

OOSTBURGPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG | (920) 564-2934



## A Historic PEEPS Show!

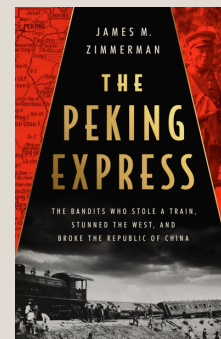
We asked, and you delivered! PEEPS have taken over the library! Our annual PEEPS Show had a record shattering 62 entries this year! That's almost double what we had last year.

These displays were endlessly creative, and we're lucky enough to play host to them until the end of April, so make sure to stop by and check them out!

Our panel of judges had some difficult choices to make. But in the end, these dioramas took home the gold, and some fabulous prizes!

- Age 5-6: Briana Vis - The Amazing Dog Show
- Age 7: Cohen Kneser - Peep Blue Sea
- Age 8: Arya Keenan - Where's Waldo in Waldo?
- Age 9: Keira Kneser - Oostburg Art Peepseum
- Age 10: Adalyn Lensink - Kups

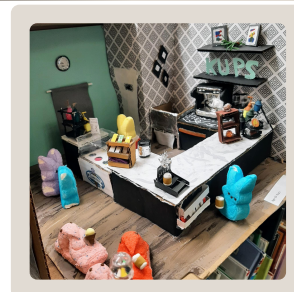
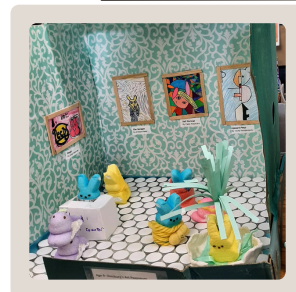
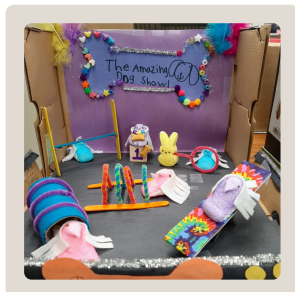
## New at the Library



### *The Peking Express*

James M. Zimmerman

Bandits lay siege to a luxurious Chinese train carrying several important passengers in this non-fiction account of the event that set the stage for China's two-decade civil war, and also inspired several Hollywood movies.



## Fun Fact

In 2022, people saved a combined total of \$671,462.94 by using the Oostburg Public Library.

*This does not include any digital items from Libby or Hoopla. When you get a physical checkout receipt, there are a few sentences at the bottom that tell you how much money you saved by checking out materials instead of buying them. The system keeps track of that data.*



PEEPS cont. from page 1

Age 11: Diana Walcott and Autumn Rosenthal  
- The Big Hungry Bear

Teens 12-17: Mercy Schaefer - Peeps County Fair

Adults: Jodi Burri - Peepenstein

Congratulations to all of our winners! The competition was especially steep this year, which makes victory taste as sweet as a PEEP. Pictures really don't do these displays justice, and there are over 50 other high quality displays to see. If you need a smile, make your way to the library to check them out before they're gone.

Remember: It's never too early to start planning for next year!

## New at the Library



*The Loud Librarian*

Jenna Beatrice

Penelope is friendly, organized, and helpful, not to mention a lover of books. Needless to say, she's been eagerly anticipating taking her turn as the class librarian. But when she's finally chosen, her classmates don't think someone as loud as her will be a good fit. Can Penelope prove them wrong? Find out in this new book, which has already captured the hearts of several of our staff members. I won't say who among us find it most relatable!

Remember to like us on Facebook! If you don't have an account, you can still see our posts on the web at [facebook.com/OostburgPublicLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/OostburgPublicLibrary)

## SPOTLIGHT ON: GRAPHIC NOVELS

If you've been in the library lately, you may have noticed that the YA section looks a little bit different. There's a chance you've also noticed the mostly empty bookshelf between Adult Fiction and Biographies. These two changes are actually related. Both spaces have been freed up in order to make more space for our growing collection of Graphic Novels.

While we've been steadily building up a truly impressive collection of Juvenile Graphic Novels, we haven't been able to give our selection of YA and Adult Graphic Novels the same amount of attention. But as more and more of our patrons who grew up reading graphic novels age out of the J-Fic category, and as our culture continues to develop a greater interest in graphic novels for all ages, it's important for us to invest in these areas.

For the uninitiated, graphic novels are simply novels told in the comic book format. While many people think of superheroes when they think of graphic novels, they actually encompass a wide variety of genres and topics. From historical fiction, realistic fiction, and graphic memoir



## Annual Friends Meeting

The Friends of the Oostburg Public Library are hosting their annual meeting on April 25th at 6pm. This event is open to the public and will feature a presentation from guest speaker Barry Kloeping about interesting facts and artifacts from World War II.

