



BE THE HERO!

Be a hero to your students and children, kindergarten through grade 7, by engaging them with awesome tech tools and learning opportunities that will connect them to the world.

Join Matthew C. Winner, author, library media specialist, 2013 Library Journal Mover & Shaker, and White House "Champion of Change," as he explores how to engage students through the use of video games and game-based learning at "Be the Hero" from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16 at Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93rd St., in Connor's Cove.

Winner (aka "The Busy Librarian," www.busylibrarian.com) is the co-author of *Teach Math With the Wii: Engage Your K-7 Students Through Gaming Technology*, a professional resource aligned with Common Core State Standards in Mathematics for educators interested in engaging learners through game-based instruction.

The free presentation is designed for educators, library media specialists, homeschool parents or anyone else interested in the education of children. It is sponsored by the Tulsa City-County Library, Tulsa Library Trust and Tulsa Regional Chamber.

Registration is required. Visit www.tulsalibrary.org/BetheHero to register. For more information, call 918.549.7323.

"REMEMBERING THE FORGOTTEN VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST"

The Holocaust is most often seen through a Jewish lens. However, many people are unaware that of the 11 million people who died in the Holocaust, 5 million were not Jewish. In fact, the first group targeted for extermination by the Nazis was disabled German children. Gypsies (Roma and Sinti), Polish and other Slavic peoples, homosexuals, "asocials" (alcoholics, the homeless, criminals), persons of African or Asian descent, and those considered ideologically dangerous also were among the groups singled out for extermination.

The Tulsa Council for Holocaust Education invites the public to honor these forgotten victims at the 17th annual Interfaith Holocaust Commemoration on Thursday, May 1 at 7 p.m. at Temple Israel, 2004 E. 22nd Place. Dr. Nadine Blumer is the featured speaker. She will address the topic "Forgotten Holocaust Victims: How Germany Remembers the Roma." Blumer recently finished a fellowship at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and now is starting a postdoctoral fellowship at the Centre for Ethnographic Research and Exhibition in the Aftermath of Violence at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec.

The Yom Hashoah Commemoration is an annual event sponsored by the Council for Holocaust Education, a committee of the Jewish Federation of Tulsa, in cooperation with the Circle Cinema, Tulsa City-County Library, and dozens of local interfaith and community organizations.

As in past years, the commemoration program includes an exhibit of projects created by Tulsa area students of the Holocaust. In addition, music will be performed by select members of the Trinity Episcopal Choir and Tulsa Symphony. Plus, the Tulsa City-County Library will have available for checkout many Holocaust books and media.

To complement the commemoration, the Circle Cinema, 10 S. Lewis, will show a screening of "Paragraph 175," a documentary about the homosexual survivors of Nazi persecution, at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 27. Made in 2000, the film's title refers to a provision of the German Criminal Code which made homosexual acts illegal.

Contact the Jewish Federation of Tulsa at 918.495.1100 for more information about the commemoration. Contact the Tulsa City-County Library at 918.549.7323 for more information about Holocaust resources. Contact the Circle Cinema at 918.585.3504 for more information about the film showing.



THOREAU DEMONSTRATION ACADEMY TO RECEIVE ART OF HEALING FRIEND AWARD

As part of the annual cancer survivorship symposium Celebrating the Art of Healing: Hope and Promise of 2014, Thoreau Demonstration Academy, a Tulsa Public School, will be honored with The Art of Healing Friend Award.

The symposium will take place on Saturday, April 12 at the Mary K. Chapman Health Plaza at St. John Medical Center, 1819 E. 19th St. Registration, featuring a free continental breakfast, begins at 8 am. The educational symposium will begin at 8:45 am and end at 2:30 pm. A complimentary lunch will be provided to participants.

Thoreau will be honored with The Art of Healing Friend Award for the students at Thoreau for rallying behind a classmate who recently lost his two-year battle with leukemia. "We were inspired by the depth of compassion that the students and staff showed towards this student," said oncology nurse and program presenter, Claudia Tatum RN, adding that, "through their many kind gestures, they let him know that he was not forgotten while he was away from school undergoing treatment."

