



BEYOND BOOKS

OPPORTUNITY, COMMUNITY, LITERACY

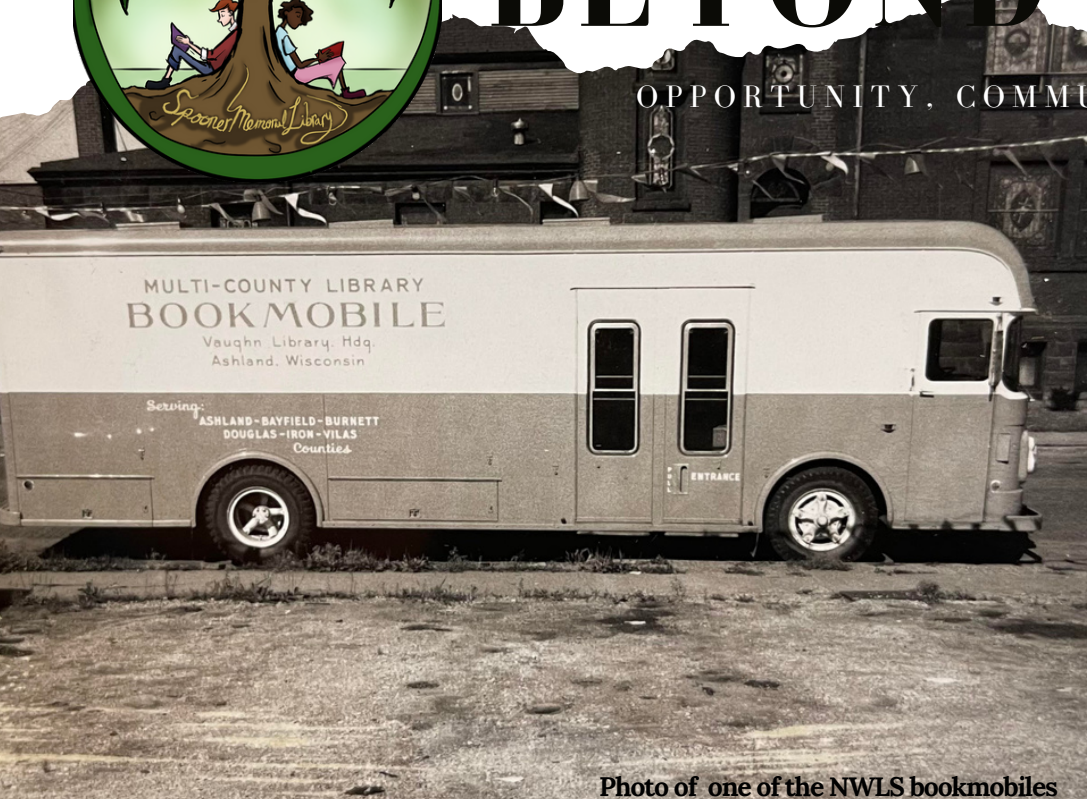


Photo of one of the NWLS bookmobiles

THE BOOKMOBILE IS COMING BACK!

The last semblance of a bookmobile in Washburn County was in the year 1999 when Northern Waters Library Service Traveling Library ended. The Multi-County Library Bookmobile, serving 63 communities, travelled the northwestern Wisconsin backroads for 40 years before the service ended due to cost and another more tech based option, Merlin. Merlin (now Northern Waters Library Network), allows patrons to request items online from any library in the network. More rural book drops were added and Mail-a-book was, and is still, offered to patrons living in areas without a public library. Despite grassroots efforts to continue the bookmobile and sentiments from patrons who believed this service was more than just a mobile library, the days of the bookmobile were over. Or, were they?

In 2020-'21, the Spooner Memorial Library Board of Trustees, the Director, and members of the community developed the library strategic plan for the next five years. One focus of the plan is to "establish the library as an innovative, accessible, inclusive and equitable community hub." Part of the plan is to increase the libraries reach by investigating township opportunities for service. Pre-COVID the Director worked alongside the Shell Lake Public Library Director to discuss pop-up libraries across Washburn County, utilizing townhalls. As food needs ...

