Celebrate the Past at Your Library

Over the next few months share in an incredible lineup of free events and cultural activities commemorating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Black History Month, and Women’s History Month. From guest speakers and authors, to exhibits and displays, to storytelling and readings, to interactive programs and craft workshops, past meets present at your Library.

Photographic portrait of Ella Fitzgerald and John Birks “Dizzy” Gillespie by William P. Gottlieb is part of an exhibit to be on display at the Main Library starting February 23. See details inside on page 2.
Portraits from the Golden Age of Jazz - Journey back to a time that lives today through photographs by William P. Gottlieb. His images of jazz greats (such as Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Louis Armstrong, Frank Sinatra, Billie Holiday, Charlie Parker, and Stan Kenton) have been widely published in magazines, books, and posters, as well as on 250 album and CD covers, and have appeared in television documentaries and in major motion pictures. As part of a traveling exhibition, Portraits of the Golden Age of Jazz, over 70 of Mr. Gottlieb’s photographs will be on view in the Main Library Atrium from February 23 - March 29.

During the 1930s and 1940s, Mr. Gottlieb photographed the contemporary jazz scene to illustrate his columns in The Washington Post, Down Beat Magazine, and other publications. The photographic negatives were stored for more than 30 years until his retirement in 1979, when he began printing the negatives. The rest became history. Now one of the most honored jazz photographers of the “golden age of jazz,” Mr. Gottlieb’s images have become historically significant. In 1995, the Library of Congress acquired the photographs, which, according to the Los Angeles Herald Examiner, “...transcend mere documentation. They provide a dramatic, mood-inducing setting. All that’s missing is the music.”

Jazz Performance & Discussion – Local jazz musician Phil DeGreg will present Spur of the Moment: The Art of Jazz Improvisation, a discussion on what jazz musicians do when they improvise on Saturday, February 25 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library’s Atrium. Following the discussion, Mr. DeGreg, who teaches jazz piano at the College-Conservatory of Music and once toured with Woody Herman’s Thundering Herd, will perform as part of a jazz quartet. For the last 10 years, he has served as the house pianist at Cincinnati’s Blue Wisp Jazz Club, accompanying visiting artists on weekends.

Explore African American History

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – Celebrate the birth, the life, and the dream of one of America’s greatest champions for civil rights. Thanks to support from Friends of the Public Library and the Kersten Fund, the Library will pay tribute to Dr. King by hosting birthday parties, readings, storytimes and crafts, as well as other inspirational activities on January 12-17.

Black History Month – Throughout February at the Library enjoy exciting performances by Bi-Okoto Drum & Dance Theatre; workshops for all ages conducted by crafter Kathryn Gardette, whose fiber designs combine adinkra symbols; and share the richness of America’s multi-cultural folklore and oral tradition through storytelling with Omope Carter Daboiku. Plus, take in many other cultural activities showcasing the rich African American heritage.

African American Read-In – Join over a million readers in the 17th National African American Read-In on Sunday, February 5 and Monday, February 6. Anyone can participate by reading books by African American authors. Read-In activities will take place at selected Library locations and during school visits made by librarians. The program is sponsored by the Black Caucus of National Council of Teachers of English.

Check the Library’s program calendar at www.CincinnatiLibrary.org for all activities.
African American History Series Focuses on Veterans

Sundays in February at 3:30 p.m.
February is Black History Month and a time to celebrate courage. This year the Library’s History & Genealogy Department will host a three-part lecture series highlighting African Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The programs will take place in the Main Library’s Huenefeld Tower Room (south building, 3rd floor).

February 12
Company G Goes to War – Officially organized in 1924, the Ohio Army National Guard’s Company G was the only all-Black military unit from Cincinnati to serve in World War II. Hasker Nelson Jr., founder/president Heritage Research Creations, author, and former producer/host of “Black Memo,” will deliver a multi-media presentation featuring information about the company’s formation, its longtime African American commanding officer, its meeting/training place in a West End hotel, and still-frames of the Company from a motion picture film.

