

# Libraries Change Lives

## Rochester Public Library News and Events

Vol. 27 • Number 9

101 2nd St, SE, Rochester, MN 55905 • 507.328.2300

September 2012

### Power of Libraries cannot be replicated by a Nook

by Susan Nee

(reprinted by permission from the Post-Bulletin, November 17, 2011.)



**Susan Nee and her family.**

I've been listening to the debate about the future of the printed word for several years. As I listen, I ask myself: "How can a Nook or Kindle ever fill me with awe like a beautifully architected library does? How can these devices evoke the quiet intensity I feel when I'm among the words of the world's great minds while in a library?"

I'm no Luddite. I use online resources every day like everyone else. But when I do, it's usually to research a specific subject. My library browsing fulfills a need — food for the soul.

When I enter a public library, I feel as though I've entered a sacred realm — the realm of mankind's accumulated wisdom, history, and culture. If I enter in the right frame

of mind, I can almost feel the energy of the accumulated knowledge humming quietly and intensely on the shelves. I've always felt a little sense of wonder when coming into a library, even as a young child. It's as if the building itself can put one into a meditative state of mind.

I'll continue to use electronic resources for the rest of my life. But, how can an e-book replicate the feeling of the weight of a book shifting from the right to the left as you read through it? Or the satisfying feeling when reaching the last pages of a good, long story?

After building massive wealth in the steel industry, Andrew Carnegie, a Scottish immigrant, gave fortunes away throughout the U.S., Canada, and Scotland to

### Online Homework Help - Discontinued

The Rochester Public Library has provided access to online tutors since September 2008. The service has been primarily funded with private dollars. Over the years we have worked to find a sustainable funding model, but we have had challenges.

Private dollars are difficult to find for ongoing operating costs of programs. The current economic situation made it difficult to find new operating dollars in the library budget as well as in possible partner organizations.

While the program was a successful endeavor, the success was also part of the downfall as our usage drove continual cost increases. Most programs gain efficiencies as usage increases, but because increased usage means more tutor time, the costs outpaced our ability to fund it.

We looked at other options such as shortened hours, longer wait times, and other ways to throttle demand, but we were not able to find a solution that met needs within our ability to fund.

The Rochester Public Library will continue to host a Homework Assistance program at the library in Meeting Room B on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 pm – 8:45 pm during the school year. Community volunteers provide homework assistance to any student who attends. All ages are welcome.

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## Power of Libraries - continued from Page 1

build community libraries. The city of Eau Claire, Wis., where I grew up, was given a Carnegie grant of \$40,000 to build a library in 1903. Carnegie grants built 1,689 libraries throughout the U.S. Minnesota has 65 of those libraries; Wisconsin, 63. I remember the feeling I got when I approached the building — a feeling of entering a special place, a retreat for the mind. The love of the written word was a gift made possible for me because of Andrew Carnegie's philanthropy. I pass the love of learning on to my children.

For years, the Rochester Public Library has been a part of our family's habits. When book bags became too small to hold all the books our young children selected, I switched to the small wheeled suitcase I formerly used for business travel. It's seen as many miles in our city as it did in the air during my career days.

As our children grew older, our browsing habits moved from the children's to the adult section. I again found myself wonder-

ing how an electronic book could ever replace those beautiful coffee table books with full plate picture of mountains, the oceans and their marine life, or the beauty of photos of rain forests.

When one of my sons started to show an interest in Stephen King novels, I showed him where to find King's books in the Rochester Public Library. The first thing that he marveled at was the sheer volume of King's works. The man is just incredibly prolific. I wanted my son to know what he was taking on to become acquainted with Stephen King's works. Since going for maximum points for his reading log was the goal, King's verbose prose wasn't daunting to him; it just meant more points to gather for the end of year school party. I'm OK with that logic. He's moved beyond "Captain Underpants" and "Diary of a Wimpy Kid."

