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8171 SH 17
PO Box 310
Elgin, OK 73538
580-492-6650
<http://elginlibrary.org>
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FREEDOM

APRIL: National Poetry Month

National Poetry Month is a celebration of poetry first introduced in 1996 by the [Academy of American Poets](#) as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of [poetry](#) in the United States. It is celebrated every April in the United States and (since 1999) in Canada as well.

National Poetry Month was inspired by the success of [Black History Month](#) and [Women's History Month](#). The [Academy of American Poets](#) convened a group of publishers, booksellers, librarians, literary organizations, poets, and teachers to discuss the need and usefulness of a similar month long holiday to celebrate poetry. The first National Poetry Month was held in 1996.

In 1998, the Academy joined the American Poetry & Literacy Project to distribute 100,000 free books of poetry from New York to California during National Poetry Month. Each year, a special poster is commissioned by the Academy of American Poets for National Poetry Month, with almost 200,000 copies distributed for free.

The celebration of poetry each April has grown and established itself organically, in both official and unofficial ways. Each year, publishers, booksellers, educators and literary organizations use April to promote poetry: publishers often release and publicize their poetry titles in April, teachers and librarians focus on poetry units during the month; and bookstores and reading series frequently hold special readings. [National Poetry Writing Month](#) encourages writing a poem a day in celebration.

In a proclamation issued on April 1, 1996, President [Bill Clinton](#) declared: "National Poetry Month offers us a welcome opportunity to celebrate not only the unsurpassed body of literature produced by our poets in the past, but also the vitality and diversity of voices reflected in the works of today's American poetry....Their creativity and wealth of language enrich our culture and inspire a new generation of Americans to learn the power of reading and writing at its best."

Copied from Wikipedia

Library Poem

Everyone is welcome to walk through the door.
It really doesn't matter if you're rich or poor.
There are books in boxes and books on shelves.
They're free for you to borrow, so help yourselves.

Come and meet your heroes, old and new,
From William the Conqueror to Winnie the Pooh.
You can look into the Mirror or read The Times,
Or bring along a toddler to chant some rhymes.

The librarian's a friend who loves to lend,
So see if there's a book that she can recommend.
Read that book, and if you're bitten
You can borrow all the other ones the author's written.

Are you into battles or biography?
Are you keen on gerbils or geography?
Gardening or ghosts? Sharks or science fiction?
There's something here for everyone, whatever your addiction.

There are students revising, deep in concentration,
And school kids doing projects, finding inspiration.
Over in the corner there's a table with seating,
So come along and join in the Book Club meeting.

Yes, come to the library! Browse and borrow,
And help make sure it'll still be here tomorrow.

Julia Donaldson



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Come support the Friends of Elgin Community Library

Elgin Community Library Book Sale

April 25-26

Fri. 9-5 Sat. 8-2

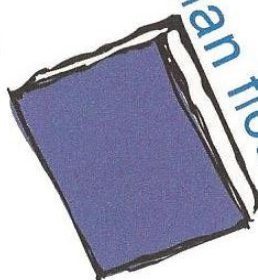
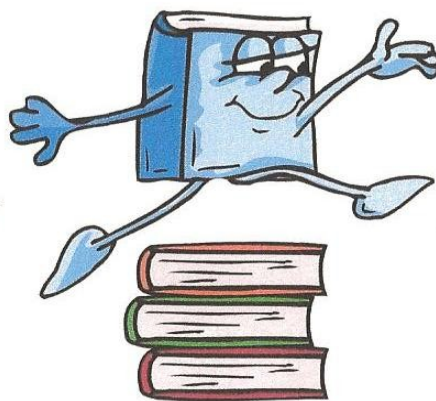
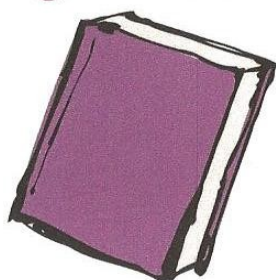
Hardbacks: \$1

Paperbacks: \$0.50

Some premium books slightly higher
Sale will be held inside City Hall &
outside in front of the library.

wood bookshelves, children's
chairs, etc, also for sale

misc.
genres



On Saturday, April 26, there will also be a breakfast by
Masonic Pilot Lodge #362 from 7-10:30.

