

# Rochester Public Library News and Events

[www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org)

Vol. 23 Number 6

Rochester, Minnesota

June 2008

## Libraries Change Lives

*So the America I love still exists, if not in the White House or the Supreme Court or the Senate or the House of Representatives or the media. The America I love still exists at the desks of our public libraries.*

- Kurt VONNEGUT [In These Times, 8/6/2004]

### **A Tale of Two Patrons:** *Frank Hawthorne,* *Reference Librarian*

The late Mr. Vonnegut would certainly have found kindred spirits among many who use Rochester's library. Two longtime library-loving patrons familiar to all reference desk staffers are Chris Kolling and Wendy Schleeter. Although only passing acquaintances, the common ground they both share is a passion for Rochester Public Library, and an outgoing spirit of friendliness.

Chris, who grew up out in Marion Township, says he's been an RPL regular for "about 30 years," and remembers special family trips to town ("to the children's room of the old library") when he could lose himself in adventure stories, and other favorites. Now a familiar face to many on the streets of Rochester, he favors "magic and juggling" books [which subjects he can also access for free via the 2nd floor Internet]; and on occasion he's used skills acquired from both in entertaining passers-by on the streets of Rochester. "The



**Chris Kolling holding his latest check-out favorites.**



**Wendy Schleeter getting ready to check her e-mail and delete her spam.**

library has changed my life for the better by making it more enjoyable, and by helping me to keep busy and become self-educated," says Chris with a smile to a friend. "People there usually let me be. It's the only library I've ever known; but to me it's the best!"

Wendy Schleeter is another friend to many RPL staff. Though protective of her real age, and despite having grown up in nearby Mantorville, Wendy is another one of those special RPL patrons who, like Chris Kolling, has known us for parts of two centuries and in two locations. She professes a passion for "humorous Christian fiction and non-fiction books; but staff often spot her sending and receiving e-mails on the 2nd floor i-net stations, and once heard her confess, "I get about 90 spam letters for every 10 good ones I want to see from people I know." Despite rarely needing librarian assistance, she, too, enjoys stopping just to chat (or just to "ask you guys challenging questions.") Not infrequently, she also likes to tell jokes to (or even play pranks on) some of her librarian friends; and her infectious laugh is often heard-perhaps just a tad loudly-in the vicinity of the Reference Desk. The only regret of this former ABC employee is that lately she's been spending too much non-library time working at her family's "Old School Café" restaurant in Mantorville.

# May Events @ Rochester Public Library

All library events are free and open to the public

101 2nd Street SE

[www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org)

507-285-8000

**Monday, June 9**

**Sit-Stay-Read**

**Auditorium**

Read aloud for 20 minutes to a friendly therapy dog. Reading times are 6:30 p.m., 6:50 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. When registering online, please enter your preferred dog and time in the e-mail address box (ex: dog@time.com). Dogs and times will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Only the registered child and accompanying parent/adult should attend. Register online, at the children's desk or by calling 328-2303.



**6:30 pm**

**Thursday, June 12**

**Senior Techies - Basic Computers**

**Meeting Room B**

A librarian will cover parts of a computer and participants will have the opportunity to use laptops to learn how to use a computer mouse and navigate the screen. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 285-8002.

**1:30 pm**

**Tuesday, June 10**

**Writing Group**

**Meeting Room A**

Stuck on your first draft? Not sure about your plot? Let's get together and help each other out.



**6:30 pm**

**Monday, June 16**

**Sit-Stay-Read**

**Auditorium**

Read aloud for 20 minutes to a friendly therapy dog. Reading times are 6:30 p.m., 6:50 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. When registering online, please enter your preferred dog and time in the e-mail address box (ex: dog@time.com). Dogs and times will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Only the registered child and accompanying parent/adult should attend. Register online, at the children's desk or by calling 328-2303.

**6:30 pm**

**Wednesday, June 11**

**10:00 am & 1:00 pm**

**Special Program: Schiffelly Puppets!**

**Auditorium**

Schiffelly Puppets present the wacky tale of *The High Flying Adventures of Peter Pan*.

