



## Dane County Library Service

## March Director's Report

**New Bookmobile!!!** The new bus was delivered on March 17 and the drivers were anxious to get behind the wheel. In a word, the vehicle is awesome. Not only is it beautiful outside, but the interior is stunning. It appears that it will function well to serve patrons. We had a "sneak peek" at Morrisonville Elementary last week and the kids were very excited. The plan is to continue test drives through the first part of April and put the new bus in service either the week of April 10 or 17.

**New Home.** We continue to work with Dorschner on plans for the new facility. Public works is currently doing some demolition on the space to prepare for construction. The goal for preparing bid documents for RFPs is April 3. It is hoped that in May the County will contract with the construction vendor and begin implementing the new plans. In the meantime, I'm working with Purchasing on furniture and shelving. Our target move date is September 25, which is movable.

**PLSR.** Work on the Public Library System Redesign project continues under the management of WiLS. The Consulting and Continuing Education Committees have combined to form one committee for PLSR planning. We are currently split into three groups to look at the topics of administration/oversight, portal/web resources, and services to libraries. I've had three meetings this month to help our administration/oversight group achieve its goals. This small group work will be discussed at an in-person meeting on June 10.

We have been telling the library community to tune in to this process, as it will get detailed very quickly. The deadline for recommendations to the Steering Committee is April 18, 2018 for consideration in the next biennial budget. There will be a PLSR track at the Wisconsin Library Association Conference this fall in Wisconsin Dells.

**SCLS.** An All Directors Meeting was held on March 16. Stef Morrill, who you may remember from WiLS, presented information on the Public Library System Redesign project. There was also a presentation of the SCLS Foundation money managers, First Business Bank.

**Dane County Librarians' Meeting.** Our bimonthly meeting was held at Rosemary Garfoot Public Library in Cross Plains. Guest speaker Rebecca Comfort spoke about Act 31 and the Getting to Know Our Neighbors Beyond the Page grant, which provides \$200 per Dane County library to purchase instructional materials outlined in Act 31. Ms. Comfort gave guidance as to what would be appropriate texts for various age groups.

Our second speaker, Lori Burgess from Fond du Lac Public Library, shared information about Money Smart Week in April. She has hundreds of copies of *Just Saving My Money* by Mercer Mayer. DCLS will accept and distribute these copies to Dane County Libraries. See <http://fdlpl.org/MSW> for more information.

Megan Cain was the third speaker. Ms. Cain runs [www.creativevegetablegardener.com](http://www.creativevegetablegardener.com) and came to my attention at the Garden Expo when a patron saw her speak and requested her books. Ms. Cain shared her history and pictures of her fabulous corner-lot vegetable garden, as well as bringing copies of her books for libraries to purchase.

**BUS-ted.** Save the date! April 22, 9-12 at the Central Library! Help us memorialize the old bookmobile, say hello to the new bus and visit the Central Library for other fun events!

**Saturday, April 22 from 9 am-Noon  
201 W. Mifflin St. in front of Central Library**