CMPL Foundation’s new website launches this week

By Jo Moore

Although a work still in progress, the newly-formed Clearwater Memorial Public Library (CMPL) Foundation, Inc. plans to launch its new website this week.

It will be a means to let our readers gain more information about upcoming plans for library expansion; as well as news on what is happening at that copper-roofed building on the corner of A Street and Michigan Avenue!

For instance, we would like to make our website user-friendly and interactive. If you are an avid reader, we’d like to know what you are reading, if you belong to a book club already, or if you’d like to form one, as well as what kinds of books you are most interested in.
If you are a teacher, please recommend books to read aloud at home.

We will be publishing a survey by mid-March, in order to help determine the most important needs for our library of the future. We would like to have everyone as involved as possible, so be watching for it.

We hope, through our website, to let readers know what new books have arrived at the library, and which ones have been ordered and will arrive soon, as well as what the staff at CMPL are themselves reading these days.

There is already an established website for CMPL, but we hope to get our readers interested in both, as they will not be identical.

The one for the library publishes a monthly newsletter with its upcoming activities posted, plus its hours, and lots of other very important information telling what is available at the library. This website has been in existence a long time and is very easy to use!

We hope to let our readers know about new goings-on each week that are now available at CMPL.

The website for Orofino’s library: www.orofinolibrary.com

The website for the Clearwater Memorial Public Library (CMPL) Foundation is: www.messy-lunch.flywheelsites.com. You will see our new logo on each page. This new website is just in the formative stages, and will develop as it is used. Send us your ideas!

Forty-nine libraries

Did you know that our library is connected to 49 other libraries, and when you want to search for a book title, if our library in Orofino doesn't have it on its shelves, the title may be found in any one of 49 other libraries across our region? Even better, it can be ordered free of charge and delivered to CMPL here in Orofino.

The only stipulation is that you must have a library card, but the card is free! Just go to the library's front desk and ask for one.

This article was published in the Clearwater Tribune: http://www.clearwatertribune.com/news/community_news/cmpl-foundation-s-new-website-launches-this-week/article_a358d33e-e0a2-11e5-9a74-9770e9391dcc.html

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2016 March Library Newsletter

February

From CMP Library

February 2016 Newsletter

Events This Month

Kids

Storytime Plus – 10:30am - Ages 0-7 years

- Groundhogs – February 3rd
- Valentine's – February 10th
- Ready, Set, Go! – February 17th
- Pirates – February 24th

Adults

CMPL Board Meeting – February 1st @ 4:15 in Annex
Friends of the Library Meeting – February 3rd @ 9:00am in Annex
Brookside Bibliophiles – February 9th @ 11:00
CCFLD Meeting – February 9th @ 5:00 in Annex
Orofino Library Book Group – February 29th @ 6:30pm @ the Library

- Book list available at the circulation desk
- 2nd book: All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

Special Information

Bidding Auction on items for sale @ the Library until February 6th

- Item List & Bid Slips @ circ desk. Item viewing by appointment.

Library CLOSED – February 15th for President's Day
"We Love our Patrons" Drawing – February 29th for Adults 19 & up

- Enter drawing once a day until February 29th for a Gift Card

Tech Classes in March! Thursdays & Fridays @ 2:00-4:00pm. One on One training.

- Sign up in February. Sign-up sheet @ circulation desk. Your choice of class topic! February classes start February 4th

Fines for Food Bank – For every $1 or less of fines on your account, bring in a can of food for the food bank and we will remove your fines.
CMPL now has an Adult Coloring Table

- Sophisticated & intricate Adult coloring books.
- Finish a page, put your name on the top, get your page when the book is finished

Areas of Interest

CMPL has free books, magazines & more in our front foyer, come discover your special treasure!

Enjoy our wireless access both indoors and outdoors!

