

BUILDING YOUR LIBRARY

Most people who visit the North Valley Public Library in Stevensville are struck by many things; the friendliness of the staff, the size and content of the collection, and possibly also by the lack of parking, the age of the building and perhaps even its decrepitude.

As it's an old building we have had several costly and unexpected maintenance issues crop up. Just in the last few years we have had to replace the furnace, replace the roof, replace and repair parts of the ceiling, reinforce parts of the floor, and have mold remediation performed twice. These were all unexpected issues, and quite apart from any planned building improvements for the health and wellbeing of our patrons.

Low cost LED lighting was installed to remedy low light levels in the adult section, however the ceiling moves so much the lights lose connection and are therefore often off!

Patrons will notice that the building still has issues with floors, while the basement and the whole second story have so many issues they are unusable.

The current library building is a conglomeration of three original buildings which were never meant to be used as a large public space. Because of this, the

library lacks even some basic amenities, such as a water fountain for thirsty patrons. Despite this, the buildings could certainly be put to good use by a different business; one that had more singular needs.

For many years, various Library Boards have been examining the possibility of a new building, either on a new site, or on the current one. The present Board have been working hard to this end, doing their due diligence to explore all options for the



Engineers evaluated the Library for safety and load-bearing. They declared that the second story, "Shall not be occupied or used for storage." Therefore, it is an unoccupied attic space; insulation was blown in to save on energy costs.

buildings and the Community. Architects have been consulted and engineering reports read. Several different options have been examined; rebuilding in the same location as well as a new or repurposed building in several different sites around the town.

Denise Ard, Library Director says "We are taking our responsibility to the taxpayers very seriously."

Current building issues include water seepage into the basement, resulting in mold, rotting timbers etc. The water seepage cannot be resolved without substantial site work.

Jacob Wright is the principal architect at MMW Architects in Missoula, the firm has been hired to do a preliminary architectural report for the library.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE...

Wright noted that the cost to tear down on the current site and rebuild would cost substantially more than a new building, and that it was his belief that it would be difficult to obtain enough local contractors to complete a project.

In addition, if a rebuild was undertaken on the same site, library services to the community would be severely impacted, or may even have to cease, for an estimated time of at least two years.

Wright's conclusion was that while a tear down and rebuild on the same site may be practical for a developer, it is not practical for the requirements of the community for the Library.

An examination by the Board of a proposal to combine the yet-to-be built Stevensville Community Centre (SCC) and the Library has resulted in a negative outcome.

After meeting with parties involved in the SCC concept plan, the architect advised that there was less than 10% overlap of use between the two entities, and therefore no significant savings to be made by either party. There was not enough land available for the Library's functional wish list for a new building, and certainly no room for future expansion by either party. In summary he stated "Realistically I doubt there would be enough capacity for both to be on the SCC site."

Over the years, the Board seeks community comment about ways to improve the library. If a new building were to go ahead, we would seek to incorporate some of those aspects into the new facility. Additional functionality could include increased parking, large and small meeting rooms especially for patrons wishing to take on-line exams or hold meetings, a dedicated soundproofed, supervised area for teens, so our teens have somewhere safe to spend time after school, and more collection and display space.

The Library Board continues to look at proposals, including land adjacent to the SCC and will seeking public input soon at a meeting facilitated by outside library consultants. Look for that to happen sometime in the fall.



This photo illustrates the lights in the back going out because of the movement in the ceiling, the uneven floor, and the poles, from the cellar to the ceiling, that keep up the second floor up.

The mission of the North Valley Public Library is to strengthen and support our community by:

- fostering a welcoming and comfortable setting for all people to gather, explore, and discover;
- promoting literacy and lifelong learning;
- providing exemplary programming, service, and quality, timely materials.

SCHARYN SAYS GOODBYE TO U.S.

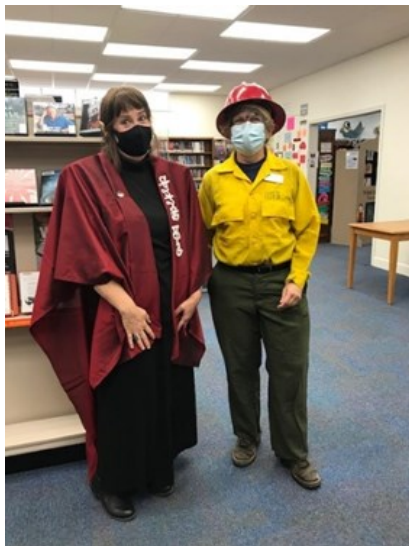
Many patrons of the Library will know Scharyn our resident “Australian” library assistant.

