

NOTES



The Newsletter of the Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

March 2017

Help make our libraries the best they can be

From the President: Kathy Blight

2016 has been a good year for the Friends. Because of your support – either by being a member, making a donation, having a fun time at Books & Brunch, buying those special books you just couldn't resist either from the book cart at the Best of Friends Gift Shop or the Fall Book Sale, and of course treating yourself to a gift from the Best of Friends Gift Shop – in 2017 we will be able to commit over \$20,000 in support of special projects and programs for the libraries throughout our city.

Of course none of these funds would have been available if it weren't for the commitment and dedication of over 70 volunteers. This awesome group deserves a BIG PAT ON THE BACK. Thank you, thank you!!

We welcome Rick Walker as the newest member of the board and are very excited that he has accepted the position of Membership and Donation Chair.

For this issue of NOTES, we invited Ed Cuddy to tell us about his Library life before he was appointed as Manager of Library Services. And we're delighted to welcome back volunteer Coreen Molloy to the Best of Friends Gift Shop (page 2).

As a Friends' representative, I attended all stakeholder meetings about the Grant Park Recreation Campus Project (page 4).

I look forward to seeing you at Books & Brunch!

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12th ANNUAL
SPRING BOOKS & BRUNCH
at The Gates on Roblin, 6945 Roblin Boulevard
Sunday, May 7, 2017 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
“Books I Have Known And Loved”

with

Terry MacLeod
Retired CBC radio host,
producer & journalist

Anita Daher
Award-winning author of middle grade
& teen novels, actor, improv artist

Brunch • Rainbow Auction
Master of Ceremonies: **Ben MacPhee-Sigurdson**,
Winnipeg Free Press Books Editor and Beverage Columnist

Tickets: \$70 (\$25 income tax receipt)
Tickets available at the Best of Friends Gift Shop (204-947-0110)
in the lobby of Millennium Library, or email: info@friendswpl.ca
Visa & MasterCard accepted. Tables of 8 or 10 may be reserved.

A Friends Fundraiser in support of Winnipeg Public Library projects

From Ed Cuddy, Manager of Library Services



It's a pleasure to introduce myself to the readers of NOTES and supporters of the Friends of Winnipeg Public Library (FWPL).

Libraries have loomed large in my life since grade school. I have vivid memories of visits to the old Charleswood Library with my mother to borrow Alfred Hitchcock collections like "Stories Not for the Nervous" or "Stories to be Read with the Door Locked". My mother supported her children's reading interests wherever they landed and I've adopted this "reader's right to read" approach with my own kids.

Skip ahead a few years to 2017 and I've worked for WPL for over thirty years. I started as a reference librarian at Centennial and then moved to various positions including adult services librarian, information services librarian and branch head at Fort Garry, Centennial and Henderson libraries. I joined the administrative team in 2011 and most recently, took on the Manager of Library Services job after Rick Walker's retirement in August, 2016.

Rick asked me to take on the Friends Library Liaison role in 2011. After undergoing a secret initiation rite (I can say it involved tea and cookies), I was welcomed aboard. Since then, I've worked with the lively and creative FWPL board on initiatives such as purchasing animal ottomans for WPL branches, contributing toward Library family literacy playground activity stations, and numerous events, library projects and programs supported by the FWPL. The Friends have an incredible passion for libraries and their many contributions to WPL, all done on a volunteer basis, are inspiring! And the Library liaison role is now in the good hands of Theresa Lomas.

And as I write these words, it occurs to me that the kid who visited Charleswood Library in the 60s to take out scary stories had no idea he'd end up performing one of those stories (Lamb to the Slaughter by Roald Dahl) with the "Tales at Night" adult story time team at the Good Will Social Club in 2016. Just another connection, one of many, made every day at the Library.

Editor's note: Ed is also a member of ImproVision, an improv group which will be performing at this year's Fringe Festival at the Duke of Kent Legion. Ed says "this marks our 15th (I think) Fringe performance since 2001 under the ImproVision moniker".

Welcome Back, Coreen!

Coreen Molloy, a volunteer at the Best of Friends Gift Shop since 2005, is pleased to be back: she missed being at the Shop during her recuperation.

In 2005, Coreen, a retired mental health care worker, when visiting Millennium Library, was immediately interested in the new gift shop both for its wares and its raison d'être. As a child she had such a good library experience – fond memories of visiting Cornish Library, and sometimes then playing on its riverbank (perhaps without parental permission) – that she realized the importance of libraries and the value of the Gift Shop, the profits from which support the Library system. She enjoys showing visitors all that the Shop offers, but in particular Coreen says the jewelry "offers a nice range in pricing, is gorgeous, quite remarkable, unique". (See *emptyful* pictured on page 4.) She also notes how popular the greeting cards are. With her friendly, outgoing nature she welcomes interactions with visitors, whether they make a purchase or not.

Not only is Coreen a super fan of the Library, which is "an amazing, valuable system ...open to all, offering so many activities, all free, from entertainment to educational



programs and resources", but she is also a super fan of a wide-ranging list of sports. And in mid-February she was anxiously awaiting the reopening of the Kinsmen Sherbrook Pool.