If you no longer want to receive this service please reply to:
orofinolibrary@orofino-id.com







http://orofinolibrary.com/newsletter.html

Orofino library expansion overdue

By Jo Moore

Last week's splendid article featuring Ellen Tomlinson's tenure as CMPL Director elicited many responses, such as, "I didn't know our library does all that!"

It is true that in the six or so years since Ellen took over as Director, so many advances were made that the library has certainly outgrown the space it needs to accommodate the expanded and new many services that are provided.

When Chris Ashby, former director until 2009, commented to our citizens that the library "must be continually supported by the community and nurtured like a good garden," he alluded to the fact that times were changing, and like a good garden must be tended, so must the library.

With programs expanding the need for more "people space" has become a reality. The Board of Trustees in its study has determined that library expansion is overdue, and plans are now being made to create more physical space for its patrons in the near future.
A survey is in the works for the community to have an opportunity to decide what is most needed to make our library the "go-to" place for information, education, recreation, or entertainment.

A good library is more than just books anymore! This survey will help the Board of Trustees determine how to meet community needs and desires.

The activities of the new CMPL "Friends" since 2009 have been able to raise over $25,000 with their annual summer fundraisers and semi-annual book sales.

These monies have gone toward many improvements for the library, some of which were mentioned by Ellen in her interview last week.

However, it has become clear that a much bigger effort must be made in order to keep up with the times, hence the need for a non-profit foundation, which can hopefully accomplish bigger goals. The active support of the community of Clearwater County will be essential to meeting these bigger goals of expansion.

Ways to be involved and show support will be, first, to participate in the survey

when it is published; second, to indicate your desire to help on the survey form, and/or join the membership of the CMPL Friends, or of the new CMPL Foundation, Inc., which will be seeking members soon, under the direction of Jo Moore and her Board.

This article was published in the Clearwater Tribune: http://www.clearwatertribune.com/news/community_news/orofino-library-expansion-overdue/article_9becceda-db1a-11e5-a744-b32ab192d7b4.html

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February 2016 Library Newsletter



From CMP Library

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Farewell to another excellent librarian



By Jo Moore

In 2009 Ellen Tomlinson took over the reins of the Clearwater Memorial Public Library (CMPL), succeeding Chris Ashby.

Ellen's tenure has been almost exactly the same length as that of Chris: six and a half years. During Ellen's time as director, a whirlwind of modern developments and improvements have taken place, and Ellen has always been at the helm.

From her stint as assistant director and then director, Ellen oversaw the reorganization of the Friends of the Library, who have become a leading force in raising funds for library improvement.

E-Audio books became a reality through VALNet, and an email newsletter was developed by Ellen. The Annex was spiffed up and became a combination meeting room, lunch room for library staff, and most importantly the RIF (Reading is Fundamental) Distribution Center.

The library was nominated for a rural library fund award and received $18,000 worth of books for CMPL. In 2010 Ellen was awarded RIF Ambassador for Idaho.

From 2010, under Ellen's guidance, the library has accomplished a lot of

maintenance and improvements, with the help of the Friends' fundraisers.

The library also acquired a new telephone system, then joined the State of Idaho BTOP grants, which allowed high speed, wireless internet 24/7 for library and patron use.

This grant updated the library's computers and added more, and epads and e-books for training were also provided. The library has continued to advance in its technology, and has now in its possession over 38,000 items for loan or use.

Being a member of ValNet with 49 other libraries as members provides an addition 664,000 items available to our patrons.

In 2009, when Chris Ashby retired, he directed some important comments to our local citizens, and I quote:

> *I wish to direct my comments to you, the citizens of Orofino and Clearwater County. I have been around libraries all my life and professionally so for the last 36 years. Thus said I want to impress upon you the worth of your local library.*
>
> *Clearwater Memorial Public Library is one of the best small town libraries that I have seen…and I have seen a lot. It is definitely a library that its community can be proud of. But if it is to remain so it must not be taken for granted. It must be continually supported by the community and cultivated and nurtured like a good garden.*
>
> *In this time of economic uncertainty the local library must not be allowed to become a whipping boy…because if Peter is robbed to pay Paul he won't be giving it back anytime soon." (Clearwater Tribune, July 23, 2009).*

Chris would be proud to know that the two properties adjacent to the library have been acquired by the CMPL Board of Trustees with the aim toward expansion.

