



# footnotes

MEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Volume 18, Number 3

May & June 2010

## Maas Teen Learning Center Opens

A ribbon cutting at the bottom of the spiral staircase marked the opening of the Dr. Jerome M. Maas Teen Learning Center which was constructed in an unfinished space at the northeast corner of the library's third floor. The staircase links the second floor Hansen Teen Library Center with the new Maas space, which also may be entered from the third floor landing.



Maas family members were among the guests attending an open house event on April 15. The new room features bright colors, lots of windows (with shades to darken the room when necessary), a screen, speakers, WiFi, and wiring for future technology services. It will be used mainly for programs, although it may be open for teens at other times as well, especially during the summer Acuity Cool Picks reading program.

In the future, furnishings and computer equipment will be added using income from the bequest from Dr. Maas, a former Sheboygan resident. He had earlier donated funds to support the construction of the Henrietta A. Landwehr Children's Library Center, named in memory of his wife, a former Sheboygan resident and library staff member.

## One Book: "Out of Africa"

Mead Public Library, in collaboration with the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, will feature the 1937 memoir "Out of Africa" by Isak Dinesen beginning in May. The Arts Center has on exhibit a selection of drawings by Kamante Gatura, who lived on the author's Kenyan plantation. He also was a self-taught artist whose drawings capture scenes

of animals on the Nairobi plains with wit, compassion, and acceptance.

Mead will offer a book discussion, screening of the film, a photo program, and exhibits, as well as multiple copies of "Out of Africa" and related books for checkout. See the calendar on page 4 for program details.

## Reading Programs Start June 1

Summer reading programs start June 1 at Mead Public Library. For children age 2 through sixth grade, there's the Reading Club and Read-to-Me Club. Every member who logs at least five hours will receive a free book to keep, funded by the Friends of Mead Public Library and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

Acuity Cool Picks is for young people in grade 6 through high school and again features special incentives and events generously sponsored by the Acuity Foundation. Adults can read and try to win prizes, courtesy of the Friends of Mead Public Library, when they join READfest. Stop at Mead to sign up for any of the clubs.

## New Board Members

Dolcye Johnson and Marge Segalle have been named new members of the Mead Public Library Board of Trustees, replacing Board President Bernard Markevitch and Vice President Thomas Peneski. Board member Martha Wortche was reappointed to another term. Finance Officer Mary Liz Towne, the Sheboygan Area School District representative, did not seek reappointment. Chad Stauber-Soik was appointed to the Board to fill that position.

The Board members were appointed by Sheboygan Mayor Bob Ryan and confirmed by the Common Council in April.

# A Mead Public Library 2009 Annual Report



Four new computer stations with bilingual learning games for ages 2 to 10 were purchased with gift funds.

The Myrtle and Hazel Hansen Teen Library Center opened in November on the second floor. Funded by a bequest, the area offers 12 Internet computers, comfortable seating, and books and magazines for young adults. A spiral staircase leads to the third floor Maas Teen Learning Center which will be available for some teen activities in 2010.

A new website was launched in January providing new features, like reading suggestions from staff members and a calendar of events. Customers also now have the ability to see a listing of Rocca Meeting Room programs and apply to schedule their own events online. Over 200 events were scheduled using the online request system in 2009.



Digital mini billboards were installed on the first and second floors to help customers learn about Mead Library services and programs.

The number of items checked out by Mead Public Library customers rose dramatically over the previous year with 902,701 checkouts, up 10 percent. Books and other items checked out by young adults showed an annual hourly increase of more than 28 percent.



Mead Library expanded its outreach to children with summer programs at selected playground sites presented by three AmeriCorps/VISTA associates assigned to the library for eight weeks. The total outreach attendance was 1,447. Self-check continues to be popular. About two-thirds of all checkouts are done by customers, totaling over 2.4 million items since the inception of self-check in 2005.

More than 62,000 requests for materials by Mead customers were fulfilled by other library-members of the Eastern Shores Library System through its EasiCat shared catalog system.

More than 25,000 new items, an increase of 4.8 percent over 2008, were received, processed, and cataloged.



A total of 2,130 children joined Mead’s Summer Library Programs in 2009. The Friends of Mead Public Library and Thrivent Financial funded a program to give “a book to keep” to children who read, or were read to, for five hours.

Responding to an increasing demand for library services to aid employment searches, Mead Library expanded Internet services and instruction opportunities. Librarians also purchased additional books and recommended digital resources about job-hunting and careers.

“Sheboygan Reads” was funded by income from the Foundation’s Endowment Fund and featured “The Green Steed” by Betsy Michael. Several programs and a presentation and reception with Mrs. Michael were well-attended by Sheboygan area residents. The Board has agreed to financial sponsorship of the 2011 program as well.

The BookStore, located on the library’s first floor, and two large book sales in the Rocca Meeting Room generated over \$5,000 for the Friends treasury.

Despite being closed for a furlough week due to budget constraints, the number of visitors to Mead Library in 2009 increased over the previous year. The average number of visitors per hour went up 8.7 percent.

