



March 2013
Newsletter

Oakton, VA

Oakton Community Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, VA 22124, 703-242-4020
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events FriendsofOaktonLibrary@gmail.com

Book Sale News

by Carole Dowd, Book Sale Co-chair

The Friends are getting ready for the used book sale in March. We will display and sell thousands of gently used, donated books.

The sale will be on Thursday, March 14 from 1 pm to 8 pm, on Friday, March 15 from 10 am to 6 pm, and continue on Saturday the 16th from 10 am until 3 in the afternoon.

We will be setting up the sale starting on Saturday the 9th, and on the weekdays before the sale opens. If you would like to help for an hour or two, before or during the sale, please contact Carole Dowd at cdowd2000@verizon.net.

We hope to see you there!

The cut-off date for book donations for the Spring book sale is **March 1**. Thank you, everyone, for the fabulous donations you've made over the winter!

We will again accept donations as of March 25th. Remember we appreciate clean, gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and audio books. We do not accept text books or magazines.

Remember to check out the **Ongoing Book Sale** in the Library foyer and around the corner. The Friends share this revenue with the Fairfax County Library system, so everyone wins! And you will find some terrific books!

To Our Members

Thank you to everyone who renewed their memberships and contributed to the Friends at year-end. Your contributions generate hundreds of dollars of funding each year to help the Friends provide materials and sponsor events and programs, enhancing Oakton Library's services to the community.

And a special "thank you" to the **Saturday Sit & Sew** group which meets at the library each month for their contribution.

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2013, there is still time! Please use the form at the end of this newsletter, and drop it at the Information Desk at the Library, or mail it to the address indicated. If you are not sure if you have renewed, ask our Membership Chair at mayaue13@gmail.com.

Calling all Book Groups

To spread the word about upcoming programs and book sales, we would like to make our quarterly newsletter available to Oakton area book groups. If you belong to a book group, please send us the email address of a group representative who could receive our mailings and then forward them to your members. Send the email address to FriendsOfOaktonLibrary@gmail.com.

Kidnesthetics – New at Oakton Library

by Delia Ullberg

The Oakton Library will be starting a new program in March 2013 called **Kidnesthetics**. This is a program developed by volunteer Ronald Robinson to help kids get excited about reading and gain confidence as emerging readers. The program uses a variety of methods to help kids learn to recognize spelling and word patterns. These skills will help students learn to read independently and will increase their reading comprehension.

The sessions at the Oakton Library will be the first Saturday and third Tuesday of March, April and May. Each session will have a story time, an in-class reading assignment and games such as Red Light Green Light and Four Corners.

Mr. Robinson also started this program at Waples Mills Elementary School where he has helped over 100 children learn to read.

Oakton Friends Nominated

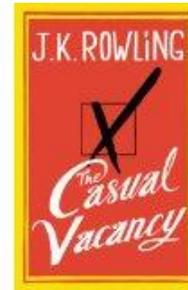
The Fairfax Library Foundation has nominated the Friends of Oakton Library for the 2013 Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards. We were nominated because of our “invaluable assistance in helping ... to plan and conduct the Library Jubilee at the Oakton Library last October.”

Volunteer Fairfax will hold the annual Service Awards Breakfast on April 18th, at which time nominees will be honored and winners will be announced.

We would like to thank the Fairfax Library Foundation for this honor.

Book Review -- Tooley Milstead

The Casual Vacancy by J.K. Rowling



Cynical, mirthless, heavy and dark sum up descriptions of this English village tale. It would take more than a shining beam of light to lift this heavy novel above its depressing theme.

Barry Fairbrother, the only likable character in the English village of Pagford dies on the second page. He was the peacemaker, mentor to troubled youth and an advocate for the unfortunate. As the plot unfolds, the reader should understand that the only way to keep track of who's who is to maintain a character list; otherwise as the plot unfolds in its downward spiral, you'll get lost in the dark. It's possible that some of the negative aspects of this English society are familiar to Rowling as she struggled out of poverty to become successful.

The parish council, a governing body to Pagford, must decide if the adjoining community of Yarvil can continue to receive its largess which allows for the maintenance of the Fields. This is a community populated by scroungers, addicts and mothers whose children had been fathered by a variety of different men. Such conditions are a scandalous reminder to most of the “puritanical” council members of the superiority of Pagford. Barry, as a council member, wanted what was best for the blighted group living in the Fields. Others on the council felt it was time to cut them loose. The plot also swirls around troubled youth and dysfunctional relationships.

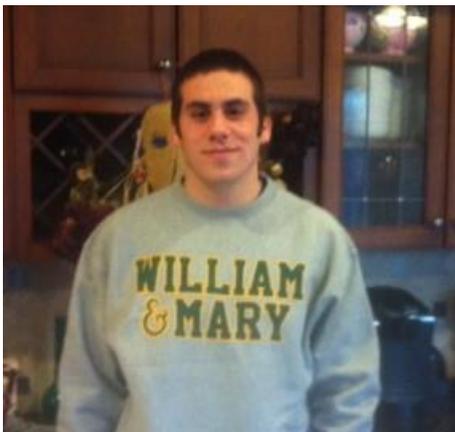
Rowling does maintain her creative narrative style, but this was the only positive I found.