The Board consists of Margaret Cook and Jo Sharrai, co-chairs; and Lynn Card, Tammy Gilmer, and Betty Burnham.

The library is seriously cramped in space and needs to provide more services. Studies are being undertaken to see how best this expansion can take place, and how the community can help. Please watch for further news on this front!

Clearwater Memorial Public Library is one of the best small town libraries that I have seen…and I have seen a lot.
– Chris Ashby, past director

This article was published in the Clearwater Tribune February 17, 2016
http://www.clearwatertribune.com/news/community_news/farewell-to-another-excellent-librarian/article_ce35d784-d592-11e5-9f2e-c3717f11abd4.html

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Service is Our Middle Name



Ellen Tomlinson
Ellen Tomlinson, retiring director of Clearwater Memorial Public Library, is holding a book about guns that was recently replaced for the third time, because the book is so popular. This has led to the book being moved to reference, which means patrons can no longer check it out. They can, however, come in and look at it all day.

By Andrea Dell

Every so often, you meet someone who is so passionate about something, you can't help but get swept up as you listen to them talk about it.

Such was the case last week when I interviewed Ellen Tomlinson, current Director of Clearwater Memorial Public Library in Orofino.

Just a few minutes into the interview, her love of and pride in the library was obvious. “I could probably talk for 12 days just about the library and the stuff they’re doing,” she remarked at one point.

Ellen has been the Orofino library’s director since August of 2009. Her last day as its director is Feb. 29. I’m sure many will be sad to see her go.

“The reason I’m retiring is not because I don’t love the library,” she explained.

Ellen’s reason for retiring is probably not what you’d expect. “It’s just time, I think, for new blood, and new people with new ideas,” she says. “I have looked back at previous directors, and everybody brings something.”

Ellen and her husband, Norm, moved to Clearwater County in the early 1970s. They were fresh out of college from the University of Idaho in Moscow. Norm was employed by Potlatch (and later, C-PTPA), so they first ended up in Headquarters. After that, it was Pierce.

Ellen taught kindergarten and pre-school. Not long after moving to Headquarters, she began driving all the way to Orofino to visit its library. By 1977, she and Norm had moved to Orofino, and Ellen continued teaching kindergarten and pre-school. Her sons, Jonathan and Benjamin, were born in Orofino, and attended Orofino schools. Jonathan now works for Boeing, and Benjamin is an architect.

The first person Ellen met in Orofino was Ginger Rowland (who, 40 years later, is still involved in the library, and has seen 16 directors come and go).

Ellen applied for a position at the library in 2002, after retiring from teaching. “I’ve always wanted to work in the library. I love books. I was a voracious reader, so I had a knowledge of books,” Ellen says. She described working at the library as one of her “dream jobs.”

She began as a substitute, and hadn’t been there long when the library lost several staff members. At that point she was asked to join the staff as a library assistant. It wasn’t long before she was named the children’s librarian. Given her career in teaching, it was a natural fit.

Chris Ashby was the library’s director at that time. After Ellen became children’s librarian, he appointed her assistant director. When he got close to retirement in 2009, he approached her and asked her to be the next director.

Ellen's response? "I'll have to think about it." That same year, she accepted the position.

Changes

Ellen has witnessed a lot of change within the library since first joining.

When she started, "cubbies" for the computers had just been added. The library had only three computers, initially. Since then, the number of computers has tripled (as has the number of people coming into the library).

In 2002, computers were common in businesses and offices, but not everyone had one in their home. Nowadays, almost everyone has a computer—if you have a smartphone, you have a computer.