As Shop Buyer Janet Carriere says, "We are so happy that Coreen's recovery from surgery went well and that she is back volunteering at the Best of Friends Gift Shop."

Book Sales in 2016: A Banner Year



We start with year-round donations of books, CDs, DVDs from generous Winnipeggers. Our talented team at the St. James Branch sort, price, and pack – for both the Fall Book Sale at Grant Park High School and for the Best of Friends Gift Shop Book Cart at the Millennium Library. The result: a record \$26,227! For the first year the Book Cart beat the Book Sale - by \$1,500. Special 2016 praise goes to Book Cart team – Connie Sarchuk and Fraya Zaidman. And especially, our heartfelt gratitude to ALL those indefatigable volunteers who made it all happen at the October Sale. Thanks too to Grant Park High School staff for their help and the library staff at the St. James Branch.

Comments from shoppers and volunteers always give us the energy to do it again next year, such as: “This is not just a book sale – it is a book lover’s event!”

Volunteers

Bob Blight
Kathy Blight
Pamela Bowles
Warren Bowles
Janet Carriere
Liane Carter
Lynda Ciereszko
Wanda Ciereszko
Ed Cuddy
Deco Cuddy
Wade Cudmore
Jane Curtis
Jackie Dubofsky

Marlene Enns
Lucille Eustache
Sylvia Flam
Pam Goundry
Heather Graham
Rodney Graham
Brenda Greenberg
Trudy Hansford
Luba Harasym
Jan Harper
Raquel Higginson
Theo Higginson
Sheila Lander

Mark Lander
Marvyn Lick
Dianne Logan
Laurie Logan
Cliff Loganberg
Lois Loganberg
Christie MacDonald
Liz Martin
Jan McLeod
Marlene Milne
Peter Mitchell
Samantha Mitchell
Anne Morton

Loraine Napora
Carolyn Rickey
Bill Stanton
Pat Stanton
Bill Stewart
Billie Stewart
Sandra Stuart
Fern Swedlove
Rick Walker
Fraya Zaidman
Paul Zaidman
Grant Park Students &
Teacher Donna Alexander

Thanks also to these generous donors who provided refreshments for our volunteers:

Boston Pizza
1160 Taylor Ave
Donnie Paille

McDonald's
425 Nathaniel St.
Adam Reichert

Subway
1180 Taylor Ave
Alix Kravetsky

Spring Cleaning? Got Books to Spare?

Remember the Friends of the Library annual October Book Sale at Grant Park High School. We thank you in advance for your donations of gently used books, DVDs, CDs, and LPs.

• Just label your box or bag **“FRIENDS”** and drop off at any Winnipeg Public Library Branch.

• (We are unable to use textbooks, encyclopedias, magazines, or professional books such as law, accounting or medical.)

• Pickups can be arranged; pack in boxes (size & weight manageable for an adult) and phone 204-488-3217 for details, or email info@friendswpl.ca

River Heights Library Relocation

Our Friends organization is one of several Winnipeg Public Library stakeholder groups that include Winnipeg Public Library Board, Library Advisory Committees and the Winnipeg Library Foundation. Our president, Kathy Blight, attended stakeholder sessions regarding the relocation of River Heights Library, which does not meet accessibility standards, has significant structural issues, and lacks adequate parking.

Kathy reports that the site that is being considered is at the corner of Grant and Cambridge, and would be part of the Grant Park Recreation Campus Project. All stakeholders from this area have been part of the discussion. The project priority at this time is the River Heights Library, which would be increased to approximately 14,000 sq. ft.

To view the progress of this project and to give feedback, go to: http://winnipeg.ca/cms/projects/grant_park/grant_park_rec_campus.stm.

This project page will be updated throughout the public engagement phase as decision points are made.

Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

Annual General Meeting

Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:00 - 2:30pm

Millenium Library

2nd floor Buchwald Room 251 Donald Street

Open to all members and non-members

Guest Speaker:

Ed Cuddy, Manager of Library Services



The *emptyful* jewelry is exclusive to the Gift Shop.

The awesome Shop volunteers – Joyce, Anne, Sylvia, Jackie, Coreen, Lori, Brenda and Janice – would be more than happy to assist you.

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.

For more information phone Faith at (204) 452-3369 or Joan at (204) 254-6697.

Here are the books for the 2017 Winter/Spring Session:

January 17

The Last Runaway
by Tracey Chevalier

February 21

The Green Road
by Anne Enright

March 21

Fifteen Dogs
by Andre Alexis

April 18

H is for Hawk
by Helen Macdonald

May 16

Stranger
by David Bergen

June 13

Season Wind-up

Friends of the Winnipeg Public Library

251 Donald Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3P5

204-488-3217 info@friendswpl.ca

www.friendswpl.ca

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 - Chair,
Rick Walker

Spring Books & Brunch - Co-Chairs,
Billie Stewart & Kathy Blight

Social Media Coordinator - Lori Ebbitt

Volunteer Coordinator - Janice Chance

Members-at-Large - Rori Bruce, Trudy
Hansford, Luba Harasym

Best of Friends Gift Shop - Acting Chair,
Kathy Blight

Newsletter - Acting Editor, Heather Graham

WPL Liaison - Theresa Lomas