



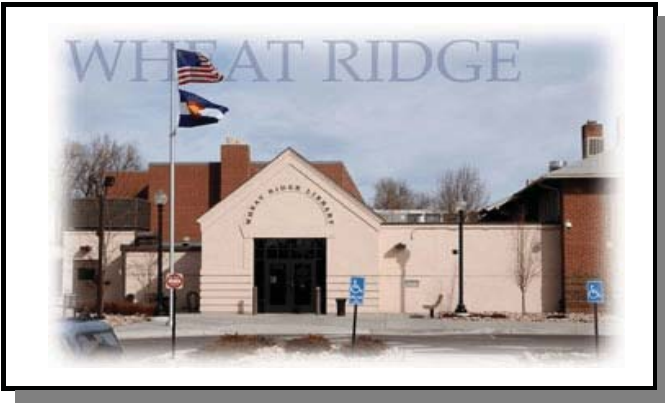
# Footnotes



Winter 2011 Vol. 10 No. 4

A Quarterly Newsletter for Friends of the Library

## WHEAT RIDGE LIBRARY



The building in which the Wheat Ridge Library is located was originally built in 1924 as the Columbia Heights Elementary School. Since the 1980s, however, the library has shared the former school space with the Senior's Resource Center. Truly a community library and offering something for everyone, the final phase of multi-year remodeling project was completed in May 2006. Earlier changes included a facelift to the entry, making it much easier to spot from 32nd Avenue. Recent improvements included the addition of a separate living room area with comfortable chairs where patrons can relax and read their favorite newspaper or magazines, an expanded children's area with two computers, five adult computers, new carpeting and new window coverings that make the entire library much brighter. This wonderful library is also now wheelchair accessible.

Wheat Ridge has room to spread out and work on a project, and the library's specially selected collection is packed with titles chosen with the area's ethnically diverse patrons in mind. In particular, there are numerous music CDs and unabridged audio books on tape favored by the seniors and young families who live in the neighborhood. Additional conveniences such as self pick-up of holds, one self-checkout station, additional computers, and an art display wall have been added in the last few years. If that is not enough, visitors can access the entire Jefferson County Public Library collection from here or from your home computer and designate Wheat Ridge for convenient pick-up

Some Wheat Ridge Library facts:

- On average, 5,600 – 6,900 people come through the library each month.
- More than 100 new library cards are issued each month.
- Wheat Ridge Library checks out 10,000 – 11,500 items each month.
- Story hours here are among the best attended in the Jefferson County Public Library system.

Wheat Ridge Library provides eight Internet access computers for all ages, wireless Internet access and self-print, self check-out and self pick-up holds in a comfortable and well-lit space of 6,525 square feet. The Wheat Ridge Library employs seven salaried staff and four to five hourly paging staff. This includes the library manager, two unit head positions, one information services librarian, one information services associate and two circulation assistants.

The library sees a wide range of age groups including children and care givers at story times, adults using the wireless Internet access and seniors at computer classes. Some of our most popular programs are:

- Baby Sign & Song – babies and care givers learn basic sign language signs and songs.
- Teen Game Night – teens have the opportunity to meet after hours to play all types of games from card games to board games to Wii games.
- Computer Classes at the eTrain – the eTrain parks outside of the library and provides hands-on computer training classes, as similar to the classes taught at the Computer Training Center at Belmar Library.
- Tuesday Morning Book Group – going strong for many years, this group delves into classics and new popular titles.

If you are looking for a “neighborhood” library where the staff might know your name, Wheat Ridge is the place for you!

Adrienne Peterson  
Library Manager

The Friends of the Jefferson County Public Library is an organization of citizens dedicated to enhancing the programs and resources of our libraries throughout Jefferson County. As Friends members, we lend our voice as library advocates, commit our time as volunteers, and support library programming and services through our financial resources. Friends members cherish and value our Jefferson County libraries and believe our libraries are an indispensable part of the community.

