



# OTSEGO DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY



INNOVATE • INTERACT • INSPIRE

401 Dix Street • Otsego, MI 49078 • Phone (269) 694-9690

[www.otsegolibrary.org](http://www.otsegolibrary.org)

Monday - Thursday 9 AM - 8 PM • Friday 9 AM - 5:30 PM • Saturday 9 AM - 2:30 PM

Fall 2017

# FERDINAND FIESTA

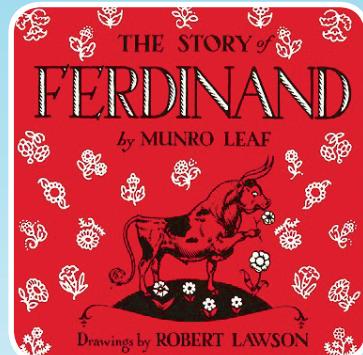
Saturday, October 14 from 10 AM - Noon



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLUE SKY STUDIOS

Celebrate 75 years of the classic story of Ferdinand by Munro Leaf at this fun family event as we anticipate the new movie "Ferdinand" (Blue Sky Studios, creators of Ice Age) coming out in December.

Meet a live baby bull, listen to the story of Ferdinand, watch the 1938 Ferdinand Disney short, create Ferdinand crafts, and play Ferdinand games. Enjoy a fun-filled fiesta at the library while munching on chips, cheese and salsa (*chips and salsa donated by Casa Real*).

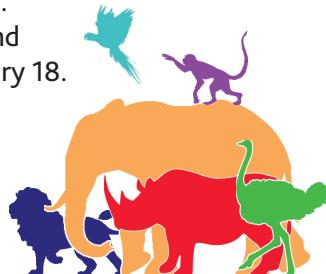


## JUMANJI

Be on the lookout for things to get WILD at the library the end of December! An interactive game of Jumanji will come to life in the large program room.

Opens Tuesday, December 26 and will run through Thursday, January 18.

There will be a special surprise program at the end of the month when real LIVE wild animals come to visit on Saturday, January 20!



## Reindeer & Santa

Saturday, December 9

10 AM - Noon

Santa is coming and he is bringing his reindeer! Live reindeer from Reindeer Ranch in Kalamazoo will help bring your holiday to life. Visit with Santa, pet live reindeer, and make a holiday craft during this popular event. Enjoy FREE popcorn, hot chocolate, and donut holes!





## ADULT PROGRAMS

### The Scandalous History of Allegan County

*Presented by Scott Kuykendall of the Allegan Historical Society  
Thursday, October 12 at 7 PM*



Every community has a few skeletons hiding in its closet. Local historian, Scott Kuykendall, will delight us with a unique and sometimes humorous look into Allegan County's more colorful past including some of the funny (and not so funny) crimes going back to the late 1800's. Find out all the shocking details and discover Allegan County's shady secrets during this entertaining event.

### Creative Café

**Watercolor Class with Kristina Spitzner;  
Redbriar Studio - Botanical Fine Art  
Saturday, November 4 from 10 AM-Noon  
"Birds, Leaves, and Berries"**

This introduction to watercolor class provides step-by-step instruction in basic drawing and beginning watercolor technique. Artists will have several bird scenes to choose from. Kristina Spitzner is a local Botanical Artist and Natural Science Illustrator who loves to share her passion for watercolor painting.

You can view her work at Mezzo Coffee House and Marketplace or on her website: [kristinaspitzner.com](http://kristinaspitzner.com). The cost is \$20 and pre-registration is required (non-refundable). Space is limited to 40 participants. The cost covers the instruction of class, your finished product, and continental breakfast including coffee from Mezzo.

### One-on-One Tech Help

Get assistance with simple computer tasks such as email, document and publication creation, and much more. Call the library for availability and to schedule an appointment with library staff. Sessions are limited to half an hour, and patrons may visit once per two week period.



### Craigslist: How to Buy and Sell Successfully

*Friday, November 10 at 2 PM*



Craigslist is one of the largest online personal ad sites with sections devoted to jobs, housing, personals, items for sale, items wanted, services, community, gigs, resumes, and discussion forums. Learn how to successfully create and respond to listings.

