

Announcing **A Public Forum**

The Lowell Public Library Board of Trustees would like to invite community residents, businesses and organizations interested in libraries, to participate in a public forum to be held in the Library Program Room on Wednesday, April 15, at 6:30 PM.

The focus of the forum will center on the library's 3-5 year planning efforts. The Library Board would like to hear from the public about what they like about their library, what they would like more of and what the library might be doing to further provide for the needs of the community.

Take part in the future planning of the library. The Lowell Friends of the Library will host the informal gathering. Refreshments will be served.

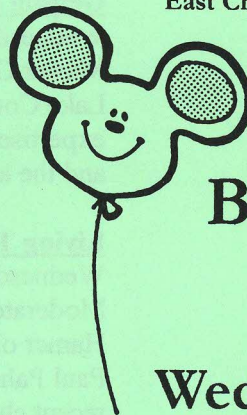
The Library Board would also like you to take time to fill out the enclosed survey and return it to the library. The survey was created by the Library's Long-Range Planning Committee made up of community residents, business leaders and members of local organizations. The survey asks you to rate services the library currently offers and what you would like your library to offer in the future.

Celebrate National Library Week

April 19-26

The 7 Library Districts of Lake County

(Lowell, Crown Point, Lake County,
East Chicago, Hammond, Gary & Whiting)



present

Betsy Zimmer

**story weaver
extraordinaire**

Wednesday, April 22

South Lake Mall (center court)

4 Different Shows

10:30 a.m. & 1:30, 4:00 and 6 p.m.

Miss Betsy will be telling tales for children ages 2 to 102! With creative use of puppets, voices, hand-held props, banjo, mandolin, singing, plenty of audience participation and whatever pops into her mind she will entertain and delight. Betsy will perform often requested favorites like: The 3 Bears Rap, Anangi and the Moss Covered Rock, Mr. Black, Old One Eye and many, many more.

Come and be a part of a listening,
learning, laughing, lyrical, lovely time!



HAPPENINGS IN APRIL

Library Quilters Meet - Lowell

Each Monday: April 6, 13, 20, 27

9 AM - 12:30 PM

Fit Forever- Lowell

Each Wednesday: April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Each Friday: April 3, 10, 17, 24

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Join a fitness program that includes low impact aerobics as well as toning, strengthening, and flexibility exercises. The class is open to anyone interested in a total body, low impact workout aimed at improving and maintaining fitness forever.

Co-sponsored by the Lowell Parks Department, the program is led by Physical Fitness Instructor Linda Johnson. Fee is \$1.50 per session.

Holiday Ceramic Classes - Schneider

Thursday, April 2 & 9 at 7 PM

Create colorful ceramic Easter decorations with Crista Stavros. There is a small fee for each class.

Weave A Cherokee Basket - Shelby

Thursday, April 2, at 9 AM

Create this charming basket with Master Weaver Julie Duttlinger.

Weave a Compartment Basket - Shelby

Monday, April 13, at 6 PM

For fee information call the Shelby Branch.

Free Blood Pressure Screening

Shelby - Thursday, April 9, 9 AM - 10:30 AM

Lowell - Tuesday, April 14, 9 AM - 10:30 AM

Screening is conducted on a first come, first served basis by a technician of St. Anthony Medical Center.

Weave A Silverware Basket - Lowell

Thursday, April 16, at 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 21 at 8:30 AM

Wednesday, April 29, at 6:30 PM

Fee is \$30 A display of Julie's baskets can be viewed at the Lowell Library's circulation desk.

First Time Home Buyers - Lowell

Tuesday, April 14, at 7 PM

Learn about government backed loans for first time home buyers. Presented by Charlene Evers of McColly Realtors, the seminar will provide information on questions such as "How much can you afford to spend?" "Which program is best for you?" "What can you do if you don't have the required down payment?"

Getting Ready for Spring - Lowell

Wednesday, April 22, at 7 PM

Master Gardeners Wayne and Anna Barnes of the Lake County Cooperative Services will share their expertise for raising beautiful and healthy house plants and the art of Container Gardening.

Living Trust Seminar - Lowell

Wednesday, April 22, at 2 PM and 6 PM

Moderators Alicia Gloyske, Attorney at Law, of Valparaiso, Bill Hamer of John Hancock Financial Services of Merrillville, and Paul Palmer of Palmer & Associates of Lowell will discuss recent changes in federal estate tax and capital gains tax, probate avoidance, health care representatives, power of attorney, Medicare, Medicaid, long term health care and asset and estate protection. Refreshments will be served. When registering please specify which session you would like to attend.

