

## February at the Library

### Closures

The Great Falls Public Library will be closed on Monday, February 20, in recognition of Presidents' Day.

### Art @ the Library

The Great Falls Public Library is hosting an art exhibit by Deeling Gregory during the months of February and March. Deeling will exhibit a variety of paintings and fabric art. Deeling is a graduate of the San Francisco Art Institute and has had pieces exhibited around the world. The pottery of Lisa Botti will also be exhibited through the month.

### Foreign and Independent Film Series

The Great Falls Public Library's Foreign and Independent Film Series continues on Wednesday, February 1, at 7:00 pm. and Saturday, February 4 at 2:00 pm. This series is free and open to the public.

February's selection is poetic and humanistic film, ***The Window***, from Argentina and Spain. This film tells the story of 80-year-old Antonio. It is a significant day for him. His estranged son is coming to visit and all must be perfect. There will be a special champagne toast; an embrace; warm words that may finally bridge the gap between them. But first, Antonio must wait. Bedridden, he looks out his window at the Patagonian landscape and sees the past and present, while sensing the future. He escapes the eyes of his faithful caretakers and leaves the house for what may be his last walk in his fields, inhaling the scent of the land that has been his life. (Appropriate for general audiences.)

The featured short is ***Seventy***.

Films will be shown each month on the first Wednesday and the following Saturday. The series, which runs September through May, is free and open to the public. Be forewarned, some films may contain strong language or adult situations. They are not rated by MPAA but in our brochures we have tried to indicate content. Brochures are available at the library.

### OpenBooks

The OpenBooks Discussion Series, which runs October – May, continues on Thursday, February 2nd, at 7:00 pm, in the Montana Room of the library. These discussions, sponsored by Humanities Montana and the Great Falls Public Library Foundation, are free and open to the public. You may attend any and all of the discussions. Books are available at the library three weeks prior to each meeting. Discussions are facilitated by Penny Hughes-Briant, a teacher at UGF. For more information on this series call 453-0349.

February's selection, *The Elegance of the Hedgehog*, will be discussed on Thursday, February 2, 7:00 pm. *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* is a novel by the French novelist and professor of philosophy Muriel Barbery. The book follows events in the life of a concierge Renée Michel, whose deliberately concealed intelligence is uncovered by an unstable but intellectually precocious girl named Paloma Josse. Paloma is the daughter of an upper-class family living in the upscale Parisian apartment building where Renée works.

First released in August 2006, the novel became a success in France the following year, selling over a million copies. It has been translated into several languages, and published in a number of countries outside France, including the United Kingdom and the United States, attracting critical praise for both the work and its author.

## ***Black Heritage Evening***

The Great Falls Public Library is hosting a special event, *Black Heritage Evening*, celebrating Black History Month and the Heritage of Great Falls' African American community on Thursday, February 2, 7:00 pm. This program, which is co-sponsored by the Alma Smith Jacobs Foundation, is free and open to the public. The evening will feature African American culture, history and cuisine. In addition, art, representing Black History Month, created by elementary students from Whittier, Loy, and Longfellow Schools, will be on display at the library throughout the month.

The evening is hosted by Kathy Reed, and speakers include Mayor Michael Winters, University of Great Falls Professor Mimi Anthony, Bob Harris and Ken Robison. Also featured are a community gospel choir, The Malmstrom Men's Ensemble, and Hip Hop dancers.

The evening will conclude with a sampling of soul food cuisine provided by members of the African American community.

## **Get Ready for Gardening**

The Great Falls Public Library is hosting two programs presented by Gardens from Garbage. The first, *Bucket Composting*, is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, at 7:00 pm. This program will focus on learning correct composting techniques and preparing soil. Keep your garbage at home and make "good dirt". Compost all winter without labor. Container labor-free composting instruction and demonstration.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, 2:00 pm, the group will show the film *Dirt! The Movie*. Most of us live far too fast of a lifestyle to realize that without Dirt, we'd have nothing. We have to do what we can to keep Dirt as Healthy as possible. We know we have to take from the earth, but we have to give back as well.

Gardens From Garbage is a program of Sunburst Unlimited, Inc., a local non-profit dedicated to educating and guiding neighborhoods and communities in developing sustainable, local food sources through composting, gardening, and year-round greenhouses. They have been working and teaching in Cascade and Chouteau Counties since 1998.

## **Donations Days for Friends Book Sale**

Great Falls, Montana – The Friends of the Great Falls Public Library announced that they will be holding special book donation days in preparation for their annual used book sale held in May. If you have items you'd like to donate for this sale, mark your calendar for Saturday, February 11, from 10 am – 2.

Bring your items to the library's garage, in the alley behind the building. Volunteers will be available to assist. You can bring your donations into the library anytime during operating hours, but assistance cannot be guaranteed except on scheduled donation days.

All donations are appreciated, but the Friends will not accept the following:

- Items in poor condition
- Magazines
- Encyclopedias
- Condensed Reader's Digests

Proceeds from the book sale are used to sponsor special library programs and projects that the library's budget cannot cover.

Anyone interested in more details, volunteering for the book sale or donating books can contact Jude Smith at 453-0349.

## **Kids' Place Schedule**

What: Busy Fingers (walk-in craft time, no stories)

Dates: 1 & 2

Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult

Theme: Show Me Colors

Time: 10:30 to noon

Location: Kids' Place

What: Books & Babies

Dates: 3, 10, 17, 24

Who: Birth - 2 year olds with accompanying adult

Time: 10:15 to 11:00 & 11:15 to noon

Location: Basement

What: Wii Gaming

Dates: 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26

Who: Children under 12 with adult supervision

Time: 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time

Dates: 8 & 9

Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult

Theme: Red, red, red

Time: 10:30 to 11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00

Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time

Dates: 15 & 16

Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult

Theme: CONCEPT WEEK: Colors

Time: 10:30 to 11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00

Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time

Dates: 22 & 23

Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult

Theme: Things with Wheels

Time: 10:30 to 11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00

Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time

Dates: February 29 & March 1

Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult

Theme: Musical Instruments Week

Time: 10:30 to 11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00

Location: Kids' Place

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