ReadQuest programs are made possible through the support provided by the Friends of the Public Library, the Kersten Fund and the Anderson Library Committee.
Avast, me hearties! Put on your sea legs this summer and read not only for your own enrichment, but to discover hidden treasures! The 31st annual summer reading program, ReadQuest 2004: A Treasure Hunt, begins June 1 at the Main Library and all 41 branches. The program is open to children and teens.

ReadQuest Kick Off—On Saturday, June 5 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at all library locations teens and kids can start off this year’s program by decorating a white canvas book bag, which can be used to keep books in throughout the summer.

Prizes—Kids can reach four prize levels by reading five books or participating in reading activities for three hours. At each of the first three levels kids can claim a prize out of the Treasure Chest at their neighborhood branch and enter a weekly drawing for more great prizes! Treasure Chest prizes include Water Glitter Bracelets, Giant Parachuters, Painted Stretch Frogs, Painted Stretch Snakes, Mini Cool Duck Squirters, Mini Coopers (1:64 Scale), PT Cruisers (1:64 Scale), Teleidoscopes, Dinosaur Gliders, Balloon Tongue Fish Key Chains, and See Bead Coil Rings, while supplies last. When kids reach the fourth level, they win a free book! Kids can keep reading and entering weekly prize drawings even after winning their free book.

Teens can win, too! Any teen who reads or participates in a reading activity for three hours can enter a weekly drawing for great prizes at their neighborhood branch, including gift certificates to Media Play, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Skyline Chili, United Dairy Farmers, LaRosa’s and Graeter’s.

Bonus—Any teen who visits a branch library or the Main Library between Saturday, July 24 and Saturday, July 31 (the last official day of ReadQuest) and who participates in ReadQuest wins a free book.

Special Programs—Fun programs for all ages will be held through July. Teens can join in on the fun with Teen Advisory meetings, anime programs, and many other events.

Plus, Meet Survivor Pearl Island’s “Big Lill”—If there’s a theme that has carried through Lillian Morris’ life, it is adventure. A long-time Boy Scout master, Lillian, or “Big Lill” as she was known on TV’s thrilling Survivor Pearl Island series, will be appearing at the Main Library and every branch during ReadQuest.

Aye, me bucko, check out the many fun programs available at your favorite branch during ReadQuest at www.cincinnatilibrary.org, then click on the ReadQuest icon from the homepage. Arrrrrrrrr!
Every year the Library offers a summer reading program for children and teens. Designed to keep kids reading and using the Library throughout the summer, this program not only encourages Library use as a regular habit, but also supports education by providing the means to keep reading skills sharp over the summer. This year’s theme, A Treasure Hunt, is particularly appropriate. While the theme may be intended as a way to entice kids to participate in the reading program and receive prizes for reaching reading levels, this theme also has meaning to readers of all ages. For this treasure hunt we don’t seek the gold coins or precious jewels found with a pirate’s map (OK that would be great, too) instead our treasure hunt seeks the most valuable treasure of all, the treasure hidden in books. The only way to find this treasure is to read. Read lots and lots of books. If you do then you will find the priceless treasure in books—knowledge. This treasure can be yours for free when you use your public library. To keep the search interesting there’s always something new and exciting to read or even listen to or watch if you prefer, at the Library. So, start your treasure hunt at the Library. It will be the beginning of a lifelong search.

Kimber L. Fender
Executive Director

10 REASONS TO READ AT YOUR LIBRARY!

1. to answer your questions
2. to explore your world & the world of others
3. to take you to the most amazing places
4. to help you create
5. to make wise decisions
6. to stay in touch & up-to-date
7. to exercise your mind
8. to plan your future & understand your past
9. to have fun and share
10. to become all you can be

FROM THE DIRECTOR

The ReadQuest Adventure continues...

Get the kids on board from ashore! You don’t have to sail the seven seas to find great adventures. Some of the best ones can be found closer to home at your neighborhood library. Not only can kids pick up some tales of treasure, sea and sail, they’ll find many stories bigger than a whale. There’s even a book about a captain with a hook. Plus, here’s a sample of programs that will make most any young lass jollier than Roger.