February 19
WWII Monument at Lincoln Court – Thousands of people drove or walked by this 20-ft. edifice daily from its erection in 1946 at Lincoln Court entrance, on Lincoln Park Dr. (now Ezzard Charles Dr.) until it was removed in 2002. However, not many people today recall its significance. The monument’s plaque lists 268 names of African Americans who served in the military during World War II. Local historian, Hasker Nelson, tells the story behind the monument and shares related photos including those of its new “permanent” location at Ezzard Charles & Cutter.

February 26
WWII Veterans Swap Stories – Tuskegee Airman James Leahr and African American veterans from different branches of the U.S. Armed Forces share their stories. Check the Library’s website at www.CincinnatiLibrary.org or call (513) 369-6905 for more details.

Be Part of the Veterans History Project

As part of Black History Month, African Americans from around the Tri-State are invited to be among the first to participate locally in the Veterans History Project. In partnership with the Library of Congress, the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County will create a lasting legacy of recorded audio and video interviews from those who served in the armed forces, beginning with World War II. Here’s how:

1. Working with volunteers, the Public Library will coordinate, preserve, and provide access to taped copies of the interviews. Training will be provided for conducting interviews and running equipment.

2. The narratives, which may include an audio or video recording with transcript, personal letters, diaries, photos, or other memorabilia, will be sent to the Library of Congress to be part of a national collection. The Public Library will also maintain a copy to be available to the general public.

3. If interested in interviewing or being interviewed for the Veterans History Project, fill out the form to the right. Return to any of the Library’s 42 locations or mail to Public Library History & Genealogy Department, 800 Vine St., Cincinnati, OH 45202. For more information, contact the department at (513) 369-6905 or History@CincinnatiLibrary.org.

I served in WWII and want my stories preserved. Please tell me more.

I’m a veteran of Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, or Iraq.

Yes, I’m interested in interviewing WWII veterans. Please tell me more.

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I’ve recently been faced with a problem. A wonderful problem for anyone who loves to read – there are just too many good books to read. Every day I find a new title that I just have to read but when will I find the time? Recommendations come at me from all directions – reviews in newspapers, magazines, catalogs and on the radio. Friends and family tell me about favorite books, libraries and bookstores have enticing displays, Hot Titles on the Library’s web site each week – all whet my appetite for more good books. I never read just one book at a time. It’s like a buffet of my favorite foods spread out before me and I have to have a bite of every one.

Right now I have more than 30 books checked out. Some are cookbooks like The Berry Bible, which I checked out after our local produce stand started offering Whistlestop Café cobbler mix along with their produce. Next is The Woodland Garden. I do love to garden but I don’t intend to plant a woodland garden. I just enjoy reading about gardening, plants, and other people’s hard work. I also have a biography called The Glorious Deception. This fascinating story about an American who performed as the “Marvelous Chinese Conjurer,” and was killed onstage performing his Defying the Bullets illusion, caught my ear when a radio reviewer gave a brief booktalk about it one afternoon as I was driving home. When this happens, I’m a hazard to all others on the road as I try to find a way to remember the title long enough to get home and look it up in the catalog.

I’ve got a real passion for the Maguire books that retell folktales and classics in a new way. And, if you haven’t read Wicked yet, you’ve got to check it out. When I started reading this book I was certain I would despise the wicked witch in his retelling as much as I did in the original Wonderful Wizard of Oz version by L. Frank Baum. Wrong. She’s a wonderfully likeable, sympathetic person. I still haven’t read the very end because we all know the wicked witch has to die and I just can’t get myself to read it. So I’m skipping the ending and going right on to the just released sequel, Son of a Witch. There’s no telling how this ends. A high school student I know also just read Wicked. We had a great time talking about the book and how surprising it is to like the witch.

I recently spent a long weekend at a band contest with my daughter’s band. We had some free time at the mall where I bought Alexander McCall Smith’s Tears of the Giraffe. McCall Smith’s books about Precious Ramotswe and her detective agency in Botswana are great reading. A glimpse at a different country and culture but meaningful for everyone. There’s a whole series of books about Precious. You’ll never be able to read just one.

Some of my favorite books have been suggested by librarians either in person or through the terrific titles under Books, Music, Movies section on the Library’s website.

