

County of Fresno Fresno County Public Library Laurel Prysiazny, County Librarian

County Librarian's Report

Summer Reading Program Kickoff A Smashing Success



Wow! Wow! Wow! This year the Summer Reading Program's (SRP) theme is *Dream Big.* On June 16th, the dreaming kicked off big time with a huge celebration at the Sierra Vista Mall in Clovis. Mall management allowed us to be indoors at the last moment, which was a great blessing since it hit 104 that day! Too hot for the Tail Waggin' Tutors that was for sure, but indoors it was a cool time for those great puppies that people love to read to. There were magicians, balloons, face painting, crown/tiara decorating and Clifford the Dog. It was a terrific time and over 1,500 people attended.

This year we have added an Adult Program to encourage adults to read and reap the benefits of summer reading, especially those that have youngsters at home. It is a great family pastime. To date, the SRP registrations are almost double what they are normally at this stage in the program.

Poetry Contest Huge This Year

This year over 150 applicants sent in their poetry for judging. An awards ceremony was held at the Woodward Park Library on June 6th with over 120 people in attendance. Awards were given out in four age categories with a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize for each category. Attendees who had submitted a poem were also encouraged to read their work to the crowd and several people took the opportunity to share their great poems.



Board of Supervisors Approves 1st Reading of Measure B Ordinance

On June 12th the County Board of Supervisors approved the 1st Reading of the Ordinance to renew Measure B. The vote was unanimous and the Supervisors spoke of the critical need for this tax for libraries in Fresno. Without the tax, the Fresno County Public Library and the Coalinga-Huron District Library will lose approximately 54% of our funding.

Coalinga-Huron Library District is 100 Years Old!

On June 22nd, the Coalinga-Huron Library District celebrated its centennial. Over 100 people attended the event. What was curious to learn was that the Library was formed 100 years ago to keep the men working on the oil rigs and camps in the area busy and out of trouble when not on shift. There were many camps at that time and there was not a lot to do when off duty, so a library was considered as a good way to while away one's time. Interesting how times have changed!