Auditorium seating is limited to 250 people.

**Wednesday, June 18**

**10:00 am & 1:00 pm**

**Special Program: Musical Fun with Tom Pease!**

**Auditorium**

Join us for some toe-tapping fun with children's recording artist Tom Pease!

Auditorium seating is limited to 250 people

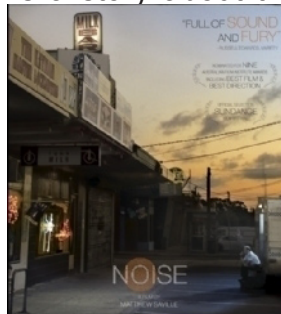
**Wednesday, June 11**

**6:00 pm**

**iFils: International and Independent Films**

**Auditorium**

Noise | Drama | Australia - This is a story about the wrong person in the right place at the wrong time. Two heinous crimes have left a suburban town reeling. Police quickly connect them but are desperate for witnesses as the local community enfolds itself in a shroud of secrecy, borne from fear and an untrammelled mistrust of authority.



Short: *Motorcycle* In a remote village in northeast Thailand, the only phone begins to ring. It is a call from the city, that Grandfather Koon's son has been killed in a motorcycle crash. *The iFilm series is intended for mature adults. Please provide guidance to your children. Admission is free.*

**Wednesday, June 18**

**7:00 pm**

**Summer Reading Kick-Off Party & Art Contest**

**Awards Program**

**Auditorium**

Join us as we announce the winners of the summer reading art contest and give the 2008 Young Adult Summer Reading program a good start.



**Thursday, June 19**

**Senior Techies - Email**

**Meeting Room B**

Participants should have attended the Basic Computers class (scheduled the week before) or have the necessary computer skills to set up a free e-mail account. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 285-8002.

**1:30 pm**

**Saturday, June 21**

**7:30 am**

**Amazing Race**

Earlybird registration is past, but there is still time to register for the 2nd Annual Amazing Race fundraiser for the Rochester Public Library Foundation!

This family-oriented fundraiser for the library includes an orientation kick-off, a four-hour scavenger hunt-like race and an award picnic complete with grand prizes and door prizes. For registration forms and official rules call 507-287-2626 or visit the website: [www.AmazingRace.org](http://www.AmazingRace.org).



A Fund Raiser for the  
Rochester Public Library Foundation

[www.amazingrace.org](http://www.amazingrace.org)

**Monday, June 23**

**6:30 pm**

**Sit-Stay-Read**

**Auditorium**

Read aloud for 20 minutes to a friendly therapy dog. Reading times are 6:30 p.m., 6:50 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. When registering online, please enter your preferred dog and time in the e-mail address box (ex: dog@time.com). Dogs and times will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Only the registered child and accompanying parent/adult should attend. Register online, at the children's desk or by calling 328-2303.

**Wednesday, June 25**

**9:30 am**

**Friends of the Library Rochesterfest Booksale**

**Auditorium**

The Friends of the Library Annual Rochesterfest Booksale begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Library Auditorium. Friends members can enter the sale by 9:00 am via the Bookstore entrance. Call 285-2627 to find out how to become a Friend of the Library. The library will be selling some of its art prints at this sale.

**Thursday, June 26**

**9:30 am**

**Friends of the Library Rochesterfest Booksale**

**Auditorium**

The Friends of the Library Annual Rochesterfest Booksale begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Library Auditorium and in Meeting Room A. The library will be selling some of its art prints at this sale.



**Thursday, June 26**

**Electronic Greeting Cards**

**New Class!**

**Meeting Room B**

Use your computer and Internet skills to send greeting cards to your friends and relatives. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 285-8002.

