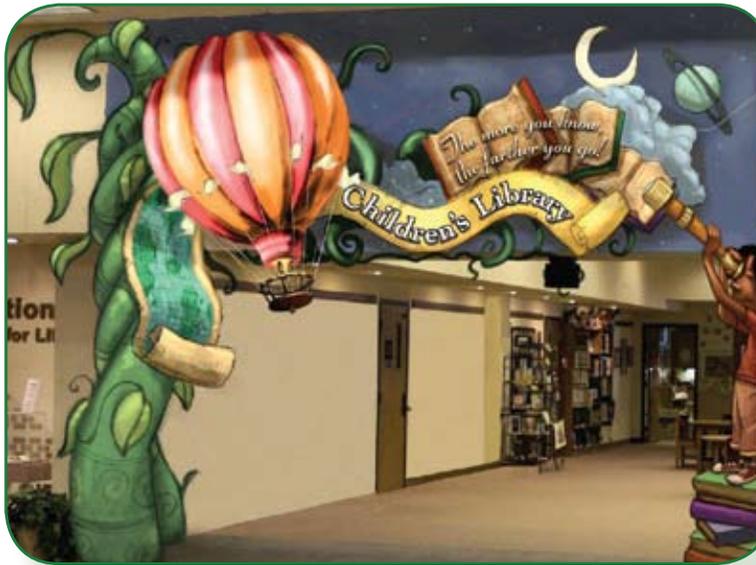


Renovation of Children's Library Underway



Children's Library Entrance

A new era will soon begin for children visiting the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library. A \$642,000 renovation project is about to turn the old Youth Services area into a Children's Library with 21st century appeal.

When the project is finished this fall, the Children's Library will have a new, fresh look. Murals by artists Leon Basler and Ric Spryncznatyk will adorn the walls and ceiling. Other changes include better shelving, a cozy family reading area, new preschooler area, updated technology and a more family-friendly restroom. A new puppet theater and a craft area are planned for the Story Room.

The design incorporates a general outdoor theme, including a stream winding its way through the area and carpeting suggesting the look of grass. Young readers will be able to sit and read under giant trees. Study rooms will offer parents and young students a place to study or read.

Some beloved parts of the current space will remain. The elevated bay window area has always been a special draw. The aquarium, often the first stop for little ones, will be upgraded.

Double doors will open between the Story Room and the Children's Library.

Bids for the project were opened on April 23 and renovation was set to begin around May 18. The Children's Library collection was to be moved to the lower level of the Library between May 14 and 16. In April and early May, tours were given to school children to familiarize them with the temporary location. Throughout the summer, children will be able to choose from thousands of brand new books and other materials, along with old favorites.

The Story Room is scheduled to reopen in October and the Children's Library in November.

Renovation funding in the amount of \$620,000 in gifts and pledges had been raised by May 1. The fundraising campaign was spearheaded by the Library Foundation and co-chaired by Erik Sakariassen and Richard Weber. Funds have been donated by individuals, organizations and corporations.

Over \$20,000 in additional dollars is still needed for the renovation. Gifts of \$100 or more will be listed on a donor wall. Donations may be sent to The Library Foundation, 515 N. 5th Street, Bismarck, ND 58501.

Several Naming Opportunities are still open:

- \$100,000 Name the Children's Library
- \$25,000 Picture Book Shelving
- \$15,000 Themed Shelving Endcaps
- \$10,000 Family Reading Center

If more funding is raised than is needed for construction, the money will be used for additional new books and materials.

My First Library
Experience

The Book Mark

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My First Library Experience

Beginning a New Chapter in Life

By Pam Berreth

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.

As a young boy, Don Weisz of Bismarck, earned a number of gold stars--one for each book he finished during a reading contest at Pioneer Elementary School. Now his family’s contracting business, Weisz & Sons Inc., is supporting the Library as a member of the Gold Card Club. “I can’t think of a better place to support, because the Library is such a valuable resource for so many in our community,” he said.



Don Weisz

Don’s story: In 1969, the summer after fourth grade, I was introduced to the Bismarck Public Library by some neighborhood friends. I was overwhelmed by the sheer volume of books compared to the bookmobile that served Underwood, where we had lived before moving here. That was the first of many summer walks I would make to the Library.