Scharyn (who is an American citizen) has been working at the Library for 7 years but is now moving back to Australia with her husband Dusty and their dog Heidi.

Scharyn has loved her time in Montana. She says “When I look back over my life, the 8 years that I have spent living in Montana, working at the Library, with my buddies, has been the *favorite* part of my life so far, so I am really sorry to be leaving, however the pull of an aging family is too strong to ignore.”

With a 5 year old granddaughter as well as parents who have recently been diagnosed with various ailments, Scharyn feels that the time has come to return to her family.

Asked what makes working at NVPL so appealing, Scharyn says “My coworkers are really friendly and supportive of each other. Most staff are part time and help each out by swapping shifts and stepping up when coverage is needed. This is a great boon for semi-retired people who want some flexibility. I’ve also made many friendships with lovely people, and those friendships are maintained even after they have moved on to other roles.”



Left: Scharyn & co-worker Caryn on Halloween

Above Right: Pam (now retired), Scharyn, Annika (now at Bitterroot Library) and Library Director Denise at a luncheon

Quite a few of Scharyn’s co-workers are now in more highly paid, or prestigious positions; Daniel and Annika now work for the Bitterroot library in Hamilton, Melanie now works for the State Library. Several have now retired, moved out of State, or have moved on to further other careers.

Scharyn will continue to work at the Library until closer to her travel date, so we can still expect to see her until about mid August.

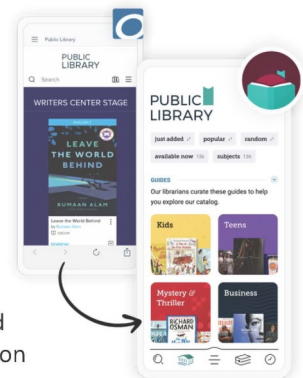


The OverDrive App is being discontinued.



Making the switch to Libby is easy!

- 1 Download the free Libby app.
- 2 Find your library and sign in.
- 3 Your loans, holds, and wish list items will be on your Shelf.



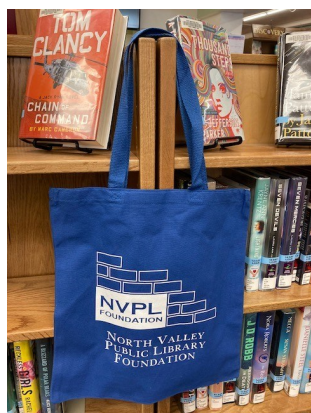
Libby.

The library reading app from OverDrive



Scan this QR code to learn how to install Libby on your device (including Kindle Fire tablets), review FAQs, register for free training, & more!

NVPL Foundation News



Creamery Picnic

Meet **Foundation members** in front of the Library during **Creamery Picnic, Sat., Aug. 6**

“We'll be selling NVPL Foundation tote bags, notebooks, pencils and more! Stop by from 11 am to 4 pm .”

Birdies for Books

Our annual Birdies for Books **golf scramble fundraiser** is set for **Saturday, Aug. 20**, at Whitetail Golf Course in Stevensville. For more information or to sponsor a hole, contact Jody Torrey at jodymarietorrey@gmail.com or (406) 274-8454



The big Book Sale is back!

In conjunction with the Scarecrow Festival, the Foundation will hold a Book Sale fundraiser on **Friday Oct. 7, from 6 to 9 pm, and Saturday Oct. 8, from 9 to 5 pm** in the Library Community Room. Gently used book donations will be accepted from 5 to 7 pm on Thursday Oct. 6, and 10 am to 4 pm on Friday Oct. 7



Did you know that we can curate a **Book Bundle** of up to 5 books for you?

Ask at the desk, or from the website, go to Resources > Kids Zone > Book Bundles.

Tell us a few of your favorite books and we can create a bundle of books especially for you!

Advanced JUV Readers

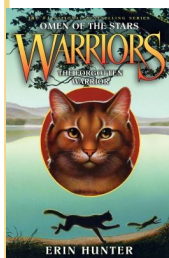
Are you looking for age appropriate books for your advanced reader?

It can be a real problem if you're child is an advanced reader, but you don't want to confront them with parental death, animal cruelty, horror or sexuality.

For both boys and girls, genres that are generally OK are mystery, fantasy and historical novels.

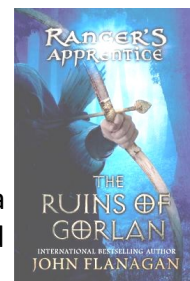
A good rule of thumb is to try to determine the age/grade of the main character. This can usually be done by reading the back or skimming a few pages. Try to keep your advanced reader from reading a book about a character who is more than 2 grade levels older than they are.