### All Things Taxidermy

*Presented by Terry Weick  
of Weick's Taxidermy Unlimited  
Thursday, October 26 at 7 PM*

What does a taxidermist do in his studio all day? Terry Weick will share the history of taxidermy and the steps of preservation. He has received many awards and is a **world renowned taxidermist**, instructor, sculptor, and judge. He will bring examples of forms (including game heads, fish, and birds), skins, eyes, and supplies that he uses. There will be a time for Q & A. Weick's Taxidermy is a premier wildlife art and taxidermy studio. Check out his website: [taxidermyartist.com](http://taxidermyartist.com).



### Senior Club

**First Friday of each Month at 1 PM**

- |             |                                                                                                |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 1 | A Sentimental Journey;<br>"Growing Up Abroad"                                                  |
| October 6   | Fall Votive Craft and Dramatic<br>Reading of Poe's "The Raven"                                 |
| November 3  | "Voice of a Veteran"                                                                           |
| December 1  | Walter Lopez<br>Holiday Party<br>and White Elephant Bingo*                                     |
| January 5   | *Bring a wrapped gift if able.<br>"Coffee Talk" with Sue Kramer<br>Owner of Mezzo Coffee House |

\*Bring a wrapped gift if able.

"Coffee Talk" with Sue Kramer  
Owner of Mezzo Coffee House

### Red Cross Blood Drive

*Tuesday, September 12 from 12-5:45 PM  
Donate blood in honor of 9/11.*

### Hoopla & Overdrive Help

*Friday Afternoons at 2 PM*

Schedule a half hour session for one-on-one assistance with library staff. Use your library card 24/7 to instantly borrow digital movies, music, eBooks & more. Please note: These apps are only available to Resident Patrons at this time.



# ADULT PROGRAMS

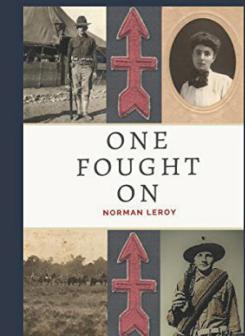


## One Fought On A WWI Soldier's Story

Presented by Norm Hinga, Author

Thursday, November 9 at 7 PM

In honor of Veteran's Day, Norm Hinga will discuss his book about a relative from Otsego who fought in WWI. "One Fought On" is a biography of Corporal Lee A. Horton in the early 1900's; his life, wars, losses and loves. The story is filled with the true life military experiences of a young American coming of age between 1908 and 1919, passed down through his family for generations. The narrative also includes other local war heroes from the area. Books will be available for purchase and signing after the program.



A new series for adults to provide learning opportunities to foster continuous development of personal knowledge and skills.

### Straight-Talk on Medicare

Presented by Joe Garcia, President of SMG Health

Tuesday, September 19 at 1 PM

Straight-Talk Q&A Session on Medicare and the Medicare health plans. This is geared to help people who are new (or soon to be new) to Medicare, understand their Medicare options and the benefits of Medicare health plans. There is no cost to attend and no obligation to enroll into any program. Learn about Medicare health plan options so you can make the right decision. There will also be discussion about the importance of Long Term Care. Joe Garcia is a licensed Medicare health plan specialist who is prepared to have you come with questions and leave with answers.



MEDICARE

### Grab and Go Binder

Presented by Tonya Griffis

Tuesday, October 17 at 1 PM

Learn how to make a "Grab and Go Binder" that you can GRAB and GO in a moment's notice! All of your important documents – medical, household, property, health/life, school, passports, family/pets, and more - will be safely stored in one convenient binder. Free binders will be provided at the program!



### Personal Safety – Be Your Own Bodyguard

Presented by Rick Mirandette

Tuesday, November 14 at 1 PM

This is an entertaining, interactive and highly informative session which leaves people empowered to be able to recognize potential risk and avoid a threat. A number of amazing techniques are taught to show how size and strength are not everything. Rick Mirandette is a master instructor and director of Mirandette's Martial Arts Center in Kentwood and has over 40 years of experience in martial arts. Check out his website at: [www.mirandettes.com](http://www.mirandettes.com).



