



The Bookplate

A publication of the River Forest Public Library

Check out the world from here

Fall 2010

The mission of the River Forest Public Library Staff and Board of Trustees is to develop, publicize and deliver a wide range of high-quality library services to the community.

Letter from the Director



Our Director, Sophia Anastos

"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all." - Jacqueline Kennedy

Celebrating our Past and Looking to the Future

Do you remember when children received a hand stamp when they visited the Children's Room? The stamps are long gone, and some unknowns do lie ahead for our patrons with respect to how books

and information are delivered. Most likely, though, children will continue to learn to read from traditional books, in the warm embrace of a parent or caregiver.

This year more children and teens participated in our Summer Reading Program than ever before. This is welcome news as studies* indicate that continued reading through the summer months results in increased reading skills and higher report card grades.

With the goal of further improving youth services, we have completed the Children's Room remodel. **Join us on Sunday, September the**

19th from 2 - 4pm, as we celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Children's Room. We will serve refreshments, guest readings, and fun.

Libraries get report cards too! The Annual Hennen Report delivers a national statistical analysis of public library data. We were both heartened and excited to see our ratings relative to all other public libraries in our category. **The River Forest Public Library came in at the 94th percentile.**

With more patrons visiting the library and using the Internet, there has been a heavier load on Internet bandwidth. Our patrons

tell us that surfing the Net sometimes is more like paddling the Net. This affects both our ability to serve you, and your ability to do your work. Keeping in line with American Library Association recommendations, and our own Strategic Initiatives, we will be installing a Fiber Optic Line. This will increase our bandwidth and optimize Internet use for all. **Fiber Optic is coming to the Library!**

-Sophia Penelope Anastos

* The Dominican Study: Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Reading Gap. The complete report is available at www.dom.edu/gslis.

A Message to our Patrons: the State of Illinois Libraries

We are all aware of the financial difficulties in the State of Illinois. There are two ways that revenue shortfalls may have a direct impact on our patrons. SWAN is the network that provides hardware, software, our online catalog, and staff to support lending materials among 80 member public libraries. Due to a lack of distributed funds,

member libraries are regrouping and taking charge of all SWAN costs, as we can no longer count on the State of Illinois to support this service. The physical delivery of materials to libraries is also under threat. While the State of Illinois promises that delivery is a priority, member libraries are taking steps to fund and to secure this critical

piece of our service to you as well. What can you do? If you value these services, let your representatives know. Encourage them to take action and to support public libraries. Visit saveillinoislibraries.com and click on the Take Action button to find out about other ways to help support Illinois public library services. Thank you for your support.

Try Self Checkout at RFPL



Our page Amber tries self-checkout

The circulation desk has been busy lately. If you don't have time to wait in line, we offer a faster solution for you. Try our self checkout machine and speed through the library! Using the self checkout machine is easy. Scan your card, enter

your PIN, scan your items, and logout of your account to print a receipt. Directions for use are next to the machine, but if you get stuck a staff member will happily assist you. Items that are shelved in locking cases (such as DVDs) will need to be checked out by a staff member. You can also view your holds and renew items at the self checkout machine.

Celebrate Mark Twain this October

Upcoming Library Programs

For the most current programs, including the full schedule of computer classes, book discussions, and storytimes for children, or to register for a program, call us at 708-366-5205 or visit our website, at www.riverforestlibrary.org.

9/14/10, 7:00 p.m.
Opera in Pop Culture

9/16/10, 6:30 p.m.
10 Secrets to Getting Your Book Successfully Published

9/19/10, 2-4 p.m.
Children's Room "Grand Opening" Party

9/23/10, 7:00 p.m.
and 9/30/10, 7:00 p.m.
Teens: Learn to Knit and Make a Harry Potter Scarf!
—Registration Required

9/25/10, 10/16/10, 11/13/10
1:00 p.m.
Harry Potter Movie Saturdays

10/11/10, 2:00 p.m.
**Talavera Mexican Pottery*

10/15/10, 7:00 p.m.
Mark Twain in Person

10/17/10, 2:00 p.m.
Teen Rock Band Tournament
—Registration Required

10/22/10
Library Closed 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Family Fireside Halloween 7-9 p.m.!

