

EATON RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
NEWS 2011 & 2012

# Eaton Rapids Public Library

Spring is upon us and it is time to stock up on summer reading materials for the long lazy summer ahead! The Friends of the Eaton Rapids Public Library are having the last book sale until fall on May 21, 2011 from 11am to 1pm in the backroom of the Library. Everything is half-off, nothing will be held back! A nice selection of children's books are available to keep the kids busy on the ride to lake Michigan this summer and a number of mysteries and fiction books are in stock for reading on the beach for mom and dad. Also for sale are cookbooks, biographies, self-help, romance, and history books. Prices are good for this date only, so hurry in for best selection. The back door to the Library is open for patrons during normal business hours with parking in the lot behind the Library. Please call Salli Harding at 663-7369 with any questions.

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5/10/11

# Eaton Rapids Public Library News

by Sandy Porter, Director

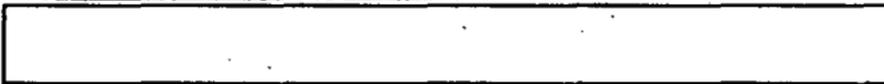
If you missed our big 135th Birthday Open House last Sunday, you missed a really good party! And our Stack of Books library cake has been the talk of the town! It was a wonderful day and such a pleasure to see so many of you come out to celebrate your hometown library. It couldn't have been accomplished without the help of so many people, most especially my Library staff : Lauri Swift, Teresa Baldwin and Brandon Ruppel; the Ladies of the Library Board: Sonja Seaks, Lois DeCamp, Nancy Pople and Jan Denton; the Friends of the Library group, especially Cathy Carr, Salli Harding, and Carolyn Wyckoff, and a huge thanks to the Cake Diva, Theresa Platte for the most realistic stack of books we've ever eaten, to Patrick for all his help and for anyone else I've inadvertently missed mentioning. It was truly a team effort. It was nice to have a day to look back and see how far our library has come and how much we have accomplished over the last 135 years. Our progress has been amazing; but now, it's time to turn our face to the future and look ahead at what the library can become and all that we have to do.

It's March already and in just a few short weeks we will need to be ready for Summer Reading. We have received our supplies and will be ready to put the finishing touches on our program.

The Friends of the Library are still having their monthly Used Book Sales in the back room of the Library. The sales are held on the 3rd. Saturday of the month, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. They have a good supply of gently used books and the price is right. Be sure to stop in and take a look at what they have for sale.

We hope to see you soon at the Library!

*3/8/11  
Flasher*



# Library News

by Sandy Porter, Library Director

The Library just received some wonderful news! We have received a second Reinhardt Library Grant, and thanks to this generous donation, we will begin work in just a few weeks on our new project. This year, we will be working on the area of the back door of the Library. A new wall will be built, work done on the back wall of the Library and we will get a completely new back-door. All this will be done to make it easier and safer for our patrons to come in and out of the back door of the Library. The back entrance may be unavailable for a little while during construction and we ask for your patience. (If the back entrance is not open; take a little walk through our beautiful pocket park to access the front door.)

Also, in the next few weeks you will start to see some much needed changes in the Teen Area of the Library. Due to the generosity of our Friends of the Library group and memorial donations made in memory of Janet Kern, we will be re-doing our Teen Area and making it more inviting and

comfortable for our Teen patrons. There will be new seating, a colorful area rug and new artwork. By next summer, when we begin a new Teen Summer Reading program, the area should be all ready for some comfortable reading on a hot summer's day. We hope you will like the changes.

Once again we will be participating in the Hometown Family Christmas on December 3rd and Clifford the Big Red Dog will be visiting the library for a couple of story times, thanks to the Support Staff of the E.R. Public Schools. We always have a fun time with Clifford and look forward to his visits. Watch the paper for more details about his visit and other goings-on during the Hometown Family Christmas celebration.

From Turkey Day all the way to New Years, the Library Ladies wish you a joyful holiday season with family and friends and many happy visits to the Library!

*Sandy, Lauri, Teresa & Tammy*

*klashes 11/22/11*

# News From The Eaton Rapids Public Library

by Sandy Porter, Director

Summer has finally arrived and Summer Reading is in full swing! We have a program for everyone in the family, from the youngest to the oldest. Don't forget that you can sign-up all summer long. All summer programs run through August 5th.

Big news! – We will be joining with other members of the Woodlands Library Cooperative to bring downloadable books to your mobile devices or computer. Later this summer, patrons will be able to checkout and download eBooks and audiobooks from the library. Patrons will need to have a one-year or five-year library card, an internet connection and a compatible device. (At this point in time, Amazon's Kindle device is not compatible with OverDrive, the distributor of this program. It has been announced that by the end of the year, this issue will be addressed and you will be able to download to your Kindle. Devices such as the Nook, Kobo and Sony Reader are compatible now.) eBook readers should appreciate the opportunity to borrow these materials, rather than having to buy them. More information will be coming along soon.

