Strange Automotive Tales
Old, Obscure, and Outrageous Car History
Jay Follis, Historian with the Gilmore Car Museum
Thursday, February 22 at 6:30 PM
As always, Jay Follis is engaging, informative, and entertaining. He will share some of the lesser known and bizarre automotive stories from the public’s general response to the first motor cars, shocking auto advertising, really poor ideas, and car companies that failed.
A noted historian, Follis has served as a consultant for automotive restorers and television productions including PBS, NPR, History Channel plus more!

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Monday, March 4 from 11 AM – 4:15 PM
Be a hero and donate blood! Make your appointment at www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Landscaping with Native Plants for Pollinators
Gary Miller, Certified Green Industry Professional - Wedel’s Nursery
Thursday, March 7 at 6:30 PM
Native plants - we hear the term, but what exactly does it mean? In this green thumb program, you will learn the benefits of using native plants in your home gardens and landscapes.
Native plants are low maintenance, conserve water, and provide the necessary food and habitats for wildlife. Many of our beloved butterflies and pollinators depend on very specific plant species.
Learning about and incorporating these native plants in your yard will help to support these nature superstars!

Spring Into Organization
Susie Marsh with Susie’s Organization Solutions
Thursday, March 28 at 6:30 PM
This presentation will help kick start your de-cluttering and organizing projects as the winter fades and the anticipation of spring is in the air!
Susie Marsh will share tips & tricks for organizing spaces in your home.
She will also show you how to utilize organizing products and give you strategies to maximize the functionality of your spaces. Let’s get organized!
Creative Café
Barn Quilts with Barb Bennett of ABC Barn Quilts
Friday, May 3 from 1-3:30 PM and
Saturday, May 4 from 9-11:30 AM
A third class will be offered on Saturday from 12:30-3:00 PM if classes fill.

Back by popular demand! We are excited to have Barb back to help you create your own painted quilt block. Guided instruction will take you through the process of barn quilt painting from beginning to end.

All supplies included: 18”x18” primed board, paints, tools, patterns, AND cheerful instruction. Barn quilts will get framed and returned so they will be safe to display outdoors.

Class size is limited to 25 participants (ADULTS ONLY). The cost is $40 and pre-registration is required (non-refundable). The cost covers the instruction of class, your finished product, and refreshments.

Adult Winter Reading Club
January 1 – March 30

Sign up to be part of Read & Dine Adult Winter Reading Program this winter! Read ten books and you can enter a drawing to possibly win a Kindle Fire or a $25 gift card to a local restaurant.

Reading logs will be available at the circulation desk or at our drive-thru pickup window.

ALL Participants who finish reading all 10 books will receive a cookbook (while supplies last). Thank you to the Friends of the Library (Kindle and cookbooks) and local restaurants for sponsoring this program!
Coffee and Conversations

January – May
3rd Friday at 10 AM
Let’s build community by sharing coffee and conversations!
Coffee and refreshments (provided by the Friends of the Otsego Library) will be ready for you to enjoy at the library while we discuss current topics or anything else you would like to discuss.

Get Crafty – Make & Take Crafts

February – May
3rd Friday at 1 PM
Create a fun craft for free! Each month you will be able to make a fun decoration that you can proudly take home to display.

Cricut Maker + Cricut Heat Press

Have you used the library’s Cricut Maker or Heat Press to create custom cut cardstock, permanent vinyl, or heat transfer vinyl? A variety of supplies are available to purchase from the library or you may provide your own. If you need assistance, please call the library to schedule an appointment – otherwise these devices are available for patron use any time the library is open.

BOOK CLUBS

Join one of our monthly book clubs where newcomers are always welcome!

2nd Monday Book Club
Meets on the 2nd Monday at 2 PM

January 8 Project Hail Mary
Andy Weir

February 12 The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek
Kim Michele Richardson

March 11 The Great Alone
Kristin Hannah

April 8 Mr. Penumbra’s 24 Hour Bookstore
Marianne Cronin

May 13 Lilac Girls
Martha Hall Kelly

June 10 Born a Crime
Trevor Noah

July 8 The Nickle Boys
Colson Whitehead

August 12 Rainy Day Friends
Jill Shalvis

Non Fiction Book Club
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 6 PM

January 10 Rubicon
Tom Holland

February 14 The Making of the Atomic Bomb
Richard Rhodes

March 13 Becoming Charlemagne
Jeff Sypeck

April 10 Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power
John Meacham

May 8 The Rise & Reign of the Mammals
Steve Brusatte

June 12 The Last Castle
Denise Kiernan

July 10 The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606
James Shapiro

August 14 Blue Highways: A Journey into America
William Least Heat-Moon
**TEEN/TWEEN PROGRAMS**

Teen/Tween events do not meet on holiday weeks or if Otsego Schools are closed.

