

KEEPING LIBRARY LOVERS  
IN THE LOOP!



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**April 5**  
The Great Llama Race  
[details](#)

**(Photo)** Amanda Ripley, investigative journalist and author of *The Smartest Kids in the World and How They Got That Way*, speaks at the Bijou Theater on Wednesday, April 9, at 7 p.m. [details](#)

**April 12**  
Farragut Book Fest for Children [details](#)  
& Used Book Sale [details](#)

**May 17**  
KCPL's Children's Festival of Reading  
[details](#)

**Month of April**

## Friends 'Shakes' It Up With Mini-Grants

William Shakespeare is the world's preeminent dramatist. Even if you have never read his work, you have certainly heard snippets of his plays. Well, guess what? He turns 450 in April and this particular birthday has not slipped by unnoticed at KCPL.

[Shakesfest](#), KCPL's annual event for teens, college students and teachers, will honor the Bard of Bards this year on his birthday, April 26, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the East Tennessee History Center. The event will feature Tom Parkhill from the Tennessee Stage Company and Misty Anderson from UT's English Department who will speak (respectively) on technical theatre production and Shakespeare in popular culture. A special screening of popular director Joss Whedon's film adaptation of *Much Ado About Nothing* will also be presented. And don't forget—there's birthday cake for all!



None of this celebration would be possible, however, without mini-grants from *Friends*. Over the past two years, *Friends* has contributed substantial dollars raised during our used book sales in support of:

- Prizes for teens 12 to 17—and their little brothers and sisters—who read and log five books during Summer

branch locations)

Friends @ Rothrock  
Used Book Shop  
*On Special:*  
Gardening & Home  
[More>>](#)

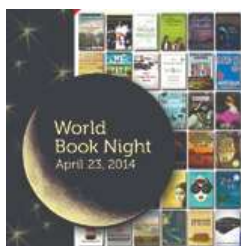
[Click here](#) for the library's complete calendar of events.

Bearden library branches to be used at children's story time and other activities

- Family Movie Night at the Burlington branch and quarterly concerts with local classical, jazz, folk, country and bluegrass musicians at the main library downtown
- Educational programs such as Shakesfest for teens and computer classes in Spanish for Knoxville's Spanish-speaking community

"The library can't thank *Friends* enough," says Melissa Ferguson, Powell branch manager and chair of the Farragut branch's. "The *Friends* organization is making a huge impact on what the library can't accomplish alone."

For more information about Shakesfest and other KCPL programs for teens, visit [Teen Central](#) at the library's website.



### World Book Night in Knoxville

April 23 is [World Book Night](#). Two Knox County *Friends* will join 25,000 other volunteers across the country to give away more than 500,000 books to those who don't or can't routinely read.

*Friends* Treasurer Marye Rose will hand out copies of *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford. Mary Ann Merrell, co-chair of the *Friends* Used Book Committee, will distribute *Sunrise Over Fallujah* by Walter Dean Myers. These books are on a list of [35 titles](#) chosen by librarians and booksellers especially for World Book Night. Authors have waived royalties and publishers print special editions to be given away.

"World Book Night is a powerful and global act of



### Advocating for Your Public Library

Advocacy for our public library—an important function of *Friends*—intensifies around elections and budget planning every spring. Knox County citizens are encouraged to become familiar with the views of elected officials on KCPL's issues and needs.

County commission seats in Districts 3 and 7, as well as both at-large seats, are up for election in 2014. The primary election for these positions is May 6. Early voting begins April 16, extending through May 1.

The county budget preparations are also underway. Executive Library Director Myretta Black submits the 2014/2015 project proposals to County Finance in April. These



### Burlington Branch Loves Book Sales

The *Friends* mini used book sale at the Burlington branch has become a monthly event instead of being held just twice a year. Because of their popularity, the sales have become a *must-attend* event for excited patrons.

Last year, sale proceeds purchased framed art, a comfortable recliner and accent chairs, as well as a theatre-style popcorn popper that adds to the fun. Future branch purchases will include an iPod for storytime music and a laptop for presentations given in the branch's heavily used meeting room.

The five-person staff at the Burlington branch has 90 years of cumulative library experience among them. Staff members are: Jeff Johnston (branch

"Just an hour out of the day is all it takes."

and County Mayor Tim Burchett presents a recommended budget to the County Commission in May. A budget is adopted in June. Budget hearings are open to the public.

Helms and Nicole Barajas.

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