Summer Reading Programs are just around the corner and new things are happening! Rawson is introducing a new Summer Reading Program format called “Read and Bead”. This program will be kicked off with a sign up event on Tuesday, June 8th from 10-12pm. Kids aged Kindergarten—6th grade will read and record their minutes (or have a grown-up help them track time) on a reading log and then turn those minutes in for brag tags and beads of varying colors, shapes, and designs to decorate and personalize their very own necklace. Each minute read can count toward a bead earned.

Another new addition to Summer Reading program is the “Puppy Club”. This program is for ages 0-4 and gives little ones the opportunity to participate in early literacy activities along with the older children. Grown-ups are given a reading log with activities that focus on early literacy, brain or motor development. For each activity completed, kids can color in a puppy on the sheet. Once all the puppies are colored in, the family can visit the library to select a prize.

Summer reading programs are designed to encourage elementary-aged children to keep reading during summer vacation. Preventing the “summer slide” continues to be the main objective of summer reading programs. For many families with elementary-aged children, the public library is the only community space available during the summer months where they can access free educational and cultural enrichment activities and programs.

The benefits of summer reading programming for children:

- Children are motivated to read.
- Children develop positive attitudes about reading, books, and the library.
- Children maintain their reading skills during summer vacation.
- Children have access to experiences that further their sense of discovery.
- Children have access to experiences through which they can learn to work cooperatively.

All participants are invited to join us as we wrap up our summer reading program with a celebration in the park. This picnic will be held at the Cass City Recreational Park on July 22nd.

Along with these new programs, we will be having various other fun events including offering the chance to vote to see a librarian get a pie in the face! Stay tuned for more information about what we have planned for this summer! It’s going to be a blast!
Rawson Library Offers Mobile Hotspots and Chromebooks for Check Out

Rawson Memorial Library received CARES Act grant funds, administered through the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Library of Michigan, to purchase hotspots and Chromebooks so that members of our community who do not have home Wi-Fi or a home computer may access the internet.

The mobile hotspots can be used in your home to connect up to 10 Wi-Fi enabled devices to the internet with unlimited data on a fast, secure network. Our hotspots rely on mobile broadband service from Sprint and we can check whether or not you have coverage in your area.

Additionally, six Chromebooks are available for check out. Chromebooks offer a simple way of getting online and using Google services. You can check out both a hotspot and Chromebook to access the internet in the comfort of your own home. Stop in today and check them out!

New Staff Members at Rawson

Kevin Estrella is our new library clerk. You’ll find him at the circulation desk or working with interlibrary loan materials. He is also responsible for memorial donations and scheduling displays for the lobby display case. If you have a collection you’d like to showcase, please contact Kevin! Kevin is attending Grand Valley State University and is about to complete his first year.

Danielle Smith was very recently hired to serve as a Page on evenings and every other Saturday. She is working on her Masters in counseling and is interning at a local counseling center. We welcome her dedication to great customer service and her research skills.

Ravenous Readers Book Club

Join the Ravenous Readers as we participate in Book Club through our Facebook page. Search for the group titled “Ravenous Reader’s Book Club at Rawson Library” and click the join button to request to join.

May closes out our book club season with a “Choose Your Own Read”. Let us know what book you chose to read and what you thought about it. Ravenous Readers Book Club takes a break for the summer and will begin again in September with a new list of titles to read each month. Please stop by our Facebook group throughout the summer and share what you are reading. We love hearing about and discovering great new reads! Have a great summer!

Magazines

The magazine collection is growing! Below is a list of the magazines currently available at the library for you to check out for one week. Many titles are also available in the Libby app:

Air & Space
American History
American Rifleman
Archaeology
*Backwoodsman
*Backyard Poultry
Better Homes & Gardens
Bible Advocate
Catster
Civil War Times
Consumer Reports
Cook’s Illustrated
Country Living
Countryside & Small Stock
Diabetes
Discover
Dogster
Family Handyman
Farm & Ranch Living
Fine Woodworking
Fon’s & Porter Love of Quilting
*Food Network
Garden Gate
Good Housekeeping
Green Magazine
*Grit
Horticulture
Hot Rod
*Make
Martha Stewart Living
Mary Jane’s Farm
Men’s Health
Michigan History
Mother Earth News
Motor Trend
National Geographic
People
Popular Mechanics
Popular Science
Practical Homeschooling
Prevention
Psychology Today
Reader’s Digest
Real Simple
Reminisce
Runner’s World
Saturday Evening Post
Sports Illustrated
Sew News
Smithsonian
Southern Living
Taste of Home
This Old House
Threads
Women’s Health
Yankee Magazine
*Yoga Journal

*New at Rawson

Look for this magazine in the Libby App
Rawson Library Is Plugging Into Solar

Rawson Memorial Library’s Board and staff are pleased to announce the receipt of funds from Frank and Val Kemp for the installation of a solar panel system at the Library.

