

# Between Friends

## Newsletter of the Friends of the Library

Winter 2009



### In this Issue:

- Power of Words .....p. 2
- New Members .....p. 3
- MCPL Logo .....p. 4
- Book Drive .....p. 4
- Holiday Sale .....p. 5
- Meet the Author .....p. 6

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MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

303 E. Kirkwood Ave.  
Bloomington, IN 47408  
(812) 349-3050  
www.mcpl.info/friends

### From the Director

Sara Laughlin, *MCPL Director*

This is the time of year when my thoughts turn to reflecting on what we've accomplished and what's ahead for next year. When I make a list of highlights, I notice that the Friends of the Library has played a role in every one.

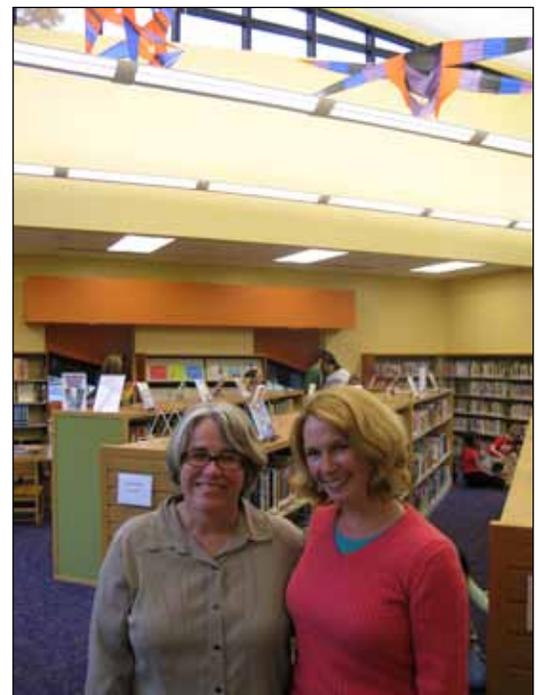
On October 22, we celebrated the opening of the new children's room at the Ellettsville Branch, a warm and light-filled space that was immediately taken over by the children, who curled up with books in the window seats, played educational games on the computers, built towers with blocks and pieced puzzles. As with any building project, this one was dependent on a large group of people and organizations for its success. We owe thanks to Ellettsville children and families whose heavy use justified the addition; the Monroe County Council, which funded the project over two years; the Library Board, which dedicated hours of meetings and discussion; architects Odle McGuire Shook who created an interesting and practical space; our staff which took up every challenge with their usual aplomb; and the Friends of the Library. At the very first meeting to brainstorm ideas for the new space, the Ellettsville staff pointed to the beautiful kites in the branch and suggested they'd like to have more kites by Ellettsville kitemaker Julie Johnson in the new children's room. The architects embraced the theme and used it to shape the roof and the windows in the reading nooks. The staff requested funding from the Friends to purchase the three purple and orange kites that now hang in the new space. Everyone who enters says "Wow."

The Friends also generously supported our staff development. Every year on Columbus Day, we close the Library so that our staff can meet together, learn something new, and be recognized for their service. This year, we focused on one of the objectives in our strategic plan – improving service to people with "differabilities." The staff attended sessions led by experts from Centerstone, Stone Belt ARC, Indiana Department of Child Services, South Central Community Action Program, and the Library's own security staff. They kept up with changing times in sessions about time and print management software, Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), Drupal open-source for the Library's intranet, and sustainable

library facilities. And it wasn't all work. 150 staff members enjoyed a tasty lunch and ordered t-shirts sporting the new Library logo, both provided by the Friends. We owe special thanks to the Friends volunteers who made coffee and served lunch so the staff could attend sessions.

Friends staff development support also allowed us to send eight employees to the Indiana Library Association conference. Circulation staff Jennifer Kellams, Mary Loro, Edwin Fallwell, and Jared Thompson joined director Sara Laughlin in presenting three process improvements to a standing-room-only audience. Christine Friesel also made a presentation on the Library's digitization of Matthews Stone Company archives.