I could go on and on, but with 30 books to read, this column isn’t long enough to discuss each and every one. Here’s a picture of me with the books in a quiet corner of my house. Why don’t you send us a picture of you in your favorite reading space and share some of your favorite titles with us. Email it to comments@CincinnatiLibrary.org or mail it to me at Main Library, 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH, 45202-2071. We’ll add them to our web page.

Thanks for reading. Keep sharing your favorites with others, and we’ll all be faced with the wonderful problem of too many books. It’s a booklovers dream!

Kimber L. Fender, Executive Director
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Ms. Sarah May
Celebrate Women Writers with Three Area Authors

Share in the Multicultural Experiences of Andrea Cheng, who teaches English as a Second Language in Cincinnati, where she lives with her husband and their three children. Ms. Cheng is the daughter of Hungarian Jewish immigrants and grew up among extended family members, many of whom survived the Holocaust. Her family spoke mostly Hungarian at home. Her novel, *Marika*, is loosely based on her mother’s story. Ms. Cheng attended Cornell University where she studied intensive Chinese. She then married a Chinese American, himself the son of immigrants. Another of her novels, *Honeysuckle House*, is based in part on the experiences of her children.

From the author’s perspective, Ms. Cheng’s latest book, *Shanghai Messenger*, combines two experiences. “In 1968, when I was 11 years old, I traveled from Ohio to Hungary by myself to visit my relatives. I had never met my cousins, aunts or uncles before. Xiao Mei’s feelings, in *Shanghai Messenger*, are similar to the way I remember feeling—excited, scared, and curious. In 1997, I traveled to Shanghai, China, with my husband and our three children to meet my husband’s extended family. Most of the scenes in *Shanghai Messenger* come from our stay there with my husband’s aunts, uncles, and cousins. Xiao Mei is modeled on Jane, my older daughter, who was 11 at the time of our trip. Like most of my books, this one draws heavily on both my experience and that of my children.”

Follow the Underground Railroad with Ann Hagedorn, who moved to Ripley, Ohio from her home in New York City to research and write her book, *Beyond the River*. Her book tells the true story of those who worked on the front lines of the Underground Railroad along the Ohio River, especially the men and women who lived in Ripley. Ripley’s historic area is little changed from antebellum days.

Ms. Hagedorn graduated from Denison University and earned degrees from the University of Michigan and Columbia University, and has been a staff writer for several newspapers including *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Daily News*. Ms. Hagedorn has taught narrative nonfiction at Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism and at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism. She is the author of two other books, *Wild Ride: The Rise and Tragic Fall of Calumet Farm, Inc.* and *Ransom: The Untold Story of International Kidnapping*.

Ann Hagedorn will discuss *Beyond the River* on:

**Wednesday, February 22**
- 4:00–5:30 p.m.: (Teacher Session), CET, 1223 Central Parkway, 345-6566
- 7:00 p.m.: Main Library–Atrium, 369-6945
Local Author Louise Borden

Be Curious About Curious George with Louise Borden whose curiosity about the story behind a fictitious monkey, who has long captured the imagination of children around the globe, became a decade-long quest. It started in 1995, when Ms. Borden read a mention in a magazine about how Margaret and H.A. Rey, German Jews who created Curious George, fled from the Nazis during World War II. The Reys’ escaped on bicycle, while carrying their manuscript that would one day become one of the most beloved children’s books of all time and one that would be found on the shelves of most libraries.

The children’s author from Cincinnati found herself on a journey that led her to Paris, and eventually to a French chateau, where Curious George was written. She retraced the 66 miles the couple rode on bicycle. After learning that the Reys had saved many documents about their experience, including a daily journal kept by Mr. Rey, Ms. Borden felt she had enough material to make the story into an intriguing book, The Journey That Saved Curious George.

Louise Borden has lived most of her life in Ohio. Growing up in an old house on a steep street, she attended a small elementary school called Lotspeich. She remembers that “there, all the marvelous shelves of books in the library shaped me into a lifelong reader. So it is a thrill for me to know that some of my books are being read by children in other libraries all over the country.” Before she became a full-time writer and speaker, she taught preschoolers and first graders and was even a part owner of a bookstore in Cincinnati. She has written many books, including collaborations with illustrator Ted Lewin, that include America Is..., The Day Eddie Met the Author, Fly High! The Story of Bessie Coleman, Sleds on Boston Common, A. Lincoln and Me, Good Luck, Charles Lindbergh, and many others.

