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THE BEST OF **FRIENDS** Knoxville, Tennessee

Fall 2011

WANTED NEW VOLUNTEERS FOR NEW PROJECTS

You must have noticed that the Friends of Knox County Public Library are showing up in more places, engaged in more community activities, and exerting a stronger presence on behalf of the Knox County Public Library than ever before. Though the Annual Used Book Sale remains a priority, the Friends' involvement in the community has escalated. Every day we engage with book lovers and interact with library staff at the Friends@Rothrock Used Book Shop. As advocates we are increasingly attentive to the influences of business, government, and cultural trends. Our Shoebox Libraries share our bounty of good books in settings where young and old lack easy access to a library. The community supports us by donating greater numbers of books every year and attending Friends-sponsored events in bigger crowds.

And the more we do, the more we're noticed, invited, and sometimes begged to do!

To meet these requests and accomplish all that we want to do, we need more help. Take a look at some of our favorite projects. See how you, too, might become involved.

Book by Book:
The 2011 Children's and
Teens' Book Drive



**Books for
Empty Stockings
Pages 4 and 5**



**Read together
every day.**

The Children's Reading Foundation
of Knox County

**Visits to
Childcare Centers
Pages 5 and 7**



**Dogwoods
for Branches
Page 5**

Film Made in Region To Mark Birthday

A movie filmed in Maynardville in 1973 will be shown November 4 as part of the Knox County Public Library's birthday celebration. *The Lolly-Madonna War*, based on a novel by the currently very popular writer Sue Grafton, features Rod Steiger, Robert Ryan, and Jeff Bridges.

According to the Internet Movie Database (IMDB), competing moonshiners Laban Feather and Pap Gutshall are feuding until love finds a way for the rustic families.

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More details about the event will be available on the library's website and in the forthcoming October 23 supplement to the Knoxville *News Sentinel*.

Here's Something To Howl About

Knox County Public Library's Movies on Market Square continue to be popular, but the film *How To Train Your Dragon*, shown on September 16, drew a seam-busting crowd. An estimated 1,200 people and an unknown number of their dogs showed up for the screening sponsored by PetSafe.

From the President's Desk

The Friends of the Library Volunteer

By Elnora Williams

This upcoming year marks the 42nd anniversary of the Friends of the Knox County Public Library. Thanks to our many volunteers and supporters who are working to make all programs and events successful for this 2011-2012 year! The 125th anniversary of the Knox County Public Library is being celebrated this year, and all FOL volunteers are encouraged to join in the commemoration as activities are presented by the central Library.



FOL has a membership of approximately 1,100 members, and this is tremendous. Our goal continues to be promoting other citizens to join the organization and to support the Library and staff. The mission of the Friends of the Library is to foster a love of libraries, books, and reading in the Knox County area through community outreach, advocacy, and support of the Knox County Public Library System and staff. Our focus will be to maintain and recruit members to become volunteers by serving on a committee and working on various activities, and we presently have very active committees and ongoing activities throughout the year. The Friends of the Library will be actively involved in the 125th anniversary celebration and many other events including helping to fund a Book and Author event. The Friends of the Library will be underwriting or sponsoring various events for the Library: the Paula Poundstone Bijou performance on October 7; FOL Week (October 16-20); Staff Appreciation Day (Oct. 18); National Library Week; Knoxville's *News Sentinel* Empty Stocking Fund; Imagination Library; the Annual Used Book Sale; the Friends@Rothrock Book Shop; Shoebox Libraries; Head Start Outreach; Children's Festival of Reading; the challenge to "Read Together 20 Minutes a Day" Program; Summer Library Club; UT Volunteer Challenge; mini book sales; and the Annual Meeting. Please call the office (865.215.8755) if there are questions and interest regarding volunteer activities.

Again, thanks for your service as volunteers and members of FOL. We look forward to working with everyone and making this the BEST FRIENDS of THE LIBRARY in the nation!

KCPL To Celebrate 125th

The oldest library system in Tennessee turns 125 this year, and the Knox County Public Library System has a history worthy of celebration beginning next month.

