

# Friends' News

Friends of the Bellingham Public Library

April 2014

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## Mark your calendar for the Annual Friends' Meeting April 26!

All members of the Friends of the Bellingham Public Library are invited to our annual meeting, to be held this year at 10:00 AM on Saturday, April 26 in the meeting room on the ground floor of the Central Library. Following a short business meeting, renowned local author Janet Oakley will talk to us about the role of libraries in her life as a writer. Don't miss the opportunity to hear this gifted author and dynamic speaker!



## Volunteer!

Your membership in the Friends of the Bellingham Public Library (FOBPL) shows your commitment to the library, to literacy, and to our community as a vibrant place to live and work. As you know our organization runs on volunteer power. Well, we need more power! We appreciate and thank our current volunteers who enjoy the many aspects of work with the FOBPL. However, we are looking for more individuals who would be willing to share the load by giving a few hours of time. In return you receive lots of good will, positive energy, and the knowledge and satisfaction of being an active member of the Friends. Are you the person who can give a helping hand?



If you would be willing to try volunteering at our next sale, the Ski-to-Sea Sale May 21-24, our summer sale, August 21-23, or our winter sale December 3-6, please send an email as soon as possible to [friendslibrary3@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary3@gmail.com). We will then contact you, set up a date and time for you to help out, and pair you up with an experienced volunteer. We need you!

## Membership

Involvement beyond your dues is purely optional but members of the Friends continue to be very helpful. There are simple ways to help out by donating books or brown paper bags. We are hoping that more of you are willing to work a two hour shift at a book sale, provide hospitality for events or you would like to receive your next Friends newsletter by email rather than a paper copy, please let us know by phoning 360-778-7250 or emailing [friendslibrary3@gmail.com](mailto:friendslibrary3@gmail.com). Please let us know if your contact information changes.



✉ If you have a renewal envelope included with your newsletter, it is a gentle reminder to you that we have not yet received your dues for 2014. Please join at any membership level and encourage your friends to join, too. You can also pay by credit card at the Library's main desk. Please fill out the membership form completely. Additional forms can be found on the Library Website: <http://www.bellinghampubliclibrary.org/QuickLinks/friends/Friendsapplication.pdf>.

## From the President



At the University where I taught for nearly forty years, I sometimes asked students to close their eyes and imagine our campus without the state-of-the-art chemistry building, the award-winning museum, the stunning student center, and other key facilities that were so vital to students' academic and social lives. When they had made this strenuous effort of imagination, I would then explain that all of these essential facilities were made possible by gifts, large and small, from people who believed in the institution's mission.

Similarly, many improvements and enhancements in our beloved Bellingham Public Library have been made possible by the precious gift of time and effort expended by the many volunteers who help to raise funds for the Library through our Friends of the Library book sales, and who also help to plan and carry out the Library's programs that benefit the entire community. We are blessed with a spirit of giving and sharing in our community, and nowhere is it more in evidence than in the work of the Friends of the Bellingham Public Library.

There is always much to be done in the Friends' organization, and those of us who donate our time and talents here find real joy in this congenial group of volunteers. To our volunteers we express our heartfelt thanks for the part you are playing in making our library what it is; and we invite everyone in our community to join us in our work on behalf of our library. A warm welcome awaits you, and we are eager to show you how your efforts can contribute to good work that needs doing. Find out more in the section on volunteering in this Newsletter.



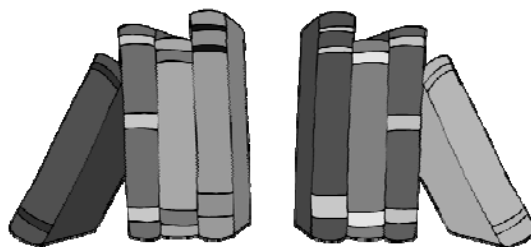
Garland Richmond  
President, FOBPL

## Upcoming Book Sale Dates

May 21 - 24, 2014

August 21 - 23, 2014

December 3 - 6, 2013




## Library Update

Now that daffodils are blooming it is difficult to remember the snowy day that heralded our main event featuring author Cheryl Strayed. We thought we might have a very low turnout but were pleasantly stunned that we had 920 folks show up at the Mount Baker Theatre to hear Cheryl. The following day we welcomed 180 people to the Cruise Terminal for an interview with Ms. Strayed, author of *Wild: from lost to found on the Pacific Crest Trail*. This year we added beautiful quilts to the array of programs, and two tasty Wild-inspired treats: ice cream at Mallard's and fudge at Paper Dreams. This was one of our most successful - and delicious - One Book, One Community programs! We are grateful for the support we receive from our Friends - you are one of our major sponsors, which helps us pay for author expenses, publicity, and much more. Seeing the Friends cool logo on everything we produce is a very satisfying feeling!

