

Library focused on helping all ages learn

KRISTIN STOEGER
MANITOWOC PUBLIC LIBRARY
DIRECTOR

With one month under my belt as library director, I'm well on my way to integrating myself into the library and the community.

I'm very excited to have joined the Manitowoc Public Library team, or as I should actually note, rejoining the team.

I started my library career at Manitowoc Public Library as a page. This means I started out shelving the returned library materials. I also got the "first peek" of the new materials coming in.

Through my initial years here, I had the opportunity to work in circulation, technical services, reference and teen services. This initial experience in various areas of library operations gave me a great overview of library services. It helped widen my lens related to library services, and I have benefited from that experience in many ways since.

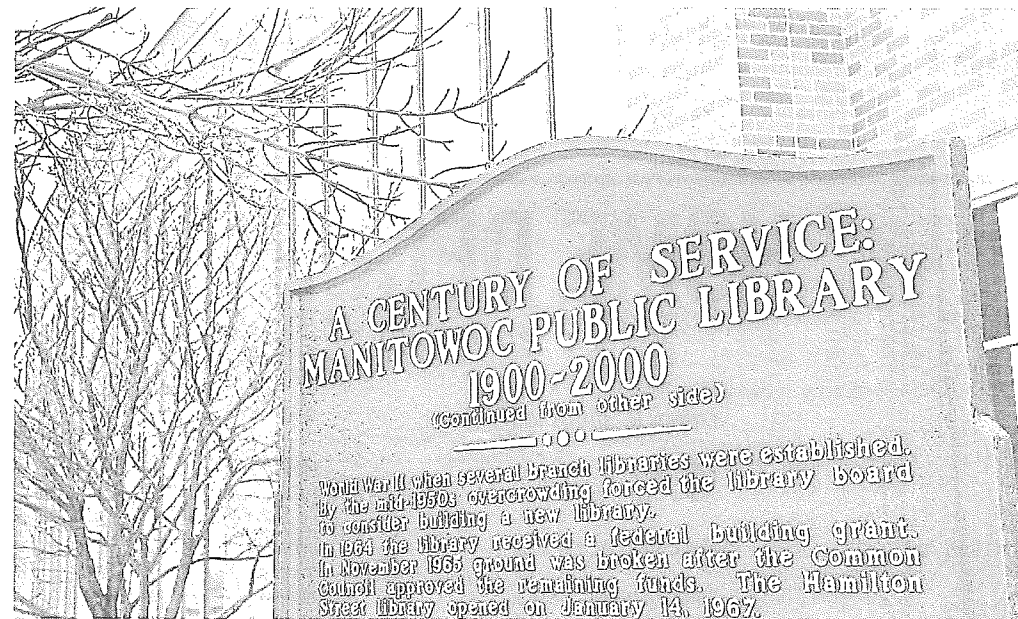
Manitowoc Public Library is where I first fell in love with libraries. Not only did I work here, but as a child, I utilized

this library growing up. I still remember going to the library on Hamilton Street to pick out concept books as I first started learning to read.

I've never been a stranger to libraries, fully utilizing them in the schools, universities and cities I was in. Libraries, especially Manitowoc Public Library, have been integral pieces of my life; they were often the lifelines I used while pursuing my undergraduate degree, graduate degree, and various other personal educational (and recreational) pursuits.

Libraries have the wonderful ability to meet the user where they're at and provide them with the resources they need to continue on their journey.

My professional experience in libraries also extends beyond Manitowoc Public Library. After leaving MPL, I became director of Farnsworth Public Library in Oconto. This wonderful library and staff provided me with excellent opportunities to work with the community to establish services and space to meet the diverse needs of its community. It also provided me with my



USA TODAY
NETWORK-
WISCONSIN
"Century of Service" sign outside Manitowoc Public Library.

first experience leading a library as its director.

After leaving Farnsworth Public Library, I was offered the opportunity to supervise two libraries in Brown County: Weyers-Hilliard in Howard and the Pulaski branch. This position gave me additional insight into all the great things libraries are accomplishing in their communities.

With a focus on information and learning

for all ages, libraries have a great responsibility and opportunity to provide those resources in the format and the manner its community most needs it — whether it is books, wireless hot spots or electronic resources. I count myself fortunate to be among those librarians working toward that goal.

Despite being a former employee of Manitowoc Public Library, there is still a lot for me

to learn about the library and our community. I'm looking forward to spending my next few months re-connecting with the library, its wonderful staff and its fantastic community.

In this spirit of learning, I am shadowing staff and making my way through all the departments in the library, learning about its operations and many ways we provide services to our community.

As I journey through the library, I'd like to bring you along and reintroduce you to the services we offer at Manitowoc Public Library, and the fantastic staff behind the scenes making it happen.

Stay tuned next week for the beginning of my journey in Youth Services.

Happy reading!
Kristin Stoeger is director of Manitowoc Public Library.

Wife resists husband's dream of retiring to warmer climes

Dear Abby: I'm 57 and have been married for 25 years. My husband has retired and is ready for



Dear Abby: It's that time of year when you print your gift ideas for seniors column. When

This can be arranged for any increment of time to match the gifter's budget — from one month to a

Thanks for sharing your idea. It's a thoughtful one, and I'm sure my readers will thank you

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person.

