



# Homer Township Public Library District

*Celebrating 21 Years of Community Service*

FALL 2003

<http://www.homerlibrary.org>

## BEST VALUE IN TOWN

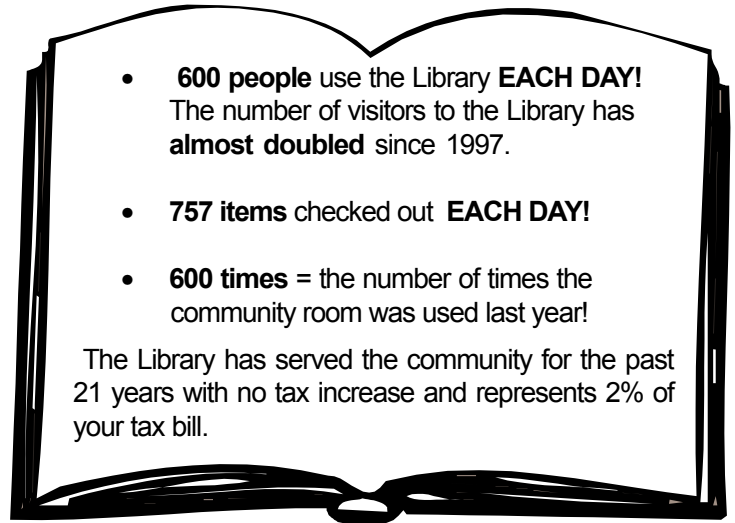
Homer Township Public Library is a community center, technology hub and information warehouse. We work hard to bring the world of information within reach. Discover what the library has to offer you:

- ★ Cultural and educational programming
- ★ Internet connected public access terminals
- ★ Web site with 24-hour card catalog and library account access
- ★ Free meeting room for local groups
- ★ Free computer classes
- ★ Quality children's programs, educational resources
- ★ Library delivery service for those who are homebound
- ★ Visits to local daycares and a monthly distribution of the A+ book collection
- ★ Youth peer tutoring program with tutor and student matches
- ★ Books, videos, CDs, magazines and audiobooks for checkout
- ★ Help / research desk staffed with trained librarians
- ★ Summer and winter incentive reading clubs
- ★ Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) with teen programming
- ★ Senior Outreach Services
- ★ Recreational craft classes and lectures
- ★ Dedicated and professional staff

### YOU ASKED...

**"Why don't you remove tables and chairs to bring in more book shelving?"**

Seating is needed! More than ever because residents come in to visit, study, read, look up information, relax, and discuss! More than 600 visitors come in DAILY, and we are continually asked for more seating and meeting space by local residents and groups.



- **600 people** use the Library **EACH DAY!**  
The number of visitors to the Library has **almost doubled** since 1997.
- **757 items** checked out **EACH DAY!**
- **600 times** = the number of times the community room was used last year!

The Library has served the community for the past 21 years with no tax increase and represents 2% of your tax bill.

## RECORD BREAKING RESULTS

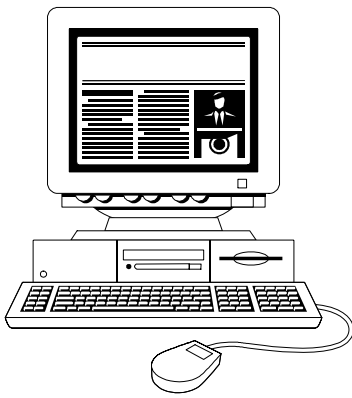
Numbers tell the story. This past year alone has seen our checkout of materials increase from almost 200,000 items (600 items daily) to more than **265,000 items (757 items daily)**. At the same time, computer classes and users, programs and attendance, meeting room use and the number of library cardholders continue to grow.

### Circulation growth continues

Year	Circulation	% change
2001	175,510	
2002	198,663	+13%
2003	267,340 Items	+34%

### FY 2002/03 statistics:

Circulation:	267,340
Library attendance:	210,708
Library cardholders:	17,407
New cardholders:	1,545
Items in the collection:	122,261
Grants awarded:	\$115,575
Reference questions answered:	19,578
Percent of population with a library card:	60%



## SITES WORTH VISITING

Here are a few Web sites we've come to admire at the Help Desk:

**American Memory** ([memory.loc.gov](http://memory.loc.gov)) - Part of the Library of Congress' presence on the Internet, American Memory includes more than 100 collections comprising millions of documents, photographs, and other items.

**Screen It! Entertainment Reviews** ([www.screenit.com](http://www.screenit.com)) For each movie the Screen It! crew reviews, they list just about everything that parents *might* not want their children to see or hear, and leave the judgement to you.

### Urban Legends Reference Page

([www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com)) - Before you forward that "true story" you got by email to everyone you know, *please* check it out here first.

