

SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:

- Literacy !
- New Books
- Family History
- Calendar of Events

## Be Literate @your library\* ....

How many types of literacy are there? Let us help you count the ways! We'll be celebrating all types of literacy over the next few months. Check out the cool graphic! From September through November, the library will hold presentations and classes which represent or discuss some type of literacy on the graphic image. It is important for each of us to know and understand the many facets of literacy. It's not just reading and writing anymore. We are now faced with constant media, social networking and cultural diversity; we are faced with ever increasing technology; and we have vast networks of information to sift through.



We need to be not just literate, we need to be **Information Literate** - and libraries can help you travel the path to success!

## Story times are back....

After our sensational summer program, the librarians took a little break to recharge their creative batteries and to count all the supplies. But never fear, story times and the Afternoon Activities programs are back!

Mark your calendars for these fun events:

**Story Times:** Mondays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.  
(geared for children 2-6)

**Afternoon Activities:** Thursdays at 4:00 p.m. (geared for school aged children)

Check out the  
scheduled literacy  
classes and pres-  
entations on the  
last page of our  
newsletter.

Events are open  
to the public and  
are free of  
charge.

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## Summer Reading Recap....

This year's summer program has been declared a huge success!

Miss Amy, Miss Wendy, Miss Dusk and Miss Gayle would like to thank each and every one of you for the outstanding response we received this summer!

"This has been our biggest summer yet!" states Miss Gayle, "our numbers were unbelievable!" How many signed up? **679**. How many items were checked out in 9 weeks? **25,704**. How many

books were recorded on journals? Over **10,600**.

Over 230 people attended the final "wrap up" party on August 6th. Attendees were treated to dinner and a theatre presentation. Between 30 and 50 kids worked on four different fairytale skits during the summer for the final night's performance.

And even though the journals didn't total the 15,000 book goal, Miss Gayle was so excited at the outstanding numbers,

she did dye her hair—in rainbow colors!

How do we top this year? "I'm not sure yet," claims Miss Amy, "but you can bet it will be great!"



Whatever the cost  
of our libraries, the  
price is cheap  
compared to that  
of an ignorant  
nation.

.....

Walter  
Cronkite,  
Journalist

## And a big thanks to....

The Library Staff would like to extend a huge thank you to the following entities. Your funding and donations helped make our summer a great one!!!

The City of Blair  
Blair Public Library Friends  
Amazing Pizza Machine  
American Broadband  
Applebee's  
Blair Book and Supply  
Central Court

Country Gardens  
Durham Museum  
Fernando's  
Jasa Transit  
Jensen Wholesale Pump & Repair  
Joslyn Art Museum  
No Frills Supermarket  
Omaha Children's Museum  
Opera Omaha

Pizza Hut  
Rose Theater  
Sid Dillon  
SkateDaze  
Texas Roadhouse  
Two Rivers Bank  
Video Express  
Washington County Bank

Because of your kindnesses, our summer reading programs touched over 4,600 Blair residents! THANK YOU!!!



## New Books....

They say that with every dark cloud, there is a silver lining. That was certainly true this August, when the Blair Book and Supply Store closed their doors. Before closing, they offered the library a wonderful deal on whatever books we wanted to choose!

After hours of reviewing the books in the store, we came away with close to 1,400 new books and materials!

The Blair Public Library Foundation agreed to finance the purchase of the books for the library. The items, retailing approximately \$15,000 were obtained for approximately

\$2,900. Wonderful new non-fiction materials on grief, family interactions, and health were obtained, as well as foreign language materials. Plus, there are lots of new books - and audio cds— that are just fun reading! Keep your eyes open for all the new books to hit the shelves!

# Introducing Dusk....

It's been a busy summer, but our newest employee, Dusk Junker, hasn't given up on us yet!

You might know Dusk, or one of her three wonderful children. Or, you might have eaten one of her most delicious, creative cakes that has graced our community! In fact, she made our luau cake for our lock in!

Dusk comes to us from, initially her mother, but after that, she earned

her early childhood degree from Peru State College. She has taught kindergarten, first grade and preschool.

Kids love her smiling face and ability to sing at the drop of a hat. Her favorite things include reading (obviously, she states), cross stitching, family time, baking, and teasing her techie-guru husband, Dave.

