

Registration is open for the 2004 Barrie Dragon Boat Festival

The second annual Barrie Dragon Boat Festival will be held on Saturday, August 28, and registration is now open for teams. We will only be taking 60 teams for the 2004 Festival, so get your registration in soon to make sure you don't miss the boat! Updated information for the 2004 Festival is available on the Festival website. We are also very happy to announce that Kings Buffet will once more be the Diamond Dragon sponsors of this wonderful event. We will also be welcoming back many of our In-kind sponsors from our first event.

Thank you to you all for being such great community-minded sponsors. Paddles up!

For more information you can view the Festival website at www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca or call the Library's Development Office at 728-1010 ext. 7040 and speak with Ann.

Battle of the Books – 10th Anniversary!

Test your book knowledge! In what book does 11 year old Andy travel from Vancouver to Halifax accompanied by the Sheehogue? If you guessed Flood by James Heneghan, you'd score 8 points for your school! Flood is one of the many wonderful Canadian titles on the Barrie Public Library's Battle of the Books booklist. Barrie and Oro-Medonte schools have the opportunity to test their reading knowledge in the Barrie Public Library's Battle of the Books programme each year. Categories are Classics, Canadian, Newbery Award, Fairytales and Folktales, Fun and Fantasy and, last but not least, Silver Birch and Red Maple Award Winners. This year is the tenth anniversary of our Battles and so far 18 schools have taken up the challenge. One of our sponsors, Rogers Television, will be filming the Grand Battle this year so you can watch us on TV! The Barrie Examiner helps us provide lunch for everyone at our semi-battles. Battle of the Books began as a radio programme in the 1940s sponsored by the Chicago Public Library. It was then adapted by librarians for use in school and public libraries. The Barrie Public Library Battles began in 1995 with the first winner being St. Monica's Catholic Elementary School. Over the years Oakley Park Elementary, Book Bugs Home School, West Bayfield Elementary, Free Your Imagination Community Team, Ferndale Woods Elementary and St. John Vianney Catholic Elementary schools have also "taken home" the trophy. For more information on this programme, check the Kids Corner section of the library website, the Kids Corner section of this newsletter on pages 6 and 7, or call Jane Salmon at 728-1010 ext. 7017.

eBooks Are Here

The Barrie Public Library is introducing an exciting new way to find information by offering a special collection of 3,500 eBooks to our patrons. eBooks are electronic books that can be read by using a computer. You can search them, borrow, read, and return them, all via the Internet 24 hours a day. They are available through terminals in the Library, through the Library Catalogue, and also from home computers via the library webpage www.library.barrie.on.ca. To access them from outside the Library, you will need a Barrie Public Library membership card. The eBook collection covers all kinds of subjects – including child development, politics, business, health, science, philosophy, history, psychology, and travel.

You are able to find books such as The Complete Idiot's Guide to Windows XP; The Corsini Encyclopedia of Psychology and Behavioral Science; Shakespeare's The Tempest – CliffsNotes; 101 Quick Tips for a Dynamite Resume; or Malcolm X, His Life and Legacy.

Books in the eBooks collection can be searched by authors, titles, subjects or keywords, similar to searching for a regular book in the Library catalogue. In addition, definitions of any word in the text are available through a link to The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language.

For more information or assistance in accessing eBooks, ask at the Information Desk or call 728-1010, ext. 7020.

Music

Ken Whiteley, one of Canada's most respected "roots" musicians will be performing in a Barrie Folk Society show at the Barrie Public Library on Saturday, May 1. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. Tickets will go on sale at the Library on March 1. They are \$15 each (\$5 for children 12 and under). Drawing on his incredibly rich background in blues, gospel and folk styles, this six-time Juno award nominee is a wonderful addition to any festival or concert series. He has played at virtually every major folk festival in Canada and performed and recorded with such legends as Pete Seeger, John Hammond Jr., Tom Paxton, The Campbell Brothers, Stan Rogers, Guy Davis, Raffi, and countless others.

A prolific songwriter, a gifted and versatile instrumentalist and a powerful singer, Whiteley's music communicates themes of freedom, love, spiritual aspiration and social comment. His performances are presented with participatory humor, grace and energy.

His performing career began as a teenager in the 1960s with the Original Sloth Band. With the Sloths, Ken performed all over North America and appeared on Saturday Night Live with Leon Redbone. More recently, his collaborations with his brother Chris (the Whiteley Brothers), and old friends Mose Scarlett and Jackie Washington (Scarlett, Washington and Whiteley) have resulted in a wonderful collection of recordings, garnering high praise, successful tours and several awards.

The Toronto Star has called his newest CD, "Listening", a "remarkable solo effort". It is a vocal-rich collection of Whiteley originals, reflecting an artist who can draw from the deep wells of many traditions and create something fresh and whole.

An Unplugged Saturday Night

Saturdays: March 13, April 17, and May 8 from 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. in the main area of Barrie Public Library

Barrie Public Library and the Barrie Folk Society are pleased to present An Unplugged Saturday Night - an open stage venue on the main floor of the Library, where people are welcome to participate in a 15-minute set. Musicians, poets, singers and storytellers of all calibres are welcome to this open stage. Audience members get to enjoy great local talent at this warm and welcoming venue for a budding Gordon Lightfoot or Natalie McMaster! This is an all-ages evening and children are encouraged to attend as well as participate. In keeping with tradition, there will be no admission to the evening, just a donation jar to offset any potential expenses the event may incur. The Library's Kozlov Café will be open all evening as well.