For Children:
- Tuesday, June 8, 1:30 p.m.
  Greenhills, Magic of Tom Bemmes, All ages
- Wednesday, June 9, 10:30 a.m.
  Main Library, City Blooms: Paint a Flower Box, ages 6–12. Sponsored by the Downtown Residents’ Council.
- Monday, June 14, 1:30 p.m.
  Madeira, Tea Party: Girls and Women in Colonial America with local children’s author Brandon Marie Miller, ages 8 & up
- Wednesday, June 16, 3:00 p.m.
  Delhi Township, Pet Care & Safety with Daryl M. Erenkoe of the Hamilton County S.P.C.A., ages 5–12
- Tuesday, June 22, 1:00–4:00 p.m.
  College Hill, Puppet Making Workshop with Amy Cardosi-Ariosa, ages 6–12
- Thursday, June 24, 3:30–5:00 p.m.
  Bond Hill, Afternoon Pirates: Create pirate flags and hats, ages 6 & up

For Teens:
- Wednesday, June 2, 5:00–6:00 p.m.
  Monfort Heights, Write On! Teens create their own stories & other written works. Group writing projects, too, to perform at the Library, ages 12–18
- Thursday, June 10, 1:30 p.m.
  Madisonville, Cartooning for Teens: Learn simple cartoon techniques with Darek Johnson, ages 13 & up
- Thursday, June 10, 6:00 p.m.
  Forest Park, Mehndi: Temporary Tattoos & Henna Body Art with The Bliss Art Group, ages 12 & up
- Thursday, June 16, 7:00 p.m.
  Green Township, Beach volleyball on the lawn and cool snacks on the patio, ages 12–18
Genealogy is one of the fastest growing hobbies in the U.S. Whether you’re just beginning to explore your family’s past or honing long-acquired skills, the 11th annual Family History Fair, From Digital to Vital Records, offers a wealth of information for all levels. This year the History & Genealogy Department has teamed up with the Kenton County Public Library to offer more from both sides of the river.

On Saturday, May 22 from 1:00–4:30 p.m. the Atrium in Cincinnati’s Main Library will be filled with booths manned by more than 20 participating organizations. Visit the booths, pick up helpful tips and handouts, view related displays and exhibits, or take in some classes. Complemented by music, refreshments, and even a Children’s Story Hour for future genealogists, it’s all under one roof.

“Think of this fair as a ‘Taste of Genealogy’ where you’ll find a sample of most everything you’ll need to research into the past,” said Patricia Van Skaik, Manager of the Cincinnati’s History & Genealogy Department. “You can indulge on a smorgasbord of information, while browsing the booths and talking with the experts. It’s a mixer in the present that highlights the past.”

This year’s theme celebrates two hot topics long requested by customers. One explores the digital revolution in genealogy, while the other delves into History & Genealogy’s acquisition of the Ohio Death Certificate Collection.

Two classes offered during the fair will focus on these topics and important updates. A third class will help newcomers launch new quests by showing them how to begin tracing their family histories.

1:00 p.m. Beginning Genealogy: Where Do I Start?
2:15 p.m. Family History: The Digital Revolution
3:30 p.m. Searching Ohio Death Certificate & Local Vital Records

The fair builds on the strengths of its co-hosts. Both have outstanding reputations and are known as “libraries that deliver.”

● The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County has one of the nation’s top five family history collections and is one of only a few public libraries with the complete federal census. The History & Genealogy Department offers resources covering all 50 states and some foreign countries, including passenger lists, city directories, slave and freedmen records and maps.

● The Kenton County Public Library has an extensive local history collection and is a major center for Northern Kentucky historical sources. It also has a strong Kentucky history collection with related materials, especially genealogical and the Civil War.

Karen Beiser, Assistant Manager of History & Genealogy, with department resources.

TWO USED BOOK SALES IN JUNE

There are two chances to pick from more than 150,000 used books and other items in June with the Friends of the Public Library and the Anderson Library Committee! Both sales will feature used books, CDs, cassettes, books-on-tape, sets of film, literature & history encyclopedias, and more for every reading taste and budget!

Friends of the Public Library
32nd Annual Used Book Sale
Monday, June 7–Friday, June 11
Fountain Square, Fifth & Vine Streets, downtown
▲ Monday: 9:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m.
▲ Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
▲ Friday: 9:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (Bag Day)
SPECIAL DEALS: Friday is Bag Day. Purchase a shopping bag for $5.00 and fill it with as many items as you want.

Anderson Library Committee
24th Annual Used Book Sale
Friday, June 18–Sunday, June 20
Nagel Middle School, 1500 Nagel Road at State Road
▲ Friday: 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
▲ Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
▲ Sunday: 12:00–3:00 p.m.
SPECIAL DEALS: Books and other items are generally marked half-price on Saturday afternoon.
RESOURCES GALORE

BUZZ INTO THE WORLD OF CICADAS

Plug your ears! Cicadas ready to end 17 years of silence will be invading Cincinnati this May. To find out what all the buzz is about, the staff in the Science & Technology Department put together this great resource list of books, magazines, films, and websites swarming with all sorts of information. Plus check out related cicada programs.