Mr. Kloeping is an 8th grade social studies teacher at Oostburg Middle School and is extremely knowledgeable about history, especially history from this time period. He is also an avid collector of artifacts, and will be bringing a few pieces from his extensive collection to the meeting. It's sure to be an interesting and informative time.

In addition to the guest speaker, the Friends will be honoring Trix for her many years of service.

If you are not yet a member of the Friends of the Library, consider joining. Membership is only \$10.00 for an individual. The Friends provide many vital services to the library, and are a big part of why we are able to operate at such a high level. More information can be found at the library.

### Graphic Novels Cont. From Page 2

to science fiction, fantasy, and mysteries, there are graphic novels for every taste.

Because of the wide variety of graphic novels, not every title is for everyone. As with all of our materials, we have to make a judgement call about where to place them. In having three separate locations for the graphic novels, we hope to limit children from taking home content that their parents find disagreeable while also ensuring we have a good collection of titles for all age groups.

As we build up these collections, I recommend taking a peek at the new titles we're adding. Many contain interesting and nuanced stories, highlighting groups of people or pockets of history that may have otherwise slipped through the cracks. Others are just good old fashioned fun, featuring the heroes and villains that have dominated screens both big and small in the past few decades. Some are both. While they may not be for everyone, you might just find that you enjoy them.

### Did You Know?

In 2005, Time Magazine compiled a list of the 100 Best Novels of All Time. The list included one graphic novel: *Watchmen* by Alan Moore

New At  
the  
Library

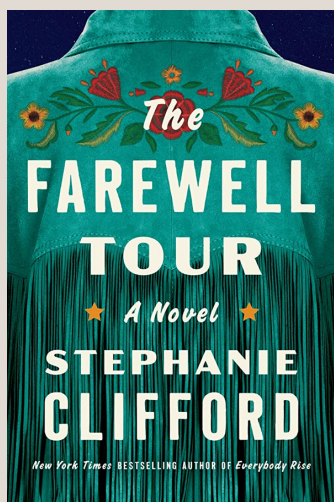
*Superman  
Smashes  
the Klan*

Gene Luen  
Yang



Author of the bestselling graphic novel *American Born Chinese* (also available at the library, also being adapted into a series on Disney+) Gene Luen Yang returns to the character of Superman. Based on a radio series from 1946 that damaged the Klan's reputation so much that membership rates never recovered, this YA graphic novel set in the wake of World War Two tells the parallel stories of a Chinese American family targeted by the KKK and Superman's efforts to protect them. A thrilling read that blends real world history with the history of comics, which makes for a great jumping off point to learn more.

## New at the Library

***The Farewell Tour***

Stephanie Clifford

This novel intertwines the story of fictional country music superstar Lillian Waters final tour after she is diagnosed with vocal nodes with her long and arduous journey to reach the top of the charts. Part *Coal Miner's Daughter*, part *Crazy Heart*, this is an emotional story of a hard-living woman coming to terms with her past. Featuring appearances by Buck Owens, Whisperin' Bill Anderson, and many more, this book will have you reliving the golden age of country.

## A Note from the Director

A few weeks ago, we had a troop of Girl Scouts come into the library for a tour. The Daisy Troop, consisting of 11 kindergarten girls, was delightfully inquisitive. I spent about an hour going around the library with them and answering an estimated seven questions a minute. But one stuck in my head long after our visitors left. One of the Daisies asked "Can we come in and read books even if we don't check any out?"

I told her she was welcome to do that any time she liked.

What I didn't tell her is that she touched on one of my favorite aspects of the library.

In America, there are very few places a person can go that don't cost money. Nearly every public space relies on commerce. I'm not here to give my opinion on whether that's a good or a bad thing, but regardless of your views, you've got to admit it's nice to walk into a place where the people working aren't imagining the size of your wallet.

While most know of the direct benefits of the library (the checking out of nearly any piece of media you can imagine), sometimes the communal aspect of the library gets lost in the shuffle and forgotten. Which is why I'm here to remind you: The library is a shared space, meant to be used by the public. We put on programs not only for education and entertainment, but to connect people and foster community.

There's a quote that's become a sort of guiding principle for me since I took over as director that says

"Bad libraries build collections. Good libraries build services. Great libraries build communities." R. David Lenkes said that, and while I'm not entirely sure who he is, I know that I agree with him. And by his logic, I feel that we're already a great library, or at least a very good one. And I'm doing my best to make sure it only gets greater.

In a time where everything is expensive and it's increasingly rare for people to have third spaces (a term for an area a person frequents other than work or home) few places are as uniquely equipped to offer affordable chances to build community. I don't take that lightly.

So come to one of our programs, or just stop in to browse. It won't cost you a dime\*.

Jesse Rogers  
Library Director