## FROM THE CORNER CHAIR

Dear Friends,

I am reminded of the speeches made after the envelope is opened, "...and the Oscar goes to...." You know the kind: speeches thanking "mom and dad and my producer and my wife and...." It can go on and on. That's the dilemma in writing the end-of-year note for the Friends' newsletter. The Friends of the Jefferson County Public Library has won this year's Oscar for the role they played working for the Library Foundation for a very successful Whale book sale year. The Spring, Fall, Belmar Holiday and Golden Holiday Whale sales grossed over \$140,000. AND there are so many people to thank – the people in the community who donate books to JCPL – our volunteers who organize, publicize, sort, cashier, count, table-tidy, greet, guard, save, manage, feed, set-up, break-down, and clean-up at our sales, those that assist in the office, the community service volunteers (Rotary, UPS, and Chatfield High School), the exceptional crew from the Colorado Corrections, library volunteer coordinators, library volunteers, the library service center staff and internet book sale volunteers.

Just like at the Oscars, there is the red carpet where stars shine: Stars like the Friends Council – Ben Radecki, Barb Howe, Cheryl Cyr, Janel Brooks, Kay Rowland, Len Cross, Linda Abbott, and Meredith Smith and our newest member, Kelly Jo Brownfield; the Fabulous Foundation Staff – Natalie Martinez, Nancy Gruschow, and Kaitlin Schneider; and the high-powered, ever-present team of volunteers who are always first in line to help: Vicki Ponce, Tim O'Neil, Joan Rogers, Char Corbett, Sheri Olin, Ward Hobert, Dodie Ownes, and the Gerlick family (Helen, Mike, Dotti and Adam), our Whale Sale food hosts.

Also on the red carpet is our wonderful team of more than 20 gift shop volunteers, many of whom have been with us since we opened in 2000. Although 2010 has been a difficult health year for some of our gift shop volunteers and/or their family members, the others stepped up to fill in extra shifts to cover those who couldn't be there.

Jefferson County remains a community of literacy supporters. To all who volunteered for the benefit of the Jefferson County Public Library through the work of the Jefferson County Library Foundation and Friends, we thank you for putting into action Carl Sagan's fine words:

*"The health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."*

We all look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup> – a special privilege of your Friends membership to "go behind the scenes" to hear what's going on at the library.

Thank you for being a Friend! Blessings and best wishes for a healthy 2011!

Linda Larson  
Chair, Friends of Jefferson County Public Library

## FROM THE FOUNDATION

Thanks To Everyone Who Participated In Colorado Gives Day On December 8<sup>th</sup> & In Our Year End Appeal!

Thanks to you, the Jefferson County Library Foundation raised more than \$16,000 in a single 24-hour period – a 50 percent increase from the total raised through last year's fund drive – and this does not include the match provided by FirstBank and others through Colorado Gives Day. We believe that when all is said and done, we'll *more than double* what we raised last year.

So, even though we failed to meet our goal, Foundation Executive Director Natalie Martinez and Library Executive Director Marcellus Turner still showed their gratitude by dressing up in holiday costumes and doing a public story time at Colorado Mills on December 12<sup>th</sup> reading *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer!*



## THANKS, AGAIN & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

If you have any question, please call the Foundation at 303-403-5075.

Natalie Martinez  
Executive Director, Library Foundation



### 2010 Friends Council

Chairperson	Linda Larson	Member-at-large
Vice-Chairperson	Kay Rowland	Member-at-large
Secretary	Barb Howe	Member-at-large
JCPL Mgmt. Team Rep.	Marjorie Elwood	

Janelle Brooks  
Linda Abbott  
Cheryl Cyr

### Support Team

Executive Director  
Programs and Community  
Outreach Manager  
Newsletter Editor  
Administrative Coordinator

Natalie A. Martinez  
Nancy Gruschow  
Ben Radecki  
Kaitlin Schneider

## FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING

**Columbine Library  
7706 W. Bowles Ave.  
Littleton, CO 80123**

The Friends of the Jefferson County Public Library are inviting all of our Friends to our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the **Columbine Library**. Friends will learn about the exciting things your library has planned for 2011 and beyond. It is a special opportunity to hear from three JCPL experts who know what's going on behind the scenes! Larry Domingues, Arvada Library Manager; Andrew Hunter, Head of Acquisitions/Collection Development and Stacy McKenzie, Program and Education Coordinator are our featured guests. The program will begin at 6:00 pm, preceded by a reception with light refreshments beginning at 5:30 pm. Please RSVP to [friends@jeffcolibrary.org](mailto:friends@jeffcolibrary.org) by Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Questions? Call Kaitlin at 303-403-5075.