This inspired one of the library's most popular offerings: Free public Wi-Fi. Even people who don't have a library card can go to the library and hook up to the Wi-Fi with their own device.

"We're indiscriminate. We want people to use it, because we got it through a grant, and we want to share our good fortune," Ellen says.

The Wi-Fi is so popular that you can drive by the library at some pretty strange hours and see people standing around using the library's WiFi, which is on 24/7.

"Sometimes they're just sitting out in their car, with the car running and the movie streaming," she says.

If you don't have a smartphone, tablet, or laptop, the library's computers are available.

More than books

Clearwater Memorial Public Library is in a district. This means you don't have to live within Orofino city limits to be a patron.

You do have to live in Clearwater County, and if you do, you are considered a library patron, and can obtain a library card. The first one is free, and if you ever need a replacement, they are just $1.

The library is funded by patrons, so library staff work to give back, and to make

coming to the library a joy for patrons.

Patrons get access to a whole host of services. I could fill up a whole newspaper page describing everything. Here are a few of the highlights:

In addition to books—and plenty of them—Orofino's library has DVDs, newspapers, magazines, one on one computer and device classes, audio books, children's and young adults' sections, and so much more.

They even "purge" books that haven't been checked out in three years, and leave them in the foyer for anyone who wants them.

Library patrons may use the library's Ancestry.com account, free. You do have to be using the library's Wi-Fi in order to access it, but you can do on your own device.

Library computers are available for an hour at a time. These computers "clear" at the end of every day, so that anything you typed will be erased. They also have profanity filters in place, as required by state law.

The library offers a free online book check-out service called Overdrive. You can check a book out online and keep it for three weeks, stored on your device or computer. (It self-deletes after three weeks.)

Because the library is part of VALNet, you also have access to 49 other libraries. If Orofino's library doesn't have something you want, odds are one of the others do, and you can have it delivered to Orofino in a week or less. You can also check a book out at one VALNet library, and drop it off at another when you're done with it.

You may recall hearing about the summer reading program. Under Ellen's guidance it's become enormously popular, with anywhere from 80 to 150 children enjoying it each summer. There's an adult version, too.

If you need to take an online test, the library can set you up somewhere quiet. And if you're taking online classes, the library can proctor for you. Again, it's free.

Patrons and visitors

Ellen shared several entertaining anecdotes about experiences with patrons and

visitors, and even stories about Orofino's rampant deer population.

She says she'll often talk to members of community groups about the library, and inevitably someone ends up asking, "The library does that?" It's a common refrain from patrons, too.

Summertime brings a lot of visitors from other countries, because they know they can check their email. Ellen mentioned a French couple who visits Orofino, because he likes to fish and she likes to hike. A lot of Swedes show up as well.

Ellen says these visitors have learned that the U.S. has a lot of free, public WiFi, and that one of the first places to look is the library.

She told me that someone will come in and tell library staff that there's a book they just love, and it's their favorite, and they'd like to read it. But, they can't remember the title or the characters' names.

Staff are often able to figure out which book is sought, by asking about the plot, and for other details. Occasionally they will hand the "favorite" book to the patron who requested it, and the person still doesn't recognize it, until they open it and read a page or two.

The local deer may be smarter than we give them credit for. Ellen tells her staff to ignore the flowers they plant, and also not to carry any around. She says if the deer see someone bending down to smell the flowers, or see someone carrying them around, they figure out something tasty is there.

Ellen orders new books every week, and about 20 percent of these are replacements. "We all know that water and books are not a good combination," she says, "but we often find that they meet. Not in a good way."

Books being chewed up by animals is another common cause of destruction. Books will be left on the floor or someplace low, and when they're found again, there might be some damage to the corners, or half the book might be eaten.

Lost and misplaced books aren't uncommon. Ellen says library staff try to give people an opportunity to locate the book, especially during the summer. Oftentimes people have left the book in their camper. Sometimes it ends up in places like the children's toy box, or under the bed.