Calendar

- Jan. 1 - Library Closed
- Jan. 7 - Soup Invitational Begins
- Jan. 10 - Lego Club, 6-7 pm
- Jan. 11- Dave Mills Author Visit, 6:30 pm
- Jan. 21 - Savvy Seniors Book Club, 11-12 at the Senior Center
- Jan. 27 - Mischief Makers, 6:00-7:00 pm
- Feb. 2 - Mystery Yarn Contest Starts
- Feb. 2 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Feb. 4 - Soup Invitational Ends
- Feb. 8 - WASHCO Snowshoe (Trego), 2 pm
- Feb. 9 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Feb. 12 - Mystery Movie Night pickup
- Feb. 14 - Lego Club, 6-7 pm
- Feb. 15 - Stuffed Animal Sleepover, 6-7 pm
- Feb. 16 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Feb. 18 - Savvy Seniors Book Club, 11-12 at the Senior Center
- Feb. 22 - Stuffed Animal Sleepover, 6-7 pm
- Feb. 23 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Feb. 25 - Mystery Yarn Contest Ends
- Feb. 24 - Mischief Makers 6:00-7:00 pm
- Mar. 2 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Mar. 9 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Mar. 10 - Wisconsin's Gangster Past with Chad Lewis
- Mar. 12- BINGO for Books, 4:00-5:30 pm
- Mar. 14 - Lego Club, 6-7 pm
- Mar. 16 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Mar. 18 - Savvy Seniors Book Club, 11-12 at the Senior Center
- Mar. 23 - Story Hour, 10-11 am
- Mar. 24 - Mischief Makers 6:00-7:00 pm
- Mar. 26 - Puzzle Contest 9:00 am- noon
- Mar. 30 - Story Hour, 10-11 am

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8am - 8pm

Friday - Saturday

8am - 4pm

THE BOOKMOBILE IS COMING BACK ... CONTINUED

continuation of page #1 ... increased during the pandemic and a partnership with Feed My People Food Bank developed, this idea was morphed into Books & Bread which has now served over 2,000 individuals and distributed 17,000+ pounds of food. A Minong branch library and a bookmobile were also included in items to investigate. Admittedly, a bookmobile was a fanciful dream, but the board adopted a visionary approach and decided to dream big.

As the population ages and libraries return their focus to outreach and "bringing the library to the people," bookmobiles are making a comeback across Wisconsin. Outreach efforts have increased exponentially since 2020 at Spooner Memorial Library, many thanks to Outreach Librarian, Katy and the Library Board's desire to serve the community. Katy brings books to St. Francis de Sales school, leads Books & Bread, and partners with the Spooner Senior Center, to name a few things. The Director hopes to bring library resources to every township in Washburn County, and a bookmobile will help the library fulfill that mission.

At a board meeting during the summer of 2021, the Director mentioned a grant opportunity and asked what the board thought she should apply for. She asked the board to dream big. Pete Hopke, school representative on the board, said "what about a bookmobile?" The board approved this decision and the Director started researching bookmobiles. From extravagant \$300,000+ buses to converted decommissioned ambulances, the options were endless and expensive. The Director wanted a bookmobile that was sustainable, accessible, and could withstand winters in Wisconsin. Summit Bodyworks out of Denver, Colorado has developed a specialty vehicle that fits those needs. With that information, the Director applied for the Wisconsin Department of Instruction's Library as a Center for Community Resiliency Grant in the amount of \$97,000. And, in early December 2021, the Director received a congratulatory email announcing that the library's Books & Bread Bookmobile project was funded in full! In fact, the first week of December was a week of celebration at the library as it was granted two more funded projects on behalf of the NWLS and IFLS library systems (more on that later).

The next step is to purchase the bookmobile. Unfortunately, Summit Bodyworks has cancelled the development of the design quoted to the library in 2021 and is now making prototypes with an upgraded design. Unfortunately, there is not an accurate timeline or price yet for the upgraded model. The upgraded model could potentially be too expensive to purchase, so the Director will continue to research other specialty vehicle manufacturers in the interim. A new bookmobile serving Washburn County is anticipated in 2022 or 2023.

As the library awaits the addition of a bookmobile, a smaller outreach vehicle will be added to its fleet by summer 2022 - a book bike. The library's book bike will look more like a backwards tricycle, with two wheels in the front with a box between the wheels. The box opens up to book shelves and a surface area to house a laptop and other equipment for offsite checkouts. The bike will be used at outreach events in an effort to reach library users where ever they are and will be purchased with funds from another grant, DPI's Hybrid Library Service Model Grant.

The future of your library will be mobile and more accessible. The library team and trustees are thankful to be a recipient of DPI's grants, allowing the library to fulfill it's mission of offering opportunity, celebrating community, and promoting literacy.



Photo of a Haley Tricycle - book bike



TECH HELP

Need tech help?

