Now that summer is finally here, isn’t it great to take some extra time relaxing and reading as a family? Reading is a great way to “squash” summer boredom!

Children of all ages love to hear good stories. Youngsters love to be read to and older independent readers can settle in with good books. The staff in Children’s - Young Adults’ Services has already “caught” a bunch of great readers in the Library. The Summer Reading Club and the Teen Reading Club continue to “BEE” great successes at both libraries!

Research shows that elementary students can lose up to 2.5 months of learning during summer vacation. Parents who engage in any sort of reading around their children are great role models for life-long learning! Librarians offer the following list of books and websites for you and your family to enjoy. Keep “swarming” to the Library to “Catch the Reading Bug!” and we’ll “BEE” more than happy to help you “go buggy” about books and reading!

Picture Books (JJ Fiction)
Picture books are often for the very young, but several picture books are written for older children.

• I Love Bugs by Philemon Sturges. This simple book shows a boy exploring the world of bugs in his backyard. He sees a bee, ant, moth, cricket, praying mantis and many other bugs.
• Beetle McGrady Eats Bugs! by Megan McDonald. Beetle McGrady wants adventure. During Fun with Food Week at school, Beetle decides to add a food group – bugs. Beetle claims she would “eat an ant in a second.” When the other students dare her to eat the ant, she cannot do it. Beetle gets her chance to redeem herself when Chef Suzanne arrives with bug food: Chinese chop-suey ants, Cricket pizza, and tree worm spaghetti.
• Beetle Boy by Lawrence David. Second-grader Gregory Sampson wakes one morning to find that he has turned into a giant beetle. The only person who notices this is his best friend Michael. When his parents and sister finally realize what has happened, they reassure him that he is loved and they put him to bed. Will Gregory ever return to being himself or will he stay a beetle forever?
• Ace Lacewing: Bug Detective by David Biedrzycki. Private Investigator, Ace Lacewing’s motto is “Bad bugs are my business.” Motham City is abuzz with news that Queenie Bee has been kidnapped. It is up to Ace Lacewing and his friends to follow the trail of some mighty bad bugs, as he tries to solve the case.

Chapter Books (J Fiction)
• Bug Boy by Carol Savenklaar. Charlie Kaplan loves insects so much he is known as “Bug Boy.” Charlie anonymously receives The Amazing Bug-A-View in the mail and he’s in for a surprise when he pushes the (continues on page 4)
Thousand Oaks Reads
A Citywide Book Club

The 2008 book selection for Thousand Oaks Reads One City One Book, What is the What by Dave Eggers is flying off the library shelves. Thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library, hundreds of copies have been checked out, and hundreds more are available at the Grant R. Brimhall Library and Newbury Park Branch. If this book is not yet on your summer reading list, make sure it gets there.

What Is the What is a novel based on the life and struggles of Valentino Achak Deng, one of the “Lost Boys of Sudan.” (Companion titles also available.)

Our month long celebration of this book begins at the Thousand Oaks Arts Festival on September 20 - 21 at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza. Throughout the month there will be many book discussions as well as informative, entertaining programs and special events.

In September, Fern Davye will return to the Grant R. Brimhall Library with her unique interpretation of the book and language. In October, the library will host the Nigerian Brothers in a moving, musical presentation of African folk music complete with drums and audience participation. In addition, patrons will have a chance to create their own African themed book, participate in an essay contest or attend a California Lutheran University panel discussion. Throughout the celebration, there will be special movie screenings with African themes including Hotel Rwanda, Out of Africa, and The African Queen.

The highlight of the month’s activities is “An Afternoon with Dave Eggers” on Saturday, October 11 at the Civic Arts Plaza’s Fred Kavli Theatre for the Performing Arts. Dave Eggers will talk about his book, answer questions from the audience, and then sign books for patrons.

So join the citywide book club — Thousand Oaks Reads — and start discussions with your family, your friends, your co-workers, or join one of the many library sponsored book discussions planned for September and October. Visit the website often for up-to-date information: www.thousandoaksreads.org

“Trail End” Screening with Local Filmmaker Shannan Keenan

The award-winning documentary Trail End will be shown on July 12, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the Grant R. Brimhall Library. The 25-minute drama, shot entirely on location in Kansas, stars Emmy-nominated actor Barry Corbin whose big screen credits include Urban Cowboy and No Country for Old Men. Trail End was written and directed by independent filmmaker Shannan Keenan, a Simi Valley resident, who will attend the screening and answer questions about the film and the filmmaking process.

The film follows the poignant story of an ailing man, Hank Crow, as he fulfills a promise to his late wife with the help of his best friend Chip — an old
Information Advantage

When you need reliable information, take advantage of the powerful research tools available at your library.

Check out these 3 powerful research databases that were recently added to the library’s collection.

Biography Resource Center
Search for people — both current and historic from all eras and fields of endeavor. You will find biographies from respected reference sources as well as the full-text of articles from hundreds of magazines and newspapers. There are also tens of thousands of images and links to websites whose content is examined for accuracy.

Morningstar Investment Research Center
This compilation of comprehensive financial information can help inform your investment decision-making. Provides in-depth analysis of mutual funds, stocks and ETF; analyst’s guidance for buying and selling; current and historical performances for indexes, industries, sectors and fund categories.