The children's department of the Main Library is now operating from the first floor meeting rooms, while we replace carpet and make some other renovations. The parking lot has been torn up and put back together to accommodate moving the drive-up window, adding a "lay-by" for drop off and pick up, and adding three additional spaces. Through all these activities, we love knowing that our Friends are standing by to offer support and encouragement. ■



Ellettsville Manager, Mickey Needham with kitemaker Julie Johnson in the new Ellettsville Children's room.



## 2009 Power of Words Bragg Draws Large Crowd “A Stunning Evening”

Sara Laughlin, MCPL Director

As I write this, just after our second-ever “Power of Words” event featuring Rick Bragg, I’m still glowing. On November 14, 350 people enjoyed an evening with Bragg at the Buskirk-Chumley Theater, where he read from his best-selling books and spun stories in the best Southern tradition. His presentation was by turns hilarious, irreverent, and deeply moving. I have a new appreciation for spareness. And for the power of words to change the world.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the members of the Friends author event committee, who worked for two years to find an author and an audience and raise the funding to support the event. Sue Sater and Mary Jean Regoli provided superb coordination of all the details required by an undertaking on this scale. Dana Burton and Karen Franks, ably assisted by Margaret



Harter and John Berry, implemented a masterful awareness and promotional campaign that created buzz about Bragg in our community and beyond. Jeanne Madison coordinated with IU Continuing Studies to offer a class called “Poverty and the Power of Words,” which informed and prepared 32 participants for the event. Wendy Rubin and Dory Lynch starred in a discussion of Bragg’s books that aired on CATS. Comcast featured Jean Schelm in a television PSA. Charlotte Zietlow and Toby Strout met Bragg at the airport. Amal Altoma, Johnnie Brantley, and Becky Hrisomalos hosted an elegant reception where ticket-



holders met Bragg and continued their discussion of his books while sipping champagne and eating Southern-themed hors d’oeuvres. Dana Burton, Karen Franks, Sara Laughlin, Patty Pizzo, and Denise Shockley assisted with fund raising. And many others, inside the Library and out, volunteered their time and contributed money or services. We couldn’t have done it without each and every one.

We wanted to create a visible community of readers. I believe we’ve done that, with the help of our Friends. ■

## Thank You! 2009 Power of Words Sponsors

Johnnie and Bert Brantley  
Bill C Brown Associates,  
-Ron Remak, General Agent  
Bunger and Robertson  
Jim and Dana Burton  
CATS  
City of Bloomington Buskirk-Chumley  
Theater Grant Program  
Steven and Karen Franks  
Dr. Frank and Becky Hrisomalos  
Indiana Arts Commission  
Tim and Sara Laughlin  
Learning Treasures  
Joe and Bess Lee  
May Agency  
McDonald’s Restaurants  
Monroe County Public Library Staff Association  
Nolan’s Lawn Care  
Old National Bank  
Ron and Regan Plecher  
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Showers Inn  
Gary Steigerwald  
Susan Thrasher  
T.I.S. Group  
United Commerce Bank  
John Walsh  
WFIU

## Supporters

Aver’s Pizza  
Bloom Magazine  
Bloomington Bagel Company  
Bucceto’s Smiling Teeth  
Buskirk-Chumley Theater  
Cafe Django  
DeAngelo’s  
I.U. Bloomington Continuing Studies  
Le Petit Café  
Marsh Supermarkets  
Antonia Matthew  
Nick’s English Hut  
Panera Bread  
Ragazzi Arte Café  
Runcible Spoon  
Village Deli  
Yogi’s Grill and Bar

Special thanks to MCPL Staff whose talent, dedication and support is deeply appreciated.