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Manitowoc library aims to engage children

KRISTIN STOEGER
MANITOWOC PUBLIC LIBRARY
DIRECTOR

Thank you for returning to my journalistic tour of the Manitowoc Public Library.

Today, we're venturing into the Children's Department. This department focuses on services to the youth of our community from birth to 18 years of age, and, of course, their caregivers.



Kristin Stoeger

Today, I'm only going to focus on the services for children. We'll save the exciting world of teenagers for next week.

Our children's services have been the "bread and butter" of our offerings since the library first began. Through our weekly story times, we shape the beginning literacy skills of our children with engaging stories and activities. We want to instill that love of learning for children in whatever format it comes, be it with books, songs, games or electronic devices.

Learning is not a linear line; so many different elements come into play, and everything we do and offer in the Children's Department is to help facilitate that learning and growth.

Quite honestly, each of the programs we do and offer in the Children's Department could take

an entire article to explain. I hope, in brief, to give you a fabulous overview of the many ways we engage children through the Children's Department, and the opportunities that await as you journey inside.

Are you aware there is a 90 percent probability a poor reader at the end of the first grade will be a poor reader at the end of the fourth grade, and that the cycle continues from there?

To combat this statistic, our Children's Department has issued a challenge to youth and caregivers. It's called "The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Challenge."

Reading together, or shared reading, remains the single most effective way to help children become proficient readers. The challenge is very simple: read, record and stop in for prizes. Read the same book, different books, any book you choose, just as long as you hit 1,000. Are you up for the challenge?

If you're asking, "What about the older children? Do you have anything for them?" Don't worry, there is truly something for everyone in the Children's Department.

Pick up one of our monthly calendars. On average, 30-40 events are going on for youth throughout the month.

Can't make those scheduled times? Stop in any open day to play with our creative stations. We have a kitchen area, train

table, extra-large Big Books to enjoy, board games and more!

Did I mention we also have computers set aside specifically for Minecraft? How about our Wii station and games for in-house play?

Sick of the same toys at home — check out our Circulating Toy Library and refresh the toy selection at home.

We also have a selection of our standard fair: books, CDs, DVDs, etc.

One of our favorite things is to offer tours to school groups and day cares. On the tour, they'll venture into the normally "Off Limits" back room work areas to see things like the "Sick Room" for our damaged books, and how we nurse them back to health. They'll also see firsthand how materials are returned, sorted and checked in. We will even sign every child up for a library card!

Not impressed yet? Stop in and meet one of our youth librarians: Ms. Susie, Ms. Ann, Ms. Jane, Ms. Betty or Mr. Justin. These librarians are waiting to greet you and introduce you to even more of the wonderful services and materials we offer at Manitowoc Public Library.

Over the next year, we are committed to bringing even more innovative services to our community. Keep your ears open for these reveals (such as "Picture Book City") coming soon to you!

Kristin Stoeger is director of Manitowoc Public Library.

Manitowoc library excited for new year

KRISTIN STOEGER

FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Some of you reading this may be looking for my overview of the Teen Department: its strengths and services that we offer to our teens. And, I promise you, we will talk about teens. I have a lot of wonderful things I've learned about our Teen Department that I'd love to share — just not this week.

This week, I wanted to take a break from our normally scheduled tour to wish you all a Happy New Year! Today is the first day of the New Year, and what a great year I'm hoping it will be.

It's great to officially be, once again, a resident of Manitowoc in 2017. We have a wonderful community with so many dedicated individuals. We may not always see eye-to-eye, but more often than not, we are all working toward the same goal. Together, there is so much that we can accomplish, and I feel honored to be part of this effort in 2017.

As I reflect on 2016, there's a lot to be proud of and thankful for at the Manitowoc Public Library. We have welcomed many new patrons and staff to the library this year. We have 26,314 registered library users. This is a large portion of our community carrying a library card providing access to all the beneficial physical and digital resources we offer at the Manitowoc Public Library.

We also have 48 dedicated library employees who work each day to provide the best customer service and resources to the community. And, as we will be filling our open positions, this num-



Kristin Stoeger

ber will soon grow. We are currently looking for enthusiastic people with a commitment to lifelong learning and community enrichment. We have positions open in materials management, our youth department and one-to-one literacy program. You can find more information about these positions at manitowoc.org.

Additionally, we opened our Citizenship Information Center in 2016. This center provides resources for and support to people studying to become U.S. citizens. Throughout 2016,

we hosted numerous events targeting all ages and levels from our ever-popular Great Decisions to weekly story times and monthly book discussions. Throughout these events, we had over 11,000 attendees in 2016.

Many of these events and services we provide wouldn't be possible without the generous support of the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library, the Manitowoc Public Library Foundation and all of you. From all of us at the Manitowoc Public Library, thank you for all your support in the past year!

I look forward to all that 2017 will bring. I'm hoping it will be a year filled with hopeful beginnings, exciting adventures and new ways of

serving the Manitowoc community. One of the first projects we will be addressing in 2017 is updating our AV equipment in both the Balkansky Community Room and the Board Room. This new equipment will offer better audio and visual quality. It will also increase the ease of set-up and use. If everything goes according to plan, the new equipment should be installed and up and running before the first Great Decision event.


