FRIENDS
OF THE BROWN COUNTY LIBRARY

COMIC-CON®

ZAP!

COMES TO THE

BROWN COUNTY LIBRARY

KAPOW!

SATURDAY
SEPT. 29, 2018
10AM-4PM

Also in this Issue:

Local History Series Volunteer of the Year Summer Reading Recap Fall Big Book Sale Give a Kid a Book

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President’s Report

At the time of this publication, the library continues the search for a new director. The executive firm conducting the search process invited yours truly to represent the Friends of the Brown County Library at a stakeholder meeting in May, in which we discussed the desired qualities of the next director. Based on past experience and comments from your board of directors, I expressed that a new director should bring qualities in the following three areas:

Public Relations - able to develop community connections, create partnerships, raise funds, and use patience and diplomacy in working with various public and government viewpoints.

Library Management - have a vision for new directions libraries are exploring, an understanding that Brown County is a system of libraries, and an appreciation of the dedicated and hardworking staff.

Support the Friends of the Brown County Library activities and our desire to help the Library’s mission.

Attending the meeting were local university library representatives and local politicians, most notably Brown County Executive Troy Streckenbach. Despite the County’s budget challenges, Mr. Streckenbach affirmed he is a supporter of the library. One particular comment made by Mr. Streckenbach stood out. When I thanked him for his work in pushing for the .5% sales tax, the proceeds of which would benefit the library, he made it a point to thank the Friends for their help by calling their county supervisors in support of the library and the measure. These efforts apparently played a significant role in getting the measure passed. It reinforced to me that we really do wield some clout when we make our opinions known to our elected representatives, and that a significant number of our Friends’ members made it a point to contact their county supervisors on behalf of the measure. To those of you who took the time to express your support, thank you so much for getting active on behalf of the library and the Friends. You really made a difference!

— Don Kraft, President

The question is sometimes raised, “How exactly do the Friends help the Library?” In general, our mission is to support Library programs and needs that fall outside of the funds designated for the Library in the county budget. More directly, we like to encourage and assist with special activities that the Library staff has identified as unique opportunities to help the Library connect with and educate the public.

At a recent meeting, the Friends of the Brown County Library Board wholeheartedly agreed to support several imaginative activities that were conceived and developed by Library staff members:

Central Summer Camp for Grown-ups!
In an effort to increase millennial programming, the Library is taking classic elements from summer camp (like making friendship bracelets, a ghost story performance, tie-dying clothing, a downtown scavenger hunt, party games, henna tattoos, ukulele sing-along, and more) and giving them a grown-up twist. S’mores and freeze pops are provided and food trucks will be on site. The attendees at the Adult Summer Camp had fun and hope the program repeats in the future!

Ashwaubenon Fish Boil and Great Lakes Music Concert
The Ashwaubenon branch intends to expand on last year’s very well received event with the addition of live entertainment. Karla Giraldez, Ashwaubenon Branch Manager, commented, “It was wonderful! We’ve had so many compliments from our customers with some calling the next morning to say what a wonderful experience it was. Jim Laughlin brought food for 60 and every plate was used with 33 staying for the concert afterwards. The food was so good. He catches the fish in the morning, then does the prep and drives to Green Bay for the event. The music is always wonderful, as well. Those who stayed for the concert stayed until the end. Many people said, “next year when you do this…” so it may become an annual event! A huge thanks to the Friends.”

These two events took place in the middle of August and were quite successful and very well received.

Kress Sherlock Mystery Event
This themed event follows in a long line of other successful themed events, which have included Hamil-Con, Jane Austen, and pet adoption. This year, on Saturday, October 13th from 10 am - 4 pm, there will be a Sherlock Holmes event with a whodunit theme and a visit by mystery author Victoria Houston. There will also be a live recreation of a mystery radio show, a Sherlock Holmes escape room, and activities for kids.

Weyers-Hilliard Reindeer Cheer Event
Last holiday season, the Library brought live reindeer for an evening event, and even with a snowstorm, it was wildly successful with 600 people in attendance. This year, the reindeer and elves will join Santa Claus, carolers, and simple crafts and activities on Wednesday, December 12 from 4-7 pm.

The Friends of the Brown County Library are proud to help bring these great events to our Library. Be sure to watch your Library calendar for any news regarding these and other library events that you’ll want to miss!
Comic-Con comes to the Brown County Library September 29th!

