

February and March library events

By Harriet Halbig

February was an exciting month at the library. Prince and Princess Day was popular and entertaining and Diane Sawatzki's book signing filled the community room with interested patrons.

March promises to bring more excitement to the library, with early literacy programs and special spring break programs.

Family programs

March 9 will be a special day packed with exciting activities. The Countdown to Kindergarten Carnival will take place from 10 to noon, with fun ideas to help your child get ready for kindergarten through singing, playing, talking, reading, and writing. Each child will get a free book and snacks and enjoy fun activities. No registration is required.

During the afternoon on the 9th there will be a Dr. Seuss Extravaganza. The Monument Home Depot will bring tools and supplies so that everyone can build an organizer box. The Cat in the Hat and Thing I and Thing II will be making balloon creations. The extravaganza will take place from 1:30 to 3:00 in the afternoon.

The Legos Club will meet on March 16 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Lego enthusiasts of all ages are invited to come and create. All Legos will remain the property of the library, so please remember to bring your camera. Donations of Legos are always welcome.

AfterMath free math tutoring is provided on Mondays from 3:30 to 7 p.m. All ages are eligible to take advantage of this service. No appointment is necessary.

Spring break programs

Chickens in the Library will open the week on Monday, March 25, from 2 to 3 p.m. Meet some of the friendliest chickens ever, hear chicken stories, and make a gadget that sounds like a chicken. Laura Foye brings her favorite birds for you to pet and will inform you about these interesting animals.

Magic with Science Matters will explore some of the real reasons behind some of your favorite magic tricks. Learn how you can do them at home. The program will be from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Bring the whole family to enjoy Katherine Dines and Hunk-Ta-Bunk-Ta music on Wednesday, March 27, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Award-winning children's songwriter Katherine Dines jam-packs every performance with movement, sign language, sing-alongs, props, and more. You'll sing and dance and shout and participate on stage as everyone is part of the show.

Teen programs

Teens 12 and up are invited to learn to knit! Experienced knitters will get you started on your first knitting project. Join us on Friday, March 15, from 3:30 to 5. If you get stuck later or just want to knit more, come to the follow-up session at the same time on April 5. All materials are provided, but bring your own needles (size 8 or 9) if you have them. Registration is recommended online, or call 488-2370 so we can plan our supplies.

Adult programs

Life Circles is a supportive writing group providing discipline, inspiration, and structure in writing one's memories or history. The group meets from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on the first and third Mondays of the month. No registration is required.

The Monumental Readers book club will meet on Friday, March 15, from 10 until noon to discuss *The Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. New members are welcome.

March is always a delight at the library because the Palmer Divide Quiltmakers share their skills with fabric and color throughout the library. Small items will be in the display case.

Palmer Lake Library events

The Palmer Lake Book Group meets at 9 a.m. on the first Friday of every month. New members are welcome and no registration is required. Please call 481-2587 for the current selection.

Meet Olivia the Pig! Come and meet a real piglet, Olivia, and learn about pig behavior and care from Sue, Olivia's owner. Make a piggy craft of your own to take home. The program will begin at 10:30 on Saturday, March 16.

Read with Kirby, our golden retriever friend, or Misty the Sheltie. Read to these friendly dogs and select a prize. The program will take place on Thursday, March 14, from 4:40 to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday, March



Above: Local author and librarian Diane Sawatzki signs copies of her first book at the library.
Photo by Harriet Halbig.

30, from 11 until noon.

Our special spring break program will be Magic with Science Matters. Explore the real reasons behind some of your favorite magic tricks and, under the guidance of the Science Matters staff, learn how you can do them at home.

Enjoy nature photographs by local artist Claudia Go-dec during March. Artwork by Palmer Lake Elementary School students will be on display in the children's room.

Please note that all Pikes Peak Library District facilities will be closed on Easter Sunday, March 31.

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Like to take pictures? We need photographers to cover local events.

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If you can spare a few hours to help make an important difference in our community, please contact John Heiser at (719) 488-3455 or johnheiser@ocn.me.

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