We are already busy planning programs for next year's Whatcom READS! book and author choice. We are particularly excited about this book which tells the story about the University of Washington's eight-oar crew made up of boys from logging families, the shipyards and farms here in the west and how they competed with elite eastern USA and British crews to get to the Olympics. By Daniel James Brown, *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* is a compelling story, one of those you just can't put down. The author will visit in February, 2015.



 Sunday hours have been restored as of February 2. Now open seven days a week, we should see an uptick in business this spring. Please help us spread the word about this new opportunity to READ, LEARN, MEET, and DISCOVER! A reminder though, that we are not open Sundays in the summertime, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

We have a new library trustee! The City Council approved Mayor Linville's recommendation on March 10, appointing Tom Barrett as the newest trustee for the Bellingham Public Library. Mr. Barrett has a long history of service to the city, serving on the Planning Commission, the Parks and Recreation Board, and as the Samish Neighborhood Association representative to the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Council. Mr. Barrett joins Faye Hill, J. Gordon, Marilyn Mastor, and Rachel Myers on the Board. Tom has a lifelong love of public libraries and is thrilled to have been appointed. Welcome, Tom!

Across the nation, communities will celebrate "Lives Change @ Your Library" during National Library Week, April 13-19. Both the Mayor and the County Executive have issued proclamations of support for the important place libraries have in our communities, and for the work done by libraries and their staff. Our work is a group effort with you, our Friends - we change lives at the library! Thank you for everything that you do and give back to our community.

Happy Spring - and Happy Reading!  
Pam Kiesner, Library Director

## Treasurer's Report

The Friends of the Bellingham Public Library had the following financial activity October 1, 2013 - March 31, 2014:

### Income

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Book Sales: December 2013 & March 2014 .. | \$ 21,204        |
| Nearly New Books .....                    | \$ 3,683         |
| Display Case Books .....                  | \$ 856           |
| Miscellaneous Books .....                 | \$ 684           |
| Online Book Sales .....                   | \$ 5,759         |
| Bags and Bumper Stickers .....            | \$ 941           |
| Raffle Tickets .....                      | \$ 151           |
| Membership .....                          | \$ 3,169         |
| Donations & Memorials .....               | \$ 2,149         |
| Dividends and Interest .....              | \$ 130           |
| <b>Total Income: .....</b>                | <b>\$ 38,724</b> |

### Major Expenses for the Library

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Reading Programs—Children, Teens ..... | \$ 3,891         |
| Early Literacy Kits .....              | \$ 1,200         |
| Book Club Kits .....                   | \$ 2,500         |
| Movie Licensing Fees .....             | \$ 75            |
| Staff Professional Development .....   | \$ 1,250         |
| Whatcom Reads .....                    | \$ 1,500         |
| Children's Builders' Club .....        | \$ 298           |
| Raise-a-Reader Program .....           | \$ 5,285         |
| Library Collections .....              | \$ 32,500        |
| Digital Signage .....                  | \$ 7,800         |
| <b>Total Purchases:.....</b>           | <b>\$ 56,299</b> |

## News about Our Newsletter

This newsletter will be your only newsletter in 2014. We have decided to publish just one newsletter a year from now on. Expect your next Friends Newsletter in January 2015 at which time we will also be requesting your dues for 2015. We also hope that this will reduce some confusion about our yearly dues. The April issue usually gives you information about our Annual Meeting in April. Instead, you will be receiving an email or a postcard as an invitation to the annual meeting. You can help us with mailing expenses by providing an email address if you have not done so already. Thanks!



Copies of our Newsletter can always be found online at:

<http://www.bellinghampubliclibrary.org/QuickLinks/FriendsoftheLibrary.aspx#Membership>. Click on the Newsletter date of your choice.

## Thanks to These Stores

If you can't find a specific book at our sale, try looking for it at one of the following book stores as they support us with donated gift certificates for our annual meeting. Let's support them as well!!

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Michael's Books<br>109 Grand Ave.      | Village Books<br>1200 11th Street  |
| Eclipse Book Store<br>1104 11th Street | Hendersons Books<br>116 Grand Ave. |

Cozy Corner Books and Coffee  
Bellingham - 3094 Northwest Avenue  
Ferndale - 5772 2nd Avenue

Also, thanks to **Kohl's Department Store** for honoring us for a third year with a \$500 grant. Thanks to **The Great Harvest Bakery** for the continued support they have provided over the years, by donating loaves of their delicious bread for our Annual Meeting.

