GalaxyCon: Where Galaxies Collide @ your Library

Coming this May ... Sci-Fi programs, exhibits, and stories beyond all imagination!

GalaxyCon Event: Main Library—Saturday, May 5  10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sci-Fi at the Library

GalaxyCon: Where Galaxies Collide @ Your Library

This May bring your imagination and sense of wonder to the Library—the place where creativity dances with science, prose grows from ideas, and stories spin tales of people and places far, far away. Leave your doubts at the door and explore the world of science fiction.

From Jules Verne to H.G. Wells, Analog to Amazing Stories, and Forbidden Planet to Star Wars science fiction has entertained generations of readers and viewers. To commemorate the 30th Anniversary of Star Wars in May, the Library is creating its own Sci-Fi saga. Make it your mission to discover your local Library for a line-up of exciting programs and exhibits that are out of this world.

For the younger explorer, there’s everything from making alien slime to flying paper spaceships to participating in video gaming nights and watching Sci-Fi flicks. For the seasoned explorer, there are visits with Sci-Fi writers, book discussions, movie marathons, and more. You can even learn to speak Klingon through language workshops. Whether it’s a first encounter or the continuation of a voyage, let the Library transport you to worlds limited only by your imagination.

GalaxyCon Celebration, May 5 at the Main Library

Generations of fans have embarked on intergalactic journeys through imaginative novels, action-packed television series, and blockbuster films. Now there’s a chance for Sci-Fi fans of all ages to come together and have fun with Earthlings who have similar interests.

GalaxyCon Events May 5

On Saturday, May 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. engage your warp drive and head for the Main Library, the mother flagship for GalaxyCon. Get on the right hailing frequency with:

- Panel discussions with well-known Sci-Fi writers and experts. Get the backstory on the universes they created.
- Costume and prop workshops. Learn how to look like your favorite extraterrestrial being.
- Movie marathons. Get energized by watching some of the most popular Sci-Fi flicks ever made.
- Photo opportunities with characters from other worlds. Bring your own camera.
- An Intergalactic Collectibles Roadshow. Bring your collectibles and have them evaluated.
Budget time again

As I’m writing this in late February, Governor Strickland has not yet released his budget for the next biennium. He has, however, commented in numerous interviews about the projected revenue shortfall for the 2008-2009 State budget. This is of great concern to me. Public libraries have been operating with reduced funding since 2001. In our case, we received 9% less in State funding in 2006 than we received in 2000. This new budget is our next chance to get funding restored. We are dedicated to offering Hamilton County the very best in Library service but we need funds to make this possible. Our Library system is dependent on State funding for 90% of our operating and capital needs.

Our budget in 2006 was about the same as our 1998 budget. While revenues have remained at the reduced levels, demand for our services and our operating expenses have continued to grow. Use of our Library grew in 2006 with nearly half million more items borrowed. This occurred despite a loss of county population and service reductions implemented since 2001, including a 10% reduction in hours of operation or more than 2,000 hours of Library access per year and a decrease in our materials budget. Cost for employee insurance benefits increased by 53% since 1998 and the salary for an entry-level librarian grew by 23% - just to keep pace with inflation. Materials costs, utilities and other operating costs all continue to increase. Capital projects in St. Bernard, Reading and Woodlawn have been on hold for years. New capital projects including Pleasant Ridge, face a lengthy delay unless State funding is restored.

In late 2006, a General Assembly Task Force looking at funding for local governments and public libraries recommended moving public libraries to a set percent of the tax revenues in the General Revenue Fund and a first year funding increase of 3%. I believe this would provide public libraries with a stable and permanent source of funding and I have written Governor Strickland urging him to include this new funding mechanism in his budget.

By the time you read this, the Governor will have introduced his budget and we’ll know what is initially being proposed for library funding. We hope that it won’t be necessary but we may call on you again to show your support for the Library. We won’t have long to wait for a decision. The State fiscal year starts on July 1, 2007 and the new budget will be in place by then.

We know how important public libraries are to the community. A recent Economic Benefit Study conducted for public libraries in Southwest Ohio, including ours, shows that every $1 invested in public libraries is money well spent, returning nearly $4.00 in quantifiable community benefit plus significant value that cannot be assigned a dollar value including “improved economic prospects and an enhanced quality of life.”

