such as Blackbeard and Captain Kidd, try *Piracy & Plunder: A Murderous Business* by Milton Melzer. If you want to know what will happen to you if you get captured by a pirate, read all the gory details in *You Wouldn't Want to Be a Pirate's Prisoner!: Horrible Things You'd Rather Not Know* by John Malam.

If the real-life pirates are too scary for you, try *The Book of Pirates*, selected by Michael Hague. Enjoy stories and poems by such well-known authors as Arthur Conan Doyle, Washington Irving and J. M. Barrie. Older voyagers will enjoy *The Pirate's Son* by Geraldine McCaughrean, in which 14-year-old Nathan and his sister, Maud, travel to Madagascar with their friend Tamo, beginning their journey into piratedom. For a girl's perspective on pirate life, read *Bloody Jack: Being an Account of the Curious Adventures of Mary "Jacky" Faber, Ship's Boy* by L.A. Meyer.

And finally, adventurers, don't forget that old tale of a boy named Jim and a man called Long John Silver in *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson. Safe journey!

2005 AT A GLANCE

Library cardholders	35,205
Attendance	521,881
Main Library circulation	1,024,270
Mobile Library circulation	52,875
Adult materials loaned	713,791
Children's materials loaned	363,354
Total Circulation	1,077,145
Meeting Room Use	675 groups involving 38,850 people
Volunteers	55 adult volunteers worked 3,519 hours

Holdings

Books	258,775
Audio	21,724
Video	20,321
Magazine and newspaper print and microfilm subscriptions	666
Online databases	60
Public computers	
PCs	119
Macs	2

Interlibrary Loans

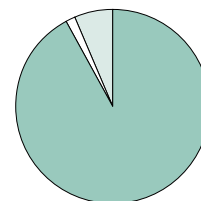
To other libraries	67,180
From other libraries	43,987

Patron Assistance

Circulation Services	161,676
Adult Services	225,146
Youth Services	85,035

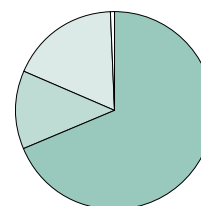
REVENUE

Local Property Taxes	\$5,305,502
Intergovernmental (grants)	91,124
Other Sources (fines, fees, donations)	369,215
Total Revenue	\$5,765,841



EXPENDITURES

Salaries and Benefits	\$3,787,192
Materials (books, audiovisual)	703,233
Operating Expenses	979,903
Capital Expenditures	19,088
Total Expenditures	\$5,489,416



Do the Dewey, April 22, 2006

Many thanks to all who attended and to the following generous donors:

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Roger Hull
Joyce Lerner
Brenda Murphy
The Quilting Divas
George Schelter
Tina Mazzoni Solarz
Ken Stiff
Becky Streit
Phil Sumida
Mark Tauber

Flowers

Pesche's Flower Shop and
Greenhouses, Inc.

Food and Beverages

Black Ram
Café La Cave Restaurant
Chang Jiang Buffet
David's Bistro
Depot Pizzeria
Don's Dock Seafood Market
Giuseppe's La Cantina Restaurant
Grazie! Ristorante Et Banquet
Joe Caputo Et Sons Fruit Market
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Rosemary Mulligan
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Sandra Norlin

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Christine Posinger
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Dr. Wade Whittier



looking Forward

Programs are often scheduled after the newsletter is printed. Visit the library and the library Web site at www.dppl.org for information. Programs are free, but most require advance registration. Register by phone or online through our Web site. Click on *Events* and follow the instructions. Teens are welcome at adult programs.

(R) = Registration Desk: 847-376-2787
(R-RS) = Readers' Services Desk: 847-376-2840
(R-YS) = Youth Services Desk: 847-376-2839
(T-YS) = Pick up a free ticket at Youth Services Desk

FOR ADULTS

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Tuesday Morning Book Group (R)

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

June 6, *A Round-Heeled Woman* by Jane Juska

July 11, *Swing* by Rupert Holmes

August 1, *Sightseeing* by Rattawut Lapcharoensap

Thursday Evening Book Discussion (R)

Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

June 8, *The Alienist* by Caleb Carr

July 13, *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

August 10, *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

Every Child Ready to Read (R-YS)

For parents and caregivers of children from birth to age 5

Wednesday, June 21,

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Schumann the Master Tone Poet (R)

Thursday, July 13, 7 p.m.

In conjunction with Ravinia's One Score, One Chicago initiative.

Taste of France

Demonstration/Tasting (R)

Wednesday, July 19, 7 p.m.

