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Off the Shelf:

An e-mail newsletter from the Prince William Public Library System

June 1, 2011  
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The Summer Challenge

Make the first month of summer (June, glorious June!) your personal challenge month, and decide to learn to do something out of the ordinary.

If you don't have any idea what an iPod or MP3 player is, but you love audio books, buy a cheap audio player and challenge yourself to learn how to download an audio book for free. Take a look at the "Download and Go" section of our library website (<http://www.pwcgov.org/library>) and chose from an amazing variety of wonderful titles to listen to "on the go". Find intriguing fiction such as "Blind Your Ponies", an inspirational story of two lost souls who find one another thanks to their involvement with a quirky group of high school basketball players. Or inspire yourself with Dr. Wayne Dyer's "101 Ways to Transform Your Life" – it could happen!

If you haven't read a book in years that was not for work, challenge yourself to read a book for pleasure. Go to the library's website and click on "Electronic Resources". Choose "NoveList" and search any topic under the sun of interest to you – maybe the last book you enjoyed was a scientific treatise about DNA. In that case, search "DNA" as a subject, and you will find fiction centered on your topic, with a plot summary and reviews to guide you.

If the last time you picked up a hammer or wrench was when you were a toddler playing at a plastic workbench, challenge yourself to a DIY project. Start small with one room by checking out the book, "50 Ways to Paint Ceilings and Floors" by Elise Kincaid. If your ambitions are larger, challenge yourself to build a deck. There's "The Ultimate Guide: Decks – Plan, Build, Design", along with many other deck books.

Finally, if you haven't had a summer vacation in years, challenge yourself to plan a great trip. Using travel books and DVD's, you can plan the vacation of a lifetime. To make it especially challenging, consider an eco-vacation or volunteer vacation – many sources to help you find both are in the library's collection.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT: SummerQuest, SummerQuest!!!! (and Wild Reads!)

As you can see, it bears repeating that our annual Summer Reading program is about to launch. Children and teens can sign up on the library's webpage as of June 1st to participate in a fun-filled summer. Don't miss this chance to keep up their reading skills while being rewarded for doing so – its fun, free and fabulous!

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