An Unplugged Saturday Night takes place on the second Saturday of the month from January – May, and then from September - November. Please note that the date is changed in April, due to Easter Saturday.

For more information go to the Library Programmes and Events section of the Barrie Public Library website at www.library.barrie.on.ca

Library staff supports local charity

In response to growing needs in the community, the staff, board and volunteers of Barrie Public Library collected a huge assortment of warm clothing and other items for the David Busby Street Centre at Christmas time this year. This is the third year in a row that library staff have chosen to undertake this collection of items. Each year the number of things collected continues to grow, as staff and volunteers respond in such a generous way. Over two hundred items were collected, including 65 pairs of much needed warm socks, many other items of clothing, and numerous bags full of toiletries such as soap, razors and shampoo. Staff and clients of the Centre were very appreciative of our donation.

Looking for ways to promote your non-profit activities?

Getting information out about your group or event can be a challenge in many communities. Here at Barrie Public Library we give local non-profits the opportunity to put information into our front lobby display cases for two-week periods throughout the year. 2,000 people a day pass through the doors of our beautiful downtown building, and all those eyes could be viewing that information about your community group or activity. Barrie Public Library is pleased to offer this free community service to charities and non-profits in our area.

To book one of our display cases please call Cathy at 728-1010 ext. 7031, or contact her by e-mail at ctruax@city.barrie.on.ca

Visit The Kozlov Café

The next time you visit the Library, stop by the Kozlov Café and pick up a hot drink or snack to enjoy while you catch up on your reading.

We always have several flavours of delicious hot coffee, as well as a large assortment of tea, including herbal teas and decaffeinated flavours.

You may also choose from a variety of flavours of rich and delicious hot chocolate as well. Try some of our tasty snacks, including chips, chocolate bars, candy and cookies.

DON'T FORGET – DRINKS AND SNACKS PURCHASED AT THE CAFÉ MAY BE BROUGHT INTO THE LIBRARY FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT!

Attention Newcomers to Barrie - Contact Information Barrie first!

Information Barrie is the Community Information and Referral Service of the Barrie Public Library. June 30 is the most popular day of the year for moving, and many of those who are moving are coming to Barrie! Newcomers - contact Information Barrie about almost anything you want to know about the Barrie Community. If we do not have the information, we will refer you to someone who does.

Contact Information Barrie about social clubs, sports groups, summer day camps, churches, schools, recreational facilities, and lots of other things you may want to know about your new community. To find the information yourself on-line, click Community Database on the library's homepage menu. Click your cursor in the text box and type in one or more keywords, then click Display. Once the list appears, click on the small picture of the book to the left of any listing for which you would like to see the full details. Information Barrie also maintains a Community Events calendar, which can also be accessed from the Library's homepage.

Come to the Library and ask the staff at the Information Desk for a Newcomer Information Package. It has maps and a variety of booklets and brochures with information on your new community. You can call for information about the community at 728-1010, option #3, then #1.

Or you can e-mail your questions to infobarrie@city.barrie.on.ca

Paperbacks Wanted

Consider giving your previously enjoyed paperbacks a new lease on life by donating them to the Barrie Public Library.

Donations of paperbacks are always gratefully accepted. Your donated paperbacks will either be added to the Library collection or sold in the Helen G. Saso Boutique to raise funds for the Library. If you would like to help, please drop off your paperbacks at the Library Circulation Desk.

IMPORTANT LIBRARY NUMBERS

Library	728-1010
Information Barrie	728-1010
Automated Phone-in Renewal Service	728-1010 option #4
Director of Library Services	728-1010 ext. 7500
Development Office	728-1010 ext. 7040

LIBRARY ON-LINE ACCESS

Library Webpage	www.library.barrie.on.ca
Library On-line Catalogue	www2.library.barrie.on.ca
Information Barrie	info.library.barrie.on.ca
Library E-mail	barlib@city.barrie.on.ca
Information Barrie Email	infobarrie@city.barrie.on.ca
Barrie Dragon Boat Festival	www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday – Thursday	10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday – Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m.

Barrie Public Library: 60 Worsley Street, Barrie, ON L4M 1L6

The Library will be closed on Friday, April 9; Sunday, April 11; Monday, April 12; Sunday, May 23; Monday, May 24; Thursday, July 1.

Automated Phone-in Service – available 7 days/week.

You Can:

- Renew your material
- List titles checked out to you
- Cancel titles being held for you
- Find out your fines

The Library Newsletter is published by Barrie Public Library. For more information, or to submit comments, please contact the Library at 728-1010.

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www.library.barrie.on.ca

The website of Barrie Public Library is a very busy spot on the World Wide Web! During 2003 almost 2 million hits were received, and the Library catalogue was accessed over 66,000 times through our internal website link.

Some of the most popular areas of the Library website include:

- On-line databases
- Programmes and events
- The Reader's Couch
- Genealogy and local history

What exactly is

The Reader's Couch?

