

Krazy Daze Used Book Sale at Manitowoc Public Library July 13-15

Tim Gadzinski, For USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Published 7:00 a.m. CT July 3, 2018 | Updated 7:00 a.m. CT July 3, 2018



(Photo: Sue Pischke/HTR Media)
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The lure of a used anything sale is fairly obvious. It's an opportunity to potentially purchase something you've had your eye on for a fraction of the new item price.

Whether you find precisely what you had hoped to locate, there's typically something worth picking up that you never knew you needed. Not to mention that this impulse purchase isn't going to cost you an arm and/or a leg, either.

You're broadening your horizons, nurturing an established interest, and being frugal all at the same time. It's the vaunted triple win!

Here's the thing — what if there were a "Used" sale that literally featured thousands of items for purchase? Tables upon tables heaped with books, audio books, CDs, DVDs, magazines and picture books. Because that's exactly what you'll find waiting for you at the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library Krazy Daze Used Book Sale, taking place in the Balkansky Community Room on MPL's second floor. This is the one sale you won't want to miss! Here's a full list of the hours of operation:

KRAZY DAZE
USED BOOK SALE

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 5 PM TO 8 PM
FRIENDS ONLY PRESALE

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 9 AM TO 6 PM

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 9 AM TO 3 PM

SUNDAY, JULY 15, 12 PM TO 4 PM

Friends of Manitowoc Public Library
BALKANSKY COMMUNITY ROOM

Manitowoc Public Library's Krazy Daze Used Book Sale runs July 12-15. (Photo: Provided)

- July 13, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
- July 14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- July 15, noon-4 p.m.

Additionally, a Friends-only pre-sale will take place from 5 to 8 p.m. July 12. Not a Friends member yet? Not a problem. Memberships will be available for purchase during the pre-sale that Thursday.

Remember that frugality I mentioned earlier? Well, how do these prices for available materials strike you in the penny-pinching department: adult paperbacks (4 inches wide or less) — 50 cents; all other adult books — 75 cents; all children's books — 25 cents; magazines — 25 cents; CDs — 50 cents; DVDs and audio books — \$2. And if you really feel like saving, do the Friends have a special for you! From noon to 4 p.m. July 15, stuff-a-bag will be available for \$3 per bag. You read that right — \$3 for everything still available at the Friends Used Book Sale that you can cram into the provided paper bag! Talk about being thrifty — in bulk, no less!

Up to this point, I've covered most of the reasons one might want to come to the Friends sale to amass a beautiful collection of books and the like for themselves. But, with prices like these and the vast array of materials available, why stop there? Why not start a home library of picture books for your children or for when your grandchildren come to visit? Or maybe you could surprise a new retiree with a great selection of books, CDs and magazines to occupy them in their newly freed hours. The Friends of MPL holds the key to fulfilling all of these dreams!

Speaking of unselfish, I'd certainly be remiss if I didn't address all of the wonderful things that the Friends do for MPL. The Friends of Manitowoc Public Library aids the library, both financially and with its support of our services. Many of our offerings wouldn't be possible without the generosity of the Friends — such as the extremely popular "Superhero Saturday" or the popular "Great Decisions" lecture series. They financially sponsor our Summer Reading Program every year. Many Friends also contribute their time and effort for fundraising.

The Friends' biggest fundraisers are their used book sales. Materials specifically donated for the book sale — as well as materials withdrawn from our collection — are organized in this book sale for the community to browse and purchase.

You won't find a better deal for books for miles around, and we look forward to seeing you at the Friends of Manitowoc Library Krazy Daze Used Book Sale.

Tim Gadzinski is marketing associate at Manitowoc Public Library.



Tim Gadzinski (Photo: Courtesy of Tim Gadzinski)

Manitowoc Public Library to host zombie apocalypse LARPing event for teens

Lisa Pike, For USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Published 7:10 a.m. CT July 14, 2018



(Photo: Provided)

LARPing? Is that even a real word? Actually, it's an acronym that stands for "Live Action Role-Playing." OK, but what does it mean and why is it suddenly booming as an activity among teens and adults all over the country?

