

Check it Out Column for week of December 13-19

Gift wrapping ideas at the Library

By Kathy Stutzman, WCPL Public Relations Manager

When was the last time you received a creatively wrapped gift, one with that special touch added? It's probably been awhile. When was the last time you gave a cleverly wrapped gift?

Admittedly, it's been quite a while since I made the time to make a gift look special. Convincing myself that I don't have the time, I have usually chosen to use gift bags stuffed with tissue paper instead. You've probably thought and done the same thing. With everyone's busy schedule, it can be a challenge to find the time to come up with creative ideas or the time to find the ideas.

However, the packaging is as important as the gift itself. It is a form of self-expression and shows the thoughtfulness of the giver. It also adds a level of expectation. It tempts, it teases, and turns even ordinary gifts into something special.

In just a few weeks, most houses will be opening up wrapped packages from under the Christmas tree. Why not personalize this year's gifts and make them more memorable with unique wrapping ideas? Check out these resources that offer clever and inviting ideas to give your presents an extra flourish that loved ones will appreciate.

Gift Wrapping for every occasion/Gill Dickinson. Forget buying high-priced store-bought wrapping paper and decorations! Emphasis is on using natural and recycled materials from your home or from your yard. Inexpensive and easy ideas.

The White Fig Bountiful Baskets/Sara Toliver. My favorite book! Creative gift basket ideas for any occasion. Begins with the basics and goes to the different ideas and themes. Anyone would love to receive one of these clever baskets. Even has a how-to section on starting your own gift basket company.

Simply Green/Danny Seo. My next favorite book. Stop wasting resources and money! Amazing, AFFORDABLE, and creative ways using natural and recycled materials. How about an old VHS tape for ribbon, old Christmas cards made over into luminaries or extra business cards turned into gift tags? Read it. Use it.

Presentations/Carolyn Roehm. Breathtaking gift wrapping ideas for every season using paper, rubber stamps, artificial and real flowers, and other inexpensive materials. Bow-making instructions, computer tricks, and more are included.

Decorating gift baskets/Catherine Woram. Contains 35 themed baskets from baby gifts and birthdays to holidays and special events. Clever ideas with step-by-step photos. Definitely worth having a personal copy at home to use.

Keep in mind that while Christmas comes only once a year, we still give away presents year round for plenty of other reasons and knowing how to gift wrap a present is still a valuable skill to have. Come and discover some unique ways to make your gifts one-of-a-kind presents.

For more details, call us at 574-267-6011 or go to www.warsawlibrary.org and click “events”.