

AMONG FRIENDS

Published by Friends of the West Slope Community Library

Fall/Winter - November 2016

Edited by Kristin Webb



Election Day Tuesday November 8, 2016

Our Nation is ramping up for Election Day, coming up November 8th. Please make sure you are registered to vote, and to get your ballots in on time for this very important election. If you are not sure if you are registered, you can check this site to confirm: <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/orestar/vr/showVoterSearch.do?lang=eng&source=SOS>

The West Slope Library has a ballot box ready and available now, so please bring your ballots to the library and drop them off. For more information on locations to drop off your ballots, please go to this site and enter your registered voting address for the location most convenient for you. <http://sos.oregon.gov/voting/Pages/drop-box-locator.aspx>

Is Your Friends Membership Current?

Dear Friends of West Slope Community Library - Please check your newsletter label to see whether your membership is current or has expired - the expiration date is highlighted in yellow. There are two paths to Friends membership: annual dues (\$15 for individuals, \$20 for families, \$50 for patrons), or 20 or more hours of library volunteer time each year. As you know, the Friends provide dollars for library programs, including Summer Reading and much more, as well as funding for computers and furniture so that our library can spend county dollars on enhanced operating services for all of us. If your membership has lapsed, we hope that you choose to renew! Payment may be mailed to the library at 3678 SW 78th Ave, Portland, OR, 97225, or turned in to staff at the front desk. Thank you, Friends!

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:30am - 8:00pm Friday - Saturday: 9:30am - 4:00pm Sunday: Closed

Board Games

PJ Bentley

A recent article in *The Guardian* titled “The Rise and Rise of Tabletop Games” details the exploding growth of the modern board gaming hobby, which has gone way beyond Monopoly and Scrabble. If you’ve ever wanted to try a modern designer board game but didn’t know where to start, **join us for one of our monthly game nights.**

At **First Thursday Game Night**, Kirsten hosts kids and families who want to play board games and video games. They often play fun dexterity games and classics.

At **Last Tuesday Game Night**, PJ hosts games for adults, teens, and older children. Every month, players bring games to share or pick from the library’s collection, and PJ teaches a featured game.

Can’t make it to a game night? Drop by the library and **browse our collection.** (Ask for PJ if you want help choosing!)

International Games Day

Mark your calendars for another fun day at the library! **Saturday, November 19 is International Games Day** at the library. Play board and card games all day throughout the library and enter our board game giveaway!

Next door at **Raleigh Park Elementary at 12:00pm**, we will host our 3rd annual **Make & Play Game Design Workshop** for all ages. High quality board game components will be provided for you to design and make your own board game. **Whatever you design is yours to keep!** Staff and volunteers will be on hand to play-test and help guide you through the game design process.



Curated Booklists

Every month, West Slope Library staff curate a list of “must read” books on a certain topic and publish it as a newsletter for over 250 email subscribers. If you haven’t signed up, you’re missing out! Past topics have included Get Organized, Emergency Preparedness, the Olympics, and Frontier Fiction. Sign up now in order to get our November booklist, which will featured books about puzzles, games, and play.

To subscribe, go to: www.westslopelibrary.org/subscribe

Picture Book:

***Thunder Boy Jr.* by Sherman Alexie, illustrated by Yuyi Morales**

Thunder Boy Jr. doesn't like having the same name as his father. His dad is nicknamed Big Thunder, which sounds booming and majestic, while he is called Little Thunder, which he worries makes him sound like a burp, or worse, a fart. As he comes up with alternative names, he figures out more and more about his identity, until at the end, with the support of his family, he is able to emerge from his father's shadow with a new name uniquely his own. Humorous and charming, this book is noted author Sherman Alexie's first book for young children. Hopefully, the first of many.

Juvenile Book:

***The Seventh Most Important Thing* by Shelly Pearsall**

Arthur T. Owens impulsively lashes out in grief and anger when he sees a local trash picker wearing his late father's hat, resulting in injury to the man. However, rather than see him sent into juvenile detention, it's the junk man himself who offers Arthur a chance at redemption: 120 hours of community service...working for him. Given a list of seven important things to collect, Arthur comes to realize that there's more to this "junk man" than meets the eye, and that the trash he's collecting is being transformed into something wonderful. Inspired by the life of street artist James Hampton, whose masterpiece *The Throne of the Third Heaven* is now owned by the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Young Adult Book:

***Nimona* by Noelle Stevenson**

Nemeses! Dragons! Science! Symbolism! Nimona, a young and impulsive shapeshifter, joins up with Lord Ballister Blackheart, a "villain" with a mission. Together, supervillain and sidekick need to prove to the kingdom that former childhood friend Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his pals at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't actually the heroes that everyone thinks they are. An action-packed rescue story with lots of heart.

Schedule for Youth Services Programs

- Book Babies: Wednesdays at 10:15-10:45 a.m.
- Toddler Time: Tuesdays at 10:15-10:45 a.m.
- Preschool Storytime: Wednesdays at 1:30-2:00 p.m.
- Family Game Night: 1st Thursday at 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Crafts for Kids: 3rd Saturday, 12:30-2:30 drop-in

Special programs coming in the next few months:

Look for Movie Matinees on days when school is not in session. Thanks

to movie licenses paid for by the Friends, we can show movies from many studios on our high-definition TV. We'll even provide popcorn!