We are also exploring ideas for new circulating collections such as mobile hotspots and Roku. And, of course, we are always looking for new event ideas to offer to the public. Right now, we are looking into feasibility,

mission alignment and funding for these projects.

We have an exciting year ahead of us, with a lot of ideas formulating. I'm looking forward to their implementation, and I hope you are too. We'd love to hear from

you. What would you like to see at the Manitowoc Public Library? Feel free to contact me at kstoeger@manitowoc.org.

Happy New Year!
Kristin Stoeger is the library director at the Manitowoc Public Library.



CHILL'N WITH CHILI

Tuesday, January 10
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.


Wisconsin Room • The Gardens
1700 S. 18th St. • Manitowoc

Tours available! Open to seniors 55 and older
Entertainment by Jerry Krueger

This event is co-sponsored by the following organizations:


- Aging & Disability Resource Center of the Lakeshore
- HomeCare Health Services & Hospice
- Premier Hair Salon
- Weichert, Realtors ComerStone
- Felician Village


\$5 for chili, dessert and beverage



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Tours available at 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
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or e-mail abender@felicianvillage.org

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and week of February.
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and week of February.
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• Those interested in running for positions on

and week of February.
Contact Michael Steeber at 920-973-4063 or michaelsteeber@me.com.

Manitowoc Library's Teen Dept. stretches mold

What does a TARDIS, gaming, ACT's and coding all have to do with each other? The Teen Department at the Manitowoc Public Library, that's what!

Quite honestly, our library provides so much more than books. The Manitowoc Public Library is an institution focused on learning and access to information. Information can come in a multitude of forms. The most ordinary — the most expected — mode is books, but it's far from the only method.

And when it comes to teens, we especially need to deliver more than the ordinary or expected.

The Teen Department at the Manitowoc Public Library is stretching the mold when it comes to a typical library. We offer material, services, space and programming to engage and enrich the

lives of our teenagers. Allow me to explain.

In any given month, three unique events are specifically designed for, and often designed with input from, teenagers. We target their interests and combine them into learning activities. Through this programming, we encourage teens to explore ideas and learn about the world around them.

One of our events coming up in January will be "Mini Weapons of Mass Destruction," at 6 p.m. Jan. 11. In a nutshell, this program is "office supply warfare" — taking everyday objects like paperclips, rubber bands and Post-it Notes and manipulating them to create something new. While this may sound like nothing more than a fun program — which it abso-

lutely will be — it also introduces building and design skills in an accessible way to teenagers.

Our goal in all of the programming we offer for teenagers is to combine learning and fun.

Over the next year, we hope to incorporate even more "MakerSpace" and creative programming. For those unfamiliar with the term MakerSpace, it's a collaborative work space for making, learning, exploring and sharing that uses both high-tech and no-tech tools. It's a mindset of creating something out of nothing and exploring your own interests, which is at the core of any MakerSpace event.

We are working with meeperBOTS to combine computer coding and object building. A meeperBOT is a versatile remote-controlled machine that incorporates physical and digital learning. Teens will be able to

build their meeperBOT, code it and test it out on our obstacle course. The best thing — all of these events are free and open to the public.

Recently, we have reorganized our teen collections as well. All of our collections in teen are now grouped together providing easier access to these materials. Within our teen collections you will find magazines, graphic novels, nonfiction, fiction, audiobooks and more, all purchased with teens in mind.

We have a dedicated space at our library called the "Teen Scene." This space is a collaborative environment to

encourage learning and socialization. All of these events and space are part of a collaborative effort, but there is one man who is the primary leader behind this movement.

Justin Schnell is our teen librarian at Manitowoc Public Library, and I can think of no better way to introduce him than through his own words:

"I have an educational background in metalwork and jewelry, as well as arts management (BA from UW-Green Bay). Often, I will incorporate my background of gaming, hobbies and building things into teen programming. Sci-fi and fantasy are

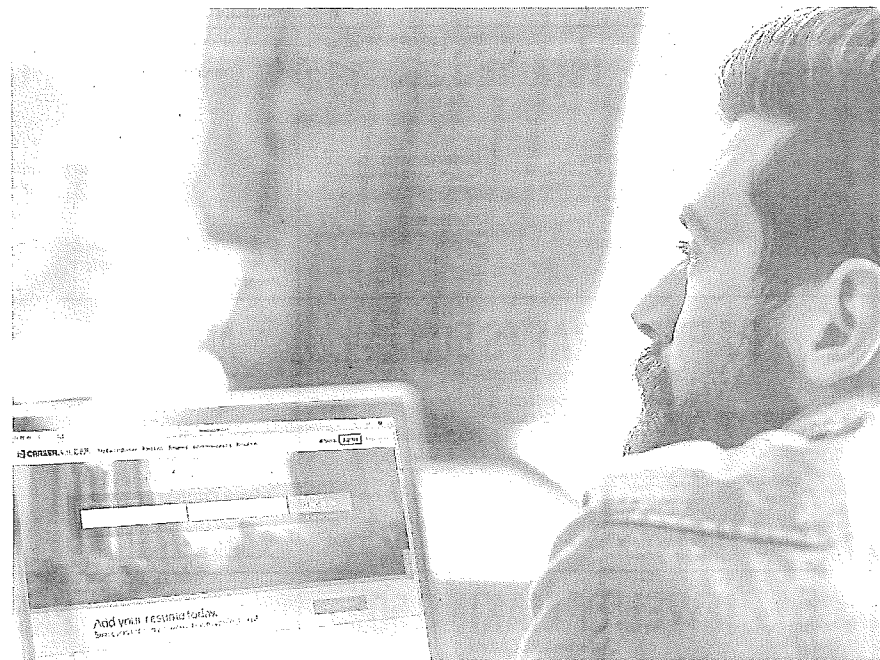
my favorite genres for my personal reading. When it comes to programming, I'm a firm believer that people learn through play, even in adulthood, and if given a chance to experiment with new technologies or processes, individuals will benefit from that experience far more than simply reading about it."