For years Ohio’s public libraries received the funding so essential to our services. It’s time for that funding to be restored so we can continue to provide our citizens with the library services they need and expect.

Kimber L. Fender, Executive Director

Put GalaxyCon On Your Radar Screen Through the Library’s Website

Open up a channel and scan through the complete list of exciting GalCon events and activities planned at the Library throughout May. Transport your mind to www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/news/2007/galaxycon.html for the latest word on everything GalCon as well as information about the amazing universe of SciFi novels, magazines, DVDs and lots of terrific online links handpicked by Library staff in the know.
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45¢-$6.00

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**Monday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Members’ Appreciation Days April 16-28  **25% off all merchandise**  (excluding 50% off items, Library Logo Wear and Foundation Items)

Renew your Friends’ Membership online at Friends.CincinnatiLibrary.org

**Friends of the Public Library Annual Meeting**
Friday, April 27 at 1:00 p.m.
Main Library, Huenefeld Tower Room
RSVP (513) 369-6035 or friends.cincinnatilibrary.org
Due to space limitations, only memberships of $20 and up are listed.

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- Individual
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- Ms. Jean Marie Barnes
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- Mr. Daniel Beans
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- Ms. Marilyn Berkemeyer
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- Mr. Peter J. Boylan
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- Individual + 1
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- Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Meranus
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- Mr. Tom R. Philpot
- Mr. Eric Ratcliff
- Dr. Jimmy Urigh
- Mrs. Laura Vogel
- Ms. Lonna Walker

**Ms. Lonna Walker**

**library links**
Library Trustee Charles D. Lindberg: Honoring 25 Years of Service

Charles D. Lindberg is celebrating his 25th anniversary on the Board of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County. A graduate of the Yale Law School, he is of counsel at the law firm of Taft, Stettinius & Hollister LLP. Mr. Lindberg is also on the Board of Trustees of Augustana (Illinois) College and serves as Trustee of the Knowlton Foundation. He previously served on the Board of the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Cincinnati Center for Economic Development and was elected to the Cincinnati Board of Education from 1970–1974, where he served twice as the President.

Charles Lindberg Shares Library Experiences:

What book are you currently reading?
I’m currently reading two books. One is a biography about two remarkable Cincinnatians, *Crosley: Two Brothers and a Business Empire That Transformed the Nation*, and the second is *The Radical and the Republican: Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln, and the Triumph of Antislavery Politics* by James Oakes.

What do you like most about serving on the Board?
Our Library is by far the finest public institution in Hamilton County. It also is the finest public library in Ohio, and, if not the best in the country, at least among the very top. It’s really rewarding to serve on the Board of an organization that is so efficient, that operates so well, and does so much for the public.

What achievement(s) are you most proud of since serving on the Library Board for 25 years?
In 1984 the Hamilton County Budget Commission decided midway through the year to reduce the funding that already had been allocated to the Library for the year. Rather than accepting such reduced funding and radically cutting back on services for the balance of the year, the Board held firm, determined that the Commission had no authority to reduce the Library’s approved budget, and stated that we would continue to operate on the basis of the dollars originally allocated. We also announced that if full funding were not restored, then the Library of necessity would close on December 1 for the year for lack of funds. As a result of the Library’s firm actions (including a lawsuit), the Budget Commission reversed itself and reinstated the original funding allocation. I was proud that the Board did not compromise its promise to the public to provide full quality services and proud that the strongest support for our position came from our staff.

How do you see the Public Library of tomorrow? What is your vision of the future for our Library system?
While I certainly don’t claim to be a visionary, clearly the dramatic changes in technology are resulting in changes within the Library. Although some are predicting that in the future libraries will be without books, I view that with great discomfort. First and foremost, libraries always should be about books, learning, and reading.

Do you have any other comments you’d like to share?
It really is a shame that the Library’s funding has been seriously reduced over the past five years. But, it’s a tribute to the expertise of our entire staff that we are still operating a first class system!

Library Trustee Bailey W. Turner Retires With 22 Years of Service

Bailey W. Turner, a Library Trustee from 1984—2006, was honored recently for his years of dedication. He served as President of the Board in 1990, 1997, and 2002 as well as several terms as Vice President and Secretary. In recognition of his 22 years of continued service, the Library Board conferred upon Mr. Turner the lifetime honorary title of Trustee Emeritus.

