LIBRARY BOND ISSUE ON APRIL BALLOT

At their January 11 meeting the Board of Trustees passed the legal ordinances required to place a bond proposition on the April 6 ballot. If it passes, the referendum will allow the Library District to issue $1,200,000 in bonds for the purpose of building, equipping, and furnishing a new library facility.

The library’s application for a construction grant was approved and $1,258,862.94 of grant funds are earmarked for our project. However, those funds will only be awarded if we can prove that we have secured our local cost share of just over $1.2 million by June 30, 2021. Otherwise, we must forfeit the grant funding. If voters pass the bond issue, the grant funding will be secured, and the new facility will be built.

The community has shown their support with monetary donations and fundraising will continue. If a significant portion of the needed funds are acquired prior to issuing the bonds, the Library can reduce the amount of bonds sold.

If the full $1.2 million in bonds are issued, property tax rates will increase about 9.27 cents per $100 of assessed value. For a house with a market value of $100,000 the cost would be about $25.34 per year. More detailed tax impact estimates and a calculation form will be posted on a new page of the library’s website: https://www.carthagepubliclibrary.com/bond-proposition.html, along with additional information.

If the bond issue fails and the Library is unable to raise the local cost share, the grant funding will not be received and the new library will not be build. The Library would continue to operate in the current facility, spending funds for ongoing maintenance and needed repairs. The Library would then need to raise over $1.2 million to renovate the current building and bring it up to code with a new elevator and additional stairway, or raise the full $2.5 million to build a new library at a future date.

Informational Meetings:

Opportunities for the public to ask questions
Thurs., Feb. 11, 4:00 pm, Fortress Bank meeting room
Tues., March 9, 6:00 pm, First Baptist Church multipurpose room.

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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROGRESS
Fundraising Progress as of 1-6-2021
$ 36,000 Donation of land
470 Giving Tuesday
44,560 Bricks, pavers, donations
3,080 Raffle
$ 84,110

Thank you to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket. We sold 177 tickets for $3080. The winning ticket number 0370 belonged to Andy Klein who generously donated the $308 prize back to the Library.

Honor a family member or loved one with an engraved brick or paver.

| $ 100 - $ 249 | 8” x 4” clay Brick |
| $ 250 - $ 499 | 8” x 8” Clay Paver |
| $ 500 - $ 999 | 8” x 4” Grey Granite Brick |
| $1,000 - $2,499 | 8” x 8” Grey Granite Paver |
| $2,500 - $4,999 | 12” x 12” Grey Granite Paver |
| $5,000 - $9,999 | 16” x 16” Grey Granite Paver |

Major Donor Recognition Levels

| $ 10,000 | Bronze level |
| $ 15,000 | Silver level |
| $ 25,000 | Gold level |
| $ 50,000 | Name a Study Room (2) |
| $ 100,000 | Name the meeting room |
| $1,000,000 | Name the new building |

Checks may be made to the Carthage District Library Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charity, and mailed to 500 Wabash Ave., Carthage, IL 62321.

Credit card and Paypal donations may be made on the Foundation’s webpage: https://www.carthagepubliclibrary.com/library-foundation.html
For February Kick off your love of books! Here at the library we want to hear what books you love and think everyone should read. There will be a space at the library to write your suggestion, message us on Facebook or comment on our Facebook posts.

**Take and Makes for All Ages**

**Pre-K:** Weekly take home preschool story hour ideas include all materials to make a craft. Valentine’s week we will make window decorations!

**Kindergarten-4th grade:** No Sew Heart Pillow Ornaments

**5th grade-Adults:** Option 1: Bookmarks - Create a valentines Day themed bookmark.

Option 2: Valentine Décor kit.

*Sign up in advance at the library. Materials available February 10th!*

**Craft show and tell.** We will be having a craft time show and tell Monday, February 22nd at noon and 5pm. We would love to see your valentines crafts and any other crafty projects you happen to be working on. Zoom info is as follows! Join Zoom Meeting [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76501648694?pwd=VmpkUWhKS040dkNIbFVyNkxaWmgvZz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76501648694?pwd=VmpkUWhKS040dkNIbFVyNkxaWmgvZz09) Meeting ID: 765 0164 8694 Passcode: CRAFTS!

**State Wide Reading Programs.** Voting for the Monarch, Bluestem, Rebecca Caudill, and Abe Lincoln books begins in February. If your child is homeschooled you can vote at the library. Otherwise the library is working with the school to make sure all children who read the required amount of books get to vote for their favorites in the coming weeks. Remember if you read more than 10 of the books you get a prize! There is still time to read the books!

**READING PROGRAMS 2021, PICK YOUR CHALLENGE!**

Reading challenges will be done a bit differently this year with three options! Open to all ages!

**Option 1: Read Your way 2021!** You will receive a large list of different themes and other reading ideas. Select one topic each month and read a book that fits the theme you selected.

**Option 2: Animals 2021!** This year’s summer reading theme is “Tails and Tales.” Tying in with that this reading program focuses on animals for 2021. Read a book with an animal theme, an animal as a main character, about animals, or that has an animal on the cover.

**Option 3: The “family” reading challenge.** Requires an adult and a child to participate. This program encourages you to talk about reading and other interests in your family. The adult and child do not need to live in the same household to participate nor do they need to be related. One adult can sign up with more than one child. There will be a theme each month. The adult and child each need to read a book that fits the theme, but they will probably not be reading the same book.

Any month that you read a book that fits your reading program’s theme you may enter the quarterly prize drawing. ($20 prize) If you are able only to participate some months that’s ok! You can sign up for more than one program. Contact the library with any questions.

**Book Club:** Book club meets February 18th at 12:00pm, and 6:00pm. There is a zoom option for both times and we will be meeting in person. The book this month is “What She Knew” by Gilly MacMillan. The book is a thriller and mystery. Anyone is welcome to join book club. Contact the library so we can get you a book. The zoom information is as follows. Join Zoom Meeting [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72421796959?pwd=bXJOanVKRGs0SGRWOWI2bFgxQlllUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72421796959?pwd=bXJOanVKRGs0SGRWOWI2bFgxQlllUT09) Meeting ID: 724 2179 6959 Passcode: BOOKS.