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Books & Bits

News from the Tigard Library

Volunteering Opportunities and Concerns
Author Visits and Events
Book Reviews
Techno Tips and Trends

www.tigard-or.gov/library • 503.684.6537 • May 2012

16 For a calendar of all events, [click here](#).

New, Improved Friends Big Book Sale

FRIDAY—SUNDAY, MAY 18—20

The Friends of the Library Book Sale has been so popular that they have made some big changes. This month they will extend the sale to three days. On Sunday only, shoppers can fill up a grocery bag for \$2. Friday and Saturday will offer the best selection. Stop at the check-out desk anytime between now and the sale, pick up a bookmark and take 50 cents off your purchase on Friday and Saturday. Discount does not apply to bag sale.



Hours: **Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**
Sunday from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. (bag sale only)

Summer Reading Begins June 1

Whether reading makes you *Dream Big* (kids), feel that you can *Own the Night* (teens) or explore what's *Between the Covers* of a good book (adults), join a [summer reading program](#) and escape into the land of literature. From bedtime stories to thrilling books that keep you up half the night, reading helps us relax after a busy day. It also adds to summer fun while sharpening kids' literacy skills. Reward yourself with words, lots of fun activities and a chance to win prizes.

Jass Two Plus One

Tuesday, May 22 • 7–8:30 p.m.

Jass Two Plus One, a musical trio, will reach back into the '20s and '30s to bring the [romance and adventure of jazz](#) or "jass" into the 21st century. Listen to the music of America and feel its vibrant, robust, even naughty, power for yourself. Gangster rap...Roaring '20s style.

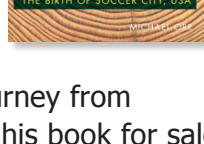
Renegade Stringband

Tuesday, May 15 • 7–8 p.m. • All Ages

This Northwest bluegrass band turns hard times into good times! Combining banjo, mandolin, bass, guitar and three-part vocal harmonies, they'll lead the audience in a toe-tappin', hootin', hollerin' call-and-response sing-along.

The 1975 Portland Timbers: The Birth of Soccer City, USA

Friday, May 4 • 7–8:30 p.m.



Are you a sports fan or a history buff? Sportswriter and author Michael Orr will discuss his recently released book about the early [Portland Timbers soccer team](#). Seventeen players and two coaches came from different clubs and different countries to form a team just days before their first game. Orr will describe the Timbers' single-season journey from expansion team to championship contenders. He will have his book for sale and signing after his presentation.

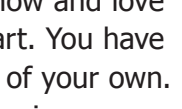
Tripping Through Oregon

Wednesday, May 16 • 7–8:30 p.m.

From the coast to the mountains, Oregon is blessed with beautiful vistas, urban culture and eye-catching art—both natural and manmade. Carole Astley from Travel Oregon will lead a virtual excursion through the state. Take home a list of over 300 favorite tourism spots. By the end of this presentation, you'll have more [ideas for your Oregon vacation](#) than you have vacation days!

Pachyderm Portmanteau Party!

Saturday, May 26 • 2–3:30 p.m. • Ages 6 and up



Join artist Hilary Pfeifer, owner of the whimsical online art shop "Bunny with a Toolbelt," for [elephant-sized fun!](#) Pachyderms are elephants, portmanteaus are words made by joining two or more words together. Combine the pachyderms and the portmanteaus, and it's a party to celebrate her "Elephabet" book. It's a new perspective on the alphabet we know and love as interpreted by colorful elephant art. You have to see it to believe it, then create one of your own.

Race Car Pit Stop Shop

Saturday, May 5 • 1:30–3 p.m. • Ages 5 and up

Create the [ultimate racetrack](#) out of recycled paper tubes, tape and other awesome junk. We'll provide all the materials and a customized model race car for each participant!

Mini Game Fest

Saturday, May 19 • 2–4 p.m. • Puett Room

Get your game on while munching snacks. We'll break out our Wii™, Xbox 360™ and board games.

Otaku Teens: "One Piece"

Thursday, May 24 • 5–7:30 p.m. • Teens



In "One Piece," Straw Hat Luffy has dreamed his whole life of being a pirate, in spite of the fact that he can't swim. Now he's assembled a rag-tag crew and is on the hunt for a fabled treasure. We'll discuss the [first volume of "One Piece,"](#) watch the anime, and enjoy Japanese snacks and book-related activities.

Positively Fun

Sunday, May 13 • 1:30–2:30 p.m. • Ages 5 and up

Come explore the world of positive and negative poles with [magnet play](#), toys and games. Create your own magnet to take home.

Genealogy Workshop

Thursday, May 10 • Technology Room

90-minute sessions beginning at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Trained volunteers from the Tualatin Family History Center will help you learn how to [explore your family's roots](#) using Ancestry and HeritageQuest, genealogy databases available at the library. Registration is required. Call 503-718-2517 to register for one of these 90-minute sessions.

All programs will be held in the George and Yvonne Burgess Community Room unless otherwise noted.