Several years ago, a family friend told us about the Rochester Public Library's reserve system. If the book you want is already

checked out by someone else, you can click on "Hold" next to the book, and you are added to a waiting list. You can also put on hold books that are available: simply press the magic "Hold" button, library staff will pull the book from its shelf and move it to an area near the main desk so you can just come in and pick it up, check it out, and be on your way. It's like a little gift waiting for you courtesy of "the library fairies"

If the library doesn't own the book you're searching for, you can request it from another library, or request our own library purchase it. My daughter has been successful in requesting the library to add several books she suggested.

I embrace the power of the almost limitless access to information the Internet brings right into my family room. And, I know my children will likely become e-book users. But my first love will always be a book and a library.

**"The library card is the smartest card in my wallet. Sign up for yours today."**

**Troy Polamalu**

Pittsburgh Steelers, safety, has two Super Bowl rings, been named to seven NFL Pro Bowls and selected to the "All Decade" Team. Visit [Troy43.com](http://Troy43.com)

ALA American Library Association

Library Champions

@your library

## Sign up for your Library Card today!

A library card is your key to everything the library has to offer. With it you can check out books that will spark your imagination with fictional or true stories or books that will teach you a new skill: build a deck, bake a cake, program your computer, etc. You can use a library card to access the Internet on our computers. While you're online, you can access our online databases, apply for jobs and e-mail your friends and family.

If you don't have your card yet, you can get one by registering at the public service desk. Be prepared to show a photo ID and current address.

## Database Spotlight: ReferenceUSA



The library has a vast collection of online databases that can help you search virtually tons of information such as how to adjust the brakes on your 1954 Volkswagen Beetle, which riding lawnmower, digital camera, or toaster oven has the highest ratings, and even the name of the ship your great-grandfather came in to America on.

This spotlight is on ReferenceUSA, a database that focuses on business and consumer information. It lists 14 million US businesses, 1.5 million Canadian businesses, 855,000 US physicians and Dentists, and 89 million residents in it's White Pages section. Just for your information, there are 16,129 McDonalds in the United States, according to ReferenceUSA – that's a lot of happy meals!

People who would find this information valuable are:

- Job seekers: When you look up a company, you can see what types of jobs are available in that type of business. For example, when you look up Rochester Public Library (MN) you can see that there is a Library Media Specialist position open in Rochester Schools.
- Entrepreneurs and Businesses: People looking to start up a new business or those already in business for a while can look up their own business and find others that may be competition for them. They can see how many employees each business has, when they were established, even pinpoint them on a map.
- Anyone seeking reliable, up-to-date business and consumer data: This database would be a great resource for people who may be taking business classes.

If you're interested in finding out more about ReferenceUSA or any of our other online databases, feel free to ask any of the librarians on the second-floor reference desk or by calling 507.328.2309.

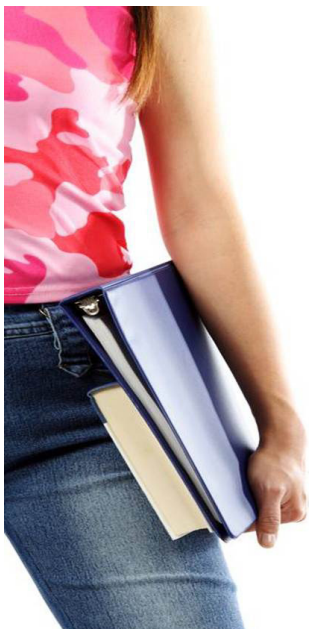
## More Changes in the Children's Area



*The new desk with trees and blue sky continues the nature theme in the Children's area.*



*The new art room located near the entrance to the Children's Area is getting ready for the big Open House on September 6.*



## Homework Assistance Study Table

The Homework Assistance Study Table will be starting up for the new school year on Tuesday, September 11, 2012, and will continue until the library goes into it's summer hours on Memorial weekend of 2013. It is held every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the Rochester Public Library's Meeting Room B (first floor) from 6 - 8 pm during the academic year. The study table is staffed by volunteers. The goal of the Homework Assistance Study Table is to provide individual assistance to students with specific questions regarding their daily homework assignments. Although all students in the community are welcome, the academic levels of the students who attend are generally grades 4 to 12.