Buying on eBay (R)

Thursday, August 10,

7-9 p.m.

Selling on eBay (R)

Thursday, August 24,

7-9 p.m.



David Maish, chef-owner of David's Bistro, offers "Taste of France" on Wednesday, July 19 at 7 p.m.

FILMS

Documentary Film Series

Fridays, 6:30 p.m.

June 16, *Mad Hot Ballroom*

July 21, *March of the Penguins*

August 18, *Murderball*

Sunday Afternoon Movies

Sponsored by Friends of the Library

Sundays, 1:30 p.m.

June 18, *Memoirs of a Geisha*

July 9, *The Producers*

August 13, *Pride and Prejudice*

FOR TEENS

Finals Café

Grades 9-12

Tuesday, June 6, 4-8 p.m.

Wednesday, June 7, 4-8 p.m.

Dance Dance Revolution Competition (R-YS)

Grades 7-12

Tuesday, June 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

'80s Film Fest

Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

July 6, 13, 20, 27

PIANO CONCERTS

William Dresden plays music by Schumann (R)

Sunday, July 23, 2 p.m.

In conjunction with Ravinia's One Score, One Chicago initiative.

Mark Damisch performs classical music (R)

Sunday, August 27, 2 p.m.

ART EXHIBITS

Des Plaines Art Guild (3rd floor, northwest corner)

June, Group show

July, Daniel Kwarcinski, watercolors

August, Joan Heath Fortner, watercolors

and acrylics

SUMMER READING CLUBS

(R-RS) (R-YS)

Adults, teens and children are invited to read for fun and prizes from June 4 through July 30.



Voyage to Book Island – for children through grade 6



Voyage Through Time – for grades 7-12



Reading: The Key to Survival – for adults

Visit the library or www.dppl.org for details.

Help for People with Limited Vision (continued from page 1)

The Reading Edge machine, which scans and reads aloud printed material, was donated several years ago by the Des Plaines Lions Club, and funds from the Des Plaines Junior Woman's Club were used to purchase an illuminated magnifier that resides on a table in the magazine and newspaper reading area of the third floor.

Many of these devices may be checked out by Des Plaines cardholders. These include

closed circuit televisions, portable magnifiers, a closed caption decoder, a Talking Books cassette player, Adapt-a lap book and magazine easels, and radio receivers for Chicagoland Radio Information Service. Other machines are for in-library use only. For more information, visit the *Assistive Technology* section of our Web site at www.dppl.org, drop by the library, or phone 847-376-2793.

FREE RAVINIA LAWN TICKETS

Free lawn tickets for selected Ravinia concerts will be available at the Readers' Services Desk beginning Saturday, June 3. Limit: two tickets per person. Courtesy of Ravinia's Words and Music Program.

Program Highlights

REGISTER ONLINE

Register for programs online through our Web site at www.dppl.org. Click on Events and follow the instructions.

FOR CHILDREN

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Rainbow Island Time (R-YS)

Ages 3-7
Thursday, June 22, 10:30 a.m.-noon

Multicultural Stories and Crafts (R-YS)

Grades 2-4
Wednesday, June 28, 3-4 p.m.

Island Games (R-YS)

Grades 3-6
Monday, July 10, 2-3 p.m.

Family Book Discussion (R-YS)

The Wanderer by Sharon Creech
Grades 4-8 and their families
Tuesday, July 11, 7-8 p.m.

So You Want to be a Pirate? (R-YS)

Ages 5-7
Wednesday, July 12,
2:30-3:30 p.m.



FREE TICKETS REQUIRED

Swashbucklers Et Scalawags Pirate Show (T-YS)

All ages
Sunday, June 11, 2-2:45 p.m.
Free tickets available beginning May 30

Voyage to the Island Concert (T-YS)

All ages
Monday, June 26, 1:30-2:15 p.m.
Free tickets available beginning June 11

The Imagination Island Magic Show (T-YS)

All ages
Thursday, July 13, 1:30-2:15 p.m.
Free tickets available beginning June 19

Pirate and Treasure Stories (T-YS)

All ages
Tuesday, July 25, 1:30-2:15 p.m.
Free tickets available beginning June 26

Summer Reading Club Certificate Party Barefoot Hawaiians (T-YS)

For children who complete Summer Reading Club requirements
Saturday, August 5, 2-3 p.m.
Sponsored by State Senator Cheryl Axley

DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Drop-in Preschool Movies

Fridays, 10-10:30 a.m.
June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
July 7, 14, 21, 28
August 4, 11, 18, 25

Drop-in Brown Bag Movies

Grades 3-8
Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
June 13 – *Chicken Little*, June 20 – *March of the Penguins*, June 27 – *Summer of the Monkeys*, July 11– *Kronk's New Groove*, July 18 – *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, July 25 – *Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams*

Drop-in Storytimes

Ages 2-5
Wednesdays, 10-10:30 a.m., June 14, 28;
July 12, 26
Thursdays, 2-2:30 p.m., June 22; July 6, 20

Drop-in Crafts

All ages
Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.
June 15, 29; July 13, 27
Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-noon
June 21; July 5, 19

Bookin' with Ronald

Grades K-4
Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m.

