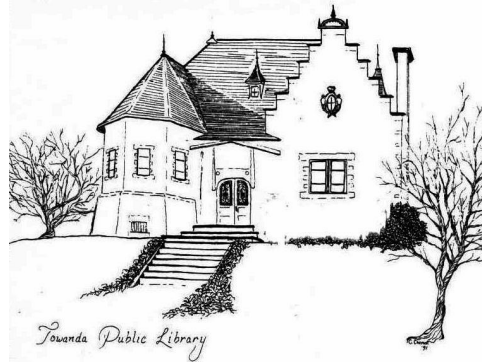


# STEP RIGHT UP



**Hours**  
Monday – Thursday: 10 – 8  
Friday: 10 – 5  
Saturday: 10 – 2  
Sunday: 4 - 7

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## June's Jottings

The Friends of the Library have just wrapped up their annual used book sale and so I would like to take the opportunity to explain why you may have seen or purchased library discards at this annual event. We call the act of culling some books from the library's shelves "weeding". Just as a garden needs to be weeded, so do library shelves.

Why weed? 1. Weeding keeps the library's collection up to date and reliable. Sometimes having no information on a particular subject is better than having old information. For instance, a book that tells parents to give their children aspirin for a fever is a dangerous book to have on the shelf. We now know that children can develop Reyes Syndrome by taking aspirin. These books are generally not sold in the annual used book sale. 2. At some point all libraries would run out of room if they only added books and materials to the shelves and never took any off. Shelf space is a big consideration. 3. Just as the flower garden needs to be tended so that the weeds don't choke out the flowers, library shelves need to be tended so that everyone can find pertinent information. Outdated or worn out materials can choke out the gems of the collection.

When weeding the collection, we look for books with torn pages, water damage, broken spines, and the overall condition. We pay close attention to the content. There may be newer editions, the information or language may be outdated. We also look at how often it is used or circulates. There may also be more than one copy of the same book. Here are some general guidelines that we use for weeding:  
Reference encyclopedias should be no more than 5 years old, circulating copies no more than 7.  
Travel and current affairs should be weeded after 3 to 5 years.  
Price guides for baseball cards, coins, collector's toys, etc. should be weeded after 1 to 2 years. (Prices can change dramatically from year to year).  
Humor is dated after 5 years.

Books on medicine and health should be weeded after 5 years.

Weeding is on-going for computer science, space exploration, sewing and grooming.

So, if you're wondering why that nice book at the book sale was discarded from the library, be assured that we scrutinize those books for condition, content, and usage. Even though we've discarded these items from the library's shelves, doesn't mean they can't have a new life on your shelves. Enjoy!

June Houghtaling, Director

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## Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library have concluded a very successful book sale. They thank all those who contributed books, arranged books and purchased books. The \$1300 that the event cleared will help the Library to make up part of the shortfall in this year's state budgeting for libraries in the entire state, but most personally, for our Library.

The next event on the calendar for the Friends will be the decorating of the Library for the Holiday Season. If this is something you would like to assist with, please leave your name and phone number at the desk.

\* \* \* \* \*

## TRUSTEES

A new piece has been added to the handouts for the Library. A brochure has been developed to make all who are interested aware of who we are, where we are, and how they may tap into our services.

This tri-fold lists the library hours and closings, computer access, services, children's programs and an invitation to become a Friend.

These brochures will be placed in public areas as well as in the Library. Stop in and pick up a copy.

The Trustees thank the Staff for preparing this attractive and informative brochure.

\* \* \* \* \*

## COMPUTER CLASS

Mr. Charles Ormsby will be back at the Library on Thursday, November 11 from 10 AM to 12 Noon to teach a **Basic Computer Class**.

To register for this **FREE** class, sign up at the Desk or call 265-2470.

**Space is limited, so do not delay.**

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## Kid's Korner

The **Storytimes** are going along well our Fall themes are Ladybugs, Fire Safety, Zoo, Library, Halloween, Pigs and Thanksgiving. The eight week sessions will be over November 12, 2004.

The **Children's Book Week** will be November 13<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. Our theme this year will be **Favorite Things**. Our focus is some of the favorite things children enjoy and books we have at the library about these topics. Themes will be animals, pets, stuffed animals, Christmas, games, and Thanksgiving.

New books we have added to the collection:

Books for school age kids about different countries include: Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Serbia, Slovenia, Tibet, Israel, Monaco, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, Italy and Jamaica.

Easy readers will enjoy these titles:

**T is for Terrible,**  
**Dinosaurs Roar,**  
**Throw your tooth on the roof,**  
**Fire, Fire Said Mrs. McQuire,**  
**The Mr. Wiggle series: Mr. Wiggle loves to read, Mr. Wiggle looks for answers, Mr. Wiggle's Book and Mr. Wiggle's Library,**  
**Wild About Books.**

Alice-Rae Clock, children's librarian

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## HELP! HELP!

The Library staff has a very nice metal tool box - but at this point it looks very empty. Would you please check your accumulation of tools and see if there are some you could part with without great anguish. Their request list includes:

A rubber Mallet  
A small pair of pliers  
A pair of vise grips  
Screwdrivers of assorted sizes

One never knows what a book will need!!!!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Towanda Public Library serves a population of 10,839. The service area encompasses 9 townships and boroughs.

The Library is open 54 hours a week including Saturday and Sunday hours.

The Library houses approximately 33,500 items including audio and video.

Nearly 30% of the library's holdings are Children's materials.

8,000 current card holders check out approximately 40,000 items each year.

In 2003 the Library offered 32 "story Hours" for 520 children and their parents.

15 "Times for Twos" were offered for 258 children and their parents.

During Summer Reading Club, 26 meetings were held with 730 attending.

The Conference Room and small study rooms have been used by over 10 different organizations in a year.

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## READING GROUP

The new reading group had its first session on October 27. They shared a lot, were surprised a lot, talked a lot and laughed a lot. It's not that the book was a comedy - it was just fun to discuss "Snow Falling on Cedars" together.

They have set the date for their next session for **Thursday, December 9 from 1 to 3 PM** And their next book is **The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother**.

Readers are welcome to sign up to review any book that interests them. If you want the Library to buy your book for you, you must sign up at the desk in time for the order to be processed and received. If you wish to borrow or share a book, feel free to make your own arrangements - but please sign up for the discussion so that a suitable space may be reserved.

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### watch what you say: actual signage

"Toilet out of order, please use the floor below"

"Automatic Washing Machines: Please remove all your clothes when the light goes off"

"Bargain Basement Upstairs"

"We Exchange Anything - Bicycles, Washing Machines, etc. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain."

"If you cannot read, this leaflet will tell you how to get lessons."