

## Get connected at your Novi library

NOVI NEWS - APRIL 16, 2009

---

Libraries of all kinds continue to be engines of learning, literacy and economic development in communities nationwide. According to the 2008 State of America's Libraries report, released by the American Library Association, Americans check out more than two billion items each year from their public libraries. The average user takes out more than seven books a year, but patrons also go to their libraries to borrow DVDs, learn new computer skills, conduct job searches and participate in the activities of local community organizations.

The average bill to the taxpayer for this remarkable range of public services: \$31 a year, about the cost of one hardcover book.

Studies provide solid evidence that the nation's public libraries are engines of economic growth, contributing to local development through programming in early literacy, employment services and small-business development. They show that libraries provide an excellent return on investment, have a measurable positive impact on the local economy and contribute to the stability, safety and quality of life of their neighborhoods.

We want you to know these things because this week is National Library Week, a time to celebrate the contributions of libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. With a theme "Worlds connect @ your library," this week is a perfect time to stop in at the Novi Public Library and see what's going on. If you haven't been in awhile, you'll be surprised.

The library is more than a depository for books, DVDs and CDs. It has become a community gathering place, offering people, young and old alike, the opportunity to learn, be entertained and to try new things. You can learn how to use a computer and surf the Web. You can spend a quiet evening knitting or crocheting, hear music or watch movies.

And access to the library is no longer governed by the hours on a clock. Thanks to the Internet, the library is available 24 hours a day seven days a week. With the click of a mouse, any book from any library in the country can be sent to you in a matter of days. It's all part of the inter-library loan.

We encourage residents to stop by the library and see what's there. If you don't have a library card, take the time to get one and get connected.