We have 12 librarians on our team with different tech abilities and will gladly meet one-on-one to offer tech assistance inside the library. Call (715)635-2792 to schedule an appointment.

LIBBY

Libby is a free app where you can borrow ebooks, digital audiobooks, and magazines from your public library. You can stream titles with Wi-Fi or mobile data, or download them for offline use and read anytime, anywhere on your tablet or smartphone. All you need to get started is a library card.



BADGERLINK

From personal interest to educational research, BadgerLink is Wisconsin's free Online Library, providing Wisconsin residents with licensed trustworthy resources available from Wisconsin's Department of Instruction. Use your library card to access BadgerLink using this link: <https://badgerlink.dpi.wi.gov/>.

GALE COURSES

Gale Courses offers a wide range of highly interactive, instructor led courses that you can take entirely online. As a library card holder in good standing, you are entitled to these courses at no cost. Courses run for six weeks and new sessions begin every month. Visit education.gale.com/1-nwater/.



STORY HOUR

Winter Session Story Hour

Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m., February 2 - April 27

Join our fun group of kids as we explore books together! We'll listen to stories and create fun crafts based on a weekly theme.

We'll learn together and even have a snack.

Story Hour meets **inside the library**.

Masks are recommended for adults.

Email Miss Angie to register:

spoonerlibrarydirector@gmail.com

No story hour in January.



MYSTERY MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday, February 12, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Mystery movie night is back! Stop in the library on Saturday to pick up a mystery movie bag (one bag per family) that will include a family friendly movie to keep microwave popcorn, hot chocolate, and fun Valentine activities. **While supplies last.**

Visit spoonerlibrary.org/events to register.



LEGO CLUB

2nd Monday of the month, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

January 10 / February 14 / March 14

Build based on a theme. LEGOs provided. Creations are put on display for the month. Fun for the whole family!

Registration not necessary.

Masks required, ages 5+.





WASHCO OUTDOOR SOCIAL GROUP

Meet at Trego Nature Trail

Tuesday, February 8, 2:00 p.m.

Snowshoe the loop with this social group.

Register at spoonerlibrary.org/events or call the library at (715)635-2792.

Email Katy at spoonerlibraryoutreach@gmail.com to get updates on our latest adventures.

SAVVY SENIORS BOOKGROUP

Join these Savvy Seniors at the Senior Center or on Zoom for in-depth, lively discussions on diverse books chosen by the group. Please register at spoonerlibrary.org/events or call the library at (715)635-2792. Call the Senior Center to reserve your lunch after the meeting at (715)635-8283.

Friday, January 21 @ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., at the Senior Center

"The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd

Friday, February 18 @ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., at the Senior Center

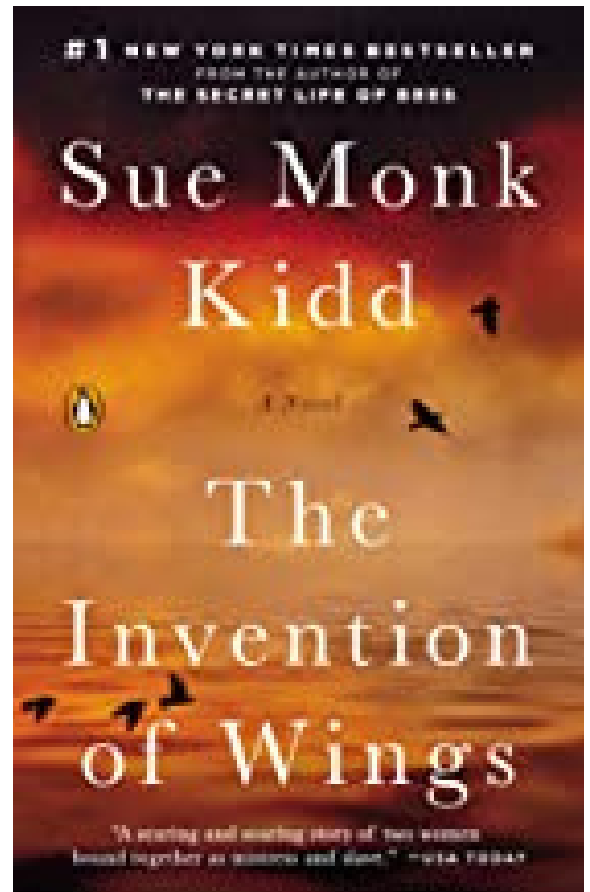
"Snow Falling on Cedars" by David Guterson

Friday, March 18 @ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., at the Senior Center

March's title will be chosen by the group at the January meeting.

