

September and October library events

Reading programs and Halloween activities

By Harriet Halbig

September marked the beginning of the annual All Pikes Peak Reads program, encouraging the community to read specific titles on a given theme. There are titles for all ages of readers. The adult selections are *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway, *China Boy* by Gus Lee, *Sweeping up Glass* by Carolyn Wall, and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie. The children's selection is *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate.

The theme for this year's program is *My Voice, Our Future*.

Three of the authors will be in town during October, giving programs at Colorado College, the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, and Pikes Peak Community College. A number of book clubs will read and discuss the selections.

For dates and times of activities, please visit the library to pick up a special section from the Colorado Springs *Gazette* or visit the district website, PPLD.org.

Family programs

Dance with the Northridge Dance Center on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 1:30 to 3. Come to a free interactive demonstration and explore the basic elements of dance and creative movement. Dancers will perform and encourage patrons to get up and get moving. All ages and levels are welcome.

The monthly meeting of the Legos club is on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 to 11:30. We'll provide the Legos and you bring your creativity. Be sure to bring your camera to record your creation because all pieces used remain property of the Pikes Peak Library District.

Come to a special story time on Tuesday, Oct. 29, from 10:30 to 11:30 and celebrate Pumpkin Day! There will be no 11:15 story time on that day. Bengetta from the Colorado Pumpkin Patch will bring pumpkins to be decorated with stick-on features and explain the process of growing pumpkins.

There will be a special program for homeschoolers from 1 to 2:30 on the fourth Monday of each month. The October program is Hands-on History. Using maps, photos and artifacts, students will learn about the growth of industry in Colorado from 1850 to the present.

Teen programs

Having trouble keeping up in math? Need to brush up before taking your GRE exam? Come to AfterMath each Monday between 3:30 and 7 to access free tutoring. No appointment is necessary. The program will be offered each Monday until May, with the exception of D-38 and library holidays.

Join us for a Crafty Teens program on Wednesday, Oct. 16, from 3:30 to 5. Make a scary sign for your bedroom door! No registration necessary. Ages 12 and up.

Join the new Tech Club, which meets on the fourth Friday of each month from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Registration begins on Sept. 30 and is limited to 14 boys and girls in third grade through the teens. The first session will teach members to design a video game.

Adult programs

Dr. Rita Jordan will speak about supervising and working with employees that span two or three generations in Leading the Inter-Generational Workforce on Friday, Oct. 4, from 9 to 11 a.m. Subjects to be discussed include communication, teamwork, social networking, and the myth of multi-tasking.

The Monumental Readers will meet on Friday, Oct. 18, at 10 a.m. to discuss *Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West* by Dorothy Wickenden. All patrons are welcome to attend.

The AARP Mature Safe Driver Program will be offered on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 1 to 5 p.m. This is the nation's first and largest classroom driver refresher course designed for motorists age 50 or older. A minimum of 10 students is required for the class to be held. Charge for the course is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers. Registration is required. To register, call AARP at



Left: Pam Chaddon of the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs played for the Monumental Readers, Sept. 20. Photo by Harriet Halbig.

358-9580.

A panel of professionals will discuss the aging process and the possibility of having to become a caregiver in Crossing Your Bridge on Monday, Oct. 21, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Some of the subjects include financial matters, legal and tax challenges, healthy living, and one's legacy.

On the wall during October will be Sumi-e, a style of Japanese ink wash painting, by local artist Leslie Kyte. In the display case will be an assembly of bowls collected over the years during the Tri-Lakes Cares Empty Bowl community fundraiser.

Palmer Lake events

The Palmer Lake Book Group meets at 9 a.m. on the first Friday of every month. Please call 481-2587 for the current selection.

Family Fun for October features tarantulas and other creepy crawlies. Tarantula wrangler Rowen Monks is back with an assortment of wild insects for you to see up close on Saturday, Oct. 19, at 10:30.

Join us for Stories in the Dark at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25, in the Palmer Lake Town Hall. In a room lit only by candlelight, stories and special effects will send chills and shivers up your spine and tickle your funny bone. This program is only for the brave, ages 8 and up.

Not So Scary Stories celebrates Halloween with fun and lots of laughs with stories and activities, but without the chills and thrills. This program is on Friday, Oct. 29, at 4:30 is for all ages.

Harriet Halbig can be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

Palmer Lake Historical Society, September 19

The Colorado steel industry

By Bernard L. Minetti

The September meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society featured a presentation titled "Minerals, Iron and Steel" by local historian, Society member, and professional engineer Pat McCarthy. The program covered the history of minerals, steel, and iron, and the associated railroad systems that emerged as a result of the growth of these interrelated industries in Southern Colorado.

McCarthy discussed the evolving iron industry in Southern Colorado from 1872 to the present and how it affected the city of Pueblo economically and environmentally. This resulted from the steel mills and iron ore processing plants at this location. Its beginning can be further traced to W.J. Palmer and his Southern Colorado Improvement Co., which had a charter that required the construction of a steel mill in Southern Colorado. Palmer was an industrialist, engineer, and soldier of the era.

McCarthy noted that the industry resulted in the first integrated steel mill in Southern Colorado, at a site in Pueblo called Bessemer. This company eventually became the largest employer and landowner in Colorado.

McCarthy concluded his talk by noting that steel was initially produced in blast furnaces, which evolved into the use of Bessemer converters, open hearth, the basic oxygen furnace, and eventually the electric furnace. The products resulting from these evolving methods of making steel, he added, were items such as nails, tubing, rods, bars, and rails, to name a few. This industry added greatly to the economy of Colorado in that time.

Board President Al Walter asked for nominations of people to serve as Society board members in 2014. Society Director-at-Large Tom VanWormer asked for a loan of data and photos that might be related to information contained in a book that he was commissioned by the Society

to resurrect and publish called *Outlying Areas*. Deceased Society member, author, and Palmer Lake resident Lucille Lavelett originally wrote this book. The book covers local history. Walter may be contacted at 719-559-0525, and VanWormer may be contacted at 719-481-8273.

The October meeting of the Palmer Lake Historical Society will feature a free presentation titled "Ghosts of Douglas and Surrounding Counties." Sham Boyd will be the presenter at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, at the Palmer Lake Town Hall, 28 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake.

Bernard Minetti may be contacted at bernardminetti@ocn.me.

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