



September 2012  
Newsletter

*Oakton, VA*

Inquiries or Suggestions? -- Write [FriendsOfOaktonLibrary@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsOfOaktonLibrary@gmail.com)

## Fall Book Sale

Our book storage areas are overflowing with your generous donations, so we know it is time for our Fall sale! This is the very best way for you to help the Friends – please join us as a volunteer as well as a buyer!

### Set-up Days:

Sat., Sept. 15 and  
Mon. Sept. 17 through Wed., Sept. 19

### Sale Days:

Thurs., Sept. 20 – 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Fri., Sept. 21 – 10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Sat. Sept. 22 – 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

### Clean-up:

Sat., Sept. 22 – 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

To volunteer, e-mail Carole Dowd at [cdowd2000@verizon.net](mailto:cdowd2000@verizon.net). It's a pleasant and congenial way to spend a couple of hours.

Vintage Vinyl!!! For the first time, we will sell **vinyl records, 33's, 45's, even 78 rpm records**. Please spread the word among your friends.

**Book Donation cut-off: Mon. Sept. 10**

Oakton Community Library  
10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton, VA 22124  
703-242-4020  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events)

## Library Foundation Jubilee

The Fairfax Library Foundation will host its fourth annual Jubilee at **Oakton Library**. Each year the jubilee is an opportunity for the Fairfax Library Foundation and hundreds of library patrons, elected officials, business and community leaders, and special guests, to join together to celebrate the Fairfax County Public Library system and raise funds for its programs most in need.

The event, *Let Loose in the Library: A Library Jubilee*, will be held **Saturday, October 13, 2012 from 5 to 8 p.m.**

This year the event will feature honorees **David Baldacci**, best-selling author, and his wife, Michelle, whose efforts to support the Fairfax County Public Library system for nearly a decade have made differences in the lives of thousands in Fairfax County, and who were especially instrumental in the opening of the Oakton Branch.

The Jubilee event itself will feature cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, live music, and both a live and silent auction. Last year over \$80,000 was raised to benefit programs such as Ready to Read, Summer Reading, Foundation scholarships, Changing Lives through Literature, and eBooks.

For more information or to buy tickets, please visit [www.FairfaxLibraryFoundation.org](http://www.FairfaxLibraryFoundation.org).



*Oakton Community Library*  
*5th Anniversary Celebration*

*Saturday*

*September 29, 2012*

*10:00 am—4:30 pm*

**AMAZING  
DOOR PRIZES!**

**Meet Bad Kitty**

**10—11 a.m.**

Meet this favorite storybook character as she visits the library and poses for pictures. Do you think she can stay out of mischief? Recommended for ages 3-7.

Sponsor: Friends of Oakton Library



**Creators of Superman and Batman**

**11 a.m.**



Marc Tyler Nobleman, author of *Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman* and other superhero titles shares behind-the-scenes stories of these iconic characters.

Book sale and signing. Ages 10-adult.

Sponsor: Fairfax Library Foundation & Fall for the Book

**\*\*\* Birthday Cake at 12:00 noon \*\*\***

**Library Gadget Fair**

**12 noon—2 p.m.**

Try out gadgets that make using the library fun and easy wherever you are. Door prizes include exciting new gadgets. Tickets free all day. Prize drawing at 4 pm—**MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN.**

Adults and teens.

Sponsor: Fairfax Library Foundation



**PRIZE DRAWING 4 pm**

**Must be present to win!**

**Mark Twain Speaking**

**2:30 p.m.**

Impersonator Gary Robertson shares the literary wit of this great American author. Adults & teens.

Sponsor: Friends of Oakton Library

## The Story of Oakton Library

-- Aliya Parvez

On September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the Oakton Community Library opened to the public. The much anticipated day was made successful by the hard work of the Management Team, led by **Branch Manager Jerilyn Polson**, **Circulation Manager Mary Medina**, Library aides, information assistants and a host of volunteers who put in many hours of work in sorting and shelving books.

This September 29<sup>th</sup> will be Oakton's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday, and like any 5 year old, we are eager for a celebration.