**The Wayback Machine** ([www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)) - Web sites can change daily and they sometimes disappear completely. The Internet Archive's Wayback Machine takes periodic snapshots of the Web, and it's your best chance of finding out what used to be on a site.

**Whichbook.net** ([www.whichbook.net](http://www.whichbook.net)) - Use either the slide controls or check boxes to select what you want in a book, and get a list of suggestions in return. It's based in the U.K., so don't bother clicking the "borrow" buttons. Also try the **NoveList** reader's advisory service in the Library's Online Reference Library (see article in this newsletter).

**The Word Spy** ([www.wordspy.com](http://www.wordspy.com)) - A dictionary of newly coined words and phrases, most of which you won't find in Webster's. Histories and references to published occurrences are included.

## THE NEW, IMPROVED ONLINE REFERENCE LIBRARY

Homer Township Library cardholders now have access to more resources through our Online Reference Library. From home, work, or anywhere else with Web access, all you need is your Library card number to use these products.

**NoveList** is an interactive tool to help you discover fiction books you might want to read. Look for authors or books that are similar to your favorites or find novels with a specific setting or plot. (New!)

**ReferenceUSA** is a nationwide directory of 14 million businesses and 140 million residential listings. Business listings include a contact person, annual sales data, parent and subsidiary links, credit risk assessment, and more. (New!)

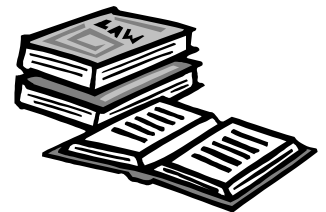
**News Illinois** is an archive of selected articles from the Tribune, Sun-Times, wire services, and other news sources in the state. Coverage begins with 1997. (New!)

**LearnATest** is an interactive test preparation service. Practice online for SAT, ACT, GED, ASVAB, police, firefighter, paramedic, civil service, and real estate tests.

**ProQuest** is an archive of articles from thousands of magazines, journals, and other periodicals. Scanned images of many articles are available, so those printouts look similar to photocopies from the original publications. The simple interface makes ProQuest an excellent starting point for your research.

**Facts.com, FirstSearch, and SIRS Knowledge Source** round out the Online Reference Library. Each of these sources bring a unique selection of news articles, research reports, and other documents to your desktop. FirstSearch also includes WorldCat, an international catalog of library holdings.

Because the Online Reference Library is provided as part of your tax-funded Library service, there is no charge for you to use any of these resources. The Online Reference Library is on the Web at [www.homerlibrary.org/databases.html](http://www.homerlibrary.org/databases.html)



## GRANT MONEY AWARDED TO THE LIBRARY

For our tax-capped Library budget, grant awards are very important. In the past three years a total of 31 grants have been written, with 24 received funding. This has brought in approximately \$500,000 to the Library. These funds have provided programming, computers, and resources for our residents and allowed us to undertake several partnerships with our local school district and other community organizations. Library staff just submitted 8 additional grants which would provide assistive technology tools, and materials in the areas of art, antiques, parenting, and more. Funding examples:

- KIDS CONNECT COMPUTER AREA with eight computers and educational software
- KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS, COMMUNITY INFORMATION KIOSK AND COMMUNITY WEB SITE
- FOCUS GROUPS TO SOLICIT INPUT
- GENEALOGY COMPUTER
- 24 UPGRADED COMPUTERS
- ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY MAGNIFIER FOR LOW VISION PATRONS
- TRAINING FOR SAFETY, PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT, CUSTOMER SERVICE
- SENIOR HEALTH FAIR
- SENIOR LEGAL/FINANCIAL FAIR
- COLLECTIONS OF POLISH AND SPANISH MATERIALS
- WINTER READING PROGRAM AND AUTHOR VISIT
- EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND MATERIALS



## KNOW YOUR GOVERNMENT

A series of presentations to increase citizen awareness,  
all programs will be held at the Homer Township Library

*Refreshments will be served, please call (708) 301-7908 to register*



### “Where Do I Go For Help?”

**Wednesday, September 24 – 7:00 p.m.**

Homer Township Clerk Ethel Rodriguez describes the roles of all levels of government, from the U.S. Federal Government down to local precincts.

### “Citizen Participation”

**Thursday, October 16 – 7:00 p.m.**

Representatives of the League of Women Voters give a Civic Action Training seminar on governmental processes, citizens’ rights to information, and ways to take action.

### “Meet the Mayor”

**Wednesday, October 22 – 7:30 p.m.**

Join Homer Glen Village President Russ Petrizzo for an informal conversation about the Village’s municipal government and how it works.

### “Your Illinois Legislature”

**Thursday, October 30 – 7:00 p.m.**

State Representative Renee Kosel and State Senator Christine Radogno visit the Library to tell about the work of the Illinois General Assembly and their work in it.

