

Librarian's Shelf by Brad Hruska

"A Couple of Last Hurrahs"

With May being the final month in the 2012-13 Columbus school year, a number of "lasts" are sure to be taking place. Students will be writing their last book reports, teachers will be grading their last set of exams, and parents will be working on those last minute plans involving their children in summer activities. But for the Columbus Public Library a couple of significant last hurrahs already took place!

On Wednesday, May 1, from 6-7:45 p.m. parents had the opportunity to culturally enrich the lives of their children by attending an evening Spanish language story time sponsored by the Platte Valley Literacy Association and conducted by Jaun Lara's CCC-Platte Spanish language class. The event entertained youngsters with fun stories read in Spanish by seven of Lara's talented pupils. Cookies and popsicles were provided to the attendees and various prizes were awarded to the children!

This Spanish language story time was the kickoff event for the Columbus Public Library's new Spanish language program entitled "Spanish Language Tales with Miss Amber." This program is set to take place every Tuesday night from 6-6:30 p.m. beginning May 7. During this time, children will listen to stories read in Spanish by Amber Keyes, a library staff member and one of Jaun Lara's gifted students! The event is open to the public and free to all who attended.

The "Week of the Young Child/National Library Week" story time program, which was originally set for Thursday, April 18, was rescheduled for Thursday, May 2 at 6:30 p.m. Eager little ears had one last opportunity to hear great stories read by local celebrities like Sandie Fischer and Susan Littlefield. Participants then created unique bookmarks with help from those crafty gals from the Columbus Arts Council, Lisa Rosendahl and Susan Schoenhofer. The children then enjoyed a tasty fruit snack treat. The first 75 children received a free hardcover picture book. The goal of the program was to celebrate the young child in all of us!

On May 4, the last "Super Sensational Saturday" event of the school year was held at the Columbus Public Library at 10:30 a.m. This final program was like nothing families had ever seen because a group of energetic Girl Scouts, lead by Shawna Booth, put on a puppet show, featuring colorful, plush, four-legged, and feathered fairy tale friends. There was popcorn, animal sounds, and laughs for all who attended!

A big thank you to those who helped make these last activities a huge success! Parents and children who were not able to attend these fun programs need not fret because the Columbus Public Library will once again be offering its annual summer reading program! This year's theme is "Dig into Reading @ Your Library!" A number of fun activities and events are scheduled with more

details to come. Registration for this year's summer festivities will begin on Monday, June 3.
Parents please be watching for informative handouts to be coming home from school with your child!