The Library has heard from several patrons that there is a lot of misinformation going around about the Eaton Rapids Library cards. Anyone, no matter where you live, can get a card from our library. The only issue is that people living outside the City Limits of Eaton Rapids must purchase their library service. You may do this by buying a library card, which will be valid for 90-days or one year. The cost of a library card is very reasonable and any Staff member will be happy to explain our library services to you. Please stop by the Library or call 663-8118 #4 for more information. We welcome everyone!

We are still participating in the Park & Read Program this summer which allows you to get a free pass from our Library to use in place of the \$10 charge to enter Michigan State Parks. It's a great bargain and a chance to visit a beautiful State beach or park for free! Ask at the Library for more information. We hope to see many of you at the Library this summer! Join a Summer Reading program, come in to use a computer or the Wifi, or just stop in on a hot day to enjoy your books or magazines in the cool air. See you at the Library!

Alma 6/25/11

# Eaton Rapids Public Library News - We're 135 Years Old

by Sandy Porter, Director

The year was 1876. It was the Centennial year of the United States of America – it had been just 100 years since we fought the American Revolution to gain our independence from Great Britain. Our President was Ulysses S. Grant, a great hero from the Civil War, which had ended just 11 years before. The coming summer would see the death of General George Armstrong Custer and all his men at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. Indians roamed the prairies and American pioneers still moved westward, looking for land and a new start.

Here in Michigan, the little town of Eaton Rapids was thriving and growing. January of 1876 was a rainy month and not very cold. On New Year's Day, Grand Rapids reported that the streets were muddy and there was no ice on the river. February continued much the same with cool but not very cold weather. There had been very little sleighing during the winter. In Princeton, Indiana, on Sunday evening February 27th, a large tornado hit, called "the most severe cyclone which ever passed over the county" The entire southern part of that city was demolished with many injuries and several fatalities – strange weather for February.

On Monday evening, February 28th, 1876 in Eaton Rapids, a group of young people gathered together with a purpose. That purpose was the intent to establish a library in Eaton Rapids. Wesley Sears, Frank E. Smith, James H. Gallery, Jennie Adams, Emma Gallery, Mary Lake, Mary Dunbar, Nellie O. Law, Edward J. Ellis and Alice M. Kearney decided to call themselves the Philorhetorian League. They started out by providing lectures and entertainments for the public and used the proceeds to establish the library and pur-

chase books and newspapers. The original library was basically a reading room; but when enough books were obtained by purchase and donation, patrons were then allowed to check out books to take home.

From these humble beginnings, the Eaton Rapids Public Library was born. In the years that followed, the library was located in various buildings throughout the City but always on Main Street. Over the years, many, many residents have served on the Library Board of Trustees and through their hard work and dedication, have kept the Library going and growing. There are many names on the list of Librarians, as well, and their vision and guidance always kept the Library moving ahead.

During this month of February, 2011, we plan to celebrate our Library on its 135th birthday and invite you to join us. Each week in February we will have a drawing for a \$25 Gift Certificate to be used for a year's library service and also one of our Eaton Rapids Public Library canvas book bags. On February 16th, the Friends of the Eaton Rapids Public Library will be hosting a free Author Talk with local author Kathleen McGlinchey. On Sunday, February 27th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., we will be hosting a public Open House and Birthday party for the Library and everyone is invited to attend. We will have a lot of displays and pictures from Eaton Rapids through the years, some really nice door prizes to give away and, of course, birthday cake! Please watch the newspapers and signs at the Library for more information or call 663-8118 #4. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Library and, especially, at the Open House!

LSJ 6/18/2012

# What's News?...at the Eaton Rapids Public Library!

## October 2012

Fall has arrived and there's a lot going on at the Eaton Rapids Public Library. Our Library Friends Group has moved the date for their monthly Used Book Sale to the 4th Saturday, October 27 for just this month. Our traveling friends from Urban Air will be in town that weekend and we hope a number of them will stop in to visit the Library and the Book Sale!

Now that October is here, the Haunted Library Book is out and about. For those of you unaware, the Haunted Library Book visits the Library late at night and goes from shelf to shelf, looking for someone to "check it out". It could be anywhere in the Library. If you find it and bring it up to the Desk, you could get a "treat" or, maybe, a "trick"!

On Thursday, October 25th, we are having a special pre-school storytime. We will be having a special reading of the

Michigan Reads! One State, One Children's Book for this year, which is "Moose on the Loose" written by Kathy-jo Wargin. We will be celebrating all things "moose" with Moose treats, crafts, and maybe even a song, if Storyteller Ms. Tammy is willing. Please call the Library or stop in, to register. We hope you'll all join us for a fun time!

Within the next few weeks, the Library building will be having some major repair work done to the front. We ask for your patience during this reconstruction. Please remember that the back door is always open during Library hours and the drop box in the back is available 24/7, even for Videos and DVDs. Parking is always available in the City lot off of Hall Street, with only a short walk to the Library.

Enjoy our beautiful Michigan Fall and while you're out, stop by and visit the Library. See you soon!

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