Teens are an important part of our community and future. Manitowoc Public Library is working to engage teens in their passions and prepare them for their future.

Kristin Stoeger is the library director at the Manitowoc Public Library.



Kristin Stoeger



Get to know 'Friends' of Manitowoc library

In addition to the public's tremendous support, Manitowoc Public Library is blessed to have our very active and supportive Friends of Manitowoc Public Library.



Kristin Stoeger

This volunteer-run organization was founded in 1963 to

support the library and its programming. That's more than 50 years of ongoing patronage. Exclaiming "Thank you!" for this barely scratches the surface of our appreciation.

The Friends of Manitowoc Public Library aids the library both financially and with its support of our services.

Many of these offerings would not be possible without the Friends. We were able to present events during the past year, such as the extremely popular "Doctor Who Day" from last December. They financially sponsor our Summer Reading Program every year. Friends of Manitowoc Public Library backs the "Great Decisions" discussion series each year as well.

They've recently provided funding for us to re-catalog, relocate and display our book discussion kits — currently downstairs next to the large print collection — which makes it easier for the public to browse and utilize these kits. It would be effortless for me to continue to expound on all the

ways Friends of Manitowoc Public Library has benefited us and our community over the past 53 years. The group's members support all areas of services: digitally, physically, across every age group and within a lion's share of our events. We are incredibly grateful to this organization and its commitment to the library.

Today, the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library has more than 125 members. We hope to see that number grow over the next few years.

All these members contribute financially to support the organization. Many also contribute their time and effort for fundraising. Additionally, a number of them either currently

serve or have previously served on the board of this organization. It was a pleasure working with them when I worked here previously — I know they supported many of the teen programs I hosted — and it's a pleasure to be working with them once again.

For anyone interested in joining the Friends, applications are available at any service desk, as well as online at manitowoclibrary.org/support-the-library.

There is a membership fee, ranging from \$10 a year for individual membership to \$100 for a lifetime membership. All of the membership fees are used to support the library and its programming.

The Friends' board

meets monthly to approve funding requests, discuss fundraising and talk about ways to support the library. All members are encouraged to attend these meetings, which take place at 9:15 a.m. on the second Monday of every month in the Board Room.

One of the Friends' biggest fundraisers of the year is its Book Sale. The first Book Sale of the year will be Jan. 20, beginning at noon, and running through 4 p.m. Jan. 22. Please stop by during normal library hours to peruse the selection and perhaps do a little shopping for the titles that strike your fancy. As a bonus offer, Friends members get early access to the Book Sale, from 9 a.m. to noon

on Friday.

It's never too late to sign up to become a Friends member! In fact, you can become a member on the spot during this pre-sale.

The Book Sale will be in the Balkansky Community Room on the second level. We will have books for all age groups, CDs, DVDs, magazines and more.

Materials for the Book Sale come from donations in the community, as well as items weeded out of our library collections.

Please stop by to find new favorites to add to your home collection. Because, as we all know, you can never have too many great books!

Kristin Stoeger is library director at Manitowoc Public Library.

The best vegetables for planting this year

VIJAI PANDIAN
FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

After extensive plant field trials across the country, All-America Selections (AAS) announces the best performing vegetable winners for this year. These winners are selected based on their trial garden performance in North America for fruit quality, yield, pest and disease resistance, and overall growth. You can



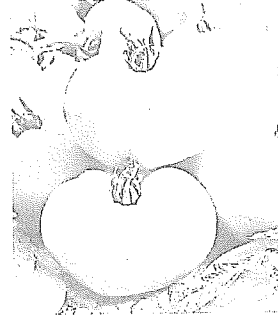
COURTESY OF ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS

Watermelon Mini Love F1 is a personal-sized Asian watermelon.



COURTESY OF ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS

The Pepper Mad Hatter F1 is a hybrid from South American pepper species



COURTESY OF ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS

Tomato Chef's Choice Yellow F1 is a beefsteak type tomato with yellow skin.

Watermelon Mini Love F1

Miniature watermelons are perfect for small-space gardens. This Asian watermelon produces 4 to 6 fruits per plant. Each fruit weigh about 7 to 9 pounds, and its juicy flesh is sweet to taste in summer. You can harvest the fruits 80 days after seeding in the garden.

Okra Candle Fire F1

An eye-catching reddish-burgundy color okra

transplant.

Squash Winter Honey baby F1

Honey baby is a semi-bush, compact winter squash that vines about 2 to 3 feet and are very productive. Each plant yields about 8 to 9 fruits, and the fruit flesh has a sweet, nutty flavor. The vine takes about 90 days to harvest after seeding.

