



LIBRARY BOARD EYES "ALL OPTIONS" FOR THE FUTURE

Rochester Public Library's (RPL) Board of Trustees continues to focus on finding a solution to space issues at the nationally-recognized institution.

"At this time, all options are on the table," says Library Board President Bekah DeYoung, citing a need to serve a growing community. "We continue to explore different ideas for addressing our space needs and our aging infrastructure. The board is committed to working collaboratively with the community and city council to determine a path forward in a manner that contemplates the community's other public facility and infrastructure needs."

In 2016, the Rochester City Council

approved a plan to expand the library, but it was contingent on receiving financial support from other entities. When that plan failed, the RPL Board was left with figuring out how to best meet the growing demand for library space.

"The staff has worked to reconfigure spaces and maximize every square inch of the current building," says DeYoung, adding, "However, it's not a long-term solution."

Board members continue to research possible options, including expanding the current location, moving to a new downtown location or adding branches, according to DeYoung.

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FROM THE DIRECTOR: CELEBRATIONS, STORYCORPS, AND THE FUTURE

Earlier this year, I had the privilege of representing Rochester at a special ceremony honoring our library with the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. It was a notable moment in the library's long history. In September, the true celebration happened as we blocked off the street in front of the library and hosted our first-ever Block Party. Seeing our community gathering together to play games, draw on the street, dance, and truly connect was also a notable moment. Rochester Public Library has long served as a place for community members to gather and interact in a welcoming space. In October, RPL once again hosted community members as part of the National Medal celebrations as we welcomed StoryCorps. The nationally-recognized

non-profit gathers, records, and archives the stories of people from all across the country. These stories represent the stories that make our communities great spaces for learning, sharing, and understanding one another. I look forward to our celebration of these stories (read more below), and hearing the themes and common threads that make Rochester unique.

While we've celebrated at length, we've also continued to move forward with new ideas and initiatives to support our community. The work at RPL continues: earning a National Medal does not mean we rest on our laurels. In fact, our governing board, the RPL Board of Trustees, continues to focus on finding a solution to space issues. As Rochester continues to grow, the Board is open to a number of options (more information in our cover story).

STORYCORPS CAPTURES LOCAL STORIES

The nationally-recognized non-profit StoryCorps visited Rochester in October, as part of the library's National Medal celebration.

From October 15-17, StoryCorps facilitators recorded stories from local residents in one of Rochester Public Library's (RPL) meeting rooms. According to RPL's Head of Readers' Services, Kim Edson, the visit is part of the library's prize for winning the 2018 National Medal for Library Service. "We were thrilled to be selected for the National Medal- the nation's highest honor for libraries. And we are equally

thrilled to have a nationally-known organization come to our library to collect stories from our patrons."

Participants were selected by library staff, based on involvement in library programs, and also through a contest.

The 40-minute conversations between Rochester-area residents were guided by a trained StoryCorps facilitator and recorded. Stories will be archived both the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress and also through the RPL digital archive (<http://bit.ly/OurOlmsted>).

Recording stories isn't something new for Rochester Public Library. In 2017, the RPL received a grant to install a sound booth in the building and used the space to record local oral histories "Oral histories and recording personal stories align with our library's strategic goal to engage our community," says



Edson. Following the StoryCorps recording sessions and production work, the library will host a Red Carpet Open House with the participants and the community. The event is free and open to the public and will feature short snippets of the conversations. The Red Carpet event will be held on Monday, January 7 at 6:30 p.m.

For more information about the StoryCorps visit, contact Kim Edson at kedson@rplmn.org or Karen Lemke at klemke@rplmn.org.





Tom (left) and Darl are part of the Knutson crew that installs mini-libraries each summer.

KNUTSON INSTALLS 62ND MINI-LIBRARY

Since the beginning of the Neighbors Read mini-library program, community members have shown their support through financial donations or by contributing new or gently-used books. But one local company, Knutson Construction, has donated time and labor to make sure the mini-libraries have safe, secure spots in the neighborhoods they serve.

Youth Services Librarian, Jon Allen, says staff members from Knutson don't always have an easy time with installation. "There's more to the process than just finding a good spot," says Allen. Before the mini-library can even be installed, utility lines have to be located.

This is where Knutson Construction comes in. Vice President and General Manager at Knutson, Tom Leimer, says his team is glad to help with the mini-libraries. "We have a great team set up to assist with these installations each summer."

Allen estimates Knutson has installed about one-third of the RPL-supported mini-libraries throughout Olmsted County, saving the library hundreds of hours of staff time.



LIBRARY NAMES NEW HEAD OF REFERENCE

Rochester Public Library is welcoming a new leader in their Reference Division, following the retirement of long-time employee Louise Moe.