At the time Mr. Turner was first appointed to the Board, he was an adjunct professor of community planning at the University of Cincinnati and an independent insurance consultant. He has been an Instructor of the Political Development National Black Assembly in Little Rock, Arkansas, and a member of Prince Hall FAM, West End Community Council, Consultant for the Pendleton Heritage Center, and served on the Board of CIC–Village of Lincoln Heights. He also served as President of the Coalition to Save Hillcrest Cemetery. A veteran of the Korean campaign, serving three and a half years in the United States Air Force, Mr. Turner also served on the Board of United Way/Community Chest and is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. A resident of Avondale, he has been married for 49 years to his wife, Ruby, a retired schoolteacher, and has two daughters, two granddaughters, and two grandsons.
Two new board members were appointed to the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County Board of Trustees by the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas to fill unexpired terms.

Robert G. Hendon will fill an unexpired term through October 2012. He was sworn in as a Trustee at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 9, 2007. Mr. Hendon, whose career spans four decades in the field of engineering and architectural design, is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, and holds an MBA from Xavier University. Licensed as a Professional Engineer in over thirty states, Mr. Hendon has extensive experience in the design of food processing facilities. He has served as a consultant in Europe and Asia, is a frequent speaker at professional conferences across the country, and has contributed to numerous trade journals.

Ross A. Wright will fill an unexpired term through October 2009. He was sworn in as a Trustee at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees on January 9, 2007. Mr. Wright is an attorney in the Legal Department of General Electric Company (Aviation), where he has worldwide responsibility for litigation management in complex commercial disputes. Prior to joining G.E. in 2006, he managed corporate and commercial litigation worldwide for Convergys Corporation as Senior Attorney. Mr. Wright holds a B.B.A., M.B.A., and J.D. degrees from the University of Cincinnati.
Corryville Branch Library Celebrates Centennial in April

The Corryville Branch Library turns 100 this year! A special celebration in April includes an Open House to recognize the Centennial on Saturday, April 14 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. There has been a library in the Corryville area since the Mt. Auburn/Corryville Deposit Station opened late in 1899. Shortly thereafter, efforts were made to build a new branch. Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie provided funds for the then North Cincinnati Branch Library, as well as eight others in Cincinnati. The beautiful Renaissance Revival style building was designed by Edward L. Tilton. During the early decades of its operation it often posted the highest circulation. Although branch operations were relegated to the lower level in 1970 due to declining usage, a revitalization effort in Corryville during the 1990s prompted the Library to renovate the building back to its original glory in 1996, and it reopened on August 16, 1997.

The Corryville Branch Library renovation was honored as one of the 1998 Ohio Historic Preservation Award recipients. The Preservation Merit Award is given for preserving Ohio’s prehistory, history, architecture, or culture. Today the Corryville Branch is a thriving community library. Last year, it circulated nearly 157,000 books and other items, and served a diverse community of residents and nearby students from U. C. There are programs for children, teens and adults, and branch staff make regular visits to area schools, senior centers, and preschools. Andrew Carnegie, who provided funding to build the branch 100 years ago, was convinced of and committed to the notion that education was life’s key. The Corryville Branch Library continues that tradition today.

Children wait anxiously outside the steps of the North Cincinnati (now Corryville) Branch Library the day it opened 100 years ago.

Centennial events planned during April include:

**Tuesday, April 10, 6:00 p.m.**
Game Night – Enjoy time–classic games like jacks, marbles, and other favorites played a century ago. For ages 12 & up.

**Thursday, April 12, 6:00 p.m.**
Music Night - Live musical performance sponsored by the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music featuring an a cappella performance by soprano Kathryn Hart Teixeira interspersed with discussion on the musical styles of various composers from the early part of the 20th Century. For teens and adults.

**Friday, April 13, 4:00 p.m.**
Pop-Up Art Workshop – Book artist and educator Diane Stemper, whose unique artist books have been shown in numerous exhibits throughout the U.S., will bring her art and bookmaking skills to Corryville. Learn basic folds and construction methods and amazing three-dimensional forms. By the end of the workshop you will have created a small book of pop-ups. Bring your special art tools! For adults.

