

Check It Out!

Summer Rock 'n' Read

by Hilary Verheggen, Youth Services Librarian

MUSIC IS ALL around us. We listen to it in our cars, while exercising, in the background at a restaurant, or even while cleaning our houses. Music has the power to conjure emotions, inspire actions, and tell stories, but perhaps one of the most powerful attributes of music is to connect human beings to one another. These connections are what excite me the most about this year's Summer Reading Program theme, "Libraries Rock!"

Listening to and engaging with music have a wide array of benefits, including building early literacy skills by teaching young ones about rhythm, rhyme, and the sounds that make up words. They improve brain function, reduce anxiety, and can even aid in pain relief!

Summer at the library this year will be filled with fun events highlighting music in our community—from dance lessons and drumming, to brass bands and DJs, and so much



© Annalisa Barelli

more. Port Townsend is a community full of musical talent, lending itself to creating a summer full of rich and enticing library programs.

Kids and teens will receive a free book at Summer Reading sign-up and again after reading 10 hours. Those who read 50 hours will also receive a T-shirt designed by local artist Annalisa Barelli. Each 5 hours read by a young person will earn an entry

into a drawing for additional prizes. Adults who read 100 hours will get a T-shirt too. Drawing entries for adults will be earned after every 10 hours read.

As the weather warms and the days lengthen, I look forward to supporting community engagement, personal connections, year-round learning, and fun and musical activities at the library. ☺

Read 'n' Rock at the Library All Summer Long!

Summer Reading Kickoff: Tuesday, June 19, 3–6 PM

Sign up for Summer Reading at our opening event, and choose a free book! Decorate the sidewalk with chalk, make a musical instrument, enjoy yummy snacks, and join a kazoo ensemble and Aaron Vallet and Jill Alban for African drumming and dance. It's going to be a great summer at PT Library! All ages.

Family Movie Night: Friday, July 6, 6–8 PM

Watch the 2017 Pixar sensation *Coco* on the big screen while munching gourmet popcorn! Follow young Miguel, who dreams of becoming an accomplished musician like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz, despite his family's generations-old ban on music. Desperate to prove his talent, Miguel finds himself in the stunning and colorful Land of the Dead. All ages.

Unexpected Brass Band & Strawberry Shortcake Social: Friday, July 20, 5–6:30 PM

A program for everybody! Meet on the library lawn for a late-afternoon strawberry shortcake social with music provided by Port Townsend's own funky New Orleans-style brass ensemble, the Unexpected Brass Band. Relax and enjoy summer! All ages.

End-of-Summer Reading Party: Friday, August 10, 2–3:30 PM

Play games, blow giant bubbles, eat summery snacks, enjoy a rock-painting craft, and celebrate your reading accomplishments on the library lawn. All ages!

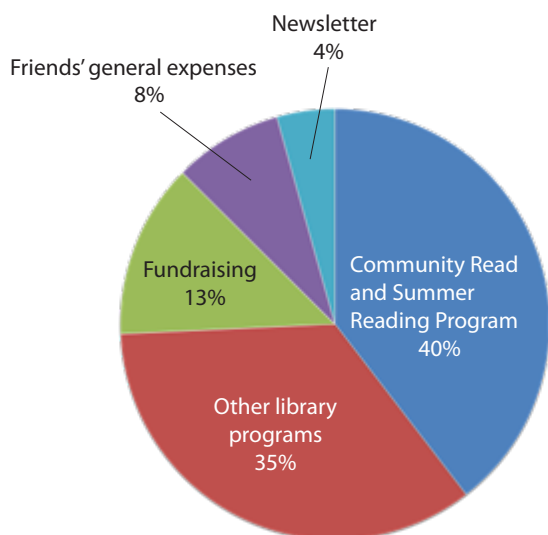
June Is Membership Month

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES make a difference in what Friends of the Port Townsend Library can do—for the library, for the community, and for you—and now it's **time to renew**. Forty percent of the Friends' budget comes from donations made by members like you. We do our best to spend your money wisely in support of the many programs our library offers (see chart below).