Customers may now check out a Kindle digital reading device, and may request a laptop for use in the library, as the library continues to expand digital options for its customers.

The Friends continued to support Mead’s summer reading programs by donating \$3,900 for prize incentives for Acuity Cool Picks for teens and READFest for adults and for a new paperback book for each Summer Reading Club member who read for at least five hours.

A much-needed infusion of \$5,000 was given by the Friends to the library’s fund for programs in 2010. Lower interest rates have caused a decline in the Everhard-Forrer Fund income available for programs for all age groups.

## Mead Public Library Facts and Figures

City of Sheboygan population	50,650
Population served	69,320
Items in collection	357,397
City of Sheboygan cardholders	39,240
Items checked out	902,701
Reference questions asked	37,165
Library visits	358,267
Program attendance	15,843
Website average daily visits	1,050

### Revenues

City of Sheboygan	\$2,629,075
Sheboygan County	551,638
Ozaukee County	6,599
Other	448,928
Prior year balance	860,729
Everhard-Forrer Fund	40,490
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,537,459</b>

### Expenditures

Personnel	\$2,588,316
Library materials	435,349
Information technology	57,536
Other	550,817
Everhard-Forrer Fund	127,058
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,759,076</b>

### Fund Balance

Unreserved	\$33,342
Automation reserve	109,484
Building equipment reserve	150,000
Personal Services reserve	160,500
Future Capital	177,715
Other reserve	200,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$831,608</b>

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e-mail hcapizzi@esls.lib.wi.us

# Up and Coming Events at Mead

For the best opportunity to arrange a sign language interpreter for a program, call at least 7 days in advance. WI Relay Service users call 459-3414 and ask for Kathy Meyer or Sharon Winkle. Persons with disabilities who need other accommodations to attend should contact Kathy Meyer (459-3400, ext. 3411) or Sharon Winkle (459-3400, ext. 3414) at least three weekdays in advance.

\*Pick up free tickets one hour before the program.

## Adults

**Nonfiction Book Discussion Group** — With librarian Jeannie Gartman, Tuesdays, 10 a.m.  
May 4: "Seabiscuit"  
June 1: "American on Purpose"

**Drop-in Computer Help for Beginners** — Wednesdays through May 19, 4-5 p.m.; Saturdays through May 22, 9-10 a.m.

**Book Discussion Group** — With Joe Milicia  
Thursday, May 6, 2 p.m. "Moonstone"

**Chess Club** — Thursdays, 5-7:45 p.m.

**Wii for Adults** — Wednesday, May 12, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Great Books** — Tuesday, May 18, 6:30 p.m. (Call 458-5372 to join)

**Poetry Circle** — With Karl Elder, Wednesday, May 19, 6:30 p.m.

**Fiction Book Discussion Group** — With librarian Kim Dalhaimer, Thursday May 20, 6:30 p.m. "I, Claudius"

**Bookstore Clearance Sale** — Saturday, May 22, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Mead Library Board** — Thursdays, May 27 & June 24, 3:30 p.m.

**"Out of Africa" film screening** — Thursday, May 27, 6:30 p.m. at John Michael Kohler Arts Center

**"Out of Africa" book discussion** — With Joe Milicia, Wednesday, June 9, 6:30 p.m.

**"Karen Blixen's Africa"** — Illustrated talk by Galen Frysinger, Ph.D., Wednesday, June 23, 7 p.m.

## Teens

**Movies** — Mondays, June 7, 14, 21 & 28, July 12, 19 & 26, Aug. 2; Wednesdays, June 9 & 23, July 7 & 21; Fridays, June 11, 18 & 25, July 16, 23 & 30, 2 p.m.

**Wii Gaming** — Thursday gaming on June 3 & 17; July 1, 15 & 29; Thursday tournaments on June 10 & 24, July 8 & 22, 2 p.m.

**Acuity Cool Picks Carnival** — Thursday, June 17, at 5:30 p.m. at Acuity featuring signup, games, food, fun for grades 6-12

## Children

**Preschool Storytime** — Tuesdays through May 11, 9:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**Toddler time** — Wednesday, May 5, 6 p.m.

**Drop-In Craft Day** — Wednesday, June 16, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

**Summer Storytime for Families** — Tuesdays, June 22-July 27, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

**"Fish Tank Tales"** — Wednesday, June 23, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.\*

**Book Discussion** — Thursday, June 24, 1 p.m.

**Monday Movie** — "Alvin and Chipmunks," June 28, 10 a.m.

**"Meet Corduroy!"** — Monday, June 28, 3-4 p.m.; Wednesday, June 30, 6-7 p.m.

**Readers' Theater** — Wednesday, June 30, 6 p.m.\*

**Regular May Library Hours** — Mon. through Thurs. 9-8 • Fri. & Sat. 9-5 • Closed Sunday

**Summer Hours Begin June 1** — Mon. & Wed. 9-8 • Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 9-5 • Sat. 9-1 • Closed Sunday

Library closed Monday, May 31 (Hours subject to change; please call 459-3400 to confirm)



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