**Saturday, April 14, 1:00-5:00 p.m.**
Open House – Enjoy an afternoon of reminiscing with historic photography exhibits, birthday cake, cookies and punch, plus these special activities:
- **1:00 p.m.** - Meet Rufus the Library Reading Dog.
- **2:00 p.m.** - Make “almost” stain glass creations with Debbie Brod, a visual artist with a background in painting who studied Fine Art at the University of Cincinnati, Oberlin College and the Sorbonne (Paris, France). For inspiration simply look up at the stain glass dome overlooking the checkout desk. For all ages.
- **4:00 p.m.** - Join author and library historian Mary Ellen Armentrout for a slide presentation of her book, *Carnegie Libraries of Ohio, Our Cultural Heritage*.

**Saturday, April 21, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**
Used Book Sale – Hosted by the Friends of the Public Library, this special used book sale will offer all sorts of great buys on a wide selection of books, CDs, videos, books-on-tape and more with prices starting at fifty cents. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Corryville Branch.

Information About Centennial Events: (513) 369-6034
ProQuest Obituaries

Every year, we help hundreds of genealogists comb through print or online resources in an effort to locate obituaries. Accessing that information just got a little bit easier! The Library is pleased to announce that ProQuest Obituaries is now in our collection of research databases. This resource offers over 10 million obituaries and death notices in full image format from the archives of top national newspapers including:

- The New York Times (from 1851)
- Los Angeles Times (from 1881)
- Chicago Tribune (from 1849)
- Boston Globe (from 1872-1923)
- Washington Post (from 1877)
- Atlanta Constitution (from 1868-1929)
- Chicago Defender (from 1909-1975)

You can search ProQuest Obituaries by the name of the deceased person, by date, and by keyword in the full-text contained in the obituary and death notice (e.g. location, occupation, hobbies, family members, or other personal information). The search interface has been designed to serve the needs of both beginning and expert researchers. We hope you’ll take some time to explore this exciting new addition to our collection!

Beyond Bestsellers

Only a few books reach the top of the fiction bestseller charts, but there are many more terrific novels available at the Library. Each month, to showcase some of these titles, staff from our Fiction & Young Adults Department select a variety of new additions to the collection that they’ve particularly enjoyed. Their selections are published in Beyond Bestsellers, an online booklist that is part of the “Reading Recommendations” section of our website. Here are a few titles from our March edition:

Sight Unseen by Robert Goddard
David Umber, a history scholar, witnessed the abduction of 2-year-old Tamsin Hall from the English village of Avebury in 1981. The crime was never solved, and Umber’s was one of many lives shattered after that day. The policeman assigned to the kidnapping, now retired, seeks Umber’s help to reopen the inquiry in a stylish literary thriller involving historical scholarship and buried secrets of the past.

Fruit of the Lemon by Andrea Levy
Faith Jackson, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants living in England, is sent back to the home island to recover from a breakdown. Once there, she is immersed in family stories and island lore, prompting a journey of healing, self-discovery, and an understanding of how history has shaped her racial identity. The accents and rhythms of Jamaica come to life in this poignant but humorous novel.

The Terror by Dan Simmons
Simmons vividly recreates the ill-fated Arctic expedition led by Sir John Franklin in 1845 and gives the tale a supernatural spin. Poorly provisioned and inadequately equipped for extended survival in the bitter cold, the crewmen of two icebound ships are stalked by a terrifying supernatural beast. This is a striking and unusual amalgam of Arctic exploration fiction and horror.

Read Any Good Books Lately?

Have you read something particularly good or thought-provoking lately? Well, we want to know about it! We’ve added a new feature to Turning the Page (our books and reading blog), so you can share reviews of books you’ve enjoyed with everyone else. Submitting a review is easy! Just look for the Read Any Good Books link in the upper-right hand corner of Turning the Page. Then use the review form to share your thoughts about the book. Log on at www.2.CincinnatiLibrary.org/blog
on view at main

Dictionaries: Find the Word on View at the Main Library Through May 20

On view in the Rare Books & Special Collections Department through May 20, Dictionaries: Find the Word exhibits a “meaningful” understanding of dictionaries from yesteryear. Featuring some of the earliest vernacular in print, this special exhibit showcases a number of important rare dictionaries that served as a “defining” moment in the history of the printed word.

