

Forest Lodge Library
Report to Towns
6/9/2020

- When the Wisconsin State Supreme Court overturned Gov. Evers' Safer At Home order, this is the statement we offered on our website: "While the Wisconsin State Supreme Court has overturned the Safer at Home order we are moving forward with caution, gathering information and seeking advisement from our library system, the Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction and State and Federal Depts. of Health and Human Services on how and when we may safely re-open in such a way as to protect the health and safety of our patrons and staff. In the meantime, we're still offering curbside pick-up of library items and lots of entertaining and educational content on our website and Facebook page." One of the things we had been waiting for was a Guidelines for Reopening document prepared by the Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction, which was finally released mid-week last week. One of the things in that document was a calculator tool to help us determine how many people could safely be in our building at any one time. The answer is: not very many! The Forest Lodge Library Board of Trustees will have its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, 6/11 and will, at that time, consider a date to reopen and how that will look. Proposed will be a phased reopening which will offer special consideration for senior citizens, continue to offer curbside pick-up and offer some open hours where staff will, for the most part, remain behind the desk. Staff will also be scheduled to work hours where they can accomplish shelving and other in-library duties without impinging on patrons' personal space.
- We have commissioned several plexiglass pieces that will separate the circulation desk from patrons. We are considering other accommodations that will reduce or eliminate items being handed from patron to staff, or vice versa. We will ask staff and patrons to mask while in the library, offer them free if patrons lack them, and, also, provide hand-sanitizer and disposable gloves. We will continue to quarantine returned library materials between check-outs for the recommended 72 hours and sanitize them before returning them to our collection. We have developed a Pandemic Policy which we will plan to review and revise monthly, as new data becomes available and new issues present themselves. We do wish to serve our communities...we hope to do so while continuing to ensure the health and safety of patrons and staff.
- On a more cheerful note: 2020 IS the 95th Anniversary of the Forest Lodge Library! While it is entirely COVID-dependent, we are hoping to celebrate with our communities on Sunday, August 16th. We're planning for an outside celebration that will include food and music and historical retrospectives...we will surely keep you posted as plans progress! We are also hoping to collect 95 memories/recollections of the Forest Lodge Library and would be very happy to connect with you about collecting yours!
- We recently sent out another e-newsletter and, if you have a library card and we have your email address you will have received one. Please let us know if you'd like to be added to the email list!
- We offer our thanks to departing Board members Judy Krueger and Terry Miller, who both served two three year terms. We also thank Maureen Palmer for Board service. We

now welcome JoAnn Schultz, Kathy Bergin and Carl Lippert to the Library Board of Trustees and look forward to working with them.

- As always, keep track of what's up with the library by visiting our website, forestlodgelibrary.org or visiting our Facebook page.