BOOKS

The Periodical Cicada
William J. Gerhard
507 F46.1 no.4

Millions Of Monarchs, Bunches Of Beetles: How Bugs Find Strength in Numbers
Gilbert Waldbauer
595.7156 W157 2000

Singing Insects: Four Case Histories in the Study of Animal Species
Richard D. Alexander
595.726 A377 1967

In Ohio's Backyard: Periodical Cicadas
Gene Kritsky
595.752 K92 1999

Cicada Sing-Song
Densey Clyne
j595.752 qC649 1998

Cicadas and Aphids: What They Have in Common
Sara Swan Miller
j595.752 qM651 1999

MAGAZINES


RECIPEs

http://www.markjcooking.com/recipex.php/59491
Soft-Shelled Cicadas

http://shme.com/dish/dish117.htm
Skewered Cicadas

Check out page three of the Food Insects Newsletter for some tasty treats.

FILMS

The Wasp; The Spider; The Cicada
VHS 07981

WEBSITES

http://www.msj.edu/cicada
Cicada Watch: 2004 — The Official Cicada Website of the College of Mt. St. Joseph. This site is maintained by local expert Dr. Gene Kritsky.

http://www.ohiodnr.com/forestry/health/cicada/cicada.htm
Periodical Cicadas in Ohio - Brood X
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

Periodical and “Dog-Day” Cicadas Ohio State University Extension Fact Sheet.

Cicada Invasion — National Geographic website.

http://www.dancentury.com/cicada
Cicada Mania — Information about cicadas, Magicicadas, periodical cicadas, 17 year cicadas.

http://salthesandbox.org/cicada_hunt
Kids Cicada Hunt — A great site for kids who want to learn about cicadas.

PROGRAMS

North Central
Tuesday, May 4, 7:00 p.m.
Cicadas 2004! Watch Out! "Ol’ Red Eyes" is coming to a tree near you! Enjoy an informative and entertaining slide presentation that depicts the life cycle of the 17-year cicada with Karen Cody of Nature Matters. All ages

Green Township
Saturday, May 22, 1:00 p.m.
Cicada Slam! Let’s welcome the invasion of our 17-year friends with insect crafts and activities! All ages

Main Library
Tuesday, June 8, 10:30 a.m.
Mostly Cicadas: Learn about Incredible Insects with the Cincinnati Museum Center. Ages 6–12
LIBRARY FRIENDS’ SHOP

Shop Hours: Monday-Saturday
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Sunday
1:00-4:00 p.m.
(513) 369-6920

I would like to join the Friends of the Public Library
I would like to purchase a gift membership
I would like information on volunteering

Name _____________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________
City ________________________________ State ___________________
Zip ___________ Daytime Telephone (optional) ___________________
Email______________________________________________________
Gift from _________________________________________________

Make Checks payable to: Friends of the Public Library
8456 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45216

I would like to join the Friends of the Public Library
I would like to purchase a gift membership
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I would like to purchase a gift membership
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Name _____________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________
City ________________________________ State ___________________
Zip ___________ Daytime Telephone (optional) ___________________
Email______________________________________________________
Gift from _________________________________________________
Charge by phone at the Library Friends’ Shop (513) 369-6920
MC or VISA _____________________________ Exp.____________

Benefits of Friends Membership:
• Previews of used book sales
• 10% discount on items in the Library Friends’ Shop
• Subscriptions to Library program calendars & newsletter mailed to your home each month
• Invitations to special events sponsored by the Friends
• Interesting volunteer opportunities for Friends’ projects
• Good feeling of helping to spread the joy of reading
EXHIBITS

6TH ANNUAL CELEBRATING QUILTS SHOW AT LOVELAND BRANCH LIBRARY IN MAY

For generations, Americans have turned to quilting as a form of expression. To pay tribute to this long-standing tradition, the Loveland Branch Library, 649 Loveland-Madeira Road, will be hosting its Sixth Annual Celebrating Quilts festival during the month of May. The kick off of the series will begin with an exhibition of quilts and an Open House on Saturday, May 1 from 6:00–8:00 p.m. for quilters and their guests. Exhibitors will include members of the Grailville Quilters, Ohio Valley Quilters Guild, Library staff members, and area residents.

Quilting Events on Saturdays in May:
- May 1, 6:00–8:00 p.m., Open House for quilters and guests
- May 8, 10:00 a.m.–noon: I Want to Learn to Quilt: Where Do I Start?—An overview of hand and machine piecing and the basic tools needed for each.
- May 15, 10:00 a.m.–noon, Introduction to Machine Quilting—Learn the basics from a pro! Please bring your own sewing machine.
- May 22, 10:00 a.m., UFO Day—Bring those unfinished projects and have a good time with some fellow stitchers.

