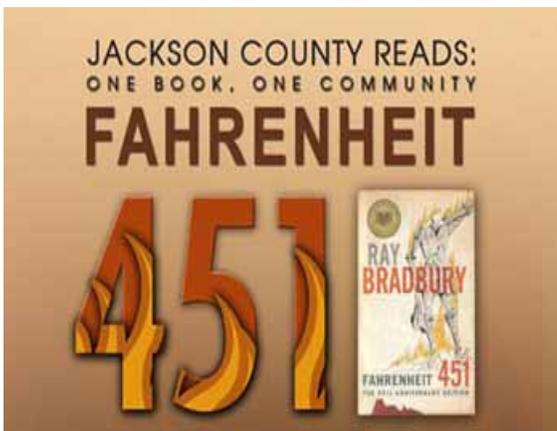


Open Books Open Minds

OPEN LIBRARIES

An occasional newsletter for Friends of the Ashland Public Library

2008 April



Fahrenheit 451 is a book with special meaning for residents of Jackson County. In 2007, Jackson County residents learned that it doesn't take an event as dramatic as a book burning to lose access to the world of books, reading, and information. Last year's closure of the Jackson County libraries resulted in the postponement of the 2007 county-wide reading of *Fahrenheit 451* and hundreds of copies of the book sat unread for a year. Many residents were faced with the reality of living in a world where

there were no libraries, where there was not free and ready access to all the books we need and want to read.

Here are some of Ashland's events as Jackson County Reads *Fahrenheit 451* in April 2008. All events are at the library or SOU, and are free and open to the public.

- ❖ Thurs April 3 at 1pm, Elastic Mind Group discusses brainwashing
- ❖ Wed April 9 at 7pm, *Fahrenheit 451* Film
- ❖ Sat April 12 at 1pm, Film of an interview with Ray Bradbury and discussion
- ❖ Week of April 14 -Chalk drawings on the sidewalk with a virtual burning theme, art work by local high school students, book displays on censorship, totalitarian governments, effects of media and story-times on firemen and firetrucks
- ❖ Mon April 14 at 7pm, Southern Oregon University. John Frohnmayer, former head of the NEA, presents "No Read, No Think, No Democracy" at the SOU Stevenson Union A dramatic reading from the play will precede Frohnmayer's talk.
- ❖ Tues April 15 and 22 at 1pm, Great Books Discussion Group

Celebrate May Day On Saturday May 3

Come to the plaza in front of the Ashland Public Library on Saturday May 3 to celebrate our public library. Join us as we thank the children and adults who mobilized our community to re-open the Ashland Public Library.

There'll be readings, marimbas, May baskets, a theremin, sidewalk chalk, and ribbons to

write your good wishes on. Your ribbons of good wishes will fill our hearts and fly in the wind and Murray Huggins bagpipes will bring this wonderful day to a close.

Celebrate!

12p—Welcome & Thanks to Supporters

1p— Marimbas & Theremin 3p— Poetry Readings

2p— Storytelling

4p— Bagpipes



Friends of the Ashland Public Library

www.ashlandfriends.org

Ashland Public Library Hours

Mon 10-8

Tues and Wed 10-6

Thurs and Sat 12-5

Sun 12-4

Our mission is to help our library to achieve any and all of its goals. Ensuring free access to information is part of Ashland's community life, to which the Friends are firmly dedicated.

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Citizen's Library Advisory Committee Wants to Know

Find Out ** Sound Out
Library Funding
and Services

Wed April 23

Ashland Public
Library 12-5p

Ashland City Council
Chambers 7-9p

Curious about library funding options? Have an opinion about library services in the information age? Speak up about how the Ashland Public Library has affected our local economy, your kid's education, and the quality of your life. Let your voice be heard.

The Ashland City Council will soon decide whether or not to request that voters extend the current local option levy for library operations, and if so, for how much. Your comments will guide the City Council's decision.

Learn about all sides of the issue and let your voice be heard.