Louis E. Kahn, well-known philanthropist and business leader in the meatpacking industry, was also known as an avid book collector. He endeavored to collect as many editions of all dictionaries ever printed for nearly 20 years. After his death, the Kahn family donated the dictionary collection to the Public Library. Thanks to Mr. Kahn’s pursuits, the number of key English dictionaries in the Library’s collection at one time ranked it among the top ten English language dictionary collections in the world. Many of these dictionaries had fewer than a thousand copies printed.

In addition to English language dictionaries, the collection also features bilingual and polyglot dictionaries printed prior to 1800 and Native American language dictionaries up to 1900. Of special interest in the exhibit are the dictionaries of “slang, cant and the vulgar tongue,” one published as early as 1699. These dictionaries including The Slang Dictionary of New York, London and Paris (1880), provide an inside view of cultural influences of the day. Others, of note, include An Illustrated Dictionary of Scientific Terms (1879); The Ladies Dictionary: Being a General Entertainment for the Fair-Sex: A Work Never Attempted Before in English (1694) and a series of miniature editions such as Little Webster 18,000 Words (1928) and the Lilliput Dictionary (1930).

Miniature Book Society Traveling Exhibit

May 1-June 30, Second Floor North Building, Main Library

A traveling exhibit from The Miniature Book Society, Inc. (MBS) presents fine miniature books, along with photographs of collectors, designers and publishers at the Main Library from May 1-June 30. MBS is an international nonprofit organization that was chartered in 1983 to sustain an interest in all phases of miniature books, provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, and to serve as a clearinghouse for information about miniature books.

Popular because they were easily carried or concealed, miniature books range from tiny “Thumb Bibles” to illustrated nursery rhymes. The earliest piece of block printing to which an accurate date can be ascribed—a Japanese wooden block print from about 770 AD—is a miniature scroll and part of the Lilly Library’s collections. A miniature book is usually considered to be one that is no more than three inches in size—height, width or thickness. Some collectors do occasionally acquire slightly larger books.

The Rare Books & Special Collections Department also has a wealth of miniature books in its collection, a few of which will be displayed alongside its exhibit Dictionaries: Find the Word. For more information, call (513) 369-6957.
Poetry Month

Celebrate National Poetry Month in April
Rhyme and rhythm are two keys to writing poetry. Powerful poems and shared readings are two keys to celebrating National Poetry Month. Established by the Academy of American Poets as a month-long, national celebration of poetry, April brings out the best poetry has to offer. While talented poets across the nation are being featured at various venues, Cincinnati is fortunate to have a great wealth of poets and literary locals willing to help the Library celebrate by sharing their expressive works.

For Adults
The popular Poetry in the Garden series returns this year on Wednesdays in April at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library’s Reading Garden. To commemorate National Poetry Month, two talented poets from the Tristate area will read from their work and share their experiences each week during the month. For more details on their impressive literary backgrounds, pick up a Poetry in the Garden brochure at any of the Library’s 42 locations. Meet the following poets on:

- April 4  – Leslie Jenike & Matt Hart
- April 11 – David Shumate & Joanie Mackowski
- April 18 – Jillian Weise & Rhonda Pettit
- April 25 – Lisa Williams & Jamey Dunham

For Teens
During the third week of April, the Children’s Book Council, in collaboration with the American Academy of Poets (sponsor of National Poetry Month) and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, sponsors Young People’s Poetry Week. At the Public Library, teens can commit random acts of poetry by entering a contest to showcase their poetry. Write a poem and enter to win a prize:

- What: A poem. You can type or handwrite your poem, but no electronic submissions will be accepted. Entry forms are available at all Library locations and at Teenspace.CincinnatiLibrary.org. Limit four entries per person.
- When: April 1–30.
- Where: Any Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County location.
- Prizes: Members of the Library’s Official Teen Advisory Board will select the winners. A first place prizewinner will be selected from entries submitted by ages 12–14 and also from entries submitted by ages 15–18, with honorable mentions also awarded.

