

## CONSOLIDATION POSSIBLE

If ever there was a time to rally the troops, it is now. A decision about your library may very well be made in the legislative session in January. This may be your last opportunity to have an impact on what happens to your library and its branches.

A Louisville based consulting firm, Wooden & Associates, was hired by the Indiana Coalition for Public Libraries to help facilitate consensus around critical issues facing public library systems. They were to study the Kernan/Shepard report and submit recommendations to the state library the first of November. The Kernan/Shepard Report recommended that Indiana's 238 libraries be reduced to 92.

The Lowell Public Library was well represented at a meeting held on October 23, 2008, at Lake County Public Library. There were at least 15 patrons from Lowell, Shelby and Schneider, members of our Board of Trustees and myself in attendance and many more from other library districts. There were three sessions each designed to provide survey feedback, discussion of values and preferences/priorities.

It is the position of the Lowell Public Library to oppose mandatory consolidation. It is imperative that patrons opposed to consolidation contact their legislators and convey their thoughts on this issue. Please take a few minutes and either write or e-mail your legislators and voice your opposition to consolidation. Our website provides a link to your legislators at <http://www.lowellpl.lib.in.us>.

What are the dangers of library consolidation? If an independent library is merged with a larger library system, the residents of the independent library district would lose all local control over their library. Their library board, composed of trustees appointed by school boards and other local elected bodies, would be dissolved and the library system would cease to exist. The larger library system would then make all decisions about the budget, staffing, facilities, programs, collections and services for the residents of the previously independent library district. Cuts would be likely in all areas at the local level as the larger library boards sought ways to maintain their large, centralized facilities.

Most of Indiana is composed of small to medium size libraries, with only 10 libraries serving populations over 100,000. Most Indiana libraries were established by local residents and stand as proud reflections of their community's history. They are unique and each library board has made choices concerning programming, services and material collections that reflects the needs and desires of its community.

Lowell stands proud of its community. We are supportive of one another. Our schools, businesses, organizations, and families work together for the common good of the community, and our library and its branches are a crucial part of our community.

Families from Shelby and Schneider would be devastated if they lose their libraries. They are the hubs of each town. The "No Child Left Behind Act" (Public Law 107-110) of 2001 was passed and signed into law January 8, 2002. Its aim was to improve the performance of U.S. primary and secondary schools by increasing the standards of accountability for states, school districts, and schools. Libraries play a role in "No Child Left Behind." If we close libraries, our concern is that we may be leaving many children behind.

Sandy Morgan, Director

# Lowell Programs

## Endangered History

The Three Creeks Historical Association and the library have teamed up to inform the community of the town of Lowell of the efforts being made to save the old Lowell High School, built in 1896. Listed among the ten most endangered historic landmarks of Indiana in 2008 by the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, the school has been vacant and deteriorating since the 1980's.

Tiffany Tolbert, Director of the Calumet Regional Office of Historic Landmarks of Indiana, will give an update on the status of the school Wednesday, November 12, at 6 PM.

A massive structure in size and bulk, the old Lowell High School is still an imposing sight. Built at a cost of \$14,000 in 1896 and first used as a high school and later a grade school, it was sold in 1970 and is still in private ownership. Unfortunately, the years have not been kind to the old school. Birds nest in the bell tower, and rain has had easy access to the interior through broken windows and holes in the roof, causing extensive damage. Today it is deemed inhabitable and unsafe.

The Three Creeks Historical Society and many members of the community would like to see the building restored, not only for its historic and architectural value. but also for its close ties to the community it served for so many years.

While attending the November 12 program be sure to see the Historic Homes of Lowell brochure. Driving through the town of Lowell, residents and visitors alike can admire the architectural styles of Lowell's older homes, built prior to 1910: Victorian Eclectic, Queen Anne, Vernacular and Federal.

Examples of these architectural styles can be seen in the brochure published in 1995 as part of a history project into the study of the Lowell's older homes. The study was made possible through a Indiana Research Grant awarded to the library through the joint effort of the Indiana Humanities Council and the Indiana Historical Society.

## Quilt Drawing Aids Programming

The Library Quilters have been meeting at the Lowell Public Library since 1986, first meeting in the old library building, which is now the Lowell Town Hall. When the present library was built in 1993, the quilters continued to create their works of quilting art and help others learn the art of quilting in the new facility.

Helping to serve the community, the Library Quilters have quilted a Holiday Piece Quilt for a fundraiser drawing to support programming at the library. If you would like to help in this effort stop by the circulation desk for tickets. The drawing will be held on Saturday, November 29, at 4 PM. Tickets are \$1 or 5 for \$6.



### Our Heroes Tree

Founded in 2005, the "Our Heroes Tree" program was launched to honor the service and sacrifice of the nation's military families.

Adults and children will be invited to take part in the recognition program by placing a photograph of their hero on an ornament that will be provided beginning November 1.