Louise Borden will discuss The Journey That Saved Curious George on:

Wednesday, March 1
• 10:00 a.m.: Reading Branch Library
• 1:00p.m.: Mariemont Branch Library

Thursday, March 2
• 10:00 a.m.: Corryville Branch Library
• 1:00p.m.: Hyde Park Branch Library

Looking Forward Through Herstory

In 1981, the U.S. Congress passed a resolution establishing National Women’s History Week. The week was chosen to coincide with International Women’s Day, March 8. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women’s History Month, and the U.S. president has issued a proclamation. This year’s theme is Looking Forward Through Herstory. During this time, the Library will be hosting women authors at a variety of locations.

Be Part of the Veterans History Project—In conjunction with Women’s History Month, the Library will be arranging interviews in March of women veterans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces, beginning with World War II. We invite those interested in being interviewed for the project to fill out the section at the bottom of page 3 of this issue of Links (under the Veterans History Project segment) and mail it to the address indicated on the form.
On the Same Page 2006 Curiously Engaging

Now in its fifth year, On The Same Page 2006 (OTSP) will feature a novel by Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Community-wide reading of this year’s selection begins in February with related programming going on through March. While bringing people from around the Tri-State together to celebrate reading, an underlying goal of the program is to encourage them to experience a different worldview through literature.

**About This Year’s Selection** - Haddon’s engaging story is told in the voice of 15-year-old Christopher Boone, who appears to have Asperger’s syndrome, which is in the ‘autistic spectrum’ of neurological disorders. He lives with his father in a mid-sized city in England. While Christopher does not experience emotions in the same way that most people do, he is a math genius and he enjoys solving mysteries just like his favorite literary character, Sherlock Holmes. He relies on a sense of order within his environment to help him to deal with unpredictable events. Winner of the Whitbread Award in 2003, this novel presents many opportunities for discussion, as it is fast paced and readers feel captivated by Christopher and the challenges that he faces.

This year’s selection for middle school and teen readers is *Bird* by Angela Johnson. The author will be here to meet with students and talk about the book on March 20 and 21.

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**On the Same Page Programs & Events**

**An OTSP launch event** funded by Visionaries & Voices will take place on Saturday, February 4 at the Corryville Branch Library from 1:00–2:30 p.m. The event will feature nationally recognized artist Barb Moran whose own experience of living with autism and how it relates to the book and her artwork will be the topics of discussion.

**Visionaries & Voices (V&V)** is an art studio for persons with disabilities, including adults with autism. Housed within the Essex Studios on McMillan Street in Walnut Hills, V&V celebrates the art of artists with disabilities. During On the Same Page, V&V will exhibit art pieces at all 41 library branches, hands-on public art workshops at library branches, and an Open House at their studio.

**4 Paws for Ability** is an organization based in Xenia, Ohio, whose purpose is to train guide dogs for children with autism and other people with disabilities. Members of the staff of 4 Paws will be presenting programs about their organization at various branch locations.

**Other Programs**: In conjunction with OTSP, panels of autism specialists from Children’s Hospital will be presenting related programs. Math and puzzle events (inspired by *The Curious Incident*), screenings of related films, book discussion groups, and writing workshops will also be offered.

**Information**: Find information about On the Same Page and news about upcoming events at [www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage](http://www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage)
College Hill Librarian Arnice Smith Named One of New York Times’ Librarians of the Year

College Hill Children’s Librarian Arnice Smith was named one of the winners of the 2005 New York Times’ Librarian Awards. The nomination cited the energetic personal service Arnice provides to over 200 children who inundate the branch after school and the untiring extra effort she puts into completing teacher collections. Arnice’s own words sum up her philosophy and approach: “I tell every child that I read a book to or tell a story to that my purpose as a children’s librarian is to plant a seed in their heads that will grow into a love for reading in their hearts.”

