

Between the Stacks

A Publication Of The Porter County Public Library System

July 2012 August www.pcpls.lib.in.us Volume 24 Issue 4

Published bi-monthly by Porter County Public Library System Serving 11 Townships

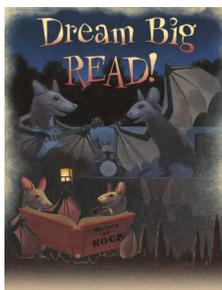
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Career Books	1 & 2
Relatively Speaking	2
Y. S. Book Review	3
Sherlock Holmes	4 & 5
July Event Calendar	6 & 7
August Event Calendar	8
Friends News	9
Wolfram Alpha	10 & 11



Don't forget to log those summer reads online before it's too late!

Kids and teens have until July 14th. Adults can log books until July 31st.



Explore the Career Section of Your Library Today!

Whether you are contemplating career choices, just heading off to college, entering the workforce, or looking to change jobs, there's information at the library for you. Ask the staff at your library's Reference Department for help finding information in the Careers section.



1,001 Ways to Pay for College. Don't forget—if you're a high school student, talk to your school guidance counselor, too. If you already know what university you'll be attending, set up an appointment with the financial aid department of that school. They may have scholarship and grant opportunities specifically for that college.

Trying to decide what career to go into? Try *Top 100 Health-care Careers.* It's a guidebook to training and careers in health, nursing and other medical fields. Or how about *The Top 100: The Fastest-growing Careers for the 21st Century?* Find out what jobs have the best prospects, perks, and salaries. Take a look at the *College Board Book of Majors* to find out what kinds of degrees are out there and which colleges offer them. The library also has books on specific career areas such as Internet & Multimedia, Food & Beverage Industry, Real Estate, Health Care, Sports, Engineering, Hospitality Industry, Casinos & Gaming, Education, Banking & Finance, Automotive, Animals & Pets, etc.

Need money to pay your way? Check out books like *College Money Handbook*, *Getting Financial Aid*, or

If you know what career path you want to follow, you might be required to take an entrance exam or skills test. The library has test prep books for a wide variety of exams such as the NCLEX for nursing, the LSAT for law school, the SAT for general college admission, the GMAT for business, the ASVAB for the Armed Forces, the CompTIA A+ for computer tech., and many more.

So you've graduated college and need a job. Try *What Color Is Your Parachute?*, a guide for job-hunters and career-changers. Computer-savvy? Try the book, *Find a Job through Social Networking.* Lost your job? Try books like *Eliminated! Now What?* or *Career Comeback.*

The library also has a nice selection of books on resumes, cover letters, and

job interviews. Check out such titles as *Resumes That Knock 'em Dead*, *Amazing Resumes*, *Cover Letter Magic*, or *Winning Job Interviews*.

Have you heard of INSPIRE? It's a database that's free to Indiana residents. You can find it at www.inspire.in.gov or through the library home page under "Research" then "Databases". In addition to sections on free e-books, and databases of newspapers, journals, and periodicals for research, there's an area called "Testing and Education". This section has resources for high school and college students and for people already in the working world. Take practice entrance and placement exams, search for colleges, look for scholarship opportunities, explore specific careers, or build a resume with INSPIRE's easy-to-use template.

Like to surf the Web? There are many online resources to get you started on your college career or find that job you're looking for. Here's a list of a few sites to visit.

- Porter County Public Library System, Local & Na-

tional Employment & Career Resources

<http://www.pcpls.lib.in.us/jobs.html>

- FAFSA, Federal Student Financial Aid
www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Occupational Outlook, the Dept. of Labor's guide to jobs & job prospects, earnings, job search tips, career requirements, and working conditions
www.bls.gov/oco
- Indiana Youth Institute, IN-specific career exploration
www.DriveofYourLife.org
- State Student Assistance Commission of IN, lists of financial aid resources for IN students
www.in.gov/ssaci/2335.htm
- IN Dept. of Education, links to IN colleges & universities
<http://www.doe.in.gov/htmls/higher.html>
- Independent Colleges of Indiana, Inc., guide to IN's independent colleges
<http://www.indianacollegechoices.org/>

Donna Smith- Head of Portage Reference

Relatively Speaking: Notes from the Genealogy Department

The commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War continues. In honor of Northwest Indiana's contribution to the effort, the South Shore Civil War Trail has been created. It is a path of different sites in the region marking the soldiers and events that helped the Union effort. The Valparaiso Public Library has been included as part of the trail.

This is due to the Genealogy Department's vast collection of Civil War information and that the records of the Chaplain Brown Post of the Grand Army of the Republic and the David D. Porter Post of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War are housed in the library.

Larry Clark continues working on the Porter County index to the 1940 United States Census. Several states have been completed on the some of the national genealogical sites such as Ancestry.com and Familysearch.org. The Porter County index will be an abridged index meaning that Larry is correcting some misspelled words and adding full names where abbreviations are given. This will be different from the national indexes where names are supposed to be indexed as is.

The population for Porter County in 1940 was 27,836. The county has gained in numbers every census except for 1920 when it had lost a couple hundred people from

1910 but that was a deceptive number. The Valparaiso University student population was included in the 1910 census but not in the 1920 one. In 1940 if students were away to college then they would still be recorded in the households of their family instead of where they were actually located.

Larry Clark gave Beginner's Workshops in genealogy at the Wanatah Public Library on May 23rd and the Kouts Public Library on June 5th. The next workshop will be at the South Haven Public Library on August 6th from 6:15 to 8:45 PM.