Among the most notable programs:

- Community Read—this year featuring events with Port Townsend native, writer and mountaineer Leif Whittaker and his family
- Summer Reading Program for all ages
- Books for Babies, which gives a bag containing books to every baby born in Jefferson County
- Children's and teens' programs, including crafts and sing-alongs
- Book club kits and Book Lover's Café book club
- Talks by well-known authors, ranging from Aldo Leopold's granddaughter to former Seattle librarian and NPR personality Nancy Pearl
- Unusual items you can check out, such as a daypack with binoculars and field guides

How we spent your money in 2017



The Friends' membership year runs from June 1 to May 31, and we hope you look forward to renewing. We've enclosed a renewal envelope for your convenience. Or see page 7 for a membership form and where to renew online. You can also renew (or join) in person at the book sale on Saturday, June 16.

We look forward to another year of *Friendship*! ☺



BOOK SALE

Large collection of classical CDs

Saturday + June 16

9 AM to 3 PM

Open to Friends' members at 8 AM

Port Townsend Community Center

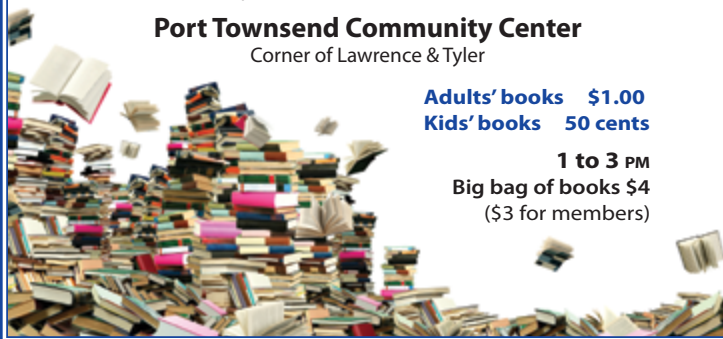
Corner of Lawrence & Tyler

Adults' books \$1.00

Kids' books 50 cents

1 to 3 PM

Big bag of books \$4
(*\$3 for members*)



You're invited

to the Friends of the Port Townsend Library's

Annual Meeting

Wednesday, June 20, at 5:30 PM

Alchemy Bistro (back room)
842 Washington Street

We will vote on new officers and report on our fundraising and the programs your donations supported last year. Food and drink may be purchased.

Join old friends & meet a few new ones!

It's the Books, . . . No, Wait. It's the Volunteers!

BY LYNN NOWAK

IF EARNINGS ARE any gauge, the Friends of the Port Townsend Library's thrice-yearly book sales are proof that in twenty-first-century Port Townsend, books—with real pages, not the digital variety—are still beloved.

The sales raise 40 percent of the Friends' working budget, with other sources of income stemming from memberships, fund-raisers, in-library book sales, and online sales of specialty or valuable books. Friends book sales coordinator Cheryl Bentley reports that each sale nets \$2,000 to \$3,000, with the October 2017 event earning a whopping \$3,800 and the March 2018 sale garnering about \$3,400. [See page 2 to learn where the Friends' revenue goes.]

Cheryl's own involvement goes beyond an affection for books and reading. It's also about the volunteers who help stage the events every March, June, and October. She estimates that 70–80 people now drive the sales' success; almost 90 helped in March.

"The heart and soul of the book sales are the volunteers," Cheryl says. She depends on her volunteers. "The beauty of it is that people have been doing this for so long, they've found their niche," she says. They know what to do—whether it's moving books, accomplished by a cadre of haulers and drivers; setting up tables; cashiering; straightening during the crush of sale day; or breaking down boxes and sweeping floors afterward.

In fact, Cheryl says, she is more interested in the people who contribute their time and who attend and buy than in the books themselves. She likes answering questions and helping people feel appreciated. "I really like being part of a team. Work is much more fun when it's shared," she says.

Each sale offers a fresh batch of books, Cheryl explains, whether from donations or culled from the library's own collection. It takes months to sort donated books and prepare for a sale, but the volunteer machinery is so finely honed that when some 50 helpers swoop into the Port Townsend Community Center on the Friday evenings before each sale, setup is a piece of cake. At the end of the Saturday sale day, more helpers pack up any remaining books, which are typically donated to other nonprofits.

Sometimes, culling books for sale turns up rare or special volumes. Volunteer Pamela Murphy once ran across a donated copy of *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* signed by author Julia Child and her husband, Paul Child. Sales of gems like these help boost the Friends' budget.

Cheryl comes by her organizational skills naturally. A retired social worker, she holds a master's degree in community organizing. She moved to Port Townsend from Santa Cruz, California, in 2005; she went to the Friends'

annual meeting and wound up volunteering to coordinate the book sales. Now back in Port Townsend after another few years in California, Cheryl has been managing the sales again since 2016.