This series of “Know Your Government” programs was funded by a grant awarded to the Homer Library by the Illinois State Library (ISL), a Division of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), under the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

# KIDS CORNER



## CRAFTY KIDS

Come into the Library to see full description and samples.

<b>SEPT 26</b>	<b>GO FISH GAME</b>		
Friday	9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.	\$1.50*	
<b>SEPT 30</b>	<b>CROWS IN SUNFLOWER</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>OCT 3</b>	<b>BLACK CAT DOOR HANGER*</b>		
Friday	9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.	\$1.50	
<b>OCT 7</b>	<b>RUSTIC SCARECROW</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$3.00	
<b>OCT 14</b>	<b>SCARECROW HANGER</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$1.50	
<b>OCT 17</b>	<b>GHOST FELT BANNER*</b>		
Friday	9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.	\$1.50	
<b>OCT 21</b>	<b>FRANKENSTEIN BANNER</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>OCT 25</b>	<b>TRICK OR TREAT BAG</b>		
Saturday	10 a.m.	\$5.00	
<b>OCT 28</b>	<b>TRICK OR TREAT BAG</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$5.00	
<b>NOV 10</b>	<b>TURKEY GLOVE</b>		
Monday	7 p.m.	\$2.00	
<b>NOV 13</b>	<b>GIVE THANKS BANNER</b>		
Thursday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>NOV 14</b>	<b>TURKEY POT*</b>		
Friday	9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.	\$1.50	
<b>NOV 18</b>	<b>XMAS COUNTDOWN</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$3.50	
<b>NOV 20</b>	<b>MONKEY PUPPET</b>		
Thursday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	

Kits for craft classes cannot be purchased separately.  
Registration ends 24 hours prior to class.

<b>DEC 2</b>	<b>ANGEL BANNER</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>DEC 5</b>	<b>REINDEER TREAT BOWL*</b>		
Friday	9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>DEC 9</b>	<b>TREE &amp; 4 ORNAMENTS</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>DEC 11</b>	<b>REINDEER ON DUTY</b>		
Thursday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>DEC 16</b>	<b>MASON JAR CANDLE</b>		
Tuesday	7 p.m.	\$3.50	
<b>DEC 18</b>	<b>ORNAMENT WORKSHOP</b>		
Thursday	7 p.m.	\$2.50	
<b>DEC 19</b>	<b>ORNAMENT WORKSHOP*</b>		
Friday	9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.	\$2.50	

\* Parental assistance is necessary for this craft

## STORY TIME

Story Hour can help children develop better listening skills and prepare them for more structured activities. Our fall sessions will run for eight weeks. Children must be 3 years of age at the beginning of the session. In-person registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and phone registration will begin at Noon. Registration begins Sept. 8th.

## TODDLER TIME



In relaxing weekly sessions, an Education Service Network staff member promotes parent-child interaction using books, songs, rhymes, and creative movement. **Lapsit** is designed for parents and children up to age 3. The instructor will be here on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m., and 11:00 a.m., Sept. 17 to Nov. 12th with no class on Oct. 1st. Registration begins Sept. 8th. **Come and join us in promoting early learning!**

# Great Programs

## At the

# Homer Township Library



**SEPT 29**  
Monday  
7:30 p.m.  
ADULT

**HOW TO FIND ANYTHING ON THE WEB**

Librarian Brian Smith shares tricks learned from a decade of using the Internet. Special resources available to Homer Library users will also be featured. **Registration required. FREE**

**SEPT 30**  
Tuesday  
3 p.m.  
ADULT

**RESUME WORKSHOP**

Jan Muller for JJC's Office of Career Services offers practical advice for creating a resume that makes a good impression on prospective employers. **Registration required. FREE**

**OCT 7**  
Tuesday  
3 p.m.  
ADULT

**JOB INTERVIEWS**

Learn how to dress and prepare for that important interview from Jan Muller of JJC's Office of Career Services. **Registration required. FREE**

**OCT 4, 11, 18, 25**  
Saturday  
1 - 2 p.m.  
Young Adult

**CHESS FOR BEGINNERS**

Learn to play the classic game of thought and strategy in this 4-week class for students 6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school senior. Taught by Ron Svava. **Registration is required. FREE**

**OCT 13**  
Monday  
7:00 p.m.  
FAMILY

**ARE YOUR ANCESTORS ON THE INTERNET?**

Brother Joseph F. Martin from Lewis University highlights major genealogy Web sites and the Library's Ancestry Plus subscription. Practical handouts about successful research techniques will be provided. **FREE**

**OCT 23**  
Thursday  
7:00 p.m.  
ADULT

**STENCILING**

Janelle Tague, owner of Stencil & Sponge Creative Paint Concepts, demonstrates stencil techniques such as shading, multiple overlays, and embossing. **Registration required. \$3.00**

