NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Warmer weather is on the way and we are ready to welcome spring! Summer will be here before you know it and we are making a change in our hours beginning June 5, for our busy summer season. We will open at 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday instead of 9:00. We hope this will accommodate more people. Our Saturday hours will stay the same. Our Summer Reading Program for all ages will run from June 3 to July 29 this year. We hope to sign up more people than ever and will have many programs and activities for everyone during these two busy months. May is a month of transition where we cut back on some of our usual children’s programs to allow time for visits to school and class visits to the library.

Our Friends group has been working hard to bring author Tom Watson to Elkhorn on May 31. He will be visiting the area schools throughout the day and is known for his popular books on *Stick Dog* and *Stick Cat*. You can support the Friends by coming to the Brat Hut at Frank’s on Saturday, May 13, as proceeds will go to the Friends of the Library. The front of the library facing Wisconsin Street will be getting new landscaping this spring so watch for improvements there and in new gardens along the south side as well.

Having a party and need a bigger space? Elkhorn residents can rent the Community Center for a nominal fee. Applications are available at the Information Desk and library staff will make reservations for this room. The room is used heavily by a variety of groups for meetings, by the library for programs, and by the community at large.

Our upcoming programs for adults and children are described in greater detail in this newsletter, as well as listed on our calendar of events which you can pick up at the desk. We have many programs for all ages, including a Game Day on May 20, an apron program, a DNA genealogy program and much more.

As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns you have about the library (262)723-2678, ext. 9140.

Lisa Selje, Library Director

AVOID THE SUMMER SLIDE!

By Jennifer Wharton, Youth Services Librarian

It’s almost time for the most dangerous time of the year...summer! And no, I’m not talking about sunburns, bug bites or accidents. I’m talking about the summer slide, or, as some like to call it, the BRAIN DRAIN. But before you all rush out and enroll your kids in enrichment classes, tutoring, or schedule hour-long reading sessions, relax! Preventing summer slide doesn’t need to involve expensive classes, miserable kids missing summer vacation, or harassed caregivers rushing from place to place.

The easiest way to get kids what they need during the summer is to visit the library and take full advantage of our many resources and programs. Join library programs that include open-ended activities and help kids develop problem-solving skills, creativity, and initiative. Encourage kids to be active - both physically and mentally - by letting them organize their summer fun! Check out the nonfiction section at the library and encourage kids to make a list of projects they want to try over the summer. They’ll practice writing, reading instructions, and learn to follow directions, adapt recipes, and more.

Finally, reading! The library’s summer reading program is designed for both enthusiastic and reluctant readers. Allowing kids to pick their own books is also a great way to get them interested in reading. Let them check out fiction and nonfiction, and don’t worry if they pick books below their reading level - these are still beneficial to maintaining reading skills.

This summer, try some of these tips for preventing the summer slide. Encourage your kids to have active minds and bodies and visit the library often!
DNA BASICS-UNDERSTANDING YOUR ANCESTRY

The Walworth County Genealogical Society, in partnership with the library, is pleased to welcome Mary Eberle of DNA Hunters LLC for a special program on the science of finding your roots! DNA is being used to find lost ancestors and break through the genealogical “brick walls” in paper research. DNA is also being used to find unknown parents of adoptees and others. Using DNA for genealogy is oftentimes referred to as “genetic genealogy.” Mary will take you through the science of DNA testing: how it works, what the test results mean and how your ancestry is determined, and how you can get your own DNA tested. If you’ve ever been interested in your heritage or in finding out more about genealogy, this is a perfect starting point. The program will be held in the Community Center at the Library on Tuesday, May 2nd at 6:30pm.

AN EPIC HISTORY OF APRONS

Did you know:

■ That men were the first to wear aprons?
■ That aprons are mentioned in the Bible?
■ That November 24th is National Tie One On Day? (meaning aprons, of course!)

You’ll learn these and even more fascinating facts about everyone’s favorite tie-on garment when we welcome back educator and historical re-enactor Chris Brookes. Some of the most amazing historical facts are tied into the most mundane objects...and aprons are no exception. Chris will take us through the unexpected, and epic history of the amazing apron...you’ll never look at it the same way again!

