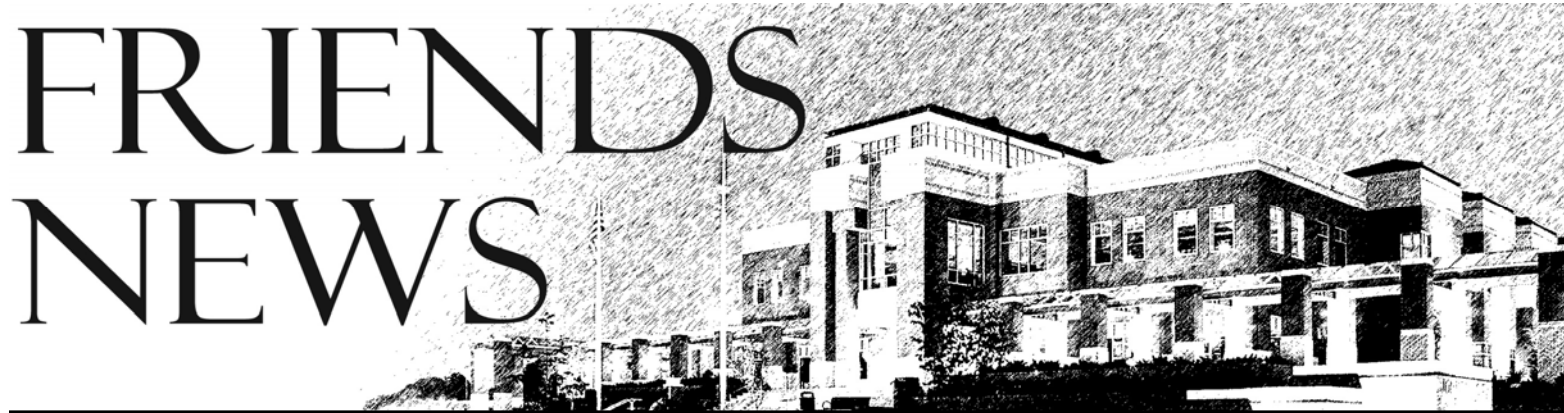


FRIENDS NEWS



The Newsletter of the Friends of the Johnson City Public Library

Fall 2007

Book Relief – Job Well Done

In the wake of the Tsunami that hit the Philippines in 2006, the Friends of the Library donated books to a local school. Coordinated by the United States Peace Corp, the Friends delivered several boxes full of books to Bacacay East Central School. This collection helps rebuild the school's library that was lost last year. Pauline Osentowski, a teacher at Bacacay East Central, sent the Friends a thank you letter along with several pictures of some of the younger students opening the boxes of books. To get a sense of



the good that this did, take a look at this quote from Osentowski: "The faces of students is an awesome sight when one watches them open a new book for the first time . . . they touch it . . . smell the newness . . . and smile a wide and beautiful smile as they take it all in! Obviously, I reap the reward of your generosity and kindness of this gift."



Fall Book Sale

The leaves are beginning to change. Our shelves are overflowing with books. It's time for our annual Fall Book Sale.

**What: Friends of the Library
Fall Book Sale**

**When: Saturday, November
17th**

**Where: Johnson City Public
Library, Jones Meeting rooms**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
for the general public**

**Special Preview: Friday,
November 16 from 6:00 p.m.
until 8:00 p.m.**

Forget about the cold weather and put on your favorite beach attire. Our sale will have a beach theme. If you come dressed for the occasion, you'll get to draw for special prizes and discounts.

The special Friends preview is on the 16th. Bring your membership card for admittance to the preview. If you can't find your card, we will have a member's list at the door. If your membership has expired, you can renew it at the sale!

