

For Immediate Release

For more information contact Bob Gorin at OCPLC, 850.609.5101 or Kathy Newby, 651.7515



Take a Break, Take a Trip

Are you ready for a break? A break from the cold, a break from FCAT and SATs? Are you ready for spring break?

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? Somewhere warm, or take advantage of the snow? Whether you search for beautiful landscapes or history and culture, search no more – your local library can take you anywhere you want to go and it won't cost anything!

The Okaloosa County Public Library Cooperative (OCPLC), is the best ever, offering state-of-the-art facilities with a wide array of new services for library patrons. Search the county web site at www.readokaloosa.org, and you will find an internet search of each library's collection of books, videos, DVDs, newspapers and magazines, audio books and electronic books, in which you can actually view on your home computer.

As a library patron, you have the ability to place books on hold, make renewals through the web site and check your own library records to see when a book is due or view your library history. **Take a trip to your local library** and see what they have first hand.

Additionally, the Book Mobile serves those county residents unable to travel long distances or those without access to computers, videos, etc., and makes it a priority to help patrons find the materials they want and need. The bookmobile makes regular stops at rehabilitation facilities, daycares, schools and senior centers, as well.

All these services are free at the following OCPLC Libraries. Members include the Destin Library, Fort Walton Beach City Library, Niceville Library, Mary Esther Public Library, Robert L.F. Sikes Public Library in Crestview, and the Valparaiso Community Library. Niceville Library just completed an expansion and the many libraries in OCPLC are new, renovated or expanded to better serve patrons.

-More-

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For more information call your local library or OCPLC at 850.609.5101. For bookmobile information call 850.689.5581 or 974.5890. Visit OCPLC on the web www.readokaloosa.org for city library information and calendars.

End- Press Release-

Okaloosa County Public Library Cooperative Members:

Robert L.F. Sikes (Crestview) Library
1445 Commerce Drive
Crestview, FL 32539
850-682-4432

Destin Library
150 Sibert Avenue
Destin, FL 32541
850-837-8572

City of Fort Walton Beach Library
185 Miracle Strip Parkway SE
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
850-833-9590

Mary Esther Public Library
100 Hollywood, West
Mary Esther, FL 32569
850-243-5731

Niceville Public Library
206 North Partin Drive
Niceville, FL 32578
850-729-4070

Valparaiso Community Library
459 Valparaiso Parkway
Valparaiso, FL 32580
850-729-5406

Bookmobile Office: 850-689-5581
Okaloosa County Public Library Cooperative Headquarters
206 N Partin Drive
Niceville, FL 32578
850-609-5101

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Notes for Editors & Reporters ...

Going on now! Just for kids – NIE Stories!

Take a trip through Ms. Roosevelt's class, FreeZee and your children to see where the trip ends – look for this story sponsored by OCPLC in the local mini page found in the *Northwest Florida Daily News*. Older students, look on or near the weather page for “*The Lost Dispatch*,” on Tuesdays. The **theme is also about history, travel and a treasure hunt**. See the following schedule of events for more details. To access on-line services, go to the county web site at www.readokaloosa.org, and **start planning your trip!** (Sample Stories included, more upon request.)

OCPLC is a proud supporter of Newspapers in Education. This program funded through sponsorships to put newspapers in classrooms is accompanied with teacher curriculum ideas and activities for the classroom.

Ideas & Angles – Take a Trip with us *Planning Schedule:*

- Teaser for events now and Feb. 22, with more to come in following weeks, building up to Spring Break
- Libraries working on **now** - hands-on “travel related activities, keepsakes & fun” being planned by libraries for Spring Break. (Will advise.)
- Spring Break – Take a Trip to your Library for FREE – Dates: **March 26-30**
- Tie in local Museum events with local Library events; i.e. Civil War Exhibit going on now at Heritage Museum.
- **American Library Association Events:**
 - March 4-10 *Teen Tech Week*
 - April 15-21, 2007 *National Library Week*
 - April 17 – *National Library Workers’ Day*

Major Events & Activities About Travel, Art & History at your Local Library & Museums (in green):

- **NOW - March 24, 10 AM-4 PM – Heritage Museum - “Centennial Faces” 49 Civil War Era photos by Florida photographer Alvan S. Harper on display.**
- **Feb. 22, 10 AM – Mary Esther** “Writing Your Memoirs”
- **Feb. 22, 6:30 PM – Niceville** “American History & Presentation” for Family Night
- **Feb. 27, 3-5 PM – Destin** Author John Koning Visit
- **March 3-4, 9 AM-5 PM, Crestview** American Red Cross Kids Carnival, Spanish Trail Park
- **March 10, 10 AM-2 PM – Heritage Museum Archaeology RoadShow!**
- **March 13, 6 PM – Mary Esther** Singers of United Lands (Israel, Japan, Mexico & Uganda.)
- **March 17, 2 PM – Ft. Walton Beach** Singers of United Lands
- **March 27-31 – Crestview** Historic Preservation Board Spring Carnival (Spanish Trail Park)
 - More -

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- March 24, 1-3 PM Ft. Walton Beach Family History Workshop
- April 3, 10:30 AM – Crestview “Shipwrecks of Northwest Florida”
- April 17, 7 PM – Crestview Family Tree & Local History with Baker Block Museum
- April 21, 9 AM-4 PM - Saturday in the Park (Perrine), Valparaiso – Heritage Arts Event by the Heritage Museum & Library Book Sale.

Plan with Us – After Spring Break:

- If you do have a trip planned, take a book along with you to read!
- Take a trip all summer long (updated activities and info to be provided).
- August – Back to school ; Where did you go? Did you visit your library?
- September “National Library Sign Up Month”

PSA

RADIO - :30

ARE YOU READY FOR **SPRING BREAK**? READY TO **TAKE A TRIP**? IF YOU COULD GO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD YOU GO? SOMEWHERE WARM OR TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SNOW? BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES, HISTORY AND CULTURE CAN BE FOUND RIGHT HERE – **AND IT COSTS YOU NOTHING!** **TAKE A TRIP** TO YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY DURING SPRING BREAK. GO ONLINE AT **READ OKALOOSA DOT ORG**, OR CALL THE OKALOOSA PUBLIC LIBRARY COOPERATIVE AT 609-5101. **TAKE A TRIP!**

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Press Kit Inventory: *Press Release, OCPLC Members, Note for editors/writers, Events Schedule, NIE Stories, PSA Radio, Photo attachments. END.*