



# Not Your Ordinary Book Sale

*Fall Book Sale  
November 7*



*As pictured here, the Spring Book Sale of 2009 moved into the Community Center due to threatening rain. The bonus was an accompanying art show and quiet corners to contemplate purchases.*

**T**wice a year, the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library and many volunteers set up tables on the library grounds—the aim is to sell thousands of used books the library has received from city residents. These sales are a major way of raising money—on average \$3,500 to \$4,000 a year—to support a wide array of library programs, from Spanish Circle Time for pre-school children, to a speaker series for high school seniors and their parents on applying to colleges, to youth and adult book groups, to much much more (see [www.ftpml.org](http://www.ftpml.org)).

Book sales by friends of libraries in the metro area are hardly unusual: within a fifty-mile radius, you can find one nearly every Saturday morning. But the Takoma Park Friends sale is of especially high quality. Not only does the library receive large

*I have seen our twice-yearly sale grow in reputation among an increasingly large group of buyers who are not the ordinary book lovers ...*

donations of nearly-new books from the many writers and reviewers who live in the city, but also it gets top-flight fiction and non-fiction from wide-ranging readers who are making space for new books. That's one reason for quality. Another is that unlike most other book sales, the library staff cull the donations to select mostly those books that were published in recent years—they are in the thousands—and are in good condition.

But these are *our* measures of quality—there is another.

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***From discussions of banned books to poetic reflections on nursery rhymes, the Library is humming with the sounds of programs for children and teens sponsored by the Friends.***

## **Banned Books**

With the Friends' support, we purchase multiple copies of each book discussed by our award-winning Banned Books Club for middle schoolers. Each month, we gather to talk about a different book that someone has challenged. Our books range widely; in October, we discussed the first two volumes in a manga series, *Death Note* by Tsugumi Ohba, while in November we'll tackle *Candide* by Voltaire. In December, we'll take a fun break with a read-aloud session of picture books that have been challenged, then in January, we'll focus on a classic, John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*.

## **Kids Poetry Workshop**

For kids in grades 3-5, support by the Friends means we can offer a four-program workshop this fall focused on nursery rhymes and led by two

local poets, Elizabeth Rees and Rosanne Singer. Liz and Rosanne, who led our hugely successful, Friends-sponsored *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!* poetry workshop last year, will help participants unearth the fascinating history behind nursery rhymes, then create their own responses. Perhaps a young poet would like to express the thoughts of Mary's little lamb, or become the farmer's wife ready to cut off the tails of the three blind mice.

This poetry workshop, limited to 10 participants, will take place on four Tuesdays, Nov. 10 and 17, and Dec. 1 and 8. The final evening will include a gala performance of the poetry created by the workshop participants.

## **For the Smallest Ones**

Thanks to the Friends, we can offer Circle Times in both Spanish and French (as well as our Tuesday morning Circle Times in English). Our new Spanish Circle Time teacher, Geiza Keller-Souza, leads a half-hour program for children through age 5 and their grown-ups each Thursday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Our French Circle Time takes place one Saturday a month, from 10:30-11 a.m. Marie Mackler, a native of Belgium, former preschool teacher and doting grandmother, leads a program of rhymes and songs. We apparently have the only area French Circle Time.

Support by the Friends also has allowed us to purchase more books and other supplies for our popular Wednesday morning programs for babies, toddlers and two-year-olds. The programs, which require registration because they are limited to 15 little ones and their grown-ups, are offered in rotation. One month, the Wednesday morning programs are devoted to babies (our "Lapsit" program), the next month, it's time for the "Wonderful Ones," and the third month, it's "Twosies."

## **Holiday Programs**

Other upcoming programs sponsored by the Friends include our traditional Halloween program starring local storyteller Candace Wolf, our annual harvest-time visit by Eaglebear and Friends in November, and our now-yearly holiday gift-making workshop in December.

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**Friends of the Takoma Park  
Maryland Library**

**Book Sale**

**Members  
Appreciation**

**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

Members of the Takoma Park Maryland Library, bring this coupon to receive two paperbacks or one hardback book free.

This is a thank you for your continued support in 2009. This was a difficult year for some, and we appreciate your loyalty to our library programs.

Join at the Fall 2009 Book Sale and you qualify for this 2009 thank you.

# Best Deal in Town!

By Ellen Arnold-Robbins

**One of the best deals in Takoma Park is the array of varied programs at the Takoma Park Maryland Library.**

## Pre-schoolers

The library provides an abundance of programs for pre-schoolers and their caregivers. Every Tuesday morning at 10 and 11 Karen MacPherson presents a dynamic **Circle Time**, filled with stories, songs and games. No wonder one three-year old shouts “Library – zoom zoom!” each week as her mother prepares to bring her to this very active program.

On Thursdays at 10:30am, Geiza Keller-Souza presents the area’s only **pre-school program that is entirely in Spanish**. Geiza is from Brazil, and is an educator with many years of experience in working with young children.

Wednesdays feature a series of programs which alternate every month for babies up to 12 months, one-year olds and two-year olds. They help very young children in the development of **reading readiness**, and acquaint parents and care-givers with ways to help sharpen those skills. These popular programs are for limited numbers of children and pre-registration is required.

At the once a month **bed-time story hour**, youngsters are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a favorite bedtime animal.

Saturday mornings may feature a **French Circle Time** with Madame Marie, a **Saturday Circle Time** with Karen or **special events** such as our recent “Dia Day” celebration with stories and crafts. Of course there are numerous **craft and holiday programs**, visits by elementary classes and nursery schools, and special performances by noted **storytellers and other performers**.

