

The Limited Edition

Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library • Bismarck, ND

Winter 2009 Vol. 17 No.2

Imagine: a New Children's Library for Bismarck!

by Jan Schultz

"The More You Know, the Farther You'll Go!" are the words that greet visitors to the new Children's Library. This theme seems to roll out of the pages of a book suspended over the entry. Jack's beanstalk is there too, planted beside a hot air balloon inviting children to take a ride in the sky. Inspecting all of this is a child standing on a pile of books, gazing through a telescope at the heavens. Crossing the threshold, the fun really begins.



Readers will be able to sit under shade trees in the preschool area.

Imagine this: blue sky overhead dotted with fluffy marshmallow clouds painted by local artist Ric Sprynczynatyk; a lazy blue river of carpeting meandering along the emerald green shore; friendly, sheltering trees planted firmly on land with inviting seats growing out of the tree trunks, and all around—BOOKS!

No need to imagine. It's real and you are in the Library! But more specifically, you are in the newly renovated Children's Library of the Bismarck Public Library, where a natural scene has been created to enhance the imaginations of children of all ages.

There's more: badlands scenes painted by local artist Leon Basler deck the walls of the library proper, while his child-friendly mural appears on the walls of the adjacent story room. The aquarium, always a draw for little ones, has been replaced with a larger saltwater version.

While the grand opening of the project won't take place until January, the main space will be open in December. The Story Room opened in late October.

The Library Foundation will host two events in January in connection with the opening. One is specifically aimed at young people with the theme, "Oh, the Places You'll Go" designed around the book by Dr. Seuss. Those in attendance will get in on a ribbon cutting, celebrity story readers, special music and other activities.

A gala evening will honor the donors who have made the renovation possible. Guests will enjoy an evening of jazz and refreshments and a chance for attendees to enjoy the new, exciting atmosphere, and perhaps remember what it was like to be a kid surrounded by enticing books.

My First Library
Experience

The Book Mark

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For the Community,
By the Community

Memorial Gifts

My First Library Experience

by Janet Beltran



Janet Beltran

There are many “firsts” in childhood, and the introduction to the local library is a special memory for many of us. This column features our patrons recounting their earliest library experiences and the impact the library has had on their lives.

Janet Beltran is known by many as a beloved teacher. Retired now, she frequents the Bismarck Public Library searching for mysteries, biographies and books on history. And she keeps lists, such as the one she began in 1968 of the books she’s already read. Janet’s story:

“I grew up in New York City. I was one year and two weeks old when the stock market crashed. My father lost his job. When I was ready to start first grade, we moved to The Bronx. I attended school at P.S. 104 for several years.

In 4th grade we had a field trip and we walked to High Bridge Library. It was in an old section of The Bronx, a little community of its own. The librarian welcomed us and showed us around. Then she read us a book called “A Penny for Luck.” It was about a girl in the Depression.

I thought the library was a welcoming place. I remember especially that the Children’s Library had a fireplace. That was a novelty. I used a number of the libraries in New York. A lot of them had special collections, such as on philosophy. We could use the same library card at all of them. I remember the lions outside the doors of the main branch on 5th Avenue and 42nd Street named Patience and Fortitude.

Janet majored in History at Hunter College and received her master’s degree in American Civilization at New York University. While raising their large family, she and her husband, Alfred, grew tired of city life in New York and California. They moved to Bismarck in 1973. Janet was at the University of Mary for 21 years, retiring from teaching in 1995.

The Book Mark

Leach Donation Announced

The campaign to raise \$643,000 ended on a high note when the Tom and Frances Leach Foundation recently made a \$25,000 donation for the Children’s Library renovation. The gift took the campaign over the top just as work was wrapping up on the project. The Leach Foundation is one of 15 donors to give between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to the project. A full summary of donors will be printed in the spring edition of the Limited Edition.

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One Can at a Time

Gerdau Ameristeel Recycling made one of the largest single unrestricted gifts to the Library

Foundation in 2009, when it donated a check for \$1,474.05. Amazingly, the gift was raised one aluminum can at a time. Kris Hickman, division manager, arranged the donation of 5 cents for every pound of aluminum cans purchased by Gerdau in June.

Bremer Honored

The Otto Bremer Foundation was named 2009 Foundation of the Year at the fall conference of the Northern Plains chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. The event was held in Bismarck on Nov. 13, which was National Philanthropy Day. This year, Bismarck Public Library benefited from a \$50,000 Bremer matching gift, which was used to purchase over 3,000 children’s books and other items.

