
THE LIBRARY PAGE

Demmer Memorial Library, Three Lakes, Wisconsin 54562



Connecting people to the TRANSFORMATIVE power of knowledge by providing opportunities to explore, learn, create, and share.

Dear Patrons,

As we step into December, I want to extend warm holiday wishes to all our patrons. This is always a special time at the library, and we're excited to share several festive offerings to brighten the season.

We're especially thrilled to launch a brand-new event: the Christmas Light Viewing Shuttle. Hop aboard for a guided ride through some of the area's most festive displays—no driving required. It's a fun and relaxing way to enjoy the holidays with family, friends, and neighbors.

Inside the library, don't miss Santa's Secret Workshop, our gift-wrapping station with all supplies provided. Swing by to wrap your presents in a cheerful, stress-free space.

And to finish out the month, join us for gingerbread house building during the last week of December—a cozy, creative activity for all ages.

Thank you for being part of our library community. We look forward to celebrating the season with you!

—Jill, Library Director

HOURS

MON/WED 9AM-7PM

TUES/THURS/FRI 9AM-5PM

SAT 9AM-2PM

CONTACT

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www.demmerlibrary.org

demmer@demmerlibrary.org

Three Lakes Genealogical Society



Every Thursday from 2-4 p.m., in the Local History Room within the library, there is a TLGS member present to help anyone with investigating their family history. Everyone is welcome to come in and have a little one-on-one time with someone who could help. No scheduling required.

TLGS website: www.3lgs.org

TLGS email: familyhistory@demmer.org

We Are Three Lakes: <http://3lgs.org/TNG/index.php>

Three Lake Public Library Foundation



The Three Lakes Public Library Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)3 corporation. The organization is governed by a board of directors comprised of volunteers dedicated to helping the community through the improvement of the library.

What we do:

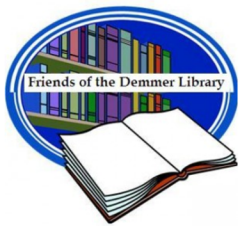
- Initiates funding and endowment opportunities
- Identifies and funds special projects and services
- Inspires community interest and involvement



Purpose

The Foundation selectively supports positive, high quality activities such as adult and children's learning programs, public access computer hardware and software, special collections, library furnishings and continuing education for library staff.

Want to donate? Scan the QR code!



Friends of the Demmer Library

The Friends of the Demmer Library are looking for members to serve on their board. Letters of Interest should be dropped off at the Demmer Library c/o Friends.

The Friends of the Demmer Library is a volunteer organization that wants to promote knowledge & use of the library.

Our used book sale fund-raiser events are used to purchase needed equipment, materials, and support programs for the library.



BOOK BITES



More books, more bites!





Monthly Writing Group

TWO MEETINGS THIS MONTH!

Thursday, December 4th @ 1:00pm

Thursday, December 18th @ 1:00pm

Demmer Maple Room

Beginning writers as well as established authors are encouraged to attend, share writing projects, successes, and help each other.



PROVIDING SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR OUR VETERANS.

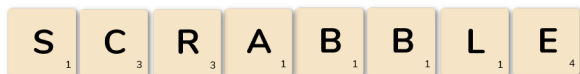
Veterans Services Office Hours

Demmer Library

Wednesday

December 17th

12-4 PM



Drop In Play

2nd & 4th

Thursdays

1 pm-3 pm

Demmer Fireplace

Area

How many of us miss playing a good game of Scrabble? Stop by the Demmer on the dates and times listed as we bring Scrabble players together.



Hook & Needle Nights

FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH

5PM-7PM DEMMER FIREPLACE AREA

A social gathering for knitters, crocheters, and needle workers where people can share their projects, tips, patterns, and enjoy the company of fellow crafters.



Demmer Crafternoon

The 2nd Tuesday of each month

2:30pm

Demmer Libratory

Registration is required.



Story Hour Demmer Library Tuesdays@ 10 am

Story Hour is 30 to 45 minutes of stories, games, songs, and interactive fun.