## BOOK CLUBS!

Newcomers are always welcome!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Book Club

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 1 PM

September 11 Meryl Streep Movie Club

Mia March

October 16\*\* Mutant Message Down Under  
Marlo Morgan

\*\* Date changed due to Library Closing

November 13 A Man Called Ove

Fredrik Backman

December 11 Reader's Choice  
Pick A Holiday Book

### Non-Fiction Book Club

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 PM

September 12 One Summer: America, 1927

Bill Bryson

October 10 Born A Crime

Trevor Noah

November 14 A Full Life

Jimmy Carter

December 12 Beyond the Call  
Jeremy Dronfield

### Sizzlers Book Club

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 PM

September 21 Handmaid's Tale

Margaret Atwood

October 19 American Born Chinese  
A Graphic Novel

Gene Luen Yang

November 16 Vanishing American Adult  
Ben Sasse

December 21 One Shenandoah Winter  
T. Davis Bunn



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Birth through elementary school

## Storytime

Wednesdays at 10 AM

September 13 - November 15

Ages 0-5

## Fall Forest Friends

Celebrate fall with forest animals, fall colors, and fun crafts!



## Tiny Tots

Tuesdays at 10 AM

September 19 - October 24

Ages 0-2

Books, Rhymes, Songs, and Play.

## Music and Movement

Fridays at 10 AM

September 15 - November 17

Ages 0-5

Singing, dancing, musical instruments, manipulatives, movement activities and sensory play.



## Early Literacy Center Themes

August - September

October - November

December - January

Superhero Headquarters

Science Laboratory

Jungle Safari



## Full STEAM Ahead – The Halloween Edition!

Tuesdays at 4 PM

September 26 – October 24

Kindergarten – 5th Graders

Five week series focusing on a different aspect of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) each week.

September 26 Science - Batty Static Electricity & Echolocation

October 3 Technology – Ghostly Robotic Hands

October 10 Engineering - Haunted House Creations

October 17 Art - Spooky Night & Spider Webs

October 24 Math – Which Witch Did It? Witchy Fingerprints



# BUILD A BETTER WORLD

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM WINNERS!

736 children and teens signed up to "Build a Better World" and the library kept them building, creating, and reading all summer! Everyone who reached their reading goal received a finisher bag filled with fun prizes and coupons. Thank you to the following organizations for donating coupons for free items: **Pizza Hut** – Personal Pan Pizza; **Harding's Otsego** – slice of pizza; **Dairy Freeze** – small ice cream cone; **Culver's** – frozen custard; **Arby's** – turnover or shake; and **Mannie's Pizza** – giant cookie. **Home Depot** provided a building workshop and also helped 310 people enjoy a Fairy Garden event.



**CONGRATULATIONS** to our three lucky grand prize winners! The Friends of the Library donated an overnight stay in Auburn Hills with Legoland and Sea Life Aquarium tickets for the grand prize winner, Caleb Wesseldyk, and his family. Rebounderz in Jenison donated four all access passes for our second prize winner, Lauren Cox. Meijer donated a \$100 gift card so that the third prize winner, Caleb Koenig, could purchase Legos.



# TEEN/TWEEN PROGRAMS

Middle School & High School



## TOTALLY AWESOME 80's Party

### TEEN SCENE

#### Teen Scene

Fridays After School at 4 PM

September 15 - November 17

Note: No Teen Scene on October 27 because of the 80's Party



Teen Advisory Board volunteers meet monthly to brainstorm teen program and collection recommendations. TAB members receive service hour credit for meetings and projects. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.



### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

#### TAB - Teen Advisory Board

Third Thursday of each month at 4 PM

September 21, October 19, November 16,  
No December Meeting

Teen Advisory Board volunteers meet monthly to brainstorm teen program and collection recommendations. TAB members receive service hour credit for meetings and projects. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

### Totally Awesome 80's Party!

Friday, October 27

5:30 PM – 8 PM (After Hours)

Get your hairspray and neon colors because it's time for a Totally Awesome 80's Party! Grab your friends and get ready to boogie at the library as we play 80's themed games and eat 80's inspired snacks. Win door prizes and dress up for a chance to win the costume contest. Like, don't be a bummer and not come!



