

GILLETT LIBRARY

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT – MARCH 2017



Make-It & Take-It Crafts on March 17th when the kids were off from school.

Eileen Gossen from NEWCAP was here March 4th to talk to kids about saving/spending/sharing.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOR PROGRAMMING

Our library will be doing programs at both the Sunshine Daycare center and Serenity Gardens assisted living facility beginning in April. Cathie will be reading with the seniors at Serenity Gardens for an hour each week, and she'll bring library books along that can be checked out to the facility. I'm hoping that we can create a strong relationship with Serenity that will benefit both the library and the residents there who may not know all that the library has to offer them (i.e. Large-print, audiobooks, e-books, and audio e-books).

She'll do the same at the daycare. Sunshine Daycare used to walk to the library each week during the summer and check out library books, and due to liability issues they can't do this anymore. So we've decided to go to them instead. Cathie plans to bring along a handful of books each week that can be checked out to the facility.

LIBRARY REPAIRS – UPDATE

I'm still waiting to hear back from local contractors regarding installing heat tape on the roof at the Community Center (to prevent future leaks) and repairing the wood trim on the entry overhang so that a sign can be installed (metal letters "Gillett Library Community Center"). We'll also need to do an asphalt patch in the library parking lot due to a piece that broke off while plowing this winter (Shane told me that this repair should be around \$100). Lang Landscaping still needs to take care of the area of gravel around the Community Square once the weather warms up. And Dennis Heise has now asked me to contact Gary Heise regarding the re-facing of the library building to cover the damage.

GARDEN SERIES - PROGRAMS @ THE LIBRARY THIS SPRING

Our library has a series of garden-related programs scheduled for this spring. Still pending is a program date with our local Flower Shoppe to do a presentation on Flower Gardening.

GARDENING WITH HERBS

Saturday, April 22

10:00 AM



Kathy and Cheryl from the "Farm Near the Falls" will be here to talk about their passion. Their talk is all about herb plants...how to grow them, harvest them, and cook with them. They'll introduce new varieties and those that are most hardy for our area.

Kathy and Cheryl have been a part of our Downtown Market in the Square the past few years and are very knowledgeable.

And in May, we're all invited on a private tour of their farm! We're coordinating this road trip with the Oconto Falls library and will be serving several herbal treats to all who attend.

THE ABC'S OF VEGETABLE GARDENING

Thursday, April 27th @ 6:00 PM



Scott Reuss from the UW Extension will be here to discuss successful vegetable gardening techniques.

What do IPM, NPK, PVPA, AAS, VFNT and other acronyms mean to you and your vegetable garden?

Scott will spend some time talking about each of these, with a focus on soil health, composting, and proper pest management in your home vegetable garden.

EASTER IN GILLETT – April 8th @ the Gillett Elementary School

Matt Golie (the youth pastor at Hillside Assembly) and I are coordinating this community event again this year, and we've received wonderful community support for the kids. We were able to get a \$250 Thrivent grant, plus an additional \$700 from area businesses and organizations. We're purchasing what we can locally, and will be spending \$500 at Pat's Market for candy. We had over 300 kids at this event last year, and are anticipating even more this year. This is the second year we've worked together on this event and held the event on the school grounds. The kids hunt for the eggs on the track and then come back inside to the cafeteria where the Candy Lane is set up for the kids to get their Easter treats.

COMMUNITY CENTER GAINS IN POPULARITY with COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

Although the majority of Community Center users are non-profit, and therefore don't pay a fee to use the facility, the Community Center is bringing people into Gillett from all around the County which is a great thing...this was one of our goals for this project. Our central location makes it ideal for many groups to meet:

- The Oconto County Economic Development Corp. (our County Tourism Dept.) is now holding their board meetings in our Community Center each month. They used to meet in Suring, and have now moved to Gillett. They always cater in a lunch for their board, which will benefit our area businesses (i.e. OJ's Midtown, Spirits, Cracked Cup).
- Several more departments of the UWEX are now meeting in our facility. Sarah Mills Lloyd (our County AG agent) is planning an all-day event for area farmers this spring, and they will be using the 3 smaller meeting rooms there for break-out sessions that day.
- VITA has been doing free tax preparation in the Community Center every Tuesday from February – April. They have 3 tax preparers and each of them use a different small meeting room there to prepare taxes. We're the only location in Oconto County that provides this service.

Other groups include: Northern Gardeners, quilting guilds, school committees (Kids for Running), church committees, Gillett City departments, Girl Scout troupes, Gillett Civic Club, Gillett Business Association, Oconto County Fair Board, Livestock Committee for the Oconto County Fair, VFW, American Legion, Gillett Woman's Club, and Oconto County 4H Leaders.

COMMUNITY PROJECT PANEL @ THE INDIANHEAD FEDERATED LIBRARY SYSTEM

I've been asked by the Indianhead Federated Library System (based out of Eau Claire) to be a panelist for a program they're doing for their member libraries on Community Projects. The IFLS has been working with their member libraries on their individual projects, and most of those projects involve their communities.

Their member libraries will meet for 3 sessions to brainstorm various aspects of community engagement, project management, etc. prior to our panel presentation on May 11th. I'll be one of four panelists from around the State of Wisconsin that will serve on this panel, and we've all been invited to talk about our community projects. All four of us are being asked to make a ½ hour presentation, followed by questions.

Our Nicolet Federated Library System recommended me to the IFLS to serve on the panel because of our Community Center/Community Square project here. It's a wonderful opportunity to promote our project and our community. My travel expenses will be paid by the IFLS.