

Several Upcoming Activities at Columbus Public Library

by Kelli Keyes

Prior to summer reading beginning, people had the opportunity on May 19 to hear author Vicky Benson tell about her husband's life journey in the book "Out of the Turret and into Hell." It is the story of one family's passage through the difficult times of the Depression, and the son who wanted to fly. Vicky Benson recounts with humor and wisdom how the Benson brothers were dropped off at an orphanage, confirmed that "us Benson brothers are tough" and how a strange premonition helped a young man survive the trauma of battle, capture, and German prison camps. Vicky Benson will also have copies of her book to sell. A wonderful opportunity to support a local author and find a gift someone will treasure.

Summer Reading registration starts June 4 and runs through June 8. We want to start our summer reading programs with a welcome week for patrons to register for summer fun. We have summer reading fun for everyone! The children's program covers newborn to fifth grade, the young adult program covers sixth to twelfth grade, and the adult program covers everyone 19 and older. Each program has reading incentive prizes and fun programs to attend. Sign up to get all the information. A calendar of events will be available upon registration. Patrons may sign up anytime during the program, which ends July 31.

We have our "Food 4 Fines" opportunity coming June 3 through June 9, during our summer reading registration, where for one week you can bring in three cans of food or more to the library and we will forgive the late fines on your account. Only late fees will be forgiven, not charges for lost or damaged items. The cans of food are donated to the Platte County Food Panty.

The Ritter family is bringing their music to the library Thursday, June 7 at 7 pm. The VoiceHouse Quartet is part of a family business that Fred and Becky Ritter started after his retirement 3 years ago. They envisioned a venture that would allow their love for God, each other, and music to grow and to share with the world. This father, son, and daughters quartet has performed regularly in the Columbus Nebraska area as well as at the Nebraska Choral Directors Association Summer convention, NCDCA Singing Youth State Honor Choir, and at other choral festivals.

Have you always wanted tips on how to cook healthy meals for your family? Here is the class for you! On Saturday, June 9 at 2 pm, the library is bringing Joan Plummer, RD LMNT from the Columbus Community Hospital to demonstrate healthy cooking for us. She will hand out recipes and samples, while giving us quick and easy cooking ideas. Let's learn how to cook more food at home with healthy ingredients!

Bob and Sheila Everhart from the Smithsonian Institution are coming on Saturday, June 16 at 2 pm with their guitars to play western music for us. Their program "How Western Music was Won" will be about stories behind the songs of the old west. They have a special story for us about Nebraska and the song "Streets of Laredo". Bring your friends and family to this free event and enjoy beautiful guitar harmony. These two are known for their talent!

All this fun is just for June! More fun and programs are coming in July. Sign up for all the details or check the event calendar on cplconnect.us.