## Library Praised for Power of Words

I continue to read Rick Bragg’s books and am growing in my admiration of his writing and ability to move forward with his life. Thanks so much for giving me and others the opportunity to participate in what was a wonderful continuing education project.  
—Beverly Martin, Johnson County Public Library Director

What a fabulous program you put on Saturday night with Rick Bragg... What I was able to be a part of Saturday was true community in Bloomington—all classes, many beliefs, gathered in one place to hear of life in another place (which happens to bear some resemblance to Bloomington). Your vision of a library that does much more than house books is apparent—you’ve made it a place for all, one that encourages lively discussion and differences of opinion. Thank you for the tremendous impact you are having on our community. —Kerry Thomson, Monroe County Habitat for Humanity

**Our Mission: The Monroe County Library Foundation supports and advocates for the patrons and staff of the Library by enhancing Library collections and facilities, and by contributing to Library programming and professional staff development.**



## Welcome New Friends!

The Board of Directors extends their heartfelt thanks to all of our current Friends of the Library members and donors who give so generously to support our mission to make our library a vital part of our community. The board welcomes our newest Friends, who are first time members since June, 2009.

### New Members

Sinéad Abbott-McCloud  
John Baumert  
Miki Bird  
Donald and Kay Cunningham  
Lisa and Jack Deinlein  
Edgar and Elinor DeJean  
Luann Dillon  
Micheline Fleurant  
Kathy Galimore  
Anne Z Hasiuk  
Sophia Hauserman

Katherine A Hopkins  
Eric and Kari Isaacson  
Judith M Jacobs  
Karisha Kirk  
Susan M Klein  
Nancy Lair  
Michel S Mackall  
Michelle Martin-Colman  
Marcia Meyer  
Sarah Morin  
Myerson-Dove Family

Sherri Osteen  
Linda Simon and David Sabbagh  
Rod Stark  
Dale Steffey Books  
Robert and Virginia Stockton  
Strategic Development Group, Inc.

### Donations

Danny and Patty Callison  
Harriet and Bill Fierman

Mary E Gaither  
Preston Gwinn  
Lisa Champelli and Christopher Jackson  
M O'Connell  
Ron Pennington  
Bill Richards, Northwestern  
Mutual Financial Network  
Linda Simon and David Sabbagh  
Judy Schroeder and Ed Mongoven  
John Vint  
Barbara Wilcox

## Thank you Volunteers

Thank you to the many volunteers who help the Friends in our bookstore, in our office, with our book drives, clearance sales, and with our special events. Thank you to all of you who volunteer at the library. Did you know that over 200 people volunteer their time in the library?

**We couldn't do it without you!**

Thank you for your support! If you have not renewed your membership for 2010, please use the form on the back of this newsletter.

We strive for accuracy in our records. Kindly contact us via e-mail <FOL@mcpl.info> or by phone <812-349-3050, ext. 1080> regarding incorrect listings.



*Ned Baugh, Jane Ruddick, Dirk Fraser, Chris Jackson, Jessica Berndt, Claire Clark, Stephanie Holman, and Phil Eskew (not pictured: Joshua Brewer, Donna Brosman, and Wendy Rubin) were honored for their service, ranging from 5 to 35 years, to Monroe County Public Library, on Staff Day, October 12, 2009.*

The richest person in the world - in fact all the riches in the world - couldn't provide you with anything like the endless, incredible loot available at your local library. —*Malcolm Forbes*

## New MCPL Logo

Margaret Harter, *Community Relations Coordinator*

Have you noticed the new MCPL logo on some of our posters and program guides as you visit the library? It debuted with the staff in August, and was presented to the MCPL Board of Trustees in September, and then to the Friends Board in October. Although we're being low key about transitioning to the new logo over the next months, we're very excited about our new visual identity and the possibilities it offers the library.



The logo was designed by a local professional graphic designer, Lee Busick, who was selected through a competitive (RFP) process. We asked him to keep the green color and some version or aspect of a tree, as our community has grown to associate these with the library, and they remain full of meaning for our mission. We challenged Lee to not only update the logo, but to go beyond our Mission to our Library Vision:

*"To be a dynamic library, essential to thoughtful, productive community life, and always meeting our community's evolving needs."*

And we think he nailed it! The bright green, the shape and movement in the tree, and the bold "mcpl" connects our physical library and our website ([www.mcpl.info](http://www.mcpl.info)), which is integral to current and future library service. The logo visually connects all parts of the library.