The Reader's Couch is a section of the Library's web page designed to help the avid reader find great new reading ideas. It can be reached by a direct link from the homepage menu. In this area of the Library website we provide quarterly lists of new books we think people would enjoy, plus an annual list of the personal favourites of library staff. "Reading Ideas" lists from previous seasons are also archived here. If you want to find new titles in a particular genre just click on the link called Internet Resources. There you will find book reviews, author information, and entire books on the Web. Specialized book lists can also be found by exploring the featured links included in this area of our website.

Surf and enjoy! Oh yes – don't forget that "The Reader's Couch" is also featured in print in each issue of our newsletter. See page 9 for this season's selections.

Want to know more about "On-line Databases"?

The online databases available through our website, to Barrie Public Library card holders, include the very popular MasterFile Premier, Canadian Business & Current Affairs (CBCA), and Canadian Newsstand. The on-line databases are excellent research tools!

If you want to find magazine and newspaper articles to do research or school projects, these databases are well worth looking at.

Canadian Newsstand has current and back issues of articles from many major Canadian newspapers, including the Toronto Star, and the Barrie

Examiner. Both Masterfile Premier (mainly American) and Canadian Business & Current Affairs (and Canadian) give current and back issues of the fulltext of articles covering current events, health, education, culture and business. Newsweek, Consumer Reports, Canadian Social Trends, Family PC, Sports Illustrated, and Maclean's are just a sample of magazine titles available.

Topics recently researched through the library include the smoking bylaw in Barrie, violence in sports, crime in Canada, and reviews of Margaret Atwood's books.

Library Grapevine Library patrons speak out

One of our Library staff members often helps genealogists with long-distance enquiries as they research family histories through newspaper clippings and library material. One of these long-distance patrons recently sent this note:

"I was able to visit your library for 3 days last fall and was very impressed with the friendliness and helpfulness of the people who served me, as well as how busy your library was while I was there. I have enclosed a cheque as a donation to your fine facility"

A library patron called for help with community information recently and had this to say:

"In the 7 years since I moved to Barrie Information Barrie has always been able to help me find the information I need, and done so in a helpful, supportive manner without making me feel silly for asking." On our "Polar Express" float in the Barrie Chamber of Commerce Santa Claus Parade: "It was great to see the Library staff riding a float in the Santa Claus Parade. You all do such a fantastic job with all the programs and stuff at the library – especially the great kids programs. Thanks everyone!"

DID YOU KNOW?

Barrie Public Library currently has 89,078 members!

During the year 2003 there were:

- 781,083 patron visits to the Library
- 1,401,121 items were borrowed from the Library (that's almost a million and half!)
- The Information desk staff answered 63,144 requests for information
- Our website had almost 2 million hits throughout the year - 1,933,847 to be precise!

Anime Workshop

Are you into the art of Japanese animation? The library will be offering two workshops, teaching teens how to create this incredibly popular form of art! Thursday, May 6: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 13: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Angus Ross Room

A local artist will be leading teens, ages 12 - 18, in these interactive drawing workshops.

Workshops will be limited to 20 people and registration begins on Tuesday, April 20. For more information or to register, please call Cindy Pomeroy-White at 728-1010, ext. 7016.

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

The TAB is a group of teens who CARE about their library! Also known as the BLT's, (Barrie Library Teens) we plan teen programmes and are working to make the Young Adult area a great place!

To arrange for an interview and be on the TAB waiting list, or for more info, contact Cindy Pomeroy-White at 728-1010, ext. 7016 or e-mail to cpomeroy-white@city.barrie.on.ca

Teen Poetry Contest

Help celebrate National Poetry Month, in April 2004, by entering our 2nd Annual Teen Poetry Contest! Get creative and write a poem about...anything! There are two age categories: 12-14 years and 15-18 years. Winners of each category will receive a gift certificate, and all poetry will be published and catalogued in the Young Adult Collection. Contest begins on Monday, March 8 and runs until Friday, April 16.

Poetry may be submitted as word documents to cpomeroy-white@city.barrie.on.ca; dropped off at any information desk in the library; mailed to Barrie Public Library, 60 Worsley St, Barrie, Ontario, L4M 1L6; or faxed to 705-728-4322. There is no limit to length of work submitted. Please include your name, age, telephone number and school on your submission. Join us on Thursday, April 29, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for a Coffee-House Poetry Night in the Angus Ross Room at the Library. Winners of the Poetry Contest will read their poems and all other budding teen poets are welcome to read poetry...yours or someone else's! Teens, ages 12 -18, may register to give a reading. For more information or to register your poetry reading for this programme, please contact Cindy Pomeroy-White at 728-1010, ext. 7016 or by e-mail at: cpomeroy-white@city.barrie.on.ca

Teen Reading Week ...Was a Success!

During the week of November 23 - 29, 2003, teens entered a ballot for every reading item checked out! 297 items were checked out by 90 teen readers and many also participated in a daily Trivia Contest and Teen Reading Surveys.

Congratulations to lucky draw winners, Ayla Qualls and James Mitchell, both 13!

TRUE COLOURS FOR TEENS!