Recommendations for girls include any books written before 1960, but beware gender stereotypes.



Some really popular series available at our Library are: the “Warrior” series by Erin Hunter (8-12 years). Talking animals, particularly cats have exciting adventures.

John Flanagan writes the “Ranger’s Apprentice” and “Brotherband Chronicles” series. Both deal with groups of teenagers adventuring in a “Robin Hood” type of adventure and can be found in our “YA” section.



Some websites that you might like to investigate are:

- <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/book-list/adventure-fantasy/mystery-books-8-13-year-olds>
- <https://www.commonsemmedia.org/reviews> and choose your age group.
- fantasticfiction.com
- allreaders.com

2022 ANNUAL SUMMER READING PROGRAM FOR KIDS & TEENS

OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

SUMMER READING CHALLENGES

All summer long, starting June 6 through Aug 3 join our summer reading challenge.

Ask for a form at the front desk based on the following age categories.

Rubber Duck Reading challenge for ages 0-4

Kid Bingo Card for ages 5-11

Teen Bingo Card for ages 12-18



**An ocean of possibilities
awaits when you read to
your little ones this
summer.**

Drop-in DIY Crafts

Come to the library anytime for a drop-in do-it-yourself craft.

June's craft is 'Pearl' Keychains

July's craft is Ocean Day Lanterns

August's craft is Tiny Boats



TEEN PROGRAMS

Open World Fridays

3D PRINTER-D&D MANUALS-BOARD GAMES-ART-CRAFTS



Ages 12-18

Fridays at 4pm

Make Fridays more exciting, come to the library for an all access pass to all the cool stuff. Choose to 3-D print objects and then paint them, create a craft, explore the *Dungeons & Dragons* handbooks, or make a zine, it's up to you! We will have craft ideas for all.

Dungeons & Dragons

Ages 12-18

Tuesdays at 4pm

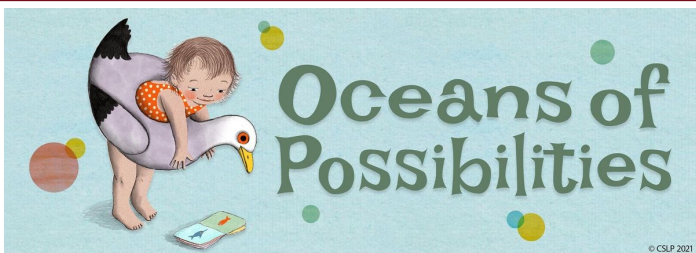
Are you looking to join a current D&D campaign? This program has limited space available. If interested in joining, email Emily at emilys@northvalleylibrary.org



2022 ANNUAL SUMMER READING PROGRAM FOR KIDS & TEENS

OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

KIDS' PROGRAMS



Mother Goose on the Loose

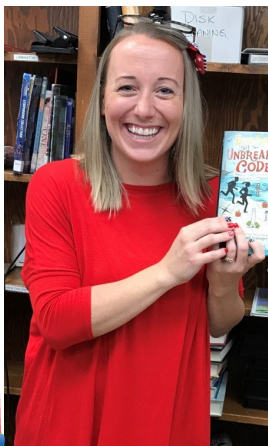
Ages 0-3. Mondays at 10:30am June, July, August. Please note there will be no Mother Goose on July 4, July 18, or August 29.

Join this early literacy program. Getting your baby ready to read starts on your lap with rhymes and music! Assist your infant, baby, or toddler by joining in the singing, clapping, ringing, and rattling in this happy event!

Art with Annika

**Ages 5-11
Thursday, June 16, June 23, July 14, July 21,
and Aug 11 at 4pm**

In cooperation with Bitterroot Public Library, their Youth Services Librarian, Annika Riley is on loan to present her Bitterroot art programs here in Stevensville for five Thursdays this summer. A big thank you to Annika and Mark, the Director of Bitterroot Public Library, for making this happen!



Summer of Science with spectrUM

Ages 6-12

Thursday June 30, July 28, Aug 18 at 2pm

Join spectrUM for fun hands-on science three times this month. Content suitable for ages 6-12 but all ages are welcome.



Animal Wonders

Families

**Wednesday, June 29
at 4pm.**

Animal Wonders is coming back with their live animal ambassadors. A fun and informative way to learn about mammals, reptiles and birds.



© 2022 CSLP

PLEASE REGISTER FOR ALL EVENTS at : northvalley.librarycalendar.com/events/