Larry Clark and Marlene Polster attended the National Genealogical Society Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio from May 8-12. The meeting featured ten different sessions every hour to choose from. The focus was on the anniversary of the War of 1812 and early settlement in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

The Indiana Collection that is housed in the Genealogy Department has greatly expanded its collection of books on railroads that served the state- particularly Northwest Indiana. These books contain numerous glossy colored photos of trains and rail yards from many years ago.

Larry Clark – Head of Genealogy Department



Youth Services: Book Reviews

This summer, the PCPLS Youth Services departments are exploring the themes of Dreaming Big and Owning the Night. The following stories all feature characters with big dreams. Check them out at your branch!

★ *The Search for WondLa*, by Tony DiTerlizzi (Jfic)

Eva Nine's circumstances are special, and so is Eva, as her Muthr, a Mult-Utility Task Help Robot, keeps telling her. She has never met another human, for Eva and Muthr live alone together in an underground Sanctuary. Eva feels like her life is on hold, and she dreams of the day when she will pass her survival skills training and finally be allowed to go up to the surface, where she hopes to search for other humans. She'll soon get her chance, though not in the way she was expecting—and what she encounters is both strangely similar and vastly different from the Earth she was prepared for.

Why I picked it up: The premise of the story and the beautiful accompanying illustrations, featuring curious and marvelous flora and fauna, hooked me right away.

Why I finished it: Eva is an imperfect protagonist you can relate to, and we can marvel at the world she encounters right along with her. The great characters she meets both influence her and are influenced by her, and the tale evokes hope, compassion, and understanding of the environment.

*I'd give it to: Fans of DiTerlizzi's **Spiderwick Chronicles**, as well as anyone who enjoys stories full of wonder and the fantastical with more than a little heart.*

★ *Chopsticks*, by Jessica Anthony and Rodrigo Corral (YA)

Some would say that Glory is already living her dream. A brilliant pianist, Gloria Fleming has been playing sold-out shows at worldwide venues like Carnegie Hall since she was a young teen. But she yearns for more. When Glory meets Frank, she is excited about the the possibilities of normal teen interactions. But her performances start to suffer. And then she goes missing.

Why I picked it up: The unique format: this is a novel told entirely in photographs. We see visual snippets of Glory's life: drawings, scrapbook pages, newspaper articles, youtube videos, IM conversations, and more. The reader must interpret the story from these images.



Why I finished it: Things may not be all that they seem in Glory's life, as becomes more and more evident the farther you read into the book. I kept finding myself going through earlier sections, rethinking those images even as I neared the ending.

I'd give it to: Those who are fans of the visual arts, as well as teens and adults looking for a fast read with some depth. This is a great book for readers and non-readers alike!

★ *A Long, Long Sleep*, by Anna Sheehan (YA)

Rosalinda Fitzroy loves her stass dreams. They may be chemically induced, but they excite her imagination and inspire her art. While dreaming in stasis, time is at a standstill for Rose, and she always wakes up the same age she was when she went to sleep. But when she's woken by Brendan, she learns that over sixty years have passed, and her entire world has changed. While she was asleep, Dark Times ravaged Earth. Her parents and boyfriend are gone, and she is now the unprepared heir to her family's interplanetary empire.

Why I picked it up: I love fairy tale adaptations, and I knew a science-fiction interpretation of Sleeping Beauty would be right up my alley.

Why I finished it: Rose is a complex character, and though she may technically be over a hundred years old, she's still got a lot of growing to do. Even she is unaware of the full implications of how a life in stass has changed her, and the more she lives, the more she must learn to reevaluate her childhood.

I'd give it to: Fans of fairy tales, science-fiction, and dystopias, as well as anyone looking for a beautiful and resonant story about learning to embrace life, rather than running away from it.

SarahEllen Hickle- Head of Hebron Youth Services

One of the latest trends in pop culture nostalgia is the resurgence of interest in Arthur Conan Doyle's most well-known character, Sherlock Holmes.

The resurgence may be due in part to the sheer number of Holmes' stories and novels now available in the public domain in both the United Kingdom and America, despite challenges from various parties claiming to have ownership rights. And, given the rise of e-readers and e-books, classic works in the public domain are being touted as cheap and easy ways for voracious readers to acquire

e-books (which, incidentally, is how I discovered Holmes). Several novels starring Holmes and his companion Dr. John Watson have recently been published, with many claiming to be the "first" authorized by Conan Doyle's estate (though, given the state of confusion surrounding ownership of Conan Doyle's estate, this is a dubious claim). The