The program will be held at the Library Community Center on Wednesday, May 10th at 6:30pm.
PLAY THROUGH THE AGES!

Sitting down and playing a game can be a great way to relieve stress, the beginning of a rewarding hobby, and a great way to bond as a family. To celebrate the importance of coming together and playing a game, the Library will be having a very special program for all ages—Play Through the Ages!

All ages, kids to adults, are invited to come join our celebration of all things gaming. We will have vintage video games, family board games, hobby board games, and hands-on toys like tops, kaleidoscopes, and Legos. We’ll also have special guests from Lake Geneva Games bringing in some exciting new board games for you to try. And we’ll have some drinks and snacks on hand so you can recharge. This is going to be a great way to bring the whole family, kick back, and have some fun.

The program will be held in the Library’s Community Center on Saturday, May 20th from 10:30am to 1:30pm. Feel free to drop by at any time between those hours. Let’s get gaming!

SUMMER READS READY FOR THE BEACH!

Summer is just around the corner! Warm weather, swimming, and cookouts await. Start thinking ahead about a summer essential, a good book! Many authors are releasing new beach reads this summer and we’ve listed a few below. Place these titles on hold today! While you wait, check out previously released titles and don’t forget the sunscreen!

2017 Releases
- The Sunshine Sisters by Jane Green
- The Identicals by Elin Hildenbrand
- Beach House for Rent by Mary Alice Monroe
- The Light in Summer by Mary McNear
- The Café by the Sea by Jenny Colgan
- Secrets in Summer by Nancy Thayer
- Secrets of the Tulip Sisters by Susan Mallery
- Same Beach, Next Year by Dorothea Benton Frank

For those looking for a new dish to serve up at parties, picnics or other summer gatherings try Mary Kay Andrews’ new cookbook: The Beach House Cookbook.
**ADULT SERVICES**

**THE 2017 ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM IS HERE!**

We are very happy to announce that the 2017 Adult Summer Reading Program will begin on **Saturday, June 3rd!**

Entitled **Build a Better World,** this is a great program for anyone age 18 or over to read throughout the summer, attend some fascinating programs, and maybe win some fabulous prizes. Here's how it works:

- Pick up a reading log at the info desk anytime between June 3rd and July 31st. Every time you read a book record it in the log and bring it in for library staff to initial.
- For the first book you read, you'll receive a collectible book bag with some goodies in it.
- Each additional book you read and have initialed will net you an entry into our grand prize drawing on August 1st. Prizes include gourmet dinners at local restaurants, wine tastings at local wineries, and lake tours!
- You can read anything you like, audiobooks included. Please try to avoid children’s books, picture, or books below your reading level. Ask a librarian for reading suggestions...we always have a book to recommend!
- You can earn an extra entry for the grand prize drawing for each 2017 Adult Summer Reading program you attend! See the next page for a full list of all our programs this summer.
- The drawing for each of our grand prizes will be on **Tuesday, August 1st** and we'll announce the winners on the same day. Each prize will have one winner, so you can either put all your tickets toward a prize you really want, or spread them around to maximize your chances of winning something...the strategy is up to you!

In addition to our grand prize competition, we will also have a weekly activity you can participate in to win free books— the **Weekly Feedback!** Each week we'll have a different question related to books and reading for you to answer. Just fill out a short form each week and get an entry to win free books and other goodies. We’ll select a new winner each Monday during the program. We’ll also put our most unique answers on Facebook so we can share your knowledge with the community!

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**AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB**

The Afternoon Book Club is a relaxed group of people who just enjoy sharing a great book! They meet on the third Wednesday of the Month at **2pm.**

**May 17th – Before the Fall by Noah Hawley**

On a foggy summer night, a tragic disaster brings two very different people, an artist and a young wealthy child, together through the bonds of survival.

**June 21st - Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance**

From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America’s white working class. Hillbilly Elegy is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans.

