A Perfect Ending to a Perfect Year!!!

The year 2002 marks the end of the 150th birthday celebration of the Town of Lowell, and a glorious one it was. Throughout the month of August the town's organizations and businesses held over 45 spectacular events to commemorate the special birthday.

For the celebration, library staff members created a display of over 200 photographic images of Lowell from the late 1800's to the present for exhibit. It was fun hearing people reminisce about the good old days of Lowell, their ancestors, the special events that had taken place in the town, and compare with Lowell of present day. Many of the photo images can be seen by accessing Lowell History on the Web, http://www.lowellpl.lib.in.us/history.htm. The library also celebrated the town's birthday by focusing on one aspect of the town's history each month by creating special exhibits in the large display case in the library foyer. From January to December the library highlighted the following Lowell history, its library, fire department, police department, the paramedics, the town municipality, the parks department, the Mainstreet Association, the Three Creeks Historical Association, the Lowell Labor Day Organization and the Lowell Tribune.

There was more to celebrate as 2002 was the year that Astronaut Col. Jerry Ross took the American flag on his mission to the International Space Station and after his safe and successful return the flag was presented to Library Director Francine Shreffler and 2002 Lowell Labor Day Organization Chairman Butch Bukovac for permanent display in the library. In these troubled times the flag is a welcome sign of our freedom. Currently on display in the library foyer, the flag will be preserved and mounted for display in early 2003.

(continued on page 2)

Book & Magazine Donations

If you would like to donate funds for a book in memory of a friend or loved one or as special gift to the library, a plaque will be placed on the inside cover of the book bearing the name of the donor and the person to be recognized.

The latest editions of popular magazines are kept under plastic cover in the magazine section of the library. Some of the plastic covers bear the names of organizations, businesses or individuals who have donated funds for a magazine subscription. If you would like to donate a magazine subscription, a list of magazines the library would like to have in its collection is available at the desk.

Special Notice

Blood Pressure Screening and Blood Sugar Screening will now be held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9 AM to 11 AM. The service is offered by Clinical Management Services.

Computer Classes Offered

Staff member Ruth Bougie is busy teaching Microsoft Word, Excel, the Internet, , Microsoft Publisher, etc., at the library and its Shelby and Schneider branches. To schedule an appointment for the popular free classes call the library at 696-7704, the Shelby Branch at 552-0809 or the Schneider Branch at 552-1000.

(Continued from page 1)

In 2002 the library enhanced its
Arbor Nature Trail through grant funds
from NiSource and private donors. Several
trees, bushes and wildflowers, all native to
Indiana, were planted on the trail and library
grounds. The adopt-a-tree program was also
a huge success. Our thanks to all the donors
and a special thanks to Stan Sims of Purdue
Agricultural Extension Service who donated his
time to help make the trail the best it could be,
along with many volunteers who help to
maintain the trail.

The Friends of the Library enjoyed another great year, sponsoring comfort bus trips to events. Their contributions to the Children's Summer Reading Club, Young Adult programming and special events were truly appreciated. Friends purchased the library copier for public use, and are continuing their on-going booksale. The Nature Trail T-Shirts, and children's book bags on sale at the library are also Friends fund-raisers.

The Lowell Women's Club held the *Books in Bloom* high tea at the library to raise funds for the purchase of children's books as part of the GFWC National Libraries 2000 Campaign. The club created a beautiful setting in the library's main room for the over 200 guests to enjoy an afternoon of entertainment and delicacies the members had prepared. By the end of the tea over \$3000 was raised for the library.

The Lowell Lions Club donated Large Print Books to the library and began sponsoring blood drives at the library to help the community at large. They also collected used eyeglasses at the library to help those in need.

The Library Quilters had glorious sunshine for their 3rd Biannual Quilt Show in October, displaying their beautiful quilting artwork amid the backdrop of the library woods.

The On-line Library Catalog access to order and renew books was introduced to our patrons this year.

This year, the Kid's Nature Club began and it was hard to tell who had more fun, the kids or the staff and parents as bugs were collected, studied, and set free on the Nature Trail and all manner of "bug" activities took place. The Junior Master Gardeners also took off, with members learning about gardening and the environment.

Young children were kept busy attending Summer Reading Club, Story Time and Toddler Time, Craft Corner, and the latest addition, puppet shows performed by Children's Programmer, Miss Heidi.

We wish we had room to thank all the people who make this library special by their donations of time and funds, their warm words to staff and their support of all the library has to offer. Keep posted on all the library activities by picking up a newsletter at the circulation desk.

Food, Fun & Fiction

YA's (Young Adults) grades 6 - 12, will meet at the library on Wednesday, January 8, at 4:30 PM for the "Food, Fun & Fiction Book Club. This month's selection is *Old Yeller* by Fred Gipson. Pizza will be served. The time, date and book for the Shelby Branch Library will be announced on January 2.

