



Bridges

Converse County Library

Volume 1, Issue 4

Special points of interest:

- September is Library Card Sign-up Month
- Storytime starts September 14
- Banned Books Week September 24-October 1
- Booksale runs October 3-8
- Vintage Ladies Clothing Accessories on display

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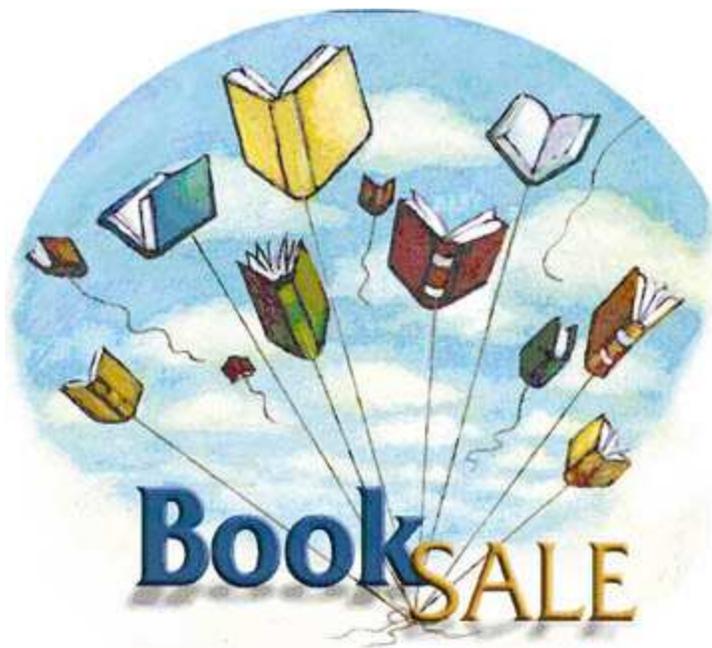
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Booksale to run October 3-8

Last year the library served home-made soup at our annual booksale. Since this was such a huge success, we decided to try it again this year. We will be serving home-made soup, bread and a dessert for a donation of \$3.00. We will have a different soup each day, so stop by and have lunch with us while you shop for books.

The Converse County Library Foundation sponsors a booksale each year to help fund activities, purchase equipment or special book collections that are not attainable through our regular funding.

The items for sale come from donations we receive throughout the year from people in the community, and from weeding our



shelves of materials that are out of date or have not circulated in a certain time period.

Join us at the Masonic Temple,

138 N. 4th St., October 3-8 during regular library hours to see what treasures await you, and for a bowl of hot homemade soup.

Monday hours extended

The Converse County Library will soon have extended hours on Mondays. Starting September 6, we will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is a goal the staff has been working towards for many years. With the longer hours we will be better able to serve our regular Monday patrons, and hopefully gain some new patrons as well. Our regular hours

will be: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-6:00, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00-8:00, and 9:00-2:00 on Saturday.

The Glenrock Branch Library will be opening their doors for the first time from 2:00-5:00 p.m. starting Monday, September 12. This will enable them to be available for the after school crowd,

and possibly generate some new patronage. Their hours will be: Monday 2:00-5:00, Tuesday & Thursday 10:00-8:00, Wednesday & Friday 10:00-5:00, and Saturday 10:00-1:00.

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Teen Happenings

Summer reading wrapped up nicely with an increase in attendance and all round interest toward reading, crafts and volunteer work (thank you all). This year, three times as many teenagers completed the "Joust Read" summer reading program, compared to last. We hope to have bigger prizes and more activities next year.

GET REAL! @ your library! October 16-22, Converse County Library is alive with Teen Read Week related books

and programs on topics such as: biographies, self-help books, strange but true stories, documentary films, and much, much more. We'll be celebrating with food, trivia, and prizes Thursday, October 20th at 6:00 p.m. For any teens or parents who want to know more, or how they can help, contact Ian Lindeman at the Converse County Library.

National Endowment for the Humanities is granting Classics to the Converse County Library. As part of its We the

People initiative, NEH has established the *We the People Bookshelf* to highlight a short list of classic books for young readers at different grade levels. Each year, NEH selects books that share a theme important to the nation's heritage. "Freedom" is the new theme for 2004-05, and the Converse County Library has been chosen as a recipient for these books. Arrival of books and program dates are still forthcoming.



"...users spoke on behalf of the library and we are grateful for your support."

Library receives funding increase

Converse County Commissioners awarded the library a twenty-five percent (25%) increase in funding for the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 budget. After three years of stable funding, this much welcomed raise in funding helps meet increased expenses in library materials, utilities, insurance, and other areas. One of the first areas that will be visible to the public is the changes to Monday hours at both libraries.

Attention will also be given to a community calendar as well as exploration of added outreach services.

A number of library users spoke to the Commissioners on behalf of the library and we are grateful for your support. For those of you, who spoke up, please express your appreciation to the Commissioners the next time you see them. And a special thank you to

Frank Eathorne, Sharon Lovitt, and Mark Cash for their recognition of the library's needs and the value it contributes to the community.

Searchasaurus available to patrons

The library provides access to information that is available through our online databases. In this issue we are promoting Searchasaurus.

Searchasaurus is a colorful, easy-to-use search interface for elementary and middle school students.

