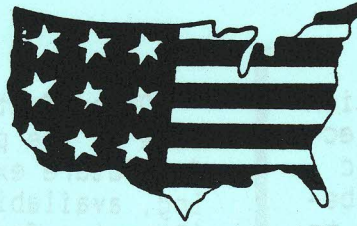


LOWELL LIBRARY LINES

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

SEPTEMBER 1990

September Labor Day



VOLUNTEER TUTORS ENRICH LIVES

Several area residents are learning to read or improve their reading skills thanks to the work of the volunteer tutors of the Lowell Public Library Literacy Program.

Students have been tutored at the Adult Learning Center, headquarters of the Literacy Program, or at the Lowell Library.

Giving of their time, one hour or more a week, volunteers are making a difference in their student's lives. Some students have reached the 5th grade level and are ready to move on to the G.E.D. program or independent study to further their reading skills.

Some of the students are from other countries and would like to improve their English speaking skills. All students must be over the age of 16.

Many students first enter the program feeling very apprehensive and unsure of what will be expected of them. In a very short time, they start to relax and realize that the tutor's main concern is in helping the student. Help may come in the form of teaching the student how to overcome his past misconceptions of learning, or at times support when he feels frustrated with his progress.

Without this commitment and encouragement the tutors give, many of their students would not be able to pursue and reach their goals.

The Lowell Public Library extends its sincere appreciation to these volunteers who give a gift that will continue to enrich the lives of so many others.

TEACH SOMEONE TO READ

BECOME A TUTOR

A two-day workshop to train persons interested in teaching others to read will be held Thursday, September 27 and Friday September 28 at the Lowell Public Library.

Consider giving a few hours a week to help someone improve their reading skills. You may make a very positive difference in someone's life.

Contact Nell Fabish or Teri Jeffries at the Lowell Public Library 696-7704 to register for this workshop.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL LITERACY MONTH



AT THE FAIR

If you happened to pass through the Industrial Arts Building during your visit to the Lake County Fair, you may have seen familiar faces at the library booth. Lowell Library staff joined staff from East Chicago, Gary and the Lake County library to promote library services. Children were eager to put their name in the drawing for free books and received a free ruler for school. Many visitors learned more about services and programs available to the public through their local library.



THE LOWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY - WHERE SHOULD IT BE?

"The selection of a new library location is often an emotional rather than intellectual exercise. (Some members of) the public take sides quickly without much thought beyond their own judgements. Since land is to be bought and sold, some may have interests which are less than impersonal." The preceding paragraph could have been written about the different opinions about the location of a new or expanded public library in Lowell. In actuality, it is quoted from The Wisconsin Library Building by Raymond M. Holt. The author continues, "...library administrators and library Boards are often tempted to accept whichever compromise seems to satisfy the loudest and most powerful voices. Such a temptation should be resisted. Instead, a careful study should be made of the proposed locations and a brief report prepared giving the facts needed for a rational decision."

It would seem that the Lowell Public Library Board is not the first to face the challenging task of choosing a site for a library, but luckily the Lowell Library Board has made just such a careful study of proposed locations and reached a rational decision.

The first considerations in choosing a site are visibility and accessibility, according to most of the leading authorities in the library field. "In this regard," states Holt, "the library is no different than a large volume retail store where volume of sales determines the unit cost of doing business...the larger the number of users attracted to the library, the greater the number of transactions (i.e., loans of books, etc.) and the lower the per unit cost of operation. The library building will probably cost about the same number of dollars regardless of where it is placed; no good merchant would locate (his store) where it will attract only a fraction of the customers available at another site just because property was cheaper!"

Other factors to be considered are the size of the parcel of land and its adequacy for future expansion, availability of parking, availability of utility services (Planning for the Small Public Library Building by Anders Dahlgren, American Library Association, 1985).

These were some of the factors which had to be considered by the library board in their search for a new location. Of approximately 10 sites which were considered, nine were eliminated for one or more of the above criteria. The property across from Evergreen Park most closely met all of the conditions, and had the further merit of being reasonably priced. Although the public was involved in planning what services and kinds of facilities they wanted, when it came time for choosing an actual site, the library board could involve no one else. To do so might have meant that news of property being considered might have reached the wrong ears and someone else would have bought the land first to drive up the cost to the taxpayers.