Comic-Con's Mission is to create awareness of, and appreciation for, comics and related popular art forms. This all-ages, family-friendly event is one of the many programs supported by the Friends of the Brown County Library. Attendees are encouraged to dress as their favorite superhero or movie character. There will be games, contests and meet and greets with professionals in the Comic-Con world of entertainment. For full details, find the event listing on the Brown County Library website. Below are some of the artists who will be presenting.

Prize for African Literature) and The Shadow Speaker (a CBS Parallax Award winner).

Her latest works include her novel The Book of Phoenix (an Arthur C. Clarke Award finallist), her Binti Trilogy (the first of which won both the Hugo and Nebula Awards for Best Novella) and her children's book Chicken in the Kitchen (winner of an Africana Book Award). The final installment of the Binti Trilogy (titled The Night Masquerade) will be released in September and the sequel to Akata Witch (title Akata Warrior) is due out in October. Nnedi is a Full Professor at the University at Buffalo, New York (SUNY).

Illustrator and Animator

Carli Ihde

Carli Ihde is an illustrator, animator, painter, henna tattoo artist and sculptor. She graduated from the The Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art. She has completed comic book and book illustration, including covers for Dynamite Comics.

Carli is based in Wisconsin.

Featuring International Award-Winning Novelist

Nnedi Okorafor!

Nnedi is an international award-winning novelist of African-based science fiction, fantasy and magical realism for both children and adults. Born in the United States to two Nigerian immigrant parents, Nnedi is known for weaving African culture into creative evocative settings and memorable characters. In a profile of Nnedi's work titled, "Weapons of Mass Creation", The New York Times called Nnedi's imagination "stunning."

Nnedi's books include Lagoon (a British Science Fiction Association Award finalist for Best Novel), Who Fears Death (a World Fantasy Award winner for Best Novel), Kabu Kabu (A Publisher's Weekly Best Book for Fall 2013), Akata Witch (an Amazon.com Best Book of the Year), Zahrah the Windseeker (winner of the Wole Soyinka

Author and Game Designer

John Jackson Miller

John Jackson Miller has spent a lifetime immersed in the worlds of fantasy and science fiction. He's best known for his Star Wars work, including Star Wars: Knight Errant, his national bestselling novel from Del Rey; Star Wars: Lost Tribe of the Sith; and his long-running Knights of the Old Republic comics series from Dark Horse. He has written comics for Mass Effect, Iron Man, The Simpsons, and Indiana Jones, and has written for the Star Wars Roleplaying Game. Miller is also a noted comics industry historian, specializing in studying comic book circulation. He also coauthored the Standard Catalog of Comic Books series. He lives in Wisconsin with his wife, two children, and far too many comic books.
The Local History Series began in 1989 during the 100th anniversary year of the founding of the former Kellogg Public Library, predecessor of the Brown County Library.

Over the 29 years of this series, there have been 154 programs focused primarily on the history of Brown County and surrounding counties. The programs are designed to inform and educate with a little fun on the side!

172 speakers have graciously contributed to the success of this series, including professors, board members and staff of local historical societies, government officials, museum staff, and others experts in the history of Brown County and Wisconsin. The series has included prominent speakers such as former Wisconsin Governor and United States Senator Gaylord Nelson, and two Pulitzer Prize winners, David Maraniss (Washington Post) and Ira Berkow (New York Times).

The library is grateful to all of the individuals who have helped over these many years to make this series a continued success. This is one of the many programs supported by the Friends of the Brown County Library.

September 27, 2018

Ancient Native Cultures of Brown County
Presented by Robert A. Birmingham, former Wisconsin State Archaeologist and Lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Waukesha

Birmingham’s understanding of Wisconsin’s archaeology is evident in his writings. He will provide seldom-heard information on archaeology in Brown County. What Native American groups were here hundreds of years ago, before any documented history? What led to the discovery of these cultures and peoples?

Robert A. Birmingham is retired and continues to write public-oriented books on various archaeological and historical topics. Among his books are Aztalan: Mysteries of an Ancient Indian Town; Spirits of Earth: the Effigy Mound Landscape of Madison and the Four Lakes; Skunk Hill: a Native Ceremonial Community in Wisconsin, and the just released 2nd edition of Indian Mounds of Wisconsin co-authored with Amy Rosebrough.
October 4, 2018
Brown County Courthouse and the County Seats
Presented by Mary Jane Herber, Local History & Genealogy Librarian at the Brown County Library

Since its establishment in 1818 as one of the first two counties in Wisconsin, Brown County has had three different locations for the county seat and five different buildings that have served as the county courthouse. This presentation will explain the importance of the county seat, when and why it moved and the five different buildings which served as courthouses. The current Brown County Courthouse has served residents since 1910.