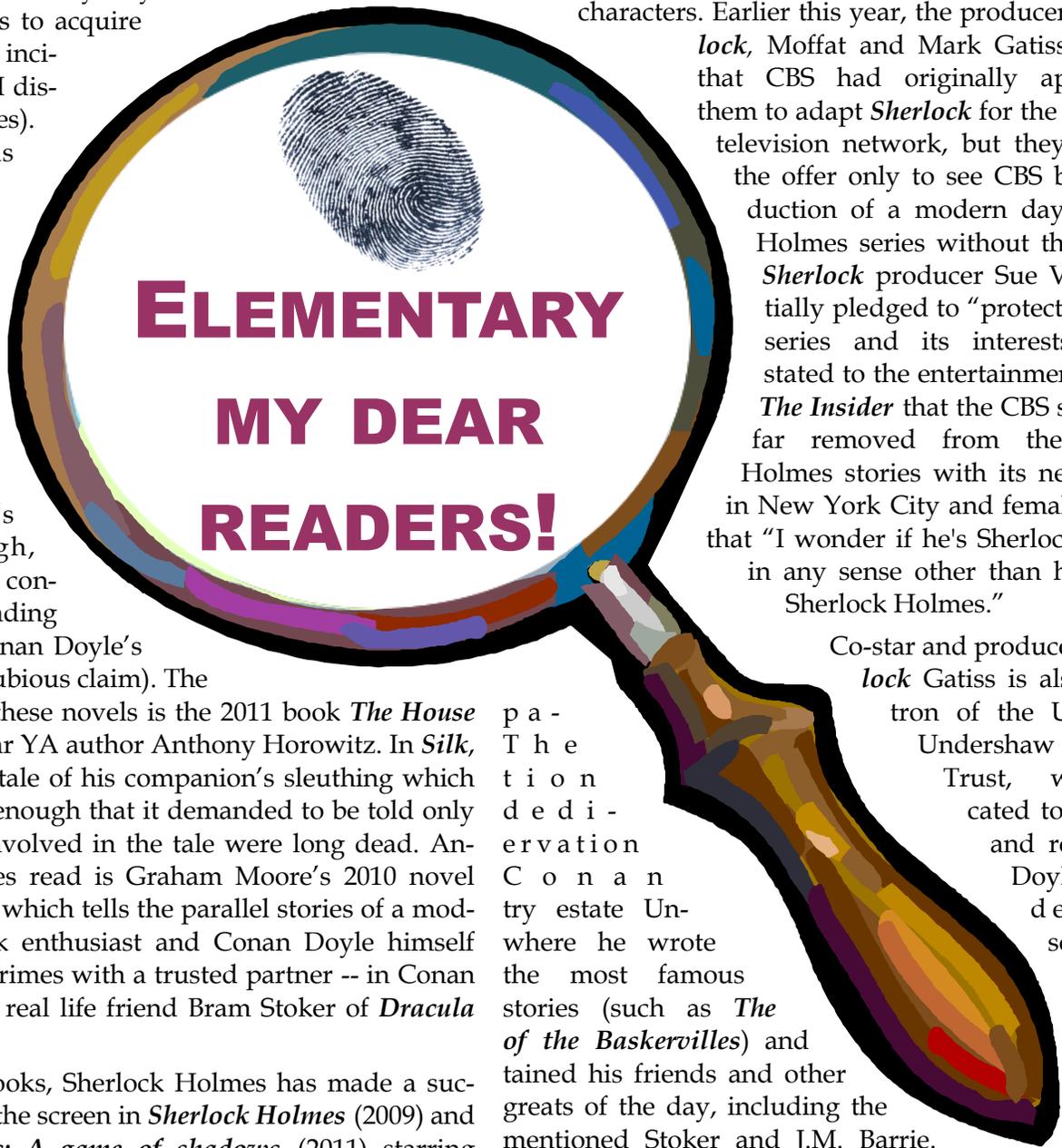
most notable of these novels is the 2011 book *The House of Silk* by popular YA author Anthony Horowitz. In *Silk*, Watson relays a tale of his companion's sleuthing which was "shocking" enough that it demanded to be told only after the souls involved in the tale were long dead. Another fun Holmes read is Graham Moore's 2010 novel *The Sherlockian*, which tells the parallel stories of a modern day Sherlock enthusiast and Conan Doyle himself solving horrific crimes with a trusted partner -- in Conan Doyle's case, his real life friend Bram Stoker of *Dracula* fame.

In addition to books, Sherlock Holmes has made a successful return to the screen in *Sherlock Holmes* (2009) and *Sherlock Holmes: A game of shadows* (2011) starring Robert Downey Jr. as Holmes and Jude Law as Watson. The films may be due the most credit for re-popularizing Holmes, despite the looseness of the adaptation from Conan Doyle's original stories. On the smaller screen, the BBC has produced two seasons of the show *Sherlock* starring Benedict Cumberbatch as Holmes and Martin Freeman as Watson. *Sherlock*, written and produced by Ste-

ven Moffat of *Coupling* and *Doctor Who* fame, takes the classic Holmes stories and characterizations and reinterprets them for modern times; for instance, Watson is still an Afghan war veteran, but Sherlock is now trying to kick an addiction to cigarettes instead of freely indulging a cocaine habit. In the autumn, American viewers will be treated to *Elementary* starring Jonny Lee Miller as Holmes and Lucy Liu as the first female Dr. Watson. The television adaptations are also no stranger to the legal tension surrounding the rights to Holmes' stories and characters. Earlier this year, the producers of *Sher-*

lock, Moffat and Mark Gatiss, claimed that CBS had originally approached them to adapt *Sherlock* for the American television network, but they declined the offer only to see CBS begin production of a modern day Sherlock Holmes series without them. After *Sherlock* producer Sue Vertue initially pledged to "protect" the BBC series and its interests, Moffat stated to the entertainment website *The Insider* that the CBS show is so far removed from the original Holmes stories with its new setting in New York City and female Watson that "I wonder if he's Sherlock Holmes in any sense other than he's called Sherlock Holmes."

