Welcome to the August 2004 edition of LIBRARY E-NEWS. This monthly newsletter includes several features containing information about the library. If you would like to join over 860 subscribers in receiving the Library E-News in your e-mail every month, please fill out the following form online or complete a paper registration form at the circulation desk.

For a complete calendar of events at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library go to www.smfpl.org/calendar.htm

Go directly to the following features by clicking on the name of the feature you want to read, or scroll down this page to read all of LIBRARY E-NEWS.

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Message From the Board of Trustees
I am writing on behalf of the Board of Trustees to share our pride in the Library with you. This past month provided so many exciting events, from our flagpole dedication to the Friends Book Sale and Jazz Band concert. Our staff continues to work hard, to develop new programs and to offer innovative ideas. This has been an exciting summer and we are looking forward to a great autumn and winter.

Even as we enjoy many successes, the Board and staff continue to monitor our budget and funding situation. While we hope the General Assembly does not further reduce library funding, we know we will receive less money over the next few years. The state allocates library funding to each county and each county must determine how to divide the money among its libraries. The Summit County formula considers a variety of factors, including library size and circulation. As other Summit County libraries continue to expand, they will take a larger share of Summit County’s allocation of library funds. Fortunately, our Board’s Finance Committee has worked diligently over the last few years to monitor the Library’s expenses and the staff have offered ideas about how the Library can save money. Of course, just like everybody else, there are some things we cannot control, like the winter snow and how much
salt we need or how cold it will be and the related expense for heating the building.

Finally, I want to be the first to tell you that our Library will likely drop considerably in the HAPLR ranking. We have shared our communities' pride that our Library has ranked fifth in the nation for the last few years, but that ranking is coming to an end. While our ranking will drop, as I will explain shortly, you will not see any changes in the Library to reflect this drop. Our staff, collection, and programs have not changed or been reduced or eliminated to explain the drop. So why will the ranking go down? Because three years ago, the state significantly reduced library funding. The HAPLR ranking is based on recently released information, but it takes several years for the information to be compiled before it is released. HAPLR considers fifteen factors and nine of those factors are tied directly to budget and expenditures. The ranking further weights the fifteen factors, and taking the weights into account, two-thirds of the total weight is tied to expenditures. Because of the state’s significant reduction in library funding, we expect that our ranking will drop, along with the rankings of most other Ohio libraries. The few Ohio libraries with operating levies will not drop as precipitously as the rest, but with that exception, few Ohio libraries will remain at the top of the national rankings, a dramatic change since HAPLR first introduced its rankings.

The Board hopes you continue to enjoy the Library and its many offerings (and not just because circulation is a factor both in dividing state library funds and in determining our HAPLR ranking). Have a wonderful summer!

Mike Walsh, President
Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Board of Trustees

Library to Use Collection Agency
The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library enacted a motion at its April board meeting to use a collection agency to help encourage patrons with overdue materials to return them to the library. The Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library will pass the cost of this service ($10.00) on to each patron whose account will be handled by the collection agency.

This motion was developed with fairness to all library patrons in mind. Materials not returned are not available for others to use or borrow. Also, if materials are not returned, in most cases, money from the library budget is used to replace them. This same money could much better be used to purchase new items for patron use instead of replacing non-returned items.

The Library Board hopes this practice will encourage all library borrowers to return items by the date due. Most library items may be renewed by either bringing the item with the patron's library card for presentation at the Circulation Desk or calling the library at 330-688-3295. Also, the book drop for returning materials when the library is closed is conveniently located for patron use.

The library will still notify patrons that their materials are overdue, and patrons will have ample time to respond prior to being turned over for collection. Unique Management Services has been selected as the collection agency for the library. Unique Management works with libraries throughout the United States and Canada. They specialize in the recovery of overdue materials and have an excellent record of treating patrons professionally.

The library is serious about recovering overdue materials. Patrons who do not return materials are stealing from the library. Fortunately, only a very small percentage of patrons using the library do not return the materials as agreed. This motion will not affect the vast majority of patrons who return materials on time.

The library is committed to providing excellent service and having materials available that the patrons desire. The library is open 9-9, Monday-Thursday; 9-6 Friday; 9-5 Saturday; and 1-5 Sunday.

Community Jazz Band
The next Jazz Band concert will be at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 4 in the upstairs meeting room.

Library Board
The next meeting of Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Board of Trustees will be Tuesday, August 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room. To read minutes from previous board meetings go to www.smfpl.org/trustees.

E-Mail Computers
Two computers for e-mail only are now located in the Quiet Study area. You may read your e-mail at these computers, but cannot print or go on the Internet. No registrations are taken for these computers, and time is limited to 15 minutes.

