

OUR MISSION: 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.



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Coming Up...

August 18- (THIS SATURDAY!) East Tennessee History Fair, 10 am - 5 pm (Krutch Park). Our booth will once again be right on Gay Street and will feature books on U.S. history.

September 3- ALL BRANCHES CLOSED in observance of Labor Day

September 14 & 15- Book sale at the Bearden branch, 10 am - 5:30 pm (100 Golfclub Road) ***HELP NEEDED, SEE BELOW!**

SEPTEMBER monthly special at the Friends at Rothrock Used Book Shop is **REFERENCE BOOKS** (500 W. Church Ave.)

October 8- Last day to REGISTER TO VOTE.

Are you one of the 1,691,238 patrons who visited the Knox County Public Library last year to check out one of 2,769,948 items?

The Friends recently heard a [state of the library address](#) from Executive Director Myretta Black, who described a vibrant, thriving library system that seems to use every dollar of tax payer funding to public advantage.

In turn, Ms. Black's story is an encouraging description of **a population seeking to inform and entertain** itself. In addition to carting home hundreds of thousands of print books, our fellow citizens downloaded 32,096 audiobooks, plus 16,610 ebooks in the short four months they have been available.

Is it any wonder that the Friends are inspired to supplement such an exciting offering? This year a sizable portion of the \$50,000 gifted to the library will go to items that support collection delivery and usage at **Cedar Bluff, Burlington, Halls, Powell, Norwood, Howard Pinkston, Murphy, and North Knox** branches, as well as the Children's Room at Lawson McGhee. In the midst of rapid change, our library is, according to Ms. Black, "...alive and well and doing something right."

Library collections are changing. Today, books come in a variety of formats and patrons demand them all. More and more magazines, journals and references are evolving into electronic database in place of print format.

Think about that. The print copy that could only be used by a single in-house patron is now available in electronic format to multiple users simultaneously--both in-house and in offices, homes and many another locations throughout Knox County! Cds and dvds have replaced filmstrips, slides, and phono records, and even these formats continue to change. Here comes Blu Ray!



When the economy is down, it is all the more vital that we the people have access to information, education, news... and computers connected to the Web. Libraries provide that. For everyone.

[Franklin D. Roosevelt, at a time when the future of democracy was in question](#), described libraries as "the great symbols of the freedom of the mind," "essential to the functioning of a democratic society."



Pick a Branch and Pitch In!

The Friends are looking for good neighbors to help staff several mini-book sales at branch libraries this Fall. The first in the series is at the Bearden branch on September 14-15. Sales at Farragut, Burlington, Powell, and Cedar Bluff are also scheduled. If you are not a member of the Friends of the Library **YET**, but would like to help with one of these sales, contact Jean Idell to join the Friends and volunteer at 789-9081 or idellj@bellsouth.net



The right to vote is the muscle of a democracy and will atrophy unless we exercise the duty to use that muscle. Step One is registering to vote. In Tennessee this is a 30-day process. To vote in the November election, you must register by October 8th. Registration may be done in person at the Election Commission Office, Room 218 of the old courthouse, 300 Main Ave. Applications may be obtained on-line at www.Knoxvotes.org or at any branch library. Details for voting by absentee ballot are also available at the Knoxvotes.org website. **Tell all your friends: BE READY TO VOTE on November 6th!**

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