The New York Times held a reception in honor of the winners November 16 and presented each winner $2,500 and a commemorative plaque. A separate plaque will be sent to the library where each winner works. Ms. Smith started working at the Library 22 years ago as a shelve and is very grateful for Library trust funds that enabled her to complete an undergraduate degree and then earn her master’s degree from library school.

Library Makes Top 10 in Hennen’s American Public Library Ratings

The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County has been ranked the Number 10 Public Library in the nation for libraries serving a population of 500,000 or more by Hennen’s American Public Library Ratings 2005 (HAPLR Index). This seventh edition lists ratings of 9,000 public libraries in the United States evaluated by Thomas J. Hennen Jr., a Wisconsin library director who analyzes library data compiled by the Federal State Cooperative Service. This is the first time the Cincinnati Library has been named in the HAPLR Top Ten for the size of our service area.

The Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County was compared to 76 library systems nationwide serving populations of 500,000 or more on 15 measurements – everything from per-capita library expenditures to staffing levels to the number of library visits per capita and per-capita circulation. The rating index focuses on circulation, staffing, materials, reference service and funding levels. The top 10 libraries in the 10 population groupings are touted as the 100 best libraries in America. Executive Director Kimber L. Fender attributed this outstanding distinction to the hard work of the staff.

Friends Used Book Sales

Looking for a way to get through those wintertime blahs? Warm up to great buys on all the good reads you’ll find during two upcoming Friends of the Public Library used book sales. At the Friends’ 10th annual Warehouse Sale in Hartwell browse through more than 70,000 books, videos, records, CDs, cassettes, books on tape, some sets, and more! Then, once you fill the need to refresh your selection again, there’s plenty more to choose from in March at the Harrison Branch Library. Prices begin at 50 cents. Cash, check, Visa or MasterCard are accepted.

**Warehouse Sale: January 20–22**  
8456 Vine Street (Hartwell). Information: (513) 369-6035  
- Members Only & Educators’ Preview Sale: Thursday, January 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
- Friday, January 20: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
- Saturday, January 21: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
- Sunday, January 22: noon-4:00 p.m.

**Harrison Branch Library Sale: March 2–4**  
10398 New Haven Road. Information: (513) 369-4442  
- Members Only & Educators’ Preview Sale: Thursday, March 2: 2:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
- Friday, March 3 from 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.  
- Saturday, March 4 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Volunteers are always needed to help with book sales. If you can spare a few hours or more to help, contact us by email at friendsofplch1@fuse.net or call 513-369-6035. Visit the Volunteer Opportunities page on at friends.CincinnatiLibrary.org for details.
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 August 12 and November 21.

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Ann Biernat-Rucker in memory of Mary Anne DuSablon.
Michael & Sharon DiMario, Debby & Jim Hogan, Colleen O’Toole, William Osterhaus, and Linda Wilfong in memory of Gino DiMario.
Mary DeCourcy, Mr. & Mrs. Carl A. Strauss, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. S. Charles Strauss, Constance Trounstine, Matilda T. Bellucci, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Sittenfeld, Diana B. Levine, Alice H. Balterman, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph S. Stern, Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Richard H. Allen, L. Patton Davis, Mr. & Mrs. Woodrow H. Uible, Dr. & Mrs. F.J. Ach, Eva Jane R. Coombe, Mr. & Mrs. J. Keith Stewart, Frances Goldman, Harriet Meiss, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Aft, and Martha Ewing in memory of Charles I. Westheimer.
George Ferguson in memory of Mary Louise Werner.
Hilda Gilbert in memory of Esther Leopold.
Montgomery Woman’s Club in honor of Suzanne Hurst, President, and in memory of James Miller IV and Donald Scheetz.