Lego Club Monday, December 8 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

@Demmer Maple Room. Lego Club is for children of all ages. Come and free build with your friends or play Lego Creationary.

TEEN LIBRARY COUNCIL

GRADES 6-12

Every 3rd Monday :
Monday, December 15th
Maple Room
3:30-4:30

- Make decisions about teen spaces, programs and books.
- Earn volunteer hours needed for graduation.
- Participation looks good on college and job applications.
- FOOD & FUN!

**STUFFED
ANIMAL
SLEEPOVER**

**DECEMBER 1
DEMMEER LIBRARY
6-7PM**



WEAR YOUR FAVORITE PAJAMAS AND BRING A STUFFED FRIEND!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

BUILD AN ANIMAL AND CHOOSE WHICH FURRY FRIEND SLEEPS IN THE LIBRARY!

Christmas Light Viewing

DECEMBER 20

SHUTTLE LEAVES AT

5:30PM

DEMMEER LIBRARY
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

SOUP AND SOCIAL HOUR

December 17th

5PM-6PM

DEMMEER NORTHWOODS ROOM

Bring a pot of soup or a loaf of bread to share and warm up with good company at the library.

Free Gift Wrap Station

STARTING DECEMBER
1ST & RUNNING UNTIL
CHRISTMAS

Hard to wrap
presents around
the kids? Let us
help!

Sneak away to the library's Libratory and use
the free wrapping supplies this holiday season.
Available during open hours.



Snap and Send

Learn how to design a
digital holiday card in
Canva with your family
photos

Tuesday, Dec. 2nd

5:30 PM

Demmer Maple Room



Gingerbread House Building

Mon Dec 22 - Wed Dec 31

Demmer Libratory



Booking Ahead

High interest titles added to the catalog and released in December.
Give us a call to put your name on the list - (715) 546-3391

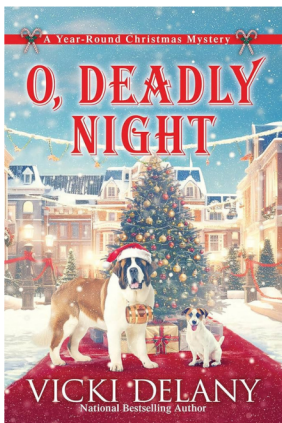
**Don't miss these titles for a cozy holiday read!
Log in or call us to place a hold.**



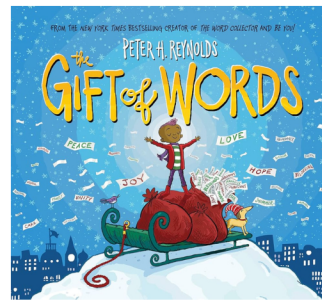
The new year had barely begun when Grace White and Henry Adler both lost their spouses. Now, nearly a year later, the first holiday season since their "Great and Terrible Sadnesses" approaches. It's clear that neither is ready to date again. Yet no one understands what they are going through better than each other, and a delicate friendship is born. Is their bond merely the result of loneliness and shared circumstances, or have they found something that's worth taking a shot at . . . again?



~Available in large print!~
Carol Langstrom hates Christmas. Growing up in a dysfunctional home, with a birthday on December 25 and too many dashed childhood expectations, she would rather avoid the holiday season. But bad weather and God's radically different plan redirect her flight to blustery Michigan, where she gets stuck on her aunt's farm and discovers a different kind of Christmas—one wrapped in love, family, and holiday spirit.



It's Christmastime in Rudolph, New York, which means it's time for the December Santa Claus parade. This year, shop owner Merry Wilkinson has decided to decorate her float as Santa's elves' workshop and invites her landlady, Mabel D'Angelo, to help supervise the excited children playing the elves. But when Mrs. D'Angelo doesn't show up, Merry begins to worry. Things turn from jolly to downright concerning when Mrs. D'Angelo disappears. With family and friends counting on her during this stressful holiday season, it is up to Merry to make sure this Christmas doesn't end up wrapped in blood red.