October 11, 2018
Alexis de Tocqueville in Green Bay
Presented by Prof. Jerrold Rodesch, retired professor of History at UWGB

Alexis de Tocqueville's book *Democracy in America*, is regarded by some as "the best book ever written on democracy and the best book ever written on America." The book drew on de Tocqueville's experiences as a young man as he traveled to the United States in 1831-32, researching our institutions and culture and visiting many places in the new country. Alexis de Tocqueville came to Green Bay in August 1831, traveling by horseback and lake steamer from Detroit. During his stay, he gained insights about the frontier, religion in a country that had radically separated church and state, and much more.

Prof. Jerrold Rodesch has studied Alexis de Tocqueville for many years. Prof. Rodesch retired from UWGB after 30+ years, serving as professor of History. He also served as chair of the Department of Humanistic Studies and Secretary of the Faculty from 1998-2003. He has served on the Voyageur magazine editorial committee and is a native of Port Washington.

October 18, 2018
Behind the Walls:
120 Years of the Green Bay Correctional Institution
Presented by Michael Telzrow, Director of the Wisconsin Veterans Museum

In 1897, the Wisconsin State Legislature approved the creation of the Wisconsin State Reformatory on a 200-acre site in the Town of Allouez. It was born during a period of profound change when reformers began to question the traditional punitive approach employed in American prisons. The result was a shift from a punishment-based system to one favoring rehabilitation. For more than 70 years, the Wisconsin State Reformatory remained faithful to the reform mission, adapting to changes when necessary but always maintaining a strong link to its past.

Michael Telzrow is a graduate of the University of Central Florida and earned a master's degree in public history/museum studies from the UW-Milwaukee. Telzrow has worked in the museum profession since 1994. His museum assignments include the Neville Public Museum of Brown County, the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, and the National Railroad Museum.

October 25, 2018
Train Tracks to Green Bay:
The Story of Our Railroad Heritage
Presented by Bob Lettenberger, Education Director of the National Railroad Museum

Green Bay railroad history traces its roots to the time when Wisconsin was still a territory. Over the last 180 years, railroading has grown and dissipated, marking our county with many landmarks. Climb aboard as we trace the train tracks through Brown County.

As the National Railroad Museum's Education Director, Bob Lettenberger and the education team provide programming for all ages. Bob has a background in communication and a great passion for railroading and its history. He has served on the Museum's staff for 20 years.

November 1, 2018
Brown County Rocks!!! – Geology of Brown County
Presented by John Luczaj, Geoscience Professor at UWGB

This presentation is a geological history of Brown County, focusing on the formation of the Niagara Escarpment, glacial deposits, and Green Bay, as well as a tour of waterfalls and other special features.

Prof. John A. Luczaj is a graduate of UW-Oshkosh and the University of Kansas. He received his doctorate in Geology from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. In 2015, he received the UWGB Founders Award for Excellence in Community Outreach. This is his second time speaking as part of the Local History Series.
Summer Reading Adventure RECAP

Sue Lagerman, the Friends’ Library Liaison and the Library’s Communication and Program Manager, reported that the Summer Reading Adventure (SRA) was a great success again. Over 10,500 children, teens and adults participated! The kick-off event was held on Saturday, June 9, at the Central Library, and featured children’s entertainer, Randy Peterson. The event attracted an estimated 1,250 people – a 40% increase over 2017 and the Library’s highest total ever!

Together, all Brown County Library locations offered over 650 programs including storytimes, escape rooms, costume character visits, live musical performances and variety acts, STEM programs, garden programs, history walking tours, podcasting and writing workshops, and others too numerous to mention!

In addition to the dedication and creativity of Library staff, the success of the SRA is also due in part to the financial and in-kind support from the community and the Friends. Their generosity provides the incentives earned during the program as well as the grand prizes awarded at all locations. The Library is especially grateful for this support.

Volunteer 411

Volunteer 411 is a regular feature to keep you informed about how Friends like you help us run our programs and advance our mission.

Every year at our Friends’ Annual Meeting, we present Volunteer of the Year awards to publicly acknowledge and thank those who devote their time and talent to help the Friends, and in so doing, the library as well. We’d like to take this opportunity to get caught up in recognizing these true Friends.

