

**Lester Public Library
Director's Report
November 2023**

News

- LPL was recently informed that Proquest would no longer be digitizing the HTR. Instead, the content was supposed to be available in a new database. However, when Chris Hamburg trialed the database, large gaps were immediately noticeable in the promised coverage. After discussing the matter with Proquest, it was determined that LPL owned a great deal of microfilm from the missing years. Newspapers.com's content acquisition team, who partner with Proquest and Gannett to digitize their network archives, was thrilled to work with LPL to gain the missing years of the HTR and additionally requested old Manitowoc and Two Rivers newspapers that preceded the HTR. Since we had been looking for a solution to digitize the Two Rivers Chronicle and Two Rivers Reporter for quite some time this was excellent news. Newspapers.com will cover all digitization and hosting costs, and provide LPL with a portal access for free in-house access to the digitized images that come from our content, as long as the content remains online in any format. (Basically forever.)

Here's what we are offering:

The Herald Times Reporter: 1985 – 1998

The Chronicle: Jan 2, 1900 - Apr 13, 1927

The Manitowoc County Chronicle: May 14, 1872 - Dec 26, 1899

LPL identifies the paper on the microfilm boxes only as the Two Rivers Reporter but it's probably a combination of the Reporter/TR Reporter/Reporter-Chronicle/TR Reporters & Chronicle from Jan 6, 1906 - July 24, 1967

Microfilm will be shipped to their facility for approximately 6 weeks for filming.

- There were two donations to the Lester Public Library in November - \$5,000 donation to cover 2024 summer reading expenses and \$10,000 donation to cover costs for our ongoing to go packs. The donations were from two different foundations that are members of the Lakeshore Community Foundation and the checks were fed through the Lester Public Library Foundation. The library put in an appeal for funding to Rachel Wiegert, Chief Executive Officer of the Lakeshore Community Foundation. Response was very quick and the funding is especially important for 2024, where the library saw budget cuts in collections and programming.
- Met with John Wyrostek, Friends of Point Beach State Park Board, about partnering for programming beginning in 2024 on the Shipwreck Coast here at the library.

Library Foundation – No Report

Library Legislation

On November 28, 2023, there was a public hearing on Senate Bill 598 (also for SB 597 with similar language for school libraries):

The two bills SB598 and SB597 would require public and school libraries to develop and implement a policy under which the custodial parent or guardian of a child who is under the age of 16 is notified of each document or material the child checks out from a public library as soon as is practicable, but no later than 24 hours after the checkout. Click on the bill numbers to access complete information about each bill.

2023 Senate BILL 598

October 30, 2023 - Introduced by Senators QUINN, NASS and TOMCZYK, cosponsored by Representatives DITTRICH, O'CONNOR, MAGNAFICI, MICHALSKI, GUNDRUM, PENTERMAN, ALLEN, GOEBEN, WICHGERS and ROZAR. Referred to Committee on Mental Health, Substance Abuse Prevention, Children and Families.

1AN ACT **to renumber** 43.30 (4); and **to create** 43.30 (4) (b) of the statutes;
2relating to: parental notification related to public library materials.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires public libraries to develop and implement a policy under which the custodial parent or guardian of a child who is under the age of 16 is notified of each document or material the child checks out from a public library as soon as is practicable, but no later than 24 hours after the checkout. The bill requires the library to post notice of the library's notification policy in a prominent place in the library and on the library's website, if any. Under current law, subject to various exceptions, library records that identify who borrows or uses a library material may not be disclosed. One of the exceptions is for custodial parents or guardians of children who are under the age of 16. Specifically, current law requires that a library supported by public funds disclose to the custodial parent or guardian of a child who is under the age of 16 all library records relating to the use of the library's documents or other materials, resources, or services by the child, but only upon request of the custodial parent or guardian.

For further information see the local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1SECTION 1. 43.30 (4) of the statutes is renumbered 43.30 (4) (a).

2SECTION 2. 43.30 (4) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

3 43.30 **(4)** (b) A library supported in whole or part by public funds shall develop
4and implement a policy under which the library notifies a custodial parent or
5guardian of a child who is under the age of 16 of each document or material, in any
6format, that the child borrows from the library as soon as practicable, but no later

7than 24 hours after the child borrows the document or material from the library. The
8library shall post a notice of the library's notification policy under this paragraph in
9a prominent place in the library and on the library's website, if any.
10 (End)

More info to follow as we receive it. It is expected these will be "messaging" bills and will not progress through the process of becoming law.

Activities

11/01/23 – City of Two Rivers Room Tax Commission Meeting
11/01/23 – City of Two Rivers Department Heads Meeting
11/02/23 – Introduced Environmental Advisory Board Presentation, ‘Creating Fun & Resilient Parks’
11/06/23 – Two Rivers City Council Meeting
11/09/23 – City of Two Rivers Safety Committee Meeting
11/09/23 – Met with Stanley Palmer, President, Lester Public Library Board of Trustees
11/14/23 – Explore Two Rivers Board Meeting
11/14/23 – Two Rivers Room Tax Commission Meeting
11/14/23 – Lester Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
11/15/23 – Lester Public Library All Staff Meeting
11/15/23 – City of Two Rivers Department Heads Meeting
11/15/23 – Introduced Scholar for Life Program, ‘Creativity and Resiliency’
11/16/23 – Open Enrollment Meeting, City Health Benefits, City Hall
11/20/23 – Met with John Wyrostek, Friends of Point Beach State Park Board
11/20/23 – Help Desk Shift
11/20/23 – Two Rivers City Council Meeting
11/21/23 – Help Desk Shift
11/27/23 – Two Rivers City Council Work Session, Public Hearing on the Proposed 2024 City Budget
11/29/23 – City of Two Rivers Department Heads Meeting
11/29/23 – Manitowoc Calumet Library System Board Meeting
11/30/23 – City of Two Rivers Room Tax Commission Meeting
11/30/23 – Explore Two Rivers Board, Marketing Committee Meeting

Jeff Dawson, Director, Lester Public Library 12/1/2023