Co-star and producer of *Sherlock* Gatiss is also a chief patron of the UK group Undershaw Preservation Trust, which is dedicated to the preservation and renewal of Doyle's country estate Undershaw, where he wrote the most famous stories (such as *The Hound of the Baskervilles*) and entertained his friends and other greats of the day, including the mentioned Stoker and J.M. Barrie. The group recently won a court appeal to prevent the home on the estate from being subdivided into condominiums, but this appeal is now being challenged by the prospective developer and will continue to be heard in Britain's High Court of Appeals -- which is poetic given Conan Doyle's influence in the creation of the High Court of Appeals. According to Marsha Perry's website *The*



Chronicles of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, in 1906 Conan Doyle published a series of articles describing what he believed to be a miscarriage of justice in the case of George Edalji, a man convicted of a series of animal mutilations and of sending harassing letters. At the time, the United Kingdom had no system in place for retrials; and, following Conan Doyle's articles, Edalji was acquitted of the mutilations by a special committee. However, the Edalji case demonstrated the need for a proper appeals court to be established, and the High Court of Appeals was created in 1907.

You can jump on the Sherlock bandwagon at any PCPLS library. The books, films, and television shows mentioned in this article are available at many of our branches, so visit us today to begin enjoying the tales of Arthur Conan Doyle and his beloved detective.

Hayley Dwyer- Kouts Branch Manager

Works Cited

Gardner, Eriq. "Legal Fight Brewing Over CBS' New Sherlock Holmes Adaptation (Analysis)." *The Hollywood Reporter* 25 January 2012. Web. 14 June 2012.

Itzkoff, Dave. "For the Heirs to Holmes, a Tangled Web." *The New York Times* 18 January 2010. Web. 14 June 2012.

Kennedy, Maev. "New Sherlock Holmes novel by Anthony Horowitz out in November." *The Guardian* 11 April 2011. Web. 14 June 2012.

Perry, Marsha. *The Chronicles of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle*. Perry Internet Consulting. Web. 14 June 2012.

The Undershaw Preservation Trust. The Undershaw Preservation Trust. Web. 14 June 2012.

Wieselmann, Jarrett. "Sherlock vs. "Sherlock"." *The Insider* 16 May 2012. Web. 14 June 2012.



SHARKS! at the South Haven Library

A single week dedicated to sharks just isn't enough for the staff of South Haven Public Library, so they're expanding it to Shark Month. The entire month of August will be filled with shark-themed activities at the branch.

There will be displays of shark books and videos, and one display case will be converted to an "aquarium" filled with sharks. The staff will be showing off their Selachimorpha by wearing their tie-dyed shark t-shirts. Children will have an opportunity to learn about sharks and create a paper shark to take home at a special program hosted for them by Youth Services librarian Kathy Blackburn. All patrons will have a chance to enter a drawing for a prize when they discover and check out a book with one of the 200 sharks hidden in books and periodicals throughout the collection.

If you're having trouble waiting for what some refer to as "The Best Week of the Year!" don't fret. Here are a few library items that might help hold you over.

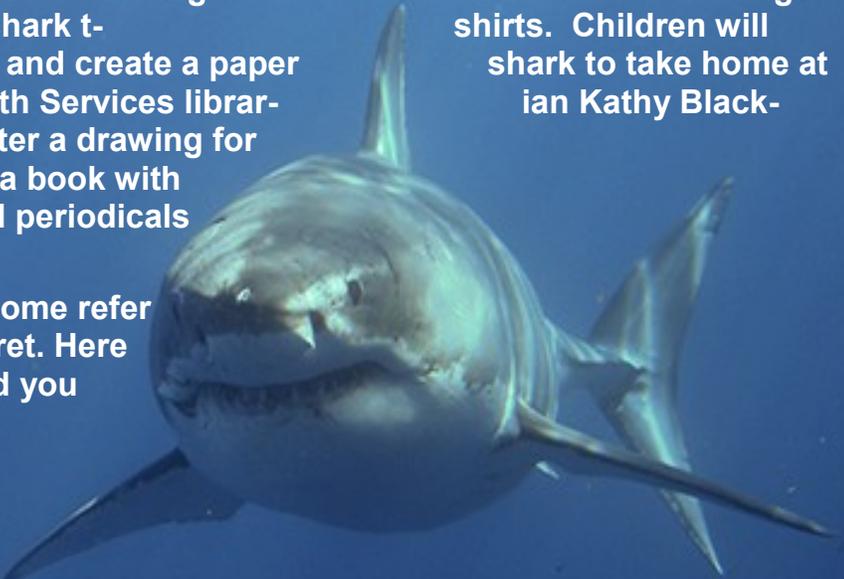
Books

- *Jaws* by Peter Benchley— the book that started it all!
- *Close to shore: a true story of terror in an age of innocence* by Michael Capuzzo— the 1916 shark attacks of five people. Was it the same shark? If so, what kind?
- *The Shark Watcher's Handbook: a guide to sharks and where to see them* by Mark Carwardine— coastal vacation this summer? Check out what might be lurking just below the surface

DVDs

- *Sharkwater*— 2006 documentary about the effects of shark hunting
- *Shark Week: 20th anniversary collection*— 4 volumes of old school shark week excitement

Look for "Shark Week 2012" on the Discovery Channel in late July!



