
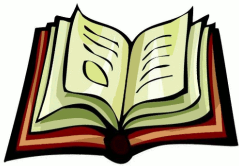


Kraemer Library Newsletter

December 2024 & January 2025

Library Calendar

Christmas - The library will close 1 pm on Tuesday, December 24 and be **CLOSED December 25**. The library will be also be closed on  Wednesday, **January 1**.



The Page Turners book group will meet on Tuesday, **December 17** to discuss *My Brilliant Friend*, by Elena Ferrante. For meeting information and location, contact the library. The January meeting will be Tuesday, **January 14**.

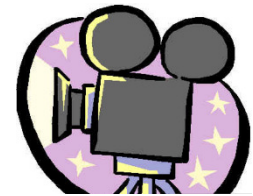


A representative of the **ADRC** (Aging and Disability Resource Center) visits the library every third Wednesday afternoon to discuss issues related to Medicare and Social Security. No appointments are necessary – first-come, first serve.

DATES: Wednesday, December 18 || Wednesday, January 15

The **Mid-Morning Matinee** is held every third Thursday beginning at 11:30 am. A light lunch from Block 23 is served. The event is supported by the Friends of the Kraemer Library.

DATES: Thursday, December 19 || Thursday, January 16



Mid-Morning Matinee – On Thursday, December 19, the library is showing the classic movie “It’s a Wonderful Life”. George Bailey has so many problems he is thinking about ending it all - and it's Christmas! As the angels discuss George, we see his life in flashback. As George is about to jump from a bridge, he ends up rescuing his guardian angel, Clarence - who then shows George what his town would have looked like if it hadn't been for all his good deeds over the years.



The **Tech Drop-In Session** is every fourth Thursday from 2 to 4 pm. The date was moved to the third Thursday in December due to the Christmas holiday. Feel

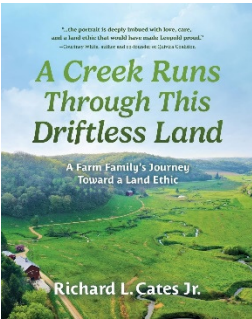
free to drop by to discuss tech-related questions.

DATES: Thursday, December 19 || Thursday, January 23



- **Next library board meeting will be Monday, December 30 at 6:30 pm and Monday, January 27**

Author Visit – January 9

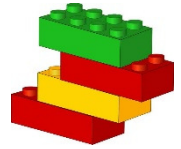


Kraemer Library welcomes Dick Cates on Thursday, January 9 at 5:30 pm to discuss his new farm memoir, *A Creek Runs Through This Driftless Land*. Dick Cates is a Spring Green area farmer, and in this book, he shares stories from his family farm experiences 'growing' memories, cattle, and a land ethic. Cates will discuss the family's generational journey from land "owners" to caretakers of the farm, land, and water where they live and work. Cates will talk about the challenges and success of transitioning farm operations into restorative, regenerative, and perennialized agriculture and developing a more harmonious relationship to the land and all that lives there with them, past and present.

Children's Programs



Storytime – Tuesdays at 4:30 pm. Storytime ends December 17 and will resume in January.



Lego Club – meets on Monday December 9 at 1 pm.

Family Night- Christmas Cookie Making December 19 @ 5 pm



Join us for a festive night as families learn how to make their favorite Christmas sugar cookies at the library. We will be mixing and cutting out the cookies and sending them home for you to bake and decorate!

Sign up to reserve your spot. You can either call 608-546-4201 or visit the library.

Check the library website or Facebook for more information about programs for children and families for January.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Kraemer Library were happy to participate in the Christkindlmarkt held on November 30 by providing holiday-themed books to the children who came to see Santa. Five different title options were available for families to choose from. The Friends group hopes that these books will become holiday favorites, to be read again and again.



We wish all a Merry Christmas and look forward to serving the community in the upcoming year, and thank the community for your continued support.

Library News

Juvenile and Early Reader Book Giveaway



Attention parents of school-age children – during the last few years, the library has withdrawn books targeted for early readers (age 5-9) and juveniles (ages 8-13) from circulation. The books are still in good condition and will be available FREE OF CHARGE during December and January. The books will be displayed on a rolling cart in the library vestibule the first week of December.

