



Homer Township Public Library District

Celebrating 20 Years of Community Service

SUMMER 2002

<http://www.homerlibrary.org>

FOCUS GROUP RESULTS ARE IN

Recently the Library held three half-day community focus group sessions. These valuable sessions were undertaken through a LSTA grant using federal funding which allowed us to bring in a professional consultant well-versed in the focus group process. Our intent was to hear directly from a sampling of our resident base about how you view the library and the many services we provide, as well as discuss future services, programs and the space necessary to have them.

Here's a brief re-cap of what we learned.

Services you feel are most important include: lectures, programs and educational classes; books & materials (including magazines); parent/teacher services; public meeting place/meeting rooms; reference/staff assistance; access to new technology; and being a literary and community meeting place.

Top 5 Future needs include: additional programs and classes; providing the newest technology and librarians able to effectively teach users, adding alternative/new formats such as electronic books, DVDs, etc; expanding the library to grow with the community; providing more business and reference support materials, and adding room to hold additional lecture series and programs with more support materials.

Increased marketing of our services and programs was noted as essential to alert you as to what we offer. Overall, focus group participants were enthusiastic as they helped us look to the future to examine the ways the Library can continue to improve services to meet the ever-changing needs of our community. The complete focus group report can be accessed from the Library Web site at www.homerlibrary.org. Log on for some interesting reading!

NEW YEAR-ROUND EXPANDED HOURS....

Starting June 1st:

Monday-Thursday	8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

SUMMER READING CLUB

DID YOU KNOW? More children participate in Library Summer Reading Clubs than play little league baseball?

Join the **Rocking Reading Team** at Homer Public Library this summer! The Youth Services Department is ready to sign-on the best group of reading team members ever!

The Library's annual Summer Reading Club kicks off Monday, June 10th at 8:30 a.m. Preschoolers through adults are invited to come and register.

"Reading Rocks," is this year's summer reading theme. This statewide program encourages young children to keep skills sharp this summer. The summer reading club ends July 20th. There will be a wonderful finale program and recognition ceremony on Tuesday, July 30th.



"Summer reading is a great way to fill up those long June and July days," notes Kitty Mitchell, Youth Services Librarian, "It's also a chance to keep up and improve reading skills, so when it's time to hit the books again in the fall, kids can return to school better prepared."

Stop by the Youth Services Department and pick up your *Reading Rocks* program booklet. Join the reading FUN!



STAFF CHANGES AT THE LIBRARY

WELCOME

Welcome to Brian Smith, our new Head of Adult/Reference Services. Brian will join our staff July 1st and comes to us with much experience. We asked Brian to answer a few short questions:

Three words that best describe me:

"Not a plumber."

What people would be surprised to find out about me:

I once jumped out of an airplane in a tandem dive with an instructor named Fast Eddie. We fell for a mile and a half before opening up the 'chute.

Book/CD/Tape/Movie I've been recommending lately:

I like to read books that make me laugh. I particularly liked the novels *Moo* (Jane Smiley), *The Princess Bride* (William Goldman), *Thank You For Smoking* (Christopher Buckley), *Microserfs* (Douglas Coupland), and Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker* books. I've always enjoyed Al Franken, Dave Barry, and P.J. O'Rourke.

I also like reading about natural history and rock music.

Hobby or favorite way to spend the day:

I enjoy riding on bike trails. Indoors, I'm trying to learn how to play guitar.

Drop in and meet our new Head of Adult Services!

FAREWELL

Farewell and best wishes to Michelle Meister who leaves our circulation department to pursue another position. We hope to see Michelle often as a regular library patron!



GRADE 6 & UP

**POETRY
CAFE**

Thursday, Sept. 26

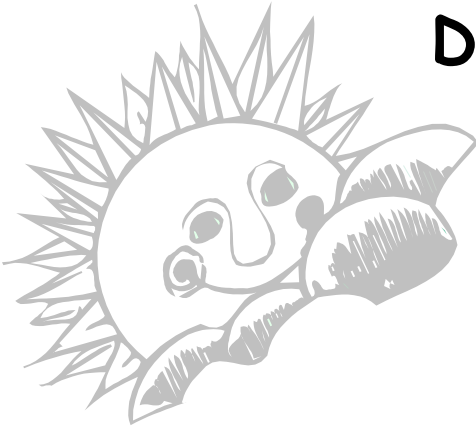
7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 23

7 p.m.

Bring your poems and a friend for open mike and refreshments. Poetry cafe is like, cool, man.

Did You Know? You Can....



Get a

FREE BUCK COUPON

Use it at the Library for copies, faxes, sale books or fines!

Visit www.homerlibrary.org

See our online

**CALENDAR OF
EVENTS**

Find out details about Library programs, dates and times!

www.homerlibrary.org

Join our

YOUTH ADVISORY CLUB

Kids meet monthly to volunteer and plan future programs for young adults like our recent Poetry Cafe.