# September 2012

**All events at Rochester Public Library are free and open to the public**

## Monday, September 3

Library closed in observance of Labor Day.

## Wednesday, September 5

### Introduction to Digital Cameras

**Meeting Room B 6pm**  
Learn about the differences between a digital camera and a conventional camera, how to transfer digital photos from your camera to your computer and about different methods of printing your digital photos. If you already own a digital camera, please bring it, along with its manual and any cords or other accessories. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 507.328.2309.

## Thursday, September 6

### Art Room Grand Opening Auditorium 4-6pm

Celebrate the Grand Opening of the RPL Children's Division Art Room! Create an amazing collage to put on display or take home.

## Saturday, September 8

### Friends' Bookstore Second Saturday Sale

**Library Foyer 10am - 1pm**  
September's Second Saturday Sale, will feature "Back to School" items. The sale includes children and young adult books, picture books, chapter books, fiction, non-fiction, classics and education resource books. Spend \$25 and receive a free Friends' tote bag!

### Hooray for Saturday! Family Storytime

**Auditorium 10:30am**  
Join us for 30 minutes of family storytime fun! For families with children of all ages.

## Sunday, September 9

### Visiting Author Series: Brenda Child

**Auditorium 2pm**  
Brenda J. Child, a member of the Red Lake Ojibwe Nation, is an associate professor of American Studies at the University of Minnesota. She is also the author of *Boarding School Seasons: American Indian Families: 1900-1940* and *Holding Our World Together: Ojibwe Women and the Survival of the Community*.

## Monday, September 10

### Winona State Lecture Series: James Loewen

**Auditorium 6pm**  
Race Relations Programming & Student Laboratory Race in the Curriculum evening keynote by Dr. James Loewen.

James Loewen's gripping retelling of American history as it should, and could, be taught, *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, has sold more than 1,250,000 copies and continues to inspire K-16 teachers to get students to challenge, rather than memorize, their textbooks.

*Sponsored by Winona State University and the Rochester Public Library.*

## Tuesday, September 11

### Library Time Auditorium 10am

This program for adults with disabilities is an opportunity for participants to enjoy reading books, watching films, making crafts and other fun learning activities.

### LEGO® Fun for Homeschoolers! Auditorium 1-2:30pm

Do you like to build with LEGOs®? Build your own LEGO® creations using our chal-

lenge idea or your imagination. Share your great ideas! LEGOs® are provided by the library. This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 - 6. *This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.*

### LEGO® Fun Auditorium 4-5pm

Do you like to build with LEGOs®? Build your own LEGO® creations using our challenge idea or your imagination. Share your great ideas! LEGOs® are provided by the library. This program is best suited for children in Grades 2 to 6. *This program is sponsored by Friends of the Library.*

### Writing Group Meeting Room A 6:30pm

Stuck on your first draft? Not sure about your plot? Let's get together and help each other out. We meet once a month to read and critique members' writing. The goal is to improve our writing in a friendly, supportive environment. Mike Kalmbach, freelance writer and editor, facilitates the meetings. If you have any questions for Mike prior to your first meeting, please e-mail [kstecher@rochester.lib.mn.us](mailto:kstecher@rochester.lib.mn.us), or call 507.328.2313.

## Wednesday, September 12

### Preschool Storytime Auditorium 10am & 11am

Join us for 30 minutes of stories, fingerplays, early literacy activities, and fun for you and your 3 to 5 year-old child!

### iFilms: International and Independent Films

**Auditorium 6pm**  
*Seven Minutes in Heaven* - Galia, a young woman from Jerusalem, and her boyfriend Oren board a local bus. The bus explodes, leaving Oren in a coma and Galia with

severe burns and memory loss; she lacks memory of the day of the terrorist attack and the days leading up to it. The film begins one year after the attack, upon Oren's death. As Galia undergoes physical and mental therapy, she attempts to stitch together the shattered fragments of her life and soul. A necklace sent to her from an unidentified source sets her off on a journey to find the missing pieces of the puzzle from that fateful day.

