

Dates To Remember For additional event listings, check online at www.hclib.org/events.

Great Decisions

Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m.
April 21 – The Future of Europe
April 28 - Trade and Politics
May 12 – Conflict in the South China Sea
May 19 – Saudi Arabia in Transition



Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon
April 22 - Yet Another Kind of Fusion
May 27 – The Ginny Hansen Poetry Event

Read With an Animal

Saturdays, April 22 and May 20, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

A History of Russian Visual Art

Tuesday, April 25, 2-3:30 p.m.



Baby Storytime

Wednesday, April 26, 9:15-9:45 a.m.

Family Storytime

Wednesday, April 26, 10:15-10:45 a.m.
Saturday, May 13, 10:30-11 a.m.

20-Minute Resumé Assistance

Wednesdays, April 26, and May 24, 1-3 p.m.



New Yorker Discussion Group

Thursdays, April 27-May 25, 2-3:30 p.m.

**Día de los Niños: Baile y Cuento/
Children's Day: Dance and Stories**

Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.-noon



Friends Book Sale

Thursday, May 4, 5-7 p.m. HCL Friends only
Friday, May 5, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 6, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Monday, May 8, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Free books!

Health Insurance Counseling for Seniors

Wednesday, May 10, 12-2 p.m. and 2-3:30 p.m.

Washburn Book Club

Wednesday, May 10, 7-9 p.m.
Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline
Meeting place: Fuller Park, 4800 Grand Ave. S.

LEGO® Lab

Saturday, May 13, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Crafty Minnesota: Macramé Jewelry

Saturday, May 13, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Friends of the Washburn Library Meeting

Tuesdays, May 16 and June 20, 6:30 p.m.

APRIL
2017

WashburnFriends

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF THE WASHBURN LIBRARY



A Love Affair

by Board President Lesli Randall

Dateline February 11, 2017: For the seventh year in a row, Washburn Friends sponsored the library's annual Make-A-Valentine event. Dozens of kids and their adults swarmed the craft supplies set up in the community room to fiddle with feathers, bedazzle with bling, then cut, glue, tape, and decorate custom valentines for their friends and loved ones. A small table was set aside to gather some of the kids' creations. These were later shared with our neighbors down the street at Mount Olivet Home.

This year we had two fantastic youth volunteers who ensured everyone had enough supplies, kept things tidy, and admired all the beautiful designs the children made. Thank you so much to Patricia and Siena for your help!



what's inside?

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Friends of the Washburn Library

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LED Monitor Receives A Thumbs-Up

Last year, with funds provided by the Friends of Washburn Library, an 80" LED monitor was installed in the community room. It's been a big hit with audiences.

The monitor has been used for programs sponsored by Washburn, such as Great Decisions, the Museum of Russian Art, and the Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum. Outside groups using the community room may also use it on request.

Most people use the monitor for PowerPoint and video clips to aid lectures. But Washburn Friends president Lesli Randall, who organized the valentine making party, did a neat technical trick: she took photos of people making the valentines and then displayed them on the screen during the event. That was a great success.

Temporary Closure of Washburn Library

Washburn Library will be closing for six to eight weeks in the fall while a new roof is being installed. Exact dates are unknown, but we can confirm there will be no programs at the library from September through November. Regular programming will resume in December once the roofing job is complete.



In the meantime, be sure to check out programs at other Hennepin County libraries.

WashburnFriends April 2017



**FRIENDS of the
Washburn Library**

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

5244 Lyndale Avenue South
Minneapolis MN 55419
(612) 543-8375
hclib.org/washburn



Hennepin County Library's mission is to nourish minds, transform lives and build community together.

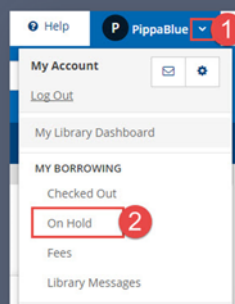
Suspending Your Online Holds

Judging by the library's crowded "hold" bookshelves, Washburn patrons know how to reserve books and other items. It's a great convenience—except when it isn't.

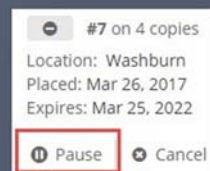
Say you're going to be out of town and you are #2 on the reserve list for a very popular book. What if the book becomes available while you're away and you lose your place in line?

There's a way to prevent that: you can suspend your reservation using the **Pause** feature associated with your online account.

First, browse to the On Hold section of your account:



You'll see a list of all the books you currently have on hold along with the number of copies the library has and your position on the list of reserves. If you are near the top of the list and don't think you'll be ready to pick up your item when it's your turn, just click on Pause.



Then you can select the exact date you would like to reactivate your reserve.

The beauty of this system is that you don't lose your place. Other people further down on the list can check out the item, but when you resume your hold, you have not lost your place—in fact you might even have moved up to number 1.

"So many books, so little time" may still be true for you, but with the Pause button, at least you are in control.

