

FRIENDLY CONNECTIONS

Spring 2008

The newsletter of
The Friends of the
Saint Paul Public Library

325 Cedar Street, Suite 555
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1055

www.thefriends.org

MINNESOTA'S "BOOK PEOPLE" CELEBRATE IN STYLE



Cathy Wurzer, host of MPR's Morning Edition and co-host of TPT's Almanac, brilliantly served as emcee for the Minnesota Book Awards Gala on April 12th.

The 20th annual Minnesota Book Awards Gala wasn't just well attended – it was filled to capacity. Seven hundred people gathered on April 12 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel to celebrate the best books published in 2007 by Minnesota authors.

"Inspiring," "celebratory," "fun", and "out-right amazing" were some of the words used by attendees to describe the evening's festivities. Guests included librarians, booksellers, publishers, authors, leaders of literary organizations, sponsors, business leaders and passionate readers. All present contributed to a highly successful, high-energy event.

Finalists were on hand for conversation and book signings during the reception, and the area

was abuzz as guests and finalists anticipated the start of the 8 p.m. awards ceremony.

The program opened with a humorous skit written by acclaimed local actor, director and playwright, Joseph Scrimshaw, which included all 32 finalist book titles in a riff à la Abbott and Costello's *Who's On First*, in one fractured conversation.

This year's Genre Fiction winner, William Kent Krueger, said of the evening, "I've never been to the Academy

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Winning mystery writer William Kent Krueger hefted the award and noted that it could be a "blunt instrument."

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Board of Trustees of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library is pleased to welcome the following new members for three-year terms:

Joe Bagnoli is an attorney and lobbyist with the McGrann Shea Law Firm. He has extensive knowledge of fundraising, as well as the intricacies of state and local government. Joe and his family are strong supporters and users of the Saint Paul Public Library and believe that libraries are at the root of a civil society.

Mike Connelly is vice president and general counsel for Xcel Energy. A passionate user and supporter of the Saint Paul Public Library personally and with his children, Mike brings strong communications skills and a collaborative approach to The Friends' Board, as

well as a strong interest in literacy and reading. He is particularly interested in the Library as a resource for childhood development and education.

Harold Crump is the executive vice president for broadcasting at Hubbard Broadcasting Company. He is on the board of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and the International Television Academy. He is also on the University of St. Thomas Advisory Board and the boards of the American Heart Association and the Better Business Bureau. Previous board membership includes the Urban League and the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce. Harold brings great strength due to his involvement in national and local boards, and is eager to assist in any way possible.



Joe Bagnoli



Mike Connelly



Harold Crump

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CAPACITY CROWD FOR MINNESOTA'S BOOK GALA

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Awards, but the gala helped me to imagine what that Hollywood celebration must have been like in its golden years. The excitement of the finalists, the good wishes of those there to support us, the bubble of the crowd, and the dazzle of the decorations and lights, made me feel as if we were all at the center of something momentous. Of course, the highlight for me was hearing my name called out to receive my award, but I swear that even if I hadn't won, that Saturday evening would still be golden in my memory. I felt an energy larger than myself and even larger than the 700 people gathered – it was the energy generated by people all over the state who so clearly value the written word.”

Eight category awards (see inset at right) and three special awards were presented



A big piece of the Minnesota Book Awards' success is the sale and signing of all finalist book titles at the pre-gala reception.

during the ceremony. The Kay Sexton Award, sponsored by Barnes & Noble Booksellers, was presented to Don Leeper, founder of BookMobile, a company offering a full-range of services for publishers.

The first annual Book Artist Award, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Center for Book Arts, was awarded to Jody Williams in recognition of both her incredible, sustained body of work and her teaching. While Williams has a passion for little books, her accomplishments to the book arts community are huge.



Fans of Novel and Short Story finalist Lorna Landvik shared a laugh after getting their books inscribed at the reception.

This year's Readers' Choice Award, sponsored by the Pioneer Press and TwinCities.com, went to Jill Kalz, for Children's Literature finalist *Farmer Cap*. More than 7,000 Minnesota readers voted online during the month of March, easily doubling the number of voters who participated last year.



Whitney Gilmore and Dan Hauser from Xcel Energy – sponsors of the Award for Children's Literature.