The library's future

Library staff are constantly looking for ways to improve and add to the library's services. They welcome suggestions from patrons.

"We love our patrons. We want them to enjoy and feel that their library is a vital, changing, friendly, happy atmosphere," Ellen explained. "I want the library to be a place that people say, 'Let's just go to the library! They'll know.'"

Her first year she was children's librarian, she was standing at the circulation desk. It was near closing time. A gentleman walked by with his child, who was probably about eight.

Ellen says this man "just turned to me and said, 'what are all the continents?' He wanted the names of all the continents."

She rattled through the ones she could remember, and the man said, "Antarctica! That's the one we forgot!" Then, he turned to his child and said, "And so that's why we come to the library." And Ellen thought, "Hoo-rah!"

In the future, Ellen sees the library "as being more of a community center," a social hub. She added that, because people today are used to getting instant answers (thanks to information readily available online), library staff will need to adapt to provide answers this way.

Several imminent changes are in the works, too. The library has acquired the two houses next to it, and plans to absorb the nearest one to provide more body space. Ellen told me that, at last year's summer reading party, 160 people managed to cram into the library.

The house of the two that is farther away from the library will be torn down to make room for more parking.

The VALNet Board of Directors recently decided to add the music programming called Freegal. I checked it out at freegal.com, and it seems Freegal streams movies as well.

Library patrons will be able to download a few songs once a week, as well as stream music. Because Orofino's library is part of VALNet, patrons will soon get to enjoy this benefit, for free.

Help from the community

Friends of the Library has been an enormous help, Ellen says. They hold fundraisers every year, and have used funds from those to: put up the library's landscaping; have the tree in the library's front lawn removed; buy the library a new copy machine; and even get some new windows put in. All this has saved thousands of dollars of the library's budget.

Ellen spoke very highly of the Friends during our interview; and about the generosity of Orofino in general. The library sends out letters looking for summer reading sponsors, and Orofino never fails to deliver. It was clear she loves living here, and loves the people.

And she's confident that her replacement, whoever it is, will do a fantastic job. "I just know that the next person is going to be great, too," she says.

In her retirement, Ellen looks forward to spontaneity. Gardening, and reading until her eyes bleed, are two of her favorite pastimes, and she is excited to do more of both. (As library director, most of the reading she does is book reviews.)

The library is hosting a farewell party for Ellen next Friday, Feb. 26, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop in and wish her all the best, and thank her for all she has helped bring to Clearwater Memorial Public Library.

Lastly, no matter where you live, drop by your local library and see what they have to offer. Odds are they've got something going on that will make your day.

This article was posted in the Clearwater Tribune February 17, 2016
http://www.clearwatertribune.com/news/top_stories/service-is-our-middle-name/article_c7eedfb6-d596-11e5-8c16-ab92bdff110b.html

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Some Great Read Aloud Books for

Children



Most of these books are available through Valnet at our library, some in audio as well as book form.

- The Wingfeather Saga by Andrew Peterson
- The Wilderking trilogy by Jonathan Rogers
- Guardians of Ga’hoole series by Kathryn Lasky
- Chronicles of Narnia by C. S. Lewis
- Sticks Across the Chimney by Nora Burglon
- Red Sails to Capri by Ann Weil
- Owls in the Family by Farley Mowat
- The Wheel on the School by Meindert DeJong
- Understood Betsy by Dorothy Canfield Fisher
- Old Yeller by Fred Gipson
- Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls
- Summer of the Monkeys by Wilson Rawls

Library Lines for the week of Nov. 19, 2015

By Jo Moore



This is the Britan house in the early years. It would eventually become the “new” library. Note the railroad tracks!

As Clearwater Memorial Public Library (CMPL) moved into the 21st century its purpose and motivation moved more towards involvement of the public, emphasis on computer education, reading discussion groups, and exciting summer reading programs.

It was forward-looking thinkers and librarians like Peggy Flowers, Pam McBride, and Chris Ashby who could see the coming importance of technology melding with the quest for good reading, research, and information.



