

# Teen Tech Week at Manitowoc library March 5-11

**JUSTIN SCHNELL**  
FOR USA TODAY  
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Manitowoc Public Library is participating in Teen Tech Week March 5-11 by setting up displays and demon-

strations for the full week of the event.

The following is from ala.org, "Teen Tech Week":

Teen Tech Week is a national initiative sponsored by Young Adult Library Service Associa-

tion and is aimed at teens, their parents, educators and other concerned adults.

The purpose of Teen Tech Week is to ensure that teens are competent and ethical users of digital media, especially the

non-print resources offered through libraries, such as e-books, e-readers, databases, audio books and social media.

Teen Tech Week encourages teens to use libraries' non-print resources for education and recreation, and to recognize that librarians are qualified, trusted professionals in the field of information technology.

Teen Tech Week began in 2007 and has a general theme of "Get connected @ your library."

Millions of teens do not have access to a home computer, and were it not for libraries, would miss opportunities to gain important digital literacy skills. Libraries offer a bridge across the digital divide.

Libraries also recognize that digital media plays an important part in a teen's life. That is why more libraries than ever are helping teens build critical digital literacy skills, which they will use to obtain scholarships, secure jobs, effectively manage their online identity and more.

During Teen Tech Week, MPL will show-

case the technology and hardware we have made available to the general public, as well as raise awareness of all of the digital services at their disposal.

Interactive displays will showcase some of our more recent tech additions, plus walk-throughs of our computer areas and Community Creation Room will be offered for those completely new to our services.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for teens and young adults within our community to come and take a look at what the library has to offer.

Whether you're a regular patron who uses our Community Creation Room on a consistent basis for your video and audio editing, or you've never set foot within our walls and didn't realize you can have your digitally modeled items printed on our 3D printer, Teen Tech Week is a great chance to stop by and check out more than just books.

There's no need to register for anything — simply stop by, look around and ask questions

if you have them.

Our IT technician, Jason, and I will be available throughout the week to answer questions and show off various items and services that can be used throughout the library.

Manitowoc Public Library will provide literature about some of our online services available through our website, and, as always, our friendly staff are knowledgeable in a variety of digital resources.

Please come, learn, experience and even have some fun during March 5-11 with what Manitowoc Library has to offer. From online tutoring services and genealogy to remote-controlled robotic vehicles and video games, Manitowoc Public Library may surprise you with the technology provided.

For more details, please contact me at Jschnell@manitowoc.org, or feel free to browse the digital resources available through manitowoclibrary.org.

Justin Schnell is teen association at Manitowoc Public Library.

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Justin Schnell

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school year.  
This school year, Lincoln High

There are 101 students total in  
Manitowoc County Youth Appren-

teusville and Two Rivers High  
schools and McKinley Academy

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March 12, 2017

## Bestselling author at UW-Manitowoc March 15

ANNE JUZA  
FOR USA TODAY  
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

**M**anitowoc Public Library is a proud supporter of authors, especially local authors.



Anne Juza

When looking to host an author, several factors must be taken into consideration and many collaborators must be involved.

The first factor to consider is whom to invite.

Last fall, Karl Schindl, associate professor at UW-Manitowoc and frequent patron of Manitowoc Public Library, posed a question: Would the library, along with UW-Manitowoc, like to sponsor a *New York Times* bestselling author in March 2017?

Enthusiastically, we jumped on board!

Karl and I have been confirming the details to invite Michael Perry, *New York Times* bestselling author, to the Univer-

sity of Wisconsin-Manitowoc Theatre on Wednesday, March 15, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Spend an evening with Michael Perry, born and raised in rural New Auburn, for free.

The cost of hosting this author event was made possible by the financial support of UW-Manitowoc and Manitowoc Public Library Foundation.

Perry will be promoting his new book, *Roughneck Grace*, a collection of brief essays culled from the Sunday column of the same name that

appears weekly in the *Wisconsin State Journal*.

Perry's plain-spoken style will have you laughing one moment and then even tearing up a bit the next.

Owner of LaDeDa Books & Beans and supporter of library events Bev Denor has ordered several copies of *Roughneck Grace* and additional titles of Michael Perry books, which are now available for purchase at her bookstore.

