

Summer Reading Club 2013: A Tri-County View

Allegany County Library System, by Jill Craig, WMRL Liaison to ACLS



Expect to hear hoots, toots, peents and peeps around Allegany County this summer, moving from Washington Street to George's Creek. This could have something to do with Kevin Dodge's program about the Night Sounds of Appalachia, part of [Allegany County Library System's](#) Summer Reading Club events for children. The exotic dances of India will be performed by Chorevo, a local dance troupe; the teen Summer Reading Club is partnering with Boy Scout Troop 9 as part of Project Green Teen; and author and illustrator Jamison Odone will spark the children's creativity as he brings to life his mole, honey badger, beavers and alligators and even human characters.



And all of this is in addition to the main event: READING! The library staff has visited local schools, talked about the program and handed out reading logs (Tammy Fearon at South Cumberland made 700 logs available to the middle schools alone!). Colorful fliers, brochures and posters are available in all libraries. Patrons are encouraged to visit the Summer Reading Club at: <http://alleganysummerreading.wordpress.com/> where they can print out their own log and check the calendar of events, besides viewing the Picture of the Week. Book discussion groups are active in all branches so, read, discuss, add to and return your reading log for amazing prizes. READ ON.

Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County, by Julie Zamostny, WMRL Liaison to RELIB



Young readers in Garrett County will, “dig into reading” this July, at [Ruth Enlow Library’s Summer Reading Club 2013](#). Participants will find adventure and make discoveries at the various programs planned at local libraries. From archeology to salamanders, gardening, dinosaurs, and mining, the topics promise to be fun and educational.

All programs are free, and children choose their own reading materials and track their progress using the reading logs provided. “Summer Reading Club helps stop the ‘summer slide’ – a documented two-month loss in learning over the summer break – by encouraging students to dig into reading about topics that are fun and exciting,” said Deb Spurrier, Children’s Specialist at the Oakland Library. “Motivating children to read over the summer helps bridge the gap in learning between the end of one school year and the beginning of the next one.”

Registration for the program began June 1st. All those interested in attending the series are asked to call their local library branch to register, or to email the following contacts: Deb Spurrier (deb.s@relib.net) for Oakland, Susan Haydel (susan@relib.net) for Accident, Sandra Gregory (sandra@relib.net) for Grantsville, and Diane Kisner (diane@relib.net) for Kitzmiller. Michele Liston, Friendsville Branch Manager, is running a program with books, activities, and crafts from May to August, which requires no registration.

The Friends of the Ruth Enlow Library contributes significant funds towards the library’s summer reading program. Other local organizations and businesses support the program as well with incentives. And statewide, the Baltimore Orioles and the Downtown Partnership in Baltimore contribute tickets and passes to participating libraries.

Washington County Free Library, by Darlene Reimond, WMRL Liaison to WCFL



This summer the Children's Departments of the Washington County Free Library are going to "Dig into Reading." The program will run from June 1st until August 31st. Along with a colorful reading log with stickers, prizes will be awarded. Other activities include visiting a museum or opting for writing a book report instead of accumulating stickers. In the teen program, "Beneath the Surface," a string backpack will be awarded for completing half of the log and the participant will be entered in a drawing for movie tickets and a Kindle Fire when they complete the program. The libraries will also have special programs throughout the summer. The Action Community Theater will perform a fairy tale based play entitled "The Unexpected Journey of Jack Calloway" in June. In July, a "Critters and Conservation" program will showcase a Kenyan Sand Boa, Leopard Gecko and African Pygmy Hedgehog. These programs and more will be showcased at the branches this summer.

This year marks the sixth year for the Adult Summer Reading Club at Washington County Free Library. This year the program "Groundbreaking Reads" will feature a variety of pencil games and weekly prize drawings for theme-related items such as tote bags, t-shirts, notepads, tickets to Discovery Station and the Maryland Symphony Orchestra Masterworks concert. There will be a grand prize drawing for a Kindle Fire HD for those participants submitting short reviews for books read this summer.

In July, Williamsport branch library will host a visit by National Geographic Adventurer of the Year, Jennifer Pharr Davis. She has authored five books and will be available for a book signing following the presentation. Additional activities include book discussions and Master Gardener programs throughout the summer at branch libraries. This summer will be exciting at the Washington County Free Library!