**Valentine's Day Art Party**
*Thursday, February 8 @ 4 PM*
Get your friends together to celebrate Valentine's Day with a little extra pizazz! Create a custom Valentine's Day craft, enjoy valentine themed treats and refreshments provided by the library. Attendees will also be entered in a drawing to win prizes - you don't want to miss this fabulous event!

**Spring Break for Teens/Tweens**

**LEGO Challenge**
*Monday, April 1 at 2 PM*
Compete in a LEGO building competition to win a prize for your creation! Build something fantastic that you are proud to show off! LEGO builds will be displayed in the library throughout Spring Break!

**Garden Sparklers**
*Tuesday, April 2 at 2 PM*
Learn garden basics with the Chula Vista Garden Club. Use glass, mirrors, and teardrop gems to create a beautiful garden sparkler you can hang!

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover**
*Wednesday, April 3 at 2 PM*
Do you like to have fun while helping others? Young patrons are dropping off their favorite stuffed animals to "spend the night" at the library. You'll get to help at an epic “sleepover” event - take pictures of these stuffed animals getting into all sorts of shenanigans all while having fun!

**Sweet & Salty Book Club**
*February 22, March 28, and April 25*

**VolunTEENS**
*Middle School - High School*
Earn service credit hours for school or building a resume for future job searches. Stop by during library hours for a training session and to begin volunteering.
**SPRING BREAK PROGRAMS FOR KIDS**

**Flower Scavenger Hunt**
*April 1-6*

The library will be in full bloom during Spring Break! Come to the library anytime during the week of Spring Break and search for flowers. When you find them all, you will get a prize!

**LEGO Challenge**
*Monday, April 1 at 2 PM*

3rd Grade - High School

Compete in a LEGO building competition to win a prize for your creation! Build something fantastic that you are proud to show off! LEGO builds will be displayed in the library throughout Spring Break!

**Gardening and Flower Pots**
*Chula Vista Garden Club*
*Tuesday, April 2 at 10 AM*

4 Years Old – 5th Grade

Learn the basics of gardening with the Chula Vista Garden Club members. Kids will paint a beautiful flowerpot and then be able to add their own plant to watch grow.

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover**
*Wednesday and Thursday, April 3 & 4*

Birth – 5th Grade

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Stuffed animals will spend the night at a special library sleepover! Kids can drop off their stuffed animal on Wednesday, April 3 by 2 PM. Teen/tween volunteers will “babysit” your animals. They will take pictures of the activities the animals will be doing and provide you with a special book of their adventures the following morning.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4 AT 10 AM

Kids can return (pjs are optional) to “wake up” their animal and have a special PJ Storytime including stories, songs, and craft.

**Home Depot Birdhouse Workshop**
*Friday, April 5 at 10 AM*

4 Years Old – 5th Grade

Home Depot will be bringing their workshop to the library! Kids will be able to build and decorate their own birdhouse to hang in their yards to house our feathered friends.

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**Children's Programs**

**Tiny Tots**  
*January 30 - May 7*  
(No meet-up on April 2)  
Tuesdays at 10 AM  
Ages 0-24 Months  
Sing, read, and play with your little ones and friends!

**Music and Movement**  
*January 31 - May 8*  
(No meet-up on April 3)  
Wednesdays at 10 AM  
Ages 0-5  
Relieve cabin fever with singing, dancing, movement activities, and sensory play!

**Storytime**  
*February 1 – May 9*  
Special Pajama Storytime  
April 3 - See Spring Break Info  
Thursdays at 10 AM  
Ages 0-5  
Each session includes a fun theme with stories, songs, and a craft.

