

VOL 17 ISSUE 2



Matheson Memorial Library

NEWSLETTER

Library Closed:

Friday, April 3rd

Monday, April 6th-Saturday, April 11th

Lobby Service Only Mid-Late April

Monday, May 25th



MARCH-MAY 2026

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Chad Robinson, Director

crobinson@elkhorn.lib.wi.us

The snow is mostly gone, the temperature's slowly rising, and it's almost time for spring and summer at the Matheson Memorial Library! This time of year is typically when we have the most going on, and this one is no different...except for construction.

As you're no doubt aware, since last summer the library has been in the midst of a massive renovation project. This is all possible thanks to a \$2.1 million Flexible Facilities grant awarded through the Wisconsin Department of Administration. This amazing opportunity is giving us the opportunity not only to create new spaces for your use, but to improve the infrastructure of the library for many years to come! Construction has moved along smoothly, and we're anticipating the project to be completed on May 1st, just in time for summer.

We plan on having our biggest summer reading program kickoff ever on Saturday, June 6th, and this is the perfect time to check out our new library spaces, see what services we have, and meet the wonderful groups that support us. Oh, and of course sign up for our summer reading programs, one for each age group. We hope you are as excited as we are to start enjoying your new library!

We were absolutely blown away by the response to our call for volunteers this past year, when we needed help moving the books to their temporary homes. You truly make this library the special place it is! If you appreciate your library, and would like to give back, we definitely have a big opportunity. For the weeks of March 16th (fiction) and March 23rd (nonfiction), we'll need volunteers each day to help us load up book carts, then reload them onto the newly relocated shelving. If you'd like to help out, just give us a call at (262) 723-2678 and we'll get you signed up. Thanks in advance!

I hope you have an amazing spring and summer, that you get to do all the great activities you're planning, that you all have safe trips to amazing locations, and that you keep reading. If you're ever at a loss on finding a book, just ask us...it's our favorite topic! As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your library, please reach out to me. Happy Spring!

Chad Robinson, Director

crobinson@elkhorn.lib.wi.us

BOOK CLUBS

PAGE TURNERS EVENING BOOK CLUB

Meets 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM in the new Mary Bray Room



Wednesday, March 4th: *Broken Country* by Clare Leslie Hall

Broken Country is a sweeping tale about love, grief and secrets. What would you risk for a second chance at first love?



Wednesday, April 1st: *My Friends* by Fredrik Backman

This novel is an unforgettably funny, deeply moving tale of four teenagers whose friendship creates a bond so powerful that it changes a complete stranger's life twenty-five years later.

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2 PM at the new Mary Bray Room



Tuesday, March 17th: *The Greatest Lie of All* by Jillian Cantor

This novel takes an intimate look at both sides of a failed marriage and two people who must confront the awful pain of their past or risk being consumed by it.

No April Afternoon Book Club meeting due to renovations

THE SHORT STORY BOOK CLUB

Meets at The Bunker Grill

N6246 Hwy 12/67 in Elkhorn

(located at Evergreen Country Club)



Tuesday, March 24th: *A Wilderness Station* by Alice Munro

A 12-year-old boy, Paul Hasleman, retreats from reality into a vivid daydream of snow and becomes increasingly detached from the world around him.

No April Short Story book club meeting due to renovations

ADULT PROGRAMS

Please note that these programs are off-site.
Ask at the info desk.



MATINEES AT MATHESON: ISLE OF DOGS (2018, PG-13)

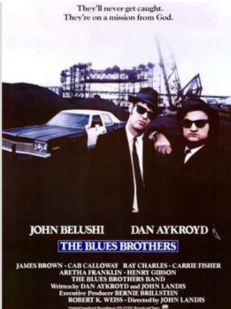
Friday, March 6th at 1 PM at Sunset Park

Join us one Friday every month for Matinees at Matheson! Free popcorn, soda and candy provided by the Friends of the Library!

HOW TO MANAGE YOUR FINANCES

Thursday, March 26th at 10:30 AM at Associated Bank

Banker Adriana Rodriguez at Associated Bank is hosting a financial education seminar focused on money management and credit building.