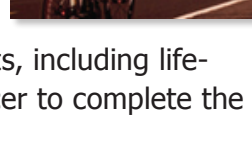
READING ROOM

A Race to the Finish

Adults

[Hell on Two Wheels: An Astonishing Story of Suffering, Triumph, and the Most Extreme Endurance Race in the World](#)

by Amy Snyder



The Race Across America (RAAM) bicycle race has been called the toughest test of endurance in the world. Participants endure nightmarish physical ailments, including life-threatening respiratory emergencies, to be the first racer to complete the 3,000-mile course from California to Maryland. [More...*](#)

[Blood and Smoke: A True Tale of Mystery, Mayhem and the Birth of the Indy 500](#)

by Charles Leerhsen

The Indianapolis 500 is the world's most famous and prestigious automobile race. When the first one occurred more than a century ago, however, cars were more likely to break down or burst into flame, and drivers weren't sure they'd live long enough to reach the finish line. Bookies took bets on both who might win and who might not survive. [More...*](#)

[The Race for the Triple Crown: Horses, High Stakes and Eternal Hope](#)

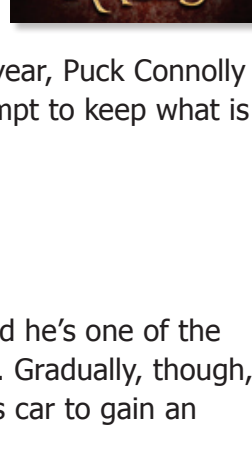
by Joe Drape

A New York Times sportswriter spends a year behind the scenes following prominent owners, trainers and jockeys as they prepare for horseracing's annual Triple Crown—the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes. [More...*](#)

Teens

[The Scorpio Races](#)

by Maggie Stiefvater



Every fall, as the mist grows thicker on the little island of Thisby, blood-thirsty magical horses emerge from the ocean and search for fresh meat on land. Local men muster the bravery to capture these beasts and train them to ride in the Scorpio Races, where one will win and many will lose their lives. This year, Puck Connolly has decided that she, too, will ride in a desperate attempt to keep what is left of her family together. [More...*](#)

[Checked Flag Cheater](#)

by Will Weaver

Trace Bonham is a teen professional stock car racer and he's one of the best. His expertise has won him fame and sponsorship. Gradually, though, Trace begins to suspect that his own crew is rigging his car to gain an advantage. [More...*](#)

[Chasing AllieCat](#)

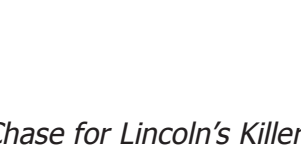
by Rebecca Fjelland Davis

Sadie is a competitive mountain biker who winds up in small-town Madison for the summer. While training for an upcoming race, Sadie and her friends find a badly wounded priest in the woods. Part mystery, part romance, all action. [More...*](#)

Kids

[Around the World](#)

by Matt Phelan



After the release of Jules Verne's "Around the World in 80 Days" in 1873, many were obsessed by the challenge of circling the globe faster than anyone else. This graphic novel chronicles fictitious accounts of wheelmen Thomas Steves in 1884, girl reporter Nellie Bly in 1889, and retired mariner and sea captain Joshua Slocum in 1895. Gray-scale illustrations highlight each person's epic journey as they race around the Earth. [More...*](#)

[Chasing Lincoln's Killer](#)

by James L. Swanson

This juvenile edition of *Manhunt: The Twelve-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer* recounts the escape of John Wilkes Booth, Abraham Lincoln's assassin, and follows the 12-day chase to search for him and his accomplices. Contains maps and black-and-white photographs. [More...*](#)

[The Great Race: The Amazing Round-the-World Auto Race of 1908](#)

by Gary Blackwood

In February 1908, six cars from four countries gathered in Times Square for the first around-the-world automobile race. Black-and-white photographs throughout give readers a look at transportation vehicles at the beginning of the 20th century. [More...*](#)

* Additional book reviews by Bookletters

BETWEEN THE COVERS

Nighttime Is The Right Time

Do you remember hiding under the covers with a flashlight reading a book you just couldn't put down? If you got caught, your parents warned "You'll ruin your eyesight!" Or sending your kids off to dreamland with a fun bedtime story? Do you occasionally wake up bleary-eyed because you just had to finish that thrilling page-turner?

Summer Reading 2012 reminds us that anytime is the right time to read. Sure, it's fun to escape into another world while you're sitting on the beach, but reading a mystery in the dark of night can enhance the thrills and chills. For kids and teens, summer reading is more than an idle indulgence. Many studies have found that reading during the summer can help kids retain and improve their reading skills between school years. No matter what your age, sign up beginning June 1 and Read!

No Access to Catalog May 4–6

Beginning Sunday, May 6, at 6 p.m., the WCCLS catalog will be down through Tuesday, May 8, to install an upgrade to the program. Library materials will not be due Monday, May 7, through Tuesday, May 8. You must present your library card in order to check out items on those days.

While the system is down, you will not be able to:

- Search for library materials in the catalog or place requests
- Log into your account
- Renew your items (neither online, nor by telephone)

You will still be able to access the WCCLS website and several other services. [Find out more.](#)

In Your Words

In this issue we continue to feature your comments from our 2012 Library Patron Survey. Thanks for your thoughtful questions. If you have additional questions you'd like us to address, please [contact the editor](#).