This year the branch will be displaying quilts, wearable art, and handmade dolls. The programs include a class for those interested in starting to quilt led by both a hand and a machine quilter and a class in basic machine quilting, as well as a UFO (unfinished quilts) day. The classes require registration by calling the branch and the machine quilting class will require a machine and some specific notions.

“It’s hard to believe that during our first show five years ago, we displayed for a week and hoped people might show up,” said Branch Manager Rosemary Ogg. “It was so popular they showed up in droves. Each year the distances quilt enthusiasts drive to come to the show seems to increase. In last year’s guest book, one lady from Iowa scheduled a vacation around the show while visiting her sister. This year, Maria Holloway, owner of a quilt shop in Crosby, Tennessee, has donated a copy of her book, Windows of My World, which will be given away in a drawing of all contributors.”

Celebrating Quilts is sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library. For more information, call the branch at (513) 369-4476.

LEWIS AND CLARK EXHIBIT AT THE MAIN LIBRARY MAY 15-AUGUST 15

In 1803 the United States spent about fifteen million dollars on the purchase of the Louisiana Territory from France and thus nearly doubled its size. During that same year the U.S. government sponsored an exploratory expedition through the Louisiana Territory and beyond its borders to the Pacific Ocean. Led by U.S. Army officers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, this expedition took three years to complete. In celebration of the bicentennial of this great American journey, the Rare Books & Special Collections Department has gathered together materials from its collections to exhibit The United States Expands Westward: Lewis and Clark and the Road to Discovery.

This exhibit features materials relative to the Lewis and Clark expedition as well as other early explorations of the American West. Included among these items are first edition copies of Lewis and Clark’s own History of the Expedition (1814) and Patrick Gass’ Journal of the Voyages and Travels of a Corps of Discovery (1807). The United States Expands Westward will be on view in the Rare Books & Special Collections Department, third floor of the Main Library, from May 15 through August 15. For more information: (513) 369-6957.
SPRING INTO SUMMER

DIG UP NEW IDEAS FOR GARDENING

Spring is well underway, and with it comes those warm months where there is plenty to do outside, from planting flowers and vegetables to sprucing up the lawn or redoing your landscaping. Whatever your project is, from an indoor container garden to landscaping your yard, the Library has thousands of books, resources, and programs that will help!

Type in “gardening” on CINCH, the Library’s online catalog, and you’ll come up with hundreds of entries ranging from books on gardening projects to videos on landscaping, flower and vegetable gardening, greenhouse and organic gardening, as well as many other related topics. The Main Library and all 41 branches have extensive collections of gardening books and other materials that will point you in the right direction.

The Magazines & Newspapers Department at the Main Library also offers a wide array of magazines on gardening in the Home & Garden section, including American Gardener, American Rose, Country Living Gardener, English Garden, Fine Gardening, Garden Design, Horticulture, Organic Gardening, and Plants and Garden News. Except for current issues, gardening magazines may be checked out, including at most branch locations.

Check out the “Sites by Subject—Home & Garden” section on the Library’s web page www.CincinnatiLibrary.org, where you’ll find links to Buckeye Gardening, with ideas specific to Ohio; Garden Web, which includes a wide variety of garden links; Garden Mart, a searchable database with bulletin boards and advice columns; and Web Garden, a site maintained by the Ohio State University Department of Horticulture and Crop Science for gardeners, horticulturists, and agronomists with useful information for Ohio gardeners.

Of particular note is a popular series of gardening programs at the Monfort Heights Branch Library, 3825 West Fork Road. Specialists from the White Oak Garden Center have been presenting Year Round Gardening on a variety of seasonal topics for the past six years. Don’t miss Hot Pots on Monday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. Other programs include Herbs for the Birds and the Bees on Monday, June 7 and Big Ideas for Small Spaces on Monday, June 21. Many other programs are scheduled in the coming months. Check out “Library Programs” on our web site at www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.

EXPLORE VACATION DESTINATIONS

Summer is typically the time when many Americans pack up their bags and head off to places unknown to get away from it all. You can plan your vacation from start to finish at your local library, from checking out travel guides and videos to accessing web sites that provide information on airfares, hotel rates, car rentals, and places of interest, all at your fingertips.

All branches have circulating and reference materials on a wide range of subjects. If you start at the Main Library, check out the Travel Section in the History & Genealogy Department, third floor. The department maintains an extensive collection of travel guides, including indexes to hotels, bed and breakfast inns, campgrounds, state and national parks, and even has maps to check out.

