

**MAGIC IN THE LIBRARY!**[Read ♥ in your browser](#)**Author Dan Zak to Visit Knoxville**

In July 2012, a trio of peace activists broke into Oak Ridge's Y-12 National Security Complex with alarming ease. *Washington Post* reporter [Dan Zak](#) tells the story of this break-in in his new book, *Almighty: Courage, Resistance, and Existential Peril in the Nuclear Age*. He also re-examines the 70-year history of America's nuclear weapons program at a time of great concern about weapons proliferation worldwide.

Friends, the [Knox County Public Library](#), [Union Ave Books](#), and the [East Tennessee Historical Society](#) are joining forces to bring Dan Zak to the East Tennessee History Center on Thursday, August 4, at 7 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public, but donations will be accepted to help ensure that Friends can continue to offer such events to the community. Seating will be limited, and [advance registration](#) is encouraged. Copies of *Almighty* will be available for purchase, and Zak will sign copies after he speaks.

**There's Magic in the Library**



Two magicians take a look at one of the magic books in the Farragut Branch's collection.

A birthday gift of magic books was a life-changer for Michael Messing, who's in his 15th year as a [Knox County Public Library Summer Library Club](#) performer. Messing knows that reading—like his magic tricks—requires lots of practice. That's why he's passionate about libraries and the summer reading programs. Thousands visit area branch libraries each summer to see his performances, thanks to the support of Friends of the Knox County Public Library.

After a recent show, Messing met Aaron, a bubbly 10-year-old fascinated with magic. He showed Aaron some of his favorite magic books. Then they perused the 793.8 (magic) section of the [Farragut Branch's](#) collection. And of course, no conversation between magic enthusiasts is complete without a trick or two!

While there are lots of ways to learn, books are a stimulating resource. "Learning magic through books may allow you to create something different because you're able to use your imagination when interpreting the steps. When you learn through a video, it's easy to focus more on making your trick look just like the video," Messing explained.

More than 100 Summer Library Club programs like Michael Messing's magic show can be enjoyed at area libraries.

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## Chip In for Summer Library Club

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### Ask Your Commission Candidates

Early voting for the August 4 election is underway. The election for the **Knox County Commission**, which determines the funding for the Knox County Public Library, is particularly significant for library lovers.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Friends cannot endorse candidates or political parties but does encourage voters to be informed about the candidates' positions on issues related to the

Download and share this [list of candidates](#). And ask your County Commission candidates a few questions: Do you have a library card? Do you use the public library? Are you aware of the many excellent services and programs the library's facilities provide? Are you aware of how it is funded and how much funding the system receives?\* Do you know that the public consistently gives the library high marks for its service?

\*Answer: 2% of the Knox County budget, some state aid, and little federal aid.

## Happy Birthday, Powell Branch!



Painted wall in the children's section at the Powell Branch Library. **Click on the image above** to see more photos.

Perhaps not even **Dr. Bob Collier** and his wife **Louise**, the generous donors of the land for the Powell Branch Library, imagined the strikingly lovely building that would be built in their own neighborhood. Now the **Powell Branch** is having a birthday party on Thursday, July 14, to celebrate 10 years at this picturesque location at 330 W. Emory Road. Open to the public from 2 to 7 p.m., the library will invite guests to enjoy cake and punch while viewing photos of former Powell branches and the display of the groundbreaking ceremony held on July 6, 2006, at the current location. Kids can be involved, too, by designing bookmarks commemorating the event and entering their creations in categories based on age.

Branch manager **Melissa Ferguson** is especially proud of the Craftsman-style architecture of the Powell Library as well as the open spaces for reading, research, and study. "We also love feeding birds out back," said Melissa. It was Dr. Collier himself who built and installed bluebird houses and other feeders so library patrons could watch birds from the expansive windows spanning the entire back wall of the library. "We even lend our guests binoculars so they can view them closely," added Melissa. Library patrons enjoy other aspects of the building, too: the four-sided fireplace in the center, tables appointed with good lighting for reading, an expansive area for

The entire staff looks forward to welcoming the public to the Powell Branch's birthday party on July 14 as they celebrate 10 years on Emory Road.

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## It's a Wrap!



