

At the library

With 2024 in the rearview mirror, the time has come for Barron County library directors to write up their annual reports, which all must file to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's Division of Libraries and Technology. The Calhoun Memorial Library had an amazing year, thanks, of course, to its patrons.

Because of all you book lovers out there, the Chetek library had 30,448 physical checkouts and 10,505 electronic (ebooks, eaudiobooks and emagazines) checkouts. The library offered a total of 80 programs for children with 936 attendees and 26 programs for teens with 193 attending. In regard to programming for adults, the library offered 57 programs with 508 people taking part.

Additionally, the Chetek library offered 45 all-ages programs with 630 attendees. In total, more than 2,200 people came, saw and enjoyed Chetek library offerings in 2024.

The Calhoun Memorial Library has plans for many more fun programs in 2025 and invites the Chetek community to take part. We are happy you visit your local library.

And for those who have been lying awake at night wondering what the Calhoun Memorial Library's five most checked out books in 2024 were, here it is: "The Women" by Kristin Hannah, "The River We Remember" by William Kent Krueger, "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus and Freida McFadden came in with two books, "The Housemaid" and "The Teacher."

FYI: For any of you who missed out on reading these books, the Calhoun Memorial Library has copies available for checkout. Come see what your fellow patrons have been reading and enjoying!

Cheers to everyone who donated food and cleaning supplies for the Humane Society of Barron County. The Calhoun Memorial Library had a box located in its lobby for donations all through February and all our animal-loving patrons gave generously. Thanks again, and please remember not all our four-legged furry friends are lucky enough to have loving owners and a forever home. As such, the Humane Society of Barron County needs help in caring for its animals and need donations year-round. On behalf of the Fidos and Fluffys of the world, thank you!

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