Have you ever heard of Dungeons & Dragons or Empire of the Petal Throne? First published in 1974, these are some of the very first tabletop role-playing games. Recent additions to this game genre include Call of Cthulhu and Paranoia. The one constant in all of these games is the aspect of role-playing.

In a role-playing game (RPG), an individual takes on the persona of a character either set out by the game or that they create. The player travels through the game's world as this character and has to call upon their critical thinking and improvisational skills in the mindset of the character.



Dystopia Rising: Wisconsin will host a LARPing event at Manitowoc Public Library July 21. (Photo: Provided)

Players with an affinity for role-playing games often want more diverse opportunities for game play. Therefore, live action role-playing was a natural progression.

LARP is a participatory game in which everyone takes part by taking on atypical characters or creating their own, all with individual personalities, wardrobes and weapons. In this way, LARPing becomes a cross between role-play and cosplay.

Many "larpers" make their own costumes and foam weapons, and are skilled artisans in a variety of arts such as metalsmithing, leatherworking and tailoring.



Dystopia Rising: Wisconsin will host a LARPing event at Manitowoc Public Library July 21. (Photo: Provided)

The first known LARP games were played in the late 1970s and have grown to encompass many different fandoms beyond that of fantasy. Science fiction and horror fiction games, for example, of which zombie apocalypse is a popular theme. This shouldn't come as much of a surprise, what with the popularity of The Walking Dead TV show and graphic novels, and movies like Resident Evil and George Romero's "Living Dead" films, which have all become an "undying" part of the zombie genre.

- When zombies and LARPing collide, the result is Dystopia Rising. Dystopia Rising is the name of a LARP group that has different chapters all over the United States. One of these chapters just happens to be right in Milwaukee! The Milwaukee chapter often stages settlements at both Camp Evelyn (in Sheboygan County) and Camp Manitou (in Manitowoc County). At these settlements, they bring prepared scripts to life through costume, acting and foam weapon combat. Just like Dungeons & Dragons, Dystopia Rising started out as a tabletop game and a book series before becoming a weekend-long LARP game.
- This game is a post-zombie apocalypse survival scenario where players join others to reside in a survivor settlement for the weekend. The idea is to play the scripted game, meet a lot of new people, and have fun stepping into an imaginary world of zombies.
- One of the great aspects of this game is that once you create your own character, it becomes part of the overall story within the group's networked system. So, if you want to continue play as your character at another chapter, it's no problem.
- I first heard of this group from some friends who often participate in LARPing events. I thought it would make a great teen program, especially for those teens who are already into cosplay or are interested in getting started.
- MPL's program will be an introduction to LARPing, including character creation and role-play, costumes, and there will even be time for foam weapon combat training!



Lisa Pike (Photo: Provided)

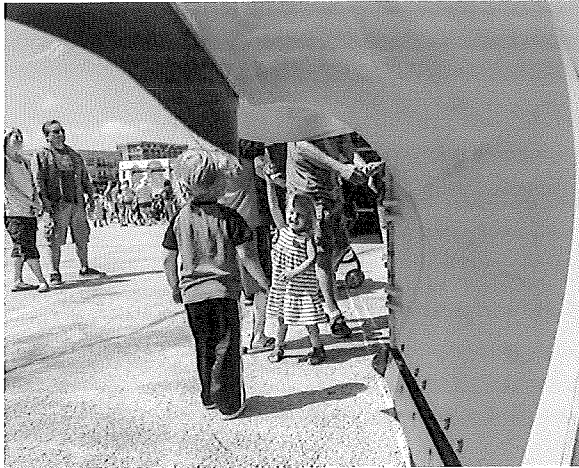
Dystopia Rising: Wisconsin will visit Manitowoc Public Library at 1 p.m. July 21 in the upstairs Balkansky Community Room. Teens should come ready to survive the zombie hordes! For more information, visit <http://dystopiarisingwi.com>.