11/14/10, 2:00 p.m.
**Echoes of Earth: Finding Ourselves in the Origin of the Planet*

* Presented by the Friends of the River Forest Public Library



Head of Adult Services Blaise Dierks checks out our Mark Twain collection

2010 marks the 125th anniversary of the publication of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain, and the 100th anniversary of Mark Twain's death. This October we will celebrate Mark Twain, his works and his legacy. The River Forest Public Library will join area partners such as the Oak Park and Forest Park Public Libraries, Dominican, Concordia, and Roosevelt

Universities, the Oak Park Art League, Centuries and Sleuths Bookstore, the Ernest Hemingway Foundation of Oak Park and the Oak Park and River Forest Historical Society to host a variety of Twain-inspired programs for all ages at various locations around our three communities this October. A sampling of planned activities includes "Mark Twain in Person", starring actor Richard Henzel at the River Forest Public Library on Friday, October 15th at 7:00 p.m., a Mark Twain film festival at Oak Park Public Library hosted by film historian Doug Deuchler, and book discussions at Centuries and Sleuths Bookstore. The Oak Park Public Library will also be hosting an exhibit of Twain-inspired art during the month of October. You may contact Debby Preiser at (708) 697-6915 or via email at dpreiser@oppl.org for more information about the art exhibit. Please check back with us in September for the full calendar of events, and join us as we celebrate Mark Twain this October!

The Journey of a Book— by Joanna Bertucci



Librarian Joanna Bertucci

Have you ever wondered how the books you enjoy end up on our library's shelves? RFPL librarians select books for our collections based a variety of factors, including reviews, demand, and patron suggestions.

Reading reviews from professional publications helps us stay ahead of the curve and predict what will be popular for readers. When new books arrive at the library, we designate them as NEW in the catalog and affix a yellow NEW sticker on the spine so that you can easily identify recent titles. New books stay here for several months before we share them with other libraries, giving you first pick of the latest and greatest in publishing. You can find lists of

recent additions to our collections on our website. Over time books are replaced and updated, as new editions become available and obsolete works are substituted with current materials. Time is not always kind to our collections, and items may also need to be replaced or removed due to damage, or general wear and tear. Throughout this process we always have you, our patron, in mind as we aim to cultivate a collection to meet your needs and inspire your mind.

Online Research Tips — by Hadley Ford



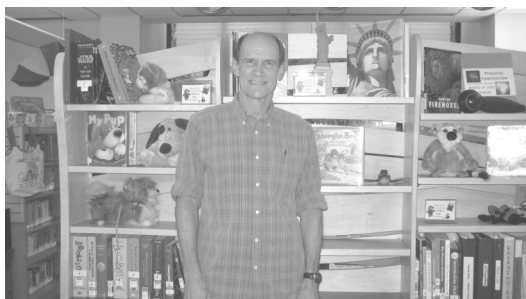
Librarian Hadley Ford

If you are looking for answers to health questions, visit the River Forest Public Library website and check out the Health and Wellness Resource Center. The Health and Wellness Resource

Center is an excellent tool to learn about health-related topics, research prescription drugs and natural remedies, or calculate health risks for yourself or your family members. I have found the Health and Wellness Resource Center to be a great help for personal research as well as when I'm assisting patrons at the Reference desk. Try the Health and Wellness Resource Center for yourself by

visiting www.riverforestlibrary.org. Hover over the Online Resources tab with your mouse, and click on the Premium Resources link from the dropdown menu. Scroll down to find the Health and Wellness Resource Center, and click on the link. Have your library card handy if you're doing research from home. For more tips, visit me at the Reference desk anytime during library hours. I'd be happy to help you get started!

The Children's Spot



River Forest resident and furniture designer Bob Steed, with the new library display.

If you've stopped into the Children's Room lately, you have probably noticed some exciting changes. We've been rearranging spaces, repainting walls and updating furniture. The focal point of the room is our beautiful new staff desk and display, created by River Forest resident Bob Steed in consultation with the Children's staff. The new furniture is child height, is a flexible and functional work space

for staff, provides display, and adds a playful element to the room. Bob's childhood fascination with large animals such as dinosaurs fueled his current creativity, and he used this inspiration to incorporate organic elements like bones, and even a face, into the design of the desk. Bob enjoys designing and building furniture because he can see the tangible results of his activities every day. His eventual goal is to move into sculpture, and elements of this project reminded him of that medium. Bob and his wife Judy, also an artist, have lived in River Forest for over 25 years and have collaborated on projects together. Bob enjoys audiobooks, particularly those by Alexander McCall Smith. He looks forward to trying out the library's Media on Demand downloadable audiobook service in his free time. If you have a furniture or cabinetry project that you'd like to ask Bob about, you can contact him at 708-925-6806. And don't forget to stop by and visit our new desk! Our Children's Room "Grand Opening" Party will be held on September 19, from 2-4 p.m.