Before the library board decided to purchase a new piece of property, they had to determine what size building would be needed and whether it would be possible and economical to expand at the present site. While it is obvious that the present library and parking facilities are overcrowded, the board wanted to make certain that whatever steps were taken would provide a large enough building for the next two decades, and adequate land for expansion to the building beyond that date. To do any less might have required unnecessary expense when the building was outgrown in 5 or 6 years and another addition was needed. Or the community might have found itself sharing the plight of many other communities; that of no suitable land available for purchase. Some libraries find themselves landlocked with insufficient parking and no room for expansion. Luckily, the foresight of the Lowell Library Board means that this library district will not face these problems.

137th Rd Southlake Community Center

ADULT PROGRAMS

HAPPENINGS

Thursday, Sept. 13
Blood Pressure/Diabetes Testing

The Lake County Health Department will conduct free Blood Pressure and Diabetes screening at the Lowell Public Library and the Shelby Branch.

Testing is on a first come, first served basis. Anyone taking the diabetes testing should fast for two hours before taking the test.

Schedules are as follows:

Shelby Branch Library - 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Lowell Public Library - 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

LOWELL

Thursday, Sept. 13 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Vision Screening Trained technicians from Opticare 2000 will test the first 20 participants for glaucoma and cataracts.

Tuesday, Sept. 18 7:00 PM
Parent Involvement - School Success
Encouraging your teenagers performance in school - ways parents can have a positive impact on their children's ability to improve in their studies and achieve their goals. Presented by Lowell resident Gloria Johnson, English teacher at Highland High School, this program is free and a question and answer period will follow the program.

Saturday, Sept. 22 10:00 AM
"Little House Revisited"
Inspired by her childhood and growing up as a member of a pioneer family, Laura Ingalls wrote the enduring "Little House" sagas.

Her life will come alive when resident expert Joyce Carpenter tells Laura's story, rich with history and showcased with her collection of Laura Ingalls Wilder memorabilia. This free program is open to adults and children.

Tuesday, Sept. 25
Planning Ahead: Wills, Trusts, Estates and The Living Will
Attorney Don O'Dell offers practical advice in planning your will, protecting your family's financial future, minimizing inheritance taxes, avoiding probate and pursuing the assets it has taken a lifetime to accumulate. How to draw up a living will to insure your wishes are met will also be discussed.



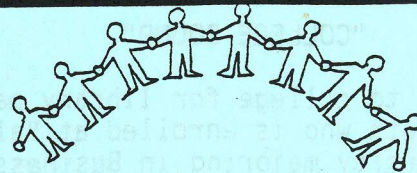
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The regular meeting of the Lowell Public Library Board of Trustees will be held Monday, September 17 at 7:30 PM.

FRIENDS TO MEET

They're back! After a great summer, topped with a super social evening at the home of Friends member Janet Granger, Friends will start planning their fall and winter activities.

The Friends will meet on Wednesday, September 26 at 7:00 PM to get things going!



NEW MEMBERS NEEDED

Come join us! The library needs your support. Friends meet the fourth Wednesday of each month. If you find you are unable to come to monthly meetings, we still need your support for special projects including book sales, the student art exhibit and the children's book fair.

When you are a member of the Friends, you will receive a copy of our newsletter, Lowell Library Lines, so you'll be among the first to know all that's going on at the library.

Sign up now! Contact Sue Wingate at 696-8131 or Nell Fabish at the Lowell Library 696-7704 or fill out a membership form located at the library circulation desk.

The Lowell Public Library, cont.

After months of study by the library board and staff with the assistance of an architect and library consultant, it was determined that a building of approximately 15,000 square feet, or 50% larger than the current building, was needed at the present time, and an additional 7,000 square feet would be needed within the next few years. About 4 acres would be needed to allow for a building the size and future additions. In today's dollars, estimates for purchasing that much property near the library's present location, destroying existing buildings, and constructing an addition would cost more than purchasing new property and building a new library.

Estimates on the cost of a new library by a few people unfamiliar with the process have reached greatly exaggerated proportions. The final cost to the local taxpayers will depend upon a number of factors, including the final number of square feet in the building, materials used, availability of outside funding sources, and when construction is begun.

The board has, as yet, set no timetable for the building.



STAFF NOTES

"COLLEGE BOUND"

It's off to college for library page Michelle Swett who is enrolled at Valparaiso University majoring in Business/Spanish.

Summer staff member Patty Ernest will be working on her Masters Degree in Geography at the University of Illinois.

Also adding to the college enrollment this year is Cathie Lindahl, daughter of Lowell staff member Carolyn Lindahl, going for a degree in elementary education.