Stop in at the library on Wed. April 23 from 12-5pm and chat with CLAC members or give public testimony at City Council Chambers later that day. Or send email to library-advisory@pine.ashland.or.us or drop your written comments off in the Ashland Public Library's suggestion box.

CLAC members are: Bill Ashworth, Maureen Battistella, Masanee Brown, Sue Burkholder, David Churchman, Peter Gibb, Chuck Keil, and Pam Vavra (chair).

Meeting Rooms

One of the most popular things at the Ashland Public Library doesn't involve books—it's the group meeting rooms.

The Gresham Room can hold up to 100 people and the Guajuato Room up to 28. There are tables, chairs, a white board, and even access to a kitchen. Meeting rooms are free to non-profit groups

and available for private meetings at a reasonable rental fee.

Welcome Home Letter Project Monday May 5 at 7p

Write and read letters to veterans and soldiers from any war, be they alive, dead, known or unknown, deployed or already at home. Leave politics behind and welcome home our veterans and soldiers.

thewelcomehomeproject.com

The big, open floor space of the Gresham Room is just perfect for the three different moms and babies groups that meet regularly in the library. The library also hosts groups that conduct health information seminars, Mediation Works, Spanish Language instruction, knitting classes, book groups, and many more. Call 774-6996 for more information.

Author Night

Author Nights continue on the first Monday of the month at the Ashland Public Library, from 7-8 pm.

April 7, stop in and meet poet Sarah Flowers and artist Cathy DeForest who'll talk about their artistic collaboration with letterpress printing and poetry.

On Monday May 5, everyone's

an author, writing letters to soldiers, veterans, and their families in conjunction with the Welcome Home Project.

On Monday June 2, author, journalist, and commentator Jeff Golden speaks on his new work,

Unafraid: A Novel of the Possible.

On Monday July 7, Ramona Rubio will speak on her book *The Alchemical Woman: A Handbook for Everyday Soulwork*. Rubio and her co-author Catherine Davidson use alchemy as a metaphor for life transformation.

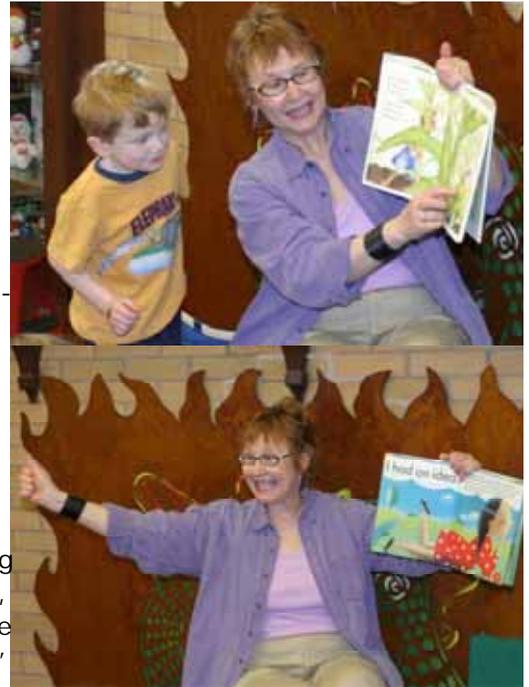
Perii Owen Delivers Delight



Sometimes curious and intent, and other times shouting with laughter, kids are almost always crowding around children's librarian Perii Owen. On staff at the Ashland Public Library since 2002, Perii knows first hand how books help kids learn. And it's not only books

that help them learn, but the storytimes that Perii gives three times every week.

"The storytime is not just sitting there and reading a book," she explains. "The reading is important but also the interactions they have with the librarians and with each other." Perii says that storytelling helps the kids become people who will be thinking adults, empathetic people, and who love books. "I love what I do, I totally love it."



thanks Helga, for the photos!

Storytimes are Mon 6:30p, Tues 11:30a and Wed 10:30a



SMART

SMART® (Start Making a Reader Today) is a state-wide non-profit program that matches caring adults with K-3 children who can use a little help.