The first series I read was about an Irish setter named Big Red. From there, I explored the space program and met sports figures through books. As I grew older, I picked up books on hunting and trapping. Today, I use the Library as a resource for books related to my woodworking hobby, travel and financial topics. It’s also been a great resource for work-related questions.

I visit the Library every month, planning to go in for 15 minutes to find a book and staying for two hours, lost in the aisles. At the Library, you can go anywhere in the world and never leave the city.

When our daughter was young, my wife and I would take her to Mother Goose hoping to familiarize her with the Library and instill a love of reading. She has done well in school, and I believe reading has had everything to do with that.

The Children’s Library Renovation Project is so important because getting children involved in reading is like chapter one of their lives. Encouraging them to want to read and learn, that’s where it all starts.

The Book Mark New Officers and Directors Elected

The Library Foundation election was held in April.



Dr. Judith Maxwell was elected President of the Library Foundation in April. A board member since 2003, Judi served as vice president for the past two years. She has chaired the Grants Committee and served on the Development and Children’s Library Steering committees. Judi is the owner of The Prairie Gardener LLC and is a landscape designer for Prairie View Nursery.

Ed Klecker was elected Vice President. Ed has served on the board since 2006 and is a member of the Development Committee. Now retired, Ed served as the clerk of the U.S. District Court in North Dakota. He formerly served on the Library Board of Directors.

Bill Pearce was reelected Treasurer. He serves on the Finance Committee and has served on the board since it was founded in 1975. He also served on the Library Board of Directors. Bill is an attorney with Fredrikson & Byron.

Cliff Keller was reelected Secretary. He serves on the Development Committee. He is the executive secretary of the N.D. PELS Board.

In addition, two new members were elected to the board of directors:

Jan Schultz was elected in November. A Bismarck native, Jan teaches online English at Bismarck State College and is a freelance writer.

Tara Holt was elected in January. The founder of the Center for Technology & Business, Tara serves as a mentor for startup businesses across the state.

Other board members are:

Bob Bartosh	Thomas Mayer
Janis Cheney	Marty Presler
Carolyn Frank	Chuck Reichert
Dr. Ernie Godfread	Erik Sakariassen
Mary Golden	Patty Sandness
Mary Maichel Guler	Michael Schaff
Sharon Hoffer	Joyce Schuchart
Kent Janssen	Sue Sorlie
Ed Klecker	Helen Tracy
Lynn Klein	Richard Weber
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November 1, 2007 through April 30, 2008

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In Memory of Judy Swartz
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Given by: Scott & Georgia Knutson

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In Honor of Betsy & Horace Nash, Karen &
Paul Sakariassen, Amy & Erik Sakariassen
Given by: John Sakariassen

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Mary Jane Schmaltz
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In Memory of Greta Knutson
Given by: J. D. Stephenson

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

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Thousands of New Children's Books Available

Want to see a child smile? Visit Bismarck Public Library, where children are discovering over 3,500 new books and other items.

Like the first robin of spring, the new books were the first sign of a new season for the Children's Library. The collection includes many picture books, easy readers, classics, non-fiction books and 400 videos. The items were purchased through a \$50,000 grant secured from the Otto Bremer Foundation by the Library Foundation as part of the overall renovation.

Librarians have been ordering and processing the materials since the first of the year. Many of the new items are already available for use. During the renovation, children's material will be located on the lower level near the fiction section.



Library Staff - Margaret Oberlander, June Preszler and Gwyn Ridenhour processing books donated by the Otto Bremer Foundation



Mary Bachmeier reads to Jami Backmeier and Jayne Thompson.



Scott Arnt enjoys visiting the Library with his daughter Ava.

Aluminum Can Donations

Gerdau Ameristeel Recycling will once again donate 5 cents for every pound of aluminum cans which they purchase in June. In 2008, Gerdau Ameristeel purchased over 27,000 pounds of aluminum in June and donated over \$1,300 to the Foundation. Bismarck residents can help the Library Foundation by simply dropping off cans at 1320 Airport Road.



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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

Join a Growing Circle of Influential Friends

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.

