



Library Tidings

Book Review "Camping Grounds" by Phoebe S. K. Young

Camping appears to be a simple proposition, a time-honored way of getting away from it all. Pack up the car and hit the road in search of a shady spot in the great outdoors. For a modest fee, reserve the basic infrastructure — a picnic table, a parking spot and a place to build

a fire. Pitch the tent and unroll the sleeping bags. Sit under the stars with friends or family and roast some marshmallows.

This book reveals that, for all its appeal, the simplicity of camping is deceptive, its history and meanings far from obvious.

Why do some Americans find pleasure in sleeping outside, particularly when so many others, past and present, have had to do so for reasons other than recreation? Never only a vacation choice, camping has been something people do out of dire necessity and as a tact of political protest. Yet the dominant interpretation of

camping as a modern recreational ideal has obscured the connections to these other roles.

A closer look at the history of camping since the Civil War reveals a deeper significance of this American tradition and its links to core beliefs about nature and national belonging.

"Camping Grounds" re-discovers unexpected and intertwined histories of sleeping outside. It uses extensive research to trace surprising links between veterans, tramps, John Muir, African American freed people, Indian communities, and early leisure campers in the nineteenth century: tin-can

News about the Siuslaw Public Library by Kevin Mittge

tourists, federal campground designers, Depression-era transients, family campers, backpacking enthusiasts and political activists in the 20th century; and the crisis of the unsheltered and the tent-based Occupy Movement in the 21st.

These entwined stories show how Americans camp to claim a place in the American republic and why the outdoors is critical to how we relate to nature, the nation, and each other.

Endowment Books: Spotlight on Biography
Several hundred books were purchased this year with funds provided by the

Siuslaw Public Library Endowment fund.

Among the books are a wide variety of biographies, including: "Abe: Abraham Lincoln in his Times" by David S. Reynolds; "Bookish Broads: Women Who Wrote Themselves Into History" by Lauren Marino; "The Girl Explorers" by Jayne Zanglein; "Jim Bridger: Trailblazer of the American West" by Jerry Enzler; "The Last American Aristocrat: The Brilliant Life and Improbable Education of Henry Adams" by David S. Brown; "Lives of the Stoics: The Art of Living from Zeno to Marcus Aurelius" by Ryan Holliday and Stephen Hanselman; "Mike Nichols:

A Life" by Mark Harris; "Stalin: Passage to Revolution" by Ronald Grigor Suny; and "The Van Gogh Sisters" by Willem-Jan Verlinden.

Summer Food Service Program for Kids

Free lunch is provided to kids 18 years of age and under from 12:20 to 12:40 p.m. at the back entrance of the library.

This service, running through Aug. 27 and administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is a federally-funded, state administered program to provide nutritious meals and snacks when school is not in session.

IRS Criminal Investigation warns taxpayers about Child Tax Credit Scams

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Criminal Investigation Division is warning taxpayers about Child Tax Credit-related scams, which criminals may use to steal money and personal information.

While millions of American families started receiving the advance Child Tax Credit payments last week, criminals were already looking for innovative tactics to take advantage of unwitting victims. Taxpayers should be on the lookout for a variety of phone, e-mail, text message and social media scams targeting families eligible for the credit.

Any communication offering assistance to sign up for the Child Tax Credit or to speed up the monthly payments is likely a scam. When receiving unsolicited calls or messages, taxpayers should not provide personal information, click on links, or open attachments as this may lead to money loss, tax-related fraud, and identity theft.

"For the first time, Americans are receiving advance payments of the child tax

credit, giving rise to historic relief for millions of working families. Unfortunately, with these payments, there are those who, driven by greed, will try to exploit you for your child tax credit payment," said IRS Criminal Investigation Acting Special Agent in Charge Corinne Kalve. "Taxpayers need to be aware of these threats and act with caution."

According to Scott Erik Asphaug, Acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon, "Advance payment of the child tax credit will give much needed support to millions of American families. Unfortunately, some individuals see these payments as an opportunity to enrich themselves at

the cost of hardworking parents. Along with our partners at IRS, we will do everything in our power to prevent criminals from taking advantage of these families."

Although scammers constantly come up with new schemes to try and catch taxpayers off-guard, there are simple ways to identify if it is truly the IRS reaching out.

- The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers via e-mail, text messages or social media channels to request personal or financial information, even information related to the Child Tax Credit.
- The IRS does not leave pre-recorded, urgent or threatening messages. Ag-

gressive calls warning taxpayers about a lawsuit or arrest are fake.

- The IRS will not call taxpayers asking them to provide or verify financial information so they can obtain the monthly Child Tax Credit payments.
- The IRS will not ask for payment via a gift card, wire transfer or cryptocurrency.

For taxpayers eligible for advance payments of the Child Tax Credit, the IRS will use information from their 2020 or 2019 tax return to automatically enroll them for advance payments. Taxpayers do not have to take any additional action. Taxpayers who are not required to file a tax return or who

have not provided the IRS their information, may visit [IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021](https://www.irs.gov/childtaxcredit2021) to provide basic information

for the Child Tax Credit. To report suspicious IRS-related phishing and online scams, visit [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).

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