## **Lowell Adult Programs**

### **Free Computer Classes**

Learn word processing and how to navigate the internet. Computer Basics will be offered on Mondays, Internet Basics on Wednesdays and Word or Excel on alternate Fridays. All classes will be held at 11 AM. Evening classes are held each Tuesday at 6 PM. Pre-registration required.

### **Library Quilters Meet**

Each Monday, November 3, 10, 17, and 24, from 9 AM - 12:30 PM

Bring your quilting projects.

### **Poetry Group Meets**

Saturday, November 15, at 10 AM

Aspiring poets can join the Northwest Indiana Poetry Society. Share your poems with others. Call Tom Spencer at 696-3338 for information.

### **BP/Sugar/Cholesterol Test**

Wednesday, November 19, from 9 AM to 11 AM  
Blood pressure and sugar (glucose) screening are offered by Clinical Management, provided on a first come, first served basis. Also available is a combined cholesterol test for \$5 (cash only please).

### **Senior Social**

Thursday, November 20, at 11 AM

Let's get into the spirit with a holiday craft! Bring a brown bag lunch and we will provide drinks and homemade desserts! Call the Parks Department to register at 696-1570.

### **Holiday Craft Show.**

Start your shopping before Thanksgiving this year when the library hosts the Holiday Craft Show on Saturday, November 22, from 9 AM to 4 PM in our meeting and program rooms. The Children's Department will be holding a bake sale and the Young Adults will be selling hot-dogs. The craft show is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

### **Adult Book Discussion**

Tuesday, November 25, at 10 AM

Read the book *A Year by the Sea: Thoughts of an Unfinished Woman* by Joan Anderson.

### **Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down?**

Did you like the book you just read? Or is this a book you would not recommend to others?

Share your views with us and fellow readers by filling out a card that will be posted with others. The cards will be entered into a monthly drawing for a free gift certificate.

### **Library Board to Meet**

The Library's Board of Trustees will hold their meeting on Monday, November 24, at 7 PM, at the Lowell Public Library.

## **At the Shelby Branch**

### **Blood Pressure Check**

Monday, November 3, at 10 AM

Free blood pressure screening on a first-come come, first served basis.

### **Sewing Class**

Monday, November 10 and 17, at 10 AM

All ages learn to make a disappearing nine patch.

### **Adult Bingo**

Monday, November 17, at 5 PM

Play Bingo for novelty prizes.

### **Painting Class**

Monday, November 24, at 10 AM

Paint a Gingerbread Man.

## **At the Schneider Branch**

### **Adult Ceramic Christmas Craft**

Monday, November 10, at 4 PM

Pre-register by calling library at 552-1000.

### **Adult Scrapbooking**

Saturday, November 15, 10 AM-10 PM

All day scrapbooking crop. Call for additional information.

### **Adult Cardmaking**

Saturday, November 22, at 10 AM

Call for additional information.

# What's New!

## **New Fiction Books:**

*Quilter's Kitchen* - Chiaverini, Jennifer

*Grace* - Evans, Richard Paul

*Most Wanted Man* - Le Carre, John

*Company of Liars* - Maitland, Karen

*Outrageous Affair* - Vincenzi, Penny

*A Country Called Home* - Barnes, Kim

*One Fifth Avenue* - Bushnell, Candace

*The Given Day* - Lehane, Dennis

*A Cedar Cove Christmas* - Macomber, Debbie

*The Letters* - Rice, Luanne

*Song of the Road* - Garlock, Dorothy

*Sunset* - Kingsbury, Karen

*Lucky One* - Sparks, Nicholas

## **Mystery**

*Hounded to Death* - Brown, Rita Mae

*The Night Stalker* - Swain, James

*Hell Bent* - Tapply, William G.

*A Spoonful of Poison* - Beaton, M.C.

*The Glass of Time* - Cox, Michael

*The Goliath Bone* - Spillane, Mickey

*Hot Mahogany* - Woods, Stuart

## **Science Fiction**

*Order 66* - Traviss, Karen

## **New Books on CD:**

*Change of Heart* - Jodi Picoult

*The Navigator* - Clive Cussler

*Nothing to Lose* - Lee Child

## **Check out these new DVDs**

*Paul the Apostle*

*In the Name of the King*

*Leatherheads*

*Disfigured*

*Jeremiah*

*The Forbidden Kingdom*

*Angela's Ashes*

*Sweet Nothing in My Ear*

*Shutter*

*The Eye*

*Fish Tales*

*My Sassy Girl*

*Baby Mama*

*What Happens in Vegas*

*The Love Guru*

*Bobby Jone's Stroke of Genius*

*Risky Business*

*Scorpion King 2: Rise of a Warrior*

## **Children's Titles**

*Nim's Island*

*Percy's Ghostly Trip*

*Scooby-Doo and the Goblin King*

*Henry and the Elephant*

*Goosebumps-Night of the Diving Dummy*

## **Paperback Book Sale**

Start your children with a library of their very own! The Friends of the Library will hold their annual fall Children's Paperback Book Sale from Monday, November 17 to Friday, November 21, in the library's main room. Select a title from among the hundreds of books of adventure, mystery, friendship, humor, chillers and fantasy. You'll find biographies, pet care, world record books, code books and other nifty non-fiction books. Pick a poster for your wall, or have fun choosing from a large selection of novelty items. Proceeds from the Fair are used to purchase books for the library's collection and prizes for the Summer Reading Club and the YA Reading Contest.

