

NOTES

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

Autumn 2015

Help make our libraries the best they can be

Dear Friends:

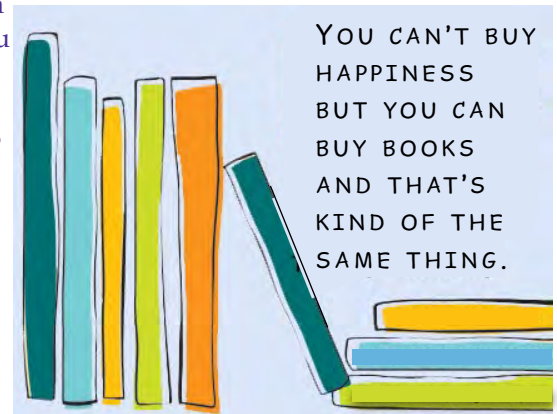
On November 7th our glorious Millennium Library will no longer be a single digit. Our downtown branch will be turning 10! Yes, it was ten years ago when the doors were flung open and hundreds of people, myself and my son Peter included, poured in and felt the pride of a city with the beautiful library Winnipeg deserved.

Time marches on. For me too. This is my 3rd last edition of NOTES. Next year will see lots of personal changes when my husband retires so I must

lay down - oh dear - can't say my pen - it's all computer these days. But you know what I mean. So the bottom line dear friends is this: **We need more new board members and other volunteers.** Interested? Give me a shout and let's talk.

Until then,

Thank you for being a friend of the Winnipeg Public Library.



Buy happiness at our 11th annual Fall Book Sale. 60 tables loaded with good used books. DVDs CDs LPs too. **Saturday October 17 10 am - 5 pm Half-price Sunday October 18 11 am - 3 pm Grant Park High School Gym**

Of all the Winnipeg library projects the Friends supports, one of the longest-running is the **Writer-in-Residence**, being celebrated this November as part of the 10th Anniversary of the redesigned Millennium Library. Besides yearly funding, the Friends also nominates a person to sit on the selection jury for the residency. This year it was Friends' volunteer **Dianne Logan**, and we thank her for her work on the jury. Dianne also does a fine job for us selecting and packing donated books for the "Children & Young Adult" tables at the Friends Fall Book Sale.

**From the President
Billie Stewart**

As do many of our book sale volunteers...**Marlene Milne**, for instance, looks after the Arts tables, visual arts being her real-life specialty too. Marlene runs her own little Art Boutique at the Sale - three big tables full of carefully curated books, which she not only knows all about, she also works every minute of the sale too.

Big news at the Best of Friends Shop: we now carry Mordens' Chocolates. Or as you might say Mmmm Mordens. What a nice addition to any gift or in any stocking.



Bill Stewart and Billie Stewart

photo: Mavis Whicker

Best of Friends

Good Friends and Good Shopping

The Best of Friends Gift Shop conveniently located in the lobby of the Millennium Library featuring unique creations from local artisans, eclectic gifts, quality used books, DVDs, CDs, and more.

SAVE THE DATE!

Along with the Millennium library, the *Best of Friends* Gift Shop will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in November.

Please drop by on **November 6th and 7th**, to enter our anniversary draws, check out our jewellery and gift ideas, and share a memory of the shop. You could be the lucky winner of our draw for a pair of 2016 Books and Brunch tickets!

Bring a friend and celebrate with us!

And, just around the corner...



Celebrate like it's 1843 - when the first Christmas card was published - and come to Best of Friends for the best of gifts for everyone on your list!



FOLLOW BEST OF FRIENDS ON

[BOF.fwpl](#)

The Best of Friends Gift Shop proudly partners with local artists to offer our customers wonderful and unique pieces of jewellery. We invite you to come by and browse our fabulous selection which includes gems such as these by Ella Donnelly and Neeta Gupta.

Ella Donnelly



La Peregrina Jewellery, by Ella Donnelly, are nature-inspired original designs, featuring pearls and precious and semi-precious stones. The designs are unique and truly one of a kind. Every single piece is created with heart and soul which is expressed in the details and

undeniable style. Whether you have had the opportunity to experience La Peregrina jewellery, or not, you will find it very easy to discover something that you will fall in love with and enjoy for a long time.

BOF photos: Lorraine Koltsek

Neeta Gupta



Neeta Gupta is a talented painter, sculptress, and Certified Jewellery Artist. She creates works of art using sterling silver, freshwater pearls, and stones in both their natural form as well as mined gemstones. All of Neeta's

jewellery creations are inspired by the beauty and serenity of different places in the world. Her design philosophy is inspired by nature and her jewellery pieces are created with that calmness of nature in her heart.

The Bottom Line.

This is why we do what we do....

On September 8 Friends' president Billie Stewart and treasurer Brenda Greenberg presented a cheque for \$14,850 to Ed Cuddy, the WPL representative on our board of directors.

These funds were in response to requests by WPL staff and we were thrilled to continue to support the exciting and successful initiatives to make our public libraries the best they can be.

Makerspace Programming - \$5,000.

What's Makerspace Programming I hear you ask... *Makerspace programs provide opportunities for people of all ages to create, experiment and collaborate in a self-directed, hands-on learning environment.*

Through these programs, the library connects the community to expertise, information and resources that foster innovation and life-long learning. With the Friends' financial support additional Magformer and Lego Mindstorm kits will be purchased. Very cool.