## Reading Groups

The Friends support four book clubs including the prize winning **Banned Books Club** for middle schoolers, **Friends Reading Group**, **Great Big Book Club**, and an **on-line book club**.

## Services for Adults

Periodic programs in conjunction with **MontgomeryWorks** in Wheaton provide guidance to adults in developing job-related skills such as resume building and interviewing.

*State Senator Jamie Raskin presents student Alanna Natanson and librarian Karen MacPherson a state commendation for starting the award winning Banned Books Club for students.*



The Library delivers books to **Victory Towers** for its senior residents on a regular basis.

## Students

Programs for elementary school children include a monthly ‘**Comix Jam**’ with our graphic novel expert Dave Burbank – and a special Elmo projector furnished by the Friends, and our multi-faceted **SummerQuest** summer reading program which is also created by Dave.

High school students and their parents attend our popular **College Bound Programs**—featuring advice by nationally known experts on college selection, financial aid and SAT testing.

## The Computer Center

The **computer center** is used by community members of all ages and backgrounds who wish to network, find jobs, check e-mail, do research—or sharpen their computer skills. All appreciate the help from knowledgeable staff who are always available when the center is open.

## Our Friends Make It Happen

Funding for many Library programs comes from Friends membership dues and donations, its twice a year book sales, and the Mike Morrissey Charity Golf Tournaments which have raised approximately \$35,000 for the Friends since 2002.

Your support is indispensable to the Library’s success—and its ability to offer many quality programs with one children’s librarian and a small but committed staff. Dollar for dollar, the Library is a tremendous bargain—with something to offer everyone in the community. With your help, it will continue to be one of Takoma Park’s most valuable and valued resources.

*Please share this newsletter with those who might like to support the library.*

# The Friends of the Library Book Sale

**Saturday, Nov 7**  
10 am- 3 pm



***Your Friends Need You***  
Volunteers are needed to set-up  
and cashier at the book sale.

Two-hour shifts are available  
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Call Ellen at 301-891-7258  
to volunteer.

Community service hours are  
available for high school students.

Featuring quality used books  
in a wide range of subjects at  
bargain prices!

**All proceeds go to support  
the activities of the Takoma  
Park Maryland Library.**

Takoma Park Maryland Library  
Maple and Philadelphia (Rt. 410)

For more information contact the Takoma  
Park Maryland Library at 301-891-7259.  
Donations of gently used books are welcome,  
but please call the library to arrange donating.

## Book Sale

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Our book sale has grown in reputation among an increasingly large number of buyers—not the ordinary book lover who likes to browse through titles and linger over the opening pages. I'm referring to the "hunter-gatherers"—resellers, also known as dealers—who are on the hunt for books they can resell on the internet for five to ten times the sale price: \$1 for hardcovers, 50 cents for trade paperbacks.

Many dealers got into the business naturally, because of their love of books, which I expect most still have. But books have become merchandise now and the competition among dealers can be intense—while our sale opens at 10 a.m., many are in line at 8:30. The buying frenzy lasts about an hour.

Book buyers—most of us—who are not looking to resell their finds can get back to lingering at the tables to see what catches our attention, and though not intending to buy anything—after all, we have "too many unread books at home"—will still walk away with one or more we've been wanting to read and just cannot go home without.

By Merrill Leffler, Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland board member and book sale coordinator

***All are welcome!***

**Great Big Book Club  
lecture and discussion Oct. 22**

***Middlemarch***

by George Eliot

**Future discussion dates to be  
announced at [www.ftpml.org](http://www.ftpml.org)**

**Friends Reading Group**

***Cry, the Beloved Country***

by Alan Paton

**Thursday, December 3, 2009**

7:30 p.m., Takoma Park Community Center



101 Philadelphia Avenue  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

For Library programs and schedules, visit  
[www.cityoftakomapark.org/library](http://www.cityoftakomapark.org/library).

For information about the Friends, visit  
[www.ftpml.org](http://www.ftpml.org)

# Become a Friend...



Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library

To become a Friend for one year please fill out this membership form and send it with your fee to:

**FTPML**  
**101 Philadelphia Avenue**  
**Takoma Park, MD 20912**

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle (above) where you prefer to be contacted,  
and indicate any restrictions on the day or time here: \_\_\_\_\_

Join e-mail list?  Yes  No

The e-mail list is for announcements about programs only, and you can unsubscribe at any time.  
You will receive approximately 1-2 messages per month.

Please mark the membership category to which you wish to belong.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior \$5.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$25.00   | <input type="checkbox"/> Champion \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10.00    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustainer \$50.00   | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$500.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$15.00        | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____       |

Make your payment out to **Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library, Inc.**

FTPML is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your gift is greatly appreciated and fully deductible as a charitable contribution.

If you're interested in donating time and/or expertise, please let us know:

- Book Sales (set up, cashier, take down)
- Publicity Committee (newsletter, flyers, printing, mailings, list serve liaison, etc.)
- Table Staffing (staffing a table at the Farmers' Market or other event)
- Board of Directors or Committee Chair

May we include your name if we exchange our list of members with other Takoma Park community not-for-profit organizations?  Yes  No

For more about the Friends or Library activities, visit [www.ftpml.org](http://www.ftpml.org)  
or [cityoftakomapark.org/library](http://cityoftakomapark.org/library).

**Your membership  
renewal date is in red  
on the mailing label.**