

At the library

Anyone who has popped into the Calhoun Memorial Library lately may have noticed the lobby display, and perhaps after admiring the pumpkins, leaves and sunflowers took in the Playaways?

What are Playaways, you ask? Weighing about 2 ounces and no larger than a playing card, Playaways are prerecorded audio books that are perfect for the person on the go. Washing dishes, shoveling snow, weeding the garden are not exactly the most mentally stimulating chores. In fact, these chores, like most are as boring as heck. But pop a AAA battery in a Playaway, put in the earphones and listen to an audiobook and vacuuming floors gets a little less hateful when your brain is focused elsewhere.

Even better, Playaways may also be listened to in the car. Just plug in one end of an auxiliary cable into the car stereo and the other into the Playaway and you are good to go. Playaways are especially convenient for people driving newer model cars that no longer feature CD players.

Playaways may also be tailored to the listener. The device has five narration speeds, buttons to reverse or forward by chapter, as well as reverse or fast forward within a chapter. Playaways also have an LCD screen detailing book progress, battery life and current chapter being narrated.

Even better, the Calhoun Memorial Library has a variety of Playaways for both adults and children. So, take a minute on your next visit to the library and peruse the Playaways on display in the lobby. They are convenient, easy to operate and may be used in the home, car and outdoors.

The Aging & Disability Resource Center of Barron and Rusk Counties next Wit Works session is Friday at 1:30 p.m. at the library. The program includes games, puzzles and suggestions to boost brain health through day-to-day activities. If interested, RSVP at www.adrcconnections.org/registrations or calling 715-537-6225 or by emailing trisha.witham@co.barron.wi.us.

The library will be hosting a movie day for the kids Friday, Oct. 18 at 1p.m. The featured movie is "Open Season: Scared Silly", a 2015 film that runs an hour and 24 minutes and is rated G. Bring friends, a favorite blanket and drinks. Popcorn is provided by the library.

For more information about the library or its programs, visit calhounmemoriallibrary.org or check out our Facebook page.