

Hello, Summer!

[Read ♥ in your browser](#)



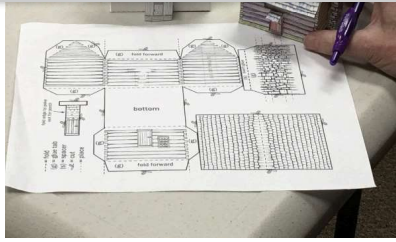
Summertime, and the Reading Is Easy



Summertime, summertime, here comes summertime!

Children and teens can listen to Shakespeare's works, learn about the wizardry of science, marvel at magic, or sing along with troubadours at library branches during the Knox County Public Library's **Summer Library Club**.

Preschoolers through teens can keep a summer reading log and earn rewards. Adventurous youth can also earn credits by participating in the library's new **Passport Program** that encourages them to explore Knoxville's local museums, outdoor sites, and historical centers to earn passport credits as they complete quests and questions.

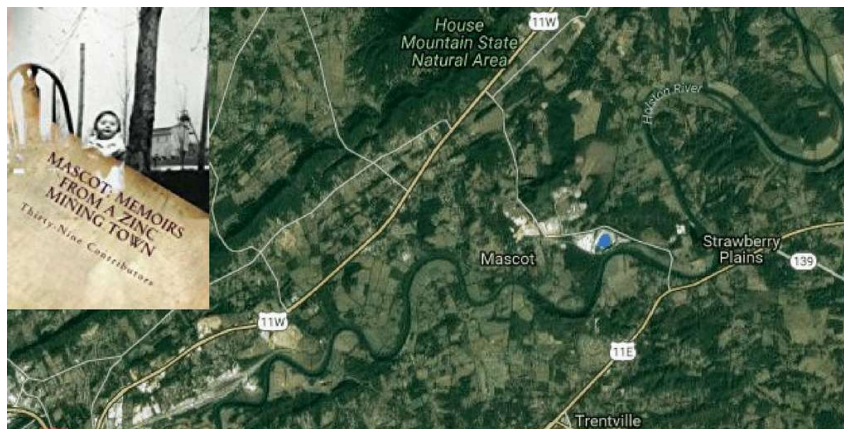


Left: Readers ages 5–11 who meet their summer reading goals will receive four build-it-yourself house plans for four historic homes, including Crescent Bend and Marble Springs, as part of their rewards package. Right: A scavenger hunt at Blount Mansion is one of the adventures in the Passport Program.

You can support this year's Summer Library Club programming and rewards by joining our 2017 **\$1111 Chip-in Challenge**. Thanks to a few generous Friends, every gift made to this year's challenge will be matched up to \$1111.

Our matching gift is unusual, but the goal is familiar — to keep Knox County's young readers engaged all summer and help them develop a lifelong love of reading. Libraries transform lives. **With your help**, we can meet our goal of raising \$3000 to bring programs to libraries and to reward readers for achieving their goals this summer. Join the \$1111 Chip-in Challenge and make your donation **online** today!

Mascot — A Gift to Readers and Our Community



Mascot: Memoirs from a Zinc Mining Town is a collection of stories from the 1930s to the 1960s which embody the history and spirit of a small company-owned town in East Tennessee. The book's editors, native Helen Orton Williams and her daughter Beth W. Cusack, present 39 authentic voices that together re-create a bygone world in rich detail.

The editors are generously donating the book's royalties to Friends of the Knox County Public Library. They decided to give the royalties to the Friends to encourage a fresh approach to presenting local history and to give back to the community that they both dearly love. Beth's

home.

Mascot stirs a longing for the past in its revival of this little town. Just picture it: the Community Club's 10-cent movies with *Flash Gordon*, company-sponsored Fourth of July picnics, doorstep delivery of bottles of milk, visits by the company nurse, even the sound of buckets dumping ore into rail cars.



Four generations sat on Beth Cusack's grandmother's porch in this 2009 photo: (standing) Beth Cusack; her mother, Helen O. Williams; Beth's husband, Tim; (seated) Beth's sons, Sam and Ben, with her grandmother, Helen Orton.

Ralph McGhee, manager of the Mascot branch library, is one of the contributors to the book. He explains that Mascot was the prototypical company town, as well as the source of livelihood for many, including his father, who worked for the American Zinc Company (1940–1972). McGhee says his parents enjoyed Mascot life. "The neighbors were wonderful people, and most everyone in town was friends. My life as a boy seemed like one long endless summer."

In his story, Wayne Mowery shared some of the gut-wrenching experiences of living in this mining town. He mentions, "We'd all gather at the entrance to the mine to see what happened. I've stood there with my dad when people who had been killed came up."

Herself a *Mascot* contributor, Helen Orton Williams recalls venturing into the woods and creek near her childhood home. "As an adult, I know the millrace isn't as fast-moving as we thought it was, and our secret cave wasn't really a cave. Even so, the magic of the woods and creek still works for me. Every creek I see takes me back to the excitement, mystery, and risk. I can't wait to get my shoes off."

and the way of life it nurtured are no more — except in *Mascot: Memoirs from a Zinc Mining Town*. The book is available from [Amazon](#) and [Union Ave Books](#).

Celebrating Authors, Books, and Readers



When the inaugural [Laughing Heart Literary Festival](#) begins on August 1, three presenters of the Wilma Dykeman Stokely Memorial Lecture will join several other authors to talk about their own books as well as the books that changed their lives. Festival co-founder Amy Greene, the lecturer in 2017, will be joined by Ron Rash, the 2014 lecturer, and Robert Morgan, who presented the lecture in 2016.

The August 1–4 event, which is being held in partnership with Malaprop's Bookstore in Asheville, NC, will include panels, craft talks, conversations, and readings. The panel on the opening night will honor the writing life of Robert Morgan. All events will take place at the Laughing Heart Lodge in Hot Springs, NC.

To learn more about the festival and the Laughing Heart Literary Project, please visit the project's [website](#).

Four Things to Know About Friends and Books in the Community



1. To fulfill our mission of outreach, we put books into the hands of people in more than 30 Knox County agencies at no cost to those agencies.

centers.

3. A list of participating agencies appears on our [website](#).
4. To see if your group qualifies for this program, contact Friends at books@knoxfriends.org.

Shop at Rothrock Used Book Shop

WHAT'S COMING UP

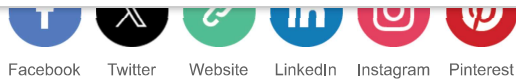
- **Bearden Branch Sale** – Friday, June 2, and Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **All Over the Page: *The Magician's Lie*** – Monday, June 12, 6:30 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Cedar Bluff Branch Sale** – Friday, June 23, and Saturday, June 24, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Books Sandwiched In: *Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel*** – Wednesday, June 28, noon [MORE>>](#)
- **All Over the Page: *The Boston Girl*** – Monday, July 10, 6:30 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **Books Sandwiched In: *Rac(e)ing to Class: Confronting Poverty and Race in Schools and Classrooms*** – Wednesday, July 26, noon [MORE>>](#)
- **All Over the Page: *The Mothers*** – Monday, August 15, 6:30 p.m. [MORE>>](#)
- **East Tennessee History Fair** – Saturday, August 19 [MORE>>](#)
- **Books Sandwiched In: *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*** – Wednesday, August 23, noon [MORE>>](#)

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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 and Martha Edington (Co-Chairs), Deanne Charlton, Beth Fisher, Ryan McCray, Stacey McCray, Rusha Sams, 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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