Pursuing degrees in Farm Management and Agricultural Mechanization at Vincennes University is Patrick Fabish, son of staffer Nell Fabish.

Good luck to all!



"SUMMER READERS SOAR"



That's right! Devouring books at a record pace, the kids of the "Wild About Reading" Summer Reading Program read 24,275 books from June 11 to August 6.

When the tallies were counted at Lowell and the Shelby and Schneider Branches, staff members were astonished at the accomplishments of the 676 summer club readers.

These hungry bookworms consumed twice the number of books read the previous year.

What did they read? Everything! No part of the children's collection remained untouched. Funny books, great adventures, spooky tales and flights of fantasy, even books on science projects, insect identification and encyclopedias were checked out.

Many books were checked out by parents with children too young or just beginning to read. By giving their children a head start they will develop in them the same love of books shown by the kids of the summer reading program.

Top "Wild About Reading" readers were: ages 2-5 Danny Rines (355) and Marigrace Rines; ages 6-8 Daniel Estes (451) and Stacey Bougie (360); ages 9-11 Jason Sullivan (165) and Tara Burns (560).

At Shelby Branch top readers were 2-5 Brandi Clinton (230) and Ryan Brown (140); 6-8 Nicki Clinton (230) and Marcus Schontube (213); ages 9-11 were Julie Arce (250) and Stephanie Zimmer (283).

Schneider top readers were ages 2-5 Cassie Stavros (108), Ashley Beier, Heather Beier and Sarah Beier all read 86 books; ages 6-8 were Nicky Stavros (122) and Dawn Hayslip (120); in the 9-11 category was Dawn Sneed reading 76 books.

The library staff applauds these youngsters and all the readers of the Summer Reading Club for filling their summer vacation time with experiences the joy of reading brings and to the parents who encouraged their efforts!

24,275! SUPER!!!



at the
LIBRARY



READ IT AGAIN, PLEASE!

Soon Moms and Dads will be hearing their little ones say "Read it again, please!"

Story Time will begin on September 18 at the Lowell Library and on September 17 at the Branches. Youngsters will gather together for an hour each week for six weeks to hear wonderful stories, sing songs that will make them giggle and play favorite games.

Books that will guide parents in selecting what is appropriate for their youngsters age level will be on display but parents beware! Kids always fall in love with a special book and then it's "Read it again, please!"

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

CRAFT CORNER

Buddy Bear will be all decked out in his new overalls ready to play, when pre-schoolers meet to make this charming puppet.

Puck is a duck who doesn't like water. He carries an umbrella wherever he goes. School age children will construct Puck at Craft Corner.

LOWELL

Thursday, September 6
Pre-school Craft - 10:30 AM
School Age Craft - 3:30 PM



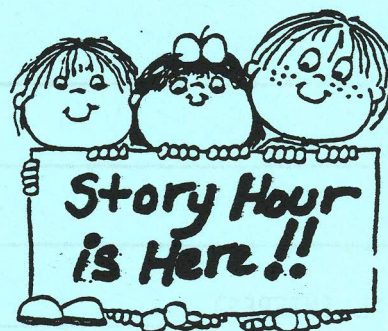
SCHNEIDER BRANCH

Thursday, September 13
Pre-school and School Age Craft - 3:30 PM

SHELBY BRANCH

Thursday, September 20
Pre-school Craft - 4:00 PM

Thursday, September 27
School Age Craft - 4:00 PM

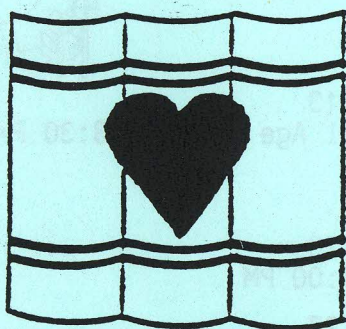


LOWELL

Each Tuesday
Sept. 18-Oct. 23 10:00 AM
Each Wednesday
Sept. 19-Oct. 24 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM

BRANCH LIBRARIES

Each Monday
Sept. 17-Oct. 22
Shelby Branch 9:30 AM
Schneider Branch 12:30 PM



JOIN THE FRIENDS!

WE MAKE GOOD
THINGS HAPPEN

REGISTRATION FORM - JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE LOWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ BEST TIME TO CALL _____

TOWN _____ ZIP _____

SPECIAL INTEREST _____

ANNUAL DUES FOR AN ACTIVE MEMBER ARE 5.00