It doesn't take a whole lot of BRAAAAAIIIIINS to see that this is going to be one incredible afternoon!

Lisa Pike is teen associate at Manitowoc Public Library.

MPL Touch the Trucks

. CT July 20, 2018



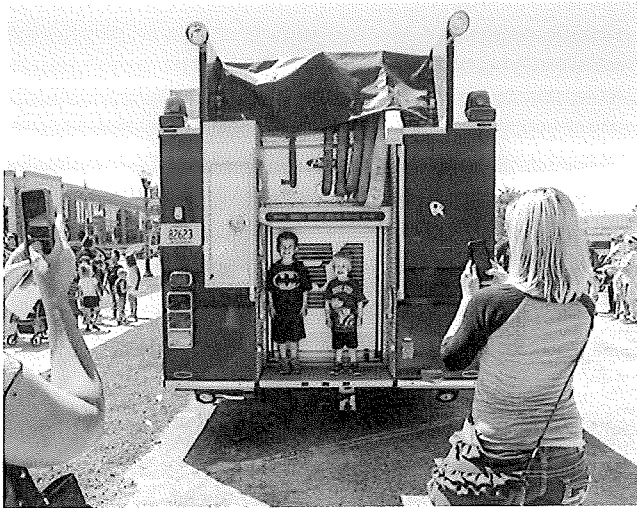
Chloe Derby, 2, tries to touch the top of the city's snow plow during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



Dylan Backus, 2, looks over the city's road grader during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



People gather around the U.S. Coast Guard boat during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



Silas Pekarek, 4, left, of Kewaunee and Bentley Papham, 2, of Mishicot pose for a picture on a fire truck during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



Brianna Wagner, left, and her daughter Alexis, 2, tour the Manitowoc public transportation bus during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



People walk by the police van during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



Meagan Christel and her son Xander, 4, exit the police van with help from Officer Andrew Trilling during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



People watch a Manitowoc fire truck park during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis



Jaxson Dobrzynski, 5, of Valders talks with Manitowoc paramedic Mike Burgard during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis

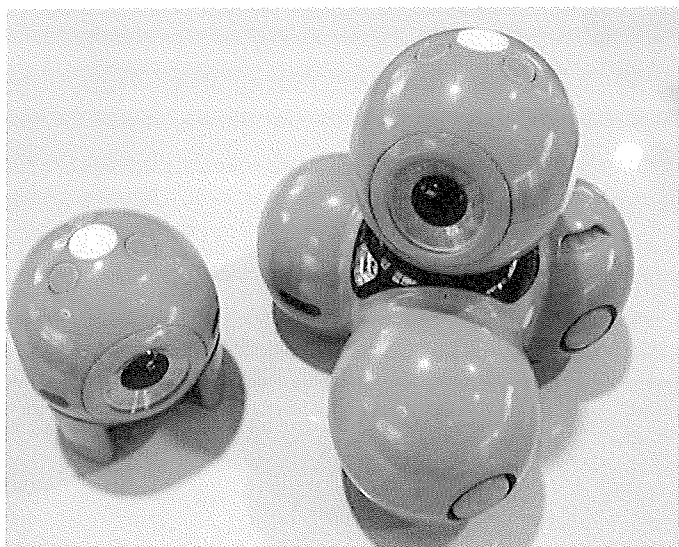


People check out the hazmat truck during the Touch the Trucks event put on by the library's children's service department Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in Manitowoc, Wis. Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Joshua Clark, Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wis

Teens, learn all about robots at Manitowoc library

July 26

Lisa Pike, For USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Published 8:16 a.m. CT July 21, 2018



(Photo: Provided)