A moving tribute was given by Mary Ann Grossmann, book editor for the Pioneer Press, to two Minnesota legends who passed away earlier this year: Carol Bly and Jon Hassler.

Irish poet Pat Boran, winner of the 2008 Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Poetry, added to the evening's entertainment with poetry and jokes.

The gala will be rebroadcast on TPT and SPNN later this spring and summer, with dates and times to be posted on our website as they become available.

But mark your calendar now for the 21st annual Minnesota Book Awards on Saturday, April 25, 2009.



Wang Ping's *The Last Communist Virgin*, published by Coffee House Press, won the award for Novel & Short Story.

The Book Awards is a project of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, in consortium with the Saint Paul Public Library and the Mayor's office of the City of Saint Paul. For more information, including a full list of finalist and winning books, updates on author programs, reading guides, author interviews, past winners and sponsors, please visit www.thefriends.org.

2008 WINNERS

Award for Children's Literature - Sponsored by Xcel Energy:

Lynne Jonell – *Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat*

Published by Henry Holt and Company

Award for General Nonfiction - Sponsored by Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd.:

Charles Baxter – *The Art of Subtext: Beyond Plot*

Published by Graywolf Press*

Award for Genre Fiction:

William Kent Krueger – *Thunder Bay*

Published by Atria Books/Simon & Schuster

Award for Memoir & Creative Nonfiction - Sponsored by Wellington Management, Inc.:

Patricia Hampl – *The Florist's Daughter*

Published by Harcourt

Award for Minnesota - Sponsored by Marquette Financial Companies:

Doug Hoverson – *Land of Amber Waters: The History of Brewing in Minnesota*

Published by the University of Minnesota Press*

Award for Novel & Short Story:

Wang Ping – *The Last Communist Virgin*

Published by Coffee House Press*

Award for Poetry:

Deborah Keenan – *Willow Room, Green Door*

Published by Milkweed Editions*

Award for Young Adult Literature:

Will Weaver - *Defect*

Published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux

The Readers' Choice Award sponsored by Pioneer Press and TwinCities.com:

Jill Kalz – *Farmer Cap*
Published by Picture Window Books*

* Indicates a MN-based publisher



"A chicken walks into a library..." Award-winning Irish poet, Pat Boran delighted the crowd with a joke before reading his brilliant poetry.



*Charles Baxter won the award for General Nonfiction with *The Art of Subtext: Beyond Plot* – a book about the craft of writing, written with wit, intelligence and insight.*



Jody Williams received the Book Artist award, while good-naturedly enduring some ribbing about the modest scale of her work.



Minnesota category winner, Doug Hoverson posits, "Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy." (Benjamin Franklin)



The Willie August Project kept the evening light and jazzy—and moving along.

MINNESOTA BOOK AWARDS



Memoir and Creative Nonfiction finalist, Catherine Watson, shared "shop talk" with Genre Fiction finalists, Philip Donlay, William Kent Krueger and Mary Logue.

The 20th annual Minnesota Book Awards were supported by: Marquette Financial Companies; Meyer, Scherer and Rockcastle, Ltd.; Pioneer Press; Saint Paul Cultural STAR; Wellington Management, Inc.; Xcel Energy; Barnes @ Noble Booksellers; The Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts; The Huss Foundation; the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), a Federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and a lifetime of learning; The Katherine B. Andersen Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation; the Minnesota Library Foundation; the Minnesota State Library Agency with funding under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA); Red Balloon Bookshop; Sit Investment Associates.

Additional partners included: Metropolitan Library Service Agency (MELSA); Minnesota Center for Book Arts; Minnesota Educational Media Organization; Minnesota Library Association; Minnesota Public Radio; Saint Paul Neighborhood Network; The Rake; and TPT-Minnesota Channel.

- Lorna Landvik
- John Sandford
- Robert Kurson
- Laura Lipman
- Lewis Lapham
- Mike Veeck
- Anita Diamant
- Bruce Feiler
- Jonathan Eig
- J.A. Jance
- Rudy Maxa
- Bob Greene
- Shira Nayman
- Sena Jeter Naslund
- Phillip Margolin
- Katherine Lanpher
- Nikki Giovanni
- Dorothea Benton Frank
- Dave Zirin
- Frank Delaney

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

What do the names at left have in common? All have been featured guests or emcees at Opus & Olives – a fundraising event hosted by, and supporting the work of, The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and local literacy projects of the Pioneer Press. In just 4 years, Opus & Olives has become the premier literary evening of the Twin Cities. This light and fun annual event has grown to attendance of well over 600 community leaders from the business, political and social world.