Membership perks include an exclusive gold library card, gift certificate and discounts for Gelato d'Italia, invitation to annual events, and tax deduction as allowed by law.

Membership is \$250 per year for three year, or a total of \$750. Call the Foundation office at 355-1494 for more information.

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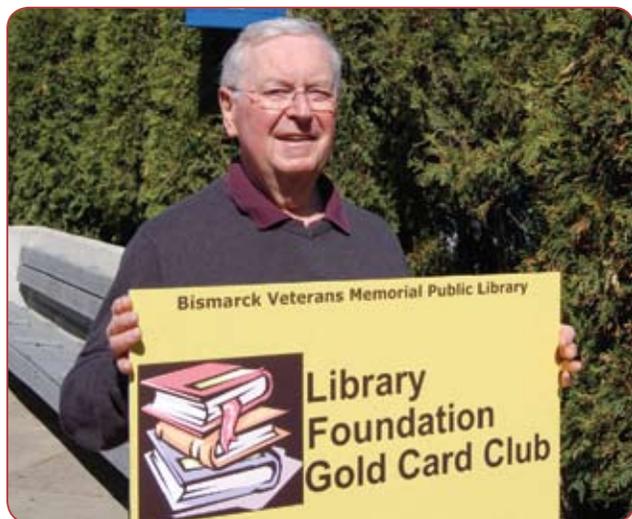
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The Limited Edition is published twice annually by the Library Foundation, Inc. This newsletter is mailed to all donors and others concerned about the continued growth and enhancement of Library services. If you would like to be added to the mailing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



Ed Klecker and other Gold Card Club members await the pleasure of your company

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Susanne Delaney Mattheis Gift Announced

The Library Foundation has been named as a recipient of an annual grant through the Susanne Delaney Mattheis Charitable Fund, an endowment established as a component of the North Dakota Community Foundation.

Susanne Delaney Mattheis was a native of Boston, Mass. She moved to Bismarck in 1975 with her husband, Dr. Kenneth Mattheis, where she quickly became a leader in civic and charitable activities. She served on the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Public Library Board of Trustees from 1976 to 1982. The Library remained one of her favorite charities until her death in December 2007.

Serendipitous Meeting Reunites Student, Teacher

By Jan Schultz

Books are catalysts for all manner of wonderful things: Reading, dreaming, sharing ideas and sometimes even finding old friends.

Gayle Schuck, Development Director for the Bismarck Public Library Foundation, spoke to an Alpha Delta Kappa meeting one evening last winter. She told how the library in her hometown of LaMoure burned down and explained that after the fire the town's people donated their books to open a small library. "That little library became my window on a wider world," said Gayle. "Even though the 'new' library was a dark, dank room in a community building basement, it held many books that I would come to love."

Because Gayle grew up in a small town and had little opportunity for travel, her books offered a view of the world accessible to her only through reading. The library was open three afternoons a week and she and her girl friends were frequent after-school visitors.

During the program that evening, a woman in the audience asked the name of Gayle's hometown. Then came the big surprise: the woman's name was Shirley Grondahl and she had been Gayle's first grade teacher, Miss Lien. And Miss Lien was the teacher who taught Gayle to read.

"I was so surprised!" said Grondahl, upon learning that Schuck had been her former pupil. And even more surprising to her was Schuck's quick trip home to find the booklet containing the photo of that first grade class, including Miss Lien. "She was gone before I got to speak to her, but she came back with the booklet," she added. Grondahl taught for four years in LaMoure and later moved to Bismarck where she taught first and second grades for 14 years.

Working with Bismarck Public Library director, Tom Jones, Gayle has learned that some small North Dakota towns still don't have libraries. "We were lucky to have our little library in LaMoure," she said.



Gayle Schuck with her first grade teacher, Shirley Grondahl

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A decorative graphic with a red background. It features a pile of dark chocolate pieces and a small red gift box with a white ribbon. The text is arranged in a list format on the left side of the graphic.

Dick Weber, Tom Jones, Erik Sakariassen and Mike Schaff attended the 3rd Annual Coffee, Chocolate & More.

Generous Spirit Linked to Good Health

By Gayle Schuck



Gayle Schuck

Your mother was right: It is more blessed to give than to receive. A number of recent scientific studies link health and well being with positive attitudes and actions.