The Children’s Theatre of Cincinnati Presents The Ugly Duckling
The Children’s Theatre of Cincinnati will present The Ugly Duckling at Madeira Branch Library on Saturday, April 21 at 1:30 p.m. Based on Hans Christian Andersen’s classic story, The Ugly Duckling follows a poor little swan as he grows up “ugly” in a family of ducks before realizing his full potential. The classic we all grew up with offers a wonderful lesson on overcoming adversity and understanding and accepting each other’s differences.

Local Artists’ Books on View Through June 6
When are books more than books? When they’re artists’ books purposely designed to be part book, part art. One recent addition to the Library’s collection is Omniana by local artist and Library employee, Aaron Delamatre. This interactive artist’s book is actually a game where players use their imagination to creatively debate battles between fantastical and strange characters in both exotic and normal locations.

Through the years the Library has acquired over 250 artists’ books in all shapes, sizes and designs. Some are one-of-a-kind creations that are handbound. Some are printed and come in multiple copies. Others are interactive like Omniana, which according to Mr. Delamatre is meant to connect individuals with art and literature through an experience.

This spring, Thinking Outside the Book: Local Artists’ Books from the Collection of the Art & Music Department will showcase 40 works by 30 local artists from April 2 through June 6.
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 the 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 of $25 or more were received between November 18 and February 13.

**Gifts to the Foundation**

**$50,000+**
- Estate of Norma Holt

**$40,000**
- Anderson Township Library Association

**Benefactor $5,000+**
- Alison & Christopher Beall in memory of Willa Busch Beall
- Mrs. Robert M. Bergstein

**Fellow $2,500+**
- Federated Department Stores
- Steven L. Selss

**Partner $1,000+**
- Anonymous donation
- Amy Banister & Carl Stich
- Noel & Joseph Dehner
- Cathy & Thomas Huenefeld in honor of Sylvia Metzinger
- Mr. & Mrs. David Lopez
- Dr. Ferol J. Menzel
- North Side Bank & Trust Company
- Robert H. & Nancy Lee W. Preston Foundation
- Robert C. & Adele R. Schiff Foundation
- Patricia Slavey
- Estate of Jean C. Smith
- Richard & Vanessa Wayne

**Patron $500+**
- Julia Beers
- Cincinnati Mineral Society
- Suzanne F. Dunbar

**Contribution $100+**
- Kathleen Fowler
- Thomas & Grace McClure
- Pete & Ginger Strange
- Theodore & Carol Striker
- Mr. Jerry A. Weiner in memory of Elaine Weiner
- Dennis B. & Patricia L. Worthen Fund

**Sustaining $250+**
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**Contributor $100+**
- Cheryl C. Albrecht & James W. Clasper
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- American Railroadiana Historical Society
- Dana M. Barker
- Fritz & Mary Jo Bazeley
- John & Elizabeth Betagole
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- James & Mary Brady
- Norman S. & Miriam Clerman
- Cornelius X. Coyle
- Robert & Janet Curley

**Louis M. Dauner**
- Robert & Mary Ann Faelten
- William & Diane Forwood
- Jeffrey & Martha Gendell
- Paul C. Keidel
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- Bruce & Nancy Lanphear
- Bea Larsen
- Karen Larsen
- Ralph F. Mazer
- Eileen & Robert McCarthy
- Duncan & Rosalind Moir
- Vicki Newell
- Donna & Mark Patterson
- Gary & Carla Rahn
- Richard A. Ryan
- Barbara Seiver
- Martha Stimson
- Marilyn & William Thiemann
- Richard & Janet Todd

The Pleasant Ridge Community Council Library Committee donated new bookcases to the Pleasant Ridge Branch Library as part of its ongoing project to improve and preserve the branch. The group, founded in 2005, consists of current and former Pleasant Ridge residents who are working with Library officials for a 1,100 square foot addition and elevator. Last fall the group relandscaped the branch exterior. Volunteers Ilene Hodesh and Sherri Demyan are shown with Pleasant Ridge Branch Manager David Dukart and Children’s Librarian Charlene Bandurraga-Hole. Other volunteers (not shown) who assisted in the packing/unpacking of the books include: Jeanette Bronson, John & Beth Finn, Kathy & Jay Freeman, Mary Anne Phalen, Julia Stegmaier, and Lin Weikert.
thanks to...