Sara Patalita joined RPL in late August, coming from Fort Wayne, Indiana. With over 20 years of experience in public libraries, Patalita has a background in various librarian positions.

"I brought my family with me for my job interview and we all fell in love with the city," says Patalita, adding, "I was originally drawn to this job because I enjoy the administration aspect but what I really love is helping people who stop by the library."

Referring her new position as her "dream job," Patalita says she's excited to utilize her past experience in the changing world of reference librarianship. After earning her Master's in Library Science degree, Patalita worked as an IT librarian, children's librarian, and a reference librarian. Her last position was as a library branch manager in Indiana.

"Public libraries can help people connect," she says. "My job is all about relationships: getting to know our regular customers and resources in the community, and making those important connections."

Patalita replaces Moe, who retired after more than 40 years at RPL.

STORYCORPS RED CARPET OPEN HOUSE

Join us to hear short snippets of the StoryCorps oral histories and personal stories. This event is free and open to the public.



MONDAY, JANUARY 7
6:30PM | Auditorium

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As fall blows through, we continue to work toward keeping the Library's National Medal Win front and center. The Foundation is proud to support our award winning library and work toward raising the needed funds to keep top notch services and programs free and available to all.

Fall is also a time when many businesses kick off community campaigns. If you are employed at a business where you can give a yearly commitment, we would love for you to write in "Rochester Public Library Foundation" and designate your dollars to us. Year-round giving is the best way for us to accomplish all the good work we do for the Library.

We also want to do a shout out to all our IBM employees and retirees! Your gifts and matching donations are a huge source of revenue for us. Please remember to use the online IBM Matching Grants portal to fill out your matching gift contribution. And don't forget to start tracking any volunteer hours you gave for 2018. Thanks to you, both the Friends and the Foundation received a \$2,000 donation from IBM last year and applied again this year.

The holiday season is also right around the corner for

many people. Please think of us for gift ideas for family and friends. Wit, Wisdom & Wine tickets make a great gift idea for our event on January 26. Amazon Smile users, please choose us as your charity of choice when making online holiday purchases. For a unique gift that will give back for years to come, be part of our Book-A-Year Endowment and we will honor someone with a book in their name in perpetuity.

Please follow us on this continued journey through the seasons and the great things that are popping up at the Rochester Public Library and Foundation. Your financial support makes all things possible. You can contribute online at bit.ly/RPLdonate.

Vicki Allen

Executive Director,
Rochester Public
Library Foundation
vallen@rplmn.org



ROCHESTER
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION



Saturday 6:30-10:00 PM
January 26, 2019 ROCHESTER
PUBLIC LIBRARY

ENTERTAINMENT & INFORMATIVE SPEAKERS, SILENT AUCTION,
JEWELRY RAFFLE, WINE WALL, WINE AND HORS D'OEUVRES

SAME IN NAME, UNIQUE IN STYLE
(2 PART WINE SERIES)*
- Matthew Anderson,
Margron Skoglund Wine Imports -

*This is a two-part class over both sessions. Attendees will register and attend Class One on Whites and Class Two on Reds. Eight different wines will be sampled, most in the \$25-75 price point. An additional fee of \$40 covers wine for both classes and an engraved WWW keepsake collector glass for each participant. Class is limited to the first 40 registrants.

JOURNEY TO THE NATIONAL MEDAL
- Audrey Betcher -

BLUE WAVE, RED WAVE, SHOCK WAVE?
- Tim Penny -

FLY FISHING SOUTHEAST MN
SPRING CREEKS
- Randy Brock -

LETTING THE DOGS OUT AS THE K9 NINJA
ON AMERICAN NINJA WARRIOR
- Roo Yori -

ROCHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT UAV
(UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE)
- Rey Caban - Rochester Police Department -

FRED HARGESHEIMER:
WARRIOR FROM THE SKY
- Steve Lange -

ARGENTINE TANGO -
CONNECTING PEOPLE THROUGH DANCE
- April Dahl -

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: \$85 | \$95 AFTER JAN. 15

Register at: rplmn.org/wit or call 507.328.2387

For tax purposes, the fair market value for this event is \$45/person.