Short Film: *Grandmothers* -Leo's grandfather gives him an old Super-8 camera for his tenth birthday, through which he discovers his heritage. *The iFilm series is intended for mature adults. Please provide guidance to your children.*

**Photo Editing Basics**  
**Meeting Room B 6pm**

Learn how to touch up and crop your digital photos and how to convert them into e-mail friendly sizes. This class will demonstrate free online tools for basic editing of your digital photographs. Bring a digital photo you want to work with on either a flash drive, CD-ROM or other storage device. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk, or by calling 507.328.2309.

**Thursday, September 13**

**Baby Time**  
**Auditorium 10am**

Bring in your baby for finger-plays, rhymes, songs and stories just right for little ones (ages birth to 18 months). *This program was funded by an IBM Centennial Grant.*

**Toddler Time**  
**Auditorium 10:30am & 11am**

Special stories and songs for active toddlers (ages 18 months to 3 years). *This program is funded by an IBM Centennial Grant.*

**Computer Basics Workshop**  
**Meeting Room B 1pm**

Come to the library to practice on our computers and ask general questions about using e-mail, the library's website or the Internet. No sign up for this session.

**Art Room Extended**  
**Auditorium 4-5:30pm**

Here is your chance to get messy! Create fantastic art with messy art supplies in the library's auditorium. Grades K to 5.

**Saturday, September 15**

**Hooray For Saturday! Family Storytime**  
**Auditorium 10:30am**

Join us for 30 minutes of family storytime fun! For families with children of all ages.

**Monday, September 17**

**New Bookmobile Open House and Celebration** 11am-3pm

We're getting a new bookmobile! The new rig will be parked in front of the library for people to climb aboard and take a look inside. The celebration continues in the library auditorium with light refreshments, guests stars from storybook land, and a drive down memory lane in our old bookmobiles. Mayor Ardell Brede will be presenting at 11:00 am in the library auditorium.

**TLC Meeting - Teen Library Council**

**Meeting Room A 4pm**

Come let your voice be heard! Assist in providing insight into tween/teen reading interests, programming needs and activities. Help make the library a youth friendly space where you and your peers want to be! Any questions, contact Lynette @at 507.328.2305.

**Wednesday, September 19**

**Preschool Storytime**  
**Auditorium 10am & 11am**

See description on September 12.

**Rochester Sales Tax Extension: Yes or No?**

**Auditorium 6:30pm**

The Rochester Issues Forum will sponsor a presentation and facilitated round table discussions on the issue of the Rochester sales tax expansion. A referendum to authorize extension of the current ½ cent sales tax will be on the ballot in the November election. There will be a short presentation to review the proposal and outline the approved uses. Proponents and opponents will be given time to outline their reasons for support or opposition. The goal of this event is to create an opportunity for dialogue. Attendees will be encouraged to think critically about the issue and gain insights by listening respectfully to others' points of view.

**Thursday, September 20**

**Baby Time**  
**Auditorium 10am**

See description on September 13.

**Toddler Time**  
**Auditorium 10:30am & 11am**

See description on September 13.

**Computer Basics Workshop**  
**Meeting Room B 1pm**

See description on September 13.

**PB Dialogues**  
**Auditorium 6:30pm**

Post-Bulletin Dialogues are free public events at the library, with P-B Managing Editor Jay Furst leading conversations about an issue, and audience members asking questions and giving feedback.

**Saturday, September 22**

**Hooray For Saturday! Family Storytime**  
**Auditorium 10:30am**

Join us for 30 minutes of family storytime fun! For families with children of all ages.

**Monday, September 24****Visiting Author Series: Martha Fitzgerald****Auditorium 7pm**

Martha's parents were senior medical students from New Orleans and Omaha when they met in 1937 during a summer fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. This meeting began a two-year correspondence across 1,100 miles, chronicled in Martha's 2012 non-fiction book *The Courtship of Two Doctors: A 1930s Love Story of Letters, Hope & Healing*.

