



Cover *to* Cover



NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF THE HUNTSVILLE MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

January/February 2009

Look

The Main Library will feature Huntsville artist Caroline Wang in the Atrium Gallery starting January 5. "Tour around the World", a watercolor exhibit that contains international landscapes as seen through the artist's eyes, will be on display until February 26. First floor, Main Library, 915 Monroe Street in Huntsville.

For more information, call Sophie Young at 532-5940.



GET FIT FOR LIFE

Fit for Life: *Healthy as an Astronaut* wants you and your family to think about getting fit. The Huntsville-Madison County Public Library is teaming up with a host of partner organizations and individuals to present a program series geared toward your family's well-being. The events kick off January 12-16 with a "Lose to Win Weight Loss Contest" weigh-in at the Huntsville Hospital Wellness Center, so make your New Year's resolution and mark your calendars now! Many other wonderful programs will be offered through August.

Fit for Life: Healthy as an Astronaut



Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

Fit for Life: Healthy as an Astronaut

Everyone knows an astronaut has to be in top condition to go into space. Using astronauts as our primary role models, our special events explore mental and physical well-being as essential for training astronauts for success. They also examine the challenges of keeping human beings healthy and alive in space. Our other programs highlight healthy trends in nutrition, exercise, intellectual stimulation, and more. Are *you* as healthy as an astronaut?

Fit For Life: Healthy as an Astronaut focuses on the entire family, offering programs for adults and youth separately, as well as intergenerational events. Check our calendar of events for family hikes, cooking lessons, yoga instruction, and other programs that everyone will learn from and enjoy! Upcoming special events include "Living in Space, Healthily--Long Duration Space-flight on Skylab & Beyond" on January 29 with NASA educator and writer David Hitt, and "Beyond Tang: Just What Do Astronauts Eat in Space?" on February 5 with NASA's Subsystem Manager for the International Space Station and Space Shuttle Food Systems Vickie Kloeris.

What is Fit for Life?

Fit for Life is a national, library-based program for teens and their families that promotes physical fitness and healthy eating. It is sponsored by Libraries for the Future, the program division of Americans for Libraries Council.

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library is one of a handful of libraries across the nation to receive funding for this innovative project. We would like to thank MetLife Foundation, Libraries for the Future, and Americans for Libraries Council for their support and sponsorship of **Fit for Life: Healthy as an Astronaut**.



Friends' *Foreword*

Welcome to a challenging year. In 2009, our Library's resources will be utilized more than ever, and because of budget cuts the Friends' contribution to the library for books and materials will be more important than ever. Renew your Friends of the Library membership and have a friend or relative join also. Your response to our need for more donations has been gratifying, but don't stop now. Our 25¢ Sale on February 7 will give you an opportunity to restock your reading materials.

On the fourth Sunday of January, February, and March at 2:00 p.m. in the Library auditorium you can look forward to the Hertha Heller Forum. Refreshments are always served after these warm, stimulating events. On January 25, Dr. Ron Fritze will talk about "Prince Madoc and the Welsh Indians." This is a fascinating story of mythic sea voyages, tribes wondering the wilderness, and centuries of stories and fantasies about sightings of Welsh Indians that even included a landfall at Mobile Bay. For the Forum on February 22, the Huntsville Literary Association will team with the Friends of the Library for the annual Poet's Choice Readings, which features published, prize-winning poets from the area. The HLA has long encouraged the literary arts by presenting acclaimed national and local writers.

On March 22, Dr. John Moore, assistant professor of Spanish at UAB, will present "The Road to Santiago: Pilgrimage in Spain and Beyond." The Road to Santiago was the most popular pilgrimage destination in the Middle Ages, and even today as many as 180,000 people complete the pilgrimage route annually. This presentation incorporates art and architecture, history, literature, and legends.

Several of our Library stalwarts are returning as officers of Friends of the Library in 2009: Merrie DePierre, president; Ted Brostrom, vice president; Mary Spencer, treasurer; and Lee Jones, secretary. Their dedication and hard work mirror the efforts of our Bookstore chairman, board members, and volunteers.

You can keep up with the latest news and events on our web page: : <http://hpl.lib.al.us/friends>

Roberta Woods

Friends of the Library

FRIENDS BOOKSTORE

Entrance of the Main Branch Library

Telephone: 532-5986

Monday - Thursday Noon - 6 p.m.

Friday Noon - 4 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Hertha Heller Forums

January 25, 2 p.m.

Dr. Ron Fritze

Prince Madoc and the Welsh Indians:
A Persistent Myth in Alabama and Beyond

February 22, 2 p.m.

