

WINTER '24

OFF THE SHELF

Montezuma Public Library's Official Newsletter



Kids Have A "Grinchy" Good Time At Library! Saturday, Dec 7th



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PANTRY PARTNER IS HERE TO HELP

We're pleased to announce that our "Pantry Partner" features not only non-perishable food items, but also a variety of personal hygiene items. Again, all items are FREE to our community members & visiting patrons. Just take what you need--no questions asked. There is also a mini fridge/freezer that contains cold items & freezer items. Some of the items that we've had include milk, eggs, Gatorade, frozen beef & bread. We've also had a lot of different donations coming in which is adding to the variety of items available. Having this option available has been a huge blessing. Our hope is to not replace the local Food Pantry, but add another resource for our community.



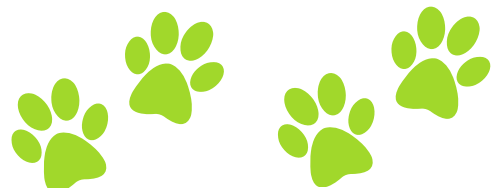
THE PANTRY PARTNER

Take What You Need!

Questions about getting further food assistance?
Call 641-623-3275.



Hazel, a black lab was a huge hit during the library's event on Saturday, December 7th. Hazel is a certified school therapy dog & is owned by Deana Horras, Elementary Counselor for Montezuma Community School.



Adventure Pass Program

To Pause In 2025



*Due to a change in vendors, our library adventure pass program will be put on hold after December 31st, 2024.

What This Means

Reservations previously made for 2025 will still be honored, however no new reservations can be made until a new vendor is found.



= 21



= 18



= 9



of patrons that have participated in program so far

Important Info About Adventure Pass:

- This program will be on hiatus after December 31st, 2024. Reservations already made for 2025 WILL still be honored. Print your passes immediately.
- If you wish to make reservations for 2024, you MUST make them no later than December 31st, 2024.

Last Day To Make Reservations Is December 31st, 2024

CLICK HERE

Funded by Friends of the Montezuma Public Library



LOOKING TO BORROW THINGS

We're looking for any of your cool 80s items! If you have something that screams the 80s, please let us know! Don't worry...you'll get your stuff back. Stop in & talk to Christine or email us at: montepl@montezumaiaowa.org

Hey Kids!

LETTERS TO SANTA

↓

DELIVER HERE!

Our North Pole Mailbox is open until Christmas Day! Just stop in the lobby of the library to drop off your letters to Santa in the red metal mailbox. Happy writing!

Kids Share Wish Lists With Santa



Dear Santa,
I'm so excited for my 1st Christmas! My sister and brother tell me it is lots of fun and there are new toys to play with. I think the paper and boxes sound more fun.
Merry Christmas,
Henry

Dear Santa,
Hello, what do your reindeer like to play and eat? I have tried to be good this year, and nice to my little brother. For Christmas I would like Paw Patrol toys.
Thank you!
Landen

Hi Santa,
What kind of cookie do you likb?
Can I leave treats for the reindeer?
I haven't been perfect but I have good.
Could you please bring me dress up clothes.
I would like mermaid and fairy wings best.
Thank you
Larkin



Did you set a reading goal this year? How do you like to track books you've read? Are you a paper reading log person or do you use a digital app such as Goodreads? Hint: Goodreads is an excellent way to keep track of what you've read & want to read. You can also set up yearly reading challenges for yourself.

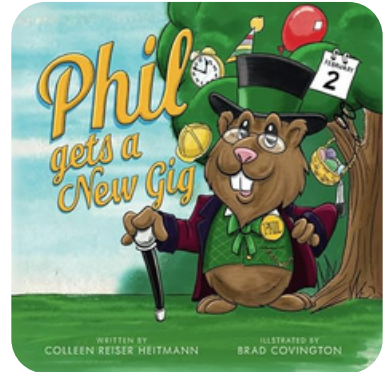
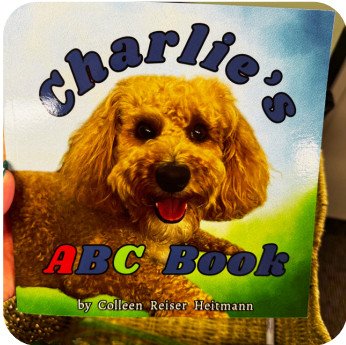
I decided staying up all night and finishing my book was more important than being mentally present today.





