YOU BELONG @ YOUR LIBRARY

*NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK*

APRIL 10 - APRIL 16, 2016

Monday, April 11th
Bridger Memorial Library
3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 12th
Clarkton Public Library
3:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 14th
Bladen County Public Library, Main Branch
10:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.

Join us for special stories about books and libraries during story time at each branch!
Celebrate National Library Week 2016 (April 10-16) with the theme

"Libraries Transform"

The 2016 National Library Week theme is Libraries Transform, and Gene Luen Yang will serve as Honorary Chair.

Gene Luen Yang is an award-winning graphic novelist and the 2016-2017 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature. His 2006 book, "American Born Chinese," was the first graphic novel to be a finalist for a National Book Award and the first to win the American Library Association’s Printz Award. It also won an Eisner Award for Best Graphic Album. Learn more at geneyang.com.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

Celebrations during National Library Week include:


- Tuesday, April 12: National Library Workers Day, a day for library staff, users, administrators and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers.

- Wednesday, April 13: National Bookmobile Day, a day to recognize the contributions of our nation's bookmobiles and the dedicated professionals who make quality bookmobile outreach possible in their communities.

http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek
I think we very soon shall see....
A poetry contest at the main library!!

6:30-8:00pm on Thursday, April 14th is the date
Spectators are welcome, so bring your best mate!!

Competition for children, teens, and adults....
1st place prizes for winning results!

Participants may register at the door.
Please ask at the desk, if you need to know more!

April is National Poetry Month

Read it, write it, share it
**National Poetry Month** is the largest literary celebration in the world, with tens of millions of readers, students, K-12 teachers, librarians, booksellers, literary events curators, publishers, bloggers, and, of course, poets marking poetry’s important place in our culture and our lives.

While we celebrate poets and poetry year-round, the Academy of American Poets was inspired by the successful celebrations of Black History Month (February) and Women’s History Month (March), and founded National Poetry Month in April 1996 with an aim to:

- highlight the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of American poets,
- encourage the reading of poems,
- assist teachers in bringing poetry into their classrooms,
- increase the attention paid to poetry by national and local media,
- encourage increased publication and distribution of poetry books, and encourage support for poets and poetry.

[Image: Poster for National Poetry Month 2016]

https://www.poets.org/national-poetry-month/about-celebration
April was first declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by presidential proclamation in 1983. Since then, April has been a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse. In Child Maltreatment 2014 (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children’s Bureau) it was reported that in FFY 2014 in the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, an estimated 646,261 children were victims of child abuse or neglect; and 1,580 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. The majority of child abuse cases stemmed from situations and conditions that can be preventable when community programs and systems are engaged and supportive. A community that cares about early childhood development, parental support, and maternal mental health, for instance, is more likely to foster nurturing families and healthy children.

A body of research has identified factors known to prevent and reduce child abuse and neglect. These factors—including parental resilience, nurturing and attachment, social connections, knowledge about parenting and child development, social and emotional competence of children, and concrete supports for parents—are outlined in Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-Being: A Network for Action 2015 Resource Guide, also developed by the Children's Bureau.

In recognition of the collaborations needed to help prevent child abuse and neglect, the NCTSN has compiled a list of resources for advocates and policy makers, children and adolescents, educators, families and communities, and mental health and child welfare professionals.

Bladen Community College Offers Free Business Classes in April

The Small Business Center (SBC) of Bladen Community College is offering no-cost seminars to help grow or start your business.

How to Read Financial Statements is offered on Monday, April 4, from 2-3 PM, in building 2, room 202, on the Dublin campus.

Use Pinterest to Market Your Small Business explores why having a “Pin it” button will improve your website visibility. You will learn about shareable pins, promoted pins, Pinterest messaging, and the “Buy Now” feature. The seminar is Thursday, April 14, from 1-2 PM, in building 2, room 202, on the Dublin campus.

On April 21, the college will offer Blogging for Small Businesses and Startups. The presenter will help you determine the concept and tone for your blog, learn how to write interesting copy, increase your visibility and attract customers, and get your blog on the internet through your website and other social media venues. The class meets in building 2, room 202, from 6:30-9 PM.

The Business of Being a Self-Published Author is scheduled for Saturday, April 23, from 9 AM until 12 PM. This workshop is designed to help writers make sound business decisions about choosing a publisher, develop a publicity program, and create a marketing budget. The class meets in building 2, room 202, on the main campus.

Setup Your Linkedin Profile is scheduled for Monday, April 25, from 2-4 PM. Students will have access to the campus computer lab and will leave the class with an active Linkedin profile.

The Bladen County Public Library in Elizabethtown will host two seminars for small business owners. Time and Stress Management for Entrepreneurs and Business Owners is scheduled for Tuesday April 12, from 2:30-4:30 PM. Salesman 404 will meet on April 26, from 6-8 PM.

The Bladenboro Community Building will host Bring More Customer Traffic to Your Store or Website on Thursday, April 7, from 6:30-9 PM.

On the East Arcadia Campus, Intro to Social Media Marketing will be held on Tuesday April 12, from 6-8 PM. All seminars are open to the public and provided at no charge due to special funding arrangements for the Small Business Center and Bladen Community College.