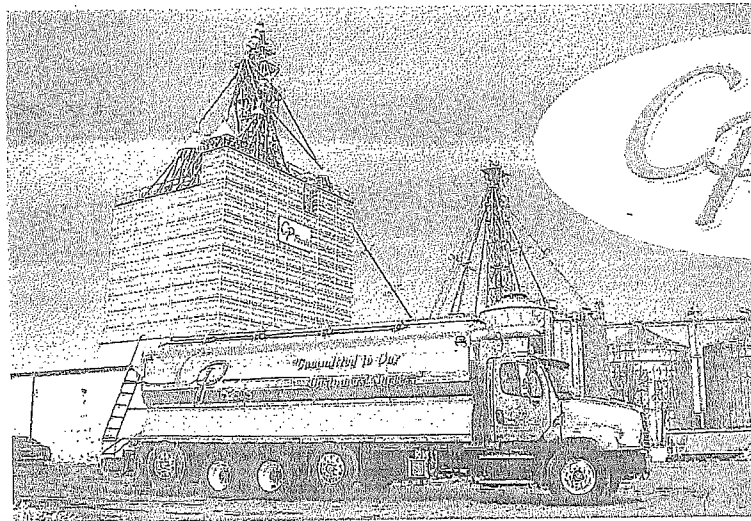
Perry will be available to sign copies of *Rough-*

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Michael Perry's writing shows dual appreciation for rural life and intellectual pursuits.



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# Manitowoc library to host LEGO racing program

**SUSIE MENK**  
FOR USA TODAY  
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Technology is part of every aspect of our lives these days. We have smartphones, interactive white boards, iPads, Kindles and all sorts of other electronics. Even in schools, children are using computers to learn.

Many jobs require some form of computer knowledge or software usage. When the children who are currently in school join the workforce, the majority of them will have to use technology regardless of their field. Health care, road systems, home functions, space exploration, entertainment — all of these fields rely heavily on computers and computer programming.

So, how are we preparing our children for this world of technology? One very important part of understanding computers is understanding how they work. One type of language computers use to do their work is called coding. Coding is the series of commands written into the software program that tell the computer what to do. It's similar to a series of "if ..., then ..." commands. Every task or action must be completely written out in a series of detailed codes. Tell a robot to make a piece of toast — first, the robot must take so many steps forward, then open the package of bread, remove a piece of bread, etc. Every single action must be accounted for. It is not enough to simply say: "put the

bread in the toaster."

At Manitowoc Public Library, we believe this world of coding is an important part of children's learning, and we are endeavoring to provide opportunities to engage children in this coding process. Manitowoc Public Library is pleased to announce we will host a LEGO racing program from 1 to 3 p.m. March 29. This program will include an introduction into the world of coding through the use of meeperBots. Not only is coding going to be vital to their future work environment, but learning coding is a study in logic, problem solving and creative thinking. The website Code.org quotes Steve Jobs as once



Susie Menk

having said, "Everyone should learn how to program a computer, because it teaches you how to think."

To this end, Manitowoc Public Library has acquired several coding tools, one of which is meeperBots. MeeperBots are a combination of coding, robotics and building. The meeperBot itself is a small base that has wheels and axles. The top part of the robot is created to be a base for building a structure out of materials such as LEGOs. Once the structure is built on the meeperBot, the meeperBot can be connected to an electronic device through a meeperBot app. This app allows the user to control the movements of the

meeperBot in the same way a radio controller can move a radio controlled car.

If that were all there were to it, it wouldn't be very exciting. In addition to acting like a remote control for the meeperBot, the app allows the user to set up various moves for the meeperBot using a series of pre-programmed actions. The user can set up several commands, such as move forward, move backward, turn at a 180-degree angle, turn in a circle, and so forth. By stringing together a series of commands, the user is programming the meeperBot to perform these actions one after the other. Just like the exact commands needed to make a robot toast a piece of bread. This is simplified coding.

Users can add or subtract commands, repeat commands or change the number of times a meeperBot performs these commands. It's an exciting adventure into the world of coding.

The March 29 LEGO racing program will include some basic coding for grade school-age children. Grade school-age children are invited to drop in any time during the event to try out the meeperBots. Additional activities will include LEGO building and programming the meeperBots to go through an obstacle course.

For more details, contact the library's Youth Department at 920-686-3030.

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

March 19, 2017

## Mishicot school presents spring music programs

As spring arrives in the village once again, the promise of warm and sunny days ahead brings fresh events to look forward to in and around Mishicot.

O.H. Schultz Elementary School will present its spring music programs March 23. This year's programs will feature agriculture, and include folk and country music based around the school's PBIS theme "Fill The Wagon."

