

THE NEWS *of* ORANGE COUNTY

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At the Library: Library staff's favorite “Books and More” on display

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Ever wondered what items the Orange County Public Library staff enjoy reading, watching and listening to?

Beginning this month, a new display called “Staff Picks...Our Favorite Books and More” will feature items from the library’s collection, hand-chosen by our very own staff.

Two staff members from the Main Library and one staffer from the Carrboro Branch will choose 10 to 20 items—whether books, movies, music or magazines—to share in the monthly displays. Items displayed at the Main Library will also be featured on the library’s website at www.orangecountync.gov/library.

In September, Maureen from Adult and Teen Services and Kim from Youth Services will share their picks, which include children’s books, movies, adult fiction, non-fiction and more.

All items in the displays are available for checkout. The monthly picks are also listed on bookmarks so you can request items already checked out.

With more than 100,000 items at the library, there are lots of titles to be discovered. And “Staff Picks...Our Favorite Books and More” is just one way to learn about new-to-you books.

For kids and caregivers, reading lists—organized by grade level—are available in Youth Services. Literacy bags based on various themes, including bilingual titles, can also be checked out. More information is available at the library or by going to www.orangecountync.gov/library/literacybags.asp.

Adult and Teen Services also offers many suggested reading lists online. Members of the Teen Advisory Board offer their reading suggestions at www.orangecountync.gov/library/teenservices.asp. Adult reading lists are posted online at www.orangecountync.gov/library/adultreading.asp and are available at the library.

Our librarians can also make personalized reading recommendations for you through the Your Next 5 service. Simply fill out the quick form at www.orangecountync.gov/library/yournext5.asp or complete the paper version at the library. Within a week, one of our librarians will contact you with five personalized reading recommendations.

Storytimes return, new programs begin

After a break in August, children’s storytimes at the Main Library are back in September. These programs incorporate age-appropriate book, rhymes, music and movement for children and their caregivers.

Baby lapsit storytime is Mondays at 10 a.m. and last 20 minutes. Toddler storytime is Tuesdays at 10 a.m. for 25 minutes and is meant for walkers to age 3. Preschool storytime is Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for 30 minutes and is meant for children ages 3 to 5 years old.

Stay and Play sessions are held after each of these storytimes. The 30-minute free-play sessions offer educational toys, puppets and games to engage children in early literacy learning and build social skills. Parents and caregivers benefit, too, by having a chance to meet and chat.

Youth Services is excited to offer Read Together!, a weekend family storytime. Held the first and second Saturdays of the month—which is Sept. 6 and 13 this month—at 11 a.m., the 45-minute program helps children and their parents or caregivers build early literacy skills through rhymes, music, movement and crafts.

Several tween activities for 9- to 12-year-olds are also scheduled this month. The new What Are You Reading? book club kicks off Thurs., Sept. 4, at 6 p.m. There is no assigned reading; kids are invited to eat pizza and share their favorite books in a fun, relaxed setting. Please call 919-245-2532 to register so there is enough pizza for all.

The Tweens Discover afterschool program celebrates the beginning of a new school year with a Back-to-School bash on Thurs., Sept. 11, with games, prizes and a “Rock Your Locker” craft. On Sept. 18, learn how to write a fan fiction story featuring your favorite fictional characters. Both events begin at 4 p.m.

Orange County Public Library serves the community from three locations. The Main Library at 137 W. Margaret Lane in Hillsborough is open seven days a week and can be reached at 919-245-2525. The Carrboro Branch Library inside McDougle Middle School, 900 Old Fayetteville Road in Chapel Hill, and the Cybrary inside The Century Center, 100 N. Greensboro St. in Carrboro, offer complementary hours to serve southern Orange County. Call the Carrboro Branch at 919-969-3006 and the Cybrary at 919-918-7387.