### PIZZA & PAGES

#### TEEN/TWEEN BOOK CLUB

### Pizza & Pages: Teen/Tween Book Club

Last Tuesday of each month at 4 PM

September 26, October 24 (Date change due to Halloween), November 28, No December Meeting

Come for the pizza, stay for the fun! Join us each month to discuss what you've just read or are currently reading. Pizza and refreshments will be provided.



### Holiday Pajama Party

Friday, December 8 at 4 PM

Grab your friends, don your favorite pajamas, and sip on hot cocoa as we celebrate the holiday season! Play festive games, eat scrumptious delights, and win exciting prizes! If possible, bring a small wrapped gift for the White Elephant Gift Exchange.

### Chess Club

Wednesdays at 4 PM

September 13 - November 15

Elementary through high school

Join fellow students to learn, play and improve your chess skills.





# Strategic Plan

## STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 - 2022

### VISION

The Otsego District Public Library is recognized as an innovative and valuable resource for the community.

### MISSION

The Otsego District Public Library enriches the community by connecting people with information, each other, and the world.

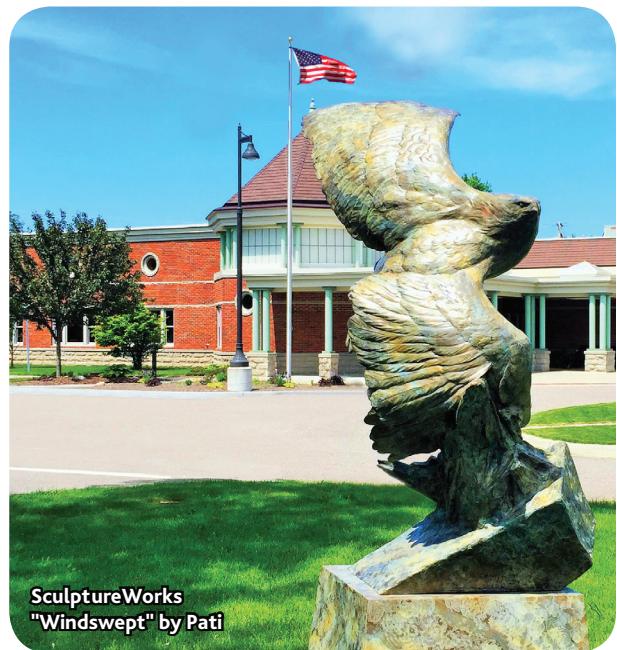
### NEW SLOGAN

**Innovate • Interact • Inspire**

### Values and Beliefs

We believe the Otsego District Library will:

- Provide a professional and welcoming community atmosphere.
- Literacy encouraged, especially in children.
- Adapt to changing needs.
- Communicate the library's wide range of resources.
- Express the value of the library.



## 2012 - 2016 Strategic Plan Highlights

### PROGRAMMING

Innovative programming brought in many visitors: "Bananas about Books" Patron Appreciation Day, Candyland, Santa and Reindeer visit, Mini Golf, and Lyrics on the Lawn annual summer concert series. Summer Reading Program style changes. Teen programs expanded. Ongoing partnership with SculptureWorks brings art from nationally-recognized sculptors on exhibit. Sculpture "Library Cat" by Rosetta purchased via fundraising efforts.

### COLLABORATION

ODL received Partnership award from the State 4-H for Lego Robotics program. AAESA wrote a grant for ODL for summer reading science kits. United Way awarded a \$7,000 grant to fund 1000 Books Before Kindergarten for all Allegan County Libraries.

### PUBLICITY AND SERVICES

Early Literacy Center added to ODL. Newsletter mailed direct to patron's mailboxes. Water and sand play added on patio for summertime. Candyland received excellent publicity including visits from two TV news channels.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

6 staff members qualified for Library of Michigan Certification, Director attended MLA Leadership Academy. Director received MLA "Up and Comer" award. Annual in-library Clerk Training Day added for staff development.