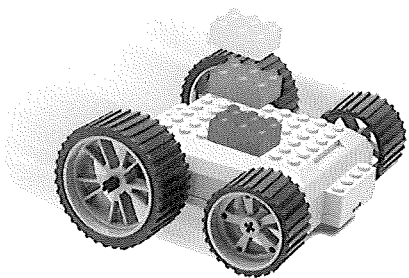
For some people, the word “robot” may conjure visuals of cute characters like Pixar’s WALL-E and EVE, while others may be reminded of rogue artificial intelligence, such as HAL-9000 in 2001: A Space Odyssey or the androids in Westworld. Thankfully, at this point, the latter two are only science fiction, but whatever your personal perception may be of the robot, one thing in the present appears to be certain — they make great educational tools.

Robots aid in teaching children and teens the finer points of critical thinking and problem-solving skills through the ability to interact with a tangible

object, which instantly reacts to their input using a cause-and-effect relationship. The result from this type of interactive learning is a skill set of both concrete and abstract thinking processes. This is the type of learning that needs to be the basis of coding education. This method lays the framework for more complex skills that can be useful in technical careers such as game design, software development and computer programming.

Coding education is not just about learning markup language and placement of tags for building web pages and widgets or writing commands for objects in a game. It is ultimately about building critical thinking skills and the ability to see objectives from many different perspectives, while weighing the pros and cons of each. The use of robots in this venture provides participants the ability to create through experimentation. Different models of robots use multiple variables, which can be switched out easily and applied to disciplines such as engineering, architecture and art.

Manitowoc Public Library Youth Department is lucky enough to be the owner of three great robotic tools for teaching STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) disciplines: meeperBOTS, Ozobots and Dash & Dot.



meeperBOT (Photo: Provided)

meeperBOTS are small motorized wheeled Lego bases upon which more Legos can be built. These bases are controlled with an iPad app in which participants can build code commands to direct the bot through mazes or even play a miniature soccer match!

Ozobots are small, ping-pong ball-sized robots whose moves are based on different color combinations. Participants can draw paths with special color codes for the bots to follow and perform special tricks.

And finally, there's Dash & Dot, a pair of robots that communicate with one another through commands sent via an iPad app and who will perform various maneuvers based on programmed input.

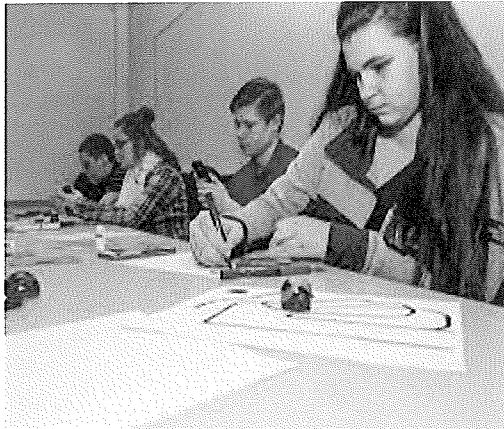
The common aspect of all these robots is that they all operate through the creation and compilation of input commands by participants. And yes, sometimes they go off course or run into walls because of incorrect commands, but it's all part of the learning process. The best part is that robots don't talk back — at least not yet — and will patiently execute all inputted commands until the right one is found.



Ozobot (Photo: Provided)

All of these robots can be tried out by school-aged children in the Youth Department this summer through in-house checkout with a library card.

Another great opportunity coming up just for teens at MPL is a workshop called Nuts & Bolts About Robots at 2 p.m. July 26. During this workshop, teens will get to work with these robots and some of our other tech toys, such as our Bloxels Videogame kits and our 3-D Printer Pens. This will be a one-hour workshop with multiple stations giving teens an opportunity to work with the library's various tech toys. There will also be a presentation by Valders' robotics team — Droid Rage — during which they will discuss building robots for competitions and other technologies.