What does Miss Dusk want to be when she grows up? "Everything I've ever done has led up to this,"

says Miss Dusk. "I love working in the library. It was meant to be!"



Miss Dusk is currently working our ILL (interlibrary loan) requests, and assisting Miss Amy with the children's programming.

*Keeping libraries open, giving access to all children to all books is vital to our nation's sovereignty.*

.....

*Karin Slaughter, Author*

# Family History....

Every month, on the first Tuesday, the Washington County Genealogy Association meets at the library at 7:00 pm.

If you're interested in how to discover your family history; unearth stories of fame and fortune, or maybe just everyday life, this group can help you get on the right track!

In addition, the WCGA hosts informative and interesting program-

ming. Last summer Darrel Draper spoke as Teddy Roosevelt. This fall, on **October 4th**, Charlotte Endorf will appear at the library. Her program, entitled "Fragile Excess Baggage," tells of the Orphan Train.



Endorf traveled more than 8,500 miles, seeking the last surviving riders and descendents to document the real-life stories of the children who rode the Orphan Trains between the years 1854 and 1929. Dressed in period attire, Endorf entertains and educates audiences of all ages about this little known Nebraska history.

Mark your calendars—and we'll see you October 4th at 7:00 pm!

# BANNED BOOK WEEK....

Each year, the American Library Association dedicates a week towards the discussion and understanding of banned and challenged books.

During the week of September 25th —October 2nd, stop in and check out our display of banned books and book covers from the most often challenged books.

Although some think that banning books is a thing of the past, challenges and banning continues into our present day lives.

Current "newer" authors who are continually challenged include J.K. Rowling (Harry Potter), Ellen Hopkins (Crank, Glass, Fallen), and Suzanne Collins (The Hunger Games). All very popular books!

What is the most often challenged book? The Bible.

Why are books challenged? The reasons can vary, but usually involve language or sexual content.

We encourage you to take some time this fall to read a banned book. Check out the lists at the library, you might be surprised how many you have already read!

## Fall Calendar — Be Literate @ your library!

**Note:** Library is closed October 10th, for Columbus Day



### Traditional Literacy:

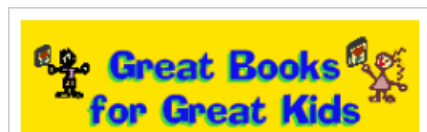
Story Times: Monday and Thursday at 10:30 am  
— no story time on Monday, October 10th

Halloween Story Time: October 25, 2011, 6:30 pm

Afternoon Activities: Thursday afternoons at 4:00 pm  
(school aged children)

**RUNZA day: Great Books for Great Kids! September 27th, all day.** 15% of proceeds comes to the library to purchase new children's books!

Sugar Plum: November 17th. Guest readers and a craft for kids.



### Library Instruction and Cultural Literacy:

New Library Catalog Instruction. Come learn how to use our new system and see what it does for you! We'll also review our new databases, Mango, A to Z Maps and Travel, and Universal Class! No preregistration required.

Monday: September 26 at 6:30 pm  
October 3 at 6:30 pm  
October 24 at 6:30 pm

### Computer Literacy:

You wish is our command! We are once again partnering with the high school's FBLA group to bring you computer classes! Pre registration is not required, but helpful. Information will be at the front desk. All classes begin at 6:30 pm.

September 27: Computer Basic Skills

October 4: Microsoft Office (Word, Excel)

October 11: Internet Skills

October 18: Patron's Choice ... bring your problems/concerns/questions/e-readers/tablets, etc. and ask away!

### Network Literacy:

We all know it takes a village sometimes to get things done. Knowing who to go to when there's a concern or problem can help ease the way to recovery. Assistant City Administrator Phil Green will talk about city services. Who to call, who can help, how to find out what your City Government is doing, Council Meetings and more!

November 7 at 6:30 pm

### Visual Literacy and Media Literacy:

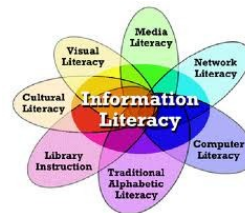
Ms. Sara Churchill will talk about the effects of visual and media literacy in your child's school, and what adults see in their daily lives.

November 14 at 6:30 pm.



### **Contact Information:**

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