Are you a green, or an orange...maybe a bit of blue and gold too? Find out such things as which career is best suited for YOU, how to bridge the gaps in communication with your parents, teachers and friends, plus ways to open the doors to successful relationships and learning. Come to a True Colours Workshop for Teens, ages 14 - 18, and find out what your colours are! This free workshop is limited to 30 people and registration is required.

Thursday, May 27, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Angus Ross Room

Registration begins on Tuesday, May 11. Please call Cindy Pomeroy-White at 728-1010, ext. 7016 for information or to register.

Registered Storytimes

Registration begins Wednesday March 17 at 10:00 a.m. for the session beginning the week of March 29 and ending the week of May 10 or May 17. There will be no Tuesday or Wednesday classes during the week of May 3 - 7 due to our Battle of the Books programme, so these classes will end the week of May 17. The Monday Family Storytime and Thursday Preschool will end the week of May 10.

You must register by touch-tone phone at 728-1010 option #5. All of the storytimes except the Family Storytime and Preschool Storytime are designed to be one-on-one programmes with an adult. For Family Storytime, please register both the attending parent/grandparent's name and the child's name. For other programmes, please register just the child's name.

Family Storytime

Mondays: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

30 minutes of songs, stories and activities for children 5 years and under with a parent or grandparent. This is for parents or grandparents who have more than one child whom they wish to bring. We ask that day care providers attend our drop-in Family Storytimes on Friday mornings.

Held in the Georgian International Room. Limit of 30 people (includes both adults and children).

Please register all names of those who will be attending.

BabyTime

Tuesdays: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

30 minutes of tickle rhymes, stories and songs for non-walking youngsters and their parent or caregiver. Held in the Angus Ross Room.

Limit 20 children.

Tales for Twos

Mondays: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

30 minutes of songs, stories and activities for two year olds with a parent or a caregiver. Held in the Oro District Lions Programme Room upstairs.

Limit 12 children.

Time for Threes

Tuesdays: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 30 minutes of songs, stories and activities for three year olds and a parent or caregiver. Held in the Oro District Lions Programme Room upstairs. Limit 12 children.

Toddler Time

Wednesdays: 9:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

30 minutes of songs, stories and activities for children who are toddling about and who are 23 months or less, to be enjoyed with a parent or caregiver. Held in the Oro District Lions Programme Room upstairs. Limit 12 children.

Preschool

Thursdays: 10:30 – 11:10 a.m. 40 minutes of stories, songs and activities for independent 3 - 5 year olds. Held in the Angus Ross Room. Limit of 18 children.

DROP-IN STORYTIMES

Family Storytime

Stories, songs and activities for children ages 6 and under (3 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver). No registration required. Angus Ross Room. The Spring session of Friday and Saturday Family Storytimes ends on Saturday, June 19 and will resume on Friday, September 17. The same storytime is presented at the following times:

Fridays: 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Fridays: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Saturdays: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bedtime Tales

Thursdays: April 22, May 20 and June 17 from 7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Children ages 3-6 years are invited to wear their p.j.s and bring their teddies for special evening Storytimes taking place in the Georgian International Room. Come join us for 30 minutes of stories, songs and rhymes. No registration required.

Homework Help

Tuesdays and Wednesdays: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Saturdays 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Starting March 23 and ending June 12

The Library recruits academically strong secondary school students to assist children in grades 1 through 8 with their homework during the above hours. Students will not be paired up with a child, as this is not a formal tutoring service or programme. This programme will be supervised by the Children's Services staff, who will assist children with library resources.

No registration – this is a drop-in informal programme and children will be assisted as staffing and volunteers permit.

Children's Floor – non fiction area.

Students interested in volunteering as Homework Helpers should contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 728-1010 ext. 7005 for details.

Questions can also be directed to Jane Salmon, Head of Children's and Youth Services at ext. 7017.

Readopoly TD SummerReading Club

Look out for dragons at the Library! We look forward to children ages 3 and up joining us for this summer's reading adventures. This year's theme is "Fire Up Your Imagination: Dragons, Books and Quests". Our Readopoly game board is being readied for another summer of action. On Saturday, August 28 there will also be some "dragon" activities at the Barrie Dragon Boat Festival on the waterfront! Details for all of our summer events will be in our summer @your library™ newsletter. The fun starts on Monday, June 21 and goes until Sunday, August 29.

Library on the Loose! Zehrs Storytimes

Tuesdays: 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. March 30 - April 27 May 18 – June 15

Come by for some stories before you shop! The Library staff will be presenting half-hour drop-in storytimes in the Big Bay Point/Yonge Street Zehrs community room. The songs, stories and rhymes will be geared to ages 5 and under. This is a drop-in programme, not a drop-off programme! All parents must remain in the Community Room for the programme. Free. No registration required.

Celebrate Barrie Saturday, June 5

Visit the Library staff at the waterfront as we help to Celebrate Barrie. Learn about our programmes and services. Bring your camera and capture your child as a lady or knight from the Middle Ages. Try our bean bag toss. Find out about the upcoming "Dragons and Quests" Readopoly Summer Reading Program and about our 2nd Annual Barrie Dragon Boat Festival!