New Online Database
Taking a college entrance or licensing exam? Looking for a college or graduate school? Need help finding scholarships? Use the Testing and Education Reference Center database to search thousands of college and graduate school entries. Identify scholarships that meet your financial needs. Take online practice tests and use test prep e-Books to obtain your education goals.

To access this database, go to the library's website at www.smfpl.org. Click on "Research databases" (column on the left side of the page). Click on "Infotrac", click on "Testing and Education Reference Center." If you have any questions regarding use of the database, please call the Adult Services desk at 330-688-3295.

Biographical Audiovisual Material
Books-on-tape, books-on-CD, DVDs, and videos have been moved to the end of the biographies into a browsing collection. Look for a similar shift in the nonfiction collection in the future!

We the People Bookshelf on Courage
Coming soon...Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library is pleased to present the "We the People Bookshelf on Courage." These books, selected and provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, demonstrate courage and the best in literature for every grade level and adults. These books will be available at the library beginning in August, and everyone is invited to read at least one. Programs for each age level and a community banquet will follow in September and October.

Chapter-A-Day Online Book Clubs
Join Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Online Book Clubs and receive chapters from popular books in your daily e-mail. Each day we'll send you a portion of a chapter. After you've read two or three chapters from a book, we'll start sending you a new one. Sign up by clicking this link www.dearreader.com/library/stow or by going to the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library website at www.smfpl.org. Click "Adult Services," then click "Informational Websites." Scroll down and click "Bestsellers," then click "Chapter-a-Day." Choose which club you wish to join and follow the directions.

Chapter-A-Day is sponsored by the Friends of Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library.

Library Card Reminder
This is a reminder to stop by the library to check out an item at least once a year. This will keep your library card current, as well as let you see what new materials and services Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library has to offer.

Recycling
Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library is now participating in a recycling program with Abitibi Recycling Corporation called the Abitibi Paper Retriever Program. The Paper Retriever bin is located in the rear of the building and is available 24 hours. Anyone in the community can drop...
off the following items suitable for recycling (all items must be clean and dry): newspapers, magazines, shopping catalogs, office and school papers, and mail. Stow-Munroe Falls elementary schools and middle school also participate in this program.

Recent Library Happenings

Teen Monday Karaoke
Nine teens participated in Teen Monday Karaoke night held July 12. They enjoyed singing and dancing to favorite songs on the library’s karaoke machine. Special thanks to Dianah McDonald who supplied music CDs and assisted with the program.

Karaoke Night  Stephanie and Keara  Singing "YMCA"

Cleveland Zoo
Eighty-two people attended a program on reptiles presented by the Cleveland Zoo on Tuesday, July 13. Two Zoo volunteers brought a baby alligator, bearded lizard (see, but not touch), and a ball python for people to see and touch. It was a great program and we hope to have more like it in the future!

New Titles

New titles are arriving daily at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library. Check out the growing DVD collection, as well as books on CD. Some of the new titles this month are:

- **Books - Fiction:** *For the Dogs* by Kevin Wignall, *DB* by Elwood Reid, and *Burning Precinct Puerto Rico* by Steven Torres.

Department News

Adult Services

Dive into Reading at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library
Take a book to the beach, listen to a book on tape or CD during a long road trip, or sit back and unwind with the latest bestseller.

The more books you read or listen to this summer, the more chances you will have to win a weekly prize or a grand prize. From June 14 through August 14, 2004, patrons 18 and older can fill out a slip for each book that they read or listen to and drop it in the drawing box at the Questions & Directions Desk near the library's front entrance.

There will be weekly drawings for prizes including gift certificates, tickets, t-shirts and more! A grand prize drawing will be held at the end of the program.

Adult Summer Reading winners for the week of July 5 were Lisa Amoroso-Johnson, MaryAnn DeVine, Andrea Grady, and Ilene Williams (African Wildlife Safari passes). Week of July 12 winners were Crystal Adaway and Noreen Ashley (Cleveland Museum of Natural History tickets), and Lesa Hazelbaker and Joyce Nofsinger (Akron Aeros tickets). Week of July 19 winners were Patricia Cole and Jenn Reid (African Wildlife Safari passes), Kathy Francini and Kim Miller (Cleveland Museum of Natural History passes). Week of July 26 winners Mary Duby, Matt Hurlburt, Jenefer Villanueva, and Andrea Walters received African Wildlife Safari passes.

Summer Book Discussions
Stop in, beat the heat, meet new friends, have lively conversation and discuss some great books! All discussions are on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Sign up is not required.

- August 13 - Queenmaker: A Novel of King David's Queen by India Edghill

Books will be available at the library prior to discussion date. For more information, please contact Chris Caccamo at 330-688-3295.