FOL Lifetime Members

A special thanks in recognition of our members that have supported us as lifetime members

Mr. & Mrs. Chester Blankenship
Mr. & Mrs. George Dove
James & Allison Dykes
Peggy Evans
Sonya Fox
Mayda Gill
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Gordon
Marianne & Robert Gubler
Dr. & Mrs. F.H. Kasten
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Knisley
Gollakota Kumar
Ann Mooneyhan
Jerry & Sally Nagel
Dr. Robert Rasch
Ms. H. Don Scott
Deborah Soike
Dr. Bonny Stanley
Elizabeth Swoyer
Jack & Suzy Williams

Friends Board of Directors Officers 2007

President: Charles Moore
Kathy Hall
Vice-President: Robert Sawyer
Treasurer: Charles Moore
Secretary: Linda Gallagher

Get-to-Know

By Josh Archer

Reading Esquire the other day, I came across an interview with Werner Herzog, filmmaker, only there were no questions, just his answers. For a moment it seemed peculiar. That's when it hit me - the questions are not important, at least not as important as the answers. So I thought I would entertain this style for this edition of the newsletter. I interviewed Betty Cobb who serves as the Head of Children's Services. You may have seen Betty walking around the library with a load of children's books and a smile. Here are her answers:

- I began as a library assistant in May 1999, one year before the present facility opened. I became Head of Youth Services in September 2000.
- I supervise three full-time and two part-time staff members, which includes scheduling work and program times. I plan the summer reading program and any other special programs such as Community Helper's Day in October, Children's Book Week in November, and the Barter Theatre visits in the spring. I do the monthly school age programs (K-1 Story Stretchers, Books and Beyond, and the Explorers program) and any special school age tours, storytimes, and outreach for this age group. I also get to fill in for Linda Hammons and Linda Johnson and do preschool programs every once in a while. It's my job to make sure the collection is up-to-date which includes overseeing the ordering of new materials and weeding old ones for youth and teens. It's also part of my job to make sure the Youth Services webpage is current. And of course, one of my favorite parts is helping children, their parents, and other library users find books and materials they need.

- It's so fulfilling to see library users walk away with a book and a smile. Sounds corny, but that's the main reason we are here.



- I taught elementary school for 16 years before moving to East Tennessee. Luckily, I had the opportunity to go to ETSU to get my masters. I thought I wanted to change my focus and become a school librarian. But during my course work I had the opportunity to do my practicum under Arlyn Wattenbarger, the children's librarian in 1999, at JCPL. That experience made me see how much fun and fulfilling working in a public library can be. The sky's the limit (and staffing and budget!) in servicing families in the area.
- Normally, I read children's books and don't take the time to read adult ones. However, Steven James, our favorite summer reading storyteller, just published a new book, *The Pawn*. It's a thriller that I can't put down. I would recommend it to anyone interested in a really good serial killer mystery that doesn't want all the gruesome details you normally find in this genre.
- Eric Carle is my favorite picture book author. Lois Lowry, Kate DiCamillo, Carol Plum-Ucci are also favorite authors.

- *Hattie Big Sky* by Kirby Lawson, and *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo are a couple books I would recommend.
- I have two children. My son, Jeremy, is working toward his Ph.D. in history at Ole Miss. My daughter, Heather, attends my alma mater at Murray State University in KY. She is majoring in art history.
- Our library is a very welcoming place to come . . . for reading pleasure or for informational needs. I'm amazed at how many visitors come from larger cities and tell us how lucky we are to have this great library. I think the lighting and the color scheme contribute to the friendly feeling. Our Storytime Room is ideal for children to enjoy stories and songs without interrupting the reading pleasure of those not attending programs. We offer children a positive library experience where reading is the central theme but the whole child is definitely kept in mind.
- I believe our collection can compare favorably to any library of our size. In addition to all this we have computers with internet access for the public to use. Not only do we have a great building, current collection, and super programs but we have a well educated staff who are very open-minded and willing to help patrons locate information.
- Thanks for asking me to do this. It's given me the chance to reflect on what I take for granted every day.



Fall Book Recommendations

For this edition I went back to the staff at the library. Here's what they recommend.