Kaitlin M. Schneider  
Administrative Coordinator

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## HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT JCPL!

In January 2011, JCPL will launch a new and improved Speaker's Bureau. We now have a team of volunteer speakers available to update community organizations on Jefferson County library services. They can also provide information on free resources to help businesses, community organizations, constituents, students and/or families.

If you belong to a book club, Home-Owners Association, Civic Club, PTA/PTO, or other community group, you can help us out by promoting our Speaker's Bureau and inviting a speaker to update your group about the Library.

To request a speaker and schedule a presentation, contact the Jefferson County Public Library Speakers Bureau coordinator, Janell Kerski, at 303-985-2455 or [jdkerski@earthlink.net](mailto:jdkerski@earthlink.net).

Rebecca Winning  
Communications and Public Affairs Manager

## BEST FRIENDS AWARDS

Although the Friends of the Jefferson County Library did not win top honors in Library People's Best Friends competition, we thought you would like to know which Friends group did win. Here are the results of the Friends of the Library competition. There's a lot of fine folks in communities of all sizes working for the benefit of their local libraries! Examining a group at the top will help us in our efforts to support the Jeffco library system.

According to Bonnie McCune, Library People President, all the Friends groups did a great deal and it was difficult to choose. Here is a summary of the winners:

Sandy Leavitt of the Wilkerson Public Library (Telluride) is this year's individual Best Friend award winner. Leavitt volunteers 25-30 hours during the summer each week. She teaches knitting and participates in children's programming. She is honored for five years consistent support of the library through volunteering in the materials management department as well as teaching and participating in children's activities.

The small-rural friends group Best Friend Award is awarded to Friends of La Veta Public Library. The Friends group runs the sole bookstore and sponsors adult programs. The La Veta Friends have raised \$10,000 for a two year capital expansion project in this very small community with less than 1,500 people in their service area.

The Friends of the Loveland Public Library Foundation earns the large group Best Friend Award. The group supports many activities on behalf of the library, dovetailing promotion and marketing materials with fund-raising. The Loveland Friends group is to be commended for its major goal of \$2 million for capital expansion. The group regularly provides evaluation of the library's services, helping to ensure that their library is meeting the needs of the community it serves.

You can visit Library People at [www.librarypeople.org](http://www.librarypeople.org)

Thank you!

Linda Larson  
Chair, Friends of JCPL

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*She read, at peace with the world and happy as only a little girl could be with a fine book and a bowl of candy, and all alone in the house.*

– Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* (1943)

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## LIBRARY DISTRICT PETITION

To fellow supporters of the Jefferson County Public Library:

I'm writing to ask for your support in a petition drive to begin the process of converting the Jefferson County Public Library into the Jeffco Library District. I'm sure you already know why this effort has become necessary. Due to budget constraints, last year, the Library's mill levy was reduced by about a million and a half dollars a year. The Library Board has been fiscally conservative regarding the budget, and protecting the future of the Library, which requires that they balance the budget, meaning some painful staff and service cuts.

The best way to insulate the Library from fiscal pressures is to change it from a "County Library" into a "Library District" through a petition process specifically permitted in the State Library Law.

This change would:

- Retain the Library's existing mill-levy limit of 3.5 mills, approved by election in 1986, thus maintaining the Library's current cost structure to taxpayers, but removing the Commissioners' authority to reduce the levy in the future
- Place more authority with the Library Board
- Remove much of the opportunity for political pressure

Arapahoe and Douglas Counties already have been extremely successful library districts, and there are at least twenty four library districts throughout the State.