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Storytime Program (K) 11:00 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (K) 12:00 PM-Blood pressure screening (P) 12:00 PM-Movie Monday Double Feature: "Over the Hedge" (H) 1:00 PM-Summer Reading Storytime Program (K) 1:30 PM-Inspiring Minds Book Discussion (sh) 3:00 PM-Movie Monday Double Feature: "Hoot" (H) 3:30 PM-Dream Big like Betsy Ross! (K) 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S) 7:30 PM-Scary Stories</p>	<p>3 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time Program (K) 10:30 AM-Tuesdays K-2nd: Night Creatures (H) 11:00 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time Program (K) 11:00 AM-Storytime (S) 1:00 PM-Professor Popcorn (S) 1:00 PM-Own The Night Summer Reading Program (K) 1:30 PM-Professor Popcorn (S) 2:00 PM-Camp Out (S) 2:30 PM-Tuesdays K-2nd: Night Creatures (H) 2:35 PM-*(V) Tuesday Thespians: Appreciation of Poetry and Drama 3:30 PM-Dream Big like Betsy Ross! (K) 4:00 PM-Teens on Tuesday: Writer's & Artist's Workshop (H) 10:15 PM-Storytimes (S)</p>	<p>4 LIBRARY CLOSED for the 4th of JULY</p> 	<p>5 10:30 AM-Dream Catcher Craft (P) 10:30 AM-Thursdays 3rd, 4th, and 5th: Night Creatures(H) 2:30 PM-Thursdays 3rd, 4th, and 5th: Night Creatures(H) 3:30 PM-* Lego Club (V) 4:00 PM-Read to Teddy the Dog (H) 7:00 PM-* Quest for Calm (P)</p>	<p>6 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time (H) 11:00 AM-* Jewelry Making Class (P) 11:00 AM-Summer Reading Story Time (H) 2:00 PM-*Midsummer's Fairy Party (V) 4:00 PM-Learn Sign Language (K)</p>	<p>7 9:15 AM-* Basket Weaving Class (P) 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S) 1:30 PM-Anime Movies (S)</p>
<p>9 10:00 AM-*Monday Happenings: Dreaming of Magic? (V) 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Storytime Program (K) 11:00 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (K) 12:00 PM-Movie Monday Double Feature: "Monsters, Inc." (H) 1:00 PM-Summer Reading Storytime Program (K) 3:00 PM-Movie Monday Double Feature: "How to Train Your Dragon" (H) 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S)</p>	<p>10 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time Program (K) 10:30 AM-Writing Workshop For Children (P) 10:30 AM-Tuesdays K-2nd: Monster Mash Crafts (H) 11:00 AM-Storytime (S) 11:00 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time Program (K) 12:00 PM-Valpo Brown Baggers Discussion Group (V) 1:00 PM-*Craft: Bead Buddies (V) 1:00 PM-Professor Popcorn (S) 1:30 PM-Professor Popcorn (S) 2:30 PM-Tuesdays K-2nd: Monster Mash Crafts (H) 3:30 PM-*Craft: Bead Buddies (V) 6:00 PM-Pajama Party (P) 8:00 PM-Own The Night Summer Reading Program (K) 10:15 PM-Storytimes (S) 10:45 PM-Picnic In The Park (S)</p>	<p>11 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P) 10:00 AM-Toddler Time (P) 10:15 AM-Dream Big! Go for The Gold! (K) 11:00 AM-Toddler Time (P) 11:45 AM-Dream Big! Go for The Gold! (K) 1:00 PM-Exploring with Professor Popcorn (P) 1:15 PM-Dream Big! Go for The Gold! (K) 1:30 PM-Exploring with Professor Popcorn (P) 1:30 PM-Inspiring Minds Book Discussion (S) 2:00 PM-Fondue Party! (S) 2:30 PM-*Clever Cooks: Fair Foods (V) 3:00 PM-Teen Wednesdays: Monsters & Movies: A Zombie Fest (H)</p>	<p>12 10:30 AM-Story Time (P) 10:30 AM-Thursdays 3rd, 4th, and 5th: Monster Mash Crafts(H) 1:30 PM-Novel Ideas Book Discussion (H) 2:00 PM-Tie-Dyeing (S) 2:30 PM-Thursdays 3rd, 4th, and 5th: Monster Mash Crafts (H) 7:00 PM-Back to the Feature: Ghostbusters (K)</p>	<p>13 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time (H) 11:00 AM-Summer Reading Story Time (H) 2:00 PM-* Jewelry Making Class (P) 4:00 PM-Learn Sign Language (K)</p>	<p>14 10:00 AM-Baby Time (P) 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S) 10:30 AM-Altered Book Craft (K)</p>
<p>16 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Storytime End-Of-Summer Reading Party(K) 11:00 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (K) 12:00 PM-Movie Monday Double Feature: "The Muppets" (H) 1:00 PM-Summer Reading Storytime End-Of-Summer Reading Party(K) 3:00 PM-Movie Monday Double Feature: "The Muppets" (H) 4:00 PM-Memory Keepers Scrapbooking (S) 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S)</p>	<p>17 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time End-Of-Summer Reading Party (K) 10:30 AM-Writing Workshop For Children (P) 10:30 AM-Tuesdays K-2nd: Olympics Party (H) 11:00 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time End-Of-Summer Reading Party (K) 1:00 PM-Own The Night Summer Reading Program (K) 2:00 PM-Read to Me Awards & Party (S) 2:30 PM-Tuesdays K-2nd: Olympics Party (H) 2:35 PM-*Tuesday Thespians: Appreciation of Poetry and Drama (V)</p>	<p>18 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P) 10:00 AM-Toddler Time (P) 10:15 AM-Dream Big End of Summer Reading Celebration party! (K) 11:00 AM-Toddler Time (P) 11:45 AM-Dream Big End of Summer Reading Celebration party! (K) 1:00 PM-Exploring with Professor Popcorn (P) 1:15 PM-Dream Big End of Summer Reading Celebration party! (K) 1:30 PM-Exploring with Professor Popcorn (P) 2:00 PM-K-5 Awards & Pizza Party (S) 3:00 PM-Teen Wednesdays: Own the Night Summer Reading Celebration (H)</p>	<p>19 10:30 AM-Story Time (P) 10:30 AM-Thursdays 3rd, 4th, and 5th: Olympics Party (H) 2:00 PM-Big Top Celebration (P) 2:30 PM-Thursdays 3rd, 4th, and 5th: Olympics Party (H) 4:00 PM-YA Awards & Pizza Party (S) 6:00 PM-* Pizza Party Game Night (V) 7:00 PM-Bonnet Book Club (K)</p>	<p>20 10:15 AM-Summer Reading Toddler Time (H) 11:00 AM-* Jewelry Making Class (P) 11:00 AM-Summer Reading Story Time (H) 4:00 PM-Learn Sign Language (K)</p>	<p>21 10:00 AM-* Beginning Oil Painting (P) 10:00 AM- Fluffy Flip Flops (P) 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S)</p>
<p>23 1:00 PM-Movie Monday (P) 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S) 7:00 PM-"Bookends" Book Discussion (S)</p>	<p>24 10:30 AM-Writing Workshop For Children (P) 6:00 PM-Making Memories (P)</p>	<p>25 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P)</p>	<p>26 6:30 PM-* Portage Reading Circle (P) 7:00 PM-Kouts Pageturners (K)</p>	<p>27 2:00 PM-* Jewelry Making Class (P) 3:00 PM-Yarn Club (V) 4:00 PM-Learn Sign Language (K)</p>	<p>28 10:30 AM-LEGO Club (P) 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S) 1:30 PM-LEGO Club (S)</p>
<p>30 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S)</p>	<p>31 10:30 AM-Writing Workshop For Children (P) 2:35 PM-*(V) Tuesday Thespians: Appreciation of Poetry and Drama 6:00 PM-Making Memories (P)</p>				

