April at the Library

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Great Falls Library - April @ the GFPL

Great Falls, Montana – The Great Falls Public Library announces the following events for April.

Library Closures

The Great Falls Public Library's last open Sunday of the season is May 20. After this date, the library will begin its summer schedule:

Mondays, Fridays & Saturdays 10 am - 6 pm
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 10 am – 8 pm

The Great Falls Public Library will also be closed on Monday, May 28 in recognition of Memorial Day.

Art @ the Library

In May the library welcomes The Thursday Morning Drawing Group, who will be exhibiting their work at the library during the months of May and June. The show will include paintings, drawings, and other eclectic pieces. Also on display will be a photography exhibit from the Overholser Museum in Fort Benton.

The Thursday Morning Artists have one common thread: original creativity. They gather together every Thursday morning to make art and have been doing so for many years. As individual artists they have works spread to the far corners of the world. These artists' style runs from realistic to abstract. They place no limits on the mediums they use and above all in their art follow no rules.

Members of the group are Jeanne Scott, Carol Collins, James "Pinky" Keyser, Darlene Sanford, Larry D. Goff, Jean Mazur, Brenda Barthelmeh, Marcia Hocevar, Frank Olszewski, Ruth Franklin, Janet Sedlacek, Patricia Bushly, and Cecile Smiley.

Foreign & Independent Film Series

The Great Falls Public Library concludes its Foreign & Independent Film Series with two film showings, one on Wednesday, May 2, 7:00 PM and Saturday, May 5, 2:00 PM, with the award-winning Israeli film the human resources manager. When one of the employees of Jerusalem's largest bakery is killed by a suicide bomber, the human resources manager travels to Romania to return her body to her family. On a mission to honor this woman,

he fights to regain his company's reputation and possibly his own humanity. This film won five Israeli Academy Awards. It has subtitles and does contain some strong language.

The selected short is Tell Your Children..

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, May 3 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.

May's selection is Blind Your Ponies by Stanley Gordon West. In this originally self-published hit, the small and real town of Willow Creek, Montana, (about a half hour from Livingston) is the place where dreams go to die. English teacher and basketball coach Sam Pickett hasn't won a game in five seasons and decides to quit coaching, but he changes his mind after getting a look at the 6-ft.-11 Norwegian exchange student, Olaf Gustafson. Sam's other recruits include Tom Stonebreaker, whose drunken father would rather see him working the family farm, and Peter Strong, who moves in with his hippie grandmother after his parents' divorce and would rather be back home in Minnesota with his girlfriend. As the team coalesces around Olaf and begins winning games, their march toward the state tournament inspires Willow Creek and ignites a touching romance between Sam and his assistant coach. If the novel is a little too long, its sentiments worn too shamelessly on its sleeve, and its symbolism a little too obvious (Sam dubs the team bus "Rozinante" in honor of Don Quixote's steed), this uplifting story about the triumph of human decency is sure to be enjoyed by those who fondly recall another David vs. Goliath roundball yarn--Hoosiers

Stanley Gordon West was born in 1932 and attended St. Paul Central High School in Minnesota. He lived in Bozeman, Montana for several years, and now resides in Shakopee, MN. All of his novels are popular book club selections: Blind Your Ponies, two other novels set in the same time and place as Until They Bring the Streetcars Back - Finding Laura Buggs and Growing an Inch - and his most recent, Sweet, Shattered Dreams. His novel Amos was made into a CBS Movie of the Week starring Kirk Douglas that stirred national controversy over abuse of the aged in America. When Kirk Douglas testified before Congress and wrote in the New York Times on the issue, he pointed out that animals had been protected by law for one hundred years before children or the aged. While Amos focused on elder abuse, Until They Bring the Streetcars Back explores the other vulnerable end of the age spectrum.

No Courts, No Justice, No Freedom

Law Day is every year on May 1st. It is a designation for a special national day that marks our nation's commitment to the rule of law. It was established in 1958 by then President Dwight D. Eisenhower. In 1961 Congress issued a joint resolution designating May 1 as the official date for celebrating Law Day. Some bar associations and other organizations celebrate Law Week or Law Month.

The Great Falls Public Library celebrates Law Month with a series of programs on Thursday evenings in May to acknowledge the importance of this designation and its intention to help educate the public about the court and justice system. The programs are free and open to the public. In addition to these programs, the Information Department will offer tours of the legal resources the library offers.