LOCAL AUTHOR SHARES LOVE OF READING

We were so excited to recently welcome local Lake Ponderosa resident and author, Colleen Heitmann to Story Time to share her new books with us. Heitmann self-published “Charlie’s ABC Book” featuring her adorable dog Charlie. Her book “Phil Gets A New Gig” takes a closer look into the life of Phil the groundhog and how he learns to appreciate who he really is. The books are available to purchase from Amazon or locally from The Record Newspaper.



Story Time Returns In January!

Gobble! Gobble!



STORY TIME

@MONTEZUMA PUBLIC LIBRARY @10AM

<p>January '25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, 7th • Tues, 21st 	<p>April '25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, 1st • Tues, 15th • Tues, 29th
<p>February '25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, 4th • Tues, 18th 	<p>May '25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, 13th • Tues, 27th
<p>March '25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tues, 4th • Tues, 18th 	

*ALL AGES WELCOME!

These turkeys were pretty excited to make their very own turkey headband! Thanks to the Veterans Of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Poweshiek County #8876 for donating these adorable Thanksgiving crafts to our Story Time program!

Resources

The digital library is always open.



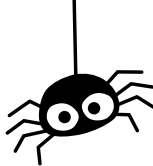
OPEN 24 HOURS

Libby.
The library reading app



Book-or-Treat

We had an amazing night handing out lots of books & candy during Montezuma's Trunk-or-Treat on the square. Pictured from left to right is Kristy Jacobsen dressed as a "bag lady" & Ms. Frizzle & the Magic School Bus, aka Library Director Christine Grimm. We loved seeing everyone's costumes!




DID YOU KNOW? WE HAVE AN APP FOR OUR CATALOG!

- 1. DOWNLOAD THE APP**
Get instantly connected to the library by visiting Google Play or the App Store.
- 2. CHOOSE "MONTEZUMA PUBLIC LIBRARY"**
Sign in with your library card # & use temporary password "books" if you haven't already set one.
- 3. START SEARCHING**
Check your account, reserve books & search for books in our online catalog!

Montezuma Public Library

Borrow ebooks & audiobooks

Libby.
The reading app from our library, built by OverDrive.



Library Holiday Hours

TUES, DEC 24TH: 9:30-NOON
CHRISTMAS DAY: CLOSED

TUES, DEC 31ST: 9:30-NOON
NEW YEAR'S DAY: CLOSED

FRIENDS

*By donating to the Friends, you are actually helping the library with purchasing books, supplies for programs & more!

Pay safely & easily by scanning either of the QR Codes below!

Or Use:

paypal.me/FriendsoftheMPL



venmo



Scan. Pay. Go.



WAYS TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY

The library is an important part of our community and patrons want to ensure it continues to be so for generations to come. For anyone wishing to support the library, here are valuable ways to do so:

Friends of the Montezuma Public Library: FOTMPL is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization directed by a volunteer board and supported by the community through fundraisers and sales of donated books. FOTMPL supports costs that might fall outside of the annual budget of the library such as programming and community outreach.

Book Donations: The library accepts book donations anytime throughout the year. We can accept your good, used children's books, young adult and adult books. They may be paperback or hardcover. We also accept games, puzzles and DVDs. Cookbooks are good also. Just ask us for a donation receipt if you need one.

What We Don't Accept: VHS tapes, old encyclopedias, old magazines, college textbooks

Volunteer: Sometimes it's nice to have extra hands on deck during some of our different programs. If you're interested in helping out--call the library at 623-3417 or email Christine at: montepl@montezumaiowa.org for more information on volunteering.

Amazon Wish List: The library has a wish list on Amazon where anyone can choose to make a purchase and then it'll ship directly to the library. This is a great way to help support the library.

CHECK OUT OUR **amazon wishlist**

Scan the code with your phone's camera to access our list & purchase books for the library! This is a great way to help us expand our youth & adult book collection!