Meet Jody Soldin

It's just about a year since Jody Soldin became Washburn Library's first "Patron Experience Supervisor." It's a relatively new job title, developed to focus on the needs of library patrons and their communities.



Although the position is new, Jody is not new to Hennepin County. In fact, she has worked for the county for more than 32 years. At first she worked at Hennepin County Medical Center, and then transferred to the library system (HCL) in the mid-90s, working primarily at suburban libraries—Southdale, Golden Valley, Sumner, and Edina. In October 2013 she was named Circulation Services Supervisor at Edina and Washburn libraries, and then took on her present position at Washburn in May 2016. Jody loves working for HCL and, as she puts it, "I consider it a privilege to serve this community."

In her free time, Jody enjoys traveling, hiking/walking, swimming, reading, baking, and cooking. "I love to try new recipes and enjoy getting cookbooks from the library or online," Jody says. "I love to make up my own recipes; however, the trick is remembering what I did when my family asks for it later." Her family consists of her husband Kazim, three grown children, and two grandchildren, Anthony and Jade. "It has been pure joy for me to be "Grandma J.," she says. "It's been fun to explore the Twin Cities and all it has to offer as a grandma. I must say my life has gone so fast with working full-time and taking care of my family but I feel very blessed."



Wonderful Washburn Displays

by Office Specialist Kendall Russell

Library displays are a kind of calendar. They are timely milestones of history and current events. In the past year we have seen displays honoring Black History Month, Bob Dylan (Minnesota's most recent Nobel Prize recipient), Jewish authors, and books about books.

Displays offer handy access to materials for students, educators, and lifelong learners who are studying the topic of the month. They pique interest and curiosity. And sometimes they are set up just to amuse and delight.

In the past, only librarians created displays. It was former head librarian Ann Melrose who opened the field to any staff member who was interested. That unleashed a flurry of creative exchange and collaboration that has inspired some pretty unique set-ups. Who can forget Kesha Nash transforming our cardboard Athena into Prince, or Ginger Gomes' encyclopedia snowman?

Our patrons (almost always) enjoy what we put up, and it really adds to our job fulfillment when we get positive reviews. So even though the ordering, setting up, and maintenance means extra work, it's always worth it.



WN Book Sale 101

When our next book sale begins on May 4, about 3,000 books will be available, all of them donations from our neighbors. Obviously this is not a slapdash operation. In fact, it takes six months to get it all together. When our May sale ends, work immediately begins on the December sale. Most of the work is done by board member Chris Quinn with help from a team of volunteers. Here's how it all happens.

Donations are accepted anytime the library is open. Receipts are available from the staff. Chris and her team check every book for condition: they must be clean, with covers and pages intact, and of interest to book buyers. We do not accept textbooks, traditional encyclopedias, magazines, or business books.

Sorting. The next step is sorting and boxing the books by categories: nonfiction, biographies, children's chapter books, cookbooks, etc.



Storing. The boxes are stored in the lower level of the library, eventually filling every nook and cranny as we get closer to our next sale.

Setting up. During the week leading up to the sale, volunteers move the boxes into the meeting room, set up tables, unload the books onto the tables, then add finishing touches so the sale is ready to go.

Selling. The sale always begins on a Thursday (5 to 7 p.m.) and is open to members of any Hennepin County Friends group. There is always a line of eager booklovers waiting for the doors to open. The sales continue on Friday and Saturday, fully staffed by volunteers in 3-hour shifts. They cashier, answer questions, direct buyers to things that may be of interest to them, and straighten the books.

Giving away books. Last December we added a day—Monday—when all remaining books are free! At the end of the sale, volunteers box up the leftovers, which are then distributed to various organizations. And then we start all over again!



Even though our books cost only 50 cents to \$2, the Friends of Washburn Library have raised over \$31,000 since our first book sale in December 2010. These funds support programs within Washburn as well as the wider Hennepin County Library community. If you would like to help with our May book sale, contact Chris Quinn at cquinn111@yahoo.com.

May Book Sale Schedule
For Friends of Hennepin County Library
(Bring your membership card or join at the door)
Thursday, May 4, 5 to 7 p.m.

For the general public
Friday, May 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, May 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (\$5 Bag Sale begins at 2 p.m.)
Monday, May 8, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All books are free!

SPRING INTO READING



Laughing Waters

If you don't have children, you may not have visited the children's section of the library. Take a look. It's worth a few minutes of your time if only to see the rotunda above the play area. Looking upwards you'll be transported to a magical world of fantastic animals, flowers, hidden passages, and a waterfall. It's a mural entitled "Laughing Waters," created by artist Virginia Bradley.



"We have received so many positive comments from patrons regarding how much they enjoy reading and playing under the rotunda artwork," says Jody Soldin, Washburn's Patron Experience Supervisor. She feels that the artist's words about her artwork sum up the children's area:

"(I) strive to impart a sense of mystery, wonderment and adventure to the atmosphere ... to create a world which envelops the viewer, a world in which the viewer becomes a participant rather than an outside observer."



Check it out and see if you don't agree.