W.T. and Mrs. Bennell, pictured here in 1945, were the first owners of this home at 402 Michigan Avenue, where the Clearwater Memorial Public Library would eventually be built. The house was built and first occupied in 1909.

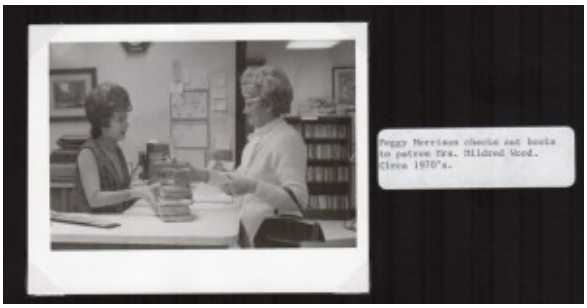
From gardening clubs to Arbor Day celebrations, visits by local authors and the popularity of book discussion groups, to partnering of Clearwater Valley Hospital and Clinics (CVHC) with Clearwater Memorial Public Library (CMPL) to provide access to medical technology and research via computer to the public, all have helped move this community forward.



Depicted here is the Clearwater Memorial Library's 1965 expansion

plan.

Through all of this, certain names and organizations have continued to stand out in support, such as volunteer Boards of Library Trustees, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) who organized book discussion groups and started the annual affair known as the Patchwork Bazaar, and Friends of the Library, now known as the CMPL Friends.



Peggy Morrison checks out books to library patron, Mrs. Mildred Woods, in the 1970's. "Did we really wear our hair like that? Yes, we did!" says Jo Moore.

Next week we hope to spotlight the group of Jaycees (now long-disappeared) and its leaders who did so much to help make the library expansion of 1965 a reality, and to recognize those who are now working hard to enable much-needed expansion of the present library facilities.

Library Lines for the week of Nov. 12, 2015

Last week I mentioned that I wanted to share with your readers some of the names that appeared repeatedly over the fifty-plus years that the library was growing and bursting at its seams.



This group of dedicated citizens and groups reflect dedication and loyalty to their community that has endured down to today. The scrapbooks kept by the librarians over the years are filled with the fundraising projects, trials, and successes which many civic organizations, businesses, and individuals were involved in.

Organizations include: American Legion Auxiliary, American Association of University Women (AAUW,) Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW,) Jaycees and Jay-Ceetes (more about them later!) Kiwanians, Friends of the Library, CMPL Library Friends.

Family names which have stood up and out for the library include:

First Board of Trustees and members: Emory and Nancy Noble, Agnes and Dinty Oud, Nancy Oud, Nina Mae Jewell, Wallace Webster, Warren (J.B.) Gardner, Sam and Zoe Swayne.

Book Donators and Board Members: Bud Van Allen, labor; donators: Mrs. kachelmier, Stella Weeks.

Board Members: Helen Conard, Barbara Fridley, Frank Gaffney, Charles Johnson, Carroll and Lois Brock, Jerry Smith, R.J. Hayes, B.T. Wilson, Carol Ross, Molly Chase, Nancy Oud, Ruth Pearce (the first librarian!) and Eunice Merrill.

Volunteers who helped catalogue donated books included: Mrs. R. D. Werner, Mrs. T. M. Walrath , Mrs. Ruth Gilmore, Mrs. Edwin Oppliger, Farrol Joan Walrath, Carol LeeRoss, and Carol Amsbaugh.

Board and members from the 1960’s and 70’s included: Bill Crutcher (Chairman of the Board) Carroll Brock, Mrs. John Kunz, Vance Dobson, Mrs. June (Charles) Collister, Mrs. Aretha (Lee) Chilton, Mrs. Alice (Frank) Frost, Mrs. Betty Kitchen, Shirley Marsh, Casey Beghtol, Darlene Newland, Marvin Riley, Nancy McNichols, Joe Brown, Elizabeth Kouffer, Leonard Hawking, Jane Luebeck, and Everett Hollibaugh.

