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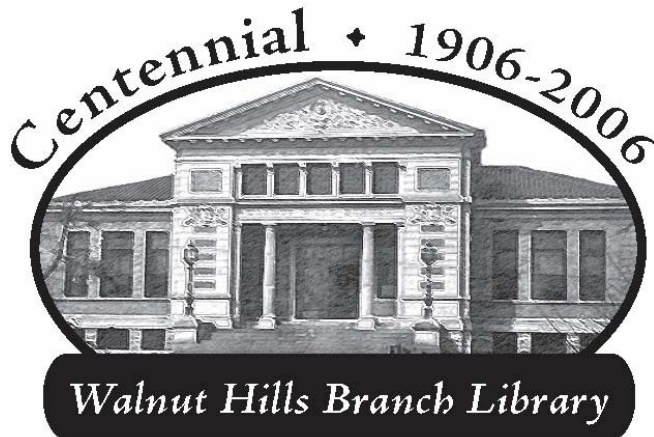
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Press Release

March 20, 2006



**Walnut Hills Branch
Library Is Celebrating
its Centennial!**
Branch was first of nine built
in Cincinnati with Andrew
Carnegie Funds

The Walnut Hills Branch Library was the first branch in Cincinnati built with funds from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

The public is invited to a Centennial birthday celebration that will kick off with a special Urban Used Book Sale sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library on Saturday, April 1, and a Centennial Celebration on Saturday, April 8.

The Walnut Hills Branch Library opened on April 7, 1906, replacing two neighborhood deposit stations that operated from 1899-1906. Designed in the French Renaissance style, it was the first of nine branch libraries in Cincinnati built through the generosity of philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The twin columns at the entrance arrived from Munich, Germany with the Tyler Davidson Fountain, and later were incorporated into the building's design. Paintings in the adult reading room are the gift of a local artist. Other special features include the original birch-stained mahogany woodwork and the stained glass window in the vestibule, a gift commissioned and purchased for the library by an area couple.

Urban Library Used Book Sale

- o Saturday, April 1, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.: Kick-off of the Centennial featuring used books, records and more, with something for everyone, and prices from fifty cents! Proceeds benefit the branch.

Walnut Hills Branch Library Centennial Celebration:

Saturday, April 8, Noon-4:00 p.m.: Join us for an afternoon of fun and reminiscing:

- o Special guest Mayor Mark Mallory at 1:00 p.m.
- o 2:00 p.m.: A special performance for children featuring the Madcap Puppets
- o 2:00 p.m.: For adults, author Allen Singer will discuss his recent book, *Stepping Out in Cincinnati: Queen City Entertainment 1900-1960*.
- o There will be a bubble & balloon parade, music, historic photo exhibits, and more. Birthday cake and punch, too. All free!

Key exhibits at the branch:

Watercolor and ink wash renderings of the exterior and interior of the Walnut Hills Branch by DAAP graduate students of Architecture

Historic photos of the branch from PLCH archives

Children's artwork celebrating the building's history, coordinated by the Cincinnati Art Museum and Visionaries & Voices

Cincinnati Public Schools and DNK Architects' rendering of the new Douglass Elementary School

Photos and playbills from the Schuster-Martin School of Drama—a bygone school of dramatics of the early 20th century which was located in Walnut Hills

Mark your calendar for these other key events:

- Saturday, April 22, 2:00 p.m.: Walnut Hills author Mary-Cabrini Durkin presents her new book, *Angela Merici's Journey of the Heart*. A spiritual quest by a creative woman of the 1500s, with thoughts on a spiritual quest by women today.
- Saturday, May 13, 2:00 p.m.: The Power of Slave Narratives: History Comes Alive with Dramatics and Gospel Interludes
- Saturday, June 10, 2:00 p.m.: *Carnegie Libraries of Ohio*: A slide presentation by Mary Ellen Armentrout
- Watch for additional events throughout the year.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library

✓ **Our goal is to make our programs accessible to everyone. Please request ADA services one week in advance at 513-369-4400 (TTY 369-4409).**

✓ **Information about events at the Main Library and 41 branch libraries is available on the Internet site: www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.**