

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights September 2014

1. The final report for the Summer Reading Program is in, with 3,209 children, teens and adults participating. Highlights include:
 - a. 2,331 children signed up – 20 percent of Oshkosh’s school-aged children.
 - b. 181 teens signed up and read a total of 2,513 hours.
 - c. 697 adults signed up, with 262 participants turning in their reading logs weekly.
 - d. 967 free bus rides to the library were provided to children on Go Transit buses.
 - e. 19 new volunteers– 18 of them teens - were recruited to assist with the summer reading program through the library’s new Team Read recruitment effort.
2. The Winnebagoland Genealogy Society celebrated its 30th anniversary in September. OPL has partnered with the society since its inception, working together to build highly regarded local history and genealogy collections and services. Since 1999, the society has indexed more than 135,000 obituaries, providing a solid starting point for those doing genealogy
3. OPL attended the annual Back-to-School Fair, where more than 1,000 families received school supplies and other services to help their children get ready for the start of the new school year. The library provided information about our resources and services and handed out posters to the kids.
4. On Sept. 4, educator and writer Roger Bullis, Ph.D., presented ***Secrets of Successful Storytelling***, a program on writing screenplays and novels. The program was offered through OPL’s Library Services & Technology Act grant, providing educational programming, hands-on assistance and resources for writers. Sixteen people attended.
5. Following a request from City Manager Mark Rohloff, OPL staff from Reference & Adult Services is providing research assistance to GO-EDC, a new, privately led economic development corporation made up of both private and public partners. GO-EDC has asked the library to help with research for a report that will establish economic development benchmarks for Oshkosh.
6. Reference & Adult Services staff has recorded several podcasts through a grant from the Library Services & Technology Act. So far, podcasts have been recorded featuring 30 years of the Winnebagoland Genealogical Society and the winners of the 2014 Create-a-Book Contest. The podcasts can be found at www.oshkoshpubliclibrary.org.
7. The library’s partnership with Learning In Retirement continues this fall, with a program on genealogy presented by OPL’s genealogy specialist Mara Munroe on Sept. 16. Additional programs are scheduled for October (Badgerlink online resources) and November (services for readers).