The evening begins with a reception during which the authors are on hand to speak with guests and sign books (available for purchase at the event). There is an outrageously fun martini bar, as well as traditional cocktails and complimentary wine. Following the reception is a sit-down dinner, after which each author speaks about their work, the writing process, or other timely topics. The evening ends with another opportunity to visit with authors and purchase books. It's a great party.

Stay tuned to www.thefriends.org for updates as plans develop for this year's "O&O" on **Sunday, October 12, 2008 – SAVE THE DATE!**



STATE GRANTS AWARDED TO THE SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library recently received official notification that both grant applications written by The Friends to the Minnesota Department of Education this year were accepted. The Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program was signed into law in 1996, as part of the Museum and Library Services Act. LSTA consists of a state grants program and competitive grant programs administered directly from the federal level by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

“My Life, My Library” will be a series of video segments describing some of the resources of the Library in English, Somali and Hmong. Subjects will include early childhood development, job search/career, and more. The Library’s Public Relations and Marketing Manager, Sheree Savage, will lead the \$50,000 project, which includes working with Saint Paul Neighborhood Network (SPNN) on filming and editing.

“Bite By Bite” will bring early childhood development resources for parents into food shelter waiting rooms. The \$24,140 grant will provide for development of materials, training of staff from both the Library and the food shelf, and infrastructure at the food shelf to hold materials and engage children with words. Karen Kolb Peterson, Youth Services Coordinator, will lead the project. 🌿

NOW AT THE SAINT PAUL PUBLIC LIBRARY:



Get Political at the Saint Paul Public Library

The Library is initiating a summer-long series of political awareness programming that will be announced on the Web at www.saintpaulitics.org.

- ✓ **Be informed about the political decisions that affect your future**
- ✓ **See local and national experts present issues important to you**
- ✓ **Check out relevant books, DVDs and more — about the issues, candidates and political parties**

BOOK CLUB IN A BAG

The Saint Paul Public Library is pleased to introduce the new **Book Club in a Bag** service for individuals, reading groups and families. Launched Monday, May 5, at all 13 Library branches and the Bookmobile, the new service was created to help book club members select the right book to read each month, and to inspire individuals or groups to start their own book club. Families can also use the new service to share their reading experiences with lively discussion of a thought-provoking book.

Book Club in a Bag offers 25 titles to choose from, 10 copies per title in each bag, and discussion questions to help get the conversation going. Library patrons can keep the bag for six weeks at a time.

The 25 titles were selected based on the popularity of books that book clubs are reading, books written by Minnesota authors, and authors scheduled to speak at the Library.

Saint Paul residents can visit any Saint Paul Public Library branch, go online at www.sppl.org, or call 651-266-7000 to reserve a Book Club in a Bag. The program is made possible by a grant from The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library.

Available Titles:

- Water For Elephants* by Sara Gruen
- The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
- Eat, Pray, Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert
- The Gathering* by Anne Enright
- Suite Francaise* by Irene Nemirovsky
- Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood* by Marjane Satrapi.
- We Need To Talk About Kevin* by Lionel Shriver
- A Spot of Bother* by Mark Haddon
- The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
- Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See
- A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith
- The Painted Drum* by Louise Erdrich
- Tender Bar - A Memoir* by J. R. Moehringer
- The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield
- Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortensen
- March* by Geraldine Brooks
- Those Who Save Us* by Jenna Blum
- Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder
- The Sweet Hereafter* by Russell Banks
- Dune* by Frank Herbert
- Crow Lake* by Mary Lawson
- An Unquiet Mind* by Kay Redfield Jamison
- Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger
- Reservation Blues* by Sherman Alexie
- Copper River* by William Kent Krueger

For more information or a list of Saint Paul Public Library locations, call 651-266-7000 or visit www.sppl.org. 🌿



THE FRIENDS' BOARD WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS, continued

Guy Gilmore is president and publisher of the *Pioneer Press*. In addition, he is on the board of the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce and the Minnesota Business



Guy Gilmore

Partnership. Guy brings a strong background in financial management and a lifelong interest in books and reading to The Friends. He wants to continue to build on the many partnerships that the *Pioneer Press* has had with The Friends and the Library.

