

# Open Books Open Minds

## OPEN LIBRARIES

An occasional newsletter for Friends of the Ashland Public Library

2008 January

### Our Libraries are Open!



The Ashland Public Library Opened Again on October 24, 2007 and What a Great Day it Was!

Thanks to Helga Motley for some of the photographs that appear in Open Books Open Minds

Friends of the Ashland Public Library

[www.ashlandfriends.org](http://www.ashlandfriends.org)

#### Ashland Public Library Hours

Mon 10 - 8  
 Tues and Wed 10 - 6  
 Thurs and Sat 12 - 5  
 Sun 12 - 4

#### Medford Library Hours

Mon 12 - 7  
 Tues 12 - 6  
 Wed 10 - 5  
 Sat 12 - 4

### Our Literary Community

This year has been notable in the literary community for two events - the journey with Harry Potter concluded and, more locally, our libraries closed. We wanted to assure Rowling readers that there were many more adventures in reading awaiting them, but if you can only read the books you can afford to buy, your reading will be limited. The loss of our libraries was

devastating. It was ironic that the closure coincided with the conclusion of the Harry Potter series. The easy availability of these books, through the public libraries, has raised a generation of young readers who now come to Bloomsbury, sometimes to buy, but often to browse - because they are at home among books. Isn't the world a better place with

more readers? We think so, and we welcome the reopening of our libraries with the joy and appreciation expressed by all the book lovers of Jackson County.

— Sheila Burns, *Bloomsbury Books*  
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## Business Partner of the Year: Judi Honoré and Shakespeare & Co.

**Thank you  
Judi Honoré and  
Shakespeare & Co.**

**Business  
Partner  
Of the  
Year**

2007

The top fundraiser for the library this past year has been Shakespeare & Co.'s Judi Honoré.

Honoré has been relentless in her efforts to raise money to get the libraries reopened.

In August, the Ashland Daily Tidings reported on Honoré's efforts. "Honoré began her fundraising quest after a three-day sidewalk sale in May netted \$403. She gave all the proceeds to the library, but she knew that wasn't enough to reopen the library. She started asking everyone she met for a donation. When she bought lunch, she asked for money. When she bought

running shoes, she got a donation. She got her real estate broker, builder, landscaper and even her CPA to contribute. 'I make sure that every day I get a donation,' she said. 'I wake up every morning and say 'Who can I get a donation from today?''"

Thanks to her efforts and the support of Honoré's large network of friends and community partners, she raised over \$8000. Some of that money went directly to the political campaign to get Ashland Public Library back in full service and the rest went to the Friends of the Ashland Library.

We honor Judi Honoré and her store Shakespeare & Co. as our Business Partner of the Year for 2007.

Thank you.

## Great Buys and Lots of Fun at the Fall Book Sale

The Fall Book Sale was a wonderful community event, busy with book buyers who crowded the tables, not even stopping to talk until they'd filled their arms, boxes, and bags with wonderful finds. Whether it was children's picture books, food narratives, biographies or mysteries, there were lots of books to choose from.

A silent auction added to the Book Sale, with lovely silk scarves, throws, art objects, framing and lots more

available for bid. Thanks to the Library's Business Partners for their

contributions.

Book donations are gratefully accepted throughout the year and are an important part of the Friend's fundraising activities and community engagement. If you like books, and enjoy the challenge of organizing materials and events, please consider becoming a Library Book Sale volunteer. For more information, stop by the library or call 774-6996.

**Library Book Sale Volunteers  
Needed  
can you please help?**

## Babies in the Library



Babies in the Library is a unique early literacy program for pre-walking babies that is funded by a grant from the Oregon Community Foundation.

The Ashland Babies class meets on Mondays at 10:30 am through January. Babies sit on their parent's lap, clap along to the songs, rhymes and learn about books and reading. Wobblers, The Next Step meets on Monday afternoons from 1-2 pm and is designed for those energetic tod-

dlers with lots of movement, singing and rhymes.

The library now offers 3 story times! Mondays at 6:30 pm have been popular with Dads and Grandparents who bring in their children. Tuesday mornings at 11:30 am catches those who might have trouble getting out in the early mornings, while the Wednesday story hour at 10:30 pm is always popular.