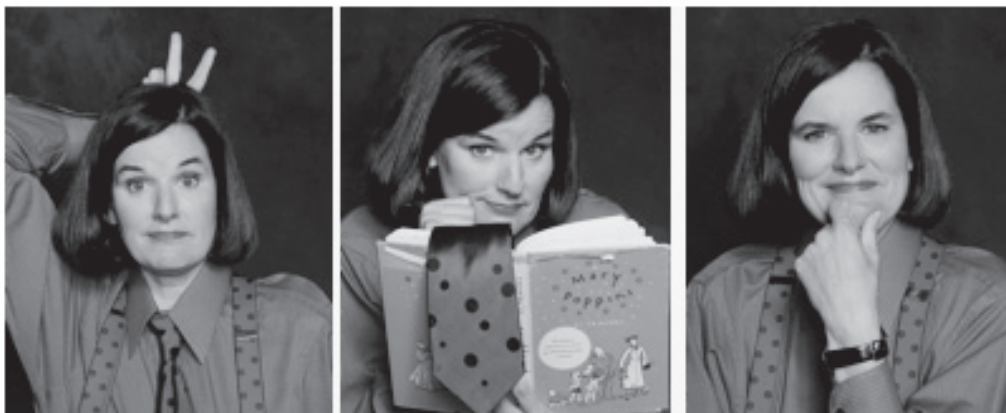
On October 23 a supplement to the Knoxville *News Sentinel* will detail the library's history. For example, Lawson McGhee Library, located today at 500 West Church Ave., integrated in 1951, 10 years ahead of the desegregation of many public facilities in the state.

On November 4 a number of events will unfold. Among them will be the screening of a documentary film about the library's history

and a guided tour of downtown Knoxville that will take walkers to the library's original location in the Rebori Building in the 100 block of Gay Street.

The Friends of Knox County Public Library are also developing plans for honoring Knox County Library and specifically Lawson McGhee, current home of the Friends@Rothrock Book Shop.

Volunteers from the Friends will plant dogwood trees at each of the system's branches (see page 5 for details). Soon to be announced are several events featuring nationally known authors.



**Don't Wait: Order Your Tickets Today
Paula Poundstone at the Bijou Oct. 7;
Event To Benefit Friends of Library**

The comedian who keeps audiences laughing on an NPR weekly news quiz show and who is a spokesperson for a national network of library supporters is bringing her comedy to the Bijou Theater on Friday, October 7.

Paula Poundstone, famous for her ability to interact spontaneously and hilariously with audiences, is a regular on NPR's *Wait Wait Don't Tell Me*.

Winner of an Emmy Award, Poundstone has appeared on Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion*, *Real Time with Bill Maher*, *Late Night with David Letterman*, and several specials on HBO.

She is also the national spokesperson for the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations (ALTAFF), a division of the American Library Association (ALA) representing library supporters from across the country. ALTAFF brings together trustees and Friends into a partnership that unites citizens who support libraries. ALTAFF sees this partnership as a powerful force for libraries in the 21st century.

Sally Reed, executive director of ALTAFF, said, "We're thrilled that Paula Poundstone will continue to use her celebrity status to help highlight and support Friends

of the Library groups. These volunteer citizen organizations work hard throughout the year to raise money for and public awareness about their libraries. Libraries would be immeasurably poorer without them."

"If you haven't been to your library lately, you're overdue," Poundstone says. Her video promoting local libraries can be seen online <www.ala.org/news/topstories/poundstone.cfm>.

"It's funny that we think of libraries as quiet demure places where we are shushed by dusty, bun-balancing, bespectacled women," says Poundstone. "The truth is libraries are raucous clubhouses for free speech, controversy and community."

The Union Avenue Book Store will sell copies of Poundstone's book, *There's Nothing in This Book That I Meant to Say* (Harmony Books, a division of Random House, with a foreword by Mary Tyler Moore). The author will autograph copies after the show.

Friends will also be on hand to enroll new members in their organization.

Show time is 8 p.m. and tickets are \$30. The Friends have promised a free ticket to the performance to the first eight new members joining the Friends before September 30.

Four Schools Tops In Summer Reading
Students at four Knox County schools have been honored for having the highest percentage of participants in the 2011 summer reading program. **Beaumont, Mount Olive, Sequoyah, and Sterchi** schools will be rewarded by a visit from a children's author provided by Knox County Public Library and the Children's Reading Foundation of Knox County.

Williams, Walter Elected to Posts
At the Friends' annual meeting on July 19, **Elnora Williams** was elected to a second term as president, to serve in 2011-12, and **Glenn Walter** was voted president-elect to succeed her in 2012. **Brian Pittman** was named secretary. **Bill Alley** was chosen to serve a second three-year term as director.

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Glenn Walter and Elnora Williams have been elected to lead Friends of the Knox County Public Library.

