

Librarian's Report
Freedom Public Library
June 11, 2010

The Friends of the Library's spring meeting took place on May 22nd. The library wishlist I presented was approved by the Friends. See the wishlist below. The Friends are interested in adding one or more additional museum or area attraction passes and have formed a committee to consider this. The volunteer appreciation party was super and I think everyone who came would agree. I want to thank Anne and Scott Cunningham for hosting the crowd and Ellen Many for putting the party together.

We certainly didn't need to change venues to accommodate the crowds at the recent appearance by Rebecca Rule, but the respectable group of 29 folks truly enjoyed themselves and laughed heartily. What an excellent program it was. I wonder if the talk of overflow capacity kept some people away.

I was interviewed by Nathan Ainsworth last week about our summer programs. His article will appear in the July issue of the Freedom Crossroads. I am submitting our calendar of events as well, and it's possible it will also be printed.

The calendar is finished and ready to be printed! I changed the "info" side of the calendar into a newsletter-style format, to change things up a bit. It will go out in the Friends of the Library mailing next week and of course we will have plenty on hand at the front desk.

I am using a lot of volunteers to help me with the summer programs this year, which is a huge help and also a lot of work to get lined up. Heidi Glavin is helping with "Make a Splash – Read" decorations for the library. The writing workshop will be lead by a variety of local folks, including Elizabeth Marx and Sylvie Essex. I am still lining up other volunteers to cover the series. The library will be hopping on Wednesday mornings because we will be having both the writing workshop and storytime at 10:00. I am grateful to Petula Plunges who has agreed to lead some or all of the preschool storytime crafts which will free up Judy to be at the front desk during that busy time. Tim Kennedy has agreed to lead cookie decorating workshops on Teen night and Fun Friday and Sue Hoople will be making felted soaps with the Fun Friday kids. It's exciting to get new volunteers in the library!

Jane Luke and Irene Hopper have been busy soliciting donations for our children, teen and adult summer reading program raffles and I have written a number of request letters and thank you's. There will be lots of great prizes to win again this summer thanks to the generosity of local merchants.

John Porcino will be performing at the elementary school on Monday, June 21st at 2:00. Please spread the word – John is very entertaining. The following day is the last day of school and since it is a half day, I've decided to open early to allow students to come directly to the library after school for a School's Out Party! We'll get them signed up for the summer reading program, play games, watch a movie and eat popcorn. I'll let everyone choose a free book and I'll give some door prizes away.

The library now has three new netbooks to lend in-house to any patron with a library card, thanks to memorial donations in memory of Henry and Jackie Kucera. The computers are barcoded and are checked out like a book, which will allow us keep track of them and keep accurate statistics. Patrons without a library card will not be able to use the netbooks, but are still welcome to use our other public computers. I am working on selecting an effective and affordable software which will re-set the computers to their previous state at shut down. The Go Back software we have on the other computers is not compatible with the netbooks' operating software, Windows 7. I will include a story about the netbooks in the next e-news which I will get out next week.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Rhymer
Library Director