- Children 3 to 7 will meet Bad Kitty led by **Children's librarian, Delia Ullberg**.
- Author Marc Tyler Nobleman will talk about his book titled Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman. This program is for ages 10 to adults, led by Jerilyn Polson, and sponsored by Fairfax Library Foundation and Fall for the book.
- There will be birthday cake at 12 noon.
- Also at 12:00, a Library gadget fair led by **Assistant Branch Manager James Vroom** will feature fabulous door prizes including e-book and e-audio readers.
- Mark Twain impersonator Gary Robertson will share Twain's wit.
- Door prize tickets will be distributed, one-per-person, throughout the day, with the drawings taking place at 4 pm. You must be present to win. Prizes are funded by Fairfax Library Foundation.

Oakton welcomes its loyal patrons every day: retirees who come in to read the newspapers, mothers with young children who leave the branch loaded down with several tote bags full, school kids who come in to work in groups or by themselves busy on their laptops, and all the Internet users who come in to check mail and do research.

This September 29<sup>th</sup> all our patrons are invited to the birthday celebration. The best part of a birthday for an institution is, the older it gets the more we want to flaunt the age. So we say happy birthday to Oakton and many happy returns.

## The Story Behind the Story

– Janet Tener

After a prolonged and vociferous citizen-led campaign in 1999-2000 to create a taxing district to fund a park on the property where the library stands, the county secured a four acre proffer from the developer of the houses next door. The land was to be used for a library with an outdoor public area. The library proffer (instead of a park or a park and library) was a compromise but ultimately a win for the community. It was also the realization of a long-time dream of the Oakton Women's Club.

Linda Byrne and I thought we should not let any grass grow under our feet and that we should capitalize on the political momentum we had in order to get the library designed and built. At that time, Supervisor Gerry Connolly told us that it would take 7 or more years to get the library funded through the public bond process and then constructed. Linda and I decided we didn't want to wait that long, so we formed a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt group, Friends of Oakton Library, to help us fund-raise and friend-raise for the future library.

The IRS thought our 501(c)(3) application peculiar if not suspicious. After all, there was no library building yet. The agent reviewing our application called one day to ask how there could be a "Friends" group without a library. We were able to convince the agency that there would be a building sooner if they would let us form Friends of Oakton Library. The IRS consented and we obtained our IRS exemption in 2003.

Then, we lobbied to push the public bond process ahead of schedule to include the Oakton Library on the bond referendum scheduled for 2004. Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth (who had replaced Gerry Connolly) was the key catalyst in this process, aided by Library Director Sam Clay and the Fairfax Public Library Foundation. The bond referendum passed in November

of 2004, and Sam set the planning, bidding, and construction process in motion. The rest is history.

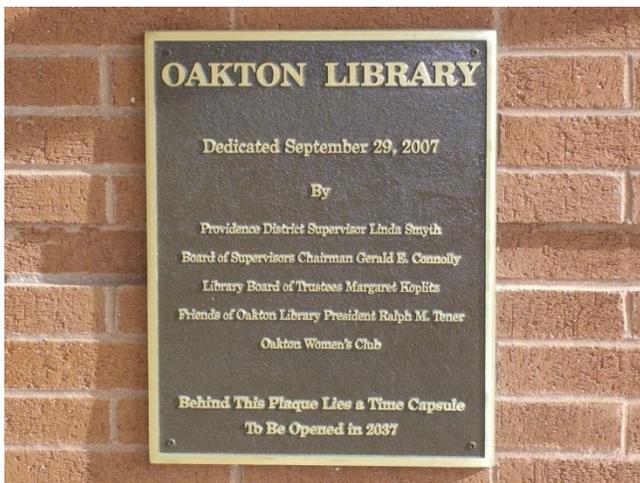
I believe the book sales started in 2005. The Unity Church of Fairfax generously allowed us to hold book sales in their buildings and also hosted our meetings. The Oakton Library is truly the result of the work of a determined community and supportive public officials like Supervisor Smyth and Sam Clay.