The “Sites by Subject—Travel” on the Library’s web site links you to hundreds of general sites from A to Z, from Accommodations and Air Travel to Walking Tours and Waypoints. Looking to travel by train? Click on Rail Travel to find what’s available. Need help in finding a travel agent? LocateATravelAgent.com can put you in touch with someone near your home or business. Want to bring the family pet along? There’s also information on what hotels and resorts welcome pets, not only in the United States but overseas.

Don’t forget the extensive collection of travel videos in the Films & Recordings Department at the Main Library. There are videos on adventure trips, the national parks, cities and states, as well as many countries overseas. Remember, you can look up a video at a branch or at home through the Library’s web site, and reserve that title and have it sent to any branch in the system. Travel videos, unlike feature films, can be checked out for seven days, and renewed for seven more if there are no reserves.
FOCUS ON ARTISTS’ BOOKS

Cincinnati Book Arts Society Exhibits BookWorks 5 at the Main Library. The Cincinnati Book Arts Society (CBAS) will hold its 5th annual exhibit in the Atrium of the Main Library. Composed of a group of professionals and amateur book artists, as well as archivists and conservators, this nonprofit organization promotes a spirit of community among hand workers in the book arts and those who love books. This year’s exhibit will feature some of the finest traditional and contemporary bookworks from the area, and will be on view from May 2–31. An opening reception will be held at the Main Library on Sunday, May 2, from 2:00–4:00 p.m. The public is invited.

Book Artist Jean Buescher Presents Lecture & Workshops
Guest book artist Jean Buescher, a former Cincinnatian and Proprietor of Bloodroot Press in Ann Arbor, Michigan, will present a slide lecture and two workshops. Jean has taught the art of bookmaking at a diverse array of venues across the country. She holds an MFA in Book Arts from the University of Alabama and her work is in many permanent collections throughout the world.

Lectures by Jean Buescher:
Monday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m.—Slide lecture at the Main Library, “American Women and the Private Press.” Jean will share her 17 years of experience.

Workshops:
Saturday, May 15, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Youth Workshop (ages 9–12) at the Groesbeck Branch Library.
Sunday, May 16, 1:00–4:30 p.m., Pochoir Workshop for adults at the Main Library.

Registration is limited, and adults must bring their own supplies (pochoir brushes, paints and pigments, exacto knife and sharp blades, small self-healing cutting board, pencil, cork-backed metal straight edge, and drafting tape. For more information please call 513-369-6955.

Lectures by Jean Buescher:
Monday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m.—Slide lecture at the Main Library, “American Women and the Private Press.” Jean will share her 17 years of experience.

"Stop Making Sense: Book Art Defined"
The Art & Music Department will also celebrate Bookworks 5 with an exhibit from the department’s collection of contemporary artists’ books, including some designed by Jean Buescher, through May 31 at the Main Library.

COMMUNITY-WIDE READERS MEET RENOWNED AUTHOR CARYL PHILLIPS

Join the many readers around the Tri-state who participated in On The Same Page Cincinnati 2004 for two culminating events in early May. Caryl Phillips, the author of this year’s book selection, Crossing the River, will be at:

University of Cincinnati, Tangeman University Center
Great Hall
Tuesday, May 4, 7:00–8:00 p.m.

During this free lecture, Caryl Phillips will talk about his work and Crossing the River. A book signing will follow.

A Live broadcast from CET (Channel 48)
Wednesday, May 5, 8:00–9:00 p.m.

During the broadcast, Caryl Phillips will take questions from the studio audience, viewers at home, and on the Web.

For more On the Same Page information log onto www.cincinnati.com/samepage.
NEW COLLECTOR’S CORNER FOR ART & ANTIQUES BUFFS

Now you don’t have to wait in hopes of an upcoming episode of PBS’s “Antiques Roadshow” to discover whether that wooden cuckoo clock you just inherited from your Great Aunt offers something beyond sentimental value. The Main Library’s Art & Music Department has created the ideal setting for the curious minded to conduct research about their own personal treasures or those of others. It’s the new Collector’s Corner. Located on the third floor along the Department’s north wall near the service desk, this special collection brings together the major reference books that help identify and appraise antiques, collectibles and fine art. Included are auction records, as well as price and identification guides, which not only describe objects, but also list artists and companies— for all types of collectibles.

By concentrating these key resources in one location and providing plenty of seating and work space, Art & Music now provides collectors with much faster and more comfortable access to the best of its enormous reference holdings. Books that had been dispersed throughout the Department are now within easy reach, along with many that had been kept in the stacks. “The Collector’s Corner will also help the staff serve our many telephone customers more efficiently,” said Department Manager Judy Inwood. “And as a bonus, we’ll be featuring a revolving array of circulating books about collectibles.”