### TECHNOLOGY

New computer maintenance service, many new staff and patron computers added, 20 wide-screen monitors added, new photocopiers, Smart TVs added. New touchscreen end-cap card catalogs, Mac computer added for patron use, Hoopla service introduced.

### FUNDING AND EFFICIENCY

Additional parking lot added through successful capital campaign conclusion (\$24,024) and fund balance. Evelyn Sweet memorial donation (\$31,442) New funding sources: Paper Gator, USF Fund, Scholastic Book Fair, Bottled Water sales, Book bag, and Button sales. Library's debt bonds refunded saving the community \$245,000 over ten years!

### 2017 LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

Library Director · Andrea Estelle

Assistant Library Director · Diane DeVries

### LIBRARY BOARD

President · Jacquie Bennett - Otsego Township  
Vice President · Robin Rowe - Alamo Township  
Treasurer · David Goodrich - Otsego Township

Secretary · Nancy Seibert - Otsego City  
Trustee · Melissa Koenig - Otsego City  
Trustee · Bart Seelye - Alamo Township



# Strategic Plan



## 2017 - 2022 Strategic Plan Goals

### GOAL 1

Increase patron engagement by offering innovative programming.

- Introduce new programs – be deliberate about targeting various age groups. (i.e. Life-long learning; drones; coding; 1000 Books Before Kindergarten events, new teen programs.)
- Create early literacy connections (preschools, schools; class visits.)
- Create a signature library event seasonally.
- Increase Online usage (Hoopla, Overdrive).

### GOAL 2

Explore collaborative opportunities.

- Identify and plan one collaboration opportunity for each of the following groups: all schools (including home-schoolers), community groups and businesses, and the senior community.
- Collaborate with other area libraries.
- Install a Little Free Library in Alamo Township.
- Explore feasibility of teacher cards and delivery of materials to Otsego Public Schools.

### GOAL 3

Communicate and promote the library and its services.

- Promote complete line of programs and services the library provides.
- Solicit input on library programs and make changes as necessary.
- Explore adding a billboard to M-89.
- Add E-mail communication for patrons
- Investigate cost/feasibility to add a digital road sign.
- Strive for TV and radio publicity for the library at least once a year.

### GOAL 4

Provide current technology for patrons and staff.

- Focus on providing innovative technology for all ages (Telekin all-in-one computer for seniors, children's tablets; WiFi hot spots; explore Video to DVD conversion station idea.)
- Expand software options for Patron PCs – Photoshop, editing, educational tutorials
- Revisit technology objectives annually.

### GOAL 5

Ensure financial stability for the library.

- Explore and recommend new funding sources.
- Explore new ways to operate more efficiently.
- Identify ways to fund library improvements (i.e. add an additional emergency exit door, add an outdoor stage)
- Explore ways to fund additional staffing and extended/alternative hours.

### GOAL 6

Provide professional development for the Library Director/Assistant Director, staff and library board to achieve vision, mission and beliefs.

- Encourage each staff member to complete one professional activity biannually.
- Expand funding for training
- Encourage Library Director to be involved at a local and state level with library associations and cooperatives.

## Patron Survey Comments

Here are a few of our favorite patron comments from the recent community survey.

*"It makes me happy, it is one of my favorite places to be."*

*"I often judge a town by the attention it pays to its library. A good library speaks of the value the community places on literacy. This signals that this is a good place to live. A good library is an asset to the entire community. I'm pleased to say that the Otsego Library is one that I'm very proud of."*

*"It is great to go to the library and see it busy with activity and people doing all kinds of different things. I love the open and inviting feel of the library."*

*"[Bringing my grandchildren to the library.] They have been very active in the library for years and they all still enjoy the library. They love reading and are all doing very well in school. I feel a very big part of their success is because of the library."*