Teen Updates



Teens created handmade soaps on June 18th.

River Forest Teens had a fantastic summer at the Library. Record numbers of teens signed up for Summer Reading and enjoyed many fabulous programs. The fun isn't over, though! Exciting things are happening for teens this fall at

the Library. Learn to knit this September at our Harry Potter scarf making class, co-sponsored by Chix with Stix. Don't miss our Rock Band Tournament in October as part of Teen Read Week, the theme of which is "Books with Beat." Teens entering grades 7-12 who are looking to gain valuable volunteer experience while having a great time should consider joining the RFPL TLC (Teen Library Council). Applications will be available in September. Drop in

to "Connections", our after school space just for middle school students each weekday to play games, do homework and crafts, and more. Visit the RFPL website's teen page for more information about these and other great programs happening all year long! And of course, we're always adding new books, graphic novels, movies and music for teens to our collection. Let us know if you have a suggestion for us by emailing teens@riverforestlibrary.org.

September is Library Card Signup Month



Do you have a library card? If not, now is the perfect time to get one. River Forest residents can obtain a library card by dropping by the library and presenting a photo ID and 2 proofs of current River Forest residency. Your

library card provides access to a wealth of materials. Cardholders can check out up to 100 total items at a time, and request up to 50 items at a time from the River Forest Library collection or the collections of 80 libraries in our library system. Your card can also be used to check out items at Dominican and Concordia Universities, as well as most other Illinois libraries. As a cardholder you can sign up for free library

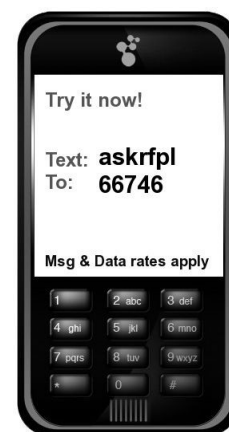
programs, attend free computer classes, check out the Macy's Museum Pass, and access free premium online content such as Consumer Reports, Media on Demand and Mango Languages. Your library card also provides free Internet access, available to patrons of all ages. For more information or reasons to get a card, visit our website, www.riverforestlibrary.org.

Free DVD Wednesdays



Starting this September, all River Forest residents can check out 2 free DVDs every Wednesday! Choose from our wide selection of titles including popular feature films, classic cinema, children's movies, foreign titles, and TV series. Nonfiction titles are always free to checkout for River Forest residents. Enjoy!

Text a Librarian!



On the go and need to know? The River Forest Public Library now offers text message reference services! To get started, text "askrfpl" to 66746. Then send in your questions! Text services are available during regular library hours. Save 66746 as "askrfpl" in your phone for all of your "need to know-now" questions.

River Forest Public Library

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Focus on the Friends of the Library

The Friends have successfully completed another Book Sale, chaired by Micki Caldbeck and Bob Hamper. Thank you to patrons that donated books, the ready support of Library staff, and volunteers of all ages who assisted in sorting and other help during the Book Sale. The Friends celebrated our camaraderie and successful Sale at a Volunteer Appreciation Pizza Night on July 14th, also planned by Micki and Bob. This fall, we will once again support the Mark Twain Community Read program. Don't miss it! Additionally, Dr. Ellen Steinberg will take us to Mexico for a presentation on Talavera Pottery on Monday, October 11th at 2:00 p.m. And finally on Sunday, November 14 at 2:00 p.m., Chicago area author L. Sue Baugh will present *Echoes of Earth*, a talk and photo exhibit on how our very beginnings lie hidden in the story of the oldest stones.

Join us, we're here at the Library.

Gratefully,

Mary Liebner, President of the Friends of the River Forest Public Library

Friends of the Library Membership Form

Please return this portion with your \$5.00 annual dues to:

Friends of the Library, 735 Lathrop Ave, River Forest, IL 60305

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email address _____

Annual dues are \$5 per person. Dues _____ Donation _____

New Member Renewing Member I am willing to help

Library Hours & Information

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday (Sep.-May) 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Phone: 708-366-5205

Fax: 708-366-8699

Website: www.riverforestlibrary.org

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