COPIES OF THE BOOK, INCLUDING LARGE PRINT AND AUDIO, ARE AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY.

Call or email Katy at spoonerlibraryoutreach@gmail.com to get on the contact list or to inquire about the group.



STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVERS

Bring your favorite stuffed animal to the library for a pajama story time and craft, and then leave them overnight for a sleepover! Pick up your animal the next day with a photo of their library adventure! **Register at spoonerlibrary.org/events.**

Two options to help space out attendees
(masks required, ages 5+):

Tuesday, February 15: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Tuesday, February 22: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



CHAD LEWIS: WISCONSIN'S GANGSTER PAST

TURNING THE BADGER STATE INTO THE CRIME STATE

Thursday, March 10, 6:30 p.m. on Zoom

Put on your zoot suit and follow in the footsteps of America's most infamous gangsters as they turn WI into their personal crime vacation land. Filled with deadly bank robberies, explosive shootouts, brutal murders, and daring kidnappings, this presentation lets the audience discover the grisly locations where the gangster history will never die.

You must register at spoonerlibrary.org/events to get the link.



MYSTERY YARN CONTEST

Wednesday, February 2 - Friday, February 25

Pick up a bag of mystery yarn from the library. Take a picture of your yarn before you start. Create something using the yarn inside. Knit, crochet, macrame, or get out the glue. Share your pictures with us to compete for a fantastic prize. Email your creation to spoonerlibraryoutreach@gmail.com by midnight on Friday, February 25. Library staff will judge your work.



WINTER READING CHALLENGES

November 5, 2021 - May 5, 2022

Fifth Annual Adult Winter Reading Challenge

Sign up at the Library or at Northwind Book & Fiber starting November 5th. This year's theme is "What is Truth" and books from the list will be available at the bookstore to purchase or at the library to check out. On May 5th, drawings will take place for \$20, \$30, and \$60 Northwind Book & Fiber gift certificates. Read for the challenge, or read for the fun!



November 5, 2021- May 5, 2022

First Annual Children & Teen Winter Reading Challenge

Come pick up books at the library! Open to ages 0-17. There will be 3 different challenge lists, one for ages 0-6, one for ages 7-11, and one for ages 12-17. Drawings will take place for \$20 gift certificates to Northwind Book & Fiber and one \$50 gift certificate. This year's theme is "Book to Film."

THE SOUP-ER BOWL

Friday, January 7 - Friday, February 4

"Gamble" on your favorite soups for the win of the Soup Invitational. Pick up your bracket, fill it out and return it to the library. Each week, your favorite soups will face off.

Vote for your favorite flavors each week. You must vote each week to qualify for the prize. The person with the most correct picks wins a fun family prize.

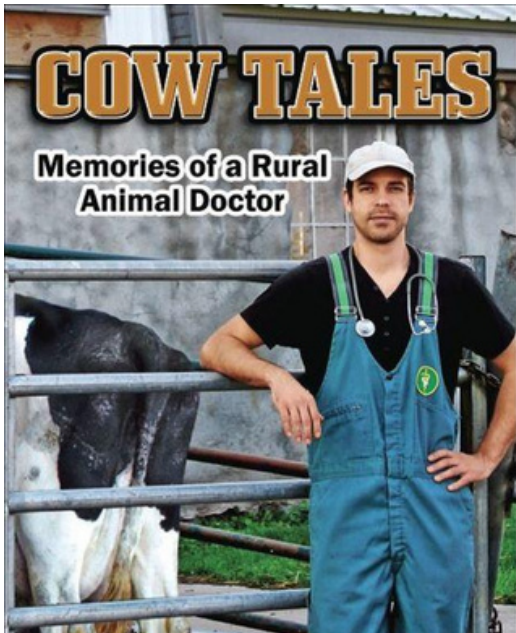


BINGO FOR BOOKS

Saturday, March 12, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Who doesn't love BINGO? Add in some free books and it's even better! Join us for a fun afternoon of untraditional BINGO. **For added safety this program is hybrid. Join us at the library or join us on Zoom - you choose!** All ages welcome! Registration is required: spoonerlibrary.org/events. Email Angie at spoonerlibrarydirector@gmail.com for the Zoom information if you plan to join us from home.





DAVE MILLS D.V.M. AUTHOR VISIT

Tuesday, January 11, 6:30 p.m.

