

Thanks to an extremely generous donation from the Friends of the Oostburg Public Library, we are excited to announce that Oostburg Public Library is expanding our children's audio collection!

The first step in this expansion comes in the form of Vox Books. Vox Books (and their close competitor Wonder Books) are audio books that are built into physical copies of books. They allow children to read along with the book while listening to the story.

These books are excellent for people just learning to read, as they help the reader visualize words while also hearing how they sound out loud. They also promote focus in reluctant readers, and help people with dyslexia and other learning disorders strengthen their reading skills and grow their love of books.

Oostburg Public Library will also be investing in some Playaway Audio Books for the revamped Children's Audio Collection. For those who don't know, Playaways are small MP3 Player like devices that each contain an audio book. They're a great option for children who prefer to listen to audio books but whose parents would prefer to limit their screen time.

Both of these formats have been popular for patrons to request in the past, and it is such a thrill to be able to kick-start this collection in our own library. This wouldn't have been possible without the generosity of the Friends of the Library. If you're interested in joining and helping the library accomplish even more great things, stop by and pick up a membership packet today, or visit Oostburg Public Library online to find out more!

New at the
Library
Edenville
Sam Rebelein



A struggling writer accepts a position as a writer in residence at Edenville College despite his girlfriend's reservations about the town. Horror unfolds as the Edenville's picturesque facade begins to crumble, thrusting the pair into the town's dark and twisted history. The less you know about this book going in the better, but be prepared for a haunting Halloween read!



Libraries, much like a garden, require a fair amount of care to thrive. It's fitting, then, that the most arduous task required to upkeep libraries and gardens shares a name: weeding. Ask almost any librarian (or gardener!) that you know, and they'll tell you the least fun part of the job is weeding.

But enough with metaphors: What is weeding and why is it necessary? Let's get into the weeds (I swear I'm done now) and find out!

In the library world, weeding is the process of systematically removing older materials from the shelves in order to make room for new ones. How often a library weeds is often determined by how much space they're working with. For example, The Elkhart Lake Public Library has to weed a bit more aggressively than we do as they have less physical space to keep materials.

Weeding criteria varies. In this current round of Weeding at Oostburg, a report is run to find books that have not circulated in five or more years and have fewer than five lifetime circulations. After the report is run, the results are given to Tessa, our fantastic teenaged volunteer who's been helping the process along. After Tessa finds the books, Jesse looks them over and decides if a book should be weeded, if it deserves one last chance, or rarely, if it should be moved to storage. We keep a variety of classics that we feel are important to retain, but don't get enough circulation to warrant remaining on the shelves in storage, where they are still available to checkout or browse upon request.

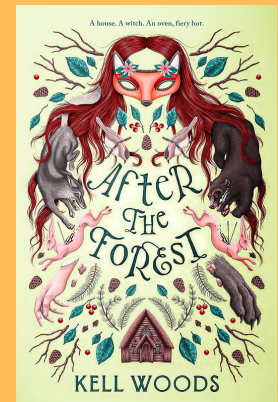
Materials that are weeded are removed from the system and processed so that they can't be mistaken for currently circulating materials. From there, weeded materials are sold in the Friends of the Library book sale, donated, recycled, or disposed of if they're damaged.

Materials that are weeded aren't necessarily bad. Usually the choice to retain a material comes down to numbers, plain and simple. That's part of why weeding can be a painful process for some librarians. No one wants to see a good book leave the shelves.

However, if we want to continue bringing in new materials and cultivate a collection that will satisfy the needs of our patrons, regular weeding is one of the most important tasks libraries have.

New At the Library *After the Forest*

Kell Woods



In this twisted take on a classic fairy tale, Greta and Hans are struggling to get by 20 years after escaping from an evil witch. With their finances in shambles, Greta turns to the witch's grimoire, which just so happens to contain the recipe to the world's best gingerbread. But in a village of superstition, will even the best gingerbread save her from the dark magic of her past?

New At the Library *Clementine Book Two*

Tillie Walden



From the world of *The Walking Dead*, all-star graphic novelist Tillie Walden continues her planned trilogy starring Clementine, the young girl who captured the hearts of millions in Telltale Games bestselling *The Walking Dead*. After yet another close encounter with death, Clementine and her new friends are rescued by a mysterious island community. But how safe could the island really be? Book One is also available at the library.

New Discovery Kits!



Preschool Fun: Paw Patrol (pictured above) is now ready to check out! Be the coolest parent/grandparent/older sibling/babysitter on the block with this kit guaranteed to be a hit with any fan of Paw Patrol (aka any small person I have met in the past seven years).

Coming soon: Chill Out Kit! A selection of fidget toys and books about emotional well-being, developed in coordination with the Oostburg Elementary Guidance Program.

Miss Vicki has been hard at work developing these new discovery kits, so keep your eyes peeled for those in the coming months as well!



Cake Pan of the Month

#46: Playful Ghost

Celebrate Spooky Season with this jolly fellow! Easy to bake and even easier to decorate, what's not to love? If this Playful Ghost doesn't tickle your fancy, consider any of the other Halloween themed cake pans we have on display on the baker's rack near the front door of the library, or the recently completed Halloween Baking Kit, which is now in circulation!

A Note from the Director

Did you miss us?! I took a (hopefully) rare break from the monthly newsletter last month as I was working on a big project that will hopefully be worth all the time and effort. If you're curious, stop by the library and I'd be happy to tell you more!

But even without that extra project, I cannot believe just how fast September flew by. I swear it was August just a few days ago.

Although it doesn't feel like we're that far into the year, I am very happy to see the return of fall weather. I like summer as much as the next guy, but to me, there's no season quite like fall.

There's no better time to curl up on the couch with a good book, or to watch TV while swaddled in blankets. As a library, we're in a good position to help you with those activities!

Lately, I've been using the library to check out shows that are on streaming services that I don't have. I feel like I'm making a good financial decision while also supporting the library. I'd recommend you do the same! Oostburg alone has full seasons of BBC's *Luther*, HBO's *Game of Thrones* and *The Flight Attendant*, and network favorites like *Scrubs* and *Abbot Elementary*. And just this month we're adding recent hit series like *George & Tammy*, *The Chosen*, *Poker Face*, and *Station Eleven*. And that's without dipping a toe into the greater Monarch pool.

In my opinion (and also my wallet's opinion) streaming has gotten out of hand, but it's nice to still have the option to watch the shows and movies that interest me without having to pay \$15.99 a month or whatever they're up to now. I feel like I'm cheating the system just a little bit, which excites me!

On the other side of the coin, our ever growing graphic novel collection has some great overlaps with current series and movies. If you're the kind who likes to read the book before watching something, we've got *Invincible*, *Watchmen*, *Scott Pilgrim*, and *Umbrella Academy*, all of which have either been adapted into awesome shows or are in the process of being adapted.

I know that as a librarian, I usually talk more about books, but sometimes your brain needs a teensy little break. And it's like I always say, if you get your tv shows from the library, you're basically reading!

New at the Library

The Curious Vanishing of Beatrice Willoughby

G. Z. Schmidt



Thirteen years after six year old Beatrice Willoughby vanishes from the Amadeus's annual All Hollow's Eve party, six invitations arrive on six doorsteps in town. These households are invited to another party on October 31st.

In the Amadeus household for the first time since it closed its doors following Beatrice's disappearance, the guests must work together to discover what really happened that night.

This fun mystery full of quirky characters is sure to delight mystery lovers old and young alike.

Jesse Rogers
Library Director