Honor with Books
Mr. & Mrs. Charles W. Anness in memory of Ruth Fischer Goering and in honor of Carol Hodgeman.
Book Club Friends in memory of Ruth Klug.
Colerain High School English Department in memory of Charlie Alvis.
Jo Edwards in honor of the 100th birthday of Ruth Davenport.
Martha Gavin in memory of Jane Geisert Gavin.
Erin Queenan in honor of the anniversary of Michael & Martha Queenan.
Stephanie Sepate in memory of Willard Stoll & Mary Dickhaus.
Edward Urbansky in memory of Dorothy M. Latham.
Pet Memorials

J. Timothy Benton in memory of his cat Burbank.
Shelly Hamlin in memory of Annette, Danielle & Dougie Wunder’s dog Ella.
Andrea Lippelman, Ron Fite, Alvin Reinert, Rick Spare, Allen Price and Randy Agee in memory of The Schuler/Reynolds Family’s dog Rosie.
Andrea Lippelman in memory of the Hershey Family’s dog Baron and Steve Fordyce’s cat Penny.
Kristen Gruber & Chris Greene in memory of Rene Greau’s dog Zeus.
Connie Trounstine in memory of Louise & Art Spiegel’s horses Geraldine & Maggie.
Kidney Foundation of Greater Cincinnati in memory of Vanessa & Joel Warneke’s dog Addy.
Judy Wick in memory of Ed & Judy Krautter’s cat Droppy.
Beth Thomas & Pat Dolan in memory of Lou & Margie Rauh’s dog Ollie and Marilyn Ormsbee’s dog Muldoon.

Representatives from sponsoring organizations of the Library Card Challenge held this fall are shown here with students from St. Ursula Academy who participated in the program. From left to right (back row) are Pat King, President, Friends of the Public Library; Damian Hoskins, Education Manager, Time Warner Cable; Thane Maynard, Vice President of Public Information, Cincinnati Zoo; Colleen Harris, Director of Marketing, CET; and Randi Douglas and Dean Miuccio, hosts of Warm 98’s Morning Show. Additional sponsors were Thomson South-Western and Cincinnati Family Magazine.

Susan Fabe in memory of Jim & Chris Evans’ pet Bonnie.
Carolyn Lindsley in memory of her dog Gyppy.
Shirley A. Neumann in memory of Tina & Jerry Dwyer’s dog Franz.
Roger & Angie Schwarb in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Brian Brozek’s dog Fenway.
Brenda, Angie, Kathy & Deb in memory of Barb & Ted Harris’ dog Pepper.
Jenny Weikert, Nancy Weinberg & Joyce Baer in memory of Nancy Kammer’s cat Jackie.
Jen & Antoni Gambetts in memory of Charlie & Vicky Krogmann’s dog Stump.
Margaret Quinn in memory of The Arnett Family’s cat Tiger Lily.
Judy Wacksman in memory of Barry Broker’s dog Danielle and Jim Ireland’s dog Sophie.
Gayle Bruner in memory of Cindy & Mike Cantwell’s dog Jordan.
Ruth & David Watson and Dawn & Doug Van Derzee in memory of Ruth & David Watson’s dog Rocky.
Charles & Pamela King in memory of Steve & Reanie Dobbins’ dog Hannibal.
Bill Ray & Family in memory of The Fessler Family’s dog Lily.
Rick Roesel in memory of Dan & Linda Wendt’s dog Mick.
Linda Mathews in memory of The J. Neal Gardner Family’s dog Pepe Le Peu.
The Tomlinson Family in memory of Daniel Stelter’s dog Harvey.
The Rieger Family in memory of The Meeks Family’s cat Kisha.
Joe & Kathy Weber in memory of The Hughes Family’s dog Yoda.
Molly Masset in memory of Sandra & Paul Bush’s dog Jesse.
Nancy Kammer, Ginny Baringhaus, Ginna Stanko, Angela Farmer, Mary Gallagher, Millie Henley and Becky Mathey in memory of Charlene Bandurago-Hole’s dog Ginger.
Jo Ann Gabriele in memory or Jerry & Shirley McDonald’s cat Miss Kitty.
Kim Fender in memory of John Reusing’s dog Eben.
Pat Dolan in memory of Mary Ellen Landolina’s cat Miss Lady.
Ruthie Deutscher & Chris Sweeney and Family in memory of Joyce Clancy’s dog Smoky.
Oak Crest Animal Hospital in memory of Cathy & Lauretta Clopton’s cat Chessie, Maureen Markgrafi’s dog Scotty, Michelle Mulligan’s cat Chlo, Marc & Margaret Namie’s dog Buffet, Eric & Victoria Siegal’s dog MacIntosh, Larry & Elaine Hay’s cat Rebel, Gary & Sandi Staud’s dogs Bear & Little Foot, Richard Wesley’s cat Buster, Patricia Ruwe’s cat Momma Lucky, Linda Lee Snider’s dog Scooby, Jerry & Shirley McDonald’s cat Miss Kitty, The Kauflman Family’s cat Cori, Mary Seischmaydre’s dog Sophie, Tom & Sherry Schneider’s dog Duncan Idaho, Karl & Joyce Mohaupt’s dog Beau, George Fee’s dog Peanut, The Werberding Family’s dog Sugar and cat Buddy, The McGowan Family’s cat Fancy, and The Ruch Family’s dog Max.
As part of Teen Read Week held this fall, teens entered a photography contest sponsored by Paramount’s Kings Island, which donated day passes to winners to get into the amusement park.

