

FOREWORD



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BOND COMMITTEE AT WORK

A citizens committee is organizing to campaign and raise money for a bond measure this fall that would fund substantial renovations to Palo Alto's libraries, the Mitchell Park Community Center and, possibly, the Palo Alto Art Center.

Co-chaired by former Palo Alto mayors Gary Fazzino and Lanie Wheeler, the Libraries Plus Bond Committee drew more than 50 supporters to its March 19 kick-off reception at the home of Tom and Ellen Wyman.

Bond committee members have begun their work even though the City Council has not yet decided exactly what will be included in the bond measure.

"At this point we can raise money for a political campaign; we can organize; we can recruit committee members, workers, supporters," Wheeler said. "We can start the campaign in essence.

"We're not in a position to tell people what we're campaigning for, precisely," Wheeler added. "The one commitment we have from the Council is that whatever goes on the ballot—whether it's one measure, two measures, however they ultimately structure it—libraries will be included. We don't even know which libraries."

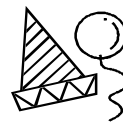
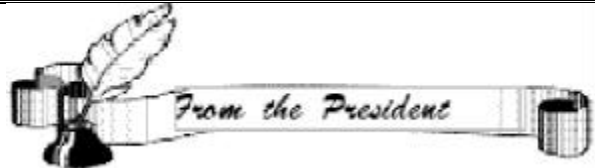
As Wheeler and Fazzino's group begins organizing, the city is hurrying to finalize conceptual designs and cost estimates for renovations to the Children's Library, the Mitchell Park Library and Community Center and the Main Library and Art Center (see related article, page 3).

Polls conducted last fall by both the City of Palo Alto and the advocacy group Libraries Now! indicated that voters are receptive to supporting a library bond this November. A follow-up survey by the polling firm Evans/McDonough is expected in late April or May. That poll will present voters with a range of options for content and price of a bond measure.

(Continued on page 2)



Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Democrat of Atherton, reads *House Mouse, Senate Mouse* to pre-schoolers at the Children's Library April 4. The book is written and illustrated by Peter W. Barnes and Cheryl Shaw Barnes.



COME AND CELEBRATE

'We're in warp speed' is how Director of Libraries Mary Jo Levy described the state of Library Administration to the FOPAL Board of Directors recently. How true and, yet, what a terrific job they're doing! Between meeting the first round application deadline for the State Library Bond and at the same time, guiding the three resource library projects through the various stages of planning and review, Library Administration is to be commended for working so hard on behalf of our libraries. Thank you, library staff. You are incredible!

(Continued on page 2)

(Bond, from page 1)

The City Council is expected to decide on the precise formulation of the ballot measure in June.

To date, the Libraries Plus Bond Committee includes the following members:

Richard Alexander
Tony Angiletta
Bern Beecham
Gretchen Emmons
Gary Fazzino
Annette Glanckopf
Pria Graves
Walt Hays
Mabel Herring
Kate Hill
Sandra Hirsh
Julie Jerome
Lenore Jones
Deborah Ju
Skip Justman
John Kagel
Karen Kang
Tina Kass
Arthur Keller
Chris Kelly
Jack Koch
Barbara Mitchell
Shantha Mohan
Bob Moss
Mary Jean Place
Steve Player
Joe and Diane Rolfe
Joe Shakes
Nancy Shepherd
Jeffrey Shore
Barbara Spreng
Terry Trumbull
Carolyn Tucher
Shelby Valentine
Joe Villareal
Sam Webster
Lanie Wheeler
Karen White
Tom and Ellen Wyman

The committee's treasurer is Joe Shakes. The Libraries Plus Bond Committee welcomes new members. To join, please contact Karen Kang at 328-1121 or Karen@Kang.com.

--Chris Kenrick

But let us not forget that repairing and renovating our libraries is a community effort that requires participation from everyone. We all have an important role to play. For example, all Palo Altans are encouraged to attend the public input meetings and be included in the process by commenting on the conceptual designs proposed for Children's, Mitchell Park and, Main libraries. Infrastructure improvements significantly affect library services and these public input meetings offer the best opportunity to see, learn, share ideas and, express concerns. It is widely recognized that the current buildings and systems are antiquated. The question is: what will replace them? Each generation has to contribute and reinvest in the things that matter to our community, and that includes libraries. So be sure to be a part of this process and help us articulate not only the libraries' deficiencies, but also a vision for our libraries for the next 50 years.

Speaking of which, this is the Palo Alto Library's 100th year! By now I hope you have received your invitation to come to a wonderful celebration on **Sunday, April 28th, from 4 to 6 p.m., in the Lucie Stern Ballroom**. Admission is free and lots of great things are planned. There will be turn-of-the-century music, piano ragtime, youth strings, a barbershop quartet and a collection of historic Palo Alto library photos. We will be serving popcorn and lemonade and, best of all, a huge birthday cake. The first 100 guests will receive free full-color commemorative 100th Anniversary posters. Both Mayor Vic Ojakian and former Mayor Gary Fazzino are scheduled to speak.