Supporters with donations and time: Jerry and Phyllis McArthur, Lee Simmons, Bernie Glaus, Jack Fagen, John Crockett, N.W. Pruitt, Arthur Una, Mrs. Lloyd Richardson, Robert Beal, Peter Swantek, Mrs. A. B. Pappenhagen, Mrs. Bertha Johnson, Mrs. Frank Randall, Mrs. Ket Hanson, Rod Newland.

Members of Jaycees: Darold Harris, Earl Pickett, Alex Irby, Chris Waldrip, Jim Burnham, Frank Howde, Ron Doucette, Bill Petsak, Mike Reeb, Bud Lias, Bud Lias, Jerry Franc, John Leasure.

Trustees from the 1980's and private donations:

Moe Paré, Suzanne Calhoun, Librarian, Joe Lientz, Bertha Lough, Larry Sharrai, Dory Lee Engle, Jack Fleming, Charring Barton, Jane Luebeck Smith, Jim Hawking, Gail Crockett, Chloe Bachorech, Cecil Aldrich, Diana Colgan, Kitty Geidl, Connie Walters, Harriet Reece, Diana Hull, Mary Lou Cummings, Robert Spencer, John Swayne, Carol Dugger, Peggy Flowers, and Joan Knowles.

And the list goes on. How many names are familiar or family to you? Many of these names appeared over and over through the years, and I'm sure that there are many stories that could be told about the work done together and the good times they had. There's more history to come, we've just covered up to the 1980's!

Next week I hope to trace back to the now defunct Jaycees who were very instrumental in accomplishing the expansion of 50 years ago. Perhaps we can re-create some of their spirit!

Jo Moore, Ahsahka

Photos of CMPL



Checking out a book with Emylie



Audio book choices



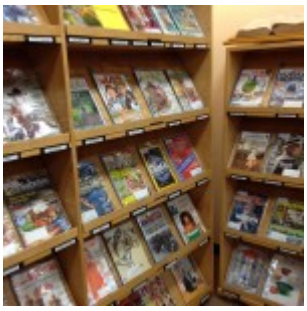
A real pencil sharpener



The copy machine



One of the three computer stations



Magazines



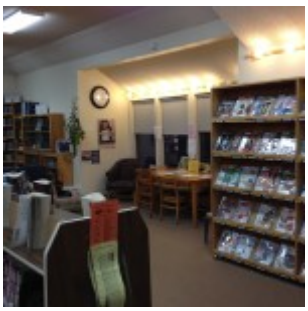
Share how you feel



A quiet game of checkers



Local information



Window seat and table



Beautiful wall display



Movies



Junior Non-Fiction section



Junior fiction



More junior fiction



Anne of Green Gables! Of course!



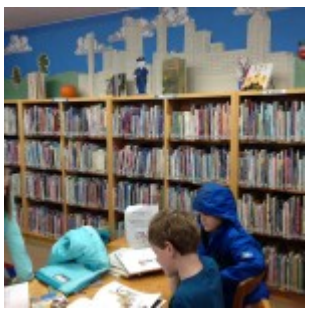
Kids games



Junior audio books



Junior graphic novels – including Star Wars!

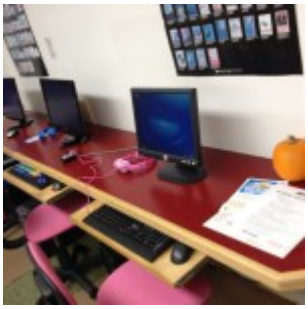


Kids reading to kids



Junior non-fiction

section – decorated Harry Potter-esque



Kids computer stations



Corner view of the library



Front door



Front garden



Front lawn



Clearwater Memorial Library building sign



Front bench and book drop



Carved wooden sign



Winter berries



Back building



Sidewalk out back



Back sidewalk and landscaping



Back entrance



Lavendar