



Towanda District Library News

www.towandalibrary.org

SERVING TOWANDA, COOKSVILLE,
AND SURROUNDING AREAS

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Library Technology Institute

Towanda District Library has been selected to participate in a prestigious new institute for Illinois library staff that is promising to be one of the most exciting Illinois library initiatives of 2010.

Library Director, Karen Bersche, will attend ILEAD U (Illinois Libraries Explore, Apply and Discover), the 21st Century Technology Tools Institute for Illinois Library Staff. A Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program Grant awarded to the Illinois State Library by the Institute of Museum and Library Services funds ILEAD U.

"The Illinois State Library is proud of its strong commitment to continuing education, and providing librarians with the tools and resources necessary to address the ever-changing needs of their patrons," said Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White. "The ILEAD U grant represents an exciting, innovative new program to build technology and leadership skills among Illinois librarians."

"Eight teams of five librarians were selected from across Illinois," says Bersche. "Our team includes librarians from Towanda, Eureka, and Farmington. Towanda residents have an up-to-date library. Training at this year-long institute in Springfield will assure continued technology innovations."

Helen Mogill serves as the community mentor for Towanda's ILEAD U initiative.

Children's Story Hour

Each Monday morning at **11:00 a.m.** preschoolers and their parents gather at the library to socialize and enjoy books. Please note the time change for this semester.

January Story Hour themes:

January 18

Puzzle Day

January 25

Let's Make Music

There is open enrollment for the library's Story Hour so children may enter whenever they turn three. Join the fun!

Economize @your library®

Browse online and order books from other libraries in our library system. Order on our website. Pick up items here. No charge!

Magazine check out is free-of-charge at the library. We have 50 different magazines and newspapers available for you.

One-week DVD and video rentals are free at the library. New DVD's arrive weekly.

Play *Wii for Fwii* or is that Free at the library!

What's new @ your library*

Towanda READS

The next meeting of the Towanda READS book club is **Wednesday, March 10th**.

Towanda READS will discuss "They Did It with Love" by Kate Morgenroth. It's a mystery described as Agatha Christie meets Desperate Housewives. Secrets lurk under the smooth surface of a wealthy Connecticut neighborhood, until a murder reveals all.

New participants are welcome to join the book discussion group at the library at 7:00 p.m.

New Library Hours Began September 15, 2009

Mondays	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesdays	1 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Wednesdays	10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursdays	1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Fridays	1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays	9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sundays	Closed

Open every day after school!

Library Circulation Surges

It didn't take long for library users to vote with their feet. They are coming to the library in record numbers - especially during the newly-added hours that the library is open on Friday and Saturday afternoons. These have proven to be popular times. Besides added circulation, computer use is rising rapidly at the library. We will soon add more computer options for your convenience.

Wind Powered Energy

February 4th at 4:30 p.m.

Randy Lloyd, Agriculture Awareness Coordinator for McLean County, will present **Ag and Energy**, a look at wind turbines in our area.

Learn about wind-powered energy production, the local energy grid, and even ask Randy what it's like to have multiple wind turbines on your property. Randy speaks from first-hand experience.

Friends of the Library

TDL Friends sold 400 kringle in November. They worked in partnership with El Paso Public Library to sell these Danish pastries at 40% off the cost of ordering them on the web from the Racine, Wisconsin bakery.

Their efforts raised more than \$750. Proceeds from the kringle sale purchased a new rolling sign to advertise library events. Funds also helped Santa bring a new kitchen for the pre-school children's play area.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Library is **Wednesday, March 10th at 6:00 p.m.** when the group will make plans for National Library Week.

If you would like to join the Friends, please contact Karen Bersche at the library at 728-2176 and she will put you in touch with the Friends' president. Now is a great time to join the Friends.

Play Wii Games with Your Friends

Tuesday evenings from 4:00 to 6:30 youth are invited to join gaming fun at the library. A Wii gaming system will be set up in the Story Corner section of the library.

Why gaming, you may ask? The American Library Association says - Gaming services epitomize library as *third place*, creating a community gathering spot between *home* and *work/school*. That third place encourages play, socialization, and cultural enrichment.

Today, concepts of literacy include digital, information and communication technology (ICT), media, programming, and visual. Reading and understanding information is still vital, but so is evaluating and thinking critically in these multiple literacy realms. (ALA Guide to Gaming)

Pandemic Preparedness @ your Library

The library began implementing these measures in July to assure your safety:

1. All books and DVD's are dropped into book bins inside the front door and under the front desk. We no longer place returns on the top of the circulation desk where we serve the public. Items are not handled or re-shelved for at least 3 hours after arriving at the library – since viruses can survive on non-human objects for up to 3 hours.
2. Library staff wash their hands frequently.
3. Hand sanitizer is available to the public throughout the library.
4. Clorox wipes are available near the computer hub. Bleach is used regularly on the front desk, computer areas, toys, and restrooms.

New Year — New Look

If you have not visited the library lately, these are the changes you will notice this year:

1. Lists of new material displayed in each section
2. DVD covers displayed face-out near the front door
3. DVD's and CD's stored securely in staff area
4. New cupboards in restrooms
5. Story Corner and/or Gaming Area created in NW corner
6. Colorful paint on the walls
7. Tack strips now protecting walls
8. Displays on tack strips
9. All adult materials moved to south side of building
10. New flooring in entry
11. New entry rug
12. Window treatments
13. New computer hub
14. Cracked windows replaced
15. Handicap parking space
16. Easy chairs by windows
17. Book drop under circ desk
18. More open space

Towanda is fortunate to have such a comfortable and accessible space for library users, displays, programs, and meetings. Stop in soon to use the WiFi or to grab a good book.

Towanda District Library
301 S. Taylor St.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 5
Towanda, IL 61776

Library Hours

Monday 10am-7pm
Tuesday 1pm-7pm
Wednesday 10am-7pm
Thursday 1pm-6pm
Friday 1pm-6pm
Saturday 9am-2 pm
Sunday Closed

Towanda District Library Board:

Letitia Hamblen, President;
Rochelle Wardell, VP;
Mark Schwamberger, Treasurer;
Dana Maughan, Secretary;
Tim Mogill; **Jane Foster**, **Rachel Andrews**

Karen Stott Bersche, Library Director

Board meetings:
3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm
Towanda District Library

Thank You

Friends of the Library for helping Santa deliver a new toy kitchen for toddlers to enjoy while their brothers and sisters attend Story Hour

Sharon and Jim Arteman for a memorial donation in honor of Margie Redding

Kay Liebenow for a holiday donation to the library's youth department

To library users who donated more than 75 pounds of *Food for Fines*

Friends of the Library for funds to purchase a book drop and portable outdoor sign to announce library programs

Cornbelters Baseball Team for helping host Tri-County Library Directors Meeting at Towanda in December

Cornbelters Baseball Team and McDonalds for helping host the Community Halloween Party at the library

Tim and Helen Mogill for donating the Wii they won at the Red Carpet Festival

Towanda HCE for the poinsettia for the library