Martha H. Fitzgerald, an award-winning editor, author, and independent publisher, served the *Shreveport Times* as columnist and editorial board member for ten years. Other roles included associate editorial page editor, assistant managing editor, business editor, and features editor. The Louisiana native co-founded Little Dove Press in 2004 and Martha Fitzgerald Consulting in 2005.

**Tuesday, September 25****LEGO® Fun for Homeschoolers!****Auditorium 1-2:30pm**

See description on September 11.

**LEGO® Fun****Auditorium 4-5pm**

See description on September 11.

**Bedtime Stories****Auditorium 6:30pm**

Puppets, stories, songs, and rhymes to give you sweet dreams. Caregivers are asked to remain with their children.

**Wednesday, September 26****Preschool Storytime****Auditorium 10am & 11am**

See description on September 12.

**Sharing Photos Online****Meeting Room B 6pm**

Learn how to put your digital photos on the internet to share with family and friends. In this class, we will look at some web sites that allow you to share your photos and

set up a free photo sharing account. Bring some digital photos you want to share on a flash drive, CD-ROM, memory card or camera. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 507.328.2309.

**Thursday, September 27****Baby Time****Auditorium 10am**

See description on September 13.

**Toddler Time****Auditorium 10:30am & 11am**

See description on September 13.

**Computer Basics Workshop****Meeting Room B 1pm**

See description on September 13.

**Banned Books and Booze Fund-raiser 6-9pm**

Join us at the Ramada Inn (1517 16th St SW) for a whisky tasting fund-raiser.

Registration: \$30/person and \$50/couple

Whisky Tasting: Glenfiddich (12 year, 15 year, 18 year and 21 years)

Light refreshments: small plates and soft drinks

Raffle prizes and silent auction

The pipes will be heard!

Register online or by mail.

Mail to: Whisky Tasting, c/o John Hunziker, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd St SE, Rochester, MN 55904.

**Recap of 2012 Legislative Session: Senjem and Norton****Auditorium 7pm**

Remember the debate about the Vikings Stadium? And public school funding? What else happened last session of the legislature? These and more questions will be answered when Senate Majority Leader Dave Senjem and House Assistant Minority Leader Kim Norton sit down to trade stories about this historic year in Minnesota. This informal recap session is open to the public and promises

to be a fun and informative evening which shows us all how the state government operates. Co-sponsored by the Rochester League of Women Voters

**Saturday, September 29****Hooray For Saturday: Family Fun!****Auditorium 10:30am**

Pop Wagner, singing cowboy and lariat spinner will be here performing rope tricks, cowboy songs, humorous stories, and toe-tapping fiddle music. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

**Join us online!****Blog**

Rochpublibrary.wordpress

**Facebook**

Rochester Public Library  
PRL Teen Space  
Friends of the Rochester Public Library

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**YouTube**

RPLMNInfo  
RochPubLibrary

**Library Newsletter**

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Editor	John Hunziker
Layout/Design	Ginny Erbe



## Foreign language collection @ your library

Our collection includes over 20 different International languages and includes materials such as books, videos, and DVDs. The book collection can be found on the second floor of the library where each language has its own section (arranged alphabetically by the name of the language). Magazines, VHS/DVDs/CDs from the country of origin are also shelved in the same section as the books. However, if a DVD movie has been released to the United States market (and has English subtitles and/or dubbing), it may be shelved with other films on the first floor.

Mobile of International Flags We just hung a large mobile of international flags from the ceiling of the second-floor near the area where the foreign language collection is kept. The mobile includes twelve flags that represent some of the countries where the languages in our collection are from. The flags are from: Bosnia, Cambodia, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Somalia, and South Korea. We didn't include the American flag or the Union Jack because most of our books are in English so is not included in our foreign language collection.