Writer-In-Residence Reunion \$4,850.

While the Friends contribute \$2,500 annually to the popular and successful Writer-in-Residence



program, a further amount was identified as being needed to fund a celebratory event on November 7 to coincide with other 10th anniversary celebrations of the opening of the renovated and redesigned Millennium Library. We were happy to oblige and I for one am very much looking forward to what gets planned in this regard. There are 26 past

writers-in-residence and won't it be wonderful to see some of them return to the Millennium to give public readings?

On the Same Page \$5,000.

This is the 8th year for this fabulous project of WPL and the Winnipeg Foundation which brings Manitobans together into *one big book club!* It's a simple idea with a great literacy kicker. Whilst we don't know yet which of the four nominated titles will become the one we all should read, I can say for sure that all of them deserve our attention.

So whether it's **All My Puny Sorrows** by Miriam Toews or **Detachment: An Adoption Memoir** by Maurice Mierau or **The Evolution of Alice** by David Alexander Robertson or **Kiss of the Fur Queen** by Tomson Highway we know we will have chosen a book for us all. With the help of the Friends' financial support more copies of the chosen book will be purchased to distribute freely and as widely as possible. A great literacy initiative!

This latest cheque from the Friends is in addition to the regular annual contributions to the Writer-in-Residence program and the Spring Break program, both of which received \$2,500 earlier this year.

Friends of the Library Book Club

The Friends' of the Library Book Club meet once a month
Second floor
Millennium Library

2015 - 2016
SEASON

This is a free book club and new members are welcome at any time. Just come to the second floor and ask staff to direct you to our meeting room.
Meetings start at 10:15.

FIRST MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 15 2015

Here is a list of our fall books:
All books are available at the library
(you may need to request books in advance)

- Sept. 15: *The Opening Sky* by Joan Thomas
- Oct. 20: *The 100-year-old man who climbed out the window and disappeared* by J. Jonasson
- Nov. 17: *All My Puny Sorrows* by Miriam Toews
- Dec. 15: *The Children Act* by Ian McEwan



I LOVE LIBRARIES

I am so obsessed with libraries that I even have my own metal paperback carousel in my bedroom. It's stacked

full of those enticing titles that a kind librarian at my junior high let me borrow. She allowed me, even though, being in Grade 7, I was not allowed to take out "big" books with my "baby" library card. She devised some biblio-subterfuge to confound Big Brother. And each Friday, I left that 70's style bean bag and wood panel book depository with a knapsack full of forbidden fruit: *The Pigman*, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*, those Vonnegut Bantam paperbacks from the late 60's with the semi lurid covers, *Huck Finn* and of course, the scarlet red *Catcher in the Rye* with that "F" word tucked in near the end. At this point, I should mention that these are not literally the same books from the junior high library but other copies I've bought along the way. However, in my twenty-five years living in Winnipeg I have

paid off fines to the WPL that reach into four digits. Let that be a lesson to young readers. Read one book and then get another.

I very nearly went for a library science degree and think I would have been very happy in that life. Librarians are the guardians of freedom and a brave lot. Though I went for a comedy career instead, I have the categories of the elegant Dewey Decimal system memorized along with my library card number. I think our city has an exceptional library despite this world-wide fetish for digitizing and the current mania for stacking the shelves with too many copies of forgettable bestseller pap. I don't know why anyone would not have a library card. It's one of the most important documents you can own!

Get published! Tell us in 300 words why you love libraries and your name may be on the back page of a future edition of NOTES!

Lara Rae is the Artistic Director of the Winnipeg Comedy Festival. She will be doing several book talks at McNally Robinson this winter.

Friends helping Friends

The *Friends* were at the River Heights Farmers Market on September 11th. We were able to tell folks about the Friends and how our donations of over \$150,000 since 2000 have benefitted libraries and their patrons across the city. **The lucky winner of our gift basket was Shannon Gage.**

A special birthday coming up? Christmas not too far away! The *Friends* offer Gift Memberships - perhaps the perfect gift for that book lover who has everything....

A volunteer opportunity!

The **Fall Book Sale** is just around the corner. Would you be able to spare two or three hours on either Friday from 5:00-8:00, Saturday between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm or Sunday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm? This would involve unpacking of books on Friday. On Saturday and Sunday we need to keep the book tables tidy. If this sounds like something you'd like to do, please contact me via email info@friendswpl.ca or by leaving a message at (204) 488-3217.

Your help would be much appreciated and I can almost guarantee that you'll have fun!

Kathy Blight, Chair, Membership Committee

2015-2016 Board of Directors

- Billie Stewart — President
- Vacant — Vice-President
- Brenda Greenberg — Treasurer
- Heather Graham — Secretary
- Janet Carriere — Chair, Best of Friends Gift Shop
- Kathy Blight — Chair, Membership Committee
- Billie Stewart — Chair, Fall Book Sale
- Jillian Glover — Communications
- Janet Carriere — Volunteer Coordinator
- Rorie Bruce — Member at Large
- Luba Harasym — Member at Large
- Dianne Zuk — Member at Large
- Winnipeg Public Library Liaison — Ed Cuddy
- Manager, Best of Friends Gift Shop — Vacant
- Newsletter Editor — Jillian Glover

Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library
 251 Donald Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P5
 204-488-3217 info@friendswpl.ca
www.friendswpl.ca