Shoppers at the Jacob Building on Saturday, June 25

After the 2016 Used Book sale wrap-up on Tuesday, June 28, Friends wants to express appreciation to many, beginning with the more than 150 volunteers who worked many hours over the past year and the six days of the sale to make the event a success.

Volunteers and customers alike were pleased with the bright, clean environment at our new location in the Jacob Building. Feedback from customers was filled with positive comments like these:

"Best used book sale I've ever been to! Value, incredibly well organized for browsing, very well informed, efficient and genuinely helpful staff! Bravo!"

"Just wanted to thank everyone who helps with this sale; my sister, daughter and I loved it! I didn't want to leave, we found so many wonderful books AND everyone was so nice and helpful! Before I left I already decided I'd come back whenever you do a sale like this! Thanks again!"

"Attended today with two of my friends and we all couldn't stop talking about our amazing finds. All of the volunteers are extremely attentive and want to help you. What an awesome experience for my first time!"

"Went today and got two series that I love all in hardback. I'm the happiest girl in Knoxville right now."

"My daughter and I went today. It was great. We got most of the books on her list that she needs to read in high school."

"...at least a dozen volunteers interacted with me and all are wonderful."

"You have essentially reinvented the Friends of the Library Book Sale!



and great publicity. All great."

"Great people, great bargains, VERY worthy cause!"

Friends also thanks the management and staff of Chilhowee Park. From start to finish they were helpful and accommodating. Several organizations were also important to the success of the sale. Our thanks to the [Knox County Public Library](#), the [City of Knoxville](#), [Three Rivers Market](#), [WUOT](#), [WBIR TV](#), [Comcast Knoxville](#), and the [Knoxville News Sentinel](#).

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## Dear Friends...



Dear Friends,

I have accepted a new opportunity with the UT School of Information Science. My last day at the Friends was Thursday, June 30. I am very excited about this new opportunity and at the same time very sad to leave the Friends.

It has been a pleasure working with Friends over the last nine years. I am so grateful for all of the opportunities that I have been given and for all of the knowledge that I have gained from all of you over the years. Friends is poised for continued growth and I wish the organization much success with advocating for our library system, nurturing our membership, and fundraising for our Library.

Thank you, all of you, for your support these nine years.

Abby Wintker Burris

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## Shop at Rothrock Used Book Shop

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### WHAT'S COMING UP

- **All Over the Page: *Daughters of the Samurai*** – Monday, July 11, 6:30 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **The Best of the Best: a workshop showcasing the best new books for children and young adults from the past year** – Friday, July 15 (two sessions) [MORE>>](#)
- **Friends Annual Meeting** – Monday, July 18, 6 p.m.

27, noon [MORE>>](#)

- **Bearden Branch Used Book Sale** – Friday, August 5, and Saturday, August 6, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **All Over the Page: *The Bees*** – Monday, August 8, 6:30 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **East Tennessee History Fair** – Saturday, August 20 [MORE>>](#)
- **Books Sandwiched In: *Republic Lost: The Corruption of Equality and the Steps to End It*** – Wednesday, August 24, noon [MORE>>](#)

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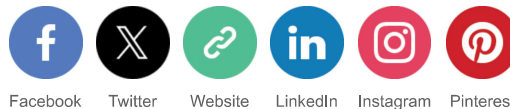
## Join Friends Now!

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**Forward Friends**  **♥ KCPL to a Friend**

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## Connect With Friends Online



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Friends ♥ KCPL is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Communications Committee of Friends of the Knox County Public Library. Members of the committee who contribute to the e-newsletter include: Martha Gill (Chair), Peter Andreae, Maggie Carini, Deanne Charlton, Martha Edington, Beth Fisher, Paula Hickey, Rusha Sams, Suzanne Shea, and Joyce York.

**About Friends of the Knox County Public Library:** Friends is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to foster a love of libraries, books, and reading in the Knox County area. The organization raises funds to sponsor community outreach programs, represent the interests of Knox County library patrons, and support a variety of services offered by the local library system that would otherwise not be available due to budget or staff restrictions.

Friends of the Knox County Library has this e-mail address either from our membership roster or from email sign-up sheets. If you are receiving this message in error, please accept our apologies and unsubscribe below. Thank you.

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