For horticulture-related questions and advice, contact Brown County UW-Extension's Horticulture. www.browncountywi.gov

Homebound? You can still use the library

It may surprise some people to learn that library services extend well beyond our brick-and-mortar building. We have numerous programs set up to extend our services throughout



Kristin Stoeger

the county, and we are always looking for new opportunities to augment this initiative. One of these programs is our "Homebound Services." After observing the workings of this department upon my recent arrival, I was blown away by its dedication and commitment. It's a fantastic service to the community. The department includes two dedicated staff members, June and Margo, who provide library services to those who are homebound. These services have been established for well more than a decade, and we serve approximately 60 patrons. Originally, this program was created as a book-by-mail library, which has since evolved and grown from there.

So, what does Homebound Services mean, and who do we serve with this program?

Homebound Services

is intended for patrons unable to use regular library services because of a disability, medical condition or age-related frailty. This can be either a temporary or permanent condition. Depending on the situation, we work with people to best meet their needs within the confines of our program. We partner with many of the retirement communities, assisted-living facilities, nutrition sites and other locations that are convenient for participants. Anyone interested in receiving these services simply fills out an application and submits it to our Homebound Services Department for approval.

After someone is accepted to the program, he or she fills out a reader's preference card, which gives June and Margo an excellent starting point for making selections based on preferred formats, genres and authors. This is an ever-evolving process with many participants emailing, calling or writing us notes to give further direction on materials.

Through Homebound Services, we circulate regular- and large-print products, books on CD, magazines and music CDs directly to a partici-

pant's home or facility. Not only do we provide materials for people within this department, we also include local assisted-living and senior citizen facilities in the area, with deliveries being made on a monthly basis.

We accept applications at any time throughout the year. People interested in our Homebound Services offerings can pick up an application at our service desk, or get started by calling 920-686-3040. In 2016, this department put together 746 collections throughout the year, with 5,637 checkouts to individuals and facilities. Obviously, we are quite proud of these services.

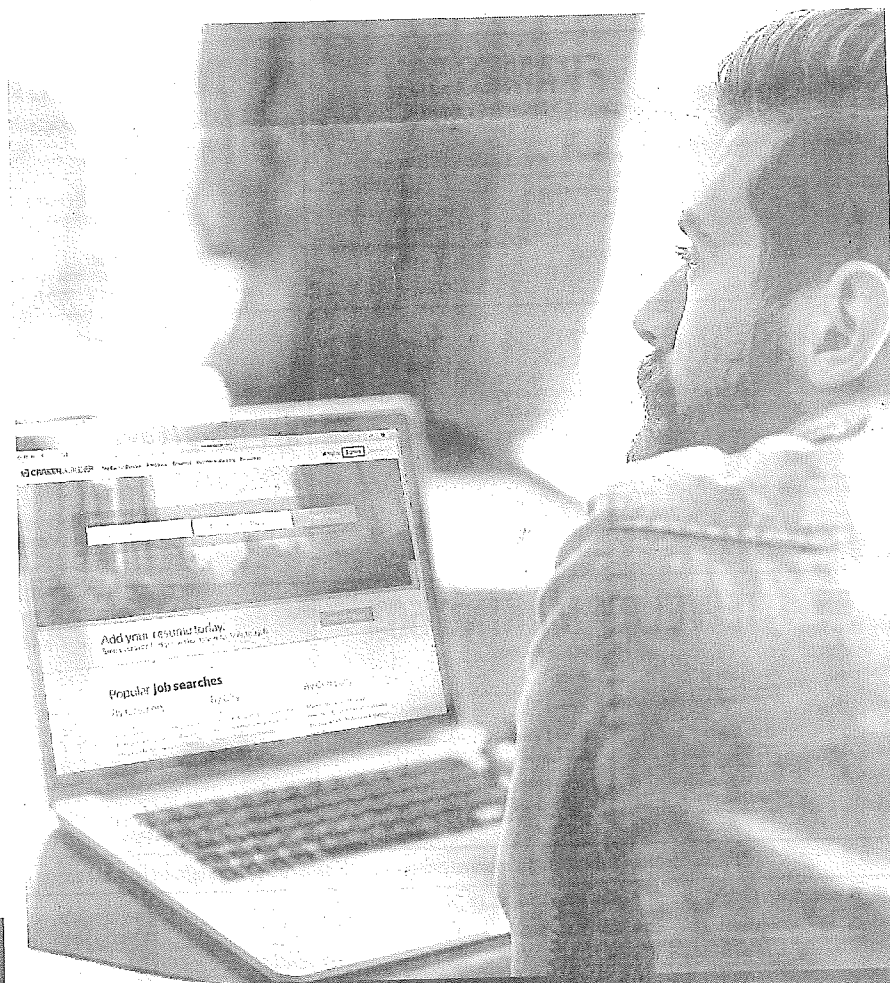
Last, but certainly not least, this article would not be complete without including mention of the countless volunteers who make this program successful. Volunteers help to make our deliveries and keep this program running. We thank all our volunteers for their assistance; this program would truly not be possible without them.

In 2016, volunteers put in 122 hours, collectively, assisting with this program. Thank you!

