

Oshkosh Public Library Highlights

August 2020

1. The library partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau in July and August to offer in-person assistance with filling out the 2020 Census. Census Bureau staff stationed in the library's parking lot assisted 112 people. The Census Bureau liaison was extremely pleased with the results and applauded this effort to bring Oshkosh closer to achieving a complete count.
2. Community Engagement Librarian Sandy Toland received an Outstanding Service Award from the City of Oshkosh recently. During a presentation in William Waters Plaza, City Manager Mark Rohloff recognized the valuable research that Sandy has done during the pandemic in support of the Emergency Operations Center. Having a professional librarian embedded at the EOC has helped city leadership stay informed throughout the COVID-19 health emergency, with Sandy's regular reports documenting developments on local, state, national and global levels. This type of activity gets the library out where service is needed and helps to build relationships, all in support of the greater Oshkosh community.
3. The outdoor drop box at Evergreen is open to accept returns of library materials for the first time since mid-March. Materials returned to Evergreen will be quarantined for four days, in line with safety guidelines. At this time, library services at Evergreen (pickup of holds) continue to be suspended due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.
4. OPL patrons now have an online option to schedule an appointment to use a library computer, pick up materials curbside, print and fax, get a document notarized or charge a device. The Calendly platform is easy to use and offers convenient access to OPL services for those who prefer digital scheduling.
5. Interlibrary Loan is available again, after being suspended due to the pandemic. Patrons can once again request items not owned by libraries in the Winnefox system by filling out an online form or calling 236-5205.
6. Patrons looking for books, DVDs and other materials that are on the shelves, ready for checkout, should catch Shelf Selected, a new Facebook Live feature started by Teen Librarian Maggie Mueller. Every Wednesday at 5 p.m., Shelf Selected showcases new items that patrons normally would find while browsing the shelves. The Facebook Live format allows viewers to engage with library staff in real time and get questions answered about materials that interest them.