

More than Books

Fall programs for preschoolers

The library's Youth Services Supervisor, Anna Doyle, offers two weekly programs for the preschool set. Every Monday, at 10 a.m., Anna has scheduled a "Sing and Play" session for two-to-five-year olds. It includes singing, dancing, and funny stories, all designed to explore rhythm, sounds, and words.

Every Wednesday, at 10:30 a.m., "Preschool Storytime" Anna or one of her guests reads a couple of story books selected for a pre-school audience. The stories are followed by a craft activity designed to boost early literacy.

Pajama storytime is back

Pajama Storytime is back after an August hiatus. It is a dandy option for working parents who are unable to accompany their children to the library's Wednesday morning storytime.

Pajamas are acceptable but optional attire for this month's 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, September 16 story time. Teddy bears are welcomed. Anna will offer stories, songs, and games to engage ages two-to-seven years old.

Other children's programs

I've barely scratched the surface! For a complete list of children and teen programs, pick up this month's "Off the Shelf" newsletter of events. Anna has several activities connected to this year's Banned Books Week, and the month's activities conclude with a Fall Photo Scavenger Hunt.

Got library cards?

September is the perfect time to sign up for a library card! This month, the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country are reminding people how important a library card is. Here at Freeport Library, everyone who opens a new library account will be entered into weekly drawings for \$10 gift certificate at the library's Gallery Cafe. There will be an adult drawing and a separate drawing for children.

There's a catch for children, however. If a child is under 14 years of age, Freeport Library requires a parent/guardian's signature on the card application. Use of the Internet also requires a signed permission slip up to the age of 18.

The library is open Sunday afternoons, 1-4 p.m., from Labor Day to Memorial Day. If you're new to town, consider making the library a destination for a family outing this Sunday. That way, everyone can come away with cards and a chance to win a \$10 gift certificate.

Happy Birthday, Happy Bookers

The Happy Bookers Book Club, founded by Jean Koberstein and Deb Workman, celebrated its first anniversary at Rafters Restaurant on August 28. I'm proud to say they held their very first meeting here at the library, and I'm proud as punch to have been their anniversary speaker. Club Member Judy Gonder was honored for perfect attendance.

I loved the quotes Judy found for the booklet she created in honor of the occasion. Among my favorites: "A dirty book is rarely dusty," and "No person who can read is ever successful at cleaning out an attic."

Library Director Carole Dickerson may be reached by phone at 815-233-3000, ext. 216 or by email at cdickerson@freeportpubliclibrary.org