Nuts and Bolts

Studying the Study Rooms

- **Wish there were more study rooms w/longer hours of operation.**

- **I use a study room quite frequently to help people navigate the Medicare maze — I am a volunteer with SHIBA, the State Health Insurance Benefits Assistance program. These small conference rooms are ideal for this purpose. Thank you for making this convenience available.**

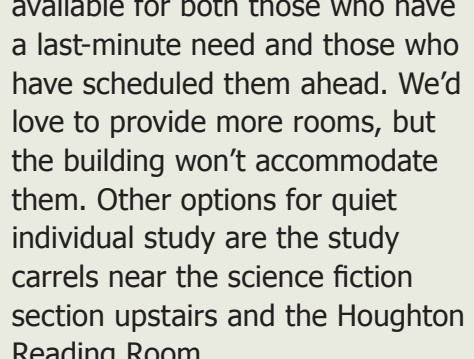
- **It would be cool if the study rooms could be reserved on the library website instead of having to come to the library to reserve a room.**

- **It would be nice if it were possible to reserve study rooms more than a week in advance.**

With the end of the school year approaching, it's high season for our study rooms. Whether one student seeks some peace and quiet to write a paper or several classmates work together to finish a project, the rooms are ideal for studying without distractions.

Our three study rooms are on the second floor with a maximum capacity of six people in each room. You can stop by the Adult Reference Desk to reserve a room up to a week in advance for a maximum of two hours each time. You can also reserve them by phone at 503-718-2517.

The survey comments reflect how popular the study rooms are. We established the two-hour limit and week-in-advance reservation system to allow fair access to the rooms. We want to make them available for both those who have a last-minute need and those who have scheduled them ahead. We'd love to provide more rooms, but the building won't accommodate them. Other options for quiet individual study are the study carrels near the science fiction section upstairs and the Houghton Reading Room.



Plugged In

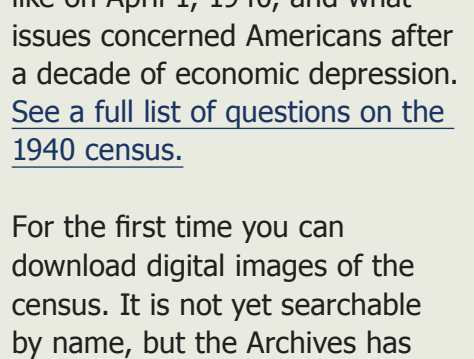
That Was the Year That Was

1940. Big bands, a war in Europe, the Works Progress Administration. It was the era of the Greatest Generation. Were you alive in 1940? Would you like to find out more about a relative from that year?

The National Archives recently released the [entire 1940 census](#). It's about time, you say? By law, they were required to wait 72 years. At more than 3.8 million pages, it's not exactly a quick read, but it's a great resource for genealogists, history buffs or those who are curious about those tumultuous times.

Census records are the only records that describe the entire population of the United States on a particular day. It's a snapshot of what the United States looked like on April 1, 1940, and what issues concerned Americans after a decade of economic depression. [See a full list of questions on the 1940 census.](#)

For the first time you can download digital images of the census. It is not yet searchable by name, but the Archives has launched a project to do so and is looking for [a few good men and women to volunteer](#) for it. You can become a part of making history more accessible.



Voluntary Commitment



Every Day is a Good Day to Volunteer...
"I really enjoy going to the library, but I think you should offer volunteer year-round instead of only in the summer."

Summer is a big time here at [Volunteer Central](#). One hundred teens generously spend some of their summer vacation helping out at the library. But we rely on volunteers every day of the year that the library is open. We can always use help with circulation and other tasks ... shelving, sorting, searching and more.

During every month, around 225 people help out at the library. From September through May, teens and adults help with many tasks, both behind-the-scenes and in the stacks. Just under \$500,000 of services were contributed in 2011. Wow! There's always something to do here. If you'd like to volunteer, we will welcome you with a big smile and many thanks, no matter what time of year.

"I volunteered once but found there were so many volunteers at the time, I doubted my small service time was needed."

Over the years, we've added more and more group events to the volunteer calendar. Groups can range from three to 30 volunteers. You may see them pushing carts and tackling other tasks. Volunteers of all ages say they like the camaraderie and learning how the library works firsthand.

Staff really appreciates the burst of energy and getting caught up with chores. Working with larger groups sometimes requires the staff to have three hands, plus eyes in the backs of their heads. Volunteers may have to wait a bit for instruction from staff. We have yet to run out of work, though. We hope the person who commented above will come back and cheer volunteer again! We cherish each hour every volunteer contributes.

UPCOMING New Volunteer Orientations

Thursday, May 3 | 6–7 p.m.
Tuesday, May 22 | 4–5 p.m.

To sign up, contact Trish at trish@tigard-or.gov or 503-718-2516.

Questions or comments about [Books & Bits or the Library?](#)
Contact paula@tigard-or.gov