**Construct and Create**  
*January 30 – May 7*  
(No meet-up on April 2)  
Tuesdays at 4 PM  
Kindergarten – 5th Grade  
Each week will include a construction activity using the library’s fun building toys (i.e. Legos and Straws and Connectors). The other side of the room will offer a fun art project. Join the fun each week as you construct and create with your friends!
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charlotte's Web
**Tuesday, December 26 - Saturday, January 20**
Come on down to the farm this winter and enjoy *Charlotte's Web*, the game! Inspired by the classic 1952 children's book by E.B. White, *Charlotte's Web* is coming this winter to the Otsego District Library. The event is sponsored by generous donations from local businesses.

The library's program room will be transformed into a lifesize game inside Zuckerman's barnyard and the county fair! This year's game is a stuffed animal tossing game. A web will mark the spots kids can claim with their farm animal of choice. Whoever claims the most pieces of *Charlotte's Web* wins! The library collects free will donations during the event which will go toward new children's materials. Bring your whole family to come see Zuckerman's famous pig, and Charlotte too, during all library open hours!

Bluey Party
**Saturday, March 16**
10 AM - Noon
Preschool - 5th Grade
"What's up, party people?!"

Bluey is the wildly popular Disney+ cartoon about an Australian dog family of four. If your child is a fan of the Heeler pup family and their crew of lovable pals, then you will definitely want to attend (Mum and Dad too!).

Drop in to have some fun with Bluey and Bingo at this lively party. Celebrate with the whole Heeler family while you enjoy games, crafts, activities and snacks.

This is going to be a whackadoo party - hope to see you there, Matey!

Coming Summer 2024
Adventure Begins at your Library
Summer Reading Program
**June 15 – July 27**
Birth - High School
“Reading is an adventure that never ends.” - Charlie Brown
When it comes to adventure and imagination, look no further than the Otsego District Library! This year's Summer Reading Program will offer many aspects of adventure, excitement, and fun programs. All participants who finish the reading program will win prizes, coupons for free food, and a book. Plus some will be lucky grand prize winners!

Sign up week is **June 10-15**.
The kick-off event will be on **Saturday, June 15 from 10 AM – Noon**. Get ready for a great summer and let the adventures begin!
Holiday Hours - Library Closed

Clerk Training Day/President's Day - - - - - February 19
Easter - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - March 30
Memorial Day - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - May 25 - 28
Independence Day - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - July 4
Labor Day - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - August 31 - September 2

Library Hours

Monday • Tuesday • Friday - - - - - 9 AM – 6 PM
Wednesday • Thursday - - - - - 9 AM – 7 PM
Saturday - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 9 AM – 3 PM

Check our website and social media for updates or emergency closings.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library extend heartfelt thanks for immense community backing. A generous $3000 donation from the Evergreene Foundation has made way for an engaging Story Walk project at the library. Made possible by generous contributions, this immersive addition aims to enthrall patrons with captivating storytelling experiences during each library visit. We can’t express enough our gratitude to all supporters, ensuring a delightful environment for everyone as we enter the new year.

Friends Meetings
Monday, March 18 @ 1 PM
Monday, May 20 @ 1 PM

BIG SPRING Book Sale – 2 Days!
Friday, April 26 - - - - - - - - 9 AM – 6 PM
Saturday, April 27 - - - - - - - - 9 AM – 2 PM

Meijer Community Giving Campaign Donation

The Otsego District Library was honored with a $5,000 donation from the local Plainwell Meijer Store #191. The library is thankful for the staff and team members for choosing the library as part of their Meijer Cares community giving campaign. On Monday, October 23, 2023 Meijer team members Angie and Rachel, and store Director, Nate, came and presented the library with an honorary check. ODL Assistant Director, Diane DeVries, helped develop an amazing partnership with our local Meijer. The Plainwell Meijer store has also provided many of the library’s past summer reading prizes, helped with supplies, and sent volunteers for library programs.

Nate Holloway, Meijer Store Director, said, “We are committed to strengthening and enriching lives in the community we serve.”

Library Director Andrea Estelle states, “This donation was a wonderful surprise from our community Meijer. We are thankful for their partnership and how they support the library’s endeavors to keep our community reading. We can tell that the Meijer’s team truly cares! Their support is very much appreciated by our staff, patrons, and board. We hope to use some of the funds toward a refresh of our Early Literacy Center.”

Thank You Meijer for this generous donation!