Music Fun with Kathy Reid Naiman

Saturday, April 24: 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Kathy Reid-Naiman, musical artist responsible for such wonderful CDs as "A Smooth Road to London Town" and "Tickles and Tunes", will be our special guest at a programme for babies to 5 year olds with parents. Kathy's CDs are used extensively in our programmes, especially Baby Goose and Toddler Time. Free, but due to limited seating, tickets will be available at the Children's Information Desk starting Saturday, April 10. Held in the Angus Ross Room. Please note that this programme replaces our usual Saturday Drop-in Storytime for this week.

Battle of the Books

This year is the 10th anniversary of the Barrie Public Library's Battle of the Books. We are thrilled to have 19 schools participating from both school boards, the most participants ever! Grade 4 to 8 students from area schools form a school team to read GREAT BOOKS from November to May to prepare themselves for "battle" at the library. The teams compete with each other to identify titles and authors of books based on questions about plot, settings and characters. This year the semi-battles will be held Tuesday, May 4th and Wednesday May 5th and the Grand Battle on Friday, May 7th. Good luck to everyone! Ask for the Reading list at the Children's Information Desk and treat yourselves to some good reads. This programme is sponsored in part by Rogers Television.

Internet Help for parents

Do you want to learn how to use the Internet effectively for homework and fun? Book a free session with our Library staff by calling the Children's Information Desk at 728-1010, ext. 7019. Staff will then book you in for a mutually convenient time slot. Staff can offer sessions just for children or just for parents... or for both together!

March Break is Superhero Week!

Join us for Superhero Week! The week of March 13- 20 will be busy as we celebrate your favorite superheroes and meet some heroes from your community. Please note that all events are free but tickets must be picked up for the puppet shows.

Events are as follows:

Day	Time	Activity: No Registration required unless noted.
Saturday, March 13	10:30 a.m.	Drop-in Storytime. Ages 6 and under (age 3 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver) Angus Ross Room.
Monday, March 15	2:00 p.m.	Superhero Costume Party: Meet Lesley Hawker from the Mariposa School of Skating, Kempenfelt Kelly, City Councillors. Dress up as your favourite Superhero and make a superhero craft. Get some fun Barrie Colt's stuff too! Ages 3 and up. Children's Floor.
Tuesday, March 16	10:30 a.m.	Puppet Show: Enjoy a Superhero puppet show. Free but due to limited seating, tickets will be available at the Children's Desk starting Monday March 8. Ages 3 and up. Angus Ross Room.
	2:00 p.m.	Superhero Bingo: A Bingo game featuring superhero trivia. Ages 6 and up. Angus Ross Room.
Wednesday, March 17	10:30 a.m.	Drop-in St. Patrick's Day Storytime and Craft. Ages 6 and under (age 3 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver). Angus Ross Room.
	2:00 p.m.	St. Patrick's Day Fun: Crafts and stories in celebration of this special day. Ages 6 and up. Angus Ross Room.
Thursday, March 18	10:30 a.m.	Drop-in Storytime. Ages 6 and under (age 3 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver) Angus Ross Room.
	2:00 p.m.	Animal Superheros: Come meet and greet with some furry heroic friends. All ages (age 6 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver) Angus Ross Room.
Friday, March 19	10:30 a.m.	Puppet Show: Enjoy a Superhero puppet show. Free but due to limited seating, tickets will be available at the Children's Desk starting Monday March 8. Ages 3 and up. Angus Ross Room.
	2:00 p.m.	Do You Know Who The Greatest Superhero Is? Join Miriam Cote, a children's book illustrator, to learn how to draw the greatest superhero, and you'll find out who it is. Ages 6 and up. REGISTRATION NECESSARY at the Children's Information Desk or by calling 728-1010 ext. 7019 starting Monday March 8. Angus Ross Room.
Saturday, March 20	10:30 a.m.	Drop-in Storytime. Ages 6 and under (age 3 and under must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver) Angus Ross Room.

Get Growing with the Master Gardeners: Our third season

Tuesday Mornings: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

This spring the Simcoe County Master Gardeners will be presenting three workshops at the Barrie Public Library. These workshops are free, but registration is necessary. Please register for one or more workshops by telephoning the Library at 728-1010 ext. 7020, or in person at the Adult Information desk. Registration starts on Monday, April 5.

Growing Great Houseplants:

Tuesday, April 20. Simcoe County's extreme winters mean you must utilize houseplants for winter color. Spend an hour with Master Gardener Marjorie Bell learning to care for houseplants that will grow successfully in your home. Marjorie has been growing plants in Oro Township for over 40 years. She is a member of the Huronia Rose Society, the Oro-Medonte Horticulture Society and an Acclaimed Judge for Roses and Horticulture in Ontario.

Successful Container & Balcony Gardening

Tuesday, April 27. If you are in an apartment, or just want some extra color on your patio Lexi Dearborn will introduce some of the best container plants for Simcoe County, and teach you what you should know about caring for them. Last season, Lexi was responsible for maintaining over 1,000 trees and shrubs as Head Gardener of the Barrie Arboretum in SunnidalePark. Lexi is also a Master Gardener, Georgian College Instructor and a Landscape Designer in the Barrie area.