MATINEES AT MATHESON: THE BLUES BROTHERS (1980, R)

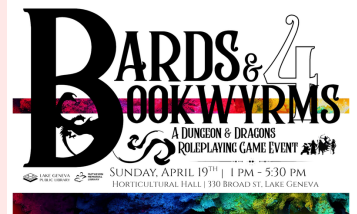
Friday, April 17th at 1 PM at Sunset Park (note new date!)

Join us one Friday every month for Matinees at Matheson! Free popcorn, soda and candy provided by the Friends of the Library!

BARDS & BOOKWYRMS IV

Sunday, April 19th at Horticultural Hall in Lake Geneva

Check out our annual Dungeons & Dragons convention in collaboration with Lake Geneva Public Library! Enjoy free role-playing games, snacks, as well as a raffle for gaming prizes!



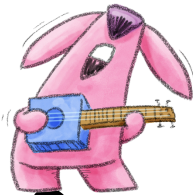
MATINEES AT MATHESON: BACK TO THE FUTURE (1985, PG)

Friday, May 1st at 1 PM at Sunset Park

Join us one Friday every month for Matinees at Matheson! Free popcorn, soda and candy provided by the Friends of the Library!



DON'T MISS OUT!



Sign up to receive email reminders for Youth Programs & more!



Flexible Facilities Grant

We're thrilled to have been selected out of the many applications in Wisconsin. A big thank you to the City of Elkhorn for supporting our application, and to the Wisconsin Department of Administration for selecting us.

2

TRADING SPACES

The Youth & Adult areas are switching!

- Upstairs will be the new Youth Area, including a Young Adult room and program spaces.
- Downstairs will be the Adult Fiction, Non-Fiction, Local History, Computers, Audio Books, CDs, and DVDs.

4

MOVING SPACES

- New Mary Bray Room (Tech Services)
- New Friends Room (Fireplace area)
- Friends Book Store (Lobby)
- Storyroom (Old Audio book room)

11

STUDY ROOMS

- Three upstairs for families.
- Eight downstairs of various sizes.

4

NEW SPACES

- New Adult Lounge
- Telehealth room
- Youth Maker Space
- Youth Activity Room

What is this grant about?

The primary objective of the Flexible Facilities Grant is to support projects that provide new, renovated, or expanded facilities and digital connectivity equipment, enabling remote access to work, education, and health monitoring activities.

Partnerships!

We're looking forward to increasing our partnerships with community organizations, including the Open Arms Free Clinic & the Walworth County Literacy Council.

- Open Arms Free Clinic offers comprehensive primary medical, dental, behavioral health, laboratory, and medication services at no cost to qualifying residents.
- The Walworth County Literacy Council educates and partners with adult learners to reach their literacy goals, thereby empowering themselves, their families and their communities.

Posters & Displays in the library!

Posters & displays are distributed throughout the library explaining the relocation of various collections.



LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION STATUS



CLOSURE - APRIL 6-12

Unavailable: The library, including book returns and the parking lot, will be unavailable due to renovations.

Due dates will be extended.

LOBBY PICKUP - STARTS APRIL 13

Available: Only hold pick-ups, book returns, library account questions, & requests for materials.

Unavailable: Printing, faxing, browsing, & public computers.

RENOVATION UPDATE

Our contractors, volunteers, and staff are hard at work making sure your new library is better than ever as we work on the third phase of our renovation plan!



Notes from the Friends of the Library

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support our community has shown the Friends of the Matheson Memorial Library. Thanks to your donations, we have officially begun the exciting process of building our brand-new bookstore in the library lobby!

We're thrilled to share that contracts have been signed for the installation of beautiful glass walls and custom-made shelving units. This thoughtfully designed space will create a welcoming area for visitors to browse, discover great reads, and continue supporting our library in a meaningful way. Your generosity is truly helping bring this vision to life.

There's even more to look forward to in the months ahead! We'll be fundraising at the Brat Hut located at Hansen's IGA from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the following dates:

- Saturday, May 16
- Sunday, August 2.

Stop by, enjoy some great food, and support your library at the same time!

We are also eagerly anticipating the grand reopening of the library, along with the Summer Reading Kickoff on June 6th. It promises to be a wonderful celebration for readers of all ages. While you're there, be sure to check out our newly built bookstore in the lobby – we can't wait for you to see it!

Thank you again for your continued generosity, enthusiasm, and belief in the importance of our library. Your support makes all of this possible.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!