

Summer 2023 Programming Comes to a Close!

Clown Workshop

On one of the hottest days of the year, library patrons came out to celebrate the end of summer programming with our annual Clown Workshop. Presto the Clown taught kids all about the basics of clowning. Afterwards, kids did some crafts to make clown hats, collars, and ties, and got a chance to try out juggling, balance beam and stilt walking, and then everyone trooped outside for the main event: pie throwing!



Tada! Presto takes a bow!



Mayor Rob in the act of getting pied in the face

Thank you to everyone who joined us in clowning around! And thank you so much to Presto the Clown, Mayor Rob Nelson, school superintendent Dr. Rainey Briggs, State Representative Dave Considine, and also Mr. Bill for being such good sports!

Weekly Summer Programs

We have had so much fun putting on weekly programs for all different age groups this summer, and we hope you have enjoyed it, too!

For our littlest library patrons, we held a variety of different story times, including elements like songs, games, and puppets to provide literacy enrichment and fun!



Babygarten Story Time

Our Cubs and Badgers programs, for school-aged kids, gave children a chance to play games and do craft projects. Also for school-aged kids this summer, the library set up STEM Stations, with cool learning opportunities like watching monarch caterpillars change into butterflies!



Monarch STEM Station

Teens had fun at their weekly Teen Tuesday programs, which included crafts, video games, and even an escape room!

Adults had a weekly Monday evening program that rotated between crafts, food workshops, exercise, and Spanish conversation practice. Participants enjoyed learning basic hand stitching techniques and also making a no-knead bread recipe.



No-knead bread

Thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time and expertise to make this summer so great, and thank you also to everyone who came out to have fun with the library!

Baraboo Reads and Multigenerational Book Club

Each year, Baraboo Reads brings our community together to read a book with the potential to change hearts and minds. This year, our book for Baraboo Reads was *Sitting Pretty: The View From My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body* by Rebekah Taussig. This book is a memoir by a woman in a wheelchair who writes essays that span many different aspects of disability and ableism. At the Baraboo Reads event, attendees broke into groups to discuss the book, then came back together to hear from a panel of people who are experts on the topic of disability, either through personal or professional experience, or both. Attendees found the



The Baraboo Reads panelists

experience to be a valuable discussion and learning experience. To view a recording of the panel discussion, visit the library's YouTube channel.

In conjunction with the Baraboo Reads event, the library held its second meeting of the Multigenerational Book Club, this time on the topic of disabilities/ableism. Participants got book recommendations for different age levels on the topic, and discussed ways that disability had affected them or their loved ones. Look for future meetings of the Multigenerational Book Club in the coming months.



Multigenerational Book Club attendees

Carnegie Building Renovation

Some of the most frequently asked questions lately are "Where are the adult spaces? Where are the books?" The answer to these questions is that the adult books, meeting rooms, study rooms, and reading rooms will be located in the "old" building, aka The Carnegie, once construction is complete. The Carnegie and the new addition will be joined to make one large building. We expect construction to be complete by the end of the year. The Carnegie building is also getting maintenance and repairs done on the exterior of the building, including fresh paint and a new tile roof. Take a sneak peek at the work being done behind the plastic construction sheeting:



Looking south toward the East Reading Room, there is now an opening to the lower level behind what used to be the main service desk.



Lower level, future adult non-fiction collection



Exterior of building, old paint and roof tiles removed