Anyone interested in volunteering to assist with this program, or with other events at the

library, can fill out a volunteer application. You can pick up this form from any service desk at the library, or you can complete the application online at manitowoclibrary.org/volunteer.

Kristin Stoeger is library director for Manitowoc Public Library.



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Lakeshore
WOMEN'S



Melonie Gartner (left) in "Where the Great Spirits Live."

TINA PRIGGE



Mark Borchardt as "Dirke" in "Where the Great Spirits Live."

TINA PRIGGE



Kevin Sievert (right) in "Where the Great Spirits Live."

TINA PRIGGE

Manitowoc library hosts film premiere Feb. 1

TIM GADZINSKI

FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

How often does a small-town library get to host the world premiere of a movie? Unless they're working in conjunction with an established film festival, you'd have to imagine that something such as that would be a rarity, at best!

However, if you make your way to Manitowoc Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 1, that's pre-

cisely the type of event you will see. We'll be screening "The Short Films of Melonie Gartner: 'Two Rivers' and 'Where the Great Spirits Live.'" The event will include a premier of "Where the Great Spirits Live," which is the prequel to an earlier film, "Two Rivers." Both are by area filmmaker Melonie Gartner, and both will be screened that night.

It all started as a suggestion from one of our managers, Roxanne

Staveness. After reading about Gartner and her work in the Herald Times Reporter, Roxanne said it would be a great idea to show Melonie's work at the library. Being a film buff, I couldn't have agreed more.

Moreover, as someone who believes local emerging artists need to be celebrated just as much as — if not more than — established creative entities, I knew I



Tim Gadzinski

needed to convert this excellent idea into a reality. A few phone calls and emails later, I had the good fortune of actually speaking with Melonie. It didn't

take long to hammer out the details, and we had our evening of her short films ready to roll.

The thing that immediately struck me while talking with Melonie was how passionate she was about the films she was creating. She didn't

speak about the movies in terms that objectified them. Rather, it was immediately clear they were a deeply personal means of expression, a way for her to tell stories she obviously felt needed to be told. To be completely honest, when we had our initial conversations, I hadn't seen a single frame of either film.

I remember seeing posters a few years back for "Two Rivers" when it was being filmed, but I don't remember hearing

about a screening that was open to the public. Which was a shame, seeing as its lighthouse-embazoned artwork had really piqued my interest.

Having seen both films since then, however, I can't tell you how glad I am that I tracked Melonie down to make this evening of film happen. Both films are shot in lush black-and-white — a gutsy call in the flash-and-glitz age in

See FILM, Page 3C

'Great Decisions' series running strong

This week, I have the privilege to write about a series that is becoming a staple at the Manitowoc Public Library: "Great Decisions."

The series is celebrating 10 years in Manitowoc. It is a grassroots, world-affairs education program that brings together people from across our community to discover and discuss foreign policy issues. It's an eight-week series, with a different foreign affairs-related issue discussed each week.

Each session starts at 6 p.m. in the Balkansky Community Room on the second floor, and runs eight Mondays in a row.

Our first session, Feb. 6, will focus on the "Fu-

KRISTIN
STOEGER
MANITOWOC
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ture of Europe," with UW-Manitowoc professor Alise Coen leading the discussion. The European Union has helped secure peace in Europe for the past 70 years, but now faces an uncertain future following the United Kingdom's "Brexit" vote to leave the EU. What will post-Brexit Europe look like, and how can U.S. foreign policy adapt?

Other sessions will focus on, among other things, U.S. trade and

politics, nuclear security, Saudi Arabia, and U.S. foreign policy and petroleum.

We have experts from around the state joining us to discuss these important topics. We also provide briefing books with more in-depth information about the eight subjects, and they're for sale at our customer service desk for \$10 per book. The briefing books are not necessary to attend any of our events. All of the "Great Decisions" series sessions are free and open to the public.

So, why did "Great Decisions" begin and why has it continued all these years? "Great Decisions" is important, first of all, because all of

you have seen value in it and continue to find value in it by attending and supporting it — value to the point of our Manitowoc Public Library being awarded the Frank R. Cella Memorial Award in 2012 for providing an outstanding "Great Decisions" program.

Manitowoc Public Library initiated this series to create a forum where issues can be explored and discussed. We often hear about these issues in the news; "Great Decisions" brings a focus to each of these topics, breaks them down and presents the information in an open forum for discussion.

We also bring in an expert to lead the dis-

cussion and answer those questions we all have. It's a great time for neighbors to converse with each other and explore all sides of these issues.

This year, "Great Decisions" is celebrating 10 years at the Manitowoc Public Library. That's 10 years of exploring foreign policy issues and, despite a variety of hiccups and weather-related issues, "Great Decisions" is continuing to run strong.

A discussion about our "Great Decisions" series wouldn't be complete without expressing gratitude to all those who make it possible. The series is generously supported, both financially and in dedicated volun-

teer hours, by the League of Women Voters of Manitowoc County, the Manitowoc Public Library Foundation, Friends of Manitowoc Public Library, Lakeshore Pax Christi and UW-Manitowoc.

It is also generously supported by many of you in the community. To all of you, we say thank you for making this important educational series possible for 10 years. We couldn't do it without you!

Please join us as we kick off our 2017 "Great Decisions" series at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6. We hope to see you there.