The idea of a flag mobile had its genesis in the library's Diversity Committee and was handed to our Communications Manager, John Hunziker, to make things happen. He had pieces and parts of the mobile in his office for many months as this was not a quick and easy project to undertake. The mobile was finally built and then balanced by some of our maintenance staff, Paul and Andy.

The funding to buy the flags and build the mobile was provided by the Irv and Maureen Plitzuweit Foundation and Salad Brothers Cafe.

## Eat, Drink and Be Literary!



Mark your calendars for the next special whisky tasting fundraiser on Thursday, September 27 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm at the Canadian Honkers Event Center at the Ramada Inn (1517 16th St SW).

David Allardice, a Glenfiddich Ambassador will be sharing the history of Glenfiddich and distillery practices while attendees get the chance to taste 12, 15, 18, and 21-year old single malts. Not only will it be a celebration of whisky but also a recognition for Banned Books week. Light refreshments will be available in the form of small plates and softdrinks. There will also be a silent auction and raffle prizes.

Registration: \$30/person and \$50/couple. You may register online ([www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/friends](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/friends)) or by mail (Whisky Tasting, c/o John Hunziker, Rochester Public Library, 101 2nd ST SE, Rochester, MN 55904).

Proceeds from this fund-raiser will go towards the purchase of a portable reference station for the children's area and battery operated tools to help the library maintenance staff in the upkeep of the library.

# The new bookmobile begins service in September

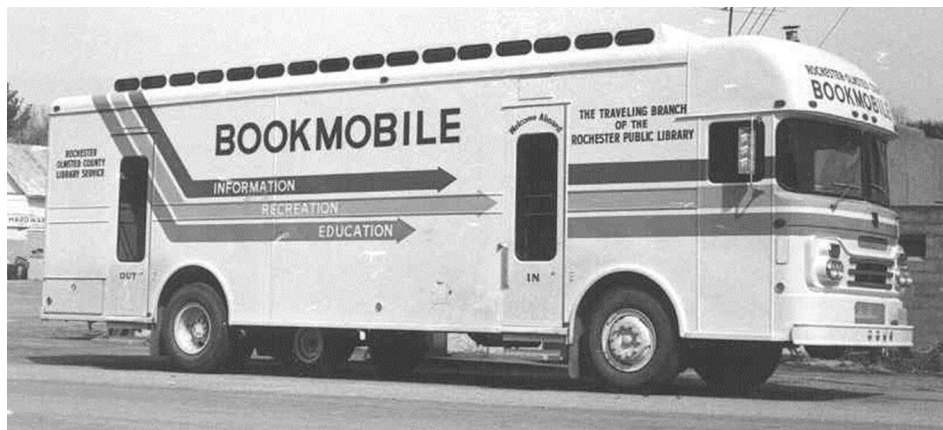


**Lucille Gottry, librarian, and Erwin Brennan, Olmsted County Commissioner with the library's first bookmobile**

The concept of a bookmobile in Rochester was first brought up in 1946 by librarian Lucille Gottry. It wasn't until 20 years later, October 24, 1966, that the bookmobile became a reality when the first vehicle went into service with a rotating collection of 5,000 volumes selected to appeal to both children and adults. A larger bookmobile replaced the original in 1978 and yet an even larger one replaced that one in 1997.

The newest bookmobile will arrive in Rochester during the second week of September and will go into service soon after. It will be even larger than the last and features green technology: a hybrid drive train and generator, solar panels, LED lights and recycled rubber floors.

Currently the Rochester Public Library bookmobile has the highest circulation of any other bookmobile in Minnesota. It visits over 77 different neighborhoods in the City of Rochester and Olmsted County targeting areas in the community where there are geographic, transportation, economic and other barriers to using the main library.



**The library's second bookmobile purchased in 1978.**



**Don't miss the open house celebration in honor of the new bookmobile on Monday, September 17 from 11:00am - 3:00pm.**

**The library's third bookmobile purchased in 1997**



**The library's fourth bookmobile purchased in 2012**