Jack Lanners is the president of FTL Corporation, which owns several MGM Liquor Stores throughout the east metro area. He is also the chairman of the Metropolitan Airports Commission. He sits on the board of the Woodbury Lion's Club and the Minnesota Licensed Beverage Association. He previously served on the boards of the Woodbury Chamber of Commerce and the Southeast Family YMCA. Jack brings vision, creativity and business experience to The Friends' board. He believes that libraries are critically important as part of the educational infrastructure in our community.



Jack Lanners

An organizational management and strategic planning consultant, **Eileen McMahon** was formerly the head of the St. Paul Convention and Visitors Bureau. She is currently the chair of the Girl Scouts of St. Croix Valley Audit Committee and an honorary board member of Neighborhood House. Previous experience includes being chair of the Neighborhood House board, co-chair



Eileen McMahon

of the Wellstone Center Capital Campaign, and a director on the Capital City Partnership board. Eileen brings to The Friends a familiarity with strategic planning and fiduciary responsibility, as well as fund development. She sees the Saint Paul Public Library as a critically important institution to the community's new immigrant populations.

Currently the youngest member of the Board, **Pondie Nicholson** is the daughter of former Friends' trustees, Dick and Nancy Nicholson. She is a graduate student at Hamline University, a substitute teacher, and a volunteer tutor with the Saint Paul Public Library's Read With Me program. She has previous board experience with Multicultural Communities in Action and Americorps, based at CommonBond Communities. With a strong desire to be involved in the community and a passionate concern about how new Americans in Saint Paul transition to a new way of life, she believes that libraries are the most important institutions to enrich knowledge and learning. She is very interested in making certain that youth use the Library and its extensive resources.

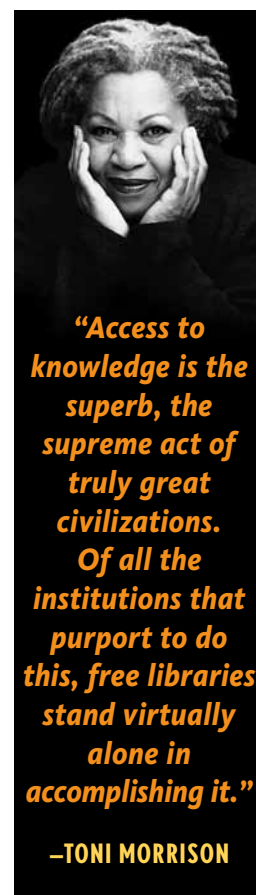


Pondie Nicholson

We're fortunate to have such a talented group of volunteers join us in our work to support the Saint Paul Public Library, ensuring its place among the foremost library systems in the country. Yet, as we welcome the new Board members, we must also say thank you and farewell to the exiting members, without whose contributions we would not be where we are today.

It is with great appreciation and fondness that we reluctantly say goodbye to **Steve Brady, Tom Patterson and Kari Rominski**, all of whom served the maximum three 3-year terms. **Wilson Bradshaw, Billy Collins, Dan Foote, Deborah Locke, Katie McWatt** and **Nancy Nicholson** also left the Board last year, and we thank them for their generous support and service. To all of our Trustees—past, present and future—we say, "thanks a million!"

In honor of each departing Board member, a contribution was made to the Book Endowment Fund, with bookplates recognizing their service in two new Library books each. For more information on the Book Endowment Fund, see the story on page 8. 🌻



"Access to knowledge is the superb, the supreme act of truly great civilizations. Of all the institutions that purport to do this, free libraries stand virtually alone in accomplishing it."