The Mishicot High School show choir, Soundwave, as well as students in FFA will make special appearances.

Grades 3-5 will present their program at 1



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rye bread, applesauce, milk and coffee.

Beer, soda, water, desserts, hot dogs, and pork chops will also be served.

Carry-outs will be available, and drive-thru service will be provided. Walk-ins are welcome, and purchases of \$100 or more will include free

by being present at the museum during open hours in a three-hour block, and can expect to be assigned three to four times during the summer months.

Those interested may contact the M.A.G.I.C. office at 920-755-3411 and leave their name and

at noon April 8 for kids 6 and younger, and at 1 p.m. for kids 7-13. Also included: a special appearance by Mr. Wiskers, the Easter Bunny, and entertainment by magician Don Vort.

The hunt is sponsored by the Larrabee Sportsman's Club, Mishicot Sportsman's Club, T & A Beach Bar, Crazy 8 Bar, Joy's Bonker Hill in Maribel, Good Times Bar & Banquet Hall, Fat Boyz II in Tisch Mills, Tanker, Whitetail Lodge, Bottom's Up in Maribel and The Trapping Group.

• Mishicot Senior Nutrition Site menu for the week of March 20: Monday, hot dog on a

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# April Fools' fun set at Manitowoc library

**TIM GADZINSKI**  
FOR USA TODAY  
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

It has been said on more than one occasion that knowledge equals power. To further complicate matters, it has also been said that power tends to corrupt.



Tim Gadzinski

Thusly, speaking on a purely mathematical, transitive level, the equation that obviously emerges is that knowledge has the hidden power to corrupt the user, which is obviously a statement steeped in paranoia and poppycock. So, what conclusion can be drawn from this? Simply this — that math is a very tricky thing, something best left in the hands of those who have taken a class or two on the subject.

However, knowledge is also a crafty taskmaster, something as elusive and mysterious as a Sasquatch: here one minute and gone the next, swallowed by the mists of intrigue. Not to mention the fact that

knowledge itself is a subject so vast, so all-encompassing that some have put forth the notion that the pursuit of comprehending knowledge's entirety does little more than hand the pursuer a one-way ticket to Ye Olde Loony Bin.

An even further puzzlement entrenches itself when one takes the time to ponder who controls knowledge. Who are the puppet masters who decide who gets to know what when and wherefore how? It's a riddle that has plagued mankind since before the Sphinx surrendered its nose to spite its face. Why is some knowledge placed directly in the glow of the most radiant spotlight and why are other chapters from the handbook of knowledge relegated to the shadows? Some say that only the most enlightened Illuminati and Rosicrucian scholars possess the intellectual fortitude to consume this forbidden fruit without harmful side effects. Still others say that Al Roker and Jon Bon Jovi openly discuss the topic over lunch at Katz's Delicatessen. One thing is certain:

no one knows for sure.

By and large, Manitowoc Public Library does an admirable job of giving all knowledge — from the trivial to the monumental — its time to shine. But, even an institution as esteemed as MPL is not exempt from allowing some of knowledge's slipperier themes to slide through their fingers like renegade eels. Knowing this full well, they have decided to dedicate the better portion of April 1 to "Neglected Knowledge," declaring it to be "A Day of Irrelevant Awareness." Highlights of the event include:

» An appearance at 10 a.m. by internationally renowned socialite, Madame Xenia Minscove, the acclaimed "Animal Astrologist." She will be on hand, gazing to the stars to divine what may or most likely may not happen in the future of your beloved animal family members. Please have a photo of Miss Fluffyboots or Rambo T. Dog ready to share, as pictures make Madame Xenia's job considerably easier.

» At 11 a.m., a guest lecture will be presented



Manitowoc Public Library

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by Professor Herschel Krustovsky, a hand-selected expert in the usage of arguably the world's most beautiful language: Pig Latin. Its subtle nuances and playful rigors will no doubt be covered in such a manner as to please some of those in attendance!

» A panel will be convened at approximately noon to discuss which commonplace food — specifically Bananas vs. Blueberries vs. Bundt Cake — has the potential to unlock the secret of immortality! Our panelists' information may or may not shock you!

All this and more will

be made available April 1 (April Fools' Day) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for all those thirsting to expand their horizons with "Neglected Knowledge." Open your mind to opening your mind!

Tim Gadzinski is marketing associate for Manitowoc Public Library.