The Woman's Club of Palo Alto is cosponsoring the event and we are delighted about that collaboration. After all, they were the first Friends of the Library. It was because of their efforts and commitment, in time and money, that Palo Alto had a Free Reading Room before it had sidewalks or sewers. The Woman's Club made an incredible contribution to our community when it took on the responsibility to provide Palo Alto with a library that was free and available to everyone. It was that leadership and advocacy that led to the 1902 decision by city leaders to establish the public library system that we still enjoy.

The Friends are proud to carry on that role of advocacy for the libraries today. I believe that as an organization we have been helpful, and I hope, effective, in our attempts to facilitate much needed and overdue improvements for the libraries.

The 100th Anniversary Celebration on April 28th will be a social opportunity for all of us to gather, have a delightful afternoon together as a whole community and enjoy sharing in our past. Come and join in singing Happy Birthday, Palo Alto Library! We have a lot to be grateful for, including the hard-working, thoughtful ancestors who bequeathed us our cherished libraries.

Given the challenges and concerns of our modern lives, I just hope Palo Altans in 2102 will be able to look back at us and be as grateful for our stewardship of the libraries.

--Shelby Valentine



HELP DESIGN YOUR LIBRARIES

Library Director Mary Jo Levy says a strong public turnout at upcoming community meetings is a key for success as the city works to finalize conceptual designs for renovations to the **Children's, Main and Mitchell Park** libraries.

By June, the City Council should have conceptual designs as well as cost estimates for those renovations so it can move forward with a library bond measure in November.

"We really encourage people to come to these meetings," Levy said. "We want to have some winning libraries here. We haven't had this chance (to redesign libraries) in more than 40 years, and we expect these to last 50 years."

Guided by the New Library Plan approved by the City Council in 2000, librarians have worked with San Francisco architect Cathleen Mahlstrom on "building studies" to determine the additional square footage necessary to accommodate the collections and programs envisioned in the plan. Those studies have been completed for Children's, Main and Mitchell.

The furthest along in the process is the **Children's Library**, which is scheduled to go before the Council in May. "Children's Library is in the conceptual design phase," Levy said, "whereby we are looking at how the layout would be internally in the building with the expansion, and some concept of how the additions to the building would look. We're also working on issues that have come out of the community meetings."

A site study of the **Mitchell Park Library and Community Center** calls for tearing down both buildings, and rebuilding them as a single L-shaped structure with a shared lobby. The new building would be closer to the park, and would result in the elimination of a traffic light on Middlefield Road.

A community meeting on the conceptual design for Mitchell Park Library is scheduled for **April 24** at 7 p.m. at the Mitchell Park Community Center.

A site feasibility study for the Newell-Embarcadero site, encompassing both the **Main Library and the Art Center**, was completed in January. Because of the possibility that the existing buildings, designed by Edward Durrell Stone, may have historic value, two conceptual designs are being considered for the library portion—one with the original building retained, and the

other with it demolished and replaced. Community meetings are scheduled for the conceptual design phase of this site on **April 13** at 9 a.m., in the Main Library and on **May 1** at 7 p.m., tentatively in the City Council Chambers.

By the end of June, Levy said, "the city should be able to say 'this is what these libraries are going to look like, where they're going to be on the land and what they're going to cost.'"

--Chris Kenrick

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

What do you want in a new library? Come tell the architects in the following community meetings:

April 13, 9 a.m.-11 a.m., Main Library

April 24, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Mitchell Park Community Center

May 1, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., City Council Chambers (location tentative, verify at 329-2516)



FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED

Welcome to a new member of our library lovers family, the Palo Alto Library Foundation!

At the end of March, after months of work by a committee of library supporters, the foundation has a set of by-laws, a seal from the state acknowledging its existence, a Federal ID number, and is working on the application for the 501 C nonprofit tax status. The foundation is the result of a recommendation by the Friends about a year ago. Its purpose is to help raise additional revenues for the large projects facing our library community, once a funding method is set by the City Council. The Friends Board voted to give \$15,000 to help in start-up costs, and an additional \$13,000 has been raised privately to aid in the estimated start-up costs of \$75,000. Additional donations would be greatly appreciated in this beginning period.

We were fortunate to have the services of attorney Leslie Hakala, of Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich and Rosati, to aid us, on pro bono bases, in the creation of the by-laws, state filings, and legal requirements of starting the foundation. Thank you, thank you, Leslie! The new executive officers of the Foundation are Mary Jean Place, President; Lanie Wheeler, Secretary; Bob Jack, Treasurer; and Amy Greene. For further information call Mary Jean Place at 326-4967.

--Mary Jean Place

MONEY FOR LIBRARIES

Whenever you buy books, CDs, DVDs or other products from Amazon.com, five percent of your purchase price can go to help the Palo Alto libraries. To get the credit, all you have to do is start each purchase by going to the FOPAL web site at www.friendspaloaltolib.org, and clicking on the Amazon logo at the top of the page. Try it now!