—TONI MORRISON

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 12/11/07-05/06/08

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Tom and Arlene Alm
Annette Atkins
Mary Atmore and James Baldwin
Terry and Jeanne Bailey
Kay Bingham
Adele Binning and Tom Klein
Paul Burke
Jane Cacich
Eva P. Caperton
Kenneth and Muriel Cashin
Kevin and Susan Clark
Mary Elizabeth Cochran
Tom and Diane Copeland
Koami DaCruz
James Driscoll
Diana Eicher
Sue Elfstrom
Naomi English
Nathalia Faribault
Dale Fierce
Richard Garber and Regina Bonsignore
Julie and Phil GebbenGreen
Anne F. Geisser
Sharleen Goldberg
Gregory Grinley and Raymond Terrill
Mary Hardy
Joan Higinbotham
Joan Hutchinson
Mike Jackson
Virginia Juffer
Thomas Keljik
Donald and Carol Kelsey
Willetta L. Kennedy

William and Rebecca Klein
Neil and Patty Koppy
Laurie Krivitz
Phillip LaRose
Tracy LaVere and Karen Ryan
Angela Lee
Kevin Leuthold
Deborah Wold Lewis
Eileen McMahon and Steve Karbon
John Milton
Pat Morris
David Munn
Shirley A. Murray
Kathy Nelson
Rhonda Niola
Marianne Nora
Bob O'Leary
Doug Osland
Neal Peterson and Deanna Thompson
Lori Roemer
Harry and Nina Rosefelt
Jerold Rothstein
Deborah Sampson
Mary A. Skinner
George and Marymina Stenger
Temple of Aaron Congregation
Gary Thompson
Sharon Tonn
Robert and Karen Vanney
Venita Warnke
Mary K. Watson
Laura Waxman
Barb Wildes
Louverne Williams
Victoria Zimmerman

Memorials and Honoraria, 12/11/07 - 05/06/08

In memory/honor of: Donor(s)

Memorials in Perpetuity

Nancy Strohmayr Bauer: Gerald and Joann Steenberg
Art and Trudy Gutz: Gerald and Joann Steenberg
William Miller: Joseph Brown and Mary Moore Easter; Fern Miller and Family

Memorials

Adline M. Carlson: Jane and Thomas Chada; Geraldine M. Ritter; Elaine M. Wagner
April Englund: Gratia Ouellette
Linda Feinberg: Sally and Robert Hart
Eleanor S. Fenton: Jean M. West
Margaret Geery: Gratia Ouellette
Bernice H. Groebner: Bill and Elie Yungbauer
Lucile Guss: Roy and Janet Grieder; Lois M. Harich; Barbara G. Minor
Trudy Gutz: Elaine M. Wagner
Dorothy Helfeld: Adrienne Brown Ravitz
Elaine Kennedy: Kathleen Kennedy; Frank and Marcella Kennedy
Chris Koppy: Yvonne M. Snidarich
Agnes L. Liesenfeld: Jerry Woelfel and Becky Garthofner
William Miller: Gordon and Jeanette Anderson; Wesley and Corinne Anderson; The Family of Andreas, Chrysoula Arghyrou; Gwendolyn Bacheller; Kay W. Blair; C. R. Blom; Anita Boldt; Gina and Ken Bureau; Mr. and Mrs. John Carlino; J. and Laurie Chivers; C. Carlyle Clawson; Jane and Gary Clements; Wendell and Marjorie DeBoer; Patrick and Nancy Elias; June Estelle; Rose Ann Foreman; Loretta Foss; Nancy Fruen; Dorothy P. Geis; Judy Gifford; Raymond and Mildred Hakomaki; Clint Hall; Joan and James Hillis; Susan Jensen; Warren and Patricia Kelly; Dave and Mary Jo Kjell; Edward and Marilyn Klis; Mary Knox; Colleen Kroona; Daniel and Gaye Larson; Nowell and Julia Leitzke; Gerald and Rose Linnihan; Kathryn Ann Lyford; Gloria MacRae; Doris Manson; Frances Megarry; Monte and Marilyn Miller; Jacqueline and James Neilson; Anne L. Owen; Mary K. Owen; Beverly and John Pearson; Ben and Ginny Quie; James R. Roehrenbach; Donna Ryan; Cheryl Salter; Angela and Gordon Sangster; Amy Schminke; Patricia and Bernard Skud; LaVonne M. Souther; Leigh Ann St. Germain; Marcia Sundquist; Kevin and Linda Wahlberg; Bruce Waller; Ann Warner; Henry and Pat West; Tom, Jodie and TJ Woodrow; Tim Wulling and Marilyn Benson