One Small Garden

Tuesday, May 11. Are you gardening on a small lot? Are you aching to try more plants? Learn how to expand your gardening opportunities without moving. Carol Dunk will take you through the evolution of her small garden here in Barrie. She'll share some of the ideas and tricks she's used to get the most from a small, city garden, including a garden pond. Carol is a Master Gardener and a past-president of Barrie's Garden Club.

Library on the Loose

Would you like us to visit your group to present a book discussion, or a seminar about what is available for seniors @ your library. If so, please call Janet at 728-1010 ext. 7041. You may book 4 weeks to 6 months in advance.

Share Great Books

Need some Great Books to Read over the summer? Would you like to hear about interesting books that others have read? Tell others about interesting books you have read? Then come to this round table meeting called Share Great Books on Wednesday, June 9 at 2:00 p.m. Please be prepared to talk briefly about two or three books you have enjoyed reading recently. Pencils and paper will be available for you to jot down the recommendations of other participants.

The Cat who Covered the World by Christopher Wren was very popular with our Wednesday book club this year. For more information about our daytime or evening book clubs, please ask for Janet at ext. 7041 or Mary at ext. 7011.

Looking for e-mail or Internet classes?

We offer drop-in classes to learn these basics of Internet use, including hands-on learning.

Please see page 9 for full details of all adult Internet workshops.

Drop-in Adult Internet / Library Catalogue Workshops

The following sessions are free. Space is limited to 6 people on a first come, first served basis. These are Drop-in sessions and registration is not required. A minimum of 3 participants is required, otherwise the programme will be cancelled.

Introduction to the Internet

These workshops are offered in two parts, and cover the basics of the World Wide Web and searching techniques. Week 1 deals with "Internet Basics and Web Addresses", and Week 2 deals with "Search Engines and Directories". Participants are expected to attend both sessions, and must attend Week 1 in order to attend Week 2. They are geared to people who have had no Internet experience.

All sessions run from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Week 1: Friday, April 30

Week 2: Friday, May 7

Week 1: Friday, May 28

Week 2: Friday, June 4

Barrie Library Catalogue

Learn how to search the library computer to locate books, videos, etc. in the Barrie Public Library. We also show how to place a hold on an item that is out, how to find out what items you have checked out on your card, when they are due, and how to renew items.

Thursdays: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. April 8, May 6, June 3

Introduction to E-mail

These two consecutive sessions are a basic introduction to email, and are intended for people who have had no experience with email. Participants will learn how to send and read email on Yahoo! Mail, set up an email account and address book, and organise mail into folders. Week 1 deals with "Send & Read E-mail", and Week 2 deals with "Folders & Addresses". Participants are expected to attend both sessions, and must attend Week 1 in order to attend Week 2. All sessions run from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Week 1: Friday, April 16. Week 2: Friday, April 23

Registered Adult Internet Workshops

The following workshops are free, but registration is required. Registration is by telephone only. Please call 728-1010 and choose Programme Registrations. Space is limited to 8 people. A minimum of 3 participants is required, otherwise the programme will be cancelled.

Health Issues

Use the Internet to research health issues and medical articles, and how to determine the quality and credibility of websites. Participants must be familiar with Netscape or Internet Explorer and Windows.

Wednesday, April 28: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Registration starts Wednesday, April 21

Beyond Basics

Use search engines and directories to improve your research skills in this hands-on class. Participants must be familiar with Netscape or Internet Explorer and Windows.

Wednesday, May 12: 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Registration starts Wednesday, May 5

Strange but True! *NEW*

Little known library and book-related tidbits from around the globe.

Really Heavy Reading

Rescuers filled 50 industrial garbage bags with reading material in their efforts to free New Yorker Patrice Moore, who had been trapped in his apartment for 2 days when piles of books and magazines piled nearly to the ceiling collapsed on him. It took firefighters three hours to free Moore, who had been buried up to his neck. A former mailroom clerk, Moore said he sells the material on the street and has been collecting books, catalogues, newspapers, and magazines in his apartment for more than 10 years. Moore's cries for help finally reached his landlord, who couldn't open the door because of the mountain of paper piled against it. Except for a little dehydration and some leg injuries, Moore was in stable condition after his ordeal.

"I've always had a lot of books," he said. "I read a lot of sports and history." Moore's sister said the family was aware of his obsession, but didn't know the full extent of it. "We kind of suspected something was going on, but we couldn't put our finger on it," she said. ~Associated Press~

The Reader's Couch Spring Reading Ideas

Bet Me by Jennifer Crusie

(Humorous women's fiction)

A man who hates commitment asks a cranky woman to dinner to win a bet. They agree to never see each other again but life can be strange.

The Codex by Douglas J. Preston (Thriller)

Maxwell Broadbent, owner of a priceless Mayan herbal manuscript, buried himself and his treasures in a concealed tomb. The codex contains information that would revolutionize the drug industry. His sons must find the burial place before paid killers find the site and its valuable secrets.

Playing With Fire by Peter Robinson (Mystery)

Two barges moored beside each other are consumed by fire and a body is found on each boat. Another fire causes another death and Detective Inspector Banks and Annie Cabot must investigate the past of the victims in the midst of violence.