If you're looking up Amazon.com, please remember always to go by way of FOPAL's web site so that Palo Alto libraries will benefit. FOPAL is seeking to work out a similar arrangement with Kepler's.

--Jeff Levinsky and Chris Kenrick



ENDOWMENT FUND REVIEWED

The Friends maintain several special purpose funds that accumulate donations from members wanting to support particular library needs. The Library Lover's Fund provides new additions to the collection, while the Children's Library Improvement Fund focuses on expenditures that contribute to the renovation of the deteriorating Children's Library. The oldest and largest of the funds maintained by the Friends is the Endowment Fund, whose purposes were recently re-examined after a lengthy discussion by the Board of Directors.

Like many other successful non-profit organizations, the Friends have created an Endowment Fund, which serves as a financial anchor to provide long-term security. The resources of the Endowment Fund are intended for major projects or needs benefiting Palo Alto's libraries when the Friends' other special funds or General Fund are insufficient. The Endowment Fund is invested in a managed account with Fidelity Investments with the objectives of preservation and growth. A committee of board members monitors the fund and its investments. The committee also considers suggestions for possible uses for the Endowment Fund, and makes recommendations to the Board on matters concerning the Fund. Expenditures from the Endowment Fund need the approval of the full Board.

The Endowment Fund has been in existence in one form or another since 1979, and has grown over the years to a total of around \$200,000. Donations to the fund come from various sources, including Life Membership dues. The proceeds from the sale of several large collections of books donated to the Friends have also gone to the fund, as have many cash donations from members. A sizable portion of the fund, over 20 percent, is made up of earnings from investments. With uncertainties about the continuity of revenue from book sales and possible library expansion projects on the horizon, the Endowment Fund is an important part of the Friend's overall financial means for providing support to Palo Alto's libraries.

--John Burt



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Go for the gold! The Olympics may be over, but you can still get your gold in the form of two gold library cards if you join as a Life Member. (If you're already a Life Member and didn't receive cards, let us know and we'll be happy to send you yours.) At this time, we are especially pleased to acknowledge the generous donations of five new Life Members:

Callie Elliston & Jerry Huck
Hillary Freeman
Landonia Gettell
Sue & Alex McComas
Karen & Rand White

We also extend a warm welcome to the additional newest members, some of whom were omitted from our last issue:

Jeff Bedolla
Joan & Richard Bialek
Elaine Chen
Katie Cho
William Crull
Doug Debs
W. Evers
Sydney & Richard Frankel
Mel Froli
Ellen & Daniel Harris
Colleen & Patricia James
Elaine Johnson
The Johnston-Blair Family
Laurel Luebs
Elizabeth Marshall
Megan Miller
Greta Purcell
Nancy Raffman
Cecilia Rodriguez
Roy Smith

As always, we are most grateful for those of you who have sent in your renewals:

Alice Barlow, Louise Barsotti, John & Nancy Baum, Louise & Stuart Beattie, Clara Berger, Marda Bucholz, Betty Buckwalter, Anne Callery & Kevin Archibald, Mary & Bob Carlstead, Richard Ciapponi, Charlotte Cole, Lisl Day, Jeffrey Dean, Peter DeMeo, Pat Dentinger, Cynthia Dorgan, Esther Eisenberg, Lorela Fajardo, Ellen Fletcher, Nan & Michael Fogel, John Gill, Gloria Goldberg, Denise

Grieve, Irene Hern, Margaret Humphrey, Shirley Ingalls, Rene Jurgens, Helen Kaplan, Tony Kramer, Marian Lockwood, Barbara & William Lucas, the Hal McIntyres, Ruth Moor, Betty Moore, Diane Moore, Ruth & Philip Myerson, Margaret Newton, Betty Lou & Bob Nordman, Anita & Ingram Olkin, Angela Owen, Isabel & Eugene Peterson, Crystal Pollock-Dove, Nancy Rhea, Ann Roper, Ruth & Dick Rosenbaum, Gail Schubert, Barbara & Howard Shaw, Frederic Silverman, Marge Speidel, Margaret & Charles Stein, Carol & Ludwig Tannenwald, Louise Thursby, Sarabel Wardle

Are YOU wondering if it is time to send in a renewal check? Please check the label on this newsletter and use the printed form if your membership has expired. Thank you for helping keep down our costs.

--Sarah Clark



BOOK SALE NEWS

CALLING ALL ANGELS

Are there any angels out there to help find a location for the Book Sale that will house thousands of donated books, hundreds of loyal customers and the volunteer force who prepare and sell the books and who love this very special monthly sale? The Book Sale is forced to move from Terman by September as the Palo Alto School District will begin to renovate buildings prior to the open the new middle school by Fall 2003. The City will maintain jurisdiction over Terman's first wing, which contains the