Kids using Ozobots at Manitowoc Public Library.
(Photo: Provided)

Curious about our tech collection? Then come and take a guided tour at our Nuts & Bolts About Robots teen workshop!

(Did you know that robots take summer vacation, too? Why? To recharge their batteries!)

Lisa Pike is teen associate at Manitowoc Public Library.

Manitowoc library carnival offers family fun



Julie Lee
Special to Manitowoc Herald
Times Reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISC.

If you've been enjoying the gorgeous summer weather and are thinking, "How could summer possibly get better?" look no further than your Manitowoc Public Library!

Get ready for a day of fun-filled activities, because our Grand Finale Library Carnival is back for the second straight year!

Come on down to the library from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Aug. 4. This year is a dual celebration of our 20th anniversary in our beautiful Quay Street building and the end of our sensational Summer Reading Program with fabulous fun for the whole family.

We will see the return of the dunk tank (weather permitting), the water-balloon catapult, and the duck pond (complete with fabulous prizes, of course!).

We also have some exciting new additions to the carnival lineup, including our partnership with Grow It Forward. In addition to the usual farmers' market stalls and vendors, you can also hug therapy llamas, enjoy live music provided by the Ryan Kautzer Band, bounce your socks off in not one but three

bounce houses, and learn fabulous culinary tips from two live cooking/grilling demos using fresh farmers' market food.

Looking for more fun for all ages? We'll have face-painting, a balloon artist, cookie-decorating, bingo (also with fabulous prizes) and Menchie's selling frozen yogurt on site, so you can beat the heat without missing a beat. Make sure you stop by that dunk tank for your chance to soak your favorite librarian!

Here's a breakdown of the awesome events for the day:

■ Grilling/cooking demos — 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

■ Live music — 9 a.m.-noon

■ Dunk tank — 10 a.m.-noon (weather-permitting)

■ Bingo — Inside Balkansky Community Room, 10 a.m. and noon

■ Face painting, water balloon catapult (until balloons run out), balloon artist, bounce houses, cookie decorating, duck pond, vendors, farmers' market — ALL DAY, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

In honor of our 20th anniversary in our Quay Street building, we also have a "20 Years on Quay" display. Running from July through Labor Day, our display features the highlights of the last 20 years of the library, memorable moments, and documents the construction from before groundbreaking to the final touches in photos, print and physical



Manitowoc Public Library had its first-ever Carnival Day on Aug. 4, 2017, in Manitowoc. This year's event is Aug. 4. It will celebrate the end of the library's Summer Reading Program.

JOSH CLARK/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

memorabilia.

You might be surprised by how many changes our library has gone through since we first moved 20 years ago. As part of the display, we would love for patrons to share their favorite memories of the library through our interactive poll. Walk up to the Service Desk between now and Labor Day and you will see a TV that is displaying a word cloud for the question "What is your favorite library memory?" Please add to our word cloud by sharing a favorite library memory. It is very simple to do: a. Text mlibrary541

to 22333. When you get a reply, text back your answer to the question. - or - b. Go to pollev.com/mlibrary541 and type in your answer to the question.

When similar answers get submitted, that word (or words) will grow larger on the screen. We can't wait to see what some of the best memories people have of their Manty library!

Mark your calendars for a day of fun at Manitowoc Public Library like none other. Did we mention that all the carnival activities are completely free? In addition to the free fun, we'll also have local food vendors selling tasty treats and drinks to keep you refreshed and ready for the carnival craziness.

Weather permitting, the library carnival will be taking place outdoors. We will be closing part of Quay Street and the Quay Street parking lot Aug. 3 and all day on Aug. 4 to accommodate the carnival.

The library parking lot will still be available for patron parking. If the day is rainy, we will still have a smaller version of the carnival inside the library (the farmers' market will go strong, no matter the weather!).

See you on Aug. 4 for the 20th Anniversary & Grand Finale Manty Summer Carnival!

Julia Lee is Youth Services manager at Manitowoc Public Library.