Pre-register for all programs by calling:

Lowell 696-7704 Shelby Branch 552-0809

Schneider Branch at 552-1000.

Meetings

The Friends of the Library will hold their regular meeting on Wednesday, April 15, at 7 PM. New members are welcome.

The Lowell Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their regular meeting on Monday, April 20, at 7 PM.

Childhood Immunizations

Please bring your child's immunization record

Sponsored by St. Anthony Medical Center

Cedar Lake Clinic - 13963 Morse

Thursday, April 2, 12 Noon - 6 PM

Schneider Branch Library

Thursday, April 16, 12 Noon to 3 PM

Sponsored by the Lake County Health Dept.

Lowell Public Library

Thursday, April 16, 9 AM - 3 PM

Where Were You When the Lights Went Out?



Winter's last hurrah was a "sock it to me" ice storm blast that shut the town down the week of March 9 and wreaked havoc for all in Lake County and surrounding areas. No heat, no electric, and no water was the story in most homes.

When the library was finally able to open on the Friday of that week staff members traded stories with patrons about their adventures during the power outage. "How long were you without power?" was the question of the day. Some were without power three to four days, and some such as staff member Lorna Muth finally received power after six very cold days. Did you have enough blankets, flashlights, candles and batteries to last through the crisis? Who had generators, radios, and lanterns? Now familiar questions! It was back to pioneer days for most folks. Melting snow over gas stoves, we found out just how many buckets of snow it takes to make a bucket of water.

The police and fire departments had their hands full as did the emergency medical teams. Electrical repair people worked round the clock to restore power. With their computers down, local food stores helped people get their food supplies, using paper and pencil to "ring up" sales.

Events like this bring out the best in people. People with homes that had power took in others without. Shelters opened in the fire department and the Lake Prairie School. People who could help people did. Our patrons greeted us with smiling faces the first day we re-opened. While some were still without power, they still could laugh at their situation and the week that was one for our local history files.



Web Wise

The World Wide Web can be a very valuable tool to research your looking family history. Let us help you navigate the Web by providing you with a list of sites that will make your genealogy search a little easier.

A Barrel Of Genealogical Links

cpcug.org/user/jlacombe/mark.html

Cool Sites For Genealogist

www.cogensoc.org/cgs/cgs/cgs-cool.htm

Cyndi's List Of Genealogical Sites

www.oz.net/~cyndihow/sites.htm

These three sites provide hundreds of links to genealogical and historical resources.

Rootsweb Genealogical Data Cooperative

www.rootsweb.com

This is the largest free genealogical database on the Web. There are 383,424 surnames from 52,301 submitters through March 1998. The data base is easily searched by name, soundex, or location. You can just as easily enter your own surname information. The Indiana genealogical site InGenWeb is now part of Rootsweb.

Genealogy Gateway To The Web

www.polaris.net/~legend/mainsite.htm

This site from Family Tree Maker is smaller than Rootsweb but the two don't overlap much. This site has incorporated the database formally known as Surname Springboard.

Holiday Closing

The Lowell Public Library will be closed Friday, April 10 in observance of Good Friday.

The library will resume regular hours on Saturday, April 11.

Holiday Craft Corner

Make your own Easter Basket

Lowell

Preschool Craft - April 2
Thursday at 10 AM

School Age Craft - April 2
Thursday at 3:30 PM

Schneider

Both Crafts - April 9
Thursday at 3:30 PM

Shelby

Preschool Craft - April 6
Monday at 3:30 PM

School Age Craft - April 8
Wednesday at 3:30 PM



Baby-sitting Course

Young adults ages 11 and older can train to be certified baby-sitters at the Lowell Public Library. The course will be held each Saturday, April 25 & May 2 from 9 AM to 2:30 PM. There is a \$4 fee.

Participants will learn the roles and responsibilities of a baby-sitter, how to interview for a job, react in the case of an emergency or sudden illness and play with children of different ages. Diapering and dress infants, feeding babies, preparing simple meals for children and first aid are also covered.

Participants must attend both sessions to obtain an American Red Cross Certificate. Register now! Class size is limited.

Lowell Library Lines

Lowell Public Library
1505 E. Commercial Ave.
Lowell, IN 46356

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