Local author and veterinarian Dave Mills, DVM, is going to speak about the Wisconsin farm land experience. He will share the challenges, people and relationships, and entertainment that animals have brought to his life.

Register at spoonerlibrary.org/events or call the library at (715)635-2792. **Also available on Zoom.**

PUZZLE CONTEST

It is time to gather your team for the annual puzzle contest. Be the first team to complete the puzzle to win! You can participate in person or on Zoom. There will be 10 teams, 4 people on each. Register to reserve your puzzle.

Saturday, March 26, 9 a.m. to noon

Register online at spoonerlibrary.org/events or call the library at (715)635-2792.



MISCHIEF MAKERS: DIY PROGRAM

Join this motley maker group for a new DIY project every month. Check our social media for upcoming projects, in January we will make pop-up Valentines cards. These projects are geared for adults.

**We will meet Thursdays at 6-7 p.m. on:
January 27, February 24, and March 24**

Register to reserve your space and supplies.
Visit spoonerlibrary.org/events or call the library.



BOOKS & BREAD

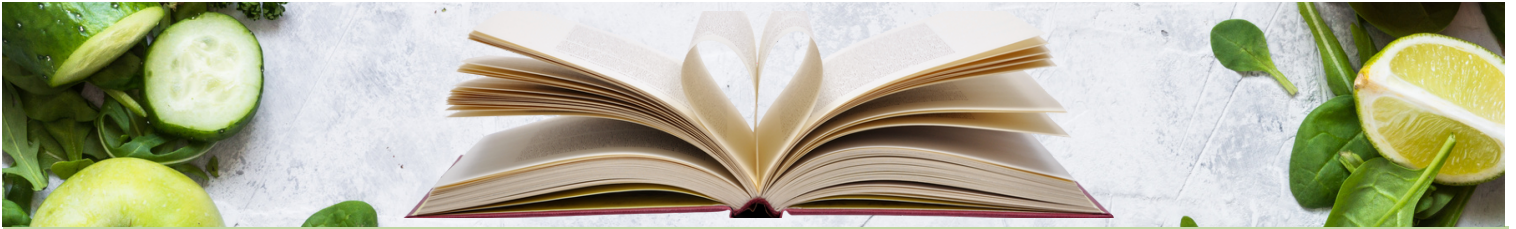
FREE FOOD!

Anyone in need of extra food and library resources is welcome to come and pick up FREE, fresh, food from Feed My People Food Bank and check out books from the Spooner & Shell Lake public mobile libraries. Find us in Beaver Brook and Brooklyn Townships.

JANUARY 26 / FEBRUARY 23 / MARCH 23

Church of Nazarene
N4584 Hwy 253, Spooner
10:30-11:30 a.m.

Christ Lutheran Church
W5523 Hwy F, Trego
12:00-1:00 p.m.



CARE PACKAGES

As Needed (More Packages Being Made)

Community First Washburn County and Spooner Library have partnered to provide care packages to those in need. Stop in the library and grab a bag of toilet paper, cleaning products, and hygiene items.



COMPASSION KITCHEN



As Needed

Feed My People Food Bank and Spooner Library have partnered to provide Ready to Eat and Emergency Food Bags for the community. Ready to Eat bags contain items that do not need electricity to heat up, while Emergency Food Bags may require a stove or microwave. These bags are available to anyone in need and are located on the bench in the entry way of the library during library hours. If taking a bag, please self document what you took on the clipboard near the bench. This helps us document the need in our area to continue to provide this program.



FOLLOW US

Visit our website: spoonerlibrary.org
Check out our catalog: spooner.northernwaters.org

Follow us:

Facebook: [spoonerlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/spoonerlibrary)
Instagram: [spoonerlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/spoonerlibrary)
Twitter: [spoonerlibrary](https://twitter.com/spoonerlibrary)

Download the Princh app or visit print.princh.com to print from home. Our code is 103531.

Sign up for our newsletter by emailing spoonerlibrarydirector@gmail.com

The Spooner Library Board of Trustees meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. (Does not meet in December)

CONTACT US

Spooner Memorial Library
421 High Street, Spooner, WI 54801

(715) 635-2792
spoonerlibrary.org
spoonerlibrarydirector@gmail.com



WE ARE OPEN UNTIL 8

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, we are open
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

(We are open 8-4 Fridays and Saturdays. Sundays we are closed.)

Come in before breakfast. Come in after supper.

Bring family and friends.

Use our WiFi. Borrow our books. Use our computers.