Wanted: Books To Fill Empty Stockings



Lady Vols' Events Support Project

The UT Athletic Department is on the ESF team.

Support the Lady Vols and enjoy free admission with a two-book donation per event:

■ **October 7: SEC Soccer vs. Ole Miss, Regal Stadium, 7 p. m.**

■ **November 6: SEC Volleyball vs. Mississippi State, A Special Family Sunday Game, Thompson-Boling Arena, 1:30 p. m.**

(Kids 12 and under will receive a concession voucher in addition to free admission.)

Stalwart Volunteers Serve Book by Book

Thanks go to members of the team in charge of this project: **Lauren Bray, Suzanne Freeman, Angela Hoffman, Jean Idell, Mary Ann Merrell, and Marilyn Parsons.**

Volunteers Needed On Distribution Day

Help is needed to distribute books on Wednesday, December 21, in the Jacob Building at Chilhowee Park. See page 5 for details.

Calling all Friends! We need your help with **Book by Book! A Children's and Teens' Book Drive.**

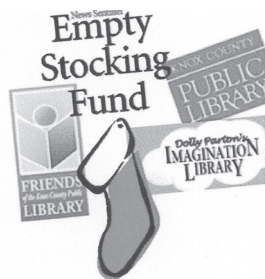
Board books, picture books, beginning readers, chapter books, teens' books: We need books for all ages, especially elementary and middle school readers. The Friends have stepped up to lead **Book by Book: A Children's and Teens' Book Drive**, a collaboration with the Knoxville *News Sentinel*, the Knox County Public Library, and Imagination Library. The University of Tennessee Athletic Department has planned special events to support the book drive, too.

The book drive will support the Empty Stocking Fund (ESF) to assure that every child in this program receives a quality book to be enjoyed for many years to come. In the past Borders has been a generous contributor to this program, but because their stores have closed, the ESF has come to the Friends to help close the gap.

So this is a call to our entire Friends' membership: **We need your help—each and every one of you!** For ESF, please donate books that look new—no inscriptions, no torn pages. (Would Santa bring a book that didn't look brand-new?)

But if you also have books that are not in perfect condition, the Friends are always in need of those donations, too. We provide books to more than 30 different children's programs throughout the year, and we coordinate great book sales to raise funds for special library programs.

Where and When? Donations will be accepted **now through November 15** at any Knox County Public Library branch or at the Rothrock book shop, downtown at Lawson McGhee Library.



Or you can take it to another level!

■ Donate two books and enjoy free admission to the Lady Vols' soccer match on October 7. Another donation of two books will admit you free of charge to the Lady Vols' volleyball match November 18.

■ Spring clean now! If every FOL member donates just five books for ESF, we'll exceed our goal.

■ Encourage your child or grandchild, your Scout troop or your soccer team to have a mini book drive—borrow a red wagon and ask neighbors to help fill it!

■ Set up a collection bin at your church, school, or office. More information and a poster for your collection will be found on our website: <www.knoxfriends.org>.

■ Beam 'em up! Help bring the donated books from the branches to Friends@Rothrock.

■ Donate funds to the Friends so that they can buy new books for the drive. Mail a check made out to the Friends to 500 West Church, Knoxville, TN 37905.

Questions? Ideas? E-mail us <books@knoxfriends.org>, call, or post your ideas on the FOL Facebook page.

Please print this information and include it with your donated books or e-mail this information to <books@knoxfriends.org>.

Name _____ Date _____

Number of books donated _____ Left at which branch? _____

_____ Yes, add my name to your published list of donors.

_____ This donation is made in honor of _____

_____ This donation is made in memory of _____

Wanted: Volunteers for These Jobs

Wanted: Messengers about Reading to Daycare Centers

Do you want to make a contribution to Friends but can commit only a little bit of time? Visit a couple of Knox County's childcare centers with a brief message and a bundle of stickers, brochures, and buttons promoting the Read Every Day for 20 Minutes project. This collaboration with the Children's Reading Foundation and Knox County Schools takes the message about the skills required for kindergarten and the importance of reading to the staff that spends many waking hours with the children in their care.

No particular skills are needed for this task. We will pair you with an experienced spokesperson and provide all the details and materials needed. You can schedule your visits at your convenience. You will enjoy the buzz of a roomful of pre-schoolers as you acquaint their caregivers with this important message. Contact Maggie Carini at 607.3122 or <hometownmed@comcast.net> for details or to volunteer.