The Montgomery Women’s Club recently made their annual gift to the Blue Ash Branch Library by presenting a check and books from their Town Hall Lecture Series. The long-standing association with the club has enabled the branch to add books to its collection, as well as expand the audiovisual section. Pictured, from left to right are Suzanne Hurst, President; Blue Ash Branch Manager Bob Burdick, and Alice Penrod, Memorial Library Chairman.

AIGA 50 Books/50 Covers Exhibit

Since 1923, the American Institute of Graphic Artists “AIGA 50 Books/50 Covers” competition has recognized excellence in book design and production. The entries include books and book covers designed between January 1 and December 31 of 2004. Categories range from trade, reference and juvenile books to university and museum publications and include limited-edition and special-format books. The 50 entries will be featured in an exhibit at the Main Library in the first floor Atrium from January 6 through February 19.

Librarians’ Choice

The holiday frenzy is behind us and chilly winter weather has settled in. Now is the perfect time to curl up with a good book. Librarians are not only avid readers, we love sharing our favorites! To help our customers find great titles they may have missed, every year we publish Librarians’ Choice, a selection of our favorite additions to the collection. Librarians’ Choice offers something to please just about everyone—you’ll find books for adults, kids, and teens, audiobooks, movies, even magazines. You can find Librarians’ Choice on our website at: www.cincinnatilibrary.org/spotlight/sp200505/ For more ideas, just ask at your neighborhood library, since no two of us would come up with the same list!
Family Fun Fest—Mascot Mania!

Saturday, March 11 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand for its fourth year, Free & Fun Family Fest will wear a whole new “costume” this time around. In fact, it will wear many as the Library and the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) turn Fun Fest into Mascot Mania. All the excitement will take place at the Main Library on Saturday, March 11 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Mascot Mania - The Library’s new mascot, Rufus the Reading Dog, and many of his other mascot friends from area organizations will be part of Fun Fest. Bring the family and enjoy:

- **Mascot Crafts** – make & take ’em home
- **Mascot Parades & Music** – with Joel Caithamer from Joel’s Library Jam
- **Mascot Madness Contests** – hosted by WCPO-TV9 & WARM98
- **Mascot Mementos** – photos or caricatures with your favorite characters
- **Mascot Games** - CRC’s Hooked on Fishin’ & more
- **Mascot Fun Booth** – hosted by Cincinnati Family Magazine
- **Mascot Munchies** – from Chiquita, Kroger & United Dairy Farmers

Meet Rufus the Reading Dog - He’s big, lovable, and has a rust & gold fur coat. He loves to read, be read to, and can be seen nosin’ around the Library sniffing out great books. He’s the Library’s new mascot, Rufus the Reading Dog—named after Rufus King II, the founding father of the Library. His favorite companions are children and books and he never seems to get enough of either. So watch for Rufus at this year’s Fun Fest.

Rufus Drawing & Coloring Contest - Kids can enter by coloring or drawing Rufus. At Fun Fest, Rufus will recognize 10 winners. Winning entries will be posted on the Library’s website! Rufus drawing or coloring sheets can be picked up at any of the Library’s 42 locations or downloaded from our website starting February 1. Entries must be dropped off at any library location by March 1. Get more details at Kidspace.CincinnatiLibrary.org.

Special thanks to - The Friends of the Public Library for funding Fun Fest

$1 Parking - all day Saturday at the Garfield Garage (13 West 9th St.)