Megan Demonstrates the Self-Check Out

## Volunteer Spotlight: Megan

My name is Megan. I am 13 years old and I am a volunteer at the Ashland Public Library. I have been volunteering at the library since 2004. As a volunteer I enjoy helping with patrons, and my favorite is assisting with the Self-Check Out. I really encourage people to try it!

very friendly place and that's why I love to volunteer there.

Those who want to volunteer can pick up an application at the library or call 774-6980. All volunteers go through a training program and have a background check.

— Megan

## Thank You Mary Mastain

Mary Mastain, Board Member, Scribe, and Membership Coordinator for the Friends of the Ashland Public Library has resigned after only 14 years of service. Mary has brought wit, intelligence, grace, and class to the Friends.

One of Mary's many accomplishments while on the Board was to encourage county officials and the Jackson County Library Service to have **Ashland Public Library** placed on the front of the new library in 2001. A controversial position, Mary's staunch love of the Ashland Branch Library kept her convictions strong, eventually winning over others with her warm, always gracious words.

Thank you Mary Mastain for your past, current and continuing support of



When I am not volunteering I attend a leadership club at my school. Through the club I work on my leadership skills and volunteer with numerous activities. I also play soccer, which I really enjoy doing once a week.

My grandmother works at the library, and we are both there often. When you see me please come say Hello! The Ashland library to me is a

**Volunteers Rock!**

## Library News

Book group, investment club, hobby group, parenting support or social organization, if your group would like to know more about the library, about good books, or some of the library's special research products, just give us a call. We've got a ready-made speaker's bureau that will talk right to your needs.

Book clubs especially might like to know more about the Novelist database, easily accessible from our web site at [www.jcls.org](http://www.jcls.org). There are lists, reviews, articles and interviews about all kinds of fiction books for adults, young adults and children. This is a great resource, lots of fun and loaded with information – and it's especially easy to use after a little instruction.

We're also rejuvenating our service to the homebound. If you know of someone who can no longer come to the library but still wants to



read or listen to books, we can help! We'll select titles for you to pick up, or for those who need delivery, the library's terrific volunteers can deliver.

If you'd like to know more about the Library's Outreach services please call the Ashland Public Library Reference Desk at 774-6996.





# Friends of the Ashland Public Library

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## Dates to Remember:

**Jan 7-Feb 12.** Winter Reads

**Jan 7.** Author Night: Douglas Noakes

**Jan 28.** Author Night: John Fisher Smith

**Feb 4.** Poetry at the 2008 Annual

Meeting of the Friends of the Ashland  
Public Library

**Feb 7.** Poet Robert Pinsky at Ashland  
High

## Save the Dates

The Friends of the Library support many events throughout the year, and a few are coming up soon. **Author Nights** are usually on first Mondays at 7pm when local and visiting authors read selections from their work and talk about their writing process.

On January 7 local author, Douglas Noakes will talk about his book *Cursed Spite*, an engaging whodunnit involving time travel back to Shakespearean England. On Monday, January 28 John Fisher Smith, author, architect, traveler, organic gardener, and more, will talk about his recently published chapbooks, *Reflections* and *Opening My Eyes*.

**Winter Reads**, an adult reading program will run from January 7 through February 12. Sign up at the library, read 5 books and enter a drawing for prizes. It's simple and fun.

Join the Friends at the **Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Ashland Public Library** on Monday February 4, 7pm at the library. It will be a special evening of poetry and community to kick off a week of spectacular poetry events in cooperation with the Chautauqua Poets and Writers. To wrap up the week, former Poet Laureate, Robert Pinsky will speak at Ashland High School on Thursday, February 7 at 7pm. His well known Favorite Poem Project has brought poetry to so many around the country. You'll want to reserve your tickets well in advance as Pinsky's event will sell out early. Call 774-6996 for more information

## How the Friends Support the Ashland Public Library

Childrens' Storytelling

Ashland Mystery Readers

Author Night at the Library

Summer Reading Programs

Special Book Purchases

Library Book Sales

Volunteerism

Your Voice in the Community

For more information, call Friends President Sue Lopez at 541-488-1616

