

FRIENDS

of the LEDDING LIBRARY

Spring 2018

NEWS



Team Work Is ... Dream Work

When we work together as a team, everything seems easier, lighter and is simply more fun.

It's what the Friends are all about: whether we are supporting the library as it serves our community, or helping one another meet our fundraising goals, or being supported by the larger community to meet our goals.

This is a busy time of year for us - our big fundraising efforts are coming up and team work will be at the fore and naturally it will be dream work.

The stories in this issue reveal the many aspects of our Team Work.

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Book Sale

Elaine Blauvelt

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Raffle

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Music Programs

Ed Zumwalt

October Sale

Susan Leppard

Newsletter

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A Thank You

The Friends continue their support of Ledding Library by committing to hold their annual plant and book sales and continuing their highly successful Sunday Market/First Friday Book Booth. All the proceeds will assist the library in programming and acquisitions. They also voted to give the library \$100,000 for the building project. We are so lucky to have this on-going support from our Friends. The Friends are always there for us and have again stepped up to help us through the next months. Thank a Friend today - or better yet, "Join the Friends of Ledding Library!"

-- Katie Newell

It Is An Exciting Time.

The Friends Executive Committee has met twice since the Annual Meeting. They have discussed aspects related to income and expenses. Some highlights:

We discussed the upcoming move of Ledding Library and it's impact on the Friends of Ledding Library (FOLL) activities, while we continue our support of Ledding Library as our city gains a beautiful new library with more space and services for our community. The clear support for FOLL plus the deep heartfelt love of Ledding Library and its programs shone through all the comments and discussions. The Executive Committee pledged to donate \$100,000, split over this year and next, to the Ledding Library's construction costs. Two thirds of this donation comes from a recently received unrestricted bequest; all agreed this was a fitting use for this unexpected gift.

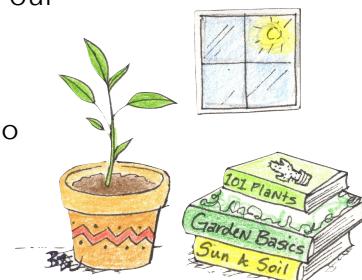
The possibility of creating an on-line bookstore was presented. A proposal to run a risk-free (to FOLL) experiment to test the viability of

such a project will be submitted in early summer. Stay tuned for more.

FOLL will be able to accept credit cards at fundraising events: Plant Sale, Sunday Market, Annual Book Sale, etc.

Sunday market "bookstore" options were discussed. With upcoming changes, FOLL is exploring exciting alternatives to continue making books available to our neighbors while continuing our successful fundraising efforts to support Library programming. Updates to follow.

An Executive Committee subcommittee will explore setting up a stand-alone website for FOLL; there is even a potential donor of the time and the expertise who will create the website as a gift to FOLL.



Our 15th Annual Plant Sale — Help it Grow . . .

Like a well-established perennial with deep roots, the Plant Sale awoke after its winter sleep to find no plant sale coordinator. Recalling with appreciation and gratitude the contributions and commitment of previous year's volunteers, we found the courage to embark on a new phase of the sale: one of collaborative leadership. Individuals with lots of experience and individuals with little or no plant sale experience are asking, "How can I help?" We are flowing in traditions created over 15 years much as a river flows in the bed it's carved over time. And the tributaries of life are streaming in so that by the time we reach the May 12th Plant Sale we will be as wide and deep and expansive and steady as the Columbia itself when it reaches the mouth of the Pacific.

"Can you help?" you ask. Most certainly!! Take a look at the side bar for all the possibilities and know there are lots of experienced and fun-loving individuals to help you find your niche in this wonderful community event.

Interested? Contact leddingfriends.editor@gmail.com or leave a message at the Circulation Desk: 503-786-7580.

The trio of the Milwaukie Museum, Annie Ross House and the Friends of Ledding Library has mutually collaborated to publicize their 'day before Mother's Day' events. However because Annie Ross House cannot access their green house, they are partnering with the Lake Oswego Women's Club Lake Run (May 12th); all proceeds go to the Annie Ross House construction. Please join them! The Milwaukie Garden Club partners with the Milwaukie Museum; their Plant Sale is held in conjunction with the Museum's Book Sale, also on May 12th. In addition to plants and books, there is a raffle, a Master Gardener Booth, and - while they last - a free reusable bag with your purchase. Both events are at 3737 SE Adams Street between 10 am and 4 pm. Another example of teamwork!



Watering plants

We're looking for volunteer(s) to water the pots at the library and the Pond House during the weeks of May 20 - July 6. Can be done on your schedule during your choice of weeks! Interested in an easy, quick, and flexible support to FOLL?

Contact Susan Leppard: esleppard@yahoo.com or 503-659-2938.

HELPFUL DONATIONS:

- Veggie starts
- Perennials
- Annuals
- Herbs
- Natives
- Shrubs
- Roses
- Hosts
- House Plants
- Yard Art

Remember: All donations are Tax deductible!

WAYS TO JOIN IN THE FUN:

- Planting Parties
- Plant Identification
- Labeling
- Pricing
- Watering
- Care of House Plants
- Greeters and Floaters
- Purchase Plants!

Now accepting Credit Cards !!!

House plants can be dropped off Thursday and Friday (May 10 & 11) before Plant Sale.

Other plants (labeled if possible) can be left at the Pond House already.