DOG MAN
ODDER
THE VERY LAST LEAF
JANET EVANOVICH
NOW OR NEVER

♥ Thank You For Your Support! ♥

REFLECTIONS



GOOD CHANGES

Perhaps one of the neatest additions to the children's reading area has been the wooden browsing book bins. These were created by Bill Schultz of Montezuma, owner of "Grandpa Bill's Wood Shop." I literally showed Bill what we wanted for the library & he got busy making them. They turned out fantastic. These browsing bins are on wheels & have allowed easier access to the children's picture books. Bill is pictured with his lovely wife, Wanda. We truly appreciate their support of the library. In fact, their grandchildren & great-grandchildren utilize the library quite frequently. I really like the fact that these book bins were created by someone local. We look forward to using these for many years to come! Thanks again, Bill!

FOR OUR SPACES

OVERFLOWING WITH KINDNESS

In August of 2023, I received an email from Mr. James Sanders of Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. He explained that his father and many relatives and ancestors lived in the Montezuma area years ago, and that they were all great readers. I'm still astounded that someone with deep ties to our community would simply send an email, asking about the library's needs, and then end up donating funds to the Friends Of The Montezuma Public Library so we could purchase one of those book bins, along with children's books. I've enjoyed conversing over email with Mr. Sanders, or Jim. I don't know if I'll ever meet him, but I'll be forever grateful for his generosity & kindness to our little library. I think it's amazing that our library & community left such a lasting impact on him.

"What is the area of your greatest need?"

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING:

- *CUPPA BOOK CLUB
- *JAMES SANDERS
- *MONTIQUE'S

FOR PURCHASING A BOOK BIN FOR THE LIBRARY!



WRAPPING UP 2024...AND THE BEST JOB EVER!

Merry Christmas to everyone! I'm still in shock that 2024 is quickly coming to an end. This will be my sixth Christmas as Library Director at Montezuma Public Library. This has to be my favorite season mainly because it's fun to bring out the Christmas decorations & plug in the festive colored lights. Probably my favorite thing to do this time of year is sit in our living room with Christmas music playing in the background & just take in the beauty of the lights. Sometimes the silence is what we need in a very busy, distracting world. Contrary to popular belief, librarians are doing much more than just sitting around reading books & checking books out to the public. In fact, we're actually crafting, painting rocks or dusting book shelves! Okay, I'm partly kidding here. Sometimes our job entails a variety of things on really any given day. We could be getting craft materials together for Story Time, dusting book shelves, making copies for patrons, cleaning up messes, checking out books, ordering books, reorganizing, answering questions, recommending places to eat to out-of-town patrons, fixing computer issues, helping parents get their children out the door (trust me, kids seem to not want to leave the library), give out book recommendations, help a patron log onto the internet or print documents directly from their cell phone. Need I go on? The purpose of this is NOT to pat myself or our staff on the back. Although they definitely deserve the pats for the variety of things they encounter whenever they step inside the doors. They have been the BEST support system for me & willing to go along with all of my crazy ideas. And speaking of support, I've been completely blown away by the support pouring in from our community. Whether it has been book donations, words of encouragement, a hug or running home quickly to grab your Grinch costume & volunteering to be the Grinch! It's all so wonderful!



We have the BEST volunteers. They help keep the library open whenever our regular staff isn't available or if I go read stories to Miss Kelsey's preschool class. We try our best to be open...however sometimes things happen & we can't always do that. For example, about a week ago, we had a big ice storm move through the area & a handful of local businesses were not open. I decided it was best to be safe & not make one of librarians drive into town. I don't know about you, but I hate driving on ice. I don't know anyone who says "Hey, let's go drive on some iced-covered roads for fun!" Having grown up on gravel roads (and driving them every day leaving my house) & knowing how dangerous they can be when they get covered with snow & ice...I wouldn't want to put anyone in that situation.

Are you tired of hearing about ice yet? Oh! That reminds me of when our first son was born. I think it was a couple of weeks before the due date & my husband had just pulled up to my parents' house. As I was getting out of his truck, I slipped and ended up on my back on the ice-covered snow. Did I mention this was mid-January? Oh yeah. I ended up getting checked out at the hospital where we would eventually meet our baby boy a few days later. I was so glad he wasn't hurt when I fell. I'm sure he got jostled around a bit though. Did I mention my absolute FAVORITE job in the world? Being a mother. Although I love the library, I love being at home with my husband & two boys more.



Happy New Year