When noted local antiques expert Frank Farmer Loomis IV (author of the forthcoming book, Secrets To Affordable Antiques) first saw the Collector’s Corner, he said, “This is a wonderful innovation because it is so practical for both patrons and librarians. When one does research, everything is at one’s fingertips and this will definitely save precious time. Not only that, there will be less wear and tear on these indispensable books—and less work for the staff who must constantly keep it all in order.”

LIBRARY AGAIN RANKED 7TH IN CIRCULATION NATIONALLY

In 2003 our Library loaned more than 14.8 million books and materials. This was more than the public libraries in Chicago, Houston, Philadelphia, San Diego, Dallas or many other more populous cities and regions. For the second year in a row, the Library ranked 7th in circulation in the country. Given that the population of Hamilton County has continued to decline, and that the Library’s budget and hours of operation both dropped by 10% in 2003, it is exciting to remain among the busiest public libraries in the U.S. How did this happen? There are a number of significant factors that propel this continued heavy use.

First, it’s obvious that our Library cardholders like to read! Among the top 10 busiest libraries, Cincinnati ranks second in circulation per cardholder with an average of 36.8 items borrowed by everyone with a card last year. Our cardholders are avid users. Secondly, as a result of the long history of the Library—151 years—and its practice to purchase items to develop a permanent reference collection, Cincinnati ranks first among these top 10 in both total size of the collection (10.3 million) and collection holdings per capita (12.3 items). This excellent collection is one of the major strengths of the Library and is one visible way the Library adds value to the community by making an outstanding selection of resources available locally. A collection of this depth and historic content is simply not available to residents in other parts of the country. A third factor is convenience with 42 library locations throughout the county, with the Main Library open 7 days a week and the branches all open 6 days a week. Other factors include the excellent staff, free Internet access with nearly 500 computers, outstanding web site and enormous range of online resources available 24/7, over 16,000 annual free programs for audiences of all ages, and the amazing menu of services offered—all for free. Finally, all of this is available to the public efficiently and effectively. With the recent drop in budget, Cincinnati has fallen to third lowest among the top ten libraries.

While circulation may be the best-known measure of Library use, other measures include reference questions, visits to the Library, use of online resources, and program attendance. In 2003 attendance at Library programs increased 17% and use of online resources increased 15%, demonstrating the changing expectations of our customers. The Library is constantly adapting and growing. We welcome your comments and suggestions on ways that we can continue to meet your changing needs.
THANKS TO...

The Library is deeply grateful for the generosity of our community and welcomes gifts of all sizes. Your donations are essential to ensuring delivery of excellent Library service and availability of the widest possible range of informational resources for all ages. For inquiries regarding contributions, please contact John Reusing, Development Director, at (513) 369-4591. The following gifts were received between January 22 and March 25, 2004.

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY
Anderson Library Committee
Mt. Washington Gold Star Chili
Strauss & Troy
George Ferguson
Monte Jean Stotlar
Betty J. Mienheartt
Joy Wilcox
Carmen Precht
St. John the Baptist School
Lisa Bowens

GIFTS OF MATERIALS
Blackburn Family Association
Paul Wein
David Hamm
Ann B. Conway
Robert L. McLaurin
Robert Huth
Robert A. Flischel

Stephen Harris
M. o. Madani
Sharon Lutz
Maryann J. Kennedy
Joan M. Nally
A. I. H. arrison
Timothy Leslie
Malcolm L. Allen
Stephanie Parker
Janice C. Taylor
Dr. Cheri
Westmoreland
Susan S. Kemper
Jack Klumpe
Howard Laughter
Jerry Judge
Sue Kelly Lumb
Hatchkins Family Association
William Wheaton
Hamilton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society
Lannan Foundation
Fanchot Ballinger
Westwood Woman’s Club

GIFTS TO RARE BOOKS
Dorothy Weil
John H. White, Jr.
Charles Fleischmann

COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS
Rose Stuebing in memory of Elmer E. Krebs.

Martha & Charles Anness in memory of Elsie M. Ryder.

Rita & Jack Walther in memory of Catherine Fink.

Nello & Lil’ Jean in memory of Rudolph Battistone.

Robert & Doris Paul in memory of Margaret U nnewher Schott and Mary Gildenblatt.