Feeling Lucky? Or Know Someone Who Is?

The Annual Book Sale will again include the ever-popular RAFFLE! A wide array of prizes is awaiting lucky winners to claim them. Included in the prizes is a wide-Screen Television! Raffle drawing will be at 2 pm on Sunday June 24th; winners need not be present.

Have a gift certificate for a local business? Would your company contribute a gift for the raffle? It's all possible. If you have a raffle prize donation, contact Siri Bernard (503-515-4322).

Enclosed are 12 tickets. Buy them, or sell them to others! They are just \$1 each, 6 for \$5 or 12 for \$10. Send or deliver checks [made payable to FOLL] to the library in the included envelope.

A Tale of Ingenuity and Resilience

It all started on the side lawn of the library - back in the late 90's. Those are the roots of the Book Sale. "When I first encountered it," says Carol Kay, "there were a few tables, some boxes of books, some plastic sheeting in case it rained. I came as a curious volunteer and by the end of the second day was nominated next year's Book Sale Coordinator." Well, she needed to think on that a bit . . . She said: "Yes!" And her devoted husband, Andy, gave her his openhearted support.

The next year, it was in the old Safeway across from the library. It took up the whole building, the tables were made of sawhorses with plywood on top, and the books were all nicely laid out on the plywood. A wonderful group of women worked over the years forming friendships and a bond forged of the love they shared for the Friends and the library.

And then the Safeway was to be demolished. *Would there ever be another sale?*

Of course!

So, the Annual Book Sale moved to the Portland Waldorf School. The School has been a gracious, kind and generous host over the years, offering smiles of recognition and warm hugs each year, even putting the Book Sale in their calendar long before being asked each year.

The success of the Annual Book Sale has led to additional activities: the many years of the Pond House Book Store, and the successful First Friday and Sunday Book Booth in the old Fire Bay at City Hall. Carol notes, "We hear from folks coming from Portland, Gresham, West Linn, Oregon City and the West Side because of our 'good prices' and 'great selection of good quality books'. Some even come to the Sunday Farmers' Market *just because of our Book Booth.*"

"This year we have space in the Waldorf School Gym for one week starting the Monday after school ends. The **Book Sale will be June 22, 23 and 24,**" Carol says. And by the tally of the boxes of books at the Harvey Street processing site, she adds, "This looks to be the biggest Book Sale ever! It continues to be in the capable hands of the trio team of Elaine Blauvelt, Anne Carroll and Cheryl Fisher."

Of course, they don't do it alone... How do you fit into this picture? There are lots of possibilities and you are most welcome to come for a little or a lot.

How? Think Garage Sale. Have you run a garage sale? What made it successful? What would you do better



next time? What skills do you have that worked to your advantage? Any advice you'd like to share?

Or if you've not actually run a garage sale - have you been to one? What made it inviting to you? What made you want to look around? What made you feel comfortable?

You can translate these experiences into ways you can help out at the Book Sale and the First Friday and Sunday Book Booths such as: set up; sorting; organizing beforehand; greeting customers - making them feel welcome; answering questions; tidying up during the sale; selling raffle tickets. So many possibilities and so very many ways to get involved with warm, welcoming folk.

We invite you to join us in making this year's Book Sale the best ever!

Give Elaine 503- 659-7878 or Anne 503-653-1580 a call and let them know you are interested!

Community Love for the Pond House

There has never been doubt of the Milwaukie community's love for the Pond House Bookstore. That was confirmed again by the community's response and turnout for the Pond House Bookstore Closeout Sale.

The sale was held on February 1 and 2 and closed one chapter -- as a used bookstore -- and to open its next chapter which is to be a storage facility during the Ledding Library's reconstruction.

The sale was financially successful earning \$3,000+ and also successful in reuniting the Friends group with individuals who had been coming to the bookstore for years and who continually support our events.

A heartwarming story from the sale was of a woman who came to look for a bookcase to buy. In looking at a particular one, she commented that it reminded her of her father's woodwork and perhaps even could have been constructed by him. She decided to purchase the bookcase because it reminded her of her father! We could not have wanted a better home for that bookcase!

We want to give a big hug to the Milwaukie community. Thank you for coming to the closeout sale -- we hope you not only went away with a treasure but also left with a good feeling about continually supporting your Friends group and in doing so also supporting the Ledding Library.

– Anne Carroll

Shop And Make A Difference

A percentage of your shopping dollars can help the Friends help the Library! Sign up to the Fred Meyer Rewards program by linking your rewards card to *Friends of Ledding Library* at www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards. Or sign up for the Amazon Smile program (www.smile.amazon.com) and designate *the Friends of Ledding Library* as recipients of the donation. Though the percentages in each program are small - with many of us making use of them, they can add up quickly to a sizable amount each year.

It is a simple way we can make our shopping dollars work (without spending anything extra!) to help the Friends' fundraising.

Is it possible ...

Questions have been coming. "Can I receive meeting notifications by email?" "How can I keep my email address from being shared?" "Can I get just notifications or just the newsletter by email?" "Are we talking about a lot of Friends' emails?"

These are some of the questions that have come up. We want to ensure each of you has a chance to express your wishes, your preferences, and your questions.

Please send these along to: leddingfriends.editor@gmail.com or call the library (503-786-7580) and leave a message (we'll get back to you). Thank you!

Drawings by Brittany Walker