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August</h1>		1 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P) 6:30 PM-Family Movie Night (SH)	2	3 4:00 PM-Learn Sign Language (K)	4 9:15 AM-* Basket Weaving Class (P) 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S)
6 12:00 PM-Blood pressure screening (P) 1:30 PM-Inspiring Minds Book Discussion (sh) 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S)	7 6:00 PM-Making Memories (P)	8 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P)	9 1:30 PM-Novel Ideas Book Discussion (H) 6:30 PM-Back to the Feature: Jurassic Park (K)	10 4:00 PM-Learn Sign Language (K)	11 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S) 1:30 PM-Inspiring Minds Book Discussion (S)
13 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S)	14 12:00 PM-Valpo Brown Baggers Discussion Group (V) 6:00 PM-Making Memories (P)	15 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P)	16 7:00 PM-Bonnet Book Club (K)	17	18 10:00 AM-* Beginning Oil Painting (P) 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S)
20 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S)	21 6:00 PM-Making Memories (P)	22 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P)	23 6:30 PM-* Portage Reading Circle (P) 7:00 PM-Kout's Pageturners (K)	24 3:00 PM-Yarn Club (V)	25 10:30 AM-Mother Goose on the Loose (S) 1:30 PM-LEGO Club (S)
27 1:00 PM-Movie Monday (P) 6:00 PM-Internet & Catalog Training (S) 7:00 PM-"Bookends" Book Discussion (S)	28 3:30 PM-Amber's Anime (K)	29 10:00 AM-Knit-a-Longs (P)	30	31	

For detailed information about these programs, check our website: www.pcpls.lib.in.us
 Or call the branch library:
 Hebron(H) 996-3684 Kouts(K) 766-2271
 Portage(P) 763-1508 South Haven(S) 759-4474 Valparaiso(V) 462-0524
 (H) Hebron (K) Kouts (P) Portage (S) South Haven (V) Valparaiso
 Note:* events require pre-registration. Contact the library branch to sign up.

Friends of the Library News



Donating Books

Don't add to landfills by throwing out your unwanted reading materials, tapes and videos. Instead, donate your gently used books, cassettes, CDs or DVDs to The Friends. These gifts will not only replenish our stock of merchandise for sale but also will recycle the items to other people for their enjoyment and benefit.

Fiction and non-fiction books in good condition (not torn pages, broken spines or marking in the text), whether hardback or paperback, are welcome additions as are audio tapes, record albums, books on tape, DVDs and video tapes.

We also accept used textbooks, magazines, and encyclopedias.

It's easy to give items to The Friends:

- Take books, tapes, record albums, CDs and DVDs to staff at each of the branch libraries circulation desk
- For larger donations, call the Library Maintenance Department at 462-0524 for pickup

Turn your used books, cassettes and tapes into Library programs and activities by donation them to The Friends!

Program & Activities

Great libraries cannot be built by tax dollars alone. The Friends provide additional funding needed for programs, materials and support which helps the Library to meet the growing demands for its services. Activities sponsored by The Friends often would not be otherwise available, due to the Library's budget constraints.

