

## Columbus Public Library Comes to the Rescue with ebooks

By Pat Anderson

This winter, particularly January and February, has been a pain to all of us. While not of epic proportions, it reminded us that we have benefited from several very mild winters. Remember when you were a child and the joy you felt when school was cancelled for weather? I still love a day when my regular schedule is interrupted or cancelled and becomes a FOUND DAY. A FOUND DAY is the day I devote to something I love to do but not often get to do on a normal day. For me, that is reading.

I have always been an avid reader and love the feel of a book, newspaper, or magazine in my hands. I even read the legal notices in the paper, the fine print on labels, and the owners' manual of my car. But like most of us, I may not always be prepared for the unexpected Found Day. Hopefully I have books on hand just waiting to be read. But if I don't, the Columbus Public Library comes to my rescue with eBooks available 24 hours a day. All you need is your library card and the internet to join RBdigital. Just follow the directions you will find on the Library website <http://www.columbusne.us/library> and click on Digital Library. You can check out eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines just as you would if you walked into the Library.

I often use my Found Day to revisit old friends in the books of my past reading. Sometimes I delight in the pleasures of biography where the subject does not change. Sometimes my previous favorite books are like watching the early James Bond movies where the action is painfully slow compared to today's action movies. When I want to find new books, RBdigital offers a wide choice of literary styles and titles.

Laura Whitehead, Library Director, wrote in her annual report to the City Council that the Library has 127,499 items including 73,373 books you can actually hold in your hand, 6,569 DVDs, 2,782 Audio books, and 93 magazine and newspaper subscriptions. Can you believe that 19,116 eBooks were downloaded last year?

If you, like me, are not always comfortable with the process of getting online with programs like RBdigital, you will find a helping hand from the Library staff. Stop in, call, or better yet, make an appointment on Tech Tuesday for free individual help. Call 402-564-7116.

The point of all this is that books are available any time of day or night. Keep reading!