To register for any of the seminars or for more information, contact Todd Lyden, Small Business Center Director, at 910-879.5572 or register online: https://www.ncsbc.net/center.aspx?center=75040

Bladen County Health Department approved for YFC grant

Carol Strickland, Young Families Connect Local Coordinator, and Kayla Brianne, Young Families Connect Case-Manager, completed and submitted the Young Families Connect (YFC) grant on February 26, 2016. The YFC grant will be for three consecutive years beginning August 1 and continuing through July 31, 2019. The current grant period will end on July 31, 2016.

Confirmation was received on March 24 that the Bladen County Health Department was approved for the grant and the total amount for three years will be $655,699.

The YFC grant provides programming for Case Managers to work with 13-24 year old pregnant and/or parenting men and women of Bladen County to improve education, self sufficiency, and health/wellness. The YFC grant incorporates contracts and working with local agencies such as: NC Cooperative Extension, Department of Social Services, Families First, Childcare Network, Woods Transportation, Bladen Community College, NC Partnership for Children (Smart Start), NC Works Career Center, EastPointe, Inc., and Bladen County businesses.

http://www.bladenonline.com/bladen-county-health-department-approved-for-yfc-grant/

4-H Presentation District Competition Judges needed

The 4-H Presentation District Competition judges are needed for the annual 4-H Activity Day planned for Saturday, May 14, in Kinston.

Becky Spearman said, “4-H has a district activity day every year where kids from 18 counties will do presentations on a lot of different topics. Agents are asked to be in charge of a group of categories and are asked to find three judges who are kid friendly (or just willing to help) and will make positive and constructive comments for the kids to improve. The winners of each age group and category will get the chance to go on to the State presentations in July.”

Spearman said she needs three judges are needed for environmental sciences (soil and water), bugs and bees, and electricity and Bruce Mclean, Bladen crops agent, needs three volunteers for careers and entrepreneurship.

The district activity day is on Saturday, May 14 in Kinston. Judges will need to leave Elizabethtown at 7:30 a.m. and will return around 3 p.m. Lunch for judges will be provided. So if you are interested in becoming a judge or to learn more about the activity day, contact Spearman at 910-862-4591.

http://www.bladenonline.com/4-h-presentation-district-competition-judges-needed/
Join us for the Elizabethtown Rotary 8K Trail Run and Walk to benefit USO of North Carolina on Saturday, April 16, 2016 starting at 8:30 am at Brown's Creek Nature and Bike Trail, located at 1910 East Broad Street in Elizabethtown, NC.

Runners, walkers, and relay teams are all welcome. Registration is $25 per person. Late registration after Saturday, April 2nd, 2016. Register for our event on Active.com. For more information email elizabethtownrotary@gmail.com or call (910)876-5393.

The third annual Elizabethtown Rotary Club 8K Trail Run and Walk to benefit the USO of NC is set for Saturday, April 16, at 8:30 a.m. at the Brown’s Creek Nature Park and Bike Trail and is sponsored by Ford of Clinton and Healthworks Fitness and Wellness.

The club’s goal is to raise $15,000 for the USO of NC and the Elizabethtown Rotary Club needs your help in meeting this commitment. The event is held each year at the beautiful Brown’s Creek Nature Trail and Bike Park, located at 1910 East Broad Street in Elizabethtown, which features about 6 miles of mountain biking and hiking trails. The park features a winding creek through a hardwood forest setting. Ample parking is available at the park. Registration for the race may be done online at www.elizabethtownrotary8K.org or applications can be obtained at Healthworks Fitness and Wellness located at 1001 West Broad Street in Elizabethtown. There will be awards given for first, second and third place in the men’s and women’s and relay team divisions. Registration packets for the race may be picked up on Friday, April 15, at the Cape Fear Farmer’s Market in Elizabethtown, or on the morning of the event, Saturday, April 16, at 7:30 am. The race will begin promptly at 8:30 am.
BLADEN WE CARE

BYRON H. GOODEN

BLADEN WE CARE

27TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Vineyard Golf at White Lake
Thursday April 21, 2016

27TH ANNUAL BLADEN WE CARE
Live Auction & Dance
Friday April 8, 2016 at THE VENUE
White Lake • NC
$100 Per Couple
7:00-11:00 PM

featuring BLACK WATER RHYTHM & BLUES BAND

Snappy Casual
Beverages Provided • No outside containers or beverages
Proceeds benefit Bladen We Care

Click Now For More Details
presented by Smithfield

Good food. Responsibly.
April 9, 2016 @ 10:00am
Join a park ranger for a hike through the bay forest at Jones Lake State Park and “discover” why this environment is unique. Discussion on the hike will include the flora and fauna of the forest, and why Carolina Bays are important. Participants should meet at the Visitor Center at 10:00 am for this program. Please bring bug spray, water, and hiking shoes. This event is free of charge and is open to the general public. Contact the park office at (910) 588-4550 with any questions.