We also asked the graphic designer to solve some of the problems of the previous logo. Foremost was that it was not adaptable to different formats and sizes. Our new logo is very scalable. It works small. It will look terrific billboard size on a new Bookmobile. It can stand alone, with "mcpl," or with the full name of the library. It can even

be animated for television or Web. Our Logo Team included the staff of Community Relations, the Web Administrator, and the CATS production manager, who all made sure that the logo met the needs of today's print, Web, and television.



Both CATS (Community Access Television) and VITAL (Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners) have long established identities in the community. Their logos have also been updated. For the first time, the library now has a family of logos that can be effectively used together or separately.

We think our new visual identity reflects our forward-moving library and innovative, creative staff. Our library is about transforming lives, nothing less. It was time to transform our logo to match.



If you have questions about the new logo or want to give us your comments, please send them to [cr@mcpl.info](mailto:cr@mcpl.info). ■

## Holiday Closings

*Please remember, Monroe County Public Library will be closed on:*

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>  
(close at 6 p.m.)

Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010

Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

## Fall Book Drive a Success!

Many thanks to all of you who donated books, music and movies during our Fall Book Drive at both the Main Library and Ellettsville Branch. Share your love of literature with others by donating titles year round. Another bargain hunter might give them a new home. Your generosity will help support the library and the many programs the Friends of the Library provide. Bring your books to the Friends Bookstore or to any circulation desk any time they are open. We will have another **Book Drive on May 1, 2010** for those who appreciate curb-side service. Support the Friends and your library by sharing your books. ■



*The Lost Shoe String Band including library staff members Mark Blackwell, Burl Cooper, Addie Hirschten and Joe Langfitt entertained guests at the reception for Rick Bragg.*



## Holiday Sale at the Bookstore!

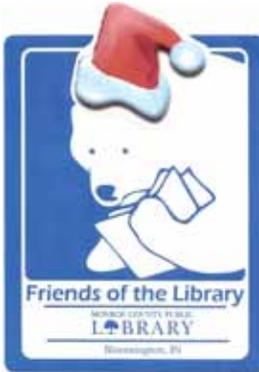
The Friends Bookstore is making

your holiday shopping easy.

All Friends merchandise has been reduced in price just for the holidays.

Grab a Friends backpack and

some great books, music, or videos for the children and teens on your list. Teachers and grandparents will love the Friends note cards. Go green, and get a sturdy canvas tote to carry all your books from the library. Show your support of the Friends of the Library with a T-shirt or baseball cap. While you're shopping, don't forget to pick up some great winter reading for yourself. Save even more when you use the coupon below just for Friends members! ■



## Friends Gift Items



Baseball Cap.....\$8.....SAVE \$2



Adult T-shirt .....\$8.....SAVE \$2



Child's T-shirt .....\$6.....SAVE \$2



Nylon Backpack .....\$6 .....SAVE \$2



Canvas Totebag .....\$15.....SAVE \$5



Note Cards.....\$5.....SAVE \$1

## Clearance Sale!

The next Bookstore Clearance Sale will be April 16-19, 2010. Don't miss the great bargains!

Forty volunteers helped us raise \$3,928 at the September sale. If you are interested in helping to set up or working at the sale, please contact Barbara Wilcox at wilcox@indiana.edu ■

My best friend is a person who will give me a book I have not read.  
—Abraham Lincoln

## Bookstore Hours

Tuesdays.....9 am–7 pm

Thursdays.....Noon–7 pm

Saturdays.....Noon–5 pm

The Friends Bookstore is located on the first floor of Monroe County Public Library, at the back of Movies and Music. ■

**\$1 Off**

## Friends of the Library Bookstore Coupon

**\$1 Off**



\$1 off any Friends merchandise in the Friends of the Library Bookstore.

