

NOTES



The Newsletter of the Winnipeg Public Library

Fall / Winter 2016

Help make our libraries the best they can be

Friends donation

Billie Stewart, the outgoing president of the Friends, provides a \$20,000 gift for the Winnipeg Public Library at the Friends AGM held at the Millennium Library on April 6, 2016.

Left to right: Ed Cuddy, Library representative to the Friends; Billie; Rick Walker, Manager of Library Services.

The Friends 2016 donation will be directed to fund, in part, 40 “puppy stools” for Children’s areas and to purchase equipment for the Makerspace program. Since 2000, Friends have contributed over \$178,000 in support of Library programs and services.



The Fall Book Sale

The Friends annual Fall Book Sale started in 2005. More than 10 years later it has evolved into a year-round operation.

Donations made at any Winnipeg library go to the St. James Library where they are sorted, priced and packed up for the October sale. Buyers are so keen they line up well before the doors open and rush in to scoop up armloads of prize buys. Book lovers don’t have to wait for the sale - they can shop anytime. Look for donated books filling a cart at Best of Friends Gift Shop.

The sale of used books is our most profitable fundraising project, over \$13,500 in 2015, over \$75,500 since 2005. Hundred of volunteer hours, thousands of donated books and all those eager customers make this sale a winner.

friends
of the Winnipeg Public Library

12th Annual **BIG FALL**
50 Categories, 60 Tables

BOOK SALE

Great Used Books • Current • Collectible • Vintage
plus DVDs, CDs & More

Grant Park High School Gym
450 Nathaniel at Grant

SATURDAY & SUNDAY OCTOBER 15-16

Doors Open Saturday 10 am — 5 pm
Half-Price Sunday 11 am — 3 pm

www.friendswpl.ca

Proceeds from the Book Sale support special projects of the Winnipeg Public Library.

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From the President: Kathy Blight



It has been an exciting time for the Friends during the past few months. At our annual general meeting, a number of changes took place in the board makeup. Thank you to the following for their time and commitment to the board: outgoing president Billie Stewart; departing board members Janet Carriere, chair of the Best of Friends Gift Shop; Dianne Zuk, member-at-large and a past president; and Jill Glover, Communications Chair. We welcomed new members Janice Chance, Trudy Hansford and Bill Zuk. The 2016-2017 Board is listed on p.4.



Left to Right: Janet, Diane, Jill

Joining the board more recently is Lori Ebbitt who, as our social media coordinator, has made changes to the links to Facebook pages for both the Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library and the Best of Friends Gift Shop, and to Instagram, to make it easier for you to find us.

 **Facebook: Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library - see up to date Friends' events and library activities**

 **Facebook: Best Of Friends Gift Shop - view the latest merchandise**

 **Instagram: bestoffriendsshop**

Books & Brunch was a sellout. And we're now in the final stages of planning for our Fall Book sale.

And finally...check out the article on p.4 about retiring Manager of Library Services Rick Walker. We congratulate the new Manager of Library Services, Ed Cuddy, former Library Liaison to our Board.

Books and Brunch: May 1, 2016

with guests Catherine Hunter, Lara Rae and MC Ben MacPhee-Sigurdson

BOOKS & BRUNCH 2016 was another winner. The sunny blue sky and warm temperature was a perfect backdrop to The Gates' setting on May 1st for the 11th annual **BOOKS & BRUNCH**. A capacity crowd enjoyed the superb buffet as well as the Rainbow Auction (our best yet – over \$2,000 in prizes!) The highlights of course were our “Books I Have Known and Loved” speakers, Lara Rae and Catherine Hunter. They hit both literary and entertainment notes, and had the crowd enthralled. Ben McPhee-Sigurdson was once again our charming MC.



Save the date for next year: **Sunday, May 7th, 2017!**

A big Thank You to these Silent Auction donors:

- Aveda
- Ben MacPhee-Sigurdson
- Biagio Unisex Hair Salon
- Big Field Glass *
- Catherine Hunter
- d a Niels Gourmet
- Heather Graham
- i29 designs *
- La Peregrina Jewelry *
- Mandy Yakubovich

- Manitoba Chamber Orchestra
- Manitoba Gardener
- McNally Robinson
- MidWest Tapes
- Rorie Bruce, Publisher Rep
- Susan Turner Jewellery
- The Gates on Roblin
- United Library Services
- Winnipeg Comedy Festival
- Winnipeg International Writers Festival

* available at the Best of Friends Gift Shop

Best of Friends Gift Shop

The holiday season is just around the corner. Janet Carriere, the Best of Friends Gift Shop buyer, has been stocking the shelves with new merchandise. As usual, many items are unique. Check out locally made jewellery, plus greeting cards, puzzles, games, Magformer kits, Robert Bateman mugs, adult colouring books, journals, decorative book ends, pens, McIntosh fine bone china mugs, firefighter and police mugs, red cat mugs, Mojo magnets, wine bottle holders, Little Wisdoms, Murchie's Library Blend tea, bookmarks, bus pass holders, I Love to Read magnets, bags, pouches...and more!