Visit www.homerlibrary.org

Read our

ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Just a click away at

www.homerlibrary.org

Great Programs At the Homer Township Library



JUNE 18 - FRENCH OR SPANISH CLASS

JULY 25
Tuesday &
Thursday

French
1 p.m. to
2 p.m.

Spanish
2:15 p.m. to
3:15 p.m.
CHILDREN

Parlez-vous francais? Habla Udsted espanol? Here is the perfect opportunity to have your child learn a foreign language! The best time to teach foreign languages is when children are young. They absorb language quickly and take great interest in discovering another way of speaking. In these classes children will learn French or Spanish through fun activities and music. Emphasis will be on conversational skills. Lessons will include letters, numbers, colors, shapes and vocabulary of everyday conversations. Fee \$55 for either French or Spanish class. **No classes on July 4th.**

JUNE 24

Monday
10 a.m.
FAMILY

STORIES 'N STONE
Stones are often the keepers of stories. Mary and Larry Kinsella team up as the storyteller and the stone tool maker to shed light on the stories of Skunny Wundy and the Stone Giant and the Whistling Tsonquas. Larry will demonstrate primitive tools that were used in history, such as, the flint knife, a stone axe and banner stones. FREE

JULY 8
Monday
10 a.m.
CHILDREN

LOOKING FOR THE DINOSAUR
Take a trip back in time...way back to the "Reading Rock" as Professor Smudge and his trusty assistant Helga go looking for the Dinosaur. Smudge has made a time machine and wants to bring a dinosaur back to the modern world. Will he be successful? Come join the adventure and find out for yourself! FREE

JULY 9
& 11
Tuesday &
Thursday
2 p.m. -
3:30 p.m.
CHILDREN

FROG AQUARIUM
Take a peek into the habitat of a frog and create your own aquarium setting. Please bring a lidded container of your choice, such as a clear shoe box or fish bowl. All other materials including a Live Frog will be supplied. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult while the habitat is being built. **Limit 15 per class. Fee \$5.00**

JULY 9

Tuesday
7 p.m.
ADULT

IMAGES OF THE JAZZ AGE
Jeff Mishur is back with "Images of the Jazz Age." Jeff will present slides that express the spirit of the 1920's. Some of the topics covered will be artist Norman Rockwell, the famous Chicago Tribune Tower, and the images of the newly "liberated" women of the 1920's, known as the Flappers. FREE

JULY 17
& 22
Wednesday &
Monday
10 a.m. -
11 a.m.
FAMILY

CHILD SAFETY CLASSES
Join Dr. Joyce Kleinaitis, Ph.D. as she discusses Stranger Danger, Safety at Home, Babysitting Safety, and Safety in Public Places (playgrounds, parks and more) with you and your children. Dr. Kleinaitis has worked with District 33C, Will County School District 92 as well as many other schools and civic organizations in developing safety and emergency plans. This one hour presentation can make a difference in the safety of you and your children. FREE

JULY 23
& 25
Tuesday &
Thursday
2 p.m. -
3:30 p.m.
CHILDREN

GARDEN STEPPING STONE
Learn about which plants attract butterflies to your garden and create a stepping stone using shells and other decorative materials. Please wear old clothing. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult during construction of the stone. All materials will be provided. **Limit 15 per class. Fee \$5.00**

JULY 30
Tuesday
10 a.m. -
Noon
FAMILY

JOSEPH AND THE
TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
The Homer Township Public Library Summer Reading Program will end with the American Eagle Theatre Production of Joseph. Please join us as we rock to this great musical. FREE

AUGUST 12
Monday
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
ADULTS

CHILDREN AND VALUES
Dr. Joyce Kleinaitis, Ph.D. will conduct a one and a half hour Bibliotherapy workshop. She will introduce the concept of teaching values and character education, safety tenets and live experiences through fiction stories, books and novels. This workshop is for teachers, students, librarians and parents and will focus on grades K-12. FREE

KIDS CORNER



CRAFTY KIDS

PRACTICE PALS

The Library encourages students to practice their reading and math skills during the summer. Join our **“Practice Pal”** program which enlists the help of Junior High volunteers who work with younger children by playing educational games that help them enhance skills. Please register to be a Practice Pal or to participate!



A “flash card fun” practice session in progress

The summer session runs June 17th to July 31st, every Monday and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Registration begins on June 10th. For further information contact the program coordinator, Mary Woolley at (708) 301-7908.

Come into the Library to see the sample and description of each craft!