*Expires January 30, 2010*

## Meet the Author

Author Michael Shelden entertained Friends with his stories about Mark Twain at our annual meeting in June. His much anticipated biography, *Mark Twain: The Man in White* will be available at the end of January. Shelden focuses on the last four years of Twain's life, a time when Twain began wearing white suits. Shelden will be available to sign copies at **2 pm on Saturday, February 13, 2010 in Room 2B** at the Main Library. The Friends will have copies of the book for sale. Proceeds will support the Friends. From the book jacket:



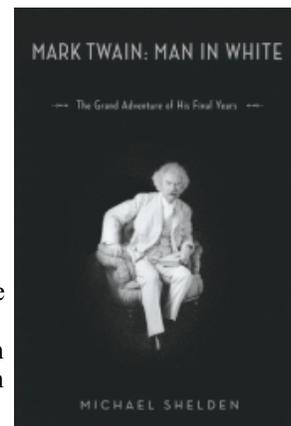
One day in late 1906, seventy-one-year-old Mark Twain attended a meeting on copyright law at the Library of Congress. The arrival of the famous author caused the usual stir—but then Twain took off his overcoat to reveal a “snow-white” tailored suit and scandalized the room. His shocking outfit appalled and delighted his contemporaries, but far more than that, as Pulitzer Prize finalist Michael Shelden shows in this wonderful new biography, Twain had brilliantly staged this act of showmanship to cement his image, and his personal legend, in the public's imagination. That afternoon in Washington, less than four years before his death, marked the beginning of a vibrant, tumultuous period in Twain's life that would shape much of the now-famous image by which he has come to be known—American's indomitable icon, the Man in White.

Although Mark Twain has long been one of our most beloved literary figures—*Time* magazine has declared him

I like stories well told. That is the reason I am sometimes forced to tell them myself. —Mark Twain

“our original superstar”—his final years have been largely misunderstood. Despite family tragedies, Twain's last half-decade was among the most dynamic periods in the author's life. With the spirit and vigor of a man fifty years younger, he continued to stir up trouble, perfecting his skill for living large. Writing ceaselessly and always ready with one of his legendary quips, Twain would risk his fortune, become the willing victim of a lost-at-sea hoax, and pick fights with King Leopold of Belgium and Mary Baker Eddy.

Drawing on a number of unpublished sources, including Twain's own journals, letters, and a revealing four-hundred-page personal account kept under wraps for decades...*Mark Twain: Man in White* brings the legendary author's twilight years vividly to life offering surprising insights, including an intimate, tender look at his family life. Filled with first-rate scholarship, rare and never-published Twain photos, delightful anecdotes, and memorable quotes...this definitive biography of Twain's last years provides a remarkable portrait of the man himself and of the unforgettable era in American letters that, in many ways, he helped to create. ■



# Friends of the Library

## 2010 Membership Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please print name as it should appear in our publications)*

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*(to receive special advocacy and event notices)* w09nl

- We would like to list Friends' members annually, in our newsletter. Please check the box if you **DO NOT** wish to be listed.
- I would like a free book bag with my membership donation.

### Please tell us about yourself *(Check all that apply)*

- New Member     Renewing Member
- I am MCPL staff     I am an MCPL volunteer
- Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

These are the library services that I use:     Main Library     VITAL  
 Ellettsville Library     Bookmobile     Library Website     CATS TV

### Annual Membership Type Please check one:

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Benefactor \$1000
- Benefactor \$500
- Patron \$250
- Supporting \$100
- Business \$100
- Sustaining \$50
- Individual/Family \$25
- Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Donation

- I would like to make a donation to the Friends. \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to support the Friends Power of Words author event \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please make your check payable to Friends of the Library and mail to:

303 E Kirkwood Ave  
Bloomington IN 47408

### Thank you!

The Friends of the Library is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. All membership donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.