Anderson Library Committee acting President Patricia Charles, center, presented the Anderson & Mt. Washington Branch Libraries with a check for $48,000, the proceeds from last year's book sale. Accepting the check were Mt. Washington Branch Manager Katie Greifenkamp, left, and Anderson Branch Manager Patricia Peterson, right.

Education & Religion Department Staff in memory of Charles Littleton.

The Dayton-Cincinnati Chapter of The American Society of Appraisers in memory of Roger L. Trauth.

IN-KIND GIFTS
Federated Garden Clubs of Cincinnati & Vicinity
Ohio Valley Forestry Fellowship
Belvedere Corporation
The Cincinnati Reds
Greg Rhodes & The Cincinnati Reds Museum
Delhi Chili
Haybert’s Meats
Jack Maas Meats & Catering
Meiner’s Meats
Supreme Nut and Candy
Country Fresh Market

The Westwood Woman’s Club purchased an American flag and flag stand for the Westwood Branch Library. Presenting the gift were Club President Dolores Ehlen (left) and club member Helen Bodden (right), which was accepted by Westwood Branch Manager Joyce Baer.
THANKS TO...

GIFTS TO THE FRIENDS

James M. Vale & Givaudan matching gifts program.

David Munroe & IBM matching gifts program.

Jerome S. and Meta K. Howard Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation

Outreach for Animals

IBM Matching Gift

Givaudan Matching Gift

You are cordially invited to the Annual Meeting of The Friends of the Public Library Wednesday, May 26 at noon At the Friends Used Book Warehouse 8456 Vine Street in Hartwell (513) 369-6035

Please join us to celebrate the past year’s successes and to learn about future plans.

PET MEMORIALS

Oak Crest Animal Hospital in memory of Donna Schneller’s dog Wolfie.

The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County Staff in memory of President & Mrs. George W. Bush’s dog Spotty.

Cathy Plichta, Rebecca Mathey & Tina Messerschmidt in memory of Kim Molloy’s cat Spookie.

The Langhorst Family in memory of Anna Marie Hinebaugh & Family’s dog Max.

Sally Moffitt in memory of Leba Litwack’s cat Silky Sue.

Ann Segal & Jerry Malsh in memory of Gail Coughlin’s dog Spencer and Suzanne & Earl Mueller’s dog Freddy.

Linda Christman and John & Sandy Reusing in memory of Linda Christman’s dogs Geordi, Murphy & Pepper.

Liz Solway in memory of Elizabeth Turnbull’s dog Nell.

The Ray Family in memory of The Pulskamp Family’s dog Max.

Johannah Moran in memory of Amy Rohlfing’s dog Stanley.

Cathleen Arnold in memory of Betty Rammes’ dog Cuddles.

Shirley Redmond in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Steve Kraemer’s dog Mushi.

Betty Stacey & Joan Lauritsen in memory of Jean & John Lauritsen’s cat Cleo.

Eileen Bockelman in memory of Mary & Charlie Balz’ dog Fuzzhead.

Judy & Jim Adams in memory of George Ann & Jim Lawrence’s dog Blakey-Babe.

Avid young Library fans gathered at the Harrison Branch to stage a big “thank you” to the Friends of the Public Library for their generous continued support that makes such a large and varied range of free programs available at all 42 of the system’s libraries. The Friends committed over $70,000 to support Library programming in fiscal year 2003–04.
THANKS TO...

FREE & FUN FAMILY FEST 2004

Cookies donated by Kroger were De-lish!

Chris Lynn & Cary Hubbard from WARM-98 hosted a contest and gave away promotional items.

FREE & FUN FAMILY FEST 2004

Thanks to all of our sponsors who helped to make this year's Free & Fun Family Fest an enormous success enjoyed by over 2,500 people of all ages.

The event was co-presented with the Cincinnati Recreation Commission.

Chiquita Brands International
Cincinnati Family Magazine
The Cincinnati Bengals
Friends of the Public Library
Kroger Food Stores
United Dairy Farmers
WARM 98 Radio
WCPO-TV9

WCPO-TV9’s Tanya O’Rourke emceed the hula-hoop contest and introduced Bengals players Dwayne Levels and Khalid Abdullah.

The cool ice cream cups donated by United Dairy Farmers were in hot demand.

Chiquita bananas were a big hit.

Chris Lynn & Cary Hubbard from WARM-98 hosted a contest and gave away promotional items.
Mysteries and Suspense

The Hummingbird Wizard
Meredith Blevins
Since being widowed, Annie Szabo has kept her distance from her Gypsy mother-in-law, Mina. Then Annie’s best friend is murdered, and she is forced to team up with the formidable Mina to solve the crime. But there’s more than a mystery here—Blevins’ highly original debut is a delightful story of family ties (wanted or not), told with humor and magical realism.