It is very evident that people still love to hold a book when they read. The gently used books on the book cart outside the gift shop are flying off the shelves in record numbers. So please remember the Friends when you decide your books need a new home. Donations are welcome all year. See the Fall Book Sale on our website for more information.

BEST OF FRIENDS GIFT SHOP ANNIVERSARY SALE

Friday, November 18th
and Saturday, November 19th

Join us in celebrating 11 years of supplying the perfect gift for that special someone, which could be you too!

Everything is 10% off
(excluding items on the Book Cart)

**You can find us at 251 Donald St in the lobby of the
Millennium Library from
11:00 am to 4:00 pm Friday and Saturday.**

**Remember: Two hour free metered street parking
on Saturday. See you then!**



Shop Hours: Monday to Saturday 11am to 4pm

“Beyond the Books”

Friends' board members were delighted when Winnipeg Free Press reporter Kevin Rollason contacted us in late March 2016 for an article that would highlight our activities for the newspaper's Philanthropy page, sponsored by the Winnipeg Foundation.

Several of us met with Kevin and Free Press photographer Ruth Bonneville in early April. For the interview we also provided several pages of background information on the Friends.

On Saturday, April 30, 2016 the photo and article, titled “Beyond the books - Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

help fund programs that aren't in the library budget”, took up almost a full page.

Kevin's personal interest had been piqued by his frequent visits to the Best of Friends Gift Shop. In his article he said, “Today, many people know the organization because of the gift store it runs on the main floor of the Millennium Library. It has operated as a fundraiser the Best of Friends Gift Shop, beside the front entrance of the Millennium Library, since 2005. Here you can purchase unique gifts such as locally made jewelry, (and) also many literary-based items...”

Read the rest of the story at the Winnipeg Free Press: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/beyond-the-books-377671931.html>



Rick Walker by Heather Graham

On August 5, 2016 Rick Walker retired from his position as Manager of Library Services, a role he held for the last 18 years of his almost 34-year career with Winnipeg Public Library. At

set up a modest café in the Centennial Library lobby, by providing three tables, chairs and vending machines.

As a further example of his confidence in us, during the planning for the Millennium Library, he invited the Friends to set up a gift shop in the lobby. This has been a collaborative and mutually beneficial project for which Library and City personnel have been extremely accommodating, especially when working through the planning stages with Friends' Shop project leaders Susan Fraser and Maureen Taunton.

Although there are many more examples of the Library's assistance during Rick's tenure, I'll share one more. When we needed more space than individual members' garages could accommodate, to store donated used books for our annual sale, Rick and staff provided space at St. James Library where volunteers collect, sort and pack books; and donors are encouraged to drop off books for us at any branch.

To acknowledge Rick's support during those 18 years, at our annual meeting in April we recognized his graciousness, wise counsel, facilitation and innovation...and more recently, awarded him a lifetime Friends' membership. We hope to take advantage of his skills and expertise, perhaps even as a board member!

his retirement party, I was pleased to speak on behalf of the Friends, to share examples of the many ways he supported our organization. Rick and I first met in 1982 when, as a new Library and Information Science grad, he joined Henderson Library staff as our Reference Librarian. (I was the Area Manager.)

Since 1998, during his tenure as Manager of Library Services, Rick and staff have established a cooperative, collaborative environment for the Library and Friends to work together. To support the Library in achieving its goals, we provide funding for special programs and for other initiatives proposed in Library staff wish lists, and suggest other ways in which we might help.

Rick's typical response to our own proposals was "Sure - no problem". For example, that was his response when asked – as one of our early fundraising ideas – if we could

FRIENDS DAY BOOK CLUB

...meets on the 2nd floor of the Millennium Library at 10:15 a.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Here are the books for the fall session:

October 11:

44 Scotland Street
by Alexander McCall Smith

November 15:

The Illegal
by Lawrence Hill

December 6:

The Rosie Project
by Graeme Simsion

2016-2017 Board of Directors

- President** - Kathy Blight
- Past President** - Billie Stewart
- Secretary** - Heather Graham
- Treasurer** - Brenda Greenberg
- Fall Book Sale - Chair**, Billie Stewart
- Membership and Donations - Acting Chair**, Kathy Blight
- Spring Books and Brunch - Chair**, vacant
- Communications** - Bill Zuk
- Social Media Coordinator** - Lori Ebbitt
- Volunteer Coordinator** - Janice Chance
- Members-at-Large** - Rorie Bruce, Trudy Hansford, Luba Harasym
- Best of Friends Gift Shop - Acting Chair**, Kathy Blight
- Newsletter Editor** - Heather Graham
- WPL Liaison** - Theresa Lomas

Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

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