Computer Use
Computers for use by adult and teen patrons are in very high demand! This is a reminder that you can reserve a computer ahead of time. Just call the Information Desk at 330-688-3295 to reserve a
Computer for a one-hour time limit. Computers may be reserved up to one week in advance.

**Computer Training**

The library offers classes for beginning computer users and more advanced users. They include Introduction to Computers, Introduction to the Internet, and training in Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. Classes are offered both day and evening at no charge. The computer class schedule for September will be released **Monday, August 30 at 9:00 a.m.** The class calendar can be viewed at [www.smfpl.org/calendar.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/calendar.htm). Please call 330-688-3295 if you have any questions.

**Computer Volunteer**

Computer volunteer Tom Labbe is available to help patrons with computer questions during the following hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1:00 - 2:30.

**Local History**

Local History continues to celebrate 200 years of Stow history with the August exhibit "The Parks in Stow and Munroe Falls." Summer is the time when we like to go outdoors - it is a good time to explore our local parks. Do you know where the parks are in Munroe Falls and Stow? Do you know how they came to be? Visit the Local History Room in August to find out!

**Young Adults**

**Online Book Discussion**

**Students ages 10 to 17** - Join our online book discussion group by going to the Online Book Discussion page at [www.smfpl.org/bookdiscuss.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/bookdiscuss.htm). Each month a different teen or middle grade fiction book is featured. When you've read the book, stop by this page to post a comment about it, and see what other students have to say about it. You can even comment about another book you're reading. It's like having a book discussion group without having to leave your home. There is no registration necessary.

**Chess Club**

**Tuesday, August 31 at 6:30 p.m.**

"Dive Into Reading" Teen Summer Reading Program

For ages 11 to 17 (or students who have completed sixth grade). No sign up is necessary for this program. Just read a book, comic book, or magazine and fill out one entry per book. Weekly prize drawings are held, and every entry is automatically entered in the Grand Prize drawing for an MP3 player.

Teens can also win an Instant Prize by checking out a book from the Teen Scene area. One hundred books are secretly marked as winners!

Recent Teen Summer Reading winners include: Maria Bowen, Linda Seju, Mary Dieglio, Alison Guitar, Nate Lundy, Ana Dieglio, Jessie Bose, Kevin Kapko, Carly Brandt, Katy Chessar, Erin Clark, Britnee Donegan, Stephanie DeCapito, Christa Foss, Molly McCreary, Krista Stumm, Anna Bose, Maria Conti, Elizabeth DeLuca, Katherine Finley, Aarthi Gobinath, Becca Kidwell, Allison Kolbe, Farrah Michael, Juliann Trevorrow, Lily Zhu, Emily Gardner, Leigh Guitar, Keara Henry, Chriss Manuelle, Alicia Marty, Mandy Molinaro, Alexis Moseley, Alexandra Smith, Justine Stump, Marica Turan, Courtney Smith, A.J. Bank, Ellie Stumm, Lakota Pochedley, Jenifer Nord, Ryan Nord, Joey Italia, Timothy Hornbeck, Erica Hannan, Ally Grinder, and Kelsey Misbrener. Prizes won include books, movie passes, mall gift certificates, and coupons for Handel's ice cream cones.

**Wacky Golf Ice Cream Social (invitation only!)

August 13 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**
For teen summer reading participants who have read at least five books by August 9. Play goofy putt-putt in the Library after hours, and finish off the evening with your own homemade ice cream sundaes.

For further information on Teen programs please go to the Teen Services web page at www.smfpl.org/TSc.htm.

Children's

Wet 'n' Wild
The Wet 'n' Wild party has been rescheduled for Wednesday, August 18 at 7:00 p.m. Registration is appreciated, but not required. Please call the Children's Department at 330-688-3295 to register and for further information.

Book Buddies
Student volunteer Kaylee and Book Buddy Jacob (at right) read together at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library.

Stranger Than Fiction Book Club - Saturday August 7 from Noon to 1:00 p.m.
Bring a lunch, drinks will be provided. For children finishing grades three through five.

Upcoming Children's Programs

- Whale Tales - Mondays, August 2, 9, and 16 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon.
  Water safety and fun presented by the American Red Cross.

Please call 330-688-3295 for further information or go to the Children's Department webpage at www.smfpl.org/CS.htm for a complete list of children's programming.

Circulation

Lucky Days
We want to share with you our excitement about celebrating 80 years of service to the Stow and Munroe Falls communities, so we are having "lucky days" at the library. We'll be hiding special symbols in select books on the adult floor. If you're lucky and find one of them in a book you're planning to check out, turn it in at the Circulation Desk for a small prize.

We hope you will join us in celebrating 80 years of service and visit the library to try YOUR luck each month!