**From Congressman Gerry Connolly:**

"My proudest accomplishment as Providence Supervisor was the Oakton Library. Working with the community we got the land, library board planning approval, comprehensive plan amendment, bond approval, design approval and construction. It is a beautiful and functional addition to our community."

**From Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth:**

"It's hard to believe that it is already 5 years since we opened the Library, and yet it's so much a part of the community that it's hard to believe that it wasn't always there."



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

## Friends of Oakton Library – Speaker Series

The Friends are sponsoring two programs this fall:

Thurs., Oct. 18 – 7:00 pm – **Titanic – The DC Connection.** National Park Service Ranger, Michael Kelly, shares stories about the Titanic disaster of 1912 and the many surprising connections to our nation's capital. History and trivia buffs will love this! Adults and students 12 and up.

Thurs., Nov. 1 – 7:00 pm -- **Voting and Women's Suffrage.** Historian Kathleen Pablo presents this timely topic. Adults and students 12 and up.

## Don't Forget! The Library Has an Amazon Wishlist!

Can you send a birthday book to the Library? Absolutely!

At [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com), access the wishlist **FCPL Foundation Bookdrive**, or go to <http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/registry.html/002-9627810-1915264?id=2P3AKWX1F9FO>.

Your book(s) will be shipped directly to the FCPL office in Chantilly. However, you can specify that they are for the Oakton branch and designate an honoree by entering instructions in the "gift card".

## New Library Hours

Hurray !! Beginning Saturday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, the Oakton Library will be open six additional hours each week. The new hours are:

- Monday -- 10:00 am to 9:00 pm
- Tuesday -- 10:00 am to 9:00 pm
- Wednesday – 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Thursday – 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- Friday – 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
- Saturday – 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Sunday – Closed

## Senior Reading Area – Jerilyn Polson

The staff has redesigned an area of the library with the older customer in mind. All of our branches have preschool and children's areas, and some even have teen areas, but the concept of a "senior area", for lack of a better term, is new to Fairfax County Public Library. We noticed that our Large Print and Audiobooks on CD seem to circulate at a higher than average level, and observation indicated that many of our customers are using canes, walkers and wheelchairs. Then our Print Enlarging machine arrived setting everything in motion.

The Friends purchased beautiful furniture for the Print Enlarger. The staff swapped the English Language Learning materials with the Large Print collection, and changed the shelving configuration so the Large Print has more room to spread out. New furniture was purchased which is specially designed to be both safe and comfortable for the aging body, and plenty of floor space remains for wheelchairs and walkers to maneuver and stay awhile.

The lounge furniture and additional shelving was funded by a developer contribution on behalf of Sunrise Assisted Living.

It didn't take long after completion for people to begin seeking out this quiet and attractive location as their first seating choice when they come to the library. It's adjacent to the magazines and newspapers. You can watch the birds and changing seasons from the large bay window. Fiction, mysteries and Large Print books are all just a few steps away, along with some specialized resources, like the *Senior Beacon*, *Fairfax 50+* and *The Caregiver's Corner*.

Next time you long for a bucolic getaway, visit the new Senior Reading Area at Oakton Community Library. You will want to stay longer than you may have planned.

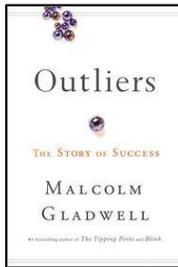


Circulation Manager Mary Medina, with Pages Khaled Morsy and Dahr Mahali, show off the expanded Large Print collection.



## Book Review -- Tooley Milstead

**OUTLIERS** by Malcolm Gladwell



Why are some people so successful? Malcolm Gladwell explains some of the “secrets” of extraordinary success in this 2008 book. An “outlier” is someone who has attained success that is far beyond normal expectations.

Mr. Gladwell makes the case for phenomenal achievement by suggesting that when and where one is born, who one’s parents are, one’s culture, and class are all contributing factors to the kind of achievement experienced by Bill Gates and the Beatles, to name only a few. This could be a dry explanation but not in Gladwell’s capable hands. He begins to explain his theory by looking at the birthdays of members of the Canadian Hockey League’s championship teams, the Tigers and Giants. He found that players of the same age with birthdays in the Jan./Feb. had several more months of growth and skill development compared to children born later in the year. This led to the success of the former group.

