

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS WEST NILE VIRUS

Tulsa Health Department officials confirmed that a sample of mosquitoes from a trap in Tulsa County has tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV). It is important for residents to remember to take precautions against WNV and other mosquito borne illness. As of early June, there were no confirmed cases of WNV in humans in Tulsa County this year. The months of July through October are typically the highest risk months for exposure to WNV in Oklahoma, however THD proactively begins a mosquito surveillance program each May.

West Nile virus is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. Symptoms of WNV include sudden onset of fever, headache, dizziness, and muscle weakness. Long-lasting complications can include difficulty concentrating, migraine headaches, extreme muscle weakness and tremors, and paralysis of a limb. If one or more of these symptoms develop, especially after suffering mosquito bites within the previous two weeks, a health care provider should be contacted. Persons over the age of 50 are at greatest risk of developing severe neurologic disease from WNV infection. Some of the neurological effects of WNV may be permanent.

Among the precautions to take against mosquito bites are the following:

- Prevent items such as buckets, cans, pool covers, flower pots, and tires from holding standing water so mosquitoes don't have a place to breed.
- Use an insect repellent containing DEET on exposed skin and clothing when you go outdoors, particularly if you are outside between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are more likely to bite. (Insect repellent with permethrin should be used on clothing only.)
- Repair or install window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Empty your pet's outdoor water bowl and refill daily.
- Clean leaves and debris from rain gutters regularly to ensure they are not clogged.

The Tulsa Health Department operates a mosquito surveillance program in order to confirm when West Nile virus is present in the community. In a typical mosquito season, THD sprays hundreds of square miles for adult mosquitoes.

The objective of the surveillance is to detect the presence of mosquitoes, determine abundance, species, make a risk assessment, and provide a basis for control.

To place a complaint about mosquitoes in your area, please call 918.595.4219. To report standing or stagnant water in your area, please call 918.595.4200 or submit an online environmental complaint form on the Tulsa Health Department website at www.tulsa-health.org.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

The website for Up With Trees is www.upwithtrees.org
 The title of the Sesame Street cookbook is "Let's Cook"
 The sponsor named in the June "I'm a Tulsa Kid" article is HED wheels

GENEALOGY CENTER CELEBRATES FAMILY HISTORY

Share your family's heritage with future generations by researching your roots and creating a family tree. Join Tulsa City-County Library's Genealogy Center in July for its annual Family History Month series featuring a variety of free workshops for new genealogy researchers as well as lifetime enthusiasts.

Located on the second floor of the Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93rd St., the Genealogy Center has one of the largest genealogical collections in Oklahoma. Plus, it is designated as an official FamilySearch Center, enabling it to borrow resources from the largest genealogy collection in the world – the Family History Center in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Family History Month series kicks off Saturday, July 1 with two workshops: "Beginning Genealogy" from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and "Start Your Research @ the Library" from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Participants will learn the steps to take to start searching their family histories at the first workshop and then receive an overview of the many useful resources available on the library's website at the second one.

Other program highlights include an all-day workshop on World War I resources and census records presented by certified genealogist Mark Lowe on Saturday, July 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and a half-day workshop on marriage and divorce records presented by Lowe on Sunday, July 16 from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

The series continues through July 27. Overall, 15 programs are scheduled to celebrate Family History Month. All of the programs, except for two, will be held at the Hardesty Regional Library.

For more information about Family History Month programming or the Genealogy Center, go to <http://guides.tulsalibrary.org/genealogy/> or call 918. 549.7691.



"No, I'm not giving you \$20,000 to buy fireworks for a 4th of July party. I'm sorry your friends will be disappointed."

COUPONS!

Join at your neighborhood library or online at www.tulsalibrary.org/summer through Aug. 5. Read eight books and visit the library four times, and earn a medal of achievement and coupons for free:

- Admission to Oklahoma Aquarium
- Admission to Tulsa Zoo
- Admission to Tulsa Air and Space Museum
- Admission to Tulsa Drillers game
- Admission to Tulsa State Fair
- Admission to Discovery Lab
- Admission to Tulsa Roughnecks FC game
- Cinnamon sticks from Mazzio's Italian Eatery
- Round-trip bus ride on Tulsa Transit
- Frozen custard scoop from Freckles Frozen Custard
- Original glazed doughnut from Krispy Kreme
- Decorated cookie from Merritt's Bakery
- Garlic Knots from Papa John's
- Cake pop from Central Library Starbucks

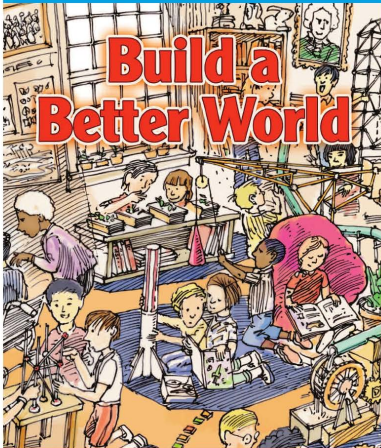
PRIZES!

Kids in kindergarten or first through fifth grade who complete the program will be entered into a drawing for:

- Fishing with News On 6 meteorologist Dick Faurot
- Set of four tickets to OKC Thunder preseason game vs. the Houston Rockets at the BOK Center on Oct. 3
- Nike backpack, provided by Chris Harris Jr. Foundation
- Plus lots more great prizes!

Babies and preschoolers who complete the program will be entered into a drawing for one of 10 gift certificates to local stores.