Kristin Stoeger is library director at Manitowoc Public Library.

Undiscovered infidelity results in friend's death from AIDS

Dear Abby: On July 13, you responded to someone asking whether friends should tell friends anonymously that their spouse is cheating. You advised that if someone is not willing to include their name, they should mind their own business.

One of my dear friends from church didn't get a letter or a phone call during her marriage to her husband, who cheated on her constantly. What she did get was HIV-positive status, later full-blown AIDS and then death. Her husband was positive when

DEAR
ABBY
JEANNE
PHILLIPS



name as much as she minded being blindsided by her husband concealing his illness.

Personally, I'd want to know if I were living a daily life based on lies and deception. Had someone spoken up, perhaps my friend would still be alive.

— Mimi in California
Dear Mimi: Please

who ended up "sharing" his STD with me. I would have been eternally grateful to anyone who stepped up and told me about the affairs.

Unlike the wives you referenced in your answer, I was in a position to deal with it. I dealt with it as soon as I knew, but if someone had disclosed it to me earlier, perhaps I wouldn't have experienced the humiliation of an STD, or the lies of a spouse telling me how much he loved me while sleeping around behind my back. The truth is always the best policy.

it from another source, it's like a double blow — everyone else knows but the one being cheated on.

The marriages I have seen survive are those in which the cheater is able to confess to the infidelity, own up to the indiscretions and promise not to interact with the other offender. From experience, I know it is not an easy road back, but it's worth every step.

— Sara in Spokane

Dear Abby: Two close friends of mine married young. They were immature and struggled to find their footing in the relationship. During the first

I'm glad I did. They wound up growing as individuals and as a couple, and they have been happily married for 20 years. I have no doubt that if I had spilled the beans, it would have promptly ended the union. I'm convinced that were I to do it now, it would serve only to create unnecessary pain where there is joy.

— Tight-Lipped Tessie
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded

by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

WISCONSIN
LITIGATOR

Manitowoc library offers citizenship resources

MEREDITH MEIER

FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

In the past three years, 35 percent of learners in the One to One Literacy program have become U.S. citizens.



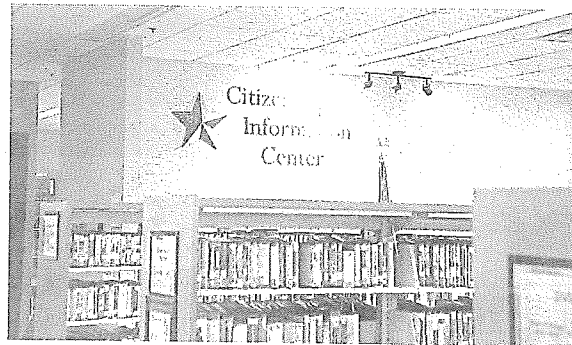
Meredith Meier

Manitowoc Public Library was

awarded a grant to provide a safe place for Manitowoc County immigrants to have equal

access to citizenship resources. The grant benefits adult immigrants in Manitowoc County who experience barriers as a result of poor English literacy skills, insufficient resources and lack of support to become U.S. citizens.

The grant also provides training and materials to those helping immigrants, like English language tutors and other community members who seek to assist area immigrants directly and ensure Manitowoc is a welcoming community for all new Americans.



USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN
The Citizenship Information Center in the Manitowoc Public Library.

Manitowoc Public Library is so thankful for those already engaged in helping immigrants in

Manitowoc County become U.S. citizens and adjust to living in America.

Through the grant, I had an opportunity to go to Chicago to attend a training on the naturalization process — and my eyes were opened to the whole process from start to finish. I learned so much, and I am excited to share my knowledge.

The benefits of being a United States citizen are worth it, and now that the library has citizenship resources in the Citizenship Information Center, the process should feel less daunting.

Here is a brief overview of the process of becoming a naturalized

U.S. citizen:

You must be 18 years old and have been a permanent resident for at least five years, or three years if you are married to a U.S. citizen.

Applicants must be able to read, write and speak English and have a knowledge and understanding of U.S. history and government.

There are other eligibility requirements regarding residence and physical time spent in the country, which will be explained in Citizenship Informational

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Manitowoc 'Book and a Movie' series returns

Which one is better: the book or the movie?

This discussion has been ongoing since the onset of books being turned into movies. It can be a polarizing discussion, with each viewer/reader having a unique — and definitive — take on which version is superior.

For me, don't even get me started with a Harry Potter discussion. I will always be an advocate for the books, often to the point of avoiding any opportunity to watch the movie versions.

I attribute this mostly to the first movie coming out in 2001, long after I had become entrenched into the "Wizards World of Harry Potter" (the first Harry Potter book was released in 1997).

I have always found reading a book to be a very personal journey, one that is intimately tied to the time at which I am

KRISTIN
STOEGER
MANITOWOC
PUBLIC LIBRARY



reading it.

As a voracious reader, I find it interesting to read the same book multiple times. In every instance, each title speaks to me differently, depending on when I read it.

It's amazing to me how many things I didn't notice the first time around or how different things speak to me the second time as a result of my temperament, experience or outlook at the time of the second reading.