- **Holly Russo**, librarian, suggests *Philosophy Made Simple* by Robert Hellenga. The novel chronicles the life of its main character, Rudy. After his wife dies Rudy moves onto the next stage of his life which includes a great adventure and many unique characters. The characters and the philosophical ideas that intrigued them were the highlights for Holly.
- **Lydia Gwyn**, Assistant Manager of Circulation Services, has a couple of book recommendations for the FOL newsletter. Lydia just finished the most amazing book of short stories - *No One Belongs Here More Than You* by Miranda July. July is a filmmaker and songwriter as well as writer of short fiction. Her storytelling is unconventional and confessional with many moments of poetry in there as well. She's also been reading Mark Strand's *Selected Poems*, which contains much of his gorgeous earlier work, and one of her favorite poems "Keeping Things Whole."
- **Bobby Swanay**, Adult Services Librarian, recently finished a classic: *Moby Dick* by Herman Melville. According to Bobby, being a librarian meant he should bite the bullet and go ahead and read this longstanding classic. He's not reading just any edition though; the full title is *Moby Dick: a Longman Critical Edition*. The Longman Edition does several interesting things: it is the original American version as originally edited by Melville. Passages original to the American version that were subsequently cut or altered from the British version are displayed in gray text, which allows the reader to see the difference as he/she reads along. When the cut or revision is substantial, the editors provide a

revision narrative; often prudish British editors were responsible for cuts in passages. The book also contains a glossary at the bottom of nearly every page, which greatly enhances an understanding of the narrative. Overall, if anyone were thinking of taking the plunge and reading this classic, the Longman Critical Edition is the way to go.

- **Nelson Worley**, library director, recommends *Tin Roof Blowdown* by James Lee Burke. The latest in the series about Detective Dave Robicheaux, this novel is set during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The destruction and impact of the storms provides a background to the mystery. Burke in his novels is sometimes ambivalent to New Orleans, but after Katrina one of the main characters no longer refers to New Orleans as "the Big Sleazy."



Tales and Talk

Come enjoy lively discussion, in a small group setting, once a month at the library. Our library hosts three discussion groups: evening, morning, or noon. Each group meets once a month on a given Thursday. All three groups will read the same book, which will be available to group members for purchase or borrowing. The fall titles include *Philosophy Made Simple* by Robert Hellenga, *The Life All Around Me* by Kaye Gibbons, and *The Tender Bar* by J. R. Moehringer. "Tales and Talk" just finished Hellenga's novel and is currently discussing Gibbons. You can catch their discussion of Moehringer's *The Tender Bar*, which will meet November 1, 2007 from 7 -

8 p.m. or November 8, from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. or November 15, Noon until 1 p.m. For more information call 434-4454 and ask for Phoebe, Gail, Bobby or Holly, inquire at the Reference Desk or email at phoneroom@jcpl.net.

Did You Know?

The ongoing book sale has been successful generating over \$200 a month. Please continue to support our Friends group by donating books

Annual December Meeting

The December meeting of the board of directors of the Friends of the Johnson City Public Library serves as its annual meeting. We will be electing new board members and officers. This meeting is open to all Friends of the Library members. Come join us for the meeting if you're interested in being a part of the process. The meeting will be Thursday, December 13th at 5:30 in the Jones Meeting room at the library.

If you are interested in serving on the board of directors or have any questions, please e-mail us at friends@jcpl.net or call Kathy Hall at 926-7934. A complete slate of 2008 board members and officers will be available by November 30th. Please e-mail or call if you would like a copy.



FOL

Fall Book Sale

Saturday, November 17th

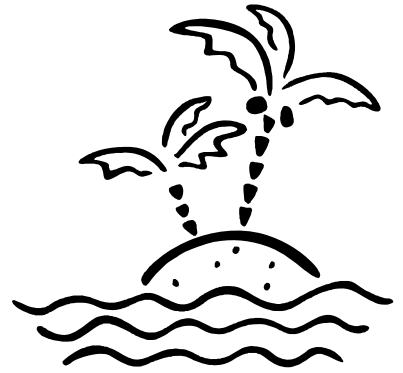
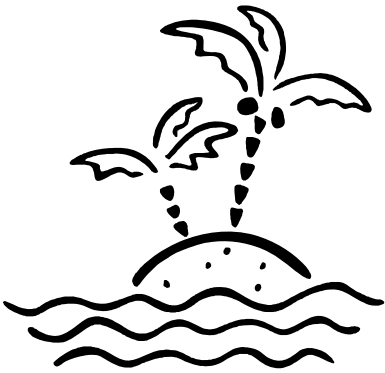
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Special Friends Preview:

Friday, November 16th

6-8 PM

Don't Miss It



Dress for our Beach Party of a Sale and be Eligible to Draw for Prizes!

Friends of the Johnson City Public Library
100 W. Millard St.
Johnson City, TN 37604