Historical Novels Available

The library recently withdrew from circulation novels by August Derleth. Derleth was born and raised in Sauk City and many of his novels published in the pre-World War II period focused on life in rural Wisconsin. The books are available to any patron interested in Wisconsin history. Contact the library for additional information.-



Strategic Planning 2024-29

The library's strategic planning committee has started to discuss the ways library usage has changed over time, and potential projects to address those changes. Public listening sessions will be held in Spring 2025. In the meantime, any suggestions for library improvements are welcome – simply fill out a suggestion form available at the Information Desk or email the library at askus@kraemerlibrary.org.



December and January Book Exhibit – The December book exhibit is surviving the holiday season.

River Valley HS Yearbooks – The library maintains a collection of River Valley High School annual yearbooks, but the following years are missing: 1972 through 1983, 1987 and 1988, and 1992-1996. Patrons willing to donate a yearbook for one of the missing years are welcome to drop it off at the library.



Upcoming Area Events

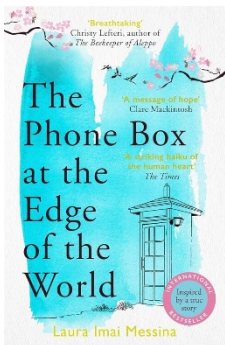
Arcadia Holiday Night Market - Thursday, December 12, 5-8 pm.



Arcadia Silent Book Club – Thursday, December 19, 5:30-7:30 pm.

Arcadia Book Club – The Wednesday, December 11 meeting (6-7 pm) will focus on each participant's favorite reads of 2024. Reservations for the Zoom discussion can be made on Arcadia's website.

Book Recommendation



The Phone Booth At the Edge of the World, Laura Imai Messina– 380 pages [from book jacket] –

When Yui loses her mother and daughter in the tsunami, she wonders how she will ever carry on, and begins to mark time in relation to that terrible day in 2011. Yet, in the face of this unthinkable loss, her life must somehow continue.

One day at work, as the host of a call-in radio program, Yui hears a story about a man on Whale Mountain – one of the places worst hit by the tsunami – who has an old telephone booth in his garden with a disconnected phone inside. As news of the phone booth and its “wind phone” spreads, people start coming from miles around to speak to loved ones,

finding comfort in sharing the details of their daily lives with those they have lost.

But when Yui, numb with grief, makes her own pilgrimage, she can't bring herself to pick up the receiver. Then she meets Takeshi, a widower whose own daughter has stopped talking in the wake of her mother's death.

Inspired by true events, Laura Imai Messina's international bestselling novel *The Phone Booth at the Edge of the World* is a moving, unforgettable story about the depths of grief, the lightness of love, and the human longing to keep the people who are no longer with us close to our hearts.

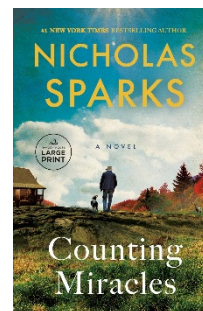
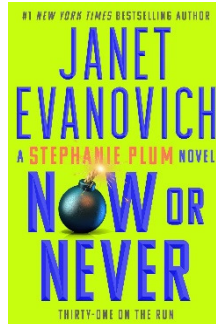
Recent Arrivals

Fiction

Tooth and Claw, Craig Johnson
The Mirror, Nora Roberts
Now or Never, Janet Evanovich
Trial By Fire, Danielle Steel

Large Print

Now or Never, Janet Evanovich
The Mighty Red, Louise Erdrich
Blue Sisters, Coco Mellors
Lies He Told Me, James Patterson
A Christmas Duet, Debbie Macomber
The Blue Hour, Paula Hawkins
The Life Impossible, Matt Haig
Counting Miracles, Nicholas Sparks
We Solve Murders, Richard Osman



Nonfiction

From Here to the Great Unknown, Lisa Marie Presley and Riley Keough (LP, memoir)
Quick & Cozy: Half Baked Harvest, Tieghan Gerard
Framed: Astonishing True Stories of Wrongful Convictions, John Grisham and Jim McCloskey