Build a Better World



THANK YOU FOR SPONSORING THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM!



**TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY'S
2017 TEEN AND TWEEN
SUMMER READING PROGRAM
CONTINUES THROUGH AUG. 5**

Earn great prizes and coupons for food and local recreation! Attend awesome free events! Read for the fun of it! You must have completed fifth grade to participate.

Visit any Tulsa City-County Library to sign up for the Summer Reading Program and get a summer reading log and event guide. Or sign up online at www.TulsaLibrary.org/summer.

BY LAURA RAPHAEL, CHILDREN'S SERVICES COORDINATOR, TULSA CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY

this Summer: building minds (but also hearts)

All you need is love

The cognitive benefits of reading are well-documented. Scientists have shown that the intellectual demands of reading, coupled with the knowledge that children gain from reading a wide variety of materials, help strengthen and build important brain structures. Kids who read in the summer show up to school better able to learn.

All fine, and a worthy goal.

But where is the LOVE?

Where do you find the passion that long-time readers know so well – the staying up way past your bedtime to find out if Harry Potter will find all of the horcruxes, or wiping out the library's collection on the Civil War because just one more book will surely help you understand why our nation fought it, or even just talking about characters in a book as if they are neighbors next door?

Not to be too squishy about it, but the library's focus in offering a Summer Reading Program is not just to capture your kids by the brain, but by their hearts as well.

We want your child to have an emotional as well as an intellectual connection to reading and to the library. Simply put, we want your child to love the library



– and to love reading.

Everything the library does in the summer is tied to making this love blossom. For example... **Stickers**

Many adults marvel at the fervor that a simple sticker can create in the heart of a child.

But they do! That's why earning a sticker to place lovingly in a reading log is a signature element of the Children's Summer Reading Program. To complete

the program, children must visit the library four times, receiving a sticker for each visit. (Shhhh, here's a secret: librarians love giving out stickers, too, so if your child visits the library more than four times, and asks for a sticker, the librarians will happily hand out another one, and another one, and another one!)

Storytimes

Getting together with other children and parents to read

books, sing songs, and move around in silly and fun ways is not just a pleasant way to spend an hour or so. It's a really pleasant way to spend an hour or so – and that pleasure digs down deep in your child's psyche and stays there until it's really needed.

Official cognitive literacy researcher types call this "print motivation," which is a less exciting way of saying "joy." When read-

continued next page

ing and reading-related activities bring joy to children, that joy will stay with them, especially as they begin the hard task of learning how to read. Don't fool yourself: learning the complex process of translating letters to sounds and sounds into meaning may have been easy for your genius self, but for most of us mortals, it's hard, and it takes time. Your children are less likely to give up when they have hours of fun, joyful, exciting library storytimes to help them get through the tough patches.

Performers

Occasionally, we're questioned about why we have so many performers and programs in the library during the summer. What does a magic show, or a musical performance, or a demonstration of Indian fancy dancing, have to do with reading anyway?

First of all, do I need to call up my friends the cognitive literacy researchers again? Brain growth is supported through music, movement, and explorations into curious questions like "Where did the rabbit in the hat go?"

But beyond that, the free entertainment (let me reiterate: FREE) programs in all 24 library locations help reinforce the library as a fun and interesting place to go. It may be a little selfish, but the library wants you and your children to love coming, and what better way to love a place than to

know you might be able to get a balloon animal made just for you, or make some simple pottery, or jam out to a fun band?

Stuff!

Ah, now we get to the good stuff: the stuff! Prizes and coupons are as essential to the Summer Reading Program – and the library's designs to make your child love reading – as cheese is to macaroni.

It's not that children are reading just to get things. It's that, while reading fun and interesting books and learning about caves and finding out if the pigeon will get to drive the bus and being a ballerina along with Angelina, they earn things to show off their reading accomplishments.

Let's put it this way. If you are a runner, you don't run a 5K or a marathon to get the sticker to put on your car – but you sure do want to get that sticker to show off what you've done! The deep rewards are in the running; the car sticker is just an expression of that deep reward. In this case, the deep rewards come from reading; the medal and coupons and prize are nice extras.

A final word about love

It's always nice to hear "I love the library!" But here's something to think about: the library also loves you. Everything we do is in the service of expressing our love to the great people of Tulsa and Tulsa County.

Books Your Kids Will Love

As always, we like to give you a few suggestions for books your kids might love. (The twist is: they're all related to cats!)

The Summer Nick Taught His Cats To Read by Curtis Manley – This charming picture book follows Nick as he shares the love of reading with his cats. It's not easy, but he prevails!

Lost and Found Cat by Doug Kuntz and Amy Shrodes – Your kids (and you!) will be riveted by the true story of a family who left Iraq but lost their cat on the journey...and how they found Kunkush again many months later and half a world away!

Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate – In this novel perfect for middle-grade readers (3rd to 5th grades), a boy must confront hard economic times with his family. When his former imaginary friend (a purple cat named Crenshaw) reappears, will he help – or just get in the way?



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- Ages 2 – 3rd grade
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Thank You, Readers, for Voting Us THE #1 Winning KID-PRECHOOL

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"Our daughter is learning to make friends and has an incredible bond with her teachers. She loves to tell stories and be outside. She never comes home from school clean, and I wouldn't want it any other way. Our family had a perfect year at Riverfield!"

— Ashley
longtime Riverfield parent and early childhood educator

riverfield.org