The 2016 Award Winners:

We chose to recognize a special group of dedicated long-time Book Sale volunteers, all of whom have reached the age of at least 90 years old: Ginnie Amen, Anita Powers, Millie Kappel and Rosemary Michalec. Sadly, Rosemary passed away in July of this year. Sisters Rosemary (a sorter and organizer) and Millie (a sorter) made volunteering a family affair. Anita (below left) counts the library as her second home (in between her trips around the world and being an Arizona snowbird during the winter months), and sets the standard for the other volunteers (“If Anita can do it, surely so can you!”). Ginnie (below right) has no time to sit still. In addition to time spent helping with the book sale, she also has volunteered with the Ashwaubenon Historical Society, Unity Hospice, Hazelwood Historic House Museum, and is a Reading Buddy at Tank School.

These four volunteers have been a true inspiration and great Friends.

The 2017 Award Winner:

Ashley Reif began volunteering at the Brown County Library in 2011, when she turned 12, the earliest age a student can volunteer at the Library. She quickly accrued countless volunteer hours and a wide variety of volunteer experiences, including dressing as book characters for special storytimes, assisting children with craft projects, and helping with the Summer Reading Adventure registration and other larger off-site library events. In 2016, the Friends of the Library Board invited Ashley to become the first “teen representative” board member with full voting privileges. She has demonstrated maturity and commitment to everything she takes on. The only thing that could slow down her strong desire to volunteer has been her recent entry into Silver Lake College as she pursues a music degree.

Thank you to our new Book Sorters:

Chuck Hastert, Kathleen Kohlman, Ashley Hanson, Barb Williams and Lynne Simpson.

The Friends of the Brown County Library cannot fulfill and expand our mission to help the Library without our many dedicated volunteers. If you would like to share your skills and make a difference in our community, please email volunteer@browncountylibraryfriends.com to request more information or to sign up.

Share your photos with us!

Social media fans of The Friends of the Brown County Library share photos of their experiences year round. We’d love for you to post your library-related photos for all to enjoy on our Facebook page.
Give-A-Kid-A-Book Hits 30!

This year marks the 30th year for the Give-A-Kid-A-Book (GAKAB). This annual program was started by Library staff in 1989 and has been coordinated by the Friends of the Brown County Library since 1997. Its mission is to promote literacy among all children and provide access to books for disadvantaged children living in Brown County.

The Friends collect upwards of 11,000 books each year that are distributed to over 6,000 children, primarily through the Salvation Army Holiday Assistance program. By the end of this year, the program will have gifted more than 300,000 books to area kids.

Key sponsors for the program include the Brown County Community Women's Club, Nicolet National Bank, the Green Bay Packers Give Back, Barnes & Noble and The Reader's Loft. Starting in 1997, Packers' wives have served as honorary chairs of the program. Last year, Molly Crosby, Jessica McCarthy, Monica Goode, and Sarah Biegel fulfilled this important role. Their duties included hosting the kick-off news conference, a WBAY Noon Show appearance, filming a PSA, and other special appearances.

The entire GAKAB program is run with over 70 volunteers and the support of library staff. This includes the planning committee, honorary chairs, book collection, ordering and sorters, truck loading and set up, distribution, etc.

Below are important dates for this year's key activities:

Kick-off News Conference – Thursday, November 8th at 9 a.m. at the Central Library – this is open to the public and we would love people to join us!

WBAY Noon Show appearance – Thursday, November 8th at Noon on WBAY TV2.

Barnes & Noble Book Fair – Saturday, November 17th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the B&N store on Oneida Street. GAKAB benefits by getting a percentage of what people spend in the store that day and online, in addition to hosting a book collection during the month, so the more the merrier!

Distribution of books will be at Shopko Hall on Wednesday, December 19th from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursday, December 20th from 8 a.m. to Noon. Interested families can sign up through the Salvation Army's Christmas Assistance program.

Donate new books that are fun for babies, children or young adults up to age 18, all year long at any branch of the Library. The GAKAB program increases focus on book collection from November 8th to December 10th, so children can receive books during the holidays. During this time, collection boxes are placed in most of the local Nicolet National Bank branches and many other community businesses.
What's It Worth? Antique and Collectible Appraisal with Mark Moran
Saturday, October 20, 2018, 1-4 pm

Ever wondered about the story and value behind that piece of art, toy, or brooch that's been handed down for generations? Antique expert Mark Moran will offer insights on your item, including an informative opinion on its value at the Central Library. Call 920-448-5825 to register your items for an appraisal or stop by Central's Customer Service desk. There is a $15 per item appraisal fee and a limit of 3 items per registrant. A portion of each fee will benefit the Friends of the Brown County Library.