For more information, contact Lisa Selje by phone at (262) 723-2678 or email at lselje@elkhorn.lib.wi.us
**ADULT SERVICES**

**CHECK OUT OUR ADULT SUMMER PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES!**

- **Hiking the Ice Age Trail: How to Do It!**
  Tuesday, June 6th at 6:30pm - Hiking is a great way to stay fit and to enjoy nature this summer. Learn from the pros at the Ice Age Trail Alliance how to plan your route, choose the right equipment, and enjoy the trail to the fullest!

- **Build a Better World Through Music**
  Thursday, June 15th at 6:30pm - Recently retired elementary music teachers, Chris Ghilani and Maria Sharpe, have connected to make and share music with each other and the community. Singing a wide variety of songs while accompanying themselves on folk instruments such as the Autoharp and Ukulele, Chris and Maria present a program of songs for listening and singing along. Join us as we play and sing a wide variety of songs from Stephen Foster to John Denver to Simon and Garfunkel and beyond.

- **Techstravaganza!**
  Saturday, June 17th at 10:30am - Let us help you tame your tech with this extended afternoon program. This year we’ll be focusing on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media, then we’ll take time to try to answer any tech-related question you might have. As a bonus, we’ll even buy you lunch! This program is free, but registration is required...please call us at (262) 723-2678 to register.

- **Chasing Bigfoot**
  Friday, June 30th at 4:00pm - Monster hunter Terry Fisk will take us on a hunt for the legendary sasquatch through lore, evidence, and activities. This spooky and fun program is for all ages and family friendly!

- **Elkhorn: A Walking Tour Through Time**
  Thursday, July 6th at 6:30pm - Join UW Extension educator and leader of the Get Moving Wisconsin fitness program Amanda Kostman for a walking tour through Elkhorn’s past. Weather permitting, we will start at the library and visit many unique and historical buildings in our downtown area. This low-impact walk will take about an hour...please wear walking shoes.

- **Cooking With Amy**
  Thursday, July 13th at 6:30pm - You’ve seen her on the Dr. Oz Show, WGN and Fox 6 Wakeup-now meet her in person as we enjoy an Evening with The Cooking Mom! Cookbook author, TV show host and blogger Amy Hanten will share secrets, tips, and recipes to get your family back to the table. She’ll also be selling and autographing cookbooks. This program is free, but registration is required...please call us at (262) 723-2678 to register.

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**PAGE TURNERS EVENING BOOK CLUB**

The Page Turners choose moving and poignant stories to highlight the human condition. They meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm.

**May 3rd - The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware**

In this thrilling mystery, a journalist on a luxurious sea cruise through the North Sea tries to convince the passengers and staff of the ship that she witnessed a murder.

**June 7th - Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult**

A labor & delivery nurse takes on racism and the legal system when she saves the baby of white supremacists against her hospital’s order. This excellent novel explores race, privilege, and compassion.

For more information, contact Kelly Stech by phone at (262) 723-2678 or email at kstech@elkhorn.lib.wi.us.
I like to think of the youth services department in May as a big pot of dirt in the spring. It may not look like much is going on up on top, but underneath the bugs are waking up, seeds are sprouting, and things are happening!

Pattie Woods, of EASD Parent Connections, is hosting three exciting parties at the library this May on the first three Tuesdays of the month at 10:30am. Families with kids from 0-5 are welcome for activities, crafts, and treats! Kids who can’t get by without some Lego time will be happy to know that we are offering Lego Club 3:30-5:30 every Thursday in May. We are also excited to offer our first, all-ages, intergenerational program - Play Through the Ages! From tops to video games, board games to kaleidoscopes, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Apart from these programs, you won’t see the youth services staff too often during May as we will be super busy supervising school field trips, visiting schools to talk about summer reading, hosting special programs for school-age kids (including a visit by author Tom Watson to our school district!) and doing lots and lots of planning and preparation for summer.

This summer we are excited to offer some of our favorite, traditional programs like Storywagon, We Explore Favorite Artists, Read with Pearl, and after school clubs. For the second year we will have a great line-up of Maker Workshops and we will be adding some new outdoor/science programs as well. For more information about summer programs, check the calendar online or ask a librarian. We encourage families to visit the library for books and other materials, for a fun time playing in our children’s area, or to explore our different activity stations. Don’t forget the outdoors! Families are welcome to picnic at the Wisconsin St. entrance or enjoy our new garden space. There’s always something fun and interesting to see and do at the library!

