

Wisconsin Valley Library Service



Maintain & Sustain at WVLS Director's Retreat



The 2019 WVLS Director's Retreat will be held on Thursday, September 26 at Tribute Golf Course and Bunkers Bar and Grill, located at 1001 Golf Club Rd in Wausau.

This biyearly event will be a full day focusing on topics for library directors, with the theme being "Maintain & Sustain." Participants will walk away with tools, resources, and ideas to incorporate for themselves and for their libraries.

This year's retreat will feature two guest speakers along with plenty of opportunities for networking and discussion with area colleagues.

Breakfast, lunch and mileage reimbursement will be provided. The event will also count toward 6.5 public library certification hours.

WVLS Directors should watch their inbox for registration information.

Raised Gardens in Minocqua

If you visit the Minocqua Public Library this summer, chances are you will see some raised bed gardens. The library has a fairy garden, a pollinator garden, and a Peter Rabbit garden (complete with a laminated version of the



book to read).

The pollinator garden features bee and butterfly decorations that kids made during storytime. Library patrons donated butterfly (yellow) and bee houses as well. The gardens were designed and are maintained by library patron, Andrea Billings. Andrea attended the library storytime in June to help kids plant marigolds and continues to stop at the library on Wednesdays to share goodies from the garden, such as kale and parsley.

Children's librarian Erica Dischinger will do a Peter Rabbit story time as the final story time of the summer. The gardens are a hit with community members and guests visiting the library.

For more information on the gardens, contact director Peggy O'Connell at director@minocqualibrary.org.

Passport Services Offered at MCPL



If you are planning an international trip, your first inclination might be to stop by city hall or your local post office to apply for or to renew your U.S. passport. But instead of adding another errand to your list, you can drop by the Marathon County Public Library's Wausau

Headquarters and apply for a passport there. This convenient service allows patrons to quickly apply for a new passport or a renewal while picking up library materials or attending a library program, giving them one less place to have to stop.

Since the early 2000s, MCPL's Wausau Headquarters has offered passport application services and last year alone, more than 600 people used the service. A handful of circulation staff members who double as passport acceptance agents can answer application questions, take passport photos, and send in the applications to the federal government.

While the services are only offered at MCPL Wausau on a regular basis, several MCPL branches host one-day-only passport application events at various times throughout the year. MCPL Wausau offers walk-ins every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; appointments every Thursday from 3-7:40 p.m.; and appointments from 9 a.m. to 3:40 p.m. every other Saturday.

For more information, visit www.mcpl.us/services/passports or call 715-261-7240.

Submitted by Dan Richter

Withee Celebrates 100 Years



On Saturday, July 20, the Withee Public Library held a celebration to honor the library's 100th Anniversary.

The milestone event was held at the library and at the Alfa Holms Pavilion, which is across the street from the library. Tours of the library were held throughout the day, and refreshments were served to guests.

Guest speakers included Representative Jesse James presented Board President Louise Olszewski with a beautiful plaque, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Library. Library Director Brandon Hardin also gave some remarks.

The library also celebrated its centennial by having a float in the Withee Days Parade on June 16.

Congratulations to Withee!

Demmer Grand Opening

The Demmer Memorial Library in Three Lakes celebrated its Grand Opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, June 29. The event included raffles, a photo booth, refreshments and more.



Demmer Library Director Erica Brewster created a community survey years ago on what the new Demmer Library should have. Based on the survey results, the library has become larger with more quiet areas and meeting spaces.

After being in a temporary location for several months while renovations were happening, community members in Demmer are pleased with the additions in the new library. If you are in the Northwoods, don't miss an opportunity to stop in and visit the new library. It's impressive!

**Want something featured in the September newsletter?
Is your library doing something that you want to share?
Contact Jamie @ jmatczak@wvls.org.**

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