Success doesn’t just happen because someone is brilliant, but because of practice, practice -- 10,000 times. He cites the long hours the Beatles “practiced” before they were known around the world, changing music entertainment forever. Bill Gates was fortunate to attend a private school where parents donated funds to start a computer lab. Gates was able to do real-time programming as an eighth grader. This example of opportunity coupled with genius led to the company we know today as Microsoft.

Of further interest is a list of seventy-five of the wealthiest individuals throughout history, their approximate worth in today’s dollars, their source of wealth, and their country of origin. Focusing on date of birth and country of origin, several wealthy Americans, for example, were born when this country was undergoing a surge in industrial manufacturing, and the rules behind our economy allowed for innovation and tremendous wealth accumulation, including Rockefeller, Carnegie, Vanderbilt, and Mellon.

Outliers is a look at how and why one can be successful. Perspiration and inspiration matter, but so do many other factors. Gladwell also wrote The Tipping Point and Blink.

## VolunteerFest® - 2012

Volunteer Fairfax’s county-wide VolunteerFest®, coinciding with National Make a Difference Day, and Providence District VolunteerFest® will take place on **Saturday, October 27**.

Although the Oakton Library and the Friends are not sponsoring an event this year due to our very busy fall, we strongly encourage you to participate in the many events that are available.

More information is available on the 2012 VolunteerFest® website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/events.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/events.htm) or by calling 703-560-6946, TTY 711 or on the Volunteer Fairfax website at <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/non-profits/volunteerfest.php> or by calling Meg Emory at (703) 246-3533, TTY 711.

## Library Closed for Holidays

The Library will be closed on the following dates:

Monday, September 3  
Monday, October 8  
Monday, Nov. 12  
Thursday, Nov. 22--Friday, Nov. 23

## Fall Calendar

- All events take place at the Oakton Library.
- Most programs require a reservation. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/events).
- Note that some events are repeated on multiple days.

-----  
Thursdays – 7:30 pm and 8:15 pm – **eBook/eReader Instruction**. Learn about library eBooks. Call for an appointment. 703-242-4020

Sat., Sept. 1, 8, and 15 – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm – **Master Gardeners' Plant Clinic**. Experts available to answer your gardening questions.

Wed., Sept. 5, Oct. 3, and Nov. 14 – 10:30 am – **Small Wonders** (Short stories for you and your child, age 13-23 months.)

Tues., Sept. 11, Oct. 9, and Nov. 13 – 7:15 pm – **Money Matters**.

Tues., Sept. 11, Oct. 16, and Nov. 20 – 7:30 pm – Friends of Oakton Library **Board Meeting**.

Wed., Sept. 12, Sept. 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 7, Nov. 28 – 10:30 am – **Toddler Tales**. (Age 2-3 with an adult.)

Sat., Sept. 15 – 10:00 am – **Set-up day** for the Used Book Sale.

Thurs., Sept. 20 through Sat., Sept. 22 – **Used Book Sale**. (See times on page 1.)

Sat., Sept. 29 – All day – **5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** (See details on page 2.)

Thurs., Oct. 4 – 7:30 pm – **Bedtime Storytime** (Preschool with an adult.)

Sat., Oct. 13 – 5:00 pm – **Fairfax Library Foundation Jubilee** (Early Library closing)

Mon., Oct. 15 and Nov. 19 – 3:30 pm – **Brain Games** (age 6 and up with an adult.)

Thurs., Oct. 18 – 7:00 pm – **Friends' Speaker Series: Titanic – The DC Connection**. (Adults & teens)

Tues., Oct. 23 and Nov. 27 – 7:30 pm – **Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club** (Adults)

Thurs., Nov. 1 – 7:00 pm – **Friends' Speaker Series: Voting and Women's Suffrage**. (Adults & teens)

Mon., Nov. 5 – 2:00 pm – **Creature Teacher** (Age 6-12).

## Yes, Count Me as a Friend

Not too late to renew your membership for 2012!

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!**