Easy Readers Playbook: A Winning Performance by Michael Luciani

- Janet Kerr-Tener

At the age of 14, Oakton resident Michael Luciani was drafted by his older brother, Danny, to volunteer with the Friends of Oakton Library reading outreach program, **Easy Readers**. Michael agreed to fill in a spot on the all-male high school volunteer team in the fall of 2009 helping first- and second-grade boys develop an enthusiasm for reading.

Fast forward four years, and Michael now finds himself completing his third year as chairman of the group and preparing to hand the program playbook and well-worn curriculum materials over to his successor. An all-A student and star swimmer at Bishop O'Connell High School, in August Michael will be heading on to William and Mary, which is his first choice school.



Reflecting on his four seasons with *Easy Readers*, Michael remarks that it's been really fun to "watch the kids develop" by tackling hands-on activities like building Legos and making "Dirt Cake." What's more, Michael says, the 16 kids and 8 volunteers quickly "form a bond" that keeps everyone coming to the Oakton Library every Saturday morning over six weeks each fall. "The kids really like reading with the high school guys," he says, "because they think the big guys are cool." An added benefit: the parents of

the first- and second-graders get to know the library because they are required to stay on grounds during the program.

Asked what the hardest part of the four years has been, Michael replied, "getting all the stuff ready for each Saturday's activity the day before." While a more typical teenager might wait until the morning to gather and sort Legos and name tags, snacks and water bottles, Michael couldn't. That's because he was in the pool at 5:30 AM every Saturday before the program which started at 10:30. A winning performance, indeed!

Note: Funding for Easy Readers has been provided by the Friends of Oakton Library since 2007, and is also currently provided by the Luciani family.

Deputy's Corner

- Deputy Maya Mann, Membership Chair

Have you ever driven with something inside both ears? You can be pulled over and be issued an infraction. From Virginia law:

46.2-1078 Unlawful to operate motor vehicle, bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, or moped while using earphones / earbuds / headphones on or in both ears.

Be safe out there!

Please pass this newsletter along to a friend or neighbor who is interested in the Library, and encourage them to join the Friends!

Winter Activities at the Library

Oakton Library – Holiday Open House – December 15, 2012

Funded by the Friends of Oakton Library in order to build our community and share cultural arts.



Chalet Brass (above)



Oakton High School String Ensemble (left)

Refreshments (right)



Holiday book sale and craft project (below)



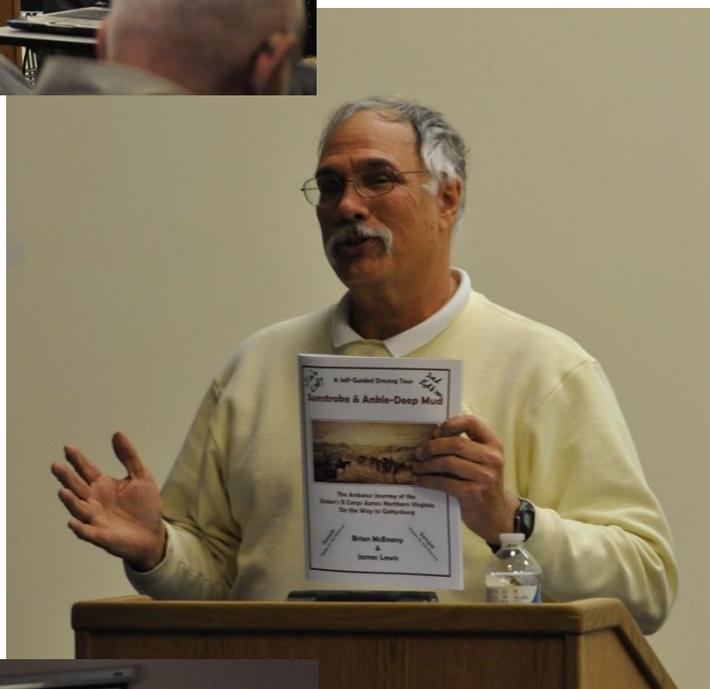
Jim Lewis – The Civil War Years at Flint Hill, Oakton – Feb. 17, 2013

Refreshments provided by the Friends of Oakton Library



Dave Mertens and Mary Medina, Library staff members, introduce area historian Mr. Jim Lewis.

Mr. Lewis spoke before an audience of 50 library patrons, presenting information about Civil War activities in Oakton (known at the time as Flint Hill).



This morning program was part of an Oakton Library branch initiative to expand services for seniors.

Spring Calendar

- All events take place at the Oakton Library unless specified.
- Most programs require a reservation. www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events.
- Note that some events are repeated on multiple dates.
- Notice the new offerings: Brain Games: Intergenerational, Kidnesthetics, and Storytime Sampler.
- Also note the new series of programs aimed at adults, highlighted in **green**.

