

Library prepares for 1989

JAN 1989

Happy New Year to everyone from the Fort St. John Library. Now that the hustle and bustle of Christmas is over, it's nice to settle into a routine again. And maybe have time for a good read?

Programs. Brenda Clark, an illustrator for children's books, gave a talk on how she became an illustrator and gave a demonstration of painting a character for a book. The weather was inclement but 35 people came to see Brenda Clark on Nov. 12. In December, playwright Suzanne Finley, who developed scripts for the TV series Beachcombers, talked about her work to members of the general public and to students from the Northern Lights College creative writing class.

Two Year Old Story Hour starts on Jan. 19 and runs for four weeks. Phone and register at the library. Each child must be accompanied by an adult.

A children's author will be coming in April and more information will be available in the next report.

Fundraising. Congratulations to Janet Moody, the winner of the Canadian Encyclopedia. The draw was made at the Legacy of Christmas Cheer and the proceeds from the raffle were presented to the Expo Legacy Fund. We would like to thank the Provincial Government Employees Community Services Fund and the Ken Tonsch family for donations to the Library Development Fund.

Videos. New children's videos have arrived and are available for circulation. Also, the Nutcracker, performed by the Russian Ballet Company, will soon be available. The "talking books" will be

available very soon.

Friends of the Library. A new executive was chosen at their recent Annual General Meeting: President Yvonne Vandergugten, Vice president Lawrence Beaton, Treasurer Janet Moody and Secretary Vi Woodward.

The "Friends" are in need of children's books. Donations of books can be left at the library.

Brainstorming. Our thanks to Karen Ballinger for being the library's official representative for the "Ideas and All" brainstorming session. This is an opportunity for the community to put their heads

together and come up with some innovative ideas for fundraising for the Arts Centre. Bring your ideas — no one will pounce on you or rope you in for a job you don't want. But we sure want your ideas. Please come to City Hall Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Library AGM. We hope many of you will come out to the library's annual general meeting on Feb. 9. Some positions on the board will be available so if you are interested in letting your name stand for a position, please let us know at the library. The Annual General Meeting is Feb. 9, 7:30 p.m. at the library.

Library fees eliminated for rural readers

Membership fees for rural users of the Fort St. John Public Library have been eliminated, effective immediately. FETS 1989

An agreement between the city and electoral areas B and C was announced by Mayor Pat Walsh at the annual general meeting of the library association.

Later, he revealed that a similar deal has been reached with Taylor.

A memorandum signed by Walsh, Ben Knutson, director for electoral area C and Karen Goodings, director for electoral area B, agrees that rural residents will receive library membership cards without cost as long as no fees are charged to residents of Fort St. John.

The electoral areas will make up the loss of library income from rural fees, estimated at \$2,500 this year.

An additional benefit of the agreement is the possibility of the library receiving a higher book grant from the province because of the increased number of persons receiving no-charge library service.

Dave Bradley, library board chairman, said the agreements are something the board has been attempting to bring about for at least the past five years. He said the board had been aware of the efforts to reach an understanding and in anticipation of this the library staff had not been collecting rural membership fees since the first of the year.

He said it's expected the change will bring about a substantial increase in library activity.

Library looking for board members

APR 1989

The library board is looking for two board members to replace two who have resigned and are planning to move away. Interested people can speak to librarian Romi Haseo at the library or Patricia Smith, board chairman. In addition, the position of Assistant/Children's Librarian is still vacant.

Author

Better Waterton, a children's author, will be at the library April 22, 10 a.m. as part of an author tour for the public. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

Explore the Library

This is the first of a series of articles designed to increase awareness of library facilities.