A Risk Worth Taking by Robin Pilcher (Relationship novel)

A man has to find out what he really values in his marriage, his work and his life after he is laid off and his family seems remote.

Another Man's Son by Katherine Stone (Romance)

Bookman's Promise by John Dunning

(Mystery featuring Cliff Janeway)

Dime Store Magic by Kelley Armstrong

(Horror - Women of the Otherworld series)

Evan's Gate by Rhys Bowen (Cozy mystery)

Forest Lover by Susan Vreeland

(Biographical fiction about Emily Carr)

Hate Crime by William Bernhardt (Legal thriller)

High Country by Nevada Barr

(Mystery featuring park ranger Anna Pigeon)

Last Prophecy by Jon Land (Political thriller)

Out of the Darkness by Harry Turtledove

(Science fiction)

Passionate Girl by Thomas Fleming

(Historical fiction)

The Queen's Fool by Philippa Gregory

(Historical fiction)

Skydancer by Geoffrey Archer (Political thriller)

The Suspense Never Rests by John Grisham (Legal thriller)

Swallows of Kabul by Yasmina Khadra

(Literary fiction)

Texas Vendetta by Elmer Kelton (Western)

This Scepter'd Isle by Mercedes Lackey (Fantasy) The Touch by Colleen McCullough

(Historical family saga)

Databases @ Your Library

Did you know the library has a lot of databases where you can find business-related information? Do you know how to access those databases and pull out the information YOU need for success? If not, contact Shonna Froebel, our Business Librarian for a personalized orientation to any database. She can show you which databases are most suitable for your business question, and how to make the most of the tools available to you. Some databases are accessible only in the Library, while others are available to Library members through the Library website.

Here are some of the databases Shonna can show you how to use:

Scott's: a directory of Canadian company profiles

FP Corporate Profiler: a directory of profiles, news, and financials for Canadian public companies

Masterfile Premier: a collection of articles from Canadian, American, and foreign magazines. Some have full images

Canadian Business and Current Affairs (CBCA): a collection of articles from Canadian magazines and newspapers, many in full-text.

We have recently added two new databases to our resources:

Fraser's Canadian Trade Directory: a directory of manufacturing and trade companies in Canada

Hoover's Company Information: detailed company information for Canadian, American and international companies.

Contact Shonna at sfroebel@city.barrie.on.ca or 728-1010 ext. 7014 for an appointment.

Hot Business Book

Shameless Exploitation in Pursuit of the Common Good: The Madcap Business Adventure by the Truly Oddest Couple

by Paul Newman and A.E. Hotchner 338.766458092273 *New*

The cover notes of this book describe it as "the perfect non-management book, at once playful, informative, and inspirational". I couldn't agree more. This book really brings to the reader a perfect example of that much-discussed, seldom-demonstrated, management theory "thinking outside the box". From the initial decision to market the homemade salad dressing to a small local marketplace, and the hurdles encountered in terms of manufacturing, quality control, marketing, and placement they show their irreverence to traditional management practices and methods. Their initial office furniture consisted of Paul Newman's pool furniture and a ping-pong table. The initial success propelled them into the decision to donate all the profits to charity. Each year their company gives away all their profits and starts again with a fresh slate.

They ignored the advice of major marketing companies, as well as the advice of consultants in the food industry, and made their product from fresh, natural ingredients, marketing it on a small-scale with no advertising. Four years into the adventure they envision their own charity, and bring it to life in record time. This book tracks the record of both the products and the charity, and shows how thinking outside the box really does work wonders.

Make Time to Save Time

Book a time with our Business Librarian to speak to your business group or employees.

Shonna will be glad to arrange a time to come to you to explain what resources the Library has to offer you, and how to access them. We can also arrange tours and orientation sessions focusing on your business needs, whether they are marketing, financial, personnel management, or another business specialty. Learn to make the most of our resources to save your business time and money.

Contact Shonna at sfroebel@city.barrie.on.ca or 728-1010 ext. 7014 for an appointment.

Next Steps

Focus on the Web

The Scannery <http://www.thescannery.com/>

This new investment website is a search site that focuses on public companies from around the world. The site covers over 11,000 public companies from many different countries. You can do a general search for a company or try several different ways of limiting your search.

Limiting by regional index or other specialized index is possible, as is searching within any of (at my count) 54 specific countries. For some of the countries with large public company marketplaces, the site covers the top companies only, e.g. for Canada the top 1000 companies are covered. You can also limit your search by industry. Industries included are: Consumer Discretionary; Consumer Staples; Energy; Financials; Health Care; Industrials; Information Technology; Materials; Telecommunications; and Utilities. You can search across more than one industry group at a time. You can also choose different ways of searching and different ways of displaying your results. These two types of choices are mixed together in one area, which might be a bit confusing for some users.

Ways of searching include: Fuzzy - to be used when not sure of spelling; Phonic - for the word "sounds like"; Stemming - for different word endings, like fish and fishing; Synonyms; and Include all related words. The last seems a bit broad, but may be best to try when nothing else works? The first two seem quite similar: if you're not sure of the spelling, at least you must know what it sounds like, mustn't you? It would seem that Phonic is a bit broader than Fuzzy, from my tries. You can also have it search for any of your words, all or your words, an exact phrase, or Boolean connectors.

