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COLLECTIONS

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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Beyond Books...

Welcome to **COLLECTIONS**, the new Blair Public Library newsletter. Finding an appropriate name wasn't easy. It can be a daunting task — what name describes what we do, how we do it, where we've been and where we're going?

The more we brainstormed, the more we thought that **Collections** said it all. Without a doubt, we have collections of books. There are books for all ages; babies through adults. There are regular print collections and there are large print collections. There are biography collections and paperback collections; and it doesn't stop there! There are audio collections and record collections. There are non-fiction collections and there are fiction collections.

There are collections that go beyond books....

There is our ever-popular educational toy collection. Parents, kids, teachers and grandparents use the toy library for entertain-



A Collection of students working on a project

ment as well as educational purposes. From cradle toys to math games; phonics to puppets, our collection has received statewide

recognition as an excellent opportunity for libraries to serve their younger patrons.

Our online audio book and e-book collections are housed in **OVERDRIVE**, accessible through our web page. Over 4,500 titles are available for download and your listening enjoyment.

Upcoming collections include a jigsaw puzzle "swap" section, a video games collection, and an expansion of our "Assets in Action" collection.

Without a doubt, though, the staff's favorite *collection* is that of our patrons. We have a diverse, enjoyable patron base who we love to serve. Without all of you, all of our other collections would just exist. With you, they live.

New Events and Times...

Fall is here! Our story times and after school programs are ready to go! Check it out:

Toddler Times

Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
Suggested ages 0-3 years

Story Time

Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
Suggested ages 3 and above.

After School Activities

Thursdays, 4:00 p.m.
Suggested ages 8 and above.
Crafts, games and maybe some "book" learning....

Game Nights!

The Fourth Friday of each month is game night. Come join the fun and play board games, cards, video games or foosball. All are welcome and refreshments are served! Mark your calendars!!

September 24 & October 22nd

Technology Enrichment Series...



A collection of patrons doing a homework project

We are pleased to announce a new partnership with the Blair High FBLA club. In response to our patron requests, a series of technology workshops will take place beginning the 5th of October.

The series, which will be held on Tuesday evenings throughout October and November, will include topics such as:

Job Searches and online applications

- The Digital World

(cameras, graphics, cell phones and more)

- Basic Computer Skills
- Social Networking
- Net Navigation
- The Net and Your Kids: staying safe in the world of social networking and internet usage

All events will begin at 6:30 pm and will include refreshments.

Watch our webpage for exact dates, times and topics.

www.blairpubliclibrary.com

Pre-Registration for some events will be required. The library has a limited amount of computers available. You are welcome to bring personal laptops to each session.

These sessions are sponsored by the Blair High FBLA Club.

“Without
Libraries, what
have we? We have
no past, and no
future”

Ray Bradbury

I’m With The Banned...

The ALA (American Library Association) recognizes the last week of September as Banned Books Week. The week is intended to remind all of us how precious our freedom to read truly is.

Want to see what books have been challenged from 2007—2010? Check out the Google Map @ the ALA website:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/mediapresscenter/presskits/bbw2010/index.cfm>

The ALA list of most often banned books for 2009-2010 may also be found on our website.

In *Texas v. Johnson*, U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Brennan said, “If there is a bedrock principle underlying

the First Amendment, it is that the Government may not prohibit the expression of an idea simply because society finds the idea itself offensive or disagreeable.”

The Blair Public Library does have a form available for those who may wish to challenge a book. The Library Board does review all written challenges. To this date, no books have been removed from the library shelves.

NEW ...to help you...



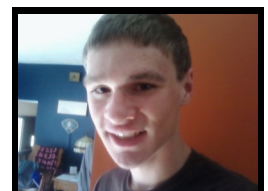
Cassie Krom

We have two new student library assistants who are happy to help you, Cassie Krom and Seth Berggren. Both Cassie and Seth have been long time volunteers at the library and are now paid employees!

“I love working here,” states Ms. Krom. “I love this library and working here is just the best!” Cassie began working in August, after the final summer reading program event.

Seth will begin his BPL career as of September 30th. He brings with him a great deal of technological know-how and a

friendly smile!



Seth Berggren

WrestleMania...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, GUYS AND GALS...get ready to READ and WIN! If you're in the 5th-12th grades, you can join the WrestleMania Reading Challenge!

