

September is nearing to a close and October is coming soon. What happened to summer? I'm sure I'm not alone in wondering how this year passed so quickly. At the Columbus Public Library we just finished a class on canning salsa taught by Jackie from the UNL Extension Office. She received rave reviews for her workshop and for her salsa. If you are wondering what programs we have coming next you can check out our Facebook page or go to <http://www.columbusne.us/library> to view our calendar of events.

In October we will partner with the Downtown Business Association and be a part of the Trick or Treat Day on the Square. Trick or Treat Day is on Saturday, October 24th from 10:00 am to noon. The farmer's market will be there along with other fun family activities. Events are all free to children dressed in Halloween costumes. There will be a bouncy house, decorate-a-pumpkin art, Halloween crafts, hayrack rides and so many other fun things! I will be there along with Mr. H., our children's librarian, Dianne, our reference assistant, and some of our faithful volunteers, so stop by and see us! We will also have candy and bookmarks at the library on the 24th and on Halloween the 31st.

Sunday, October 25th at 2 pm the Friends of the Library are bringing in Chris Sayre from Humanities Nebraska. Chris Sayre's topic is "Nebraska's Musical Smorgasbord". This program explores the rich diversity of folk music that has been a part of Nebraska's history from the time it was a territory to the present day. Sayre invites his audience to experience the music of the ethnic groups that have called Nebraska home. Come hear him perform on the button accordion, concertina, dulcimer, guitar, mandolin, musical saw and zithers.

Thank you to all who take part in our library. On average 400 people a day walk through our doors. With those numbers you can imagine how many books, DVD's and other items we check out to patrons. We value our patrons' suggestions and involvement always, but especially while plans for a new library are in our future. One awesome suggestion given by a patron that we were able to implement was email notifications. You can add your email address to your existing account and all your family member's accounts to receive overdue notices. The neat thing is that you get your first email notice two days before your items are due so you have time to renew them without accruing fines. This can be accomplished by a simple phone call to the library at 402-564-7116 or you can log into your account and renew online. The second email comes two days after items are due and the third email comes seven days after items are due. If you have any suggestions for us, we would love to hear them.

Patrons may also make purchase suggestions. For example, if you come to the library and can't find the book you are looking for, you can fill out a suggestion slip for the library to order that book. If the library orders your suggestion you will then be called as soon as the book is ready for check out and be the first person to read it. This is a handy tool for books missing in a series that you are reading. Another alternative would be to interlibrary loan a book. This means that if you need a book that we don't carry we can borrow it from another library for you. There is a low \$2 fee for each book to help cover the cost of shipping. The interlibrary loan service is quicker than ordering a book. Come visit your library and see all we have to offer!