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Book Sale One: bargains galore!

By Susan Alexander

Friends of the Knox County Public Library will hold its Fall Used Book Sale Sept. 19-21 at Central United Methodist Church, 201 3rd Ave. With the exception of collectible books, most items will be priced at \$2 or less. In addition to thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks also will be for sale. Proceeds benefit the Knox County Public Library.

Thursday, Sept. 19, is for Friends' members only from 3 to 7 pm. Visitors can join at the door. The sale continues on Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. On Saturday, items will be offered at half-price.

Sale organizers have been searching for higher-quality books in good condition for the sale, and in some cases have expanded their categories. The Science section, for instance, will have field guides as usual, but it will have a new section labeled "Pets", which includes general books about pet care as well as books about specific breeds.

To your left as you enter the sale you'll see the Book Boutique, which used to be called Special Collections. The area has some changes from previous years, says Chris Boake, who is overseeing it..

"First, we are excited to offer a selection of books donated by Victor Ashe, who was Mayor of Knoxville (1988-2003) and United States Ambassador to Poland

(2004-2009)," she says. "We are offering coffee-table books about Poland's cities, arts, and environment; they are full of beautiful photos and the text is in both English and Polish.

"Second, we have consolidated books from several areas into a topic called "Military, War, and Weapons"; we know there is considerable interest in these fields and we want to make the books easy to find." There is also a set of like-new woodworking books.

Finally, there will be a section of signed books at all prices including \$2 hardbacks. Most of the Book Boutique books will be under \$15, Chris says. Used books that are more expensive are available online at our [eBay book shop](#).

We hope to see you at the sale!

Gloria Austin, left, and Diane Peters load boxes for the annual sale. Photo by Sheryl Hulse

Book Sale Two – How you can help

By Cindy Gibson

The Annual Sale is an exciting event that requires many volunteers. One of FOL's missions is to get books into the community. This is by far the largest offering of books to the community each year.

But we need more volunteers.

- Special Collections needs help on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning setting up the sales area.
- Special Collections needs volunteers to run the sales from Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday
- A big need is to move the books from LML to Central UMC on Tuesday afternoon. People who can lift and fill flatbed carts are needed. The Library Couriers have been hired to move the books. We have to get them to the loading dock.
- We need volunteers on Tuesday afternoon at the Central UMC to unload the boxes and place them in the sales hall.

- We need volunteers to work 2-hour shifts during the sale helping customers and maintaining the tables. This is Thursday evening, Friday 10-5 and Saturday 10-5.
- We need volunteers on Monday morning, September 23 from 9-1 to break down the sale, load books into gaylords for WestRock, load a truck with sales equipment and books being returned to LML.
- We hope you will help us fill these needs.

To volunteer: call Jean Idell, 865-789-9081, email: idellj@bellsouth.net

Help supply boxes

The Friends packing boxes for the sale are in need of more! They're asking us to drop by a liquor store and ask for some of their empty boxes. They usually have plenty to spare. Bring the boxes to the Rothrock Used Book Shop at the front of Lawson McGhee Library. You can park in the pickup area in front of the library. The sale volunteers will take them from there. Please get them to the library by Sept. 10.

Thanks for your help to make our sale a success!

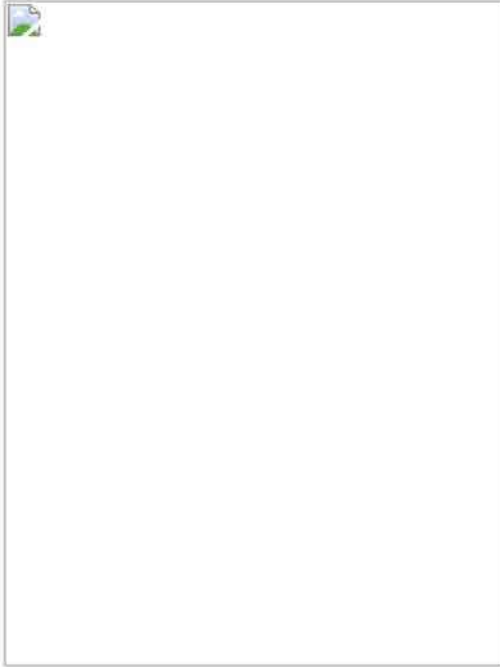
Book Sale Three: Celebrate with Volunteer Coordinator Jean Idell at the sale

By Kaitlynn Copinger

Happy birthday to **Jean Idell**, one of the oldest and longest-serving members of the Friends of the Knox County Public Library!

This month, Jean, our volunteer coordinator, turns 88, and the Friends plan to celebrate her in style with a birthday celebration at the Fall 2024 Used Book Sale. It's the perfect place to celebrate her, because for more than three decades, Jean has been responsible for organizing volunteers for the Friends' used book sales.

Jean joined the Friends in the early 1990s, not long after she moved to Knoxville. Another long-serving Friend, Connie Greene, asked if she would be the volunteer coordinator, and we're so glad that Jean said yes. "Here I am, 33



years later," she said.

Jean's support of Friends organizations goes back even earlier. She and her husband had relocated around the country several times before she came to Knoxville, and when they moved, she always passed along her used books to local Friends' groups.

She enjoys supporting the Friends' used book sales, and especially likes watching little kids find books and then grab a spot on the floor to begin reading right away!