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

by the Library Board of Trustees

If we look at the growth of the Des Plaines Public Library collection of audiobooks over the last five years, it is obvious that there are many new listeners to books. We would like to share a few of the options you may not be aware of for using audiobooks.

Perhaps the most common would be listening to tapes or CDs as you travel. This works well when the book is the same format as your car radio, such as tape with tape deck or CD with CD player. What do you do when the book is one format and the car radio is the other? If you have a portable CD player,

the answer is a tape adapter. Insert the tape, plug the cord into the portable player, and, voilà, you have your book. The opposite situation is a little more expensive, but quite doable. If your book is on tape and your car only has a CD player, you will need to purchase a mini FM transmitter that plugs into the portable tape player and will transmit to a specified (on the transmitter) FM station on the car radio.

Another option available through our library is the audiobook that can be downloaded onto an MP3 player. Visit the library Web

site at www.dppl.org for more information on downloadable audiobooks.

Those who would like to read while doing such mundane chores as vacuuming, mowing the grass, working out, etc., can use earphones that cancel out much of the outside noise. All of these products may be purchased at any electronics store. They will vary in cost, so shop around for the best price. Enjoy your summer reading while you work, travel and play.



ACCESS

the Des Plaines Public Library

Phone: 847-827-5551

TTY: 847-827-0515

After Hours Reference Service:
847-803-3977

Spanish Information Line:
847-376-2904

Live Online Reference Service:
www.mywebrarian.com

Web site: www.dppl.org
Email: dpplinfo@dppl.org

Library Hours:

Monday - Friday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

Library Closings for 2006:

Tuesday, July 4, 2006, Independence Day

Sunday, September 3, 2006, Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 4, 2006, Labor Day

Thursday, November 23, 2006, Thanksgiving

Sunday, December 24, 2006, Christmas Eve

Monday, December 25, 2006, Christmas Day

Sunday, December 31, 2006, New Year's Eve

Monday, January 1, 2007, New Year's Day

Foreword

A newsletter
of the Des Plaines Public Library

Published:

Winter

Spring

Summer

Fall

Library Board:

Noreen Lake, President

William Grice, Vice President

Eldon Burk

Mary Ellicson

Jeremiah Mahony

Rhys Read

Elaine Tejcek

Susan Weinberg

Sandra K. Norlin, Library Director

The Library Board meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m., and the public is invited to attend.

Friends of the Library meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.



TECH TALK

by John Haliotis, IT Manager

Planning to get away this summer? Take a book along. An eAudiobook, that is. Visit the library to set up your free NetLibrary account. Then, download eAudiobooks on your home computer.

Over 1,200 books are available, and more are added every month. Keep them for three weeks, listen to them on your computer or transfer them to your portable audio player. The collection includes mysteries, romance novels, language courses and more. Sorry, this service is currently available for Windows users only and is not compatible with iPods.

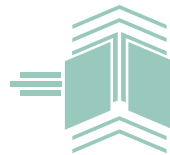
If you don't have an MP3 player, use the library catalog to find audiobooks on compact disc and cassette. We have over 5,000 to choose from. For more information, phone Readers' Services at 847-376-2840 or Reference Services at 847-376-2841.

Did you know...

- The library now subscribes to *Mama, to ja*, a monthly Polish language magazine full of information for parents. More information is available from Youth Services at 847-376-2839.
- RosettaStone Online for learning English is now available at the library and from home through the library's Web site at www.dppl.org. RosettaStone uses sound, pictures and text instead of translation and memorization to teach English.
- The library has recently received a large shipment of Spanish language books for adults and children that will be available in the main library and on the Mobile Library. The books were purchased at the Guadalajara Book Fair in Mexico and include many that are not readily available in the United States.



Buy an inscribed brick for Library Plaza
or an historic brick from the old library.
Phone 847-376-2803 for details.



Des Plaines Public Library

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