Our Read to the Dogs program continues to build reading confidence for beginning readers. Children can sign up to read to trained therapy dog Ellie, a happy yellow lab, in a relaxed, non-judgmental environment. 15-minute sessions are available on two Mondays per month; call the library to reserve your spot.

Check out what we have going on over the winter school break! We'll have solstice crafts, movie matinees, and lots of games to play and puzzles to do.



Children's Information cont...

Summer Reading Update

The themes for summer reading this year were *On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!* for youth, and *Get in the Game... Read!* for teens. To finish the youth program, children had to complete 20 units of reading. Units were 15 minutes, 1 book, or 1 hour, depending on the program and the material read. Teens had to read five books to complete their program, and both programs allowed participants to get credit for any extra reading that they completed.

Registrations were up compared to last year, and the finishing rate went up, too. This year, we had a total of 621 children and teens signing up for summer reading (an increase of 2%) of which 315 completed the program, which is a finishing rate of almost 51%. (Last year, the finishing rate was 46%).

Our summer reading program relied on generous support from donors, in particular, the Friends of the West Slope Community Library, who paid for the printing of the reading logs, the signup incentive materials, the drawing prizes for teens, as well as for some of the supplies for our summer craft and activity programs. In addition, this year, the Friends provided the special grand prize of a gift subscription to the Oregon Children's Theater. The recipient of this prize was very excited to win! Many thanks to the Friends for their support of summer reading!

Thanks also to our local Raleigh Hills Starbucks store, Postal Annex, and as always, to Washington County Cooperative Library Services for providing us with terrific performers.

Summer Reading Statistics in Brief:

Signups

155 Read-to-Me
403 Independent Reader
63 Teen

Finishers:

86 Read-to-me
199 Independent Reader
30 Teen

New Book List

Janet Ross

Celebrate changing seasons in your kitchen. Try one of these new cookbooks for inspiration:

- *EveryDayCook*, by **Alton Brown**
- *Taste & technique: recipes to elevate your home cooking*, by **Naomi Pomeroy and Jamie Feldmar**.
- *How to bake everything: simple recipes for the best baking*, by **Mark Bittman**.
- *How to celebrate everything: recipes and rituals for birthdays, holidays, family dinners, and every day in between*, by **Jenny Rosenstrach**.
- *Forks over knives family: every parent's guide to raising healthy, happy kids on a whole-food, plant-based diet*, by **Alona Pulde, MD**

Every life has a story, and some of those stories are more complex, compelling, and hard to believe than others. New biographies to peruse:

- *Hitler: ascent, 1889-1939*, by **Volker Ullrich** (translated from the German by Jefferson Chase).
- *American heiress: the wild saga of the kidnapping, crimes and trial of Patty Hearst*, by **Jeffrey Toobin**.
- *Love Warrior* by **Glennon Doyle Melton**.
- *Hillbilly elegy: a memoir of a family and culture in crisis*, by **J.D. Vance**.

Adult Programs Fall/Winter 2016

Jackie Kubat



November

Wed Nov 9—Book Groups

2:00pm—Welcome to Braggsville

6:30pm—Without You There is No Us

Thurs Nov 10—Tales of Thanks—6:30pm

Local storyteller Alton Chung will make you laugh and touch your heart with stories of hope and gratitude. This is West Slope Library's 40th Anniversary event. For ages 6 and up.

Mon Nov 14—Crafters Join Knitters for Mod Podge & More 6:00pm – 8:00pm

This month, our monthly knitting group expands its creative mission to include Mod Podge crafting! We will provide lots of paper and art supplies for you to make your own unique artistic creation. Let your imagination run wild! In addition, experienced knitters will be around to provide assistance with troubleshooting knitting projects or knitting instruction. No registration required.

Tues Nov 29—Last Tues Game Night 4-8pm

Each month, we will feature a different game in the middle of the session, which we will play together as a group to help everyone learn the rules. This month's featured game will be *Red7*.



December

Wed Dec 7—Winter Concert: Portland State University Wind Symphony Musicians—6:30pm

A small group of Portland State University Wind Symphony performers will share their musical talents for a winter concert. Come and enjoy a warm cup of tea and a couple of cookies while listening to some dynamic student musicians.

Mon Dec 12—Knitting 6:30pm

Bring your knitting projects to the library! Adults and teens are welcome to drop in to learn knitting basics, to give or receive help on knitting problems, to work on knitting projects for the needy, or to simply enjoy hanging out and knitting with others.

Wed Dec 14—Book Groups

2:00pm—Hyperbole and a Half

6:30pm—The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie

Tues Dec 27—Last Tues Game Night 4-8pm

Each month, we will feature a different game in the middle of the session, which we will play together as a group to help everyone learn the rules. This month's featured game will be the card game *Rummy*, both classic versions and new variants.

Where would we be without our excellent Staff and dedicated Volunteers?

Please take a moment to thank the staff, volunteers, and our local business partners, when you see them.

A special Thanks for Becky Clark for her years of dedication and fine leadership as the President of the Friends.

- Fir Grove Garden Club for the lovely grounds
- Postal Annex: The wonderful folks who print our newsletter
- China Delight
- The Drinkery - Raleigh Hills
- Ernesto's Italian Restaurant
- Raccoon Lodge
- Raleigh Park School
- Starbucks - Raleigh Hills
- UU Yogurt - Raleigh Hills
- Valley Presbyterian Church
- Valley Cinema

