

Boca Happenings

Three More Reasons to Love Boca's Public Libraries: Free Solar Eclipse Viewing Party...FAU Football Game Tix...Free Foreign-Language Learning for Children

Remember when public libraries were just a place you went to for books you wanted to borrow? Even that alone was a wonderful gift for any community, and a library card has always been a passport to one of the world's greatest pleasures: reading.

But as recent articles in *Boca Club News* have reported, the Boca Raton Public Library system has become the go-to place for a surprisingly wide range of resources, including computer lessons for youngsters, preparation for driving tests, art exhibits, and even cake pans to borrow!

The Library's newest announcements cover the following three more attractive offerings that should provide sufficient incentive for every Boca resident to sign up immediately for a library card:

The Great American Solar Eclipse, August 21st. Boca Raton Public Library has joined more than 1,000 libraries across the country to participate in the celestial event of the century: the Great American Solar Eclipse. During this national event, the shadow of the moon will sweep across the United States in a narrow band from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean in a spectacle that hasn't occurred in decades. In fact, the last total solar eclipse for the United States was nearly 40 years ago. The rest of the U.S., including South Florida, will see a partial eclipse, with the moon covering up only part of the sun.

On Monday, August 21st, from 1-4 pm at the Spanish River Library, 1501 NW Spanish River Blvd., a special free Solar Eclipse Viewing Party will be held on the Lakeside

Patio. Free solar eclipse glasses, cookies and lemonade will be provided at the party while supplies last.

The Boca Public Library has joined the STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) and its NASA@My Library initiative, which are providing resources and STEM activities to libraries across the nation related to the eclipse. Partners include NASA, the American Library Association, and many other organizations. This project was made possible through support from the NASA Science Mission Directorate, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Google, and the National Science Foundation.

KidSpeak Online Foreign-Language Learning for Children. Boca Raton Public Library has partnered with RB Digital to bring online foreign-language learning for children to library patrons through KidSpeak for Libraries. Combining animations with over 40 engaging, interactive activities, puzzles and songs, KidSpeak for Libraries makes learning a second language easy for kids of all ages. With three levels of difficulty plus printable activities and learning exercises, KidSpeak helps children build a solid foreign-language foundation using the successful immersion approach preferred for young children. Languages are hosted by fun cartoon "friends" and their playful pets, using only the language being taught.

With KidSpeak for Libraries, children learn such important language skills as alphabet and word recognition, understanding simple sentences, using plural and singular, distinguishing between words that look and sound familiar,

simple addition and subtraction, telling time, number recognition (matching numbers to written words) and correct pronunciation. Designed by leading educators for children ages six and up, KidSpeak for Libraries contains more than 700 words and expressions per language. Available languages include English and Spanish, with Chinese expected to follow soon.

"This is the first digital language-learning program we've had specifically for children," said Vicky Fitzsimmons, Digital Librarian. "Parents can use it from home without worrying about incurring overdue fines or damaging CDs." For more information, contact Ms. Fitzsimmons at (561) 544-8578 or visit the Digital Library tab of the library's website, bocalibrary.org.

FAU Owls Celebrate "Love Libraries Day" at September 16th Football Game. Boca Raton Public Library is celebrating Love Libraries Day with the Florida Atlantic University Owls football team during their September 16th game against Bethune-Cookman. This special day coincides with Youth Day at FAU, and many exciting activities are planned. Families will enjoy free games and entertainment outside FAU Stadium beginning two hours before kickoff.

September is also Library Card Sign-Up Month, and Boca Raton Public Library cardholders will receive a special ticket rate of only \$5 for this game. For more information and to get tickets, contact FAU's Evan Siegel at (561) 297-0068.

"The Kosher Cheerleader," Former NFL Raiders Cheerleader Comedienne's One-Woman Show at PGA Arts Center

Sandy Gelfound's life story is a fascinating tale filled with love, laughter... and cheerleading. The multi-talented comedienne, raconteur, and former NFL Raiders cheerleader is performing her one-person show, "The Kosher Cheerleader," at the PGA Arts Center performing until August 27th.



Sandy Gelfound

Gelfound, who has performed stand-up alongside the likes of Jerry Seinfeld and Jay Leno, tap dances, pom-pom waves, cats, shops, writes, and cart wheels through her life's journey, which begins with her father, a Borscht Belt performer who was a Jewish atheist: "He knew he was one of the Chosen People, he just didn't know by Whom," she explained recently; and her mother, a Russian Orthodox gypsy flamenco dancer who taught her to play the castanets. "Theirs was like a marriage between Carmen Miranda and Jackie Mason," she has said.

Gelfound spent five years as a Raiderette, travelling with the team, and making an impressive \$35 per game: "I loved being an NFL Cheerleader," she says, "But my Jewish grandmother didn't understand my excitement. "It's the Raiders, Grandma. I get to cheer for the team. I get to go to the game." And she said, "Other people go to the game. The owner's wife, that's a job for a Jewish girl!"

Born with a hole in her heart, Sandy Gelfound's childhood was filled with drama and trauma. Her decision to write, and subsequently perform her story "came to me during my morning meditation," she explains. "The next thing I know I have a clothesline in my kitchen, pinning up and arranging the order of the scenes to a play about my life. I wanted to

share with the world my story.... hoping I can give some experience, strength, hope, and lots of laughter to anyone who is overcoming any hardships.

"In Judaism the Rabb's say, 'Gams zu la tova' - everything is for the good," she continues. "I was born with a hole in my heart. How can that be good? Well, after many years the doctors have finally said that nothing needs to be fixed... the hole never grew bigger...only my heart did!"

Tickets for "The Kosher Cheerleader" can be purchased online at www.pgaartscenter.com or by calling 1-(855) 448-7469. For group sales (12+), call 888-264-1788. Ticket prices range from \$45-\$59.

The PGA Arts Center is located at #076 PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410.

Meet Dr. Rosenbusch

Dr. Rosenbusch has been practicing dentistry for 32 years and has extensive experience in many aspects of dentistry. His main focus is on Cosmetic Dentistry and Implant Prosthetics



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