The Truth about Celia
Kevin Brockmeier
A writer tries to cope with the unexplained disappearance of his seven-year-old daughter, and the increasingly fantastic short stories he writes to explain her fate form the text of this moving novel. Deliberately framed to seem autobiographical and “real,” the tale has wrenching emotional appeal; yet it will also attract readers who enjoy sophisticated narrative experiments.

Moon’s Crossing
Barbara Croft
The suicide of Civil War vet James Moon in 1914 launches a police inquiry. With the discovery of Moon’s diary, the bare-bones inquiry is fleshed out into a wonderfully complex portrait of a memorable man: Moon was a visionary and dreamer in an age of rapid industrialization and change. This eloquently crafted debut captures a fascinating age.

Innocence
Karen Novak
Private detective Leslie Stone has a most unusual client—her teenaged daughter has hired her to find a friend who has vanished. Leslie’s search for the missing girl revives painful memories of a case her sheriff father failed to solve when Leslie was still a girl. Novak’s third novel is an absorbing thriller of a woman haunted by the past and tortured by the present.

Other Fiction

Every Woman for Herself
Trisha Ashley
Recent divorcee Charlie Rhymer hopes a move back to her family’s Yorkshire home will give her some peace. But with a white witch sister, a lothario father, and a neighbor who has more than a neighborly interest in Charlie, her life soon becomes even more complicated. A laugh-out-loud, loony look at life after forty, not to be missed by chick-lit fans.

Me and Orson Welles: A Novel
Robert Kaplow
A New Jersey teen’s encounter with Orson Welles changes his life in this charming coming-of-age story set in New York City in 1937. Richard Samuels longs for a life on stage or screen, but his brush with the genius—and the monstrous ego—of the brilliant young director doesn’t have quite the result he expected. An enjoyable glimpse of the theater world.

Charlie Johnson in the Flames
Michael Ignatieff
War correspondent Charlie Johnson thinks he has seen everything. Then his ill-judged trip to a rebel hideout in the Balkans draws the attention of the military, and the place is stormed. The woman of the house is set aflame. Unable to forget her image, Charlie sets out on a certainly doomed effort to avenge her in this stark and tragic indictment of war.

A Hip-Hop Story
Heru Ptah
Ptah’s debut is a vivid glimpse into the world of hip-hop as the heated rivalry between two very talented young men threatens the blossoming romance between Erika, sister of rapper Flawless, and Micah, protégé of Hannibal. The intricacies of the music business, the club scene, and a glittery, soulless lifestyle come to brilliant life in this sad Romeo and Juliet tale.
**MEET NOTED WRITER DAVID EGGERS ON MAY 22**

The Library will be collaborating with InkTank, a local nonprofit devoted to fostering creative writing in the Greater Cincinnati community, on a series of writing presentations and workshops to be held on May 22. David Eggers, the nationally acclaimed author of *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*, will begin the day’s events with a public lecture and workshop. The event is held in conjunction with the first annual Cincinnati Fringe Festival (May 12–23), providing opportunities and exposure for artists willing to take risks with their work. Visit www.CincinnatiLibrary.org or call 513-369-6974 for more details on what time and where Mr. Eggers will appear on May 22.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR** — Eggers grew up near Chicago and attended the University of Illinois. In 1998, he founded McSweeney’s, an independent publishing house located in San Francisco that publishes books, a quarterly literary journal, *The Believer*, and a daily humor website. In 2002, Eggers opened 826valencia, a writing lab for young people located in the Mission District of San Francisco, where he teaches writing to high-school students and runs a summer publishing camp. With the help of his workshop students, Eggers edits a collection of fiction, essays, and journalism called *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*. His fiction has appeared in *Zoetrope, Punk Planet,* and *The New Yorker*. He has recently written introductions to new editions of books by Edward Wallant, John Cheever, and Mark Twain. He also writes regularly about art and music for magazines, including *Frieze, Blind Spot, Parkett,* and *Spin,* and his design work has been featured in many periodicals, including *Print* and *Eye*.

**AN AFTERNOON WITH ANNE MAZER**

Meet children’s author Anne Mazer at the Corryville Branch Library on Friday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m. Raised in Schenectady, New York in a family of children’s book authors, Mazer has made her own mark on the field of children’s literature. For over a decade, she has been authoring highly praised juvenile books including *The Salamander Room* and *The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes*. She also authors picture books for younger readers. Mazer attended the State University of New York at Binghamton, Syracuse University and the Sorbonne, and is a member of the Authors Guild and the Authors League of America. For information, call 513-369-6034.