Drive-Up Window
Don’t forget about the Drive-Up Window service at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library. This is an especially helpful service during inclement weather! The drive-up window is open during regular library hours and closes 15 minutes before library closing.

Pick 5 Bestsellers Club
How would you like to automatically be placed on the reserve list for five of your favorite popular authors? Join our Bestsellers Club and that's exactly what will happen! Just pick up a form at the Circulation Desk and join over 300 satisfied members. Are you already a member, but would like to change an author or two? Ask for an "add/delete" form at the circulation desk. It's just that easy!
**Honorees**
Arabica gift certificates have been awarded to the following patrons visiting the Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library recently: **Tonya Johnson** (400,000th check-out of 2004), **Karen Carter** (14,000th window check-out), **Keith Werner** (15,000th window check-out), and **Lisa Fiening** (3,500th new registration of 2004). Congratulations!

Cardholders have their privileges at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library!

**Art on Display**

Starting August 6, the works of artist **Diane Keske Talmadge** will be displayed in the Corner Gallery near the Biographies. Talmadge specializes in portraits in oil. Her works have been exhibited extensively, winning numerous awards, and she has held many one-woman shows. Her paintings are in many public and private collections throughout the country.

**Friends of the Library**

The Friends, one of the largest organizations in Stow, is a citizen support group for Library services and activities. They sponsor booksales as well as the annual Needlework Show and other activities. Friends meet the third Tuesday of every month (except December and July) at 2:00 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room. Friends membership is currently at 495 members.

If you are interested in joining Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Friends of the Library you may call the library at 330-688-3295 for further information, or you may go to the Friends page on the library website ([www.smfpl.org/friends.htm](http://www.smfpl.org/friends.htm)) for an online application.

**Books on Display**

"Dive Into Reading," Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library Summer Reading Program theme, is featured at the Questions and Directions Desk. Look for information on activities, contests, and special events taking place this summer at Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library.

Items on display are available for check-out. Please help yourself.

**Quilt on Display**

**Robbing Peter to Pay Paul** (a variation) is a quilt recently displayed over the Circulation Desk. This beautiful quilt was machine quilted and hand appliqued by **Debbie Shives**. Debbie's favorite type of quilting is folk art or primitive. The
fabrics used are batikes, fern prints and hand-dyed. She added the vine of flowers and embellished the quilt with tiny beads. Debbie has been quilting since 1986.

Spotlight on Olympics

August's Spotlight shines on "Olympics". From August 13 through August 29, the world will be watching the 2004 summer Olympics in Athens, Greece. Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library has books, videos, and DVDs about the Olympics (both ancient and modern). *The Olympics: a History of the Games* by William Oscar Johnson, published by *Sports Illustrated* and *Chronicle of the Olympics, 1896-2000* by DK Publishing are in the 796 section of the adult books, along with the DVD *The First Olympics Blood, Honor, and Glory*, produced by A&E Television Networks. There are also many children's books about the history of the Olympic games located in the 796 area of the Children's Department.

To find books about Olympic athletes look in the library catalog, using the athlete's name as keyword from subject. These titles, such as *See How She Runs: Marion Jones and the Making of a Champion* by Ron Rapoport, are in the biographies, located behind the Information Desk. To read biographies of the 2004 Olympians, go to [www.nbcolympics.com](http://www.nbcolympics.com) and click on "athletes." This NBC site also provides news and descriptions of the various Olympic sports, results and schedules of events, and facts about participating countries.

If you are interested in learning about Athens and ancient and/or modern Greece, materials are in the travel section (*Destination Greece*, a DVD by Pilot Film and TV Productions Ltd. and *Greece* by David Willett, a Lonely Planet guide book, in section 914.9) and history section (*Greece* by Don Nardo in 949.5). The Athens 2004 website at [www.athens2004.com](http://www.athens2004.com) is a great site not only for information about the Olympics, but also about the city of Athens. Two other websites with information about the Olympic games are the Official Website of the U.S. Olympic Team at [www.usoc.org](http://www.usoc.org) and the Official Website of the Olympic Movement at [www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org). The Olympic Movement site contains background information on all of the previous games since 1896.

Staff Picks

August's staff pick is *Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever*, by Mem Fox, recommended by Children's Associate Betsy Adams. *Reading Magic* is an excellent, easy to understand book for parents of young children. It is located on the Parent/Teacher shelves in the Children's Department on the second floor of the library.

Website of the Month

August deserves two special websites! Try the websites of two local frozen custard stands - Stoddard's ([www.stoddardsfrozencustard.com](http://www.stoddardsfrozencustard.com)) and Strickland's ([www.stricklands.info](http://www.stricklands.info)). Find locations and hours,
read the menus, and find out the flavor of the day! You can even sign up to receive the flavor of the day in your e-mail.