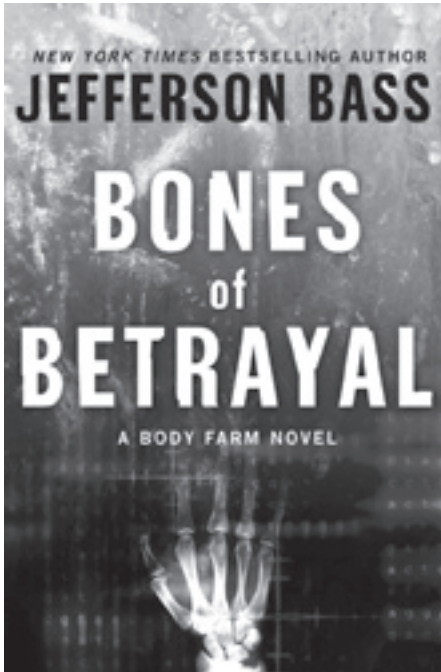
FOL and the Huntsville
Literary Association
Poet's Choice Readings

25¢ Sale

February 7

Main Library Bookstore
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

SPEND FRIDAY THE 13TH WITH BODY FARM AUTHORS AND THEIR NEW BOOK



Back by popular demand, Dr. Bill Bass and Jon Jefferson will entertain and enthrall with a presentation of their newest release, *Bones of Betrayal*. This thrilling novel of forensic suspense based on real forensic science explores truth, lies, war, and history, and promises to be the most ambitious, engrossing and inspiring Body Farm novel yet.

Friday, February 13

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe Street

Doors open at 6 p.m. for wine and cheese

Presentation begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by a book signing.

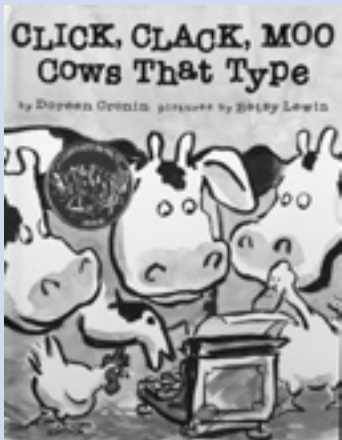
Books will be available for purchase at the event.

Cost is \$10 per person.

Call 532-5950 for reservations.



GREAT BIG BOOK BASH FEATURES FAVORITE CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATOR BETSY LEWIN



Bring your children to an event they won't soon forget! Betsy Lewin, illustrator of beloved books such as *Click, Clack, Moo* and *Duck for President* will take attendees on a rollicking jaunt through her world of picture book illustration. Along the way, kids will meet "Weirdly", an impish character who (if he behaves!) helps Betsy demonstrate how she draws hippos, tornadoes, cows that type...and much, much more! Everyone will enjoy watching Betsy's characters come alive as she creates them with pen and paper, and they will have fun following along with their own paper and crayons provided at the show.

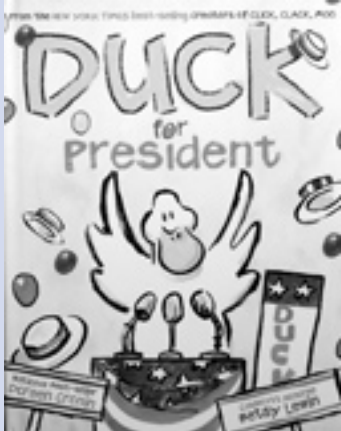
Great Big Book Bash with Betsy Lewin

Saturday, February 21 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Main Library Auditorium, 915 Monroe Street

Tickets are \$5 each.

Call 532-5950 for more information!



Donations to the Library

For November & December 2008

In Memory of...

