



Enter to Grow in Wisdom

Rochester Public Library
101 2nd Street SE
Rochester MN 55904

Inside...

Library Tours
with Audrey

(Continued from front page)

“After Alek read to Tucker he was full of smiles. ‘How many books did you read to him?’ I asked, and he replied with confidence, ‘All of them!’ The session really did build up his confidence,” commented Kari. She mentioned that she hadn’t brought the kids to the library for quite a while prior to the program, but since the program, both Alek and Natasha have been asking to come back to the library. The kids especially like to use the computers at the library and they both enjoy listening to books-on-tape while they are riding in the car. Natasha loves Harry Potter, but she can’t read the books yet, so she is listening to Harry Potter on tape all of the time. The “Sit-Stay-Read” program proved to be a confidence builder, and a means to reacquaint the Olivares children with the “joys of library visits.”

National Library Week

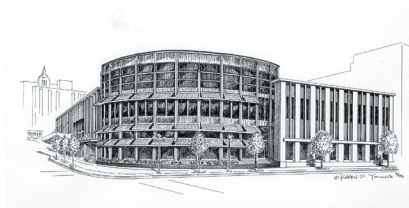
April 2 – 9 is National Library Week, and across the nation, communities are celebrating the unique way that libraries change the world by empowering and enriching lives with information and entertainment.

To kick off the week, the public is invited to come to the Rochester Public Library auditorium on Sunday April 2nd at 2 PM, as bestselling author, William Bernhardt, discusses his recently published book, *Dark Eye*.

Additional activities and programs are scheduled for the week. The bookmobile will be parked in front of the library on Monday and Friday and will be open to the public. There

are computer classes, book group meetings, and a large variety of children’s programs. The Sit-Stay-Read program is a new children’s program in which children in grades 1 - 5 read a story to a trained therapy dog. The Friends of the Library are holding a used-book sale on Thursday afternoon. To wrap up the week, we are holding the “Young Adult Logo Contest” Awards Program.

National Library Week is a good time to come to the Rochester Public Library to check out more than just books. Come and enjoy the programs that we offer, join a book group, listen to stories, buy a used book, or take computer classes.



Rochester Public Library News Events and News

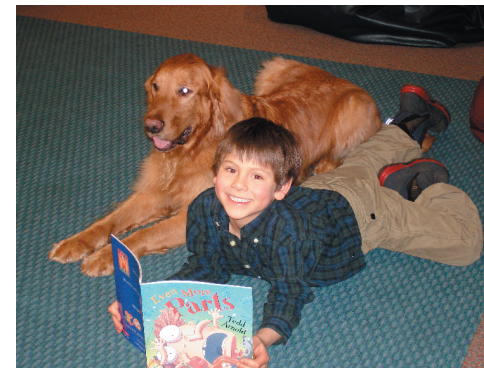
www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org

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Libraries Change Lives



Alek Olivares gains confidence by reading to Tucker.

Alek Olivares is six years old and is beginning to read. He is a little apprehensive to read to his friends and parents, because he doesn’t think that he can do it very well yet. Alek’s mother Kari works at “Kids Come First”, a local day care provider, and she received a flyer to post from the library about a new program called “Sit-Stay-Read.” The program encourages beginning readers to feel confident about reading by trying out their

early reading skills on the most non-critical of all listeners: dogs. That’s right. Therapy dogs, trained to be gentle, obedient and calm, sit next to the children as they read story books out loud to them. Kari said, “I decided to bring Alek because he loves dogs and I knew that this would be a great way to build up his confidence in his reading abilities in a non-threatening manner.” Both Alek and his older sister, Natasha, registered for the “Sit-Stay-Read” program. “The night before the program they were so excited, they looked through their books and decided which books they should read to the dogs based on which books they thought that the dogs would enjoy,” smiled Kari. *(Continued on back page)*

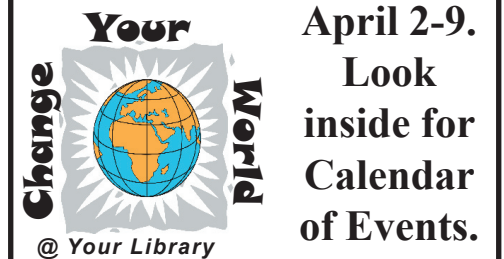
Senior Techies Classes

More than fifty senior citizens attended Senior Techies classes which were offered at Rochester Public Library in February. The free, hands-on classes taught senior citizens computer skills which ranged from using a mouse, setting up an email account, using a digital camera, to attaching photos to an email message. Rochester Public Library plans to offer the classes again this year. [Because demand was greater than class capacity] Check the library’s event calendar for future Senior Techies computer classes!



Senior Techies is a grant project through SELCO/SELS under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

National Library Week



April 2-9.
Look
inside for
Calendar
of Events.

Diversity Award

Frank Hawthorne, a reference librarian at Rochester Public Library, recently received the Olmsted County Human Rights Commission/Diversity Council “Human Rights Award.” This award is given to individuals, groups and/or businesses that have worked towards making Rochester a more welcoming, inclusive community.



Frank is currently President of the Rochester International Association. His past activities have included tutoring southeast Asians, serving on the Rochester Human Rights Commission and the school district’s diversity committee.

CONGRATULATIONS, Frank!

Library News Bulletin

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