ROCHESTER
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION

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IN MEMORY

Vicki Allen & Terry Sorenson <i>in memory of Clarice Wolf</i>	Michael Davis <i>in memory of Deloris "Dee" Fagerlie</i>	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Nowicki <i>in memory of Mary Peck</i>
Anonymous <i>in memory of Tony Tschida, Sr.</i>	Charlotte Heyn <i>in memory of Dale Heyn</i>	David Steinbauer <i>in memory of Marj Steinbauer</i>
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Margaret Dalen <i>in memory of Merle Dalen</i>	Dr. James & Susan Naessens <i>in memory of Marty & Elvera Cordes</i>	

IN HONOR

Bob Beery <i>in honor of Louise Moe</i>	Nancy J. Larson <i>in honor of Lila Tricker</i>	Jan Ulrich <i>in honor of Patricia Smiley</i>
Mary Campion & Jane Campion <i>in honor of the staff at the library</i>	Jacque Sourkes <i>in honor of Leah Folpe's graduation & Jim & Barb Decker's 50th anniversary</i>	Barbara Westmoreland <i>in honor of Friends of the Library</i>
Lizabeth Erickson <i>in honor of Marjorie Steinbauer</i>		



ROCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION IS CELEBRATING GIVE TO THE MAX DAY ON NOVEMBER 15.

Make the most of your gift by making a donation on November 15 at GiveMN.org. Search for Rochester Public Library Foundation and then make your donation! For more convenience and better online service, give anytime November 1-15. Together, we hope to raise more than \$10,000 on Give to the Max Day, and you can help us reach our goal of more Leaders!

TODAY A READER ★★ Tomorrow A LEADER

CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP



There are probably a number of Friends of the Rochester Public Library that are somewhat unfamiliar with our roots, so I did a little research and realized that I was probably just graduating from diapers to big boy pants when the organization started on September 26, 1949 with 24 potential members in attendance. The library, in 1949, was in what is sometimes referred to as the Crawford building, which is now the Mayo Student Center.

Back in 1949, Rochester's population was a bit over 29,000, compared to today's population of over 106,000. In 1949, Library circulation was 179,279, compared to last year's circulation total of 1,897,802. And back in 1949, the library's annual budget was a mere \$35,000.

The stated purpose of the Friends at the first meeting was "to plan a campaign rallying additional support for a city charter amendment to boost the Library levy." It passed by 395 votes and the Library budget was increased to \$52,000. It is \$7,904,868 this year.

At the end of the first full year, the Friends' monetary balance was \$18.62. The first item that I can find that the Friends purchased for the library was an outside book return box (pictured, right) that looks like a recycled and repainted mailbox. It sat on 3rd Ave. SW. The cost was \$65.00.

The Friends' first book sale was held June 5, 1971 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and netted \$765.00. It wasn't until 1979 that a second sale was added.

A lot of things have changed. In addition to the four large book sales held each year, the Friends also run the Friends' Bookstore. The first, and only, Friends' Bookstore was opened when the current library building opened in 1995 and generated \$7,316.00 in the last few months of that year. Today the Bookstore generates thousands of dollars each year for the Friends. Last year we gave over \$70,000 to the library from Bookstore proceeds!

As you can see, we have come a long way since the fall of 1949. The funding and volunteer support we give the Library has always been used to move the bar from good to great and we always work to push that bar higher.

Keep in mind that it happens because of all of you. Thank you for all of your efforts.

John Hunziker
Friends' Vice President

FRIENDS' GIFT QUALITY BOOK & BAKE SALE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7
11 AM TO 5 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8
9:30 AM TO 4 PM

Get your holiday shopping done at the library! Find great gifts for book lovers, including beautiful like-new books, CDs and DVDs.

This year we will have an assortment of Melissa & Doug hand puppets for sale.



A wide selection of homemade baked goods will also be available.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Rochester Public Library, this annual event helps fund programs and activities happening at the library.

SAVE THE DATE: FRIENDS' ANNUAL MEETING

MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2019

Our annual meeting for the Friends will be held in RPL's Auditorium. Lunch will be served. The 2019 board members will be elected, and a summary of Friends' 2018 activities will be shared.

The guest speaker will be Father Nick from Calvary Episcopal Church. Invites will be sent later. Hope to see you there.

FRIENDS' BOOK STORE HOURS

MONDAY 10AM-7PM

TUESDAY 10AM-4PM

WEDNESDAY 10AM-7PM

THURSDAY 10AM-7PM

FRIDAY 10AM-4PM

SATURDAY (school year) 10AM-4PM

SUNDAY (school year) 1:30-4:30PM

*Summer hours are from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

BOOKS WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT

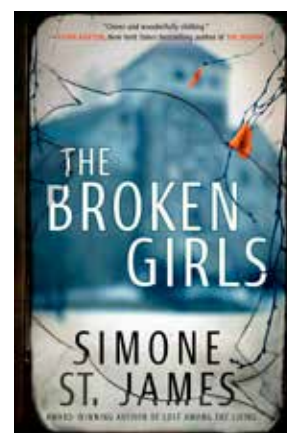
Fiction - *The Broken Girls* by Simone St. James

Idlewild Hall is a school for girls no one wants – troublemakers, illegitimate girls, girls too smart for their own good. Four roommates bond over their whispered fears, their budding friendship blossoming until suddenly one of them disappears.

