

## Friends -- Rochesterfest

The Friends of the Rochester Public Library will be selling Rochesterfest buttons this year in the Friends' Bookstore. The Friends' garage sale is Wednesday 6/22 from 9 AM to 5 PM and Thursday 6/23 from 9 AM to 3 PM. Members of the Friends are invited to a presale at 8:30 AM on Wednesday morning. To become a Friends' member call 287-2627. The Friends are holding a silent auction of quality books inside the library on Wednesday afternoon from noon to 6 PM.



Library staff will participate in the Rochesterfest parade on Friday 6/24. The library entry is entitled "Books Come Alive" and staff will be dressed as characters from the children's book, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." The library is hosting McGruff's Birthday party on Saturday 6/25 at 10 AM in front of the Rochester Civic Theater. The library joins the National Night Out, Crime Prevention Unit, and the Rochester Police Department to help McGruff "Take a bite out of Crime". Crime rates are statistically linked to literacy rates (over 80% of young people sentenced to prison can barely read).

The library is promoting early childhood literacy as a means to reduce crime in the community!



## 24/7 Reference Service

It's 3:00 in the morning and a student is feverishly trying to locate an elusive statistic she needs for her history paper which is due in a few hours. At 9:15 pm a newcomer to the community would like to reserve an audiocassette of learning Spanish, but doesn't know how to navigate the library catalog, and can't take the time when she's in the library with her two small children. A soccer dad, leaving in minutes at 8:00 am, needs directions to the National Soccer Complex in Blaine.

Whether it's noon or the wee hours of the morning, information seekers with internet access can be assisted by the Rochester Public Library, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. By logging into the library's web site, <http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org>, clicking on research page, and then clicking on the large 24/7 reference box, users will be connected to professional librarians who will help them find the information they need.

24/7 reference service is a collaborative effort of hundreds of librarians across the country. Their knowledge of catalogs, searching techniques, diverse databases as well as around the clock coverage has assisted thousands of local users in navigating the myriad resources available online. Using a 'chat' format similar to "Instant messaging", librarians can often answer questions immediately, or email an answer to a patron within several days. A unique 'cobrowsing' feature will allow the librarian and inquirer to see the same screens as the websites or library catalogs are searched.

Rochester Public Library participates in 24/7 by covering the 'lines' 2 hours per day, Monday through Friday. In 2004, our staff answered 1,704 questions, and 623 local patrons used the service.

Because the service is staffed with librarians anywhere from Boston to Los Angeles and in between, local questions like "How much are my fines?", "What side of the library is the bookdrop on?", are best answered by calling the library during open hours at 285-8002 or emailing [reference@rochester.lib.mn.us](mailto:reference@rochester.lib.mn.us). Louise Moe

## From the Director

Partnerships are a key ingredient to the Library's success. Of course, one of our most important partnerships is with the *Friends of the Rochester Public Library*. There are so many ways that you support the Rochester Public Library.



I'd like to focus on how important it is that you are out telling the library story to your friends and acquaintances. Carrie Farrow is working hard to spread the word about the library, and the mass media will only get you so far. A person can only communicate so much in 10 second sound bites and short newspaper articles. One on one storytelling about the library is the most effective way to communicate the importance of the public library. You are talking to your friends about the library and perhaps even chatting in the grocery store. You are critical in making sure people know about library services as well as knowing about the bookstore and other Friends' activities.

And if questions come up that you can't answer, we are happy to help you follow up. You can send questions into Carrie or me anytime.

So thank you for your grassroots advocacy, and keep up the good work.

I also appreciate all the effort that goes into all the Rochesterfest events. Selling buttons, the silent auction, and the bookmark contest are all important activities. The Garage Sale really puts the Library on the map. Based on the number of visitors to the garage, we know it is the "happening place" on Wednesday and Thursday of Rochesterfest. I'll see you there!

*Audrey Betcher*

## Volunteer Appreciation Event

Library Staff hosted a "Garden Party" to thank volunteers (all of them *Friends* by definition) on April 20<sup>th</sup>. If you are a volunteer and missed the party, you missed a lot of good food and a wonderful party.



## Friends' Bookstore News

The bookstore volunteers continue to be a group active in the community. In April the Chamber of Commerce held an author telecast at RCTC, which our bookstore volunteers assisted with by selling the authors' books during this day event. In May, we participated in the Rochester Reads Author event with Barnes & Nobel on the Friday evening visit by author Lois Lowry at John Marshall High School.



During Rochesterfest week, in June, we will be planning a festive party look for the bookstore with the theme "Celebrate Your Library".

Rochesterfest buttons are now on sale for \$3.00 each in the bookstore. We receive \$1.00 for each one we sell, so please consider buying your button from the store. Each person wearing a Rochesterfest button during Rochesterfest will be able to select a free book from our special "Button Books" cart.

Bookstore volunteers will take an active part in assisting the *Friends' Board* members with the annual Rochesterfest garage sale to be held on June 22 & 23 and the Silent Auction, which will be held in the Children's area, on Wednesday, June 22.

**New hours for the bookstore on Thursdays!** During the months of June, July and August, the bookstore will be open additional hours, from 10 am to 7 pm.

I hope you will visit the bookstore and attend the garage sale during Rochesterfest!