*"We all LOVE the library! It is part of our lives in a big way and has been for years. Staff has come and gone and we've loved them all, old and new. Things are done right, kept tidy, organized and fresh. The staff seems to always come up with fun and exciting things to offer in the way of programs."*

*"Our library is the best in Allegan County!"*

*"I have learned so much about my home and community through the local history materials - particularly Dorothy Dalrymple's collection."*

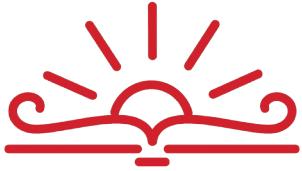
*"The Early Literacy Center is a great place to bring kids on cold or rainy days. There aren't many places in the community for that."*

*"When I was unemployed, I had to use the library for Internet access and applying for jobs. Without this FREE service, I would not have found a job."*

*"It has helped me with college when I can't afford Internet at home. It has also helped my husband apply for jobs. I look forward to the day when I have children to be able to bring them to kids programs."*

*"Our library is the jewel of our city - Whenever I have visitors from other states or cities I always take them on a tour of the library."*

*"It truly enhances the quality of our community!"*



## OTSEGO DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY

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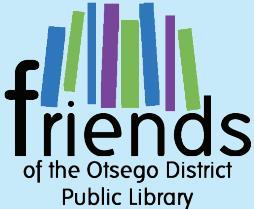
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You may be photographed while attending library programs and events. Please alert library staff if you do not want to be photographed.

### Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library are always looking for new members. The Friends run a used bookstore and volunteer at library programs. Your donations of gently used books and DVD's help support the programs offered at the library!



#### Fall Book Sale

Thursday, October 19 9 AM – 8 PM  
Friday, October 20 9 AM – 5:30 PM  
Saturday, October 21 9 AM – 1 PM (\$1/Bag Day!)

#### Quarterly Meeting

Monday, November 20 at 6:30 PM

### Library Closings

Columbus Day

Allegan County-Wide Library Training Day  
October 9

Thanksgiving

November 23 - 25

Christmas

December 25

New Year's Day

January 1



## EXCITING PLANS FOR PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

Greetings from Otsego District Library,

As you can see in this newsletter, the library has been busy planning for the future! Our 2017-2022 strategic plan update can be found inside, as well as highlights and accomplishments from the past 4 years! We are so excited about what we have been able to accomplish at ODL. I also wanted to share with you some of the patron comments from our community survey this year (see page 7). These comments and many more show how proud our community is of the library... and how the library has even transformed some lives! We are very appreciative of our awesome patrons and will continue to work hard to make ODL the best library we can possibly be!

This fall brings some exciting new programs to ODL. We will celebrate the story of Ferdinand and invite Santa and live Reindeer back for another visit. Our new month-long winter program (instead of Candyland and mini-golf) will be a fantastic life-size Jumanji game! It will be fun for the whole family. We are also thrilled to announce a new Lifelong Learning program, which will be geared towards adults and will offer educational sessions on a wide range of topics. We will have one-on-one computer sessions available. Our creative staff have packed this newsletter full of fun for the community! Make sure you check out some of the programs this fall!

One last thing to share - if you are interested in helping the library, we have several ongoing and current needs:

- The library can always use empty DVD cases that are in good condition as replacement cases.
- If you use Wowbrary and are an Amazon shopper, start your holiday shopping from our Wowbrary Page link to Amazon and the library will receive a discount on our Wowbrary bill just by clicking the link before you order!
- Paper Gator Recycling pays the library per ton of paper. Bring your paper, old magazines, and any books that are not usable for the Friends bookstore sale (obscure/old textbooks, phone books, damaged books) in the Gator any time by driving behind the library and putting them in the marked dumpsters.
- You can make a monetary donation to the library any time by sending a check to "Otsego District Library" to 401 Dix Street, Otsego MI 49078. We will send you a thank you for your donation to use as a record for tax purposes. The library can also be used as a Memorial donation place in honor of your loved one.
- The library would like to offer a Computer Coding Class geared towards children at some point in the future. Please contact the library if this is something you might be able to help with.

Have a great fall; we hope to see you soon!

Andrea Estelle, Library Director