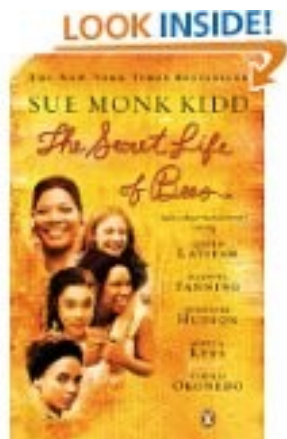
Proceeds will benefit the Sterling School Library.

One library helping another!

We have two book clubs that meet at the library on the last Tuesday of the month. One starts at 9:30am and the other at 6pm. Everyone is welcome even if you have not read the book.

April 29 at 9:30am: The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Set in South Carolina in 1964, *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed.



When Lily's fierce-hearted black "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three of the town's most vicious racists, Lily decides they should both escape to Tiburon, South Carolina—a town that holds the secret to her mother's past. There they are taken in by an eccentric trio of black bee-keeping sisters who introduce Lily to a mesmerizing world of bees, honey, and the Black Madonna who presides over their household. This is a remarkable story about divine female power and the transforming power of love—a story that women will share and pass on to their daughters for years to come.

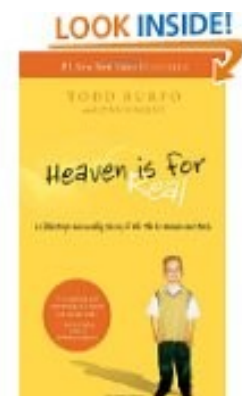
April 29 at 6pm: Heaven is for Real by Todd Burpo

A young boy emerges from life-saving surgery with remarkable stories of his visit to heaven.

Heaven Is for Real is the true story of the four-year old son of a small town Nebraska pastor who during emergency surgery slips from consciousness and enters heaven. He survives and begins talking about being able to look down and see the doctor operating and his dad praying in the waiting room. The family didn't know what to believe but soon the evidence was clear.

Colton said he met his miscarried sister, whom no one had told him about, and his great grandfather who died 30 years before Colton was born, then shared impossible-to-know details about each. He describes the horse that only Jesus could ride, about how "reaaally big" God and his chair are, and how the Holy Spirit "shoots down power" from heaven to help us.

Told by the father, but often in Colton's own words, the disarmingly simple message is heaven is a real place, Jesus really loves children, and be ready, there is a coming last battle.



SPECIAL EASTER STORY TIME APRIL 10, 6pm

The Friends of the Library is hosting a special Easter story time featuring Elgin graduate and children's author Bert Ballou, on April 10. Bert will read one or all of his books telling about Jesus' life from the donkey Anthony's perspective. After the story, a donkey craft will be made, followed by cookies and punch. Books will be available for purchase and autographed by Bert.

Come join the fun!



Library Snapshot Month

SOOO many more things go on in the library than just checking in and out books. We offer tours for school groups, summer reading programs, special holiday story times, regular story times, proctor tests, computers for public use, fax and copier service, and community outreach programs.

Haven't been to the library in awhile? Come see what we are all about!



April 2014

SUN CLOSED	MON CLOSED	TUE 10-6	WED 10-6	THU 10-6	FRI 9-12	SAT 9-12
April 6-13: National Volunteer Week April 13-19: National Library Week		1 Books & Banter 3:30pm Reading Is Funny Day	2 Wednesday Wigglers 10:30 International Children's Book Day	3	4	5
6	7 Library Board 4pm	8 After School Program 3:30 Chamber of Commerce noon City Council 6pm	9 Wednesday Wigglers 10:30	10 Teen Council 5pm Easter Story Time 6pm	11	12 Drop Everything and Read Day
13	14 National Library Workers Day National Library Day	15 After School Program 3:30 Friends of ECL 6pm	16 Wednesday Wigglers 10:30	17 Poem In Your Pocket Day Support Teen Literature Day	18	19
20 	21	22 After School Program 3:30	23 Wednesday Wigglers 10:30 World Book Night	24 Teen Council 5pm	25 Friends Booksale 9-6	26 Friends Booksale 8-2
27	28	29 After School Program 3:30 Biblioposse 9:30 & 6	30 Wednesday Wigglers 10:30			