This one-on-one experience builds a love of reading and an appreciation for language. Children in SMART discover that it's fun to read and are more interested in learning. SMART children receive two books a month to take home, share with their families and start a home library.

Volunteers are the key to a successful SMART reading program. Volunteers give one hour weekly during the school year. SMART serves Ashland's Helman and Walker schools. No experience needed, just a desire for our children to have the best start possible. You can make a difference, one book at a time! For more information contact 541-734-5628 or www.getsmartoregon.org.

Reach Out!

If you've lost some mobility, getting to the Library can be a real problem. It's not only the driving, it's the parking and walking. If you or someone you know can't get to the Library, call Amy Kinard and get set up for the Ashland Public Library's Outreach Service. With the help of some very dedicated volunteers who select and deliver books, tapes and CDs, Outreach Services help keep people connected to their public library and the books they love.

Irene Moody is a Library Outreach volunteer and picks up and drops books off for her 92 year old neighbor. "She's getting a little frail and uses a walker now and doesn't drive so she spends a lot of her day reading," Irene explains. "The fact that she can have books delivered to her and in a bag by her chair is just won-

derful; this is a wonderful program for her."

The Library can select books for a friend or family member to pick up for you (sometimes choosing books is the hardest part!) or if you need home delivery we can pair you up with a volunteer who generally delivers items once every 6 weeks.

If you're interested in being a volunteer we'd love to hear from you too. The job requires some computer skills like using the library's catalog to find and reserve books, checking items out, and keeping track of what books a reader has had. Irene says, "It's not a big deal, just helping out a friend."

Outreach provides our community members with a very precious service and also gives the volunteers a real sense of satisfaction. If you'd like more information about receiving or giving Outreach Service, please call Amy Kinard at 774-6896.

Friends of the Ashland Public Library

PO Box 91
Ashland, Oregon 97520
info@ashlandfriends.org
www.ashlandfriends.org
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Serving Ashland and Growing with the Future



Dates to Remember

April Jackson County Reads Fahrenheit 451: story time, chalk drawings, art exhibits, book talks and lots more!

Apr 3. Elastic Mind Book Group

Apr 9. *Fahrenheit 451* Film

Apr 7. Author Night with Sarah Flowers and Cathy deForest

Apr 12. Ray Bradbury Interview Film

Apr 14. John Frohnmyer, *No Read, No Think, No Democracy* at SOU

Apr 15&22. Great Books Book Group

Apr 23. CLAC Public Input Forums

May 3. May Day Celebration

May 5. Author Night with Welcome Home Letter Project

May 9. Ashland Mystery GM Ford at Bookwagon Books

Jun 2. Author Night with Jeff Golden

Jun 20. Ashland Mystery John Straley at Bookwagon Books

Jul 7. Author Night with Ramona Rubio

How the Friends Support the Ashland Public Library

Childrens' Storytelling

Special Book Purchases

Ashland Mystery Readers

Library Book Sales

Author Night at the Library

Volunteerism

Summer Reading Programs

Your Voice in the Community

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

Ashland Mystery: Meet Ford and Straley

Best-selling mystery author GM Ford launches the 2008 season of the Ashland Mystery Readers Group series. *Nameless Night* was released in February by Morrow, featuring Paul Hardy who has lost his memory, and finds it and himself in a group home for the disabled. Ford is also the author of the popular and critically acclaimed Leo Waterman and Frank Corso series. Meet GM Ford in person on Friday, May 9 at 6p, Bookwagon Books. John Straley, Alaska's Writer Laureate on tour with *The Big Both Ways* just out from Alaska Northwest Books, will speak and sign on June 20.

Ashland Mystery is sponsored by Friends of the Ashland Public Library, Bookwagon Books, Standing Stone Brewing Company and Beverly&David Lively—The Party Place. For more information contact 552-0743 or visit booksandoldlace.com.