Price It! Antiques & Collectibles
For the serious and not-so-serious collector or hobbyist, this database currently has 23 million prices realized for art, antiques and collectibles in more than 100 categories and subcategories with over 10 million images. The data is derived from a variety of sources, including online auctions (eBay), online antique dealers (GoAntiques & TIAS) and reputable auction houses.

Music Will Fill the Air!

Spend your hot summer nights listening to beautiful music under the stars at the Grant R. Brimhall Library Courtyard. Every Thursday evening beginning July 17 through August 28, various musical compositions will fill the air while you browse for books or relax in the fresh air at Courtyard Serenade. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library and features an array of musical guests each week from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

- July 17: Cooper Madison with his infusion of Indian and Western music.
- July 24: Conejo Valley Youth Orchestra string ensemble.
- July 31: Uncle Ned’s Dixieland Trio – good old fashion fun!
- August 7: To be announced
- August 14: Mládá Chamber Orchestra featuring New West Symphony musicians.
- August 21: Country singer Cindy Alonge.
- August 28: Mládá Chamber Orchestra featuring New West Symphony musicians.

Join us for Courtyard Serenade in a relaxing setting with green plants and bubbling fountains. For more information contact the Grant R. Brimhall Library at 449-2660, ext. 258, or visit the website at www.toaks.org/library.

NEW Arrivals

The Thousand Oaks Library has recently added these materials to its collection:

FICTION

The Diplomat’s Wife (Fiction) by Pam Jenoff

The Web and the Stars: Book 2 of the Timeweb Chronicles (Science Fic) by Brian Herbert

Rogue (Rental Collection) by Danielle Steel

NON-FICTION

618.2
The Joy of Pregnancy: The Complete, Candid and Reassuring Companion for Parents-to-Be by Tori Kropp, R.N.

658.049
The War for Wealth: The True Story of Globalization or Why the Flat World is Broken by Gabor Steingart
(Summer Reading cont. from page 1)

button saying, “SEE THE WORLD FROM A BUGS-EYE VIEW!

- The End of the Beginning: Being the Adventure of a Small Snail (and an Even Smaller Ant) by Avi. Avi the snail loves to read, but he realizes he never has had an adventure like the characters about which he reads. One day he and his friend, Edward the ant, decide to seek adventure. The two friends do indeed find it as they travel from one end of a branch to the other.

- The Transmogrification of Roscoe Wizzle by David Elliott. Ten-year-old Roscoe Wizzle’s parents serve him alternating dinners of mashed potatoes or tuna surprise. He is overjoyed when a fast-food business opens in his neighborhood. After having dinner there every night, Roscoe begins to turn into a bug. Neighborhood children also start disappearing. Roscoe and his best friend Kinchy must figure out the mystery before it is too late.

- Seven Spiders Spinning by Gregory Maguire. A glacier frozen during the Ice Age melts, and seven Siberian snow spiders escape to present day Vermont. The spiders come upon a meeting of the Tattletales, a club of elementary schoolgirls. The spiders fall head over heels in love with them until a girl in Miss Earth’s class catches one of the spiders for show-and-tale. The spiders plot revenge and it is up to The Tattletales and the rival boys’ club, the Copycats, to save their teacher.

Informational Books

JJ 595.44 Nic Bishop Spiders by Nic Bishop. Although they are not really insects, spiders still fascinate us! Nic Bishop provides stunning up close photographs of spiders and brief concise facts about these creepy crawlers!

J 595.7 Bugs Up Close by Diane Swanson. Another book with stunning “up close” pictures of bugs! This book concentrates on the different parts of insects and provides tons of facts about spiracles, wings, mouthparts, weapons and more!

J 595 Dirty Rotten Bugs: Arthropods unite to tell their side of the story by Gilles Bonotaux. This book is illustrated in a comic book style and is packed full of facts about bugs. Presented in a humorous fun way, Dirty Rotten Bugs will have older kids thinking differently about bugs! They’ll be learning and having reading fun at the same time!

JJ 595.7 Janice Vancleave’s Play and Learn About Bugs! Easy Experiments for Young Children by Janice Vancleave. Brief experiments for preschoolers and older children to learn about bugs while having fun.

The library has many other books and materials to save kids from summer boredom. Visit the Children’s Help Desk for assistance.

(Trail End continued from page 2)

Appaloosa horse. Having nearly completed this personal mission of riding every state with his loyal companion, Hank has saved his home state of Kansas for their last ride. Hank and Chip embark on their journey across the western Kansas plains, hoping to reach the trail end.

Shannan Keenan was born and raised in Wichita, Kansas. She predicted her future at an early age when she announced that one day she was going to run off to Hollywood and make movies. She attended Colorado State University, studying television production and theater.

Trail End is Keenan’s third film project. “Trail End is a very personal project for me and had been evolving in my mind for quite some time. The inspiration initially came from the desire to write a story that captured the relationship I have with my own horses and to show that friendship is not limited to humans,” she states on her website, www.justhank.com.

When Trail End debuted last year at the Crested Butte Reel Festival in Colorado, it earned the First Place Audience Award. After that it was accepted into nine other festivals and has earned additional accolades.

This event, sponsored by the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library, is open to the public and is free-of-charge. For more information, please call the Grant R. Brimhall Library at 805-449-2660 x204. Or visit the library website: www.toaks.org/library.