

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights September 2013

1. Reference and Adult Services worked with two school groups in September, helping them with research and highlighting library resources for students:
 - Two classes from Merrill Middle School used local history materials to research topics including Chief Oshkosh, Philetus Sawyer, EAA, the Grand Opera House, Oshkosh Public Library, Paine Lumber Company, Oshkosh Corp., Oshkosh B'Gosh and the Great Fire of 1875.
 - OPL's Digital Services Librarian presented information to 32 Lourdes Academy students in the St. Norbert College English classes. The students learned about online resources available for writing literary papers and learned about OPL's local history materials available online and at the library. Later in the semester, these students will interview residents of Oshkosh and write reports about an Oshkosh topic of their choice.
2. Three local authors did presentations at the library in September:
 - Leslie Raddatz of Oshkosh shared her personal story and offered information about resources for people dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder; 35 people attended.
 - A couple from Fond du Lac who take tour groups to locations around the world presented a program on Greece, with 24 people attending.
 - Former UWO professor Jack Kile gave a talk about his experiences using humor and music in his work as a hospice volunteer; 65 people attended.
3. Final numbers from the 2013 Summer Reading Program are in:
 - **Children:** 2,394 children signed up for this year's program – 29 percent of Oshkosh's school-aged children. About 53 percent of those who signed up completed at least four weeks of reading; 43 percent read for six weeks and 30 percent read for eight weeks. More than 3,500 children attended summer reading programs and events.
 - **Teens:** A total of 273 teens signed up for summer reading.
 - **Adults:** 716 adults signed up for the Summer Reading Program, submitting brief book reviews to earn books and other prizes for reading.

See the board packet for a comprehensive report on the Children's Summer Reading Program.
4. Children's & Family Outreach is starting a LEGO club on Sept. 24. Young children can come to the lower level to build with LEGO and Duplo blocks and hear stories. In addition, the club is an alternative for children who are too young for Tweens Create, a craft program for grades 4-7, which starts a new session on Sept. 24.