## **Entertainment Books Here**

2009 Entertainment Books are here. The books sell for \$20 with savings for movies, fine dining, and fast food, sporting events, theatres, etc.

## Young Adult Programming - Lowell

Thursday, November 6, at 6 PM - Game Night. Play Wii and Xbox with your friends.

Thursday, November 13, at 6 PM - Pre-register for Bunco! Fee is \$1.50.

Thursday, November 20 at 6 PM - Begin Christmas Snowman Paver craft. Space is limited. Pre-register at the circulation desk. Fee is \$1.50.

### Did you know?

While the original **Atari Football** game was first created in 1973, it wasn't released until 1978. It was delayed because the game couldn't **scroll** the screen -- players couldn't move beyond the area shown on the monitor. When the game was finally released, it became the first game to utilize scrolling, a key part of many games today.

### Schneider Kids

Monday, November 3, at 3:45 PM  
"10 and Up Club" Game Day.

Thursday, November 6, at 3:45 PM  
Kids - come in and make a turkey.

Wednesday, November 12, at 4 PM  
Miss Sandy will show you how to make an edible Mayflower with pretzels, cheese, and chocolate!

Thursday, November 13, at 3:45 PM  
Kids Turkey Bingo.

Monday, November 17, at 3:45 PM  
"10 and Up Club" Game Day.

Tuesday, November 18, at 3:45 PM  
Movie Day.

Monday, November 24, at 3:45 PM  
"10 and Up Club" Game Day.

Tuesday, November 25, at 3:45 PM  
Movie Day.

### Schneider Young Adults

Wednesday, November 5, at 4 PM. Start your Snowman Christmas Paver. Pre-register as space is limited. Fee is \$1.50.

Wednesday, November 12, at 4 PM. Play a game of Bunco and "steal your partner's prize"!

Wednesday, November 19, at 4 PM. Work on your Snowman Pavers.

### Shelby Kids

Every Saturday at Noon- Kids Movie Day!

Wednesday, November 5, 12, 19, and 26  
Game Night (Wii)

Tuesday, November 11, at 4 PM  
Make your own edible Mayflower with Miss Sandy, using pretzels, cheese, and chocolate!

### Shelby Young Adults

Tuesday, November 4, at 5 PM. Begin work on your Snowman Pavers craft. Pre-register. Fee is \$1.50. Space is limited.

Tuesday, November 11, at 5 PM. Bunco  
"Steal your partner's prize!"

Tuesday, November 18, at 5 PM Work on your Snowman Pavers.

### Fall/Winter Branch Hours

#### Shelby Branch

Monday	9 AM-6 PM
Tues-Thurs.	3 PM-7 PM
Closed Friday	
Saturday	9 AM-5 PM

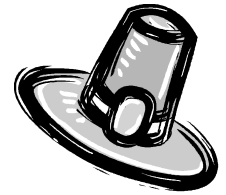
#### Schneider Branch

Monday	2 PM- 7 PM
Tues-Wed.	3 PM- 6 PM
Thursday	3 PM- 7 PM
Closed Friday	
Saturday	10 AM-12 PM

# Happy Thanksgiving!



# *Just for Kids*



## **Toddler Time**

The Toddler Time program is for children ages two to three years old. The program will feature stories and activities for toddlers to share with their caregivers. Toddler Time meets once a week for four weeks. Each session lasts approximately 40 minutes. Each toddler must be accompanied by an adult. Each session is limited to 15 children. There is no charge for Toddler Time. Please register at the circulation desk for the Tuesday sessions, held at 10 AM (November 4, 11, 18, and 25) or Wednesdays at 10 AM (November 5, 12, 26, and December 3).

## **November Craft Corner**

Join us on Thursday, November 13, 2008 when we will be making a Thanksgiving decoration. You will choose your pictures, color them and put it all together. Craft corner is for preschool through fifth graders. Preschoolers must be accompanied by an adult. Register for either the 10 AM or the 3 PM session at the circulation desk..

## **Bake Sale!**

The Children's Department will be hosting a bake sale on Saturday, November 22, from 9 AM to 4 PM during the Holiday Craft Show. All proceeds will benefit children's programs. Donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the library Friday, November 21, or Saturday morning, November 22.

## **Newsletter Mailings**

Due to the increasing cost of mailing the Library Lines newsletter to area businesses, public entities and organizations, the Friends of the Library will now limit its mailing of the newsletter to Friends members. The newsletter is available at the library, and on the library's website at <http://www.lowellpl.lib.in.us/>.

The Friends will also be happy to send the newsletter via E-mail upon request.