Note that the Library will closed be on Mon., May 27.

Thursdays – 7:30 pm – **eBook/eReader Instruction**. Learn about library eBooks. Drop-in. Except Mar. 14.

Sat., Mar. 2, Mar. 9, Mar. 16, Mar. 23 – 10:30 am – **Storytime Sampler** Drop-in; Registration not required. Age 2-5 with an adult.

Mon. Mar. 4, Apr. 22 – 3:30 pm – **Brain Games: Intergenerational**. Bring your friend, your grandmother, or your grandson. (Age 6 and up.)

Tues., Mar. 5, Wed., Mar. 20, Apr. 24 – 10:30 am – **Toddler Tales**. (Age 2-3 with an adult.)

Tues., Mar. 5 – 1:30 pm – Tips on Buying a TV (Older adult)

Wed., Mar. 6, Apr. 3, May 1 – 10:30 am – **Small Wonders** Short stories for you and your child. (Age 13-23 months.)

Sat., Mar. 9 – 10:00 am – **Book Sale Set-up day**

Thurs. Mar. 14 thru Sat. Mar. 16 – **Used Book Sale!**

Tues., Mar. 19, Apr. 23, May 21 – 10:30 am – **Kidnesthetics** Early reading. (Age 4-6)

Tues., Mar. 19, Apr. 9, May 14 – 7:15 pm – **Money Matters**.

Tues., Mar. 19, Apr. 16, May 21 – 7:30 pm – **Board Meeting**, Friends of Oakton Library

Tues., Mar. 26, Apr. 23, May 28 – 7:30 pm – **Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club** (Adults and Teens)

Wed., Mar. 27 – 10:30 am – **Preschool Storytime** (Age 4-5 with an adult)

Thurs., Mar. 28 – 1:30 pm – **Shenanigans**. Beale Street Puppets. Sponsored by the Friends of Oakton Library. (All ages)

Sat., Mar. 30 – 10:30 am – **Rocknoceros Presents: Colonel Purple Turtle** (Children of all ages)

Sat., Apr. 6, May 4 – 3:00 pm – **Kidnesthetics** Early reading. (Age 4-6)

Mon., Apr. 8 – 7:30 pm – **Bedtime Storytime** (Age 2-5 with an adult.)

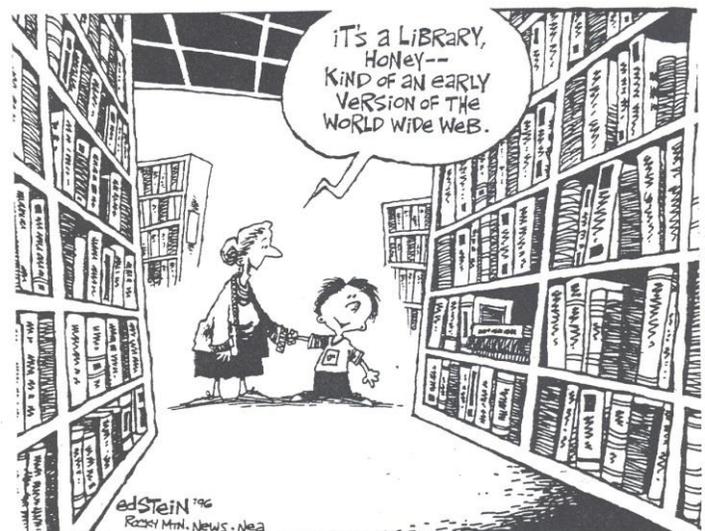
Mon., Apr. 15 – 3:30 pm – **Building Bridges at Oakton**. Explore the science behind bridges. (Age 6-12)

Wed., Apr. 17 – 10:30 am – **Springtime in the Park. At Oakton Community Park on Hunter Mill Road**. At the Library if inclement weather. (Age 4-5 with adult)

Saturdays in May -- 10:00 am – **Master Gardener's Plant Clinic**

Tues., May 7 – 7:00 pm – Legal Tools for Caregivers (Adults)

Mon., May 20 – 3:30 pm – **Brain Games** (Age 6 and up.)



Yes, Count Me as a Friend

**It's not too late to renew your
membership for 2013!**

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

New? ____ Membership Renewal? ____

Here's My Annual Membership Donation

\$10 Individual _____

\$25 Family _____

Other Amount _____

I would like to volunteer

my talents to help the Friends of Oakton Library.

Kindly check one or more:

- Book Sales
- Volunteer at the Library
- Friends Programs / Special Events
- Hospitality / Floral Displays
- Horticulture / Outdoor Habitat
- Expanding our Membership
- Occasional Assistance

Please make your check payable to

Friends of Oakton Library

and then mail to

Friends of Oakton Library
10304 Lynnhaven Place
Oakton, VA 22124-1785

FOL is an IRS 501(c)(3) organization.
Your donation is tax-deductible.

Thank you!