



# FOOTNOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS  
OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY LIBRARY

## Let's Keep Our Libraries Open!

*By Boz Eppley*

On May 1, mail-in election ballots will be mailed to registered Multnomah County voters. This ballot will include the Levy for the Multnomah County Library (Measure 26-32). The ballot will be due May 21. In order for the measure to be approved, over fifty percent of those voting must cast a yes vote, and more than fifty percent of registered voters must vote in the election. Ballots may be returned at any library branch.

Multnomah County Library receives over 90% of its funding from local property taxes, with 55% coming from a special 5 year serial levy that was last approved in 1997. The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners has approved placing a renewal serial levy on the ballot this May to continue support for library operations and maintain current library services. The estimated cost for Multnomah

County property owners is 75.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. A typical homeowner would pay \$8

per month as a result of this levy.

Passage of the levy would continue current library services at neighborhood libraries for the next five years (from summer 2002-2007). Specific services include:

- Monday hours at Central Library and the four busiest neighborhood libraries.

- Tuesday through Sunday hours at all libraries.

- Children's library programs, including story hours for babies, toddlers and preschoolers, services to children in day care, homework help for students, art programs and summer reading.

- Library services for jobseekers, small business owners and those speaking English as a second language.

- Purchase of new books and other materials.

The result of a no vote would mean the library losing more than half of its current operating revenues. Libraries would be closed for more hours, book pur-

chases would be cut back, and significant staff layoffs would decrease user services. ■

### *Did You Know...?*

**More people are using the library than ever before:** the number of books borrowed has increased from 8.7 million in 1997 to almost 14 million in 2001!

**Multnomah County Library is the oldest public library west of the Mississippi,** with a history that dates back to 1864!

Central Library and the 17 neighborhood libraries house a collection of almost **2 million books and other library resources!**

**Multnomah County Library is Oregon's largest public library,** serving over one-fifth of the state's entire population!

**Last year Multnomah County residents borrowed nearly 14 million books—**more than double the national average!

**The daily circulation at Central Library alone is 9,000 books!**

See page 7 for your invitation to this year's Annual Meeting!

Spring 2002 • Visit our website [www.friends-library.org](http://www.friends-library.org)

## The Friends of Multnomah County Library

is a non-profit community organization dedicated to supporting the Multnomah County Library. We accomplish this principally by promoting public involvement in the Library and by raising money through membership fees, the Friends' Library Store, and an annual used-book sale.

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### Footnotes

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Footnotes is published about five times a year for members of The Friends of Multnomah County Library.

Send news and comments to Footnotes at FOL, 522 SW 5th Ave., Suite 1103, Portland, OR 97204, or call the Friends at 503-224-9176, fax at 503-223-4386, or email foladmin@europa.com

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Greg Simon

## What You Can Do For the Levy Campaign

*By Boz Eppley*

If you believe that the library should keep buying books, if you want to help keep your neighborhood library open, if you rely on the services the library offers to your community—then we could use your help!

The upcoming May levy will safeguard the services the library provides, as well as the intangible benefits libraries provide to the community.

Please remember to vote yes—mail in ballots are due Tuesday, May 21.

Already voting yes and want to help out in other ways? Here are a few ways to contribute that will make a big difference:

- **Volunteer for the Phone Bank.** Volunteers are needed for SIX nights of phone banks which will be held at the AFSCME offices located at 123 NE 3rd, Suite 505. There is ample parking, you'll be among friends and your help is really needed to contact voters. If you can make it, send your name and the dates you can call to [librariesyes@yahoo.com](mailto:librariesyes@yahoo.com) or call the Friends' office at 503-224-9176 to sign up.

**Thursday, May 2nd** from 6-9pm, **Friday, May 3rd** 6-9pm, **Sunday, May 5th** from 4-7pm, **Monday, May 6th** from 6-9, **Monday, May 13th** from 6-9, **Thursday, May 16th** from 6-9pm

This is a proven method to get people to vote. It can be just the nudge they need to turn in their ballots. And, the ballots can be turned in at the LIBRARY!

- **Arrange for a Libraries Yes! campaign speaker to visit.** The Libraries Yes! campaign has speakers ready to visit organizations and discuss the reasons to vote yes on the levy. If you belong to an organization such as the Elks, a retired teacher's group, a parent's organization—or any community that would help support our libraries, please give Libraries Yes! a call at 503-221-7922 to discuss the importance of the upcoming election with your group.

- **Contribute to the campaign.** You can also help by making a donation to the library levy campaign. If you would like to contribute, please send your contribution to: **Libraries Yes Committee**, PO Box 82161, Portland, OR 97232

Thanks for all your help! Now when you walk into Central Library on a Monday, you can be sure that your efforts have made it possible.

For more information on how to help, visit the campaign website at [www.librariesyes.esmartweb.com](http://www.librariesyes.esmartweb.com).

# 100th Anniversary of Public Service

## *Editor's Note:*

*On Sunday, March 10, 2002, library lovers gathered at Central Library to commemorate the day one hundred years ago when our library opened its doors to all, the first day of a year-long celebration. Highlights included live ragtime music by pianist Janice Scroggins, exhibits in the John Wilson Room and the Collins Gallery, and a temporary "Multnomah County Library Station" of the U.S. Postal Service, which issued commemorative postmarks on postcards especially designed for the day, and thousands of free commemorative buttons, paid for by the Friends. Speakers for this event included Library Director Ginnie Cooper, Multnomah County Chairperson Diane Linn, Acting Portland Postmaster Franklin P. Diggins, and student-essayist Clare Salisbury. What follows is the text of a speech given on this occasion by Friends' President Greg Simon:*

If you ask me right now why I love the library, I have a simple, two word answer for you: standing here. When I have time to stand here and gaze, I feel most strongly connected to Central Library and its wonderful, almost miraculous renovation. I feel connected to what our State Librarian in Salem calls the golden age of libraries in Oregon: the time we are living in now. But most of all I feel connected to the thousands of citizens who are currently or who have been active, dues-paying members of the Friends of the Library.

Of course it helps that we are standing beneath the fabulous light fixture the Friends donated to the renovation, because I know that fixture represents a larger metaphor. When Cindy Gibbon flips on the switches in the morning, I like to think that all the time, energy and love donated by the Friends over the twenty-seven years of our existence starts coursing through the miles and miles of library wires.

And why do we love our library? Of all our public insti-

tutions, I think the library is the very best at keeping its promises. It promises that when we arrive at the front doors, we will find good books and research materials, CDs and computers, magazines and maps. It promises that we will find friendly, intelligent people ready and willing to help us. And best of all, it promises that every man, woman and child who comes through those doors with peaceful intentions will be treated well, exactly the same, regardless of race, religion, political belief or economic standing.

Has getting to a golden age of libraries been easy? No. Don't forget, only a few years ago, we had to thread our way through scaffolding to check out a book of literature. If we are in a golden age now, we should thank our wonderful director, Ginnie Cooper, who has given us more than ten years of strong leadership and achievable vision. And thank Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn, for whom I campaigned like crazy, because I realized she had been at every important library meeting I ever went to twenty minutes before I got there, and

was still there when I left. Both of them have assembled great teams of employees who will go above and beyond what we can reasonably expect, because that is the kind of example Ginnie and Diane are setting.

So, the message is clear: if you want a golden age, you have to work hard for it. Come upstairs and get a button. Wear it every day, starting now, until May 21st. When people ask you about it, go to work, start talking about your library! Let's not pass the next library levy by a couple of percentage points, when all the polls show that the library's approval ratings are much higher than that. Let's win by twenty points, and set the bar high for the next one hundred golden years. ■



*Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn reads a proclamation from the board of commissioners.*

## Gravitate to Gresham!

By Adair Law

What do you do when your Friends try something new? While there are a range of choices in answering that question, we hope you will choose the option of "support!" The Friends of the Library will be holding its first-ever Summer Reads Sale at the Gresham Branch Library (385 NW Miller, Gresham, 503 988-5397) on Saturday May 11, 2002 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Used books for sale will feature popular fiction, mystery, and children's books. Prices will range from \$.50 to 5.00.

All the children's books will be sold for 50 cents and will include picture books and chapter books. For the younger kids there will be books by Jan Brett and Sandra Boynton and Dr. Seuss. The older kids will enjoy everything from Golden Books to Goosebumps, Roald Dahl, Laura Ingalls Wilder, and Pippi Longstocking.

For adults the popular fiction and mysteries will be both hard cover and soft cover, from \$1.25 up to \$5.00. There will be the latest John Grisham and James

Patterson, plus titles by Nelson DeMille, Tony Hillerman, Sue Grafton, Tom Clancy. There will be plenty of Oprah's picks and the current bestseller *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. This is a fantastic chance to stock up on your summer reading!

The Gresham Farmers Market will also be opening on that day as well, so it will be a fine day to be in downtown Gresham. If you want to make it a big library day, you could take a look at the recently opened Fairview-Columbia Branch Library (1520 N.E. Village Street, Fairview) which will be a few days short of its six month birthday and then you could journey into Portland for the opening of the Hollywood Branch Library (4040 NE Tillamook, Portland). You could wrap yourself in libraries on the 11th!

Proceeds of the sale benefit all Multnomah County Libraries. We hope to see you on May 11, 2002. For more information, call the Friends at 503 224-9176 or log on at [www.friends-library.org](http://www.friends-library.org). Join us!



## Friends of the Library Annual Meeting June 2

*The Friends Celebrate 30 years of Library Advocacy*



Look in this newsletter for your invitation to the 2002 Friends of the Library Annual Meeting and Tea. This year we welcome Michael Powell of Powell's Books to be our featured speaker. We will meet at Central Library in the US Bank room from 2 - 4pm on Sunday, June 2nd. Return the form with

your check and we'll save you a place!

### SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2002-2003 AS SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

President • Judy Kearney  
Vice-President • Adair Law  
Secretary • Boz Eppley  
Treasurer • Nancy Lee

# Friends' Library Store Turns Five This Spring

*By Jo Burch, Store Committee Chair*

Looking for the perfect gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduation, a birthday or thank you gift? The Friends' Library Store carries unique and wonderful gifts for those book lovers on your list, whatever the occasion.

Mother's Day suggestions include note cards, journals, porcelain heart-shaped boxes, jewelry and tote bags. Our tote bags range in size and color with designs that vary from Ramona Quimby, to cats, to the alphabet and to our own Central Library windows. These totes will carry her library books, needlework projects, or a picnic lunch.

For the discerning Father on your list, the Store has lovely glass pens with ink and ink bottles for his desk. Also, for Dad's desk or library there are clocks and handsome stained-glass lamps. The store carries a wide variety of unique bookends, some interesting neckties and our new nautical glass paperweights.

Mouse pads, simple to elegant bookmarks, desk accessories, jigsaw puzzles, children's games and toys, library and author T-shirts and a large selection of greeting cards are sure to please anyone on your gift list this spring.

On April 13th, The Friends' Library Store celebrated its fifth birthday with a 5% discount for all. Friends members always receive 10% off their purchases. So please stop by soon, wish us Happy Birthday and leave with something wonderful as you support the Friends and the Multnomah County Library.

The Friends' Library Store is located just off the lobby of Central Library in downtown Portland. Hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10am to 6pm; Wednesday 10am to 7pm and Sunday 1pm to 5pm. ■



## Thank you, Friends and Donors!!

Advantage Printing, Nancy Alley  
 Betty Amacost, Lee Ayer, Patricia Berg  
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Eva Lowen's work at Hillsdale Branch  
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### Matching Funds from:

IBM • For Darin Briskman  
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 NIKE • For Stephanie Vardavas

## Hollywood Library Grand Opening!

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by Boz Eppley

The brand new Hollywood Library will be opening soon with a two-week long celebration. After almost fifty years in its old home on Hancock Street, the library will move to its new location at 4040 NE Tillamook Street, and everyone in the community is invited to the housewarming!

The new Hollywood Library is 13,000 square feet; nearly double the size of its predecessor, which was unable to meet the needs of modern library customers and a growing neighborhood. Built at a cost of \$3.5 million, the library is funded with a portion of the \$29 million bond approved by voters in 1996 for renovation of nearly all the libraries in the system.

"We're excited to open Hollywood Library in this new location," says Ginnie Cooper, Multnomah County director of libraries. "This building is an innovative collaboration between the public and private sectors."

Developed in partnership with Sockeye Hollywood, LLC, the new mixed-use, four-story building is the first joint venture of its kind in Oregon. Architect Thomas Hacker and Associates worked with both entities to design the building. Hollywood Library fans old and new

will find 32 computers, space for 75,000 circulating items, five quiet study rooms and a 50-seat meeting room, which gives the neighborhood a new space that may be booked free-of-charge for community meetings and events.

The official Dedication Ceremony will take place May 11th at 1:00 p.m. After a musical community parade arrives at the new building, the 100-piece Symphonic Band of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony will play during the dedication. Then, nationally renowned story-teller Angela Lloyd will present "The Butterfly Kleenex" at 2:30 p.m.

In fact, the library will be hosting special events to celebrate its new home for the entire first two weeks it's open! Tears of Joy Theater will be performing, as well as singing sisters Jen and Wendy Bernard, and storytellers Will Hornyak, Twilo Scofield and Anne-Louise Sterry. And when you check out books on "Business Days," you'll receive special offers from local businesses, such as the Hollywood Farmers Market, the Hollywood Theatre, Starbucks and Trader Joe's.

So come celebrate the library's new home in Hollywood with us this spring!

■



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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Friends of the Library Used Book Sale**

**October 11,12,13, 2002**

**Portland State University**

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*You Are Cordially Invited to the*

# Friends of the Multnomah County Library Annual Meeting and Afternoon Tea

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2002

US BANK METING ROOM • CENTRAL LIBRARY  
801 SW10TH • 2:00 TO 4:00P.M.

*featuring*

## **Michael Powell**

Michael Powell started his first book store in Chicago in 1970 with a \$3,000 loan from, among others, Nobel Prize winning novelist Saul Bellow. In 1979 he moved to Portland to assist his father, Walter, who had just lost the lease on his used book store. A mere two decades later, Michael Powell is now the owner of the largest independent new-and-used book store in the world. 1.5 million books are shelved at any one time in a store that covers an entire city block. During this period of time, Michael Powell has also become a respected civic leader in Portland, championing a variety of causes.

But his first and abiding love has always been books. "We have higher library use than almost any other place in the nation," Library Director Ginnie Cooper told Susan Hauser in 2001. "I think one of the reasons we're so high—people say it's the rain—but I actually think it's Michael Powell. He's helped us be a city of readers, a city that values books and knows they matter."

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### **To make your reservation, please detach and mail to:**

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY • 522 SW 5th Ave. Suite1103 • Portland, OR, 97204

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the Friends of the Library Annual Meeting and Tea, Sunday, June 2nd.

Enclosed is my check for \$8.00 per person,made payable to Friends of the Library.

*Invite a friend. Bring a book to donate to our Friends of the Library Book Sale.*

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Reservations are non-refundable. No tickets will be sent;a list of reservations will be kept at the door.  
Please reserve by May 29th. Call 503-224-9176 for more information.*



# FOOTNOTES

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY LIBRARY

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## Thank you Book Sale Volunteers!

*By Anne McFall, Book Room Manager*

As we all know, our annual Used Book Sale is staffed by many wonderful volunteers. Behind the scenes, however, there are volunteers who work regularly in the book room processing the 1/4 million books donated each year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank them for their commitment, good humor, and hard work. Several of them go back more than 20 years with the Friends.

If you are interested in volunteering, please indicate this on the volunteer form mailed with your membership renewal, or call the office at 503-224-9176.

### Over 1000 hours:

Joe Kling  
Harold Kropitzer

Stephen Leflar  
Patty Meecham

### Over 100 hours:

Judy Amster  
Marilyn Burke

Carol Clifton  
Gary Simone  
Debby Simone

### Approaching 50 hours:

Marie Bartolet  
Amy Fuller  
Rosemary Houha

Penny Hummel  
Kiki Leflar  
Ellen Nielson  
Jackie Olson  
Mary Real  
Angie Surmon  
Carol Turcotte  
Trudy Williams

### Over 500 hours:

Maxine McGrath

### Over 250 hours:

Iris Kimbark

### Over 50 hours:

Anne Darrow