

Between the Bookends

By Susan Cackler, Library Assistant
Banks Public Library



The summer reading program is in full swing at the Banks Public Library! BJ the Clown opened the series of special events last week. The next event will be Thursday, July 8 at 2:00 p.m., when the Pink Pig Puppet Theatre presents "3 Frogs, 1 Troll and the Big Splash." Seriously Funny Juggling will be on July 15, Myrna the Mermaid and the Golden Key will be a puppet show on July 22, and the series will close with "Somos la Musica," a bilingual musical celebration on July 29. All shows are on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. in the community room of the library.

The last day to sign up for the summer reading program is July 15, and the first day to turn in a completed reading record is August 1. All forms must be returned by August 30 to claim a book prize. This year, adults are also welcome to take part in the fun. No need to set a goal; just sign up and start reading. Adults will be eligible for a weekly drawing and a grand prize drawing, just like the kids.

The Friends of the Banks Public Library will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets at Sunset Speedway on Saturday, July 10. Come out and enjoy the races and support the library.

Join us for craft night Wednesday, July 14 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the community room. Enjoy some lively conversation while you work on your favorite craft. Meet some new friends or visit with old ones while using the library's work space and enjoying some light

snacks. You may find knitters, scrapbookers, quilters and maybe even a tatter or two.

Do you have a youngster who needs something to do on Wednesday morning? Story time at the library could be the answer to what to do. Our reader, Miss Cathy, picks a few stories around a theme each week and shares these stories with the children in an entertaining, engaging way. Join us for Preschool Story Time on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the community room of the library. Story Time is designed for children aged three to six, but younger siblings are welcome.

The themes for July are:

July 7: Down on the Farm
July 14: The Bunny Hop
July 21: Mice are Nice
July 28: Rainbow of Colors

The Friends of the Banks Public Library can always use your support. You can make a tax deductible donation, become a member, or volunteer. Money that the Friends raise helps the library purchase Cultural Passes, upgrade equipment and purchase books and movies. Also, we take donations of books that are in good condition.

On the shelf:

Sacred Hearts by Sarah Dunant. This historical novel is set in the Italian convent of Santa Caterina in 1570. Serafina, a sharp and defiant 16-year-old, has been ripped from the man she loves by her family and sent to the convent. Her first night there she is in such a violent rage that the dispensary mistress, Suora Zuana, is dispatched to the girl's cell to sedate her. Thus begins a complex relationship of trust and betrayal. As Serafina protests her confinement, rebellion mounts in the convent and, beyond its walls, the dictates of the Counter-Reformation begin a regime of oppression on the already-limited freedom of the nuns. Dunant has crafted a rich,

multifaceted love story that includes passion, the exultation of the spirit and the deep power of friendship.

The Modern Girl's Guide to Sticky Situations by Jane Buckingham. Buckingham, author of *The Modern Girls Guide to Life*, is back with a collection of helpful quick fixes for the deserving gal with the best intentions who gets caught in sticky situations. Her suggestions are witty and wise and will make you smile, while also preparing you for tricky events. For instance, the book includes what to do if you send an e-mail you instantly regret, botch your self-tan, discover your best friend's husband is cheating on her or break your corkscrew while opening your only bottle of wine. Whether you read the book to be prepared or just to be thankful you haven't been in those situations, it is entertaining and may come in handy.

The Strength in What Remains by Tracy Kidder. This is the story of one man's inspiring American journey and of the ordinary people who helped him, providing testimony to the power of second chances. Deo arrives in the United States from Burundi in search of a new life. Having survived a civil war and genocide, he lands at JFK airport with two hundred dollars, no English and no contacts. He ekes out a precarious existence until he meets the strangers who will change his life. Their influence takes him to Columbia University, medical school and a life devoted to healing.

If I Stay by Gayle Forman. Mia was a young woman with everything: a loving family, an adoring boyfriend and a bright future. Then, in an instant, almost all of that is taken from her. Caught between life and death, between a happy past and an unknowable future, Mia spends one critical day making the only decision she has left. What is left for her if she fights to live? This is a novel about the dilemma of choice that is both tragic and hopeful.

Banks Public Library: 111 Market Street.
Hours: Mon., Fri., Sat., 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs., 11 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Preschool Story Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Phone: (503) 324-1382 for information
Internet: www.wcccls.org
Browse library resources, reserve or renew materials online. *Call for information.*

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