Thomond O'Brien: Jean M. West
Patricia O'Connor: Jean M. West
Robert Parker: David H. Graetzer
Janaan K. Pearson: Patricia and Donald Gerlach
Helen Smith: Bill and Elie Yungbauer
John Stuart Sonnen: Elaine Ackerman; Jane and Thomas Chada; Kathleen E. Cleary; Patricia Cline; Eileen Eaves; Julie and Richard Grieman; Robert and Lavern Jagg; Lynn Kirckof; Robert Klas, Jr.; Dennis and Molly O'Rourke; Susan Smith
Barbara Stuhler: Jean M. West
Rosemary Thomsen: Bill and Elie Yungbauer
Gary Wynia: Richard and Beverly Heydinger

Honoraria in Perpetuity

Dr. Josef M. Brozek: Anonymous
Guests of the Pieper/Kronlage Wedding: Michaela Kronlage and Andy Pieper
In honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Carol C. and Lehan J. Ryan: Dennis and Kelly Ryan

Honoraria

Betty Schlick Andrews: Marit Lee Kucera
MJ McGregor & Stephen Dahl: Lynn Middleton-Koller
Brenda Hansen: Mark Brancel
Gar Hargens: Liesl M. Hargens
James Hargens: Liesl M. Hargens
Erin Hart: Christ the King Book Club
Suzanne G. James: Christopher James
Carol Leino-Carey: Jane Carlstrom and David Decker
Martha Schmitz: Shoshana Hoose
Missy Thompson: Liesl M. Hargens

FRIENDS ARE TRUSTWORTHY.



THE FRIENDS ASKS, "HAVE YOU SEEN ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?"



The Page-to-Screen Free Outdoor Movie Series is Back!

Join us at Central Library, 90 West Fourth Street, in the Kellogg Boulevard Courtyard, for five weeks of films, all based on books, plays or comics. The films begin at dusk, and will be canceled in case of rain.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20:

The series kicks off with **"Spellbound,"** Alfred Hitchcock's 1945 film starring Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck, based on John Palmer's novel, *The House of Dr. Edwardes*.

FRIDAY, JUNE 27:

If you're headed to the beach, watch out! See Steven Spielberg's classic **"Jaws,"** based on Peter Benchley's novel.

FRIDAY, JULY 11:

"Mystery Men," based on Bob Burden's comic book series, stars Hank Azaria, Ben Stiller, William H. Macy, and Janeane Garofalo as a group of inept, amateur superheroes who try to save the day when a supervillain threatens to destroy a major superhero and the city.



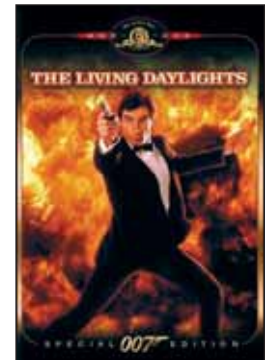
FRIDAY, JULY 18:

Watch Trevor Nunn's 1996 adaptation of William Shakespeare's **"Twelfth Night,"** starring Helena Bonham Carter, Sir Ben Kingsley and Imogen Stubbs.



FRIDAY, JULY 25:

The movie series closes with Timothy Dalton as agent 007, in 1987's **"The Living Daylights"** based on one of Ian Fleming's stories. Bond is at his most dangerous, attempting to stop an evil arms dealer from starting another world war, in this classic film.



There will be no film on Friday, July 4, due to the holiday.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT.

Modern Marvels

TUESDAY, JUNE 24 Will Eisner's *A Contract with God*



Set among 1930s Bronx tenements, these four stories capture the brutal, tender world of working-class Jews. Wry, honest, and sad, they showcase Eisner's unique ability to capture character with the quick stroke of his pen.

TUESDAY, JULY 8 Art Spiegelman's *The Complete Maus: A Survivor's Tale*

Maus tells the story of Spiegelman's parents, Jews reaching maturity in a Europe on the verge of Nazism, and their terrifying history and eventual survival in the concentration camps.



Spiegelman uses the broadest tools of the genre to make vivid the unimaginable—to the reader and to himself—appearing as a character in the book, listening to his father's story.

TUESDAY, JULY 22 Ben Katchor's *Julius Knipl, Real Estate Photographer: Stories*



Steeped in a melancholy, grey-tinted world of elevated trains, luncheonettes, and gently decaying tenements, Katchor's perambulating photographer Julius Knipl documents a rapidly vanishing urban netherworld. Peopled by the Amalgamated Panty-Waist Fitters Union, his cityscape is a familiar one, albeit with the touch of a demented fairy tale.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5 Harvey Pekar's *The Quitter*

Ostensibly covering Pekar's early years, this dark graphic novel tackles everything from his brief stint in the Navy to jazz criticism and mid-century race relations.