Winners All !!!

For almost two months parents and their YA (Young Adult) children teamed up to read books for the library's Winter Reading Program, entering a drawing for a gift to be given one parent and one young adult. On Friday, December 20, Beth Kralek's name was chosen for the parent's gift and Trinity Anderson's name was picked for the YA gift.

We're excited that at this busy time of the year over 40 books were read by parents, 90 by children, and all chose to share their love of reading with each other during the holiday months. Everybody was a winner!!!



January 2003 Adult Programs

Quilters
Meet - Lowell

Each Monday, January 6, 13, 20, 27 9 AM - 12:30 PM

Mid-West Writers' Forum - Lowell

Thursdays, January 9 & 23 at 7 PM Join the Mid-West Writers' Forum, and share your writings with others.

Blood Pressure Screening Shelby -

Thursday, January 9, 9 AM -10:30 AM Offered by Technicians of Shelby Fire Dept. Lowell -

Wednesday, January 15, 9 AM to 11AM Offered by Clinical Management Services

Blood Sugar Screening - Lowell

Wednesday, January 15, 9 AM to 11 AM There is a simple test to determine if you are at risk for developing Diabetes, a disease that can damage the eyes, heart, kidneys and nerves. This can be a silent illness without noticeable symptoms. Blood sugar (glucose) screenings are a good method to see that your blood sugar count is within normal limits or staying in the normal range. The screenings are offered by Clinical Management Services

Crocheting - Lowell

Monday, December 20, at 6:30 PM Join and learn techniques of crocheting or work with other participants on your projects

"Coffee Klatch" Book Discussion - Lowell

Thursday, January 16, at 7 PM or Friday, January 17, at 10 AM. Enjoy a cup of coffee and a refreshment with fellow book enthusiasts over a discussion of the good read of the month! January's selection is a romance novel, *Camden Summer* by Lavyrle Spencer.

A single, fiercely independent Roberta Jewett, daughters in tow, returns to her native home, to start a new life and avoid any romantic entanglements but can she? Copies are available at the desk.

Brown Bag Showtime - Lowell

Thursday, January 23, at 11 AM Bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy viewing a popular movie with others. We'll provide your beverage. Invite your friends and have a good time!

Orchids - Lowell

Monday, January 27, promptly at 7 PM.
Dana Harrison will present a live demonstration and a slide show on growing and caring for orchids. The Friends of the Library will offer a plant sale of orchids at the program. Register for the 2003 Garden Series programs sponsored by the library and Purdue Cooperative Extension Service.

January 27 - Orchids February 24 - Better Veggies March 24 - Fruit Trees April 28 - Landscaping May 19 - Shade Gardening June 23 - Flower Arranging

Pre-School & School Age Gymnastics

At the Tumble Bears Program, children will learn routines on the bars, balance beam, vault, and pommel horse. Classes are held each Friday. Participants learn tumbling, hand-eye activities, stunts, calisthenics and stretching exercises. Call 865-9698 for information or to register your child.

Meeting

The Friends of the Library will hold their regular meeting on Wednesday, January 15, at 7 PM. New Friends are always welcome. Dues are \$5 a year.

YA Cheerleading Clinic

The library is busy planning a cheerleading Clinic for young adults on Saturday, January 11 at 10 AM. Space is limited. Call YA Coordinator Debbie Blink after January 2, for details.

Holiday Closings

<u>Lowell</u> Open - December 31, from 9 AM to 1 PM Closed January 1, 2003,



Shelby & Schneider Branches

Closed December 31 & January 1, 2003



Story Time

Children, ages 3 to 5 years, will enjoy listening to the wonderful stories that Children's Programmer, Miss Heidi, will read to them at Story Time. There are other fun things to do, too! Space is limited.

Shelby

Mondays, Jan. 6 - Feb. 10,

9:30 AM

Schneider

Monday, Jan. 6 - Feb. 10

4 PM

Lowell

Tuesdays, Jan. 7—Feb. 11

10 AM & 1:30 PM

Wednesday, Jan. 8- Feb.12

10 AM



Many children are starting their own home library with books they purchased at the Friends of the Library's Annual Holiday Children's Paperback Booksale.

At the sale, paperback books were available for all age groups from tots to teens. Over \$1000 in purchases were made during the one week sale at the library.

Proceeds from the sale were donated to the library for the children's book collection and the purchase of prizes for young adult and children's programming.

To pre-register for programs call: Lowell 696-7704 Shelby 552-0809 Schneider 552-1000



Lowell Library Lines 1505 E. Commercial Lowell, IN 46356

Bulk Rate U.S. Postage PAID Lowell, IN Permit No. 159 Non-Profit