



Winter 2019

# NEWS

## The Promise of Spring and First Fingerings . . .

February has a special place in my heart; still the possibility of snow but the promise of Spring is so tangible. The ever lengthening days, the mauve of banks of Heather, the rose of the Camellia blooms. Snowdrops are peaking their heads above the Earth. And in the year of the Friends, it too is that feeling of the promise of Spring. There is still uncertainty about the presence of the Book Booth at the Farmers' Market and First Friday. Some ideas have been floated but we are still hoping for some inspiration from community members with interest in 'being at the Market'. But our website is in-process, a new group of individuals have stepped forward to shepherd the Friends into this next phase, a new Plant Sale collaboration with a local business, a modest book sale presence in the library and the on-line bookstore launched at the end of December. Look through this issue and you'll learn a little more about each of these first fingerings; explore where your creativity, skills and life experiences might take root and blossom in the garden of the Friends' activities. – the Editor

## Endings and Beginnings

January marks the time of transition for the Board of the Friends of Ledding Library. **We extend a heartfelt thank you and lots of appreciation to Sandy Armstrong (Past President), Nikki Hoff (Past Vice President) and Salli Slaughter (Past Secretary)** for grounding the Friends in a year of many changes and supporting us with important and challenging decisions. We feel in a more stable place from which our new Board can direct, inspire and guide us to our next phase.

Please welcome Gina Saracco (President); David Schacht (Vice President) and Katie Walker (Secretary). Joe Sandfort, Kim Olson, and Nancy Wittig continue as Co-Treasurers. If you see them in the library or about town, please say "Hi!" and "Thanks!" If you have ideas or feel drawn to 'jumping in' with your talents or are just plain curious, contact them by email at: [leddingfriends.info@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.info@gmail.com) or leave a message at the Circulation Desk of the library (503-786-7580) and they'll get back to you.

## The 2019 Annual Plant Sale – A Collaborative Event!

This year we are excited to announce our collaboration with the wonderful *Milwaukie Floral & Garden* at 3306 SE Lake Road! Cory Leitz, the Designer and Manager, has opened her space to the *Friends of the Ledding Library* for our *Annual Plant Sale*. The addition of *Milwaukie Floral & Garden* brings the community involvement to another level. We are so grateful to utilize this beautiful space that Cory and her family have created. We've already begun moving some plants to the *Milwaukie Floral and Garden* space. It was great to be

### On-line Presence Present!

Interest in reaching a broader audience for the varied inventory of the Friends led to a 6 month trial of an on-line bookstore. Named Our Bookstore, we launched the on-line store near the end of December and have already had a favorable start. Needless to say, "We are excited!"



outside communing with plants and folks who love plants. We know spring is not far away.

Do you like plants? Do you like to organize? Do you want to make a difference with a wonderful community? Then this is where you belong! The *Friends of the Ledding Library* are looking for volunteers to help organize – cont. and participate in the *Annual Plant Sale*. It will be our

16<sup>th</sup>! This is a key event in the *Friend's* fundraising efforts to support our amazing library. A collaboration of seasoned volunteers, neighborhood businesses, library staff, and new comers make this a fun and fulfilling fundraiser. Each year is different, as new volunteers bring fresh ideas. What ideas do you have? How would you like to join in? There are over a dozen areas to work in; potting, identification, labeling, native plants, vegetable starts, etc. Why don't you join us?

Come for some snacks at our first pre-spring meeting. We'll have a basic overview of the plant sale and will discuss how you might participate. You are encouraged to bring any and all thoughts of how the *2019 Annual Plant Sale* can tend to our community as you tend to your own garden!

The meeting will be February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00am in the The Pond House (2215 SE Harrison, Milwaukie OR, 97222). Contact Information: [leddingfriends.plantsale@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.plantsale@gmail.com) or 503 786 7582.

— Kathleen *Someone*, Plant Sale Coordinator

## Look for the eye-catching blue sign . . .

... and you'll know you are in the vicinity of the *Friends' Bookstore's* new home. The library has made available three bookshelves to the Friends for the sale of books. Colorful signs guide you straight down the hall from the Circulation Desk. A variety of subjects are offered to capture the interest of children and adults. Come have a look!

All these books have all been donated by our generous community. *Friends of the Ledding Library* once again thanks our community for its continued support of Ledding Library.