The gritty and atmospheric artwork by *American Splendor* collaborator Dean Haspiel perfectly captures Pekar's cantankerous tone. But a surprisingly hopeful message ultimately surfaces.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19 Joann Sfar's *The Rabbi's Cat*

After eating a parrot, an aged Algerian rabbi's cat develops the ability to speak and quickly declares his desire not only to be Jewish, but to have a bar mitzvah. The rabbi engages his pet in a spiraling debate, touching on topics such as spelling, parental love, and the very nature of Jewish identity.



THE BOOK ENDOWMENT FUND: GIVE TO THE LIBRARY AND HONOR A FRIEND

Today the existence of libraries may be so taken for granted that their significance as living institutions is almost lost to us.

Why are they important? Libraries contain the heritage of humanity — its intellectual, scientific, and artistic achievements, its memories and its history. Libraries are a source of self-renewal, intellectual growth, and hope for the future. The Friends wants to continue making the Library a community center where all the treasures of knowledge and learning can be anyone's for the asking. And no other institution benefits more from your support.

Is there someone special in your life you'd like to remember or honor? Perhaps it's someone who challenged you, motivated you, believed in you, or helped you to become the person you are today. Honor them!

A LONG-LASTING TRIBUTE A one-time contribution of \$500 or more will endow the purchase of a book for the Library each year in perpetuity. Personalized wording on a bookplate placed annually in a newly purchased book will acknowledge the extraordinary effort you have made to honor a friend or a loved one. These gifts are specially recognized in The Friends' annual report.

HONOR THE MEMORY of a friend or relative by purchasing a book in his or her memory for the Library's collection. For every \$25 contributed, you will have a bookplate inscribed with the name of the person being honored and, if desired, the name of the donor, placed in a newly purchased book at the Library. Your gift will also be acknowledged in Friends publications, and the family of the deceased will receive a card that notifies them of your memorial gift.

MARK A SPECIAL EVENT IN SOMEONE'S LIFE by supporting the purchase of a book for the Library's collection. Say "Happy Birthday," "Congratulations," "Welcome Home," "Happy Anniversary," or "Hooray!" Again, for every \$25 contributed, you will have a bookplate inscribed with the name of the person being honored (and why), and if desired, the name of the donor.

For more information about making a gift in honor or memory of someone, visit us online at www.thefriends.org (and click on "Support the Library"). To request a brochure about the book endowment fund, contact Stu Wilson at 651-366-6483, or email stu@thefriends.org. 🌻

COMING NEXT ISSUE: ETHICAL WILLS

You have spent the time and the money to finalize your estate plan. You've made provisions for your family and your favorite charities. You feel you have created the legacy you desire. But why? Does anyone really know why you have created this legacy? Is there more to your legacy than passing on assets? What about your values and beliefs? What about your memories and your life experiences? Have you told anyone what you hope they do with the gifts you have left? Ethical wills are becoming more popular and writing one may be a lot more difficult than the estate plan you have just completed!

Watch for the story in our next issue of *Friendly Connections*.

Friendly Connections is the quarterly newsletter of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library. A large print version is available by contacting Ann McKinnon at 651-366-6489. If you would like to see your name appear differently on the address label, please call the The Friends at 651-222-3242, or email friends@thefriends.org. Updates on literary programs and author events may be found at www.thefriends.org/calendar.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM STARTS JUNE 6!

SUMMER CELEBRATION
June 7, 11:15 a.m.
at Central Library.

Sign up your children & teens for the Summer Reading rewards program and get started reading.

- Read for 10 hours and earn a free book!
- Read for 20 hours and earn a second free book!

Stop by your library all summer for great programs—including magicians, storytellers, clowns, and animals. Bring your family and friends. Everyone's welcome!

Metro Area Kickoff Event

The 2008 metro-wide summer reading kickoff event will be held at Como Zoo, Thursday, June 19, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Visit www.sppl.org/srp for details.



325 Cedar Street, Suite 555
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1055

www.thefriends.org

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