Wanted: Volunteers To Fill Empty Stockings December 21

In addition to books to fill empty stockings (see page 4), FOL needs help at the Empty Stocking Fund on Wednesday, December 21, when books are distributed at the Jacob Building in Chilhowee Park. FOL volunteers will distribute books to more than 1,000 adults waiting in line. Other volunteers will help parents select books for children and teens. Two shifts need to be staffed:

Shift One: 6:30-9:30 a.m.

Shift Two: 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Contact Jean Idell to sign up or to learn more about this project: <idellj@bellsouth.net>.

Wanted: Planters Who Dig Libraries

In recognition of its 125th anniversary, the Knox County Public Library will receive 125 dogwood trees from the Dogwood Arts Festival's Bazillion Blooms Program, funded by a grant from the Alcoa Foundation. Friends of the KCPL have volunteered to administer the planting program, with Board member Bill Alley heading up the planning and planting in conjunction with Cody Miller, head of library maintenance.

The trees (both pink and white) will be available on/about December 2 and 3. Plans are being made for the planting of the commemorative trees at all library branches, where possible. Many volunteers will be needed from the Friends to transport the trees, coordinate the planting on December 3 as part of a citywide planting day, and, most importantly, to develop an on-going program to ensure that these trees survive and flourish during the next 125 years. Please consider volunteering and contact Bill Alley after October 1 by calling his home 688-2076 and leaving your name, contact number, and library branch.

Wanted: Planners of a Yearlong Birthday Party

If special events are your thing, we have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! Join the committee that will partner with the library in the celebration of its 125th anniversary. We will begin with Staff Appreciation Day, October 18, and continue with planning and assisting a series of author events throughout the coming year. Contact Bonny Naugher at 256.5886 or <bnaugher2@gmail.com>.

Wanted: Volunteers for Saturday Stories and Songs

The library's Saturday Stories and Songs series needs Friends to assist staff and performers for its fall session at seven branches October 1-December 3. The volunteer will help set up the room, introduce the performer, and count and survey attendees. Contact Erin Nguyen at 215.8761 or <enguyen@knoxlib.org> for details.



Myretta Black

Library Director Reports on State Of Knox System

In spite of economic pressures, the Knox County Public Library System is in good health, according to Myretta Black, director. Ms. Black spoke to the Friends at the July 19 Annual Meeting about the system's accomplishments in the recent past and activities for the future. Positive developments include extended hours, new electronic services for patrons, and the celebration of the library's 125th birthday.

Friends Appreciate Knox Library Staff

As part of its observance of Friends of Libraries Week, October 16-22, Knox County Friends will treat the staffs of all library branches to lunch on October 18. The meal will be catered and delivered in reusable tote bags to personnel across the county by Rothchild

Rothrock:
The Reader's Friend
At Friends@Rothrock,
our book shop opened
daily, monthly specials
appeal to shoppers.
Throughout the rest of
the year readers will
find Rothrock's specials
as follows:
October: Old and Odd
November: Seasonal
Books and Materials
December: Gift Books



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Alpha Kappa Alpha Has Volunteer Spirit



Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority members, from left, Alexandria Harris, Courtney Mauldin, and Alexandria Parris worked with Friends September 12-16 as part of the University of Tennessee Volunteer Challenge. The activity pairs UT students with local organizations to demonstrate the Volunteer Spirit in the community.

History Day Makes History for Friends



At the Friends' tent on East Tennessee History Day were, from left, a frontiersman; volunteer Mary Ann Merrell setting up the Friends' tent; and volunteers Dottie Stamper, Jean Idell, and Alyssa Hatmaker.

The East Tennessee Historical Society's East Tennessee History Fair transformed downtown Knoxville into a living museum of fascinating figures and activities on Saturday, August 20. Held annually on the third Saturday of August, this year's event marked the fifth anniversary of the fair and a first for the Friends to have a booth. The Friends' Membership, Communications and Advocacy, and Used Book Sales committees joined forces to inform passers-by about the Friends' mission and varied projects.

The Friends' tent also enjoyed a lively business selling regular and specially priced books to historians, regional history buffs, and other shoppers who stopped by. The successful event raised more than \$1,000 from the sale of books and memberships.

If you are interested in history and regional books, please consider volunteering to help with the sixth annual East Tennessee History Day next year. The Friends have already signed up to be there on August 18, 2012. Can you plan to join us?

Baby Bookworms Learn While Having Fun

Storytime at the public library is more than moms' hour out.

It's an educational experience for the Baby Bookworms program offered by the Knox County Public Library system.