Ron Barnett by Stephenie and Caleb Walker, Patty and Tom Cogdill
Barbara Darnell by Stormy and John Dovers
Tony and Faye DeLoach by Bonnie and Bill Jones
Faye DeLoach by Judy and Jimmy Stacy
Elizabeth Eadon by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Eadon, Sharon Offerson,
Edward Eadon, Charles Eadon
Mrs. Laura Edwards by Freya and Loch Neely
Sarah Huff Fisk by Emily Saile and Linda Wright Riley Anne Glavin
by Mrs. Mary Spencer
William H. Griffin by Dr. and Mrs. James Wall, Freya and
Loch Neely
Chris Griggs by Donna Lamb, Mrs. Mary Spencer,
Dr. and Mrs. Phillip L. Saunders, George and Judy Grumbles,
Sydna R. Johnson
Foster A. Haley by Nancy D. Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Barclay,
Christine and Larry Warren, Leslie and Fred Morris and family,
Harold Warren, Beth and Randy Bailey
Joseph Paul Eugene Jones by Paulette, Anna, Maria, John-Paul, and
Christina Teel
Dr. John Rison Jones by Frances H. Woodard, Susan W. Geoghegan
Toby Kilgo by Joy and Hal Fargason, Strathshannon Eclectic Book
Discussion Group, Jean and Bud Harris, Roberta and Jack
Duffey, Esther Bobbitt Davis, Mary Judith Conner, Margaret and
Harold Eskew, Marilyn Walker, Mr. Charles Hopper, Jr.,
Ann Kurtz by David Horton, Phoebe Horton, Jack Horton,
Geraldine and Joseph Haymes, Isabelle and Peter Marrero, The
Dale Hutson Family, Mrs. Elizabeth Constantine, Lana Hartman
Mildred Smoot McCall by The Robert McCall Family
Bob Metzl by Lana Hartman
Willadeen B. Milburn by Trace Parish and Richard Reed
Bessie Moxley by Libby Brown
Marguerite Manget Orr by Lenda and Rhett Woody, Suzanne Ellery,
Virginia Robinson, Mary and Newell Witherspoon
James Ramsey by the Library Staff Organization
Axel Roth by Jean and Jack Lee
George H. Shepherd by Dr. and Mrs. James Wall
Billie Joe Sloan by Friends of the Caesura Book Club
J.T. Stricklin by Bill and Joann Bee
Hugh Thompson by Joseph Lundy
James Day Thornton, Jr. by Mr. Charles Hopper, Jr., Dotty Kelly
Mr. Robert Truax by Catherine Clark, Beth and Jerry Shivers, Ike
and Simone Clark, Ms. Marion B. Losset, Mr. and Mrs. James C.
Glover, Jean and Dana Brammer, Selma Times Journal, Mrs.
Nola Northington, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Pass and Laurel, Mr.
Mark Losset, Dotty Kelly
Dr. Robert Welker by Earline Garcia

In Honor of...

Louisa Beeler by Libby Brown
Laurel Best by the Athena Book Club
Ellie and Johnny Chudar by Master Gordon Sebring, II
Jake Cornelius and Ben Parvin by Mrs. Kay O. Cornelius
Elsie Dean by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library
Conrad Eadon by Paul Eadon, Sharon Offerson, Edward
Eadon, Charles Eadon
Lana Hartman by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library
Emily Judge by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library
Sandra Leibold by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library
Martha Masucci by Libby Brown
Jake and Ben Parvin, the author's grandsons, by
Mrs. Kay O. Cornelius
Maria Roos by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library
Eileen Rosenkrans by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library
Grandma Ellie Sebastian by Master Gordon Sebring, II
Grandma and Grandpa Sebring by Master Gordon Sebring, II
Margaret West by the Friends of the Tillman Hill Public Library

Special thanks to...

Maureen Collins Baker and Ken Knowles
Mrs. Cynthia Branham
Nikki Chenault
Ms. Morri Coulter
Dr. Jan Davis
Emma Lou Diemer
Mr. Frank W. DuVall
Mr. Darnell R. Fleming
John Beattie Fuller and Fuller Genealogy Data Bank
Ms. Debra Hahn
Donna Lamb
Marilyn Lands
Piccadilly Cafeteria and Martha Moore
Ms. Emily Saile and Ms. Linda Wright
Stephen H. Smith
Christine Starnes

The holiday season was well celebrated at the main library! The library staff and patrons would like to thank the following community organizations for sharing their beautifully decorated Christmas trees with us:

Master Gardeners, Making Connections: Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group, Moms Club of North Alabama, MOPS of Capshaw Baptist Church, Moms' Club of South Huntsville, Werner Von Braun Star Trek Fan Club, The Calligraphy Guild, The Huntsville Humane Society, The Porcelain Arts Guild, Orr Ministries, The Gourd Patch Society, The Randolph School French Club, The Embroiderer's Guild of Alabama, The Fiber Arts Guild, SNAP, Huntsville Animal Services, Theatre Huntsville, U.S. Green Building Council, Twickenham Town Chapter DAR

We extend our best wishes for the New Year to each of these wonderful organizations!



Coming

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

Attractions

For the latest and greatest HMCPL Book Club information, register for the Book Club Newsletter—we will deliver it straight to your in-box! Go to hpl.lib.al.us and click on the newsletter highlight under the “Book Clubs” box on the right side of our homepage.

Fridays in January & February, 10:30 a.m.
Berachah Gym across the parking lot from the Bessie K. Russell Branch Library, 859-9050 Friday Morning Fitness Class

Monday, January 5, 6 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5940
The Main Attraction’s feature movie is “The Dark Knight” (PG-13)
Madison Public Library, 461-0046
The Documentary Film Series presents “Roger & Me” (R)

Tuesday, January 6, 6 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5940
Cinema Mundo Foreign Film Series presents “Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter...and Spring” (R) (2003)

January 12 – 16, 532-5975
Huntsville Hospital
Wellness Center
Lose to Win Weight Loss
Contest: Weigh-in Prizes will be awarded for the most weight lost. Part of the Fit For Life program series.