The petition drive will call for the Commissioners to create the Jeffco Library District. If they decline, they must schedule an election to be held in November, 2011. The election would only be necessary if the Commissioners refuse to create the District, but we need to file the petition to convince them that we are serious about protecting the future of the Library.

Please tell me if you are willing to help collect signatures for this effort and attend an organizing meeting to receive petitions and materials.

Thank you. Together we can help secure the future of the Library!

Tom Atkins  
1110 12th Street, Golden CO 80401  
303-278-2244

## WISH LIST FOR OUR 2011 RARE AND NOVEL EVENT

The following list is for our annual fund raising event, **Rare & Novel**. This year's theme will be "The Roaring 20's", so some of the articles reflect that era.



The logo features the text "The Roaring 20's" in a stylized, cursive font. To the right, the words "Rare & Novel" are written in a bold, sans-serif font, with each letter inside a colored circle. Below this, the word "NIGHT" is written in a simple, uppercase font. At the bottom, the date "Saturday April 16, 2011" and the location "Green Gables Country Club" are listed.

- New Flasks
- Piece of fine jewelry, such as pearls, tennis bracelet, pendant, etc.
- Cigars
- Silent Auction Baskets or Items
- Tickets to Major Sporting Events, i.e., Broncos, Nuggets, Rockies, Avalanche, Rapids, Mammoth, etc.
- Trips and/or Travel Packages
- Condos in Great Locations
- Kentucky Derby Tickets
- New Orleans Trip or Condo
- Ski Passes
- Bottles of Liquor
- Guided Hunting Trips

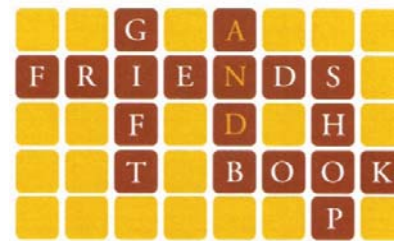
If you are able to help us with any of these items for our signature fund raising event, please call Natalie at 303-403-5077. Thanks & Happy New Year!

Natalie Martinez  
Executive Director, Library Foundation

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## BARGAIN BOOKS AT THE FRIENDS GIFT AND BOOK SHOP

Are you short of cash after the holidays and looking for inexpensive entertainment? Check out the special display of \$1 books at the Friends Gift and Book Shop located in the Belmar Library, 555 S. Allison Parkway. This promotion will run January 1-31 on select books. While at the Book Shop, you'll also find a great selection of recent bestsellers for a fraction of their original cost.



## BOOK GIVEAWAYS TO NON-PROFITS!

Tis the season to "give"! In the last month or so, we've made book donations to the Clear Creek Senior Center, Allison Care Center for Seniors, Books for Liberia (for a library); books for soldiers in Afghanistan, Jefferson County Schools, and book baskets for Bandimere's Race to Read and the Arvada Food Bank..

Nancy Gruschow  
Programs and Community Outreach Manager

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## BOOKS FOR LIBERIA A Brief Background History

The Jefferson County Library Foundation has been donating books to Books for Liberia to help improve literacy in that country. Here is a report by Eddie Topka, of the Center Point International Foundation (CPIF) which was founded in 2006 as a non-profit corporation in the United States in an effort to provide the people of Liberia with a genuine opportunity to grow and mature, both intellectually and morally after 15 years of civil war.