Bismarck Library Foundation Donors

The Bismarck Library Foundation Board of Directors gratefully acknowledges gifts from the following supporters. May 1, 2009 through October 31, 2009

Children's Library Renovation

Project

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Memorials to Children's Library

In Memory of: Audrey Flynn
Given by: Blanche Flynn

Honorariums to Children's Library

In Honor of: "Nani," grandmother of Sana & Sameera Kathawala
Given by: Dr. Sunanda Jain

In Honor of: Connor Traynor
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Given by: Dick and Doris Flurer

In Memory of: Aldeen Taylor
Given by: Clarence Bina
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Honorarium to the Endowment Fund

In Honor of Jim & Sally Hill
Given by: Richard Hill

Endowment Gifts

Mary Ann Carlson
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Children's Library Renovation

Thank You from the Whole Community to the Following Major Donors of the Children's Library Renovation

\$ 50,000

Otto Bremer Foundation ...Purchase news books
Anonymous DonorEntrance Area
Anonymous DonorPicture Book Area

\$ 25,000

Butler Machinery Co.....Juvenile Book Shelving
Basin Electric..... Technology Center & Computers
FriendsChildren's Reference Desk
Thomas and Frances Leach Foundation
Board of Directors
.....Themed Tables & Story Room

\$ 20,000

Niles, Ginger & Reed Hushka.....
.....Bay Window Reading Area
Friends of the Library.....
.....Aquarium & Wall Murals

\$ 15,000

MDU Resources Foundation
.....Story Room Craft Area
Friends of the Library.....
.....Story Room Upholstered Bench

\$ 12,500

Joe & Frances Hauer.....
.....Pre-teen Reading/Study Area

\$ 10,000

Sol & Sybil WezelmanFamily Reading Center
Dr. Walter & Carolyn FrankSouth Wall Mural
In Memory of Betty Sakariassen by John R.
Sakariassen & Family.....East Wall Mural
Starion Financial Ceiling Mural
N.D. Guaranty & Title Co.....General Seating
Gate City Bank.....Themed Shelving End Caps

*"I saw an angel in the stone
and carved to set it free."*

- Michaelangelo

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Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. However, if you find an error in our list, please bring it to our attention.

Get Your Newspaper Right Here!



If you prefer reading the news in Spanish or, perhaps, want to catch up on what's happening in Montreal or Shanghai, visit the Bismarck Public Library.

NewspaperDirect is an online service with 1,030 full format newspapers, in 40 languages, from 84 countries. A 60-day archive is also available. Whether English is a second language or you just want to catch up with news from another part of the world, free access to a foreign newspaper can provide the needed link.

“NewspaperDirect allows our users to get today’s news today from almost anywhere on the globe, in a digital format with a comfortably familiar appearance,” said Kate Waldera, head Reference Librarian.

Among those who use the service regularly is a man interested in sports news from France and a man from Russia, who wants to keep up with events back home.

Ask at the Reference Desk for instructions to use the two special newspaper-format monitors. Of course, dozens of daily and weekly newspapers can be found on the main floor of the Bismarck Public Library. The best way to enjoy them is the old-fashioned way, in an easy chair near the sunny bay window.

A Short List of North American Titles:

Baltimore Sun
Boston Herald
Calgary Herald (Canada)
Dallas Morning News
Edmonton Journal (Canada)
Houston Chronicle
La Jornada (Mexico)
Milenio (Mexico)
Minneapolis Star Tribune
New York Daily News
New York Times
Ottawa Citizen (Canada)
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Richmond Times-Dispatch
San Francisco Chronicle
Toronto Star (Canada)
Vancouver Sun (Canada)
Washington Times Daily
Winnipeg Sun (Canada)

Some Resources for Your Home Computer

A bonus for snowy winter days or evenings, is that you can access dozens of online information services from your home computer. Among the most popular services available are Consumer Reports, which tests and rate thousands of products each year. Another favored resource is the Value Line Investment Survey Reports, a widely used independent investment report. Mango Languages, a foreign language tutorial with interactive audio and video, is popular with teens and adults.

A Library card and PIN number are needed to use the online services. Both may be obtained by visiting with the Circulation Desk.

It's Toddler Time!

On the very first day Story Hour was held in the newly renovated Story Room, Miss Sparkles read "Little Miss Spider." With their adults watching, 12 toddlers bounced and giggled and listened. Not too many little bottoms stay planted on the red, blue and green spots where they are supposed to sit.

When Miss Sparkles began singing the "Itsy, Bitsy Spider" song, calm fell on the room and everyone joined in. When suddenly a large spider appeared on the puppet stage, chaos broke out. Shriill squeals. Pointed fingers. A small boy scooted back to the safety of a lap.

"Our goal for the toddlers is to instill in them the love of books and reading," says Miss Sparkles, also known as Jana Maher. She became



Toddlers examine the Story Room Mural.



Miss Sparkles visits with Christine the puppet.

Indeed, the Library buzzes with activity after each Story Hour. Total attendance at all sessions of Story Hour in 2008 was 12,000. That number is expected to increase with the new décor and thousands of new books and other materials available.