I feel watching a movie follows this same line. As a result, discussions about movies and books provide for very interesting dis-

cussions. Ideas and elements you may not have noticed or thought of can be brought forward in discussions.

Manitowoc Public Library offers an opportunity to delve into a movie and a book for the first time — or for the second, third, etc., time. This is part of our "Book and a Movie" discussion series that we will be bringing back this February.

The Book and a Movie events were on a short hiatus over the holidays, but we are reconvening starting Feb. 20, for our first "Book and a Movie" event of 2017.

This series is made possible thanks to our strong partnership with Vicki Radue at Lakeshore Cinema.

Our staff first approached Vicki early last year with this idea. We received an enthusiastic "Yes!", which we are

thankful for each time we offer this monthly event.

All attendees receive free admission to a viewing of the movie at Lakeshore Cinema, with concessions available for purchase.

You are not required to read the book to attend, but we encourage it.

The books are made available starting one month in advance of the screening at Manitowoc Public Library. The books and films are chosen in a cooperative venture between MPL staff and Lakeshore Cinema

staff.

Our first collaborative effort was *The Hundred Foot Journey* on April 18, 2016, with 30 people in attendance. Since then, this series has grown, and we are very excited for its return.

The film is always shown on the third Monday of the month, September through May, with a break in December and January. After the film, library staff lead a discussion about the book versus the movie, lasting no longer than 30 minutes, following the film.

Starting at 7 p.m. Feb.

20, Lakeshore Cinema will show *Bridget Jones's Diary*. Admission is free, so whether or not you read the book, stop on by for a free viewing of the movie. Everyone is welcome to stay for the short discussion after the viewing.

Next month, the "Book and a Movie" discussion will be on *The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett. We already have that title available to check out at the library.

We hope to see you there!

Kristin Stoeger is library director at Manitowoc Public Library.



MIRRO/ALCOA

Lung Cancer • Other Cancers

Special trusts have been set up by vendors and suppliers of the Mirro/ALCOA plant to pay asbestos victims.

If you ever worked at the Mirro/ALCOA plant you may have been exposed to **asbestos** - and not even know it. You could be entitled to multiple cash settlements without going to court, filing a lawsuit, or even leaving your house.

If you ever worked at the Mirro/ALCOA plant, and have been diagnosed with **Lung Cancer (even if you are a smoker)** - or Esophageal, Laryngeal, Pharyngeal, Stomach, Colon, Rectal Cancer or Mesothelioma or

Library offers free developmental screenings

SUSIE MENK
FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Parenting is an exercise in which you help your child achieve steps to make them successful.

Children crawl before they walk; they make sounds before they learn to say words; they say words before they are able to string together sentences.

Each one of these milestones is a developmental stage. Your child must reach one stage before moving on to the next stage.

You, as a parent, are closest to your child and can watch these developmental milestones with pride and accomplishment. Knowing what those stages are and the approximate age at which your child should reach those stages is important.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offers tools for parents to measure these stages at <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/childdevelopment/positiveparenting/index.html>.

Another tool that can be used to check your child's progress in these

developmental stages is having them participate in a developmental screening. These screenings are useful for letting parents know if their child is on the right track, or if they might need a little help.

Developmental screenings are done by professionals who do a series of tests to help determine if your child is at the right stage for their age category.

For example, children ages 0-1 are focused on exploring the world



Susie Menk

around them. They put everything in their mouth. They "babble," which is their way of imitating the sounds they hear. By the time they reach 2-3 years old, they

can play "make-believe," kick a ball and show lots of emotions. As they get older, children develop more physical, emotional and social skills.

We offer developmental screenings at Manitowoc Public Library. The next screenings will be from 9 a.m. to noon and 3:30 to 7 p.m.,

Tuesday, Feb. 28.

Developmental screenings are when the parents are asked a series of questions about their child. Can your child stack one block on top of another? Is your child frequently putting items in their mouth? Can your child roll over, crawl or walk? Does your child babble or make sounds to imitate you?

All these types of questions let the screener know which developmental stage your child fits in. As long as they fit within a given range, everything is fine.

What happens if your

child exhibits a developmental delay? This is actually fairly common and nothing to worry about. If your child should exhibit any developmental delays, the professionals will talk to you about various activities you can do to help your child develop the missing skills.

If there are any noticeable delays, the professional screeners will refer parents to the appropriate community organization to ensure your child gets the help they need. Many times,

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Library

Continued from Page 1C

these types of referrals do not need an official doctor diagnosis; the referral by a profession-

al screener is enough to get the child treatment.

According to the CDC, about 13 percent of children younger than 18 have some type of severe developmental delay and many others have minor developmental delays that can be easily treat-

ed. Early intervention can have a big impact on your child's development.

Most professionals agree that delays that are caught early on can be successfully treated and the child will have greater success in school and social settings.

If developmental delays are not treated until the age of 10 or later, opportunities for treatments may be missed, and these delays will be much more difficult to overcome.

Developmental screeners from community organizations will be at Manitowoc Public Library Feb. 28 to provide free screenings for children ages 2 months to 4 years. Professionals from Birth to 3, Lakeshore Family Resources, Manitowoc County Health Department, CESA No. 7 Head Start, and Early Head Start, and the Manitowoc Public School District will provide the free screenings.

Susie Menk is a children's librarian at Manitowoc Public Library.