She is delighted that Tulip Morrow, a Port Townsend native, is interested in apprenticing with her. Tulip says she felt honored when Cheryl invited her to help organize the book sales.

"Some of my fondest childhood memories are those of spending time among the books at the Port Townsend Library. Volunteering feels like a way to give back and say thank you." She remarks that the first book sale she attended



Cheryl Bentley (left) and Tulip Morrow coordinate a legion of volunteers for the March, June, and October book sales. Everything starts with books placed in the donation box outside the library's Harrison Street entrance.

was so much fun that she became a member of the Friends and later began volunteering. Cheryl wants to get more young people involved.

"It's always good to have fresh eyes, and it's valuable to get input about how to do things better." For her, the bottom line is two-fold: donated books are always welcome, and volunteers are key to successful book sales.

Both make all the difference. ∞

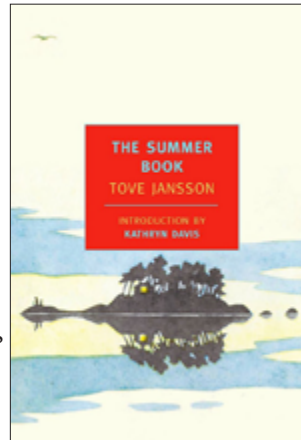
What Friends Are Reading

◆ *The Summer Book*

Tove Jansson (2008)

One quality I look for in a book is its ability to transport me to another place: when I put the book down, I want to feel as if I have just returned from a long journey. This one spirited me off to a small island in the Gulf of Finland, where six-year-old Sophia is spending summer with her grandmother. Their tranquil existence and conversations about the delicate balances of life, death, nature, and courage reveal much about their respective life stages and love for each other, while also enveloping the reader in the island's natural beauty.

Underlying their conversations is a deeper exploration: our existence in the world, our connections with others, aging as part of nature, and the legacy we pass on. Jansson wrote *The Summer Book* shortly after her mother died. In it, young Sophia has also recently lost her mother, but this fact is mentioned only once, in passing: "Sophia woke up and remembered that they had come back to the island and that she had a bed to herself because her mother was dead." This is all that's needed to provide the important context for subsequent interactions between Sophia and her grandmother as they explore



the island—talking, arguing, and wondering aloud about mosses, birds, heaven, hell, and the sea.

As summer comes to an end, and they prepare to close the house for winter, the grandmother carefully labels the salt container, so anyone who happens to become stranded on the island in their absence won't mistake it for sugar. She leaves notes explaining where things are and makes sure that rugs are left on the floor so the room won't appear unfriendly over the winter. The reader can't help wondering if she'll be back next summer.

After reading *The Summer Book*, I found a wonderful BBC documentary online titled *Moominland Tales: The Life of Tove Jansson* (2012). Yes, she also wrote the famous Moomin books. The film traces Jansson's life from her childhood as the daughter of a sculptor and a graphic artist through her own career as an artist and author. When I watched the footage of the family's summer house on an island in the Gulf of Finland, it was immediately recognizable to me.

I felt as if I had been there before. —Christine Heycke

◆ *At Home: A Short History of Private Life*

Bill Bryson (2011)

Houses aren't refuges from history. They are where history ends up.

For your reading pleasure, here is another entertaining and off-beat book by a famous and familiar travel writer. Bryson journeys this time through every room in the house, simultaneously traveling throughout history and reporting fascinating and often quirky anecdotes along the way.

Introducing his story with a climb into the attic of the English rectory where he lives, Bryson discovers a door to the roof, which opens on a panoramic view of the surrounding countryside. The door itself, however, is invisible from any angle outside the house. Just the day before, he had walked "a good part of this view" with a friend who had recently retired as the county archaeologist.

"Have you ever noticed how country churches nearly always seem to be sinking into the ground?" his friend had asked. "[I]t isn't because the church is sinking. It's because the churchyard has risen." His friend then explains that a country parish, such as the one where Bryson lives, will

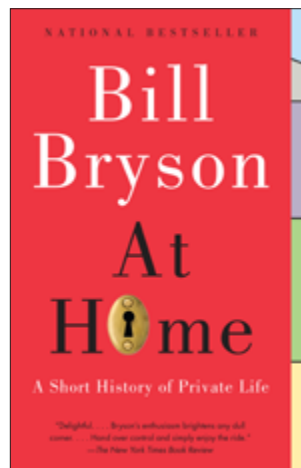
have had, over the course of its many centuries of history, approximately 20,000 souls buried in its church graveyard. "It's why the ground has risen three feet."