Jennifer Wharton, Youth Services Librarian

Join us on Mondays from 4:00 - 4:45 in the storyroom to read with Pearl the dog. Reading with Pearl is a fun and relaxing way to practice your skills, enjoy some good books, and spend some time with a wonderful pup!
**YOUTH SERVICES**

**We Explore Favorite Artists**
This special storytime series introduces great children’s illustrators and authors to young children. You will be able to try out lots of fun and interesting art techniques, styles, and materials, as well as enjoy storytime and snacks. All ages welcome!

**Wednesdays at 10:00**
- June 14th - Eric Carle
- June 28th - Julie Paschkis

**STEM Learning Lab**
Do you love to create, investigate, and explore? If so, make sure to join us every other Wednesday for STEM Learning Lab! We will be heading outside for activities and games that reinforce STEM and creativity! This program is suggested for children ages 5 and up.

**Wednesdays at 3:30**
- June 7th - Shadow Art
- June 21st - Epic Bottle Rockets

**2017 Storywagon Series**

**Tuesdays at 1:30pm**
- June 13th - Nature’s Niche
- June 20th - Circus Boy
- June 27th - Michelle’s Magical Poodles

**Maker Workshops**

**Fridays at 3:30:** Register online for our new series of Maker Workshops! Sewing, Carpentry, Robots, and more! Make sure you read the requirements for each class, instead of limiting them by ages we have listed the skills and independence level needed.

- June 9th - Clay
- June 16th - Sewing

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**MS. PATTIE’S CORNER**

- **Nursery Rhyme Time**
  - May 2nd at 10:30
- **Teddy Bear Picnic**
  - May 9th at 10:30
- **Swim into Summer**
  - May 16th at 10:30
- **Celebrating Seeds!**
  - May 17th at 10:00
- **Mother Goose on the Loose**
  - Thursdays at 10:00 throughout the month of May
- **Toddlers ‘n’ Books**
  - Tuesdays starting in June at 10am and 11am
  - Suggested age: 18 to 36 months
- **Books ‘n’ Babies**
  - Thursdays starting in June at 10am
  - Suggested age: 0 to 18 months
- **Outdoor Playgroup**
  - June 12th and 26th at 10am
  - Suggested age: Infants to 5yrs
- **Tiny Tots**
  - June 12th and 26th at 6:30pm
  - Suggested age: Infants to 5yrs

For more information contact Pattie Woods, 262-723-3160 ext. 1416 or email woodpa@elkhorn.k12.wi.us. Programs are sponsored by the EASD Parent Connections and the Matheson Memorial Library.
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017-18 FRIENDS BOARD:

PRESIDENT: Katie James
VICE PRESIDENT: Teresa Douglas
SECRETARY: Shelly Robinson
TREASURER: Jerry Wytrykus
DIRECTORS:
Sally Delany, Sandy Douglas, Jane Peck, Lisa Selje, and Judy Tucker

SAVE THE DATES

General Meeting: June 28 at 6:00pm

The Summer Book & Bake Sale will be August 4-5. The Members-only Preview sale will be Thursday, August 3.

The Friends will be grilling up a good time on Saturday, May 13 at the Frank's Piggly Wiggly Brat Hut in Elkhorn. Stop by for lunch and help us raise money for the library! Brats, burgers, and hot dogs will be for sale from 10:00-2:00pm. Contact Katie James at (914) 462-8807 to help work.

THANK YOU, FRIENDS!!!

STICK DOG

Bestselling Author Tom Watson

Is Coming to ELKHORN!

The Friends of Matheson Memorial Library has partnered with the Jackson, Tibbets, and West Side Elementary School PTAs to fund a visit from bestselling author Tom Watson to Elkhorn students on May 31. The off-site library event will promote a love for reading among young people and encourage participation in the upcoming 2017 Summer Reading Program.