Sign up begins on Saturday, October 16th, and ends on October 25th. Those wishing to sign up must pledge to read five books between October sign up and April, 2011. Those who complete the pledge earn a chance at prizes.

For the chance to win a trip to

Caption describing picture or graphic.

WrestleMania XXVII in Atlanta, Georgia, pledges must design a poster or bookmark (see Miss Wendy for all details starting October 16th!).

This event is sponsored by YALSA, the Young Adult Library Services Association.

"All you wrestling fans .. Come on down!" encourages Miss Wendy. "This is going to be a blast! With a little reading, and a little imagina-



tion, you and a guest might be off to Atlanta!"

SAVE THE DATE:

OCTOBER 16th (registration begins!)



"With a little reading and a little imagination, you and a guest might be off to Atlanta!"

— Miss Wendy

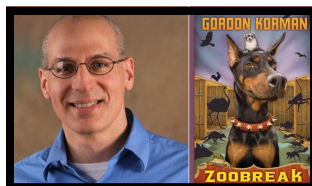
Author Visit...

WHO is that guy that writes all those fun, cool books that I really like reading.....??

GORDON KORMAN! That's who! The great news is he's coming to Omaha on Tuesday, October 19th. This event is free and open to the public. Mr. Korman will be both speaking and signing books at the Omaha Community Playhouse, 6915 Cass Street. The doors open

at 6:00 p.m.

Korman is the author of *Zoobreak*, *Swindle*, *Shipwreck* and many more. Twenty of his books can be found in our library!



Stop by the Circulation Desk and enter to win a copy of ZOOBREAK by Gordon Korman — winner will be announced October 18th! (Just in time for the author's visit!)

Halloween...

What are you going to be for Halloween this year? A ghost, a goblin, a princess? Whatever you decide to be, plan on dressing up and coming to the BPL Halloween Story Time Extravaganza!

Come one, come all on October 26th, at 6:30 p.m. for stories, refreshments and a special Halloween craft.



This event is sponsored by the Blair Public Library Friends



Patrons of all ages enjoy our Halloween festivities. Stories, crafts, and refreshments!

AT A GLANCE

Contact Information

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Gayle Roberts, Director
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CHECK US OUT!

September:

Toddler Time, 10:30 am: 13th, 20th, 27th
Story Times, 10:30 am: 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
After School Activities, 4:00 pm: 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
Book Club, 7:00 pm: 28th (Grapes of Wrath)
Game Night, 7:00 pm: 24th

October:

Toddler Time, 10:30 am: 4th, 18th, 25th
Story Times, 10:30 am: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
After School Activities, 4:00 pm: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
Book Club, 7:00 pm: 26th (Grapes of Wrath)
Game Night, 7:00 pm: 22nd
Halloween Extravaganza!, 6:30 pm: 26th
WrestleMania signup: October 16th
CLOSED: October 11th (Columbus Day)

www.blairpubliclibrary.com

Our Favorite Two "F"s...

Parents and teachers alike don't like the sound of an "F" — but we do. Without our favorite two "F"s, we'd be lost!

Our "FRIENDS" of the library strive to raise funds and provide programming for children and adults alike. Thanks to the Friends of the Library, we have a newly painted children's area, new library cards, refreshments during our special story times and summer reading festivities; and last but not least, intellectually based adult events (i.e. author visits). They continually support library growth through book sales and special fundraising events.

If you haven't joined yet, please consider doing so. It's the best five dollars you'll spend!

Our "FOUNDATION" is actively raising funds as well! They support our library collection, help us purchase larger priced items (such as our new encyclopedia set), and are raising money for our proposed new library building.

Memorials and monetary gifts to the library should be directed to the Blair



**Our Friends and Foundation
make smiles like these possible.**

Public Library Foundation. Donors are encouraged to let the librarians know how they prefer their money be spent. For instance, if the money is a memorial, is there a preference as to what type of book or material you would like purchased? If your gift is a donation, do you prefer it go for materials (books, etc.), be designated for the new building, or be considered "unrestricted?" Unrestricted funds are used at the Foundation's discretion.

The Foundation accepts cash or checks. All gifts and donations are welcomed and appreciated.

Need more information on joining the Friends or supporting the library through the Foundation? Please give us a call at 426-3617!