## From the Annual Meeting . . .

The meeting was held on Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

- Treasurer Joe Sandfort reviewed the past year's financial statement and the projected income and expenses for 2019, noting the accounting year has changed from a fiscal year to the calendar year.
- The success of the past year's Friends' events and generous bequests to the Friends allowed a gift to the library construction fund of \$150,000.
- As in past years, the success of these events is due to the tremendous number of hours generously given by volunteers and reminds us how essential it is to welcome new volunteers.
- For this year's annual plant sale, a partnership with *Milwaukie Floral and Garden* is being explored.
- Discussing the Sunday Farmers Market and First Fridays led to suggestions such as: tents and tables in the



City Hall driveway, a tent in the market lot as well as the possibility of a downtown Milwaukie storefront.

- The library is unable to receive book donations at the temporary location. A flyer notes this and provides phone numbers of 3 designated Friends who can arrange drop-off times at the book sorting location. Word of mouth 'advertising' is also being encouraged.
- Three bookshelves have been made available to the Friends by the library for the sale of books. A volunteer will select, price, and rotate the books for these shelves.
- New policies of the company handling the Friends' discard books requires a decision to be made by the volunteers sorting the books.
- Volunteers are needed for the following positions: newsletter editor, Sunday Market and First Friday Leads, library 'bookstore' volunteer, on-line bookstore sales persons.
- Pat Hodgkin volunteered to fill a new position: Merchandise coordinator to oversee the purchase, stocking and sales of Friends' merchandise at the library.

### Construction 'in-progress'

Within half an hour of sending out the email edition of the Autumn 2018 newsletter, I received an enthusiastic response from Rebeccah Bufford offering to help with building a website for the *Friends of Ledding Library*. It has been a most rewarding experience to engage with her excitement and interest. Her skillfulness is helping us craft a website that is truly an expression of the *Friends* as we are now with the possibility growing to meet future needs. Look for our new address in the next months and start exploring our on-line presence. Rebeccah - thank you so much for stepping forward with such grace and 'talent'. - Elysa Foxman

## A Smorgasbord of Opportunity

So many possibilities to become involved with the Friends; opportunities allowing you to make use of your skills, learn new skills, explore new interests, all with the flexibility to shape your hours. And you will be appreciated!

No need to just take one!

**Library Bookstore** - Did you ever dream of having a bookstore? Here is a small scale possibility. Selecting and monitoring inventory. Displaying the choices on the shelves.

**Sunday Farmer's Market and/or First Friday Book Booth** - Do you enjoy the vitality of the Market? Do you like chatting with others? Are books your passion? Why not put these together? We need leads for the Book Booth. Choosing books from our inventory. Transport. Set up. Sales. Take down.

**Newsletter Editor** - Do you like writing? Communicating to a broader audience? Setting a tone for the season? Three issues a year. Writing. Layout. Overseeing mailing/emailing. Could involve developing a digital format.

**Website content management** - Be the first to know what's happening and help spread the word. Working with the Event Co-ordinators you'll help our community be aware of upcoming events. And you'll have help!

**Plant Sale** - see article on page one.

### Board Members

**President**

Gina Saracco

**Vice-President**

David Schacht

**Secretary**

Katie Walker

**Co-Treasurers**

Joe Sandfort

Kim Olson

Nancy Wittig

**Library Liaison**

Kim Olson

## A Web of Connection

Support of our beloved library is a tale of friends; formal *Friends (Friends of Ledding Library)* and informal friends creating a web as strong and flexible and beautiful as a shimmering spider's web. The filaments of this web are comprised of book sorters and sellers, Board Members and local businesses, diggers and potters of plants, book and plant donors, generous financial donors, customers . . .

We want to thank our many, many friends. Help us! Who would you like to acknowledge and thank? Let us know and we'll put it in the next newsletter . . . Write to us at:

[leddingfriends.editor@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.editor@gmail.com)

## We've made it easier . . .

... to get in touch with us. The following email addresses will facilitate communication with the Friends. Thank you for your interest.

- [leddingfriends.infor@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.infor@gmail.com) for general inquiries
- [leddingfriends.editor@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.editor@gmail.com) for the newsletter editor
- [leddingfriends.bookstore@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.bookstore@gmail.com) for the on-line bookstore
- [leddingfriends.plantsale@gmail.com](mailto:leddingfriends.plantsale@gmail.com) for the plant sale

**Books?**  **Friends**  
of the LEDDING LIBRARY

**We welcome your donations!**



### Donations to Make?

Please call to coordinate a drop-off with one of our *Friends* listed below:

Elaine Blauvelt: 503-659-7878

Anne Carroll: 503-653-1580

Nikki Hoff: 503-704-5758

**Thank you!**

*Your donation to the Friends supports our Library and our Community.*

Milwaukie, OR 97222

9600 SE Main

of the LEDDING LIBRARY

