

Valley City Barnes County Public Library Notes

May 25, 2017 by Steve Hammel

Hello Barnes County, Summer Learning is almost here! We are calling it Summer Learning instead of Summer Reading as we have in past years. Reading is still an integral part of the program however our summer program, like the rest of the library, is about so much more than just books. The name change also recognizes that not everyone learns easily from books and reading. Some people are better auditory or kinesthetic (hands on) learners so we have activities to emphasize those learning styles as well. We also made the name change to recognize we have children, teens, and adults within our community who have difficulty reading. For someone with dyslexia, or in my case something like dyslexia, reading can be a frustrating activity. We have scheduled numerous activities which should appeal to readers and non-readers alike. Additionally, many of the programs are designed to inspire further research on their subject. When research and reading are fun, persistence and practice happens naturally.

The Summer Learning kickoff for teens is Thursday June 1st from 5-7pm. They will be fort building with a Nerf war to follow. Construction, teamwork, strategy, and a whole lot of giggling are in the offing. Adult Summer Learning will also start that evening at 6pm. We will be continuing the Great World Religions series over the next six weeks. This year we will be watching a course led by Professor Isaiah M. Gafni from Hebrew University who will be discussing Judaism. Lastly, the Ultimate Fort Building Lego Party for children will be Tuesday June 6th from 4-6. Be sure to stop in and pickup or download a schedule from our website. We have something going on almost every day and you don't want to miss anything.

I would like to recognize the Friends of the Library, local service organizations, and numerous (and I mean numerous) members of our community who have made donations to help make the Summer Learning program happen this year. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Finally, a bit of sad and happy staff news. The sad news is Kathleen's last day at the library is May 31st. The happy news is she starts her new job with Community Options on June 1st. It's a fulltime position with benefits, which we cannot presently offer, so I fully understand and support her decision. For those of you who don't know Kathleen, she is a very caring and compassionate person and has been a pleasure to work with for the past four years. Staff and I wish her well as she moves into the next phase of her life.

Libraries transform, but only if you use them.

Announcements:

Join the Friends of the Library, board members, and staff for a Pancake Feed on Sunday June 4th from 9-12:30 at the Valley City VFW. Money raised will go to the children's library.

The Friends of the Library will be having a Pie & Ice Cream Social on Saturday June 17th Starting after the Rally in the Valley Parade. If you would like to contribute a pie or help out, there will be a signup sheet in the library starting the first of June.

The library will be opening at noon on Saturday June 17th so all the staff can participate in the Rally in the Valley parade.

Help us get a jump start on strategic planning by challenging the director to a game of Cribbage. Be prepared to talk about what you would like to see for the library in the next three to five years.

The library board meets the second Tuesday of every month at 5:05 pm. The board will have a library foundation meeting first then proceed to the regular business meeting right after.

Please stop in and pick up a calendar of events. We have jam packed calendar of programs in June and July and you don't want to miss any of them.

Take a look at our new improved website. www.vcbclibrary.org