Rosalie P. Van Nuis
William W. Victor
Mark Watkins
Dan Zavon
Robert & Mary Zumbiel

Bookworm $50+
Ellen Harte Baker
A. Eugene & Mary F. Bertke
Robert L. Collins
Stephen L. Cox
Susan Einbinder
Jan Eischen
Constance Elsaesser
Mrs. Lillian K. Feld in memory of Herman Feld
Mary & Charles Ficker
June A. Greensmith
Barbara Heldman
Rob & April Hopkin
Howard & Susan Jackson
Mara Jauntrains & Brian Smith
Anne Tracy Koenig
Sue Kues
Elaine Liller
Madeira Woman’s Club
Tina Messerschmidt
Carmen Precht
Wolf Roder
Lucile Ryan
Robert & Kathy Saul
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Stein
Paul & Donna Thie
Bethany A. Thomas
Brenda Wallace
Kenneth & Elizabeth Weartz
Richard C. Witte

Browser $25+
Shirlee C. Bloom
Lydia F. Brinker
Mr. & Mrs. Michael A. Connelly
Jim & Jane Dean
Esther R. Dine
Dolores D. Dixon
Dorothy Ellison
Beverly Hafemeister
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Gifts in Memory of Charles W. Anness
Mr. Bruce M. Allman & Ms. Laurie J. Nicholson
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Mrs. Martha G. Anness
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Mr. & Mrs. Gary M. Jouris
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Mr. James R. Kelley

Blue Ash Branch Manager Bob Burdick (right) is shown with District Governor Bernhard Bieri of the Blue Ash Lions Club.

Gift from Local Lions Club Will Assist Visually Impaired Readers
The Blue Ash Branch Library now has a new computer workstation to assist individuals who are visually impaired, thanks to the Blue Ash Lions Club. The system enlarges normal printed material up to 36 times and displays it on a large 22-inch flat panel monitor, and also includes a large print keyboard. Branch staff will provide training on the system on Mondays at 2:00 p.m., Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m., and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Call (513) 369-6051 to set up an appointment.

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce M. Allman
Mr. & Mrs. James R. Andre
Mrs. Martha G. Anness
Mrs. Doris J. Atteberry
Mr. & Mrs. Marc E. Baverman
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Bloom
Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Crosset
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Mr. James R. Kelley
While celebrating Rufus the Reading Dog’s first birthday, kids enjoyed making doggie crafts and eating ice cream cake courtesy of Cold Stone Creamery at the Clifton Branch Library. It was one of 17 different birthday parties hosted by at various Library locations throughout March. Through a partnership with Cold Stone Creamery kids became Rufus Readers and received prizes, such as coupons for free ice cream and pawprint magnets, for completing “Doggone Fun Trivia” sheets to help them learn how to use the Library. Cold Stone also awarded two grand prizewinners an ice cream party of their own.

Pet Memorials
Becky Gigliotti & Dave Robertson in memory of their cat Misty
Carolyn Gutjahr in memory of Janice Kagermeier’s dog Grover & Connie & Vince Lasorso’s dog Annie
Janice Kagermeier, Mary Sanker & John Valauri in memory of Janet Wiehe’s cat Casey
Knuth Family in memory of Mary Knuth’s dog Robin
Lesley Kroeger in memory of Kim Routh’s cat Dan Man
Linda Matthews in memory of Tobin C. Gardner’s cat Boomer & Regan Thomas’ cat Bruce
Jim Moll in memory of Gloria McConnaghy’s cat Chloe
Oak Crest Animal Hospital in memory of John Dana’s cat Lucy, Darlene Frickman’s cat Tigger, Doreen Hellin’s dog Ginger, Elizabeth Naber’s cat Miss Kitty, Linda Schnurr Family’s cat Zack, Jenna Schnurr & Aaron Wallingford’s cat Neptune, Helen Siemers’ cat Tiger & Angela Terranova’s cat Shadow
Main Library to Host Summer Enrichment Fair on March 31

It’s been proven! Summer programs offer children more opportunity to make new friends, while they explore, create, discover, and learn. Kids who stay mentally active during the summer start school prepared to learn. To get an idea of all sorts of fun learning opportunities for kids come the Library’s first Summer Enrichment Fair to be held at the Main Library on Saturday, March 31 from 1:30-4:00 p.m.