Twenty years ago, journalist Fiona Sheridan's sister was found dead in the overgrown field surrounding Idlewild Hall. Although her boyfriend was tried and convicted of the murder, Fiona can't shake the suspicion that there's more to the case.

When Fiona discovers that Idlewild Hall is being restored by an anonymous benefactor, she decides to write a story about it. But a shocking discovery during the renovations will link her sister's death to secrets that were meant to stay hidden.

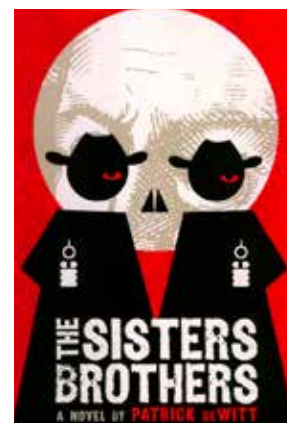
Beth in Technical Services says, it's a "well written mystery with murders and a haunted boarding school. Perfect for October."



The Sisters Brothers by Patrick de Witt

When a frontier baron known as only as the Commodore hires gunslingers Eli and Charlie Sisters to kill a prospector named Hermann Kermit Warm, it's just another day of work for the brothers. Eli doesn't share his brother's appetite for whiskey and killing but it's the only life he's ever known. But their prey isn't an easy mark, and on the road from Oregon to San Francisco the pair encounter a witch, a bear, a dead Indian, a parlor of drunken floozies, and a gang of murderous fur trappers. As the chase gets longer Eli begins to question what he does for a living – and whom he does it for.

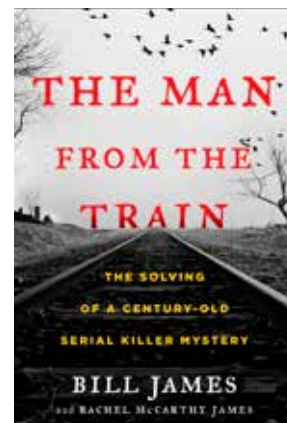
Heather on the Bookmobile says its "witty, gritty and wonderfully Western."



The Man from the Train: the Solving of a Century-Old Serial Killer Mystery by Bill James and Rachel McCarthy James

Between 1898 and 1912, families across the country were bludgeoned in their sleep with the blunt side of an axe. Some of the cases, like the infamous Villisca, Iowa murders received national attention, while others faded into the background of rural America. Few people at the time realized the crimes were related, and fewer still realized that all the families lived within walking distance of a train station. When baseball statistician Bill James applies his analytical mind to the crimes, a clear pattern emerges and James makes a solid case that these crimes were committed by the same person, one of America's deadliest, and heretofore unknown, serial killers.

Allison in Reader's Services says it is "an engrossing, satisfying (and not too bloody) tale. Great for fans of true crime and history alike."



Shades of Milk and Honey by Mary Robinette Kowal

In regency England, Jane and her sister Melody vie for the attention of eligible men. Melody is younger and prettier, but Jane is far more accomplished with glamour, a magical skill that is considered essential for every lady of quality. When Jane learns one of her sister's suitors may be taking advantage of her, she uses her magical talents to set things right, and accidentally wanders into a love story of her own in this charming homage to Jane Austen.

Lauren in Circulation says "it's a wonderful book for fans of Jane Austen or fantasy readers."





Rochester Public Library

101 Second Street SE
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BOOKMOBILE GETS A MAKEOVER

Six years after launching the library's latest bookmobile, the library-on-wheels is getting a makeover.

"It's time for a fresh look, to go along with the library's new brand," says Kim Edson, Head of Readers Services.

The Bookmobile is getting a new wrap, completely changing the exterior of the rig. Prize money from the library's National Medal win is funding the expense. "Now is the perfect opportunity to freshen up the Bookmobile and also acknowledge

the library's award," adds Edson.

Featuring new colors and a new logo, the updated wrap replaces the original artwork from 2012, which was starting to show minor wear and tear. Vinyl wraps typically last between 5-7 years, according to vinyl wrap manufacturers.

On Monday, November 19, the new wrap will be revealed at an early-morning celebration outside the library. The event will run from 8:30-10AM and will feature free coffee and donuts, while they last.

LIBRARY HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY
9:30AM - 9:00PM

FRIDAY
9:30AM - 5:30PM

SATURDAY (school year)
9:30 - 5:30PM

SUNDAY (school year)
1:30PM - 5:30PM

507.328.2300 | www.rplmn.org

Audrey Betcher, Library Director

Karen Lemke, Editor
klemke@rplmn.org

Nicole Henry, Layout/Design



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