Frank and Val Kemp have been wonderful supporters of Rawson Library since they moved to Cass City in 1998. They purchased a large Victorian home on Seeger Street and opened the McGregory Manor Bed and Breakfast where they hosted guests from across the globe—India, Turkey, Japan, Sweden, England, Scotland, Austria and Germany.

In 2005, Frank was appointed to the library board and he served until 2018. Meanwhile, Val volunteered to read at story times and became known as the “Awesome Rawson Reader”. She created Read Around the World, an after-school program for children held at the library. Each week a different country was ‘visited’; children learned about the country, sampled some of its foods and created a craft that represented something fun from that land.

In 2009, the Kemps closed the McGregory Manor and later moved to Shelby Township in order to be closer to family. Val continues to live there. Frank passed June 14, 2020 after months of battling the effects of strokes and then contracting COVID-19. He was 91.

The Kemps generously donated the funds for the solar system in order to remove the burden of the library’s electric bill, which is currently $400+ a month. This will allow more millage dollars to be spent on programming, books, and other resources that can be enjoyed by the whole community. Besides the financial aspect, we are pleased to utilize solar energy and make a positive impact on our environment.

When the project is complete, Val will be here to flip the switch, and we hope that you will join us that day to thank her and to celebrate this wonderful update to our beloved Rawson Library. Watch the Cass City Chronicle and our Facebook page for the announcement of this event.

Laminating

Did you get your COVID shots? Want to have your vaccination card laminated? Stop by the library and we’d be happy to laminate it, or any other document, for a minimal cost.

Rawson Library Receives ALA Grant

Rawson Memorial Library received $3,000 through the American Library Association’s (ALA) Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries initiative. The funding enables libraries to lead community engagement efforts and may be used to cover a range of expenses including collection development and technology purchases. Over 500 grants were awarded nationwide; 14 grants were awarded to Michigan libraries including Rawson Memorial Library.

This grant will allow Rawson Library staff to partner with Josh Prusik, Cass City Community Development Fellow, to host conversations with our Village officials about resources, educational opportunities, and technology training. It includes the purchase of books and other publications plus three HP Chromebooks, an Owl Pro 360 camera, and a Zoom Business License for hosting meetings and trainings. Additional conversations will be offered to members of Cass City community groups and individuals interested in the future of the Village.

We are grateful for the Libraries Transforming Communities grant which offers us the opportunity to work collaboratively with community members to address issues for the betterment of Cass City.

Ruth Steele, Library Director
Rawson Library now offers Video On Demand a collection of 43,000+ videos from travel and fitness, to home and how-to videos, indie films, TV shows, popular music performances and documentaries, curriculum-based educational videos, and more. Producers include A&E, BBC Learning, PBS, National Geographic, ABC News, NBC News, CNBC, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, HBO® Documentary Films, Bill Moyers, Rick Steves, Globe Trekker, Julia Child, Open University, Annenberg Learner, TED, Films for the Humanities & Sciences, and many more.

We also offer Just for Kids Streaming Collection—a thoroughly kid-safe, advertisement-free media platform they can freely explore and enjoy. Just for Kids has the educational videos children want to watch—Sesame Street, The Electric Company, The Wubbulous World of Dr. Seuss, The Berenstain Bears, Franklin, and thousands more—plus songs, games, and other interactives that are sure to entertain, educate, and inspire young patrons. All you need is your library card! Go to our website and stream a program today!

Library Services

- Study Rooms
- Home Delivery
- Wireless Printing
- DVD & CD Cleaning
- Computer Work Stations
- Lamination

Library Hours

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Contact Information

Phone: 989-872-2856 | Fax: 989-872-4073
librarian@rawsonlibrary.org | director@rawsonlibrary.org
Website: www.rawsonlibrary.org

Summer Reading Program

Here for every chapter of your life...