Friday, January 16, 7:30 p.m.
HMCPL night with the Huntsville Havoc! Huntsville Havoc vs. Columbus Cottonmouths at the VBC arena. When ordering tickets, mention you are a HMCPL card holder, and the cost is just \$8 per ticket. Deadline to order is 5 p.m., January 15. Call Kurtis Matzkind at 518-6163 or email tickets@hsvsports.com.

Sunday, January 18, 2 – 4 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5993
Warren Trest, author of *Nobody But the People: The Life and Times of Alabama’s Youngest Governor*, and former governor John Patterson will appear at the HMCPL for a program, book sale and signing.

Monday, January 19, 6 p.m.
Madison Public Library, 461-0046
The International Film Series presents “Golden Door” (PG-13), Italian with English subtitles

Monday, January 26, 6:30 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5975
Watch the movie “Spelling Bee”. Part of the Fit For Life program series.

Thursday, January 29, 7 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5975
Living in Space, Healthily—Long Duration Spaceflight on Skylab and Beyond, featuring David Hitt. David is a NASA educator and writer who explores past and future challenges of keeping humans alive and healthy in Space. A Huntsville native, David is a 1996 graduate of Old Miss, an award-winning former newspaper reporter and editor, and a member of the local comedy improve troupe Face2Face.

Saturday, January 31
1 – 3 p.m., Main Library Atrium
Artist’s reception honoring Caroline Wang and her watercolor exhibit “Tour around the World.” Refreshments and door prizes.

2 – 4 p.m., Main Library Auditorium
Get out your fancy hats! The 8th annual English Author Tea features UAB professor Lee Shackleford’s presentation of beloved English author J.R.R. Tolkien. Tickets are \$15, and reservations and payment must be made in advance. Call 532-5950 to reserve your place!

Monday, February 2, 6 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5940
The Main Attraction’s feature movie is “The Mummy Tomb of the Dragon Emperor” (PG-13)
Madison Public Library, 461-0046
The Documentary Film Series features “Grizzly Man” (R)

Tuesday, February 3, 6 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5940
Cinema Mundo Foreign Film Series presents “The Man Without a Past” (PG-13) (2002)

Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5975
Beyond Tang: Just What Do Astronauts Eat in Space? Vickie Kloeris of the Johnson Space Flight Center in Houston reveals what astronauts eat in space and how it is prepared. She’ll bring samples for us to try. Would you want to eat like an astronaut?

Sunday, February 7, 1:30 p.m.
Main Library Youth Services, 532-5949
Meet the Author: Peter Huggins is a poet and writer of fiction for children. His books range from picture books to children’s poetry to novels for middle-grade readers. He teaches at Auburn University.

Monday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5975
Watch “Supersize Me”, a documentary about the commercial food industry.

Monday, February 9, 6 p.m.
Madison Public Library, 461-0046
The International Film Series presents “Offside” (PG), Iranian movie with English subtitles.

Sunday, February 15, 2 – 4 p.m.
Green Mountain, 532-5957
Iron Family Hike: Bill & Marion Certain Trail on the Blevins Gap Preserve. Enjoy this moderate hike with the whole gang. Are you an Iron Family?

Thursday, February 26, 6 – 8 p.m.
Main Library Auditorium, 532-5993
LeeAnna Keith, Huntsville native and author of the 2008 book *The Colfax Massacre: The Untold Story of Black Power, White Terror, and the Death of Reconstruction* will make a presentation. Book sale and signing to follow.

FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



Happy New Year and welcome to all that the library has to offer you in 2009! As we turn the calendar to a new page, many of us reflect on those New Year's resolutions we made last year—some of which we kept, and some, well, we won't dwell on those. January always offers a chance to reclaim lost promises to ourselves and this year is no different. If getting fit and living a healthier lifestyle is on your list, the HMCPL's *Fit for Life: Healthy as an Astronaut* program offers fun and innovative ways for you to reach your goals. Maybe your aim is to read more books this year? In the next few months, the HMCPL will offer you FREE audio books that you can download directly to your computer from our website. With an MP3 player, you can listen to books anywhere, anytime!

We have resolutions for the library as well, and using our financial resources wisely is always at the top of the list! An article I read in *The Huntsville Times* a while ago sparked another resolution for 2009. The title of the article was "Messy areas lead to messy actions, researchers find", and the premise was that people were more likely to ignore the rules of good behavior if their environment was littered or awash in graffiti. If that is true, then the opposite must also be true: neatness begets neatness. We are working hard to keep our buildings and public areas neat and clean. Please help us keep our resolution by letting us know when you see something that needs our attention. We appreciate your help!

Laurel Best, Executive Director

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