Jerome is looking forward to collecting words this holiday season! Words of hope, love, and joy to share with his loved one. But as he begins his search, he discovers that inspirational words are hard to come by. In the end, Jerome finds a way to connect with his community and join together in sharing the greatest gift of all: the gift of words.

Books the Other Channel Book Club

Tuesday, December 16th--6:30 PM

in person or via Zoom

Books the Other Channel book discussion group will discuss *The Best Strangers in the World: Stories From a Life Spent Listening* by Ari Shapiro at 6:30 PM.

Meet in person at the library or join online via Zoom. Email demmer@demmerlibrary.org to receive sign-in information if you don't receive it directly from the organizer.

Each book for the group may be checked out at the Demmer. Everyone is welcome!

To register call 715-546-3391 or email librarian@demmerlibrary.org



Historical Clippings

Three Lakes Museum

November 2025

This article is a rerun of a December 2021 Clipping and is found archived on the museum website.

Were Winters Really Colder and the Snow Deeper ?

Violet Neu, the youngest of the six children of William and Sarah Neu, was born in 1905 and lived her whole life in Three Lakes. Her father William was born in the Madison area in 1867 and in 1888, at the age of 20, was sent by his employer to start a newspaper in Crandon to be known as the Forest Leaves. In 1890 he returned to Madison to be married and brought Sarah Clement from Sauk City back with him to the North Woods. She described her new life as living in “wild country”. In 1892 William and Sarah established a grocery store on Main Street (now Superior Street) in Three Lakes which they operated until William’s death in 1940.

Of his career in journalism Neu said, "The hopeful and persevering journalist has more than once tried his luck in Three Lakes. My newspaper was very successful financially, as all of the county work went to the county newspaper. However the mechanical part gave me a great deal of grief at times, especially during the hard winter months, when the ink and the rolls would freeze and I was kept guessing whether I would be able to get the papers out on time."

By 1904, after moving in and out of the newspaper business, he founded the Forest Advance which was his own Three Lakes newspaper that he published for many years.



Willam Neu Sr., far right, gathers with his friends and customers in front of his store and newspaper office. The year was 1907. To the left are the children of the village, among them, second from left In the front row, is Violet Olkowski, his youngest daughter.



Neu's store, 1925, included an ice cream parlor and advertising for their Dreamland Resort on the north shore of Maple Lake

In May of 1923, Violet Neu married Frank Olkowski. Frank was the Standard Oil Company agent who retired in 1960 after 39 years with the company. Starting in 1923 Violet was the Three Lakes News correspondent for the Rhinelander News newspaper. She retired in 1963. She was also the secretary for the Information Bureau starting in 1942 and retired there after 25 years. She also volunteered for the thrift shop and was a member of The Three Lakes Women's Club. Sometime during her years as the newspaper correspondent she wrote the following article.

When the Winters Were Colder by Vi Olkowski

My father first came to Three Lakes from Madison, Wisconsin in 1888. The railroad surveyors had passed through the area about 10 years earlier. My father related that he found six white families settled in the area among about 300 Chippewa Indians. His first winter is often referred to as the winter of the deep snow as the average depth of snow on the level measured 7 ft and drifts were often 13 ft High. The stage man who contracted to carry the mail triweekly was unable to deliver the mail due to the deep snow, so an Indian was hired to bring the mail on snowshoes. Horses were unable to travel anywhere until about May 19th and most winter people were just isolated until the spring thaw came.

Folks were hardy people in those years and during the cold winters the problem was to heat buildings. It was a common occurrence for men to wake up in the morning to find their beards frozen to the pillow.

There is little doubt that our winters are getting milder and less snow falls as memories going back to childhood will recall the many winters with snow banks as high as telephone wires in the community. Years back a trip to Rhinelander would mean traveling through tunnels of snow higher than the car. Especially on the portion of the road between Sugar Camp and Rhinelander known as Brown's Farm.