Searchasaurus provides access to magazine articles, pictures, ency-

clopedias, and a dictionary through an animated interface with a dinosaur theme that encourages students to enhance and develop basic search methodologies.

Students will be riveted by the colorful, animated interface, complete with erupting volcanoes and a dinosaur guide, as they gather information on a wide range of

topics.

Visit our online catalog at <http://wyldweb.state.wy.us/conv/> or ask a librarian for further information.



Banned Books Week

Celebrating the Freedom to Read is observed during the last week of September each year. Observed since 1982, the annual event reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted.

Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one's opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular *and* stresses the importance of ensuring the availability of those unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints to all who wish to read them. After all, intellectual freedom can exist only where these two essential conditions are met.

The following is a partial list of the 100 most frequently challenged books: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *Light in the Attic* by Shel Silverstein, *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl, *Face on the Milk Carton* by Caroline Cooney, *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain, *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling, *Goosebumps* series by R.L. Stein, and *The Holy Bible*.

Although they were the targets of attempted bannings, most of the books featured during BBW were not banned, thanks to the efforts of librarians

to maintain them in their collections. Imagine how many more books might be challenged—and possibly banned or restricted—if librarians, teachers, and booksellers across the country did not use Banned Books Week each year to teach the importance of our First Amendment rights and the power of literature, and to draw attention to the danger that exists when restraints are imposed on the availability of information in a free society.

For more information contact a librarian, or go to www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm

“Books and ideas are the most effective weapons against intolerance and ignorance.” - Lyndon Baines Johnson

“The Smartest Card. Get it. Use it. @ your library”

Good food and good times were had by more than 100 people when all three summer reading programs finished with a bang of a party. However, school will be starting in a few days and now is a good time to remind parents that a library card is the most important school supply of all. With almost 16,500 public libraries nationwide, libraries play an important role in the education and development of children.

Every parent can afford to give his

child the key to success—a library card. A library card is free. In hard times, libraries are more important than ever. Nowhere else are books, magazines, the Web, audio and videotapes, CD's, and DVD's more available to *all* people regardless of economic status. When you know how to use a library, you know how to learn for a lifetime.

September is Library Card Sign-up Month. A library card can be the most important card in your wallet. At

Converse County Library, proof of residency and a photo ID are two forms of identification needed when you apply for your card. The signature of a parent or guardian is necessary on an application for those younger than 18. Borrowing privileges are normally granted on the spot.

Converse County Library staff are available to help you make the right choices for you and your family.



Karen's Korner

Tis the season when one's thoughts may turn from "I've been so busy I think I missed summer" to thoughts about what autumn brings—back to school, falling leaves, winter's just around the corner, and Halloween. With a son who was fortunate to be born on October 31 and whose birthday was always a joint celebration of both special days, it's been a family favorite holiday. With Halloween how can one not call to mind trick-or-treating, parties, costumes, and—ghosts. So what about ghosts in libraries? Many libraries across the country are supposedly haunted. The Green River Library is even discussed in the *Whole Library Hand-*

book 3, available at your library of course.

What about our own buildings though? Strange things sometimes do happen and when no other explanation suffices, why not blame it on ghosts until something better comes along. In the eighties Douglas staff members frequently complained about "something" that would nightly move all the step stools to one location and line them up in a row. The custodian as well as employees all denied any knowledge.

As the branch manager in Glenrock, most new employees would comment on spooky noises and the "cold" corner in the non-

fiction area. One staffer who said she could feel ghosts always said the place was haunted. When another younger person was hired in the early 80's she said she would actually see him. A middle-aged gentleman dressed in black slacks and a white shirt. While many people become frightened and upset by the idea of a ghost in the house, Connie made friends with "George." So much so that when she resigned and moved to Texas, George moved with her. After her departure, his presence was no longer felt in the library.

“...most new employees would comment on spooky noises and the “cold” corner...”



Converse County Library Bridges

The mission of the Converse County Library System is to uphold the public's freedom of access to information by providing educational, informational, cultural, and entertainment services and materials in a variety of technologies and formats.

Converse County Library

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We're on the web!
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From the Rock in the Glen

Summer Reading wrapped up the end of July and was VERY successful. A field trip to the Paleon Museum was enjoyed by over 20 people, a program by the Society for Creative Anachronism enthralled 25 people, the adult program saw 39 sign up and 23 participate, eight teens showed for the teen wrap-up party and 60+ were delighted and spell-bound by Chad Lore at the final wrap-up party on July 27.



The book sale in August was draining on the staff but enjoyed by our patrons. School started on the 24th of August and, boy, was it noticeable during the day! We completed re-arranging the adult fiction part of the library and were able to provide a third shelf section for Rita Heath to use with her Young Adult collection. That part of the library



The Society for Creative Anachronism program.

certainly has a more "welcome" feel to it now that the shelves aren't packed full.

Storytime will be starting up again on September 14 with two sessions every Wednesday.

Starting Monday, September 12



Chad Lore end of Summer Reading program.

the library will be open from 2:00-5:00 p.m., we will also be closing at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday.

We would like to welcome Candy Zechiel of Douglas to the Board of Trustees. Welcome aboard Candy!