View dozens of booths sponsored by organizations that provide summer enrichment opportunities and pick-up free information on summer camps and workshops. Fun activities for the kids will also be provided to help them enjoy the afternoon, too. Find the perfect fit for your child’s interest: academic, health & fitness, performance & visual arts, science & nature, specials needs, and more. $1 parking all day Saturday at the Garfield Garage, ½ block from the Main Library on 9th Street. For more information call the Library’s Literacy Coordinator at (513) 369-4570.

Named Gift Opportunities Now Available

Some gifts don’t last a lifetime. They last several lifetimes. This is true of recently approved Named Gift Opportunities that allow you to support the Library in a meaningful way and receive permanent recognition for you, a loved one, or your organization. With a special gift to the Library, you can create a lasting tribute to a loved one, ensuring that their name becomes part of the fabric of a premier national institution that changes lives every day. Donors may name endowments for programs, technology enhancement, collection development, and physical spaces at the Main Library and branch libraries. Named Gift Opportunities are offered at many levels of giving, from $50,000 for portions of branch libraries or special areas within departments to several million dollars for a major architectural area or feature at the Main Library.

Over three million people pass through the Library’s doors annually, making these naming opportunities highly visible. There has never been a better time for a named gift as the Main Library is being completely reorganized as part of ML/21. This exciting new service model is customer-focused, designed specifically for today’s users, and emphasizes convenience and increased access to a broad spectrum of technology. Key changes being implemented are the creation of expanded children’s services with Homework Central, a Teen Center, Study Areas, Popular Library, Genealogy & Local History Department, Technology Center, and more.

You are encouraged to work with the Library Foundation to create naming opportunities that might be more closely aligned with your special areas of interest. All naming opportunities are subject to Library Board approval. To learn more, please contact John Reusing, Development Director, at (513) 369-4591.

Used Book Sale at St. Bernard Branch Library May 12

Don’t miss the first used book sale at the St. Bernard Branch Library on Saturday, May 12 from 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., sponsored by the Friends of the Public Library! A portion of the proceeds directly benefits the branch. Books are priced from fifty cents, with a great selection of children’s books, hardback and paperback books. Payment can be made by cash, check, MasterCard or Visa. Information: (513) 369-4462 or (513) 369-6035. Online: http://friends.cincinnatilibrary.org/.
children’s book day

Celebrate El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros—April 22-29

El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros or Children’s Book Day is an exciting bilingual literacy fiesta presented in partnership with Cincinnati’s public library along with public libraries in Kenton, Campbell & Boone counties (Northern Kentucky) and Clermont County (Ohio). Now in its third year, this regional, week-long celebration embraces all cultures and celebrates literacy in all languages. El Dia gives children and their families an opportunity to meet an award winning, bilingual book author or illustrator, while enjoying a wide variety of multi-cultural activities and shared learning experiences. Children’s book illustrator Susan Guevara will speak and share her books noted for their portrayal of the Latino culture at libraries on both sides of the river during the week of April 22—29. Log on to www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/ElDia for more details.

Main El Dia Event—Sunday, April 29, 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Main Library, downtown Cincinnati

Activities will include:
• Free books for kids (while they last)
• Continuous bilingual story times (featuring English, Spanish, German, French, Japanese, Chinese, & more)
• Activity & craft tables; piñatas with Airheads candies
• Children’s book illustrator Susan Guevara
• Cincinnati Family Magazine Fun Booth
• Emcee Jorge Benedetti from the Spanish Journal
• Community & local celebrity readers
• Salsa instruction & music
• WARM 98 Radio “WARM Wheels” Van & Prize Booth
• Kroger snacks & Chiquita bananas

Special Thanks To: Chiquita Brands International, Cincinnati Family Magazine, Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Kroger Food Stores, Perfetti Van Melle “Airheads” Candies, Spanish Journal, and WARM 98 Radio for their support. Other El Dia Partners: Boone County Adult Education, Boone County Public Library, Campbell County Public Library, Children, Inc., Cincinnati Family Magazine, Cincinnati Kings, Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Clermont County Public Library, Game Day Communications, Kenton County Adult Education, Kenton County Public Library, Lane Library, Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, Santa Maria Community Services, Warm 98