Did you realize that you can take out cassette recordings of books from the library? The library has a wide selection of titles for both children and adults. The tapes include Ian Fleming, author of the James Bond series; James Herriot

with his humourous adventures as a veterinarian; thrillers such as *The Guns of Naverone* by Alistair MacLean and *The Red Fox* by Anthony Hyde. There are also some classics available — an easier way to "read" some of the books you have always meant to. Children's titles include such favourites as *Winnie the Pooh*, *The Railway Children* and *Black Beauty*. Cassette recordings are ideal for long car trips because they are a pleasant way to have the miles whip by. Listening to a story is also very pleasant if you are sick in bed, knitting, or have weak eyesight.

The loan period is two weeks and there is a small charge. Fees collected from cassette circulation are used to expand the collection.

The library also has a rotating collection of taped books from the Library Services Branch. This collection is for the use of the visually impaired and a note from a doctor is required to use these tapes.

There is also a rotating collection of large print books found at the back of the library, by the back doors. Rotating means that the titles change. The large print books are written in a larger type to reduce eyestrain. They are an alternative if your eyesight is weakening. Please mention the possibility of using large print books if you know someone who may be interested.

New books for April

Here is a small selection from the 47 new titles just in: *Being a Widow* (Caine); *Teen Angel and Other Stories of Young Love* (Gingher); *1989 World Records* (Guinness); and *China: The People* (Kalman).

Submitted by Judy Thomas



Scott Crowson photo
The fall session of Toddlers' Storytime has begun at the Fort St. John Public Library. The sessions for mother and child take place every Thursday morning from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. Children's

librarian Marsha Triebner and volunteer Janet Moody lead the group in reading stories and singing songs. Two-year-old Christopher Cazes takes a curious peek as Triebner reads to the toddlers.

Friends of Library *elect new executive*

Article submitted

The Friends of the Library held their Annual General Meeting last Thursday and elected Yvonne Vandergugten as the chairperson of the executive.

Also elected to the executive were Vi Woodward as secretary, Janet Moody as treasurer and Winnie Scott and Hilda Jensen as directors.

The executive were thanked for the moral support to the library and the tremendous success in fund raising.

The monies were raised from the mini library the Friends have in place at the Co-op Mall, the on-going sales from the paperbacks at the library and, of course, the book sales throughout the year.

The mini library at the Co-op Mall works on an honor system, and the society has found the community to be more than generous when they take a book.

At this time, however, the group is in need of children's books and pocket novels.

If you find a surplus of these books in your home and would like

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to donate to the Friends of the Library, please give them a call at the library. They will arrange for a pickup.

All funds raised by the Friends will be used strictly for the children's section of the library.

At Thursday's meeting, Vi Woodward was given special recognition by the Friends for giving countless hours to fundraising activities.

The Friends were sorry also that Lawrence Beaton had to resign from the executive.

Peter Priebe was acting chairperson for the meeting.

Talks & contests at Public Library

By Judy Thomas
Library Board

On Nov. 21 the library sponsored a seminar entitled "Fit or Fat: Nutrition and Weight Loss," which was conducted by Kathy LaForge, a nutritionist.

Another seminar is being offered by the library next week. On Tuesday, Wally Gentles will be giving "Tips for Buying New and Used Automobiles." Pre-register at the library (785-3731) if you are interested in the automobile purchasing seminar.

On Saturday, Dec. 9, the moms and dads can go Christmas shopping while their children watch videos at the library. It runs 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and it's for children from three to eight years old.

The library is also conducting a reading contest to decorate the

library tree.

This is being done in conjunction with Persnickity Books.

For every five books read by the child, a Christmas tree ornament will be put on the library tree.

The child with the most number of ornaments wins a \$15 gift certificate from Persnickity Books.

There are three age classes: kindergarten to Grade 3, Grades 4-6 and Grades 7 and 8.

The signature of parent, guardian or teacher is required along with the title of five books before an ornament will be put on the tree.

Forms are available from the library. The contest runs from Dec. 1 to Dec. 31 and the winners will be announced on Jan. 3.

So bring your kids down to the library to take out some books and decorate the tree.

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