**NOV 1**  
Saturday  
10 a.m.  
ADULT

**BEGINNING SCRAPBOOKING**

Paula Borst, from Creative Memories, presents a scrapbooking class on the basics of creating memory pages. **Registration required. \$3.00**

**NOV 6 & 8**  
Thursday  
7:00 p.m. &  
Saturday  
10 a.m.  
ADULT

**CHRISTMAS BOWS**

Learn the art of bow making from Sheila Christiansen, and decorate gifts like they do in department stores. Materials are supplied, but bring a pair of sharp scissors. **Program repeated on Sat. Nov. 8th. Registration required. \$3.00.**

**NOV 22**  
Saturday  
10 a.m.  
ADULT

**ADVANCED SCRAPBOOKING**

Paula Borst, from Creative Memories presents a more advanced class on scrapbooking. Bring pictures, paper is provided. **Registration is required. \$3.00**

**DEC 6**  
Saturday  
10 a.m.  
FAMILY

**ALASKA AT WAR**

The attack on Pearl Harbor is well remembered, but the World War II battles with Japan in the Aleutian Islands are largely unknown. Jake De Lange, who served as a radio operator in Alaska during WWII, talks about this part of American military history. **FREE**

## MONEY TALKS

A series of FREE seminars on personal finance issues in today's economy. The series includes:



### Financial Planning for Women

Thursday, September 25th 7:30 p.m.  
Lorraine Schultz, A. G. Edwards

### Buying a Home: The Real Estate and Mortgage Process

Saturday, September 27th 10:00 a.m.  
Sharyn Ingram, Ingram Financial Services

### What to Do Today with Your 401(k)

Thursday, October 2nd 7:30 p.m.  
Michael Wollbrink, LaSalle Financial Services

### Retirement 101

Thursday, October 9th 7:30 p.m.  
Craig Lindemann, Morgan Stanley

### What Will It Cost to Send Your Child to College?

Monday, October 20th 7:30 p.m.  
Laverne Carlson, Waddell & Reed

## Homer Township Public Library

14320 West 151st Street  
Homer Glen, IL 60491  
Phone: (708) 301-7908

### Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**Web Site:** [www.homerlibrary.org](http://www.homerlibrary.org)

**Email:** [skozel@homerlibrary.org](mailto:skozel@homerlibrary.org)

### Board of Trustees:

Barry Levine, President  
Linda Phelps, Vice-President  
JoAnne Olivieri, Treasurer  
Edward O'Brien, Secretary  
Jane Klunk  
Bill Stachnik  
Rita D. Woods

Library Board Meetings, to which the public is invited, are the fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m., in the Community Room.

### Library Director:

Sheree Kozel-La Ha, MLS

### Assistant Director:

Sara McCambridge

### Adult Services:

Brian Smith, MLS

### Youth Services:

Kathryn Mitchell

### Business Manager/Newsletter Layout:

Carol McSweeney

### The Americans with Disabilities Act

The Homer Township Public Library District is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Those planning to attend a program who need special accommodations or who have a question regarding Library accessibility are requested to contact the Library Director at (708) 301-7908; [skozel@homerlibrary.org](mailto:skozel@homerlibrary.org) at least seven working days prior to the event.

## NEW POLISH AND SPANISH BOOKS

The Library is developing a collection of books in Polish and Spanish, through a grant from the Illinois State Library. We are starting with a small reference collection and a selection of popular novels and non-fiction books for adults. A list of the books in our start-up collection will be available on our Web site. You can help the Library improve our selection by suggesting books you would like us to add. Call us or send in your suggestions to [www.homerlibrary.org](http://www.homerlibrary.org).

Funding for this grant was awarded by the Illinois State Library (ISL), a Division of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), under the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

### KSIĄKI PO POLSKU

Biblioteka Publiczna Homer Township powiększa ksiązek w języku polskim, dzięki dotacji Illinois State Library. Na początek mamy mały zbiór słowników i encyklopedii oraz wybór popularnych powieści i ksiązek popularnonaukowych dla dorosłych. Lista ksiązek naszej wstępnej jest dotępna na stronie internetowej. Możesz pomóc bibliotece zwiększyć wybór ksiązek sugerując które pozycje powinniśmy zakupić.

### LIBROS EN ESPAÑOL

La Biblioteca está desarrollando una colección de libros en español por una concesión de la Biblioteca Estatal de Illinois. Estamos comenzando con una colección pequeña de referencia y una selección de novelas populares y libros de literatura para los adultos. Una lista de los libros en nuestra colección nueva estará disponible en nuestro sitio web. Usted puede ayudar a la biblioteca a mejorar nuestra selección sugiriendo los libros que usted quisiera que agreguemos.



Homer Township Public Library  
14320 W. 151st Street  
Homer Glen, IL 60491



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