Over the years, Jean has gotten more involved in the Friends' work. In addition to coordinating volunteers, she helps out as a cashier at the book sales. She also puts together the calendar for the Friends @ Rothrock Used Book Shop. Every Monday morning, she helps to sort books at Lawson McGhee Library. She said she's made "many, many friends" among the Friends over the years. "They're more like family."

It probably comes as no surprise that Jean loves to read. "I've read all my life," she said. "I sometimes have two books going at one time." Mysteries are her favorite genre; she likes to recommend the Joe Pickett series by C.J. Box. "I've got a lot of people reading him."

Jean, who has two daughters and five grandchildren, said she's slowed down her volunteer work a little bit, but has no plans to retire yet. "I've always enjoyed working with the Friends," she said. "I hope to work a little bit longer."

Please join us Sept. 19-21 at the Fall Used Book Sale to wish Jean a happy 88th birthday and thank her for her years of service!

Outdoor gallery dedication Sept. 6

The Julie Dossett Webb Outdoor Gallery will be dedicated at a reception on Friday, Sept. 6, from 5:30 to 7 pm at the East Tennessee History Center. The new outdoor gallery, which honors the late Julie Webb, a longtime member and leader of Friends of the Knox County Public Library, will initially feature photos from the Roger H. Howell Collection of the McClung Historical Collection. The dedication ceremony will feature live music, wine and cheese and a short program about Julie's legacy and the History Center.

The Howell Collection is the first of what will be revolving photographs from the McClung Historical Collection. It includes photos of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park shot between 1935 and 1941.

Preview *A Death in the Family* at History Center

James Agee's autobiographical, Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece *A Death in the Family* speaks of Knoxville in the life of a young boy in the throes of loss and grief. Clarence Brown Theatre's Knoxville puts to music the universal coming-of-age story about family, faith, and love—and about the boy who will grow up to write about it.

A preview of the musical and a discussion of Agee's Knoxville as seen through the personal photo album of his Uncle Hugh Tyler is scheduled for today (Sept. 4) at noon at the East Tennessee History Center. Steve Cotham, Knox County Historian and former manager of Knox County Public Library's McClung Historical Collection, will share images of Agee and his mother's family, some of the few surviving photographs from the time immediately following Agee's father's death.

You can see the *Knoxville* musical at a Pay What You Can Performance today at 7:30 pm at Clarence Brown Theatre at the University of Tennessee. The performance will benefit the Knox County Public Library. To attend, reserve a ticket online or contact the [Clarence Brown box office](#) or call (865) 974-5161 for information.

Young adult author/illustrator to speak Sept. 26



Lunch ladies everywhere love Jarrett J. Krosoczka. They rarely get to shine as the heroes of a popular book series, but we all know they are heroes of many an elementary student. Krosoczka is the *New York Times* bestselling author/illustrator behind more than 40 books for young readers, including his popular *Lunch Lady* graphic novels, select volumes of the *Star Wars*(TM) *Jedi Academy Series*, and *Hey, Kiddo*, which was a National Book Award Finalist.

Join Krosoczka at 4:30 pm Sept. 26 at the East Tennessee History Center to learn about his journey from a doodler to an award-winning graphic novelist. He'll demonstrate his drawing techniques and offer some tips and tricks for young author/illustrators.

This program was made possible with support from the [Friends of the Library](#).

Friendship in Action: How You Can Be a Friend and Make a Difference

by Crystal Ellwood

In today's fast-paced world, libraries play a unique role in our communities. They are not just repositories of physical books but also vital hubs that bridge the gap between traditional and digital resources. The Friends of the Library (FOL) is dedicated to supporting and enhancing our local libraries, ensuring they continue to be vibrant centers of learning and connection.

To highlight the impact and importance of our mission, we spoke with a couple of FOL members—from our board president to families who regularly visit the library and understand the importance of supporting it. Here's why they're passionate about supporting our libraries.

Scott Muir, FOL Board of Directors President:

"My passion for volunteering – giving back to the community – is influenced by my parents. I find it very rewarding and focus my energy on the Friends because I was an academic librarian for 40+ years of my career. I enjoy meeting new people and building relationships. It is a highlight of my retirement. People who come to our sales are so excited by the books they get whether it is just something to read, or a book they have searched for, or it is for home-schooling kids. So many possibilities."

Gloria Austin, FOL Board Member:

"I appreciate how working in different capacities with FOL has expanded my view of community."

Courtney Winters, FOL Member

"I joined Friends of the Library in 2022 after having my son, Quintin. Growing up, my mom was a huge advocate of reading and frequently visiting the public library, so it's always been a big part of my life and somewhere that I have felt comfortable and safe. I put my library card to good use as a kid, checking out every single Goosebumps that they had in stock, and I was even a member of the "Teen Advisory Board" for my local library while I was in middle and high school! I am striving to instill those same values and genuine love of reading in Quintin, so I enrolled us both as members right after he was born, and look forward to when he's old enough to attend meetings and brag that he's been a member since birth. My mom, Mary K., also joined about a year ago, so now we're three generations of active members, which is really special. The library is such an important resource and community center, and I'm so pleased to be part of an organization that works to support that and make sure it's around for even more generations to come."



Are you ready to make a difference?

Join or renew your Friends of the Library membership today and be a part of something that truly matters. Visit [our website](#) to learn more.

Shop at Rothrock!



The Rothrock Used Book Shop will feature female authors in September. Anyone who makes a purchase this month may be entered into a drawing for a copy of *The Women* by Kristin Hannah.

Rothrock is open Monday to Saturday from 10:30am - 4:30pm and Sundays from 1:00pm - 4:30pm. Start shopping today!

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