Realizing that he knows little about the ordinary things in houses, Bryson determines to write a history of all of the commonplace items he, and we, take for granted—to "write a history of the world without leaving home." And so the story takes off to explore the origin and history of every room in the house—as well as a number of arcane and barely related events and people.

Library Journal comments, "Readers might best use this anecdotally constructed book by dipping into, rather than methodically reading it. Its eclectic, ambulatory arrangement will delight many but baffle others."

Regardless of whether you have enjoyed reading Bill Bryson's books before, I think you will like "dipping" in and out of this book. I found it really informative while remaining a fun and interesting read.

—Fran Post



Ellen Dustman finds memories and more in her Little Free Library

◆ **The Professor's House**

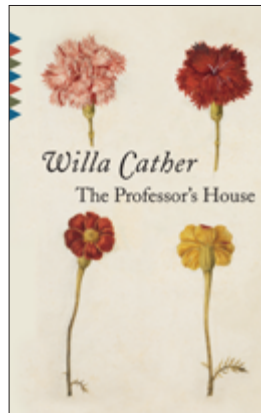
Willa Cather (©1925; Vintage, 1990)

Having years ago enjoyed Willa Cather's books *My Ántonia* and *O Pioneers!* I was happy to find another of her books in our Little Free Library.

In this character-driven story, Cather poses the big question: How do we keep living when there's nothing to look forward to? Near the book's end, the protagonist reflects that he knew "life is possible, may even be pleasant, without joy, without passionate griefs. But it had never occurred to him that he might have to live like that." Though the quote might suggest a depressing book, it's certainly not. Rather, it's a beautifully written story with many undertones. On the surface it appears to be a story of family life—quite mundane, really—but there are hidden depths here.

Godfrey St. Peter, a 52-year-old, soon-to-retire midwestern university professor, has finished his book on Spanish history and has developed a cynical outlook on his future; his relationship with his very busy wife, his two married daughters and their husbands, who differ markedly in economic status; and especially the new house they are moving into. St. Peter wants his old house, his old study, and his memories—especially the memories of his prized student and friend, Tom Outland. Tom has remained a source of inspiration to the professor over the years. But before his anticipated marriage to one of St. Peter's daughters, Tom tragically dies during World War I, leaving behind a will that creates unexpected conflicts among his close friend and professional colleague, his wife, and his daughters.

Reconnecting to the depth with which Cather explores the life concerns I share, along with our Midwest upbringing, I'm looking forward to diving into more of her books.



◆ **Nancy Drew 22: The Clue in the Crumbling Wall**

Carolyn Keene (1945)

I was taken for a walk down memory lane when I found this book in our Little Free Library. As for many young girls, Nancy Drew was my hero, and her spunky spirit and dauntless curiosity inspired me to be adventuresome, too—or, in my mother's mind, reckless.

The Clue is a Nancy Drew version of Cinderella. A story where Cinderella is a dancer who has been missing for nearly five years, and the "prince" is the rich fiancé who dies, leaving his fortune to the missing dancer, who must claim it within five years. Time is running out, and Nancy must find the missing dancer, or an evil lawyer will get all the money through, of course, mischievous ways. Spoiler alert: the solution to the mystery is all about shoe size.

This tale has an aging castle, hidden trails through overgrown gardens, boat trips up secret tributaries, a cloister walk down to the beach, and a clandestine Poet's Nook.

I invite you to revisit your personal old favorites, however you stumble upon them. Don't be surprised if your memory is jogged to relive not only the story line, but also where you were when you read the book and whom you might have talked about it with. That's where the richness lies in rereading gems from our past.

And did you know? The author's name, Carolyn Keene, is a pen name used by many different people (both men and women) over the years. The series—and others familiar to generations of children, including the Hardy Boys and the Bobbsey Twins—was the brainchild of Edward Stratemeyer and produced by the book packager Stratemeyer Syndicate. The company contracted a variety of writers, who were all required to maintain confidentiality. ☞

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News We Want You to Use

THE FRIENDS has in the past sent its thrice-yearly newsletter to members in two ways: most by e-mail and a few via USPS mail if we don't have your e-mail address. But we know that many of you don't enjoy reading the newsletter online, so we're trying something new. For this issue only, we are mailing all current members a printed copy and asking you to **opt in if you want paper copies** in the future.

