

Librarian's Shelf by Kelli Keyes

Summer Reading is here!

Tuesday, May 26th, marks the start of the second year of registration for the Adult Summer Reading program. The young adult and children's registration also starts this Tuesday. The library is closed Sunday and Monday for Memorial Day. We want to beat our record of 200 people that signed up for the adult program last year. So come register and make those numbers fly! We will be having so much fun! This year's theme is "Every hero has a story", which you may have seen painted on our front window. I'm so happy to be able to offer an adult program so the whole family can read for prizes. Adults can sign up and receive a packet explaining our summer reading program. It's very simple. You read two books per reading ticket, turn your ticket in at the library, and get a prize. This ticket then goes into a drawing for three monthly prizes and also goes into a drawing for the grand prize of an e-reader tablet at the end of the program.

You are not required to attend any events but we have some awesome ones if you want to. Saturday, June 13th, at 2:00 PM is our novice crochet class. This is a class for those that have never crocheted but want to learn. Then Saturday, June 20th, at 2:00 PM will be our beginners crochet class for those that know how to crochet but want to learn a little more. We had such a big interest in crochet last year that we could see we needed to have more than one class for the different levels of expertise. We will provide crochet hooks and yarn, but if you have your own please bring them. Some wonderful teachers have come together to provide these crochet classes for your library. Saturday, June 27th, at 2:00 PM we have a fun class on comic book physics. Professor Dan Claes will have a fascinating presentation on the physical limitations of giants, elements, and the helicarrier, sponsored by UNL Speakers Bureau. Saturday, July 18th, at 2:00 PM our last class to wrap up our adult summer reading program will be a visit from a popular local author, Stephanie Grace Whitson. She will come and talk about quilting, living in sod houses, and her new book, "Daughter of the Regiment". Copies will be available for purchase at her visit. We have this book and several of her other books available if you want to read them before she comes.

This year we have added a short story contest. This was a suggestion from a patron that we were able to integrate into our program. The short story can be one to five pages long. It can be typed, printed, or emailed to library@columbusne.us by July 1st. They will be judged by several staff members on plot, characterization, setting, atmosphere, writing quality, and likability. The winning story will be published at the library for others to read. There will be a grand prize, second, and third place prizes of Amazon gift cards.

One last, quick note. June 5th through the 14th the library will have a "Food for Fines" drive. You can bring in three or more cans per account and overdue fines will be forgiven. Please, no expired cans. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring in those really late books and DVD's and have your overdue fines erased! This will not cover lost or damaged items. Don't pass up this chance to clear your accounts!