**1:30 pm**



**Friday, June 27**

**9:30 am**

**Senior Techies - Computer Practice Meeting Room B**

Need a quick refresher on any of our Senior Techies classes? Want some practice using your new e-mail address? Do you need access to a computer, a scanner, a digital camera or the Internet? Join us in Meeting Room B to practice your computer skills as you've always been meaning to do! Computers are provided and a librarian will be there to answer basic computer questions. No registration is necessary, just "drop in." Recommended for patrons 55+.



**Monday, June 30**

**6:30 pm**

**Sit-Stay-Read**

**Auditorium**

Read aloud for 20 minutes to a friendly therapy dog. Reading times are 6:30 p.m., 6:50 p.m. and 7:10 p.m. When registering online, please enter your preferred dog and time in the e-mail address box (ex: dog@time.com). Dogs and times will be assigned on a first come first served basis. Only the registered child and accompanying parent/adult should attend. Register online, at the children's desk or by calling 328-2303.

**Summer Library Hours**

**Mon - Thurs .....9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

**Friday.....9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

**Saturday .....9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

**Sunday.....Closed**

**Library News Bulletin**

<b>Director</b>	Audrey Betcher
<b>Editor</b>	John Hunziker
<b>Layout/Design</b>	Ginny Erbe



As part of the Minnesota Sesquicentennial celebrations, the library received a book from the newly-formed Minnesota Supreme Court Historical Society. John Hunziker, Rochester Public Library Communications Manager, accepts the donated copy from John B. Arnold, Attorney at Law with Dunlap & Seeger.

*Testimony: Remembering Minnesota's Supreme Court Justices* is a book of memorials and biographical information for past Minnesota Supreme Court Justices who are deceased. It includes all memorials originally published in Minnesota Reports until it ended publication in 1966, including those for Territorial Justices. It includes new memorials and biographical information for Justices who passed away after 1966.

Around 200 copies of this book were distributed to public libraries around the state. The Supreme Court Historical Society is considering whether to have a second printing of the book in order to make it available for sale to the general public.

### Summer Tips from the Library

Summer is a great time to be outdoors enjoying the beautiful sunshine. Here are some tips to keep safe this summer and still check off a few books from your reading lists.

1. Avoid being in the sun during the hottest part of the day - come to the library where there is air conditioning.
2. Always carry a book with you, if you get caught in the sun without sunblock, you can always use your book for shade.
4. In this wonderful biking and hiking weather it's hard just to sit and read a book, so, download a few audiobooks onto your MP3 player and listen to

### Did You Know?

The library has three computers by the east windows on the first floor that have Office 2003 programs installed on them. Programs include: Word (for word processing), Excel (for making spreadsheets), Power Point (for creating slide presentations), and Publisher (for creating posters/graphics). There is also a scanner hooked up to one of the computers for scanning photos and documents and a printer nearby. These computers are available on a first come, first served basis.



Still have questions about our new Materials Handling System or never used it before? Check out our recent video on Youtube! This short video gives more information about the system and how to use it. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHCck-eewF8> Remember: it doesn't work properly or efficiently unless the materials are placed in the machine one at a time with the barcode facing down. If you have any questions about whether your material was really scanned in, you can always check your online account as soon as you get home. The items that were scanned in properly move off your account immediately.



You can bring your used inkjet and toner cartridges to the library to recycle. If you're coming into the library, you can deposit your empty cartridges in the plastic bin just to the right of the main doors on first floor. If you would rather drive up, you can bring them to the drive-up area behind the library (on 1st Avenue SE) and drop them in the clear plastic bin to the left of the bookmobile garage door (next to the blue bin for Friends bookstore donations).

them on the go. If you don't have an MP3 player you can borrow one from the library and use the library's download station.

5. Save gas this summer by taking advantage of the library's bookmobile. Visit [www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/bookmobile](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/bookmobile) or pick up a schedule to find out when the bookmobile will be in your area. For more information about the bookmobile, call 328-2302.
6. What to do on those rainy days? Stop by and pick up some DVDs to veg in front of the TV with, or to keep your brain stimulated, check out some books and videos on storm watching or global warming.