

Beloit Daily News  
May 2014

Most of us have fond memories of high school. When I look back I think about the friendships I made that I still have today, the hard life-lessons I learned, and the crazy I-can't-believe-I'm-alive antics that I pulled. I think about some of the boyfriends that got away (thank goodness!) and the one that I eventually married (thank goodness!). But the day that holds the best memory for me, academically speaking, was the last day of school, junior year. That was the last day I set foot in the chemistry classroom.

You see, science just wasn't my thing. All those equations and formulas never made sense to me, I didn't like the odd odor that came from all of the chemicals, and I certainly didn't like seeing all of those C's and occasional D's on my tests. Science just wasn't fun. The only reason I even passed chemistry was because our teacher reviewed test answers with us and then let us retake the test. In the hallway. By ourselves. Without supervision. You see where I'm going with this, right? Hello, my name is Jeni and I am a cheater.

Luckily for me, the Beloit Public Library is going to make sure that everyone in Beloit has fun with science this summer. The Summer Library Club theme for kids 12 and younger is *Fizz Boom Read* and our programs will include weather, science and bubble experiments, grossology fun, fingerprinting and time travel. There's a kick-off event on Saturday June 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3 p.m. Join us that day to sign up for the Reading Program and to explore science through hands-on activities with local scientists from Kerry Ingredients and Beloit College.

Teens and adults won't be left out of the fun this summer either. The Teen Summer Library Club, *Spark a Reaction*, kicks off on Monday June 16<sup>th</sup> with a Tie-Dye T-Shirt event and a chance to sign up for the Reading Program. The Adult Summer Library Club heads to the beach all summer long from June 2<sup>nd</sup> to August 30<sup>th</sup>. Adults can win prizes playing BOOKS Bingo or by entering the weekly reading giveaways and there will be an all-day Beach Movie Marathon on July 19<sup>th</sup>

For more information on these great programs and many more, visit [www.beloitlibrary.info](http://www.beloitlibrary.info) or Like us on Facebook. And be sure to check out these great books coming soon to your Beloit Public Library:

*Junk Drawer Physics: 50 Awesome Experiments that Don't Cost a Thing* by Bobby Mercer. Physics teacher Bobby Mercer provides readers with more than 50 great hands-on experiments that can be performed for just pennies, or less. Turn a plastic cup into a pinhole camera using waxed paper, a rubber band, and a thumbtack. Or construct your own planetarium from an empty potato chip canister, construction paper, scissors, and a pin. Each project has a materials list, detailed step-by-step instructions with illustrations, and a brief explanation of the scientific principle being demonstrated. (Book Description)

*Popular Mechanics Gadget Planet: 150 Gizmos and Inventions that Changed the World* edited by Popular Mechanics. Ranging from the microscope, bicycle, and transistor radio to the hearing aid, electric guitar, and Roomba, this compilation is sure to fuel debates—especially when it comes to the 10 top choices. (Book Description)