JUNE 17 4th of JULY DECORATION
Monday 10 a.m. \$3.50

JUNE 18 SUMMER JOURNAL
Tuesday 10 a.m. \$4.00

JUNE 19 PARADE STICK
Wednesday 10 a.m. \$3.50

JUNE 21 HAPPY EVERYTHING
Friday 1 p.m. \$2.00

JUNE 22 4th of JULY T-SHIRT
Saturday 10 a.m. \$3.00

JUNE 25 DINO MOBILE
Tuesday 2 p.m. \$3.50

JUNE 26 4th of JULY T-SHIRT
Wednesday 7 p.m. \$3.50

JUNE 28 BLAST OFF ROCKET
Friday 10 a.m. \$3.50

JULY 1 4th of JULY CANDLE
Monday 7 p.m. \$3.00

JULY 3 STUFF BOX
Wednesday 2 p.m. \$1.00

JULY 10 CLAY SAUCER TURTLE
Wednesday 10 a.m. \$3.00

JULY 12 COW HAT
Friday 10 a.m. \$4.00

JULY 15 BEE WELCOME
Monday 7 p.m. \$3.50

JULY 17 GARDEN WINDCHIMES
Wednesday 7 p.m. \$4.50

JULY 19 LADYBUG PUPPET
Friday 10 a.m. \$3.00

JULY 24 TOOTH PILLOW
Wednesday 7 p.m. \$3.50

JULY 26 DINO CRAFT
Friday 10 a.m. \$3.00

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

JOIN OUR YOUNG ADULT CLUB

Are you in Jr. High or High School? Join us at our next **Youth Advisory Club (YAC)** meeting, and bring your ideas about the kind of materials and programs you would like to have at the Library. It's a great way to contribute to your community, and we have food and fun, too! On your next visit to the Library, leave your name and phone number. Join us June 26 at 7 p.m.



YAC teens enjoy a picnic meeting

Your Opinion Counts! Take our brief Survey, we value your input...

1. Do you currently have a Homer Township Library Card? Yes _____ No _____

2. Are you satisfied with the hours that the Library is open? Yes _____ No _____

If not, what changes in hours would best suit your needs (check all that apply)

_____ Open earlier than 8:30 a.m. _____ Open later than 9 p.m.

_____ Different hours on Saturday and Sunday (please specify) _____

3. Did you support the referendum to expand the Library? Yes _____ No _____

If not, for what reason did you not support it.

Cost Size Lack of information Not necessary Other

4. For what reasons would you support a future Library expansion referendum?

More books More separated space Quiet reading room More staff Meeting rooms More computers More programs More youth materials

5. Have you visited the Library lately? Yes _____ No _____

6. How often do use the Library? Weekly Monthly Never Other

7. What information would you find valuable regarding the future Library expansion plans?

Newsletter Flier Direct mailing Internet/ Web Community meeting Other, please list _____

8. Did you attend one of the four community referendum meetings held at the Library in 2002?

Yes _____ No _____

9. What do you think would be a reasonable annual additional cost to pay for a Library expansion?

\$50 \$60 \$75 \$100

10. Are you aware of the planning process which has been ongoing regarding adding a second story and space to the current building? Yes _____ No _____

11. Are you aware that the Library has never had a tax increase in the past 20 years? Yes _____ No _____

12. Any additional comments you would like our planning committee to know:

The Homer Township Public Library Board would like to thank you for completing our survey. Please return the survey at the Library, in the drive-up library book return, building book drop, or mail it back to: Homer Twp. Library Survey, 14230 West 151st Street, Homer Glen, IL 60441.

Homer Township Public Library

14320 West 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60441
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
Email: 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

Youth Services:

Kathryn Mitchell

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 at least seven working days prior to the event.

NEW LearnATest.com/Library NEW

Now available at the Homer Township Public Library an online, interactive resource to help you reach your academic and career goals - LearnATest.com/Library. With this new service, patrons have unlimited free Internet access to practice tests that are based on the official exams, including ACT, SAT, GED, ASVAB, Firefighters, Police Officer, Paramedic, EMT Basic, U.S. Citizenship, Postal Worker, Cosmetology and Real Estate Sales Agent & Broker Exams. The newest additions for 2002 are the GRE and GMAT exams, with the N-CLEX and Praxis still to come.

With each practice test completed, users receive instant scoring and individualized evaluation highlighting strengths and weaknesses. Users **Learn** exactly what they need to know, how to **Pass** the exam and **Go** on with career or academic studies. "We believe this will be a valuable tool for our patrons to gain confidence and overcome test anxiety," notes Sheree Kozel-La Ha, the Library Director. "This is an excellent resource to supplement test books and assist our patrons."

LearnATest.com/Library offers...

- Online practice tests that are true previews of the official exams.
- Instant scoring and individual analysis to help you improve your test scores.
- Explanations of both right and wrong answers to promote understanding and retention.
- Unlimited access to exams.
- The ability to proceed at your own pace.

Try it today!

LearnATest.com/Library - Learn, Pass, Go!
@Homer Township Public Library

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14320 W. 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60441



**READING
ROCKS!**

SUMMER READING STARTS JUNE 10th

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
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ROMEOVILLE, IL