Three sessions of Toddler Tales are held each Tuesday. Other weekly sessions are scheduled for babies, families and preschoolers. Check out www.bismarcklibrary.org for a complete Story Hour calendar.



Children said farewell to Patty Morris this month, shown here with her Story Hour friends, Droofus and Balmy.

"As I celebrated what was right with the world, I began to build a vision of possibility, not scarcity. Possibility... always another right answer."

- Dewitt Jones

Gold Card Membership Available

Membership in the Gold Card club enables the Library Foundation to focus time and effort on ensuring the Bismarck community will always have a wonderful Library.

Unrestricted gifts of \$250 per year for three years, or a total of \$750, entitle donors to membership. Please call 355-1494 for more information.

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**Happy Holidays
 from
 the Library Foundation!**



Foundation Board members see the Children's Library for the first time.

Who's Who

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The Limited Edition is published twice annually by the Library Foundation, Inc. This newsletter is mailed to all donors and others concerned about the continued growth and enhancement of Library services. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please call Gayle Schuck at (701) 355-1494.

For the Community, By the Community by Gayle Schuck



Gayle Schuck

You may soon notice a rosy glow over the Bismarck Public Library. It's not to be mistaken for the lights of Chanukah or a big Christmas display; rather, it's the radiation of joy brought about by the completion of a major project—the Children's Library.

The whole community can enjoy this gift. Certainly the facility will brighten the winter months ahead and many more seasons to come.

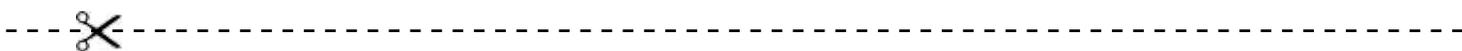
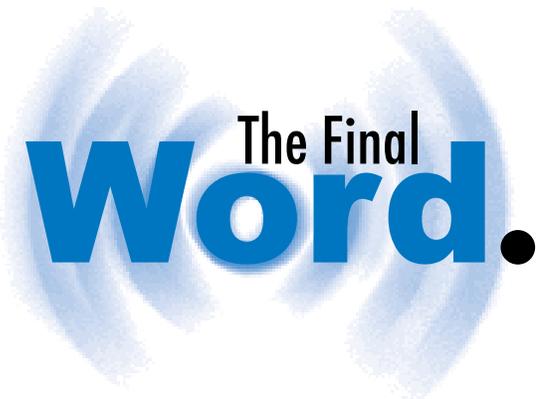
Marcus Tullius Cicero, a great Roman who lived about 2,000 years ago, stated a truth that is still valid, "What gift has providence bestowed on man that is so dear to him as his children?" And what better practical gift can we bestow on children, but to offer them an enticing way to improve their lives through books and other learning resources?

In the euphoria of the opening of the Children's Library, there are many people and organizations that deserve thanks. At the top of the list are the co-chairs of the renovation campaign, Erik Sakariassen and Dick Weber.

Many thanks to the Library Foundation board members for their unanimous support and the Library Board for ongoing encouragement. Did I mention the dozens of volunteers who helped make the community aware of the needs? Also, a special thanks to Midcontinent Communications, which donated thousands of spots to help the campaign. Television and radio stations and the Bismarck Tribune all reported on the renovation. In particular, Jeff Alexander renowned reporter for KFYP and KBMR, aired regular updates on the project.

But there's more, the Children's Library wouldn't be a reality without the 332 people whose donations, large and small, paid for the project. And a special thanks to the many that have already paid their pledges in full, easing the financial burden.

7 If you want to see the full list of donors, the new Donor Wall near the entrance to the Children's Library will be ready in the near future. The holidays will offer a fine time to bring a small friend and enjoy the gift for the whole community, from the whole community.



Give a Gift That Will Benefit the Whole Community

Gifts to the The Library Foundation, Inc. can be designated for specific purposes. All gifts are tax deductible and deeply appreciated.

Designate my gift for:

- Honorary or Memorial Gift
- Children's Library Renovation Project
- Gold Card Club (see page 5 for details)
- Operating Fund
- Endowment Fund



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Looking for a Thoughtful Perfect Gift?

Finding a thoughtful and meaningful gift is often a challenge and a stress during the holidays. The Library Foundation recently published a brochure offering an easy alternative. "A Thoughtful Gift" shows how to make a gift to the Library in honor of that special person.

All gifts will be acknowledged with a letter to the honoree and will be listed in the next edition of the *Limited Edition* newsletter. Gifts of \$100 or more will be placed on the Donor Wall in the Library. Gifts are tax deductible to the extend allowed by law.

Pick up a copy of the brochure in the Library.

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

www.bismarcklibrary.org