Ways to display results include: consolidating results by company website, which works like folders; retrieving 10, 50 or 100 documents at a time; and halting the search once it gets to a certain document limit (1000, 5000, or 10000). You can also have it sort the results by date, hits, size, or score. This website is still in its early days, but looks like a promising one.

VOLUNTEERS GROW COMMUNITY

National Volunteer Week is April 18 to 24, 2004. This is a special week set aside to honour the people who donate their time and energy to their fellow citizens. National Volunteer Week also raises awareness of the vital contribution volunteers make to communities, and to the identity and values of our country.

The National Volunteer Week 2004 theme is "Volunteers grow community!" From coast to coast to coast, volunteers are involved in almost every aspect of our communities. Volunteers serve on the boards and committees of local agencies and associations, they are Big Brothers or Sisters, volunteers organize cultural and recreational activities, help our elderly neighbours, provide shelter and counseling services, clean up our parks, coach our teams and so much more. Volunteers help build and strengthen our communities by responding to the needs that make each community in Canada unique. Volunteers truly grow community! For more information on National Volunteer Week, or other information about volunteering, visit the website of Volunteer Canada at www.volunteer.ca.

VOLUNTEERS ARE IMPORTANT AT BARRIE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Barrie Public Library wishes to thank the many volunteers who give generously of their time throughout the year to volunteer with us. Their involvement increases the ability of the Library to make a difference in the Barrie community. We are extremely grateful to have such a dedicated group of workers.

Both the Kozlov Café and the Helen G. Saso Boutique are fundraising efforts operated by conscientious Library volunteers. Our volunteer shelf readers and shelvees are only too pleased to help out with the important, and never-ending, task of shelving books and tidying up. The success of our popular Radical Readers Reading Circle and Homework Help Club is largely attributed to the enthusiastic involvement of volunteer buddies. Volunteers also assist with the delivery of Library materials to those who are not able to visit the Library in person due to age or physical disability. As well, volunteers maintain the fine collection of popular Ontario Genealogical Society material which is housed in the Robert Peacock Lounge here at Barrie Public Library.

If you would like to be a part of these special activities at your Library, please complete a Volunteer Application Form. These are available in the Library, or you may print one from the volunteer page of our Library website at www.library.barrie.on.ca/aboutbpl/volunteer.htm

Any questions? Contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 728-1010 ext. 7005.

VOLUNTEERS CELEBRATE AT RECOGNITION EVENT

On a Sunday afternoon in early December, Barrie Public Library held a Christmas Tea for our volunteers. We are always looking for a way to show appreciation to our volunteers as they do such a fantastic job and commit so much of their time to Library causes. This time, the Angus Ross meeting room in the library was transformed into a winter wonderland with Christmas decorations and other festive preparations. Over fifty volunteers and their guests were welcomed by Library staff. Refreshments were delicious and plentiful, and enjoyed by all. This year, volunteers were invited to participate in our collection of items for the David Busby Street Centre, and many brought items along with them. When it was time to go home, volunteers were each given a Christmas treat, along with a volunteer certificate from the office of our MPP and a Barrie Public Library volunteer pin. We would like to thank the student volunteers, staff and family members who helped make this such a successful event.

Leave your Bookmark in the Story of our Community

In order to do more to meet the needs of our community we need your help.

A Gift that Enriches

A planned gift is a charitable gift that you plan for now, and yet the Library does not receive it until later. A planned gift is a statement of leadership, and of caring for the future of Barrie Public Library and our community. It is a donation which leaves a permanent legacy for generations to come, allowing the Library to continue to meet the ever-growing needs of a vibrant city.

Most often, planned gifts are made in the form of bequests through a will. A bequest to Barrie Public Library will ensure that you leave a lasting legacy to your Library, while not affecting your present assets. You can set aside a specific dollar amount, leave a percentage of your estate, or make a gift from any assets left over after your family has been provided for.

There are also many other options for making a planned charitable gift, such as life insurance or gift annuities. Your trusted financial or legal advisors should be consulted to determine which type of gift meets your best personal needs.

Barrie Public Library would also be pleased to provide you with more information on planned gifts. Please contact the Library's Development Officer at 728-1010 ext: 7040.

Thankyou!

Barrie Public Library wishes to thank recent donors who have generously given to the Library.

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Joyce Bradley

Patricia Roebuck, in memory of Joe McAlpine

Yvonne Wilson, in memory of Joe McAlpine

Cindy Madden, in memory of Joe McAlpine

Melinda Walley, in memory of Joe McAlpine

Ann Andrusyszyn, in memory of Joe McAlpine

Lydia Bojesen, in memory of Joe McAlpine

Glenn Cooper

Marilyn Dennis & Family, in honour of Shirley and Art Clarke

Rossignol Carpentry

Generous In-kind support to Barrie Public Library has included recent gifts from:

Muskoka Transport, for their support of our Santa Claus Parade float

The Simcoe County Master Gardeners, for their gift of time and talents in our Gardening Workshops

Juhan Puhm, in our Reading Circle

Frontier College, books for our

Radical Readers