In the book, *Why Good Things Happen to Good People* Dr. Stephen Post shows the tie between doing good and living a longer, healthier, happier life.

Author, Gail Sheehy, in *Pathfinders* states, "My research offers impressive evidence that we feel better when we attempt to make our world better... to have a purpose beyond one's self lends to existence a meaning and direction---the most important characteristic of high well-being."

The Joy of Kindness by Robert J. Furey affirms that, "Kindness, love, altruism, caring, generosity and compassion all describe acts of giving. These are not motivated by the promise of reward. For now, we need only understand that they find energy in the conviction that caring for the world and the people in it represents the right way to live."

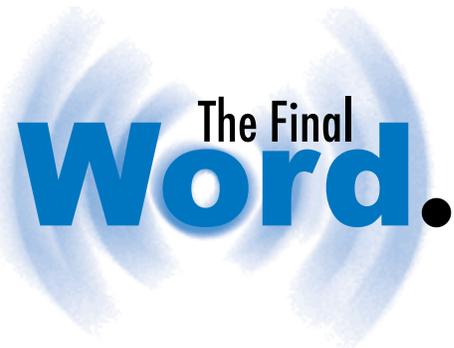
In the book *Who Switched Off My Brain: Controlling Toxic Thoughts and Emotions*, Dr. Caroline Leaf points to medical and scientific studies that show up to 87 percent of sickness and disease may come from toxic thoughts. Anxiety, bitterness, stress and other negative thought patterns can affect us in many ways. Those who choose to think and act with kindness and generosity literally can change the physiology of their brains.

Bismarck Shows Generosity

These findings can only mean one thing: Hundreds of people in our community are reaping the benefits of having a generous spirit. To date, 268 people, businesses and organizations have given to the Children's Library. Perhaps thousands have given to the various Library Foundation causes in the past 33 years.

7 Through the years, the Foundation has received several \$50,000 to \$100,000 gifts. But both large and small gifts benefit the Library and benefit you. Our largest Children's Library donor, the Friends of the Library, also give sweat equity as they labor to haul, arrange and sel used books. That must mean our Friends are a very healthy group!

A recent report pointed out that nonprofits create prosperous communities by weaving a strong social fabric, stimulating economic growth and cultivating civil society. The Library and the Library Foundation do all of that and more because of the generosity of the community. Because of your generosity.



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:

- Children's Library Renovation Project
- Gold Card Club
- Operating Fund
- Endowment Fund



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Philanthropy for Kids Starts with Generous Parents

- Tara Holt

How many of you have been on the receiving end of a half-melted M&M being pushed through your pursed lips by a gleeful toddler who wants to share? Accepting that gooey offering with a return smile and a thank-you makes the donor happy; giggling with pride. Only a parent or grandparent can understand that pleasure. You can't really call it philanthropy, but who could argue that it's not the beginning of creating an unselfish mindset in a child? It's the most simplistic form of giving, and it's only right to see it through by swallowing the M&M.

Growing that sharing experience as children mature, parents can start teaching their children to share as soon as they can coordinate hand and eye movements. Reaching, whether to give or to receive should always produce a pleasant result. No crying. No screaming. Whether the hand is empty or full, a child can learn to understand how to exchange and agree upon transactions without needing a payment.

Getting parents to realize the role they play in making kids thoughtful givers is key to infusing mindful sharing in their children. Here are some tips for parents that will help teach children to be generous with their time and talents:

- Be an example of selfless giving and talk about the difference made.
- Expose kids to other cultures and situations where they can see needs that they understand, possibly following through with help of some sort.
- Start a piggy bank that is specifically for helping others and give the child decision powers as to the recipient.
- Involve kids in activities that raise money through walking, car washes, etc.
- Instead of receiving birthday presents, partially replace them with money that's donated to a charity in the name of the child.
- Point out stories in the newspaper and on television that reflect the values and activities you are trying to instill in your child.
- Start volunteering at a place like the zoo where a child can identify the assistance needed and the resulting benefits.

Until young folks understand what has been gained by sacrifice from others, they won't readily comprehend the giving part of the equation. Read more about volunteering and philanthropy for kids at Bismarck Public Library.