Long years of civil war combined with constant political instability, have taken a heavy toll on lives and the educational sector of the Liberian people. In terms of infrastructure, an estimated 80 percent of schools were destroyed during the war. During the short window of peace in the late 90s, some reconstruction took place and enrolment almost doubled but lack of basic educational materials has handicapped the progress of literacy in the country. However, between 2001 and 2003, the conflict re-emerged and further destruction and damage took place and the few schools that had started operating were looted, some were burnt, and others vandalized. In 2003-04 a Rapid Assessment of learning spaces conducted by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and UNICEF found that 20 percent of the schools had been completely destroyed, while many of the remaining 80 percent were in urgent need of rehabilitation. These findings are supported by the recent MOE School census study (June 2006) which found that 20 percent of public primary schools had been destroyed, while 12 percent suffered major damage. Regarding essential basic infrastructure in these schools like libraries, computer labs, textbooks and stationeries, the situation is even worse. The quality of education in Liberia is clearly in a critical state with pupils sharing a textbook. According to the Ministry of Education census report of June 2006, the

current ratio of pupils to textbooks in primary school is 27:1. Meanwhile, the secondary public school ratio is nine pupils having to share one textbook. Civil war and lack of resources have had a dramatic effect on education in Liberia. In view of the above mentioned facts, Center Point International Foundation (CPIF) initiated a Library project in an effort to improve teaching, an enterprise of reconciliation among former enemies, learning and research in Liberia.

Following the anarchy which existed in Liberia during the 15-year civil war, CPIF began making a difference in the lives of the children in Liberia who had previously experienced only violence. CPIF has acquired 100 acres of land on which to build a modern library, a vocational school, and a medical center. With the help of friends and partners, a team of medical doctors provided medical assistance to needy individuals and a building has been leased in which a library has been started. In June 2010, we took a team of volunteers to Liberia to help train Liberian CPIF staff in Library management, and catalogued 700 books for the Library.



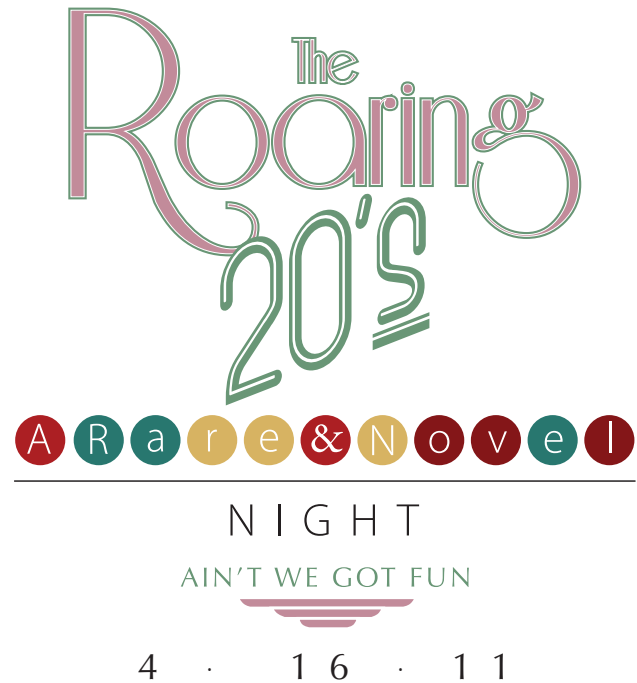
The mission of the CPIF Library Project is to provide activities and resources to the people of Liberia that will assist students and teachers become effective users of information, develop a pattern of lifelong learning, and foster a love of reading.

Eddie Topka  
Center Point International Foundation

## “March Madness” Used Book Sale

Standley Lake Library  
March 11-12, 2011

Can't wait until the June Whale of a Used Book sale? You don't have to! Check out the “March Madness” Used Book Sale at the Standley Lake Library on Friday and Saturday, March 5-6 from 10 a.m. -4 p.m. The prices are “mad” as well! Hardback and paperback fiction will sell for just a \$1 (normally it's \$2.25 for hardback fiction). Nonfiction hardbacks will be \$2.25 and paperbacks from \$1-2. Children's from 50¢ to \$1.00. Also available will be a selection of audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, videos, and books on CD from .50-5.00. Over 5,000 books to choose from including a small section of fine books priced as marked. Standley Lake Library is located at 8485 Kipling Street in Arvada. For more information, call 303-403-5075 or go online anytime at [www.friendsofjcpl.org](http://www.friendsofjcpl.org). Proceeds from the sale will benefit children's and teen literacy programs funded by the Jefferson County Library Foundation and Friends.



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