*Bev Reid, Bookstore Co-Manager*

## News from Friends

*Friends of The Rochester Public Library*

101 Second Street S.E.

Rochester, MN 55904-3776

(507)287-2627

<http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/friends>

Newsletter Staff:

Editor .....	Jenni Hulsizer
(507) 288-3475	<a href="mailto:hulsizer@charter.net">hulsizer@charter.net</a>
Typesetting & Graphic Design .....	Jenni Hulsizer
Library Staff Liaison .....	Carrie Farrow
<i>Friends</i> President .....	Al Dollerschell
Circulation Manager .....	Francenia Wilson
Membership Chair .....	Nan Frie
(507) 289-1863	<a href="mailto:edfrie@charter.net">edfrie@charter.net</a>

This newsletter is published for members of the *Friends of the Rochester Public Library*. Your comments are appreciated.

## Silent Auction

The Silent Auction will take place from noon to 6 pm on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The auction will contain over 150 books this year and will cover a wide variety of subjects. Many of the books are valued at \$50 to \$100 so there will be some good bargains with the silent bids starting at much less than the actual value. There are children's books, youth books, classics in slip cases (at least 40 of them), a set of 57 leather bound Agatha Christie books, plus history, art, music, hobbies and of course those books of local interest: A book from W. W. Mayo's own personal library, stamped with his bookplate, old favorites and beautiful "coffee table books" on art and travel. The books will be listed on the library web site, a list will be available in the books store, and after June 13<sup>th</sup> some of the books will be on display in the case directly behind the bookstore in the main library. It is fun to look up the value of the books on the various web sites, such as [Bookfinders.com](http://Bookfinders.com), watch the books sell on EBay, or just find an "old friend" that you would like to have in your own library. Come at noon and start the bidding and come back at six for the final bell. *Carol Smyrk*


## Garage Sale

Ever since the end of last year's garage sale, our sorters have been setting aside books for the garage sale. Most of these books have not been through the bookstore. Donations far exceed the number of books that can be put in the store!



We have a little or a lot of just about anything. We box them up and put them out on carts and tables for the next garage sale. Pricing is simple. There isn't any! We provide a donation jar at the door, and you contribute as much or as little as you want to pay for your selection. We don't keep track, and you don't pay a tax!





Come and browse and find your own treasures! 9 am to 5 pm on Wednesday in the bookmobile garage. We will put out more books for the next sale, 9 am to 3 pm on Thursday. 

## Garage Sale



Good for one  
**8:30 am admission**  
to the Garage Sale  
to be held in the  
**Bookmobile Garage**  
at the  
**Rochester Public Library**  
on Wednesday  
June 22<sup>nd</sup>

 Please clip the coupon at the left.  
Use it for "early bird" admission to the  
garage sale on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. 

# Summer Calendar – 2005

(all events will take place in the library Auditorium unless otherwise noted)



**Now to Sat Sep 3** Children's Summer Reading Program:  
What's Buzzing at Your Library? (See page 3)

**Sun June 12 to Sat Aug 20** Young Adult Summer Reading Program "Oh, The Places You'll Go!" on line program - weekly prizes and prizes for top ten readers - <http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/apps/readersvcs/srp/srp.html>

**Mon June 13** Young Adult Movie: Lemony Snicket - A Series of Unfortunate Events rated PG at 2 and 6 pm

**Tue June 14** some books for the Silent Auction will be on display on the bulletin board in the lobby opposite the bookstore back door.

**Wed June 15** Summer Fun @ the Library - Kids' Concert with Justin Roberts 10 am & 1 pm

**Sat June 18 - Sun June 26** Rochesterfest - Free Button Books at the Friends' Bookstore each day if you are wearing a Rochesterfest Button (on sale at the bookstore)

**Tue June 21** Bedtime Stories 6:30 pm

**Wed June 22:**

Garage Sale 9 to 5 in the Bookmobile Garage (Early Bird admission at 8:30 am)

Summer Fun @ the Library - Baseball Fun with the Rochester Honkers Baseball team. 10 am & 1 pm

Silent Auction of rare and collectible books from noon to 6 pm in the Children's area

**Thu June 23** Garage Sale 9 to 3 in the Bookmobile Garage.

**Fri June 24** Rochesterfest Parade (see page 2 for details) 6:15 pm on East Center Street

**Tue June 28** Bedtime Stories 6:30 pm

**Wed June 29** Summer Fun @ the Library - Schiffelly Puppets - Cinder-Freckle-Frog-Faced-Ella 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed July 6** Summer Fun @ the Library Norm Barnhart the Reading Magician 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed July 13** Summer Fun @ the Library Magical Mia 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed July 20** Summer Fun @ the Library Musical Fun with Hans Mayer 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed July 27** Summer Fun @ the Library Film plus McGruff & Scruff 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed Aug 3** Summer Fun @ the Library Oscar & Becca 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed Aug 10** Summer Fun @ the Library Ventriloquist Gary Wick & Clarence the Duck 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed Aug 17** Summer Fun @ the Library Film Runaway Ralph 10 am & 1 pm

**Wed August 24** Summer Fun @ the Library Film Winnie the Pooh and the Honey Tree 10 am & 1 pm

**Mon Aug 29** Articles for Fall issue of the *Friends' Newsletter* due.

**Tue Sep 6** Fall issue of the *Friends' Newsletter* in the mail!



**Friends  
of the  
Rochester Public  
Library**

101 Second Street Southeast  
Rochester, Minnesota 55904-3776

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