Meet ICPL's new Children's Services Coordinator

Vickie Pasicznyuk is the new Children's Services Coordinator at the Iowa City Public Library. Pasicznyuk was selected from a strong pool of applicants to replace Delih González, who retired on Feb. 24 after 23 years in the position. Pasicznyuk’s first day as Children’s Services Coordinator was March 26. “I look forward to working with the dynamic staff at the Iowa City Public Library and serving the diverse community in Iowa City,” said Pasicznyuk. “She has 18 years of experience working with children in libraries in Texas, Colorado and Iowa.”

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Children's Day of the Iowa Arts Festival

This event is a celebration of the visual and performing arts and is part of the Iowa Arts Festival and City of Iowa City’s Summer of the Arts. It is free of charge and includes an adult, teen, and children's summer reading program kickoff as well as music, magic, storytelling, drawing and art activities, and various performances on City Plaza. Please note: in case of rain, the event will be held inside the Iowa City Public Library. For a detailed schedule, visit newsroom.icpl.org.

Get on the Summer Library Bus

Last year, the library provided 1,126 free bus rides to the Library on the Summer Library Bus. Beginning Tuesday, June 5, the Iowa City Public Library will once again provide free Iowa City Transit bus rides to children to help them keep the reading habit over the summer. This special program will operate on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Children through grade 12, and the adult caregivers with them, can get on any inbound IC Transit bus free during the specified times by showing an Iowa City Public Library card. Ride home free anytime the same day with a Ride & Read Bus Pass. The bus pass is required to obtain a bus pass for the ride home (limit two per week).

The Library will operate the Summer Library Bus for children and families to get to the library and the library outreach services to children. The summer months away from school can result in a loss of reading skills and the Library wants to keep reading habits strong over the summer.

Libraries have shown students can lose an average of one month of school learning over summer vacation. In the words of Dr. Seuss, the means of making learning to read fun, "The more you read, the more you learn. The more you learn, the more places you’ll go!"

Dr. Seuss once wrote, "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go to."

Who was Irving B. Weber? Irving B. Weber was born in 1906, lived his entire life in Iowa City, was educated in Iowa City public schools and graduated from the University of Iowa in 1922. Weber is remembered for many accomplishments. He was the University of Iowa's first All-American swimmer, a founder and President of Quality Child Clubs, an active member of the Iowa City Haystack Lions Club, and school board president in 1952-53. In 1994, Irving B. Weber Elementary School was named in his honor.

Wrestling events at ICPL

When Iowa City hosts the 2012 U.S. Olympic Team Wrestling Trials at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on April 21 and 22, the Iowa City Public Library will welcome locals and visitors alike with wrestling exhibits and programs. Iowa Olympic Gold Medalist Dan Gable will be the featured speaker at a program at 12:30 p.m. Friday, April 20. Gable will sign autographs after the program. The Library will feature exhibits throughout April featuring books and memorabilia from Gable's personal collection as well as other items from the National Wrestling Hall of Fame Dan Gable Museum in Waterloo.

Do you attend the Olympic Wrestling Trials? Do you know the difference between collegiate and Olympic wrestling or want to learn more? Iowa City wrestling legends Tom Lupos (University of Iowa Wrestling 1971-1975, and former Iowa City wrestling coach) and Jeff McGinnis (University of Iowa Wrestling 1994-1998, two-time NCAA wrestling champion, three-time All-American, undefeated Iowa City High wrestler 172-0) will discuss how Olympic wrestling is judged and share stories about their time on the mat and how wrestling shaped their personal lives. Fans at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19.

The Library will also screen "Freestyle, the Victories of Dan Gable," a 1998 documentary about the wrestling great and Buchanan’s 1992 interview with Dan Gable from 2:30 to 5 p.m. April 21.

For more information about wrestling events and resources at the Library, contact Marcie Clark at 319-887-6004 or marcie-clark@icpl.org or visit icpl.org/wrestling.

Meet some Incredible Bats

Bats are blind, carry diseases, and suck blood, right? If you think any of those things are true, this program is for you. Sharon Peterson from Incredible Bats in New Lenox, Ill., will be here to dispel the myths surrounding these incredible creatures with a multimedia presentation for all ages. You will hear bat echolocation calls and see a short video showing a vampire bat, carnivorous bat, fishing bat and much more. Peterson will also discuss how bats and humans coexist in the same world and how the numbers of bats are impacted by habitat loss and sound pollution.

Meet the Bats! Tuesday, July 24, 7 p.m. Room A, ICPL

Iowa City Book Festival

Books and reading. For more information, visit iowacitybookfestival.org in the coming weeks.

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