April 16, 2016 @ 10:00am
Join a park ranger for a hike through the bay forest at Jones Lake State Park and “discover” why this environment is unique. Discussion on the hike will include the flora and fauna of the forest, and why Carolina Bays are important. Participants should meet at the Visitor Center at 10:00 am for this program. Please bring bug spray, water, and hiking shoes. This event is free of charge and is open to the general public. Contact the park office at (910) 588-4550 with any questions.

April 23, 2016 @ 2:00pm
Join a park ranger for a hike through the bay forest at Jones Lake State Park and “discover” why this environment is unique. Discussion on the hike will include the flora and fauna of the forest, and why Carolina Bays are important. Participants should meet at the Visitor Center at 2:00 pm for this program. Please bring bug spray, water, and hiking shoes. This event is free of charge and is open to the general public. Contact the park office at (910) 588-4550 with any questions.

April 30, 2015 @ 8:00pm
Jones Lake State Park will be showing “Saving the Best: North Carolina State Parks at 100”! This is a PBS video showcasing the natural treasures of North Carolina State Parks and celebrating their centennial. The viewing will be located in the front of the Visitor Center at 8:00 pm and is free to the public. Bring the family, chairs, popcorn, and drinks. For more info please contact Ranger John Privette
Please visit www.ncparks.gov, for information on Jones Lake State Park and other NC State Parks
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https://www.ncsbc.net/center.aspx?center=75040
APRIL 2016

1 April Fool's Day

4 Board of Commissioners Meeting - 5:30 pm

5 Strategic Planning Meeting - 5:30 pm

8 Bladen We Care Live Auction & Dance, The Venue, 7:00 pm

10 National Library Week Begins

11 National Library Week Story Time, Bridger Memorial Library, 3:30 pm

12 National Library Week Story Time, Clarkton Public Library, 3:30 pm

14 National Library Week Story Time, Bladen County Public Library, Main Branch, 10:00 am & 3:30 pm; Poetry Contest, Bladen County Public Library, Main Branch, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

14 Bladen Fire Association, Tobermory Fire Department - 7:00pm

16 8K Trail Run & Walk, Brown's Creek Bike Trail - 8:30 am

18 Board of Commissioners Meeting - 6:30 pm

20 NCACC District Meeting, Wallace - 5:30 pm

21 Safe Kids Story Time @ Bladen County Public Library, Main Branch, 10:00 am; Bladen We Care Golf Tournament

25 Board of Commissioners Meeting - 5:30 pm

27 Lunch & Learn 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm

28 Bladen County Health Department Open House - 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

30 Department of Social Services Child Abuse Prevention Event, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Hayleigh and Hunter Simmons, children of Brittany Simmons (Health Department) & Josh Simmons dressed up on "Dr. Seuss Day" at Elizabethtown Primary School. Hayleigh was Sam I Am and Hunter was Diary of a Wimpy Kid.

Kayla Parker, Bridger Memorial Library Assistant, hosting the Kid's Easter Party in Bladenboro.

Greta Jackson, Library Assistant, hosting the Kid’s Easter Party at Clarkton Public Library.
Make a smooth transition from preschool to kindergarten

The Exceptional Children’s Assistance Center in conjunction with Bladen Smart Start and Columbus Smart Start will offer a program, “Making a Smooth Transition from Preschool to Kindergarten.”

The program will help parents to:

* Understand how Kindergarten is different from preschool;

* How to effectively prepare for meetings including how to talk about your child’s strengths and weaknesses, understanding the law and your rights, and taking part in the decision-making processes.

* How the IEP addresses your child’s skills; and

* What you can do now to help your child be ready for Kindergarten.

The program will be offered in two locations:

Tuesday, April 12, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at Bladen County Smart Start located at 228-B West Broad Street, Elizabethtown. To register call 910-862-3335.

Thursday, April 14, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Columbus County Smart Start located at 09 W. Main Street, Whiteville. To register call 910-642-3921.

A light supper and giveaways will be provided at both events. The events are free and open to the public but registration is required for the supper.

All materials will be provided on CD at no cost.
Bladen County Schools
Kindergarten Registration

ENROLL NOW FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR ~ 2016-2017

REQUIREMENTS FOR KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION:

- “Certified” Birth Certificate (not mother’s copy)
  Child must be 5 years old on or before August 31st.
- Kindergarten Health Assessment (blue form)
- Immunization Record
- Social Security Card
- Proof of residence

Please call your district school to schedule an appointment:

April 7th  Plain View Primary  862-2371
April 11th Booker T Washington  647-4161
April 12th Bladenboro Primary  863-3387
April 14th East Arcadia  669-2934
April 18th Bladen Lakes Primary  588-4606
April 19th Elizabethtown Primary  862-3380
April 21st Dublin Primary  862-2220
Bladen County DSS-Child Abuse Prevention Event

When: Saturday April 30, 2016

Where: Bladen County Courthouse

Time: 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm

Bladen County DSS Child Abuse Awareness Walk- Begins at San Jose Restaurant and ending at Bladen County Courthouse

Hosted by Bladen County DSS Child Welfare Units

Free food, bounce houses, and other entertainment available. Bring the family!!!

There will also be door prizes, and a bicycle giveaway