The keynote address, "Targeted Cancer Therapies and the Role of Genetics," will be presented by Neil Caporaso MD, chief of Genetic Epidemiology Branch at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health. He will discuss the latest research into new molecular technologies that utilize tumor molecular profiling to develop more targeted, effective and personalized therapies to treat cancer.

BY JENNIFER MCQUADE, CHILDRENS LIBRARIAN, OWASSO LIBRARY

more than just a library: becoming a family place

Last March, the Owasso Library, along with three other Tulsa City-County Library locations, Martin Regional, Hardesty Regional and Herman and Kate Kaiser, embarked on a new and exciting project: becoming Family Place Libraries. Librarians from each location attended special training and returned full of enthusiasm at the thought of being able to provide this much-needed service to our communities.

Family Place Libraries provide a welcoming community environment with resources families need to nurture their children's development during the critical first years of life, focusing on children ages 0-3 and their parents or caregivers. The first three years are the most important time for learning early literacy skills and for brain development. Libraries are ideal places to bring together information and education resources as well as help parents discover other community services and programs.

Becoming a Family Place Library involves several areas of the library. In Owasso, we redesigned our children's area to be more open and inviting. We moved shelving to make more space, bought new, comfortable furniture and provided educational toys to create an area that encourages interaction, imagination and socialization.

We now have a Family Place



THE NEW FAMILY PLACE LIBRARY PRESENTS ACTIVITIES AND OFFER RESOURCES ENCOURAGING PARENTS AND CHILDREN TO LEARN AND GROW TOGETHER.

parenting collection in the children's area, which includes books on parenting, information on encouraging early literacy skills at home, bibliographies and information from community agencies of interest to parents. All of this is located in one place so the parent can browse these items while their child plays or looks at books.

In January, we began the first in a series of parent/child workshops, a five-week program providing an early childhood setting for parents and toddlers. The program incorporates toys, art activities and books. This signature program of a Family Place Library is unique because it focuses on both the parent and the child. Parents are encouraged to play with their children. Resource pro-

fessionals are available at each workshop to answer any questions parents may have about that week's topic. The resource professionals are people trained and/or certified in their field of expertise and may include pediatricians, nutritionists, speech therapists and musicians. The relaxed, fun atmosphere of the workshop encourages parents to use library resources and supports them as the primary educators of their children.

Parents in the Owasso community love the changes we have made at the library. We hear comments daily about how much the children enjoy coming to the library to play and look at books with their parents, how the parents appreciate having a parent-

ing collection at their fingertips, and how welcoming and comfortable it is in our children's area. The only problem we have seen is when the parent says it's time to leave the library, the kids don't want to go!

We also have completed our first workshop series, and the response to the workshops has been exceedingly positive. I think what the parents appreciated most about the workshops was the uninterrupted hour to spend playing with their children. As a parent, you sometimes can get so busy with daily activities, you can forget to enjoy spending time down on the floor playing with your child. Many of our participants were first-time parents, and I think they learned a lot about ways they can encourage early literacy skills in their children. They left the workshops more confident in their abilities as their child's first teacher, and I hope with a better awareness of the importance of pure, fun playtime for their kids.

The Family Place project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The Owasso Library is one of 28 in the nation selected to develop the Family Place Libraries™ model of early childhood and family services that has been successfully implemented in over 380 libraries in 27 states.

National Parks For Dummies” by Kurt Repanshek. Although it doesn’t cover all of the parks, it does give detailed information about 15 of the “most scenic,” including Mammoth Cave, Great Smoky Mountains, Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, and Zion. There is a dedicated chapter for each park to help maximize planning. Also, visit the National Geographic website at travel.nationalgeographic.com/travel/national-parks. It includes a kid-friendly section called Web Rangers, which will excite and educate children about what’s out there for them to explore. (<http://www.nps.gov/web-rangers/index.cfm>)



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