If you do not opt in, you may pick up your copy (and save us postage) in the library foyer, at the Food Co-op, and at the Uptown Community Center. If you nevertheless wish to have a copy mailed to you, please check the opt-in box on the enclosed remittance envelope, and return it with your renewal. You may also opt in by e-mail; just put "Opt In" in the subject line, and e-mail us at

friendsofptlibrary@gmail.com

Don't forget to tell us your postal mailing address!

In other news: Copies of a new Friends brochure are available in the library foyer and at the Port Townsend Visitor Information center on Sims Way. Stop by, pick up a copy or two to share, and help us attract new Friends.

Thank you! ☺

TERRAPIN ARCHITECTURE^{PC}

Richard Berg, Principal Architect
Amy I. Dahlberg and Tamara Halligan, Associates

Ranie Keithahn
ranie@olympus.net

We Always Welcome More Friends!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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Friends of the Port Townsend Library is qualified for tax exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Our membership year is June 1–May 31. Dues may be paid at the library, or by credit card on the [Friends' section of the library's website \(www.ptpubliclibrary.org/SupportYourLibrary/FriendsoftheLibrary\)](http://www.ptpubliclibrary.org/SupportYourLibrary/FriendsoftheLibrary), or by mailing this form with your check payable to Friends of the Port Townsend Library (FOPTL) to

Friends of the Port Townsend Library
1220 Lawrence St., Port Townsend, WA 98368

☐ New member ☐ Renewing member

Donation amount

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50
☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$_____
☐ \$100 Business *Business members receive a business-card-sized ad in all current-year newsletters*

Newsletters are available online, at the library and Food Co-op, and elsewhere

☐ Check here if you want **paper** **copies mailed** to you **NEW!**

Would you like to volunteer?

Please indicate your area(s) of interest

- ☐ Book sales
☐ Help with book donations
☐ Publicity and outreach
☐ Occasional jobs
☐ I have an idea; call me!

Welcome, New Members!

We are delighted to welcome the folks named below, who have joined the Friends since our March 2018 newsletter:

Mary Eggert
Terry Gipson
Sidney Goodman
Doug Hill
Bev Jackson
Kathleen Marlow
Cecil Marr
Liz Moore
Yuko Umeda

We Appreciate Our Business Sponsors

Many Port Townsend nonprofits rely on our businesses for support. So when any business chooses to sponsor the Friends, we are very grateful. Please visit their websites, and support them whenever you can. And join us in thanking them for being library supporters!

Key City Public Theatre,
keycitypublictheatre.org
Ranie Keithahn, ranie@olympus.net
Sound Storage, sound-storage.com/port-townsend
Terrapin Architecture, Richard Berg,
terrapinarchitecture.com
Wallyworks Enterprises, Malcom Dorn,
wallyworks.net
Waterbirth Solutions,
waterbirthsolutions.com
Yoga Port Townsend, Heather Sky,
yogaporttownsend.com

Help Wanted

Do you have an hour or two a week?

- Would you like to help manage membership information or answer donors' e-mails or letters? You can do this from home.
- Can you help with newsletter or other mailings up to three times a year, about 45 minutes each time? Mailings take place at the library.

If so, please e-mail Fran, Membership Coordinator, at friendsoftheptlibrary@gmail.com.

Are numbers and money your thing? If so, our treasurer could use your assistance. E-mail Cindy, Treasurer, at cjohnson4033@gmail.com.

FRIENDS OF THE PORT TOWNSEND LIBRARY
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PORT TOWNSEND, WA 98368

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

BOOK SALE
June 16, 2018
Uptown Community Center
MEMBERSHIP MONTH!
Look inside for
news you can use!



Who We Are

THE PORT TOWNSEND PUBLIC LIBRARY was founded in 1898 by volunteers and, thanks to continuing community support, has remained an active Carnegie Library since its present doors opened in 1913.

The Friends of the Port Townsend Library, established in 1978, funds programs, services, and materials beyond what the city's library budget covers. Every year we support reading programs, events, and activities for all ages; we also hold three book sales and publish three newsletters. Newsletters are available in the library, around town, or at ptpubliclibrary.org/SupportYourLibrary/FriendsoftheLibrary.

Our support comes primarily from memberships, donations, and book sales. We invite anyone to become a member and attend our monthly board meetings, which take place on the second Wednesday of each month, 3:30 PM, at the Library Learning Center (corner of Lawrence and Harrison). You may contact us by e-mailing friendsofptlibrary@gmail.com.

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