The Friends underwrite programs that encourage lifelong learning in our county, including:

- The Summer Reading Program for readers from pre-school through adult
- Storytellers, musical performers and puppet shows from time-to-time
- Authors, speakers and entertainers for adults, teens and children
- Acquisition of valuable books, materials, and equipment

- Special programs to honor people and events significant to our area and its history

- Support for library legislative initiatives with the Indiana General Assembly

From toddlers to retirees, new immigrants, students to researchers, people depend on our Library system. Funding from the Friends enables the Library to continue its important work throughout our county.

Library Friends

Have you joined The Friends of the Library? These dedicated volunteers advocated for libraries, raise much needed funds, sponsor programs and special events, and host popular used book sales. So many prominent people have articulated their love for the library. A collection of quotes enable libraries in their communities.

"Whatever the cost of our libraries, the price is cheap compared to that of an ignorant nation" – Walter Cronkite, broadcaster

"Secondhand books are wild books, homeless books; they have come together in vast flocks of variegated feather, and have a charm which the domesticated volumes of the library lack" – Virginia Woolf (1882-1941) author

"Libraries and librarians do what they do so quietly and efficiently that it's easy to take them for granted. But we do so at our peril. If we don't safeguard them, we will wake up one day and realize that we've lost something very, very precious. A world without libraries is unthinkable" – Erica Silverman, author

"Reading is the sole means by which we slip involuntarily, often helplessly, into another's skin, another's voice, another's soul – Joyce Carol Oates (1938-)

"My best friend is a person who will give me a book I have not read" – Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States
Donald C. Johnson - President, FPCPLS

PCPLS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

~
Valparaiso 12:00 pm
(Bring a sack lunch.)

July 10 – *Picture of Dorian Gray*

By Oscar Wilde

Aug. 14 – *In the Garden of Beasts: love, terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin*

By Erik Larson

~
Hebron 1:30 pm

July 12 – *Change in Altitude*

By Anita Shreve

Aug. 9 – *Room*

By Emma Donoghue

~
Kouts 7:00 pm

July 26 – *In the Garden of Beasts: love, terror, and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin*

By Erik Larson

Aug. 23 – *The Thirteenth Tale*

By Diane Setterfield

~
South Haven 7:00 pm

July 23 – *Garden Spells*

By Sarah Allen

Aug. 27 – *Forgotten Garden*

By Kate Morton

~
Portage 7:00 pm

July 26 – *The Night Circus*

By Erin Morgenstern

Aug. 23 – *State of Wonder*

By Anne Patchett

Call your local branch to reserve a book.
Titles are subject to change due to availability.

Wolfram|Alpha

Can you imagine if libraries were just collections of books on shelves with no organization and no catalog to help you find what you are looking for? Fortunately, Melville Dewey in 1876 invented a new way to classify information in libraries, and the Dewey Decimal System is still helping patrons find books today.

Humans have been organizing knowledge into systems as early as 20,000 BC when arithmetic was invented as a knowledge system for numbers, or 15,000 BC when pictures were painted on cave walls to represent events. It is easy to take for granted how important the organization of knowledge is to our daily lives. Can you imagine life without calendars? Maps? Currency? Dictionaries? Musical notation? The stock market? How many other systems of knowledge are essential to our way of life?

"Information from Wolfram|Alpha doesn't come from the Internet where there is no control over how information is authored. Wolfram|Alpha carefully curates its information from primary and authoritative sources."

In 2005, Stephen Wolfram began an ambitious project called **Wolfram|Alpha** (www.wolframalpha.com) that seeks "to make all systematic knowledge immediately computable and accessible to everyone." In other words, you should eventually be able to ask **Wolfram|Alpha** about any kind of factual information you want to know!

You may ask, "Doesn't Google already do that?" Well, not exactly. The Internet is a massive collection of information currently estimated at 10.82 billion pages. Without search engines like Google, we could not take advantage of all this information because we could never find what we were looking for in such a vast collection.

However, no one directs how the Internet grows, or who is responsible for the information, or even what information should be there. While there are many reliable information sources on the Internet, there are also many unreliable sources. It isn't always easy for researchers and "googlers" to tell the difference between them.

Information from **Wolfram|Alpha** doesn't come from the Internet where there is no control over how infor-

mation is authored. **Wolfram|Alpha** carefully curates its information from primary and authoritative sources. This makes it great for research. In fact, if you use Wolfram|Alpha as a source, you must cite it.

Here is an example. What if I wanted to know what the weather was like when the Duchess of Cambridge was born? If I were using Google to find this information, I would have to search for 1) Catherine Middleton's birth date, 2) her birthplace, and 3) a site that gives historical weather information. I have to evaluate the results for each search to determine if they are reliable and trustworthy. In Wolfram|Alpha, I can type in "Catherine Middleton birthplace birthdate weather". I get only one result which directly reports that it was snowing in the town of Reading on January 9, 1982 when she was born. I trust this information because I know it is taken from primary sources.

Another important difference from Internet search engines is that Wolfram|Alpha is "computational." In fact, it is not a search engine, like Google, but a computational knowledge engine. What does this mean? **Wolfram|Alpha** not only strives to collect reliable information about everything, it stores that information in such a way that it can be used in calculations.

To illustrate this, let's try another example. I'm writing a report about the lunar orbit, and I want to express the distance from the earth to the moon in a meaningful unit, such as the tallest building in the world, the Burj Khalifa. In Google I must first search for reliable sources that give the distance between the earth and the moon and the height of the Burj Khalifa, convert them into units of measurement that match, and then divide the two. In **Wolfram|Alpha**, I can just enter "distance from the earth to the moon / height of the Burj Khalifa". It understands my input and computes it automatically. The result reports that you would have to build



A computational knowledge engine

474,645 Burj Khalifas one on top of the other to reach the moon.

Does it sound like magic, or too good to be true? Well, there are limitations. This project is still in its earliest stages, and though the amount of information available is breathtaking, it has not yet reached the scope of its long-term goal. Eventually much more information will be available. **Wolfram|Alpha** also only deals with known facts that are somehow public. You can't use it to research opinions or other subjective information, and you can't research private data. Also, while **Wolfram|Alpha** is free to use, some of its most powerful features are limited to a "Pro" account which costs a small monthly fee.

However, these limitations are minor compared to what **Wolfram|Alpha** is capable of. You can ask questions about dozens of realms of knowledge like engineering, linguistics, sports, finance, culture, and many more. Answers to questions are also very detailed and given in a wide variety of outputs such as text descriptions, numbers, diagrams, graphs, maps, pictures, and sounds. For example, if you type in "C#", you will be provided with

a drawing of the musical notation of C sharp, a diagram of its location on a keyboard, frequency in hertz, and more. **Wolfram|Alpha** can even play the note so you can hear its sound.

"Wolfram|Alpha's goal is to create something that will stand as a major milestone of 21st century intellectual achievement."

The best way to understand what **Wolfram|Alpha** has to offer is to try it yourself! Visit the examples page (www.wolframalpha.com/examples/) to find out what **Wolfram|Alpha** can do; I know you'll be amazed.

Wolfram|Alpha's "goal is to create something that will stand as a major milestone of 21st century intellectual achievement." From helping kindergartners learn to tell time by drawing clocks, to helping geneticists translate a DNA base sequence, perhaps one day we will have a hard time imagining life without **Wolfram|Alpha**.

References: Wolfram Alpha LLC. 2012. Wolfram|Alpha. <http://www.wolframalpha.com> (access June 10, 2012).

Inge Kokidko - Automation Assistant

15 Ways to Use Wolfram|Alpha

To try these examples, go to www.wolframalpha.com, or get the **Wolfram|Alpha** app, and type in the examples in quotes below.

- **Dictionary:** "define triangulation"
- **Crossword Puzzles:** use underscores for unknown letters "f i _ _ t _ _ _"
- **Math Homework:** "solve $6x + 6 = -5x - 3$ ", then click 'show steps'.
- **Gratuity:** split a restaurant bill "\$84.22, 15% tip, 3 people"
- **Salaries:** find average salaries "intercity bus driver salary"
- **Rent:** find average rent "apartment rent Valparaiso"
- **Stocks:** compare several "MSFT, AAPL, GOOG"
- **Shopping:** find product information "ereaders" or "cheapest tablets"
- **Nutrition:** calories in a snack "1 glass orange juice, 1 stick cheese"
- **Weight Loss:** analyze regimen "weight loss" and enter values
- **Names:** How common is a name? "Isabella", or compare two "Edward Jacob".
- **Sports:** "Aaron Rogers pass completion % in 2011"
- **Crafts:** information about knitting needles "knitting needle size 8"
- **Astronomy:** find constellations "star chart Valparaiso"
- **Just for fun!** "Batman Logo"

See more examples in this video: www.wolframalpha.com/screencast/introducingwolframalpha.html



BETWEEN THE STACKS

Porter County Public Library System
103 Jefferson Street
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383



NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VALPARAISO, IN
PERMIT NO. 75

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dream Big Read!



Valparaiso Public Library, 462-0524

103 Jefferson Street
Valparaiso, IN 46383

M-Th 9-9pm; F 9-6pm; Sat 9-5pm

Portage Public Library, 763-1508

2665 Irving Street
Portage, IN 46368

M-Th 9-9pm; F 9-6pm; Sat 9-5pm

South Haven Public Library, 759-4474

403 West 700 North
Valparaiso, IN 46385

M,W 10-9pm; T,Th,F 10-6pm; Sat 9-5pm

Hebron Public Library, 996-3684

201 W. Sigler Street
Hebron, IN 46341

M,W 10-9pm; T,Th,F 10-6pm; Sat 9-5pm

Kouts Public Library, 766-2271

101 E. Daumer Road
Kouts, IN 46347

M,W,F 10-6pm; T,Th 10-9pm; Sat 9-5pm

Mission Statement

We believe that libraries can change people's lives and are a cornerstone of our democracy. The mission of the Porter County Public Library System is to provide all residents of the library district with a comprehensive collection of materials in a variety of media that records human knowledge, ideas and culture and to organize these materials for ready access. The library encourages the love of reading and the joy of learning, and offers the assistance people need to find, evaluate, and use electronic and print information resources that help them live successful and rewarding lives.

Director

James Cline

Assistant Director

Phyllis Nelson

PCPLS Board of Trustees

Scott Falk (*President*)
Mary Bradford (*Vice-President*)
Daria Block (*Secretary*)
Sheila Minton (*Treasurer*)
Gerrie Bowie
William Eckert, Jr.
Paul Knauff
Tom Neuffer

Friends of the Porter County Library

Executive Board Members

Don Johnson (*President*)
Cheryl Oestreich (*Vice-President*)
Barb Lewis (*Secretary*)
Linda Stevenson (*Treasurer*)
Jeri Fork
Marcia Dwyer
Judy Petrou
Lois Thurner
Gail Tuminello

INSPIRE

Indiana Libraries On-Line
<http://www.inspire.net>