More detailed information on these tours will be available soon. Call 453-0349 or check online at www.greatfallslibrary.org for more information on these tours. The program schedule is as follows.

May 3, 7:00 pm

An Introduction and Overview of the Court System
with the Honorable Chief District Court Judge Kenneth R. Neill, current chief judge of the Eighth Judicial District.

May 10, 7:00 pm
Get to Know the Candidates
District Court judicial hopefuls introduce themselves and share their experiences with the justice system.
The four candidates are:

Mike Rausch
Joe Sullivan
Greg Pinkski
Steve Fagenstrom

May 17, 7:00 pm
Free, Local Legal Resources
with representatives from the Self-Help Law Clinic, Judy Pylar from the Cascade County Law Clinic, and Law Clerks Mary Glover-Rogers and Mark Dunn, who will discuss family law mediation.

May 24, 7:00 pm
Bankruptcy Proceedings
with representatives from Montana Legal Services.

May 31, 7:00 pm
Debate in a Box
with representatives from the Montana State Bar Association who will present an educational overview of Referendum 119. This is a proposal to require state Supreme Court justices to be elected or appointed from districts with approximately equal populations.

Youth Services

Great Falls Public Library Youth Services Librarian Nola Huey announces a special Hunger Games @ the Library on Friday, April 13, 4:00 pm. This event will coincide with the release of the major motion picture Hunger Games on March 23, as a companion activity for young people between 12 and 18 who love the Hunger Games experience (book and/or movie). It will provide an opportunity to have fun with like-minded young adults.

At this event, participants will compete in a variety of competitions that include both physical and mental challenges that mirror the thread of the story/movie. At the end of the evening, one of the participants will be crowned the victor.

This program is also designed as a kickoff for future Young Adult activities at the library, with the intention to eventually host such activities monthly. It will also serve as the start-up for the library's Young Adult Advisory Council (YAAC). Students who join YAAC will help determine future young adult events and activities, books to showcase (including other popular books that have a corresponding movie version) and other library young adult events that will engage those members of the community.

For more information on this event, call 453-0349 or check online at www.greatfallslibrary.org.

Friends of the Great Falls Public Library Annual Book Sale

The Friends of the Great Falls Public Library will hold its annual used book sale Thursday, May 17 from 4 -7 pm, Saturday, May 19 from 10 am – 4 pm, and Sunday, May 20, from 1 – 4 pm on the third floor of the Public Library. Individuals who would like to attend the "pre-sale" on Thursday will be asked to join the "Friends" group at reduced dues of $5, instead of the regular annual dues of $15. There will be no cost to attend the sale on Saturday or Sunday, and Sunday also will be the $2 sack sale.

The public is encouraged to attend the sale to take advantage of great used books. All public support of this sale

directly supports the library. Proceeds from this sale support various library projects regular budgets do not allow. The Friends have sponsored a wide variety of programs at the library over the years, including Montana Repertory Theater productions, musical performances, and the Festival of the Book. The group has also sponsored Wi gaming and will sponsor this year's summer reading party.

Friends of the Public Library is a voluntary organization that values, supports, and champions the public library in ways that include, but are not limited to, advocacy, sponsorship, and organizing special events and projects for the library, such as this book sale. Members can choose their own level of involvement, either through active involvement or through membership dues, with both levels supporting the library and the community.

For further information or to assist with the sale, call Jude Smith at the library at 453-0349.

Kids' Place Happenings

What: Busy Fingers (walk-in craft time, no stories)
Dates: 2 & 3
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: What do bears wear?
Time: 10:30 to noon
Location: Kids' Place

What: Books & Babies
Dates: 4, 11, 18, 25
Who: Birth - 2 year olds with accompanying adult
Time: 10:15 to 11:00 & 11:15 to noon
Location: Basement

What: Wii Gaming
Dates: 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26
Who: Children under 12 with adult supervision
Time: 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 9 & 10
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: Marvelous Mommy
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 16 & 17
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: CONCEPT WEEK: Alphabet
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 23 & 24
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: Fishing
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 30 & 31
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: Musical Instruments Week
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00

Location: Kids' Place

Supporting Documents

Press Release - April at the Great Falls Library (315 KB) (PDF)

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