Reading to little ones from birth pays off, according to the Children's Reading Foundation of Knox County. (See page 7.) Listening to stories, rhymes, and songs helps even a very young child to hear and memorize complete sentences, proper grammar, and an extended vocabulary.

In addition, five minutes a day of play can teach targeted skills. See all 26 targets at <readyforkindergarten.org>.

Also it goes without saying that seeing the little ones' responses to stories is lots of fun for caregivers, too.



photos by Suzanne Freeman

The parking lot for strollers at Lawson Mc-Ghee is full on a day for Baby Bookworms.



Are Our Children Ready For Kindergarten?



READ TOGETHER 20 MINUTES EVERY DAY.

www.readingfoundation.org



The Children's Reading Foundation of Knox County



Friends Distribute Thousands of Bookmarks Promoting Reading

A student who is not reading on grade level by third grade has a 75 percent chance of dropping out of school. Students' reaching grade-level proficiency begins even before kindergarten, and Friends are volunteering to spread that message throughout the area. Bookmarks like the one depicted above and below have already been widely distributed in the community to acquaint parents and other caregivers about the skills that children need to have developed even before they enter kindergarten.

When the Children's Reading Foundation of Knox County launched the campaign "Kids Who Read Succeed," the Friends signed on to help that organization encourage caregivers of pre-school children to read to, sing with, and talk to youngsters at least 20 minutes a day.

Abby Wintker, FOL coordinator, takes notes as Angie Tierney, director of the Children's Reading Foundation of Knox County, speaks to the FOL executive board on September 19.



Maggie Carini, co-chair of FOL's Communications and Advocacy Committee, and Angie Tierney of the Children's Reading Foundation are training pairs of volunteers to visit some of the more than 300 childcare centers in the county to explain the literacy initiative and to distribute materials about it. Each visit lasts no more than 20 minutes, and FOL is looking for volunteers to join this important educational venture.

Speaking to the Friends' Executive Board meeting on September 19, Tierney described the Friends as "a tremendous group of workers" who are part of a grassroots culture-changing movement reaching community leaders, parents, and other caregivers. Volunteers from the Friends have already visited seven childcare centers, reaching 694 parents by distributing brochures, banners, window clings, and other materials promoting reading consistently with young children for 20 minutes a day. The campaign "empowers parents to influence their children's lives," Tierney said, for literacy affects a person's earning power.

Tierney pointed out that 35 per cent of children entering Knox County kindergartens are not ready to learn. At a table of five kindergartners, one child will have skills above grade level, one will be on grade level, a third child will be one year behind, a fourth child will fall two years behind, and the fifth youngster will lag three to four years behind. She added that 75 per cent of those children who start behind their peers do not catch up. "It is much cheaper and more effective to help those who fall behind when they are young."

For more information, see <www.readingfoundation.org/knox_county>.

A five-year-old with these skills is ready to succeed at school:

Letters and Sounds

- Enjoys being read to and can retell a story
- Recognizes letters (upper and lower case) and some letter sounds
- Repeats the first sound in a word
- Speaks in complete sentences
- Prints his or her first name

Math

- Counts in order from 1-20
- Recognizes numbers and quantities to 5
- Names and sorts items by color, shape and size
- Understands concepts such as more, less, same, above, below, big, small

Social

- Settles in to new groups or situations
- Can concentrate on a task for 5 minutes
- Follows simple directions
- Shows kindness and concern for others

Reading together every day helps your child master these skills.



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Book by Book

The 2011 Children's and
 Teens' Book Drive

You Can Make a Difference!

Donate books to fill empty stockings.

**Donate a few hours of your time to collect
 books from your neighbors, church,
 business, or school.**

**Questions? E-mail <books@knoxfriends.
 org>.**

Donations accepted through November 15

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Friends of the Knox County Public Library
 500 West Church Avenue
 Knoxville, TN 37902-2525
 865.215.8775

I wish to join/renew my membership in the Friends.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

E-mail _____

_____ **I want to receive my newsletter by e-mail.**

_____ **Check made to Friends of the Knox County Public
 Library is enclosed.**

Signature _____

Category of Membership

___ **Library Lover (Students & Seniors): \$10**

___ **Bookworm (Individual): \$15**

___ **First Edition (Family): \$25**

___ **Mary Lawson McGhee: \$50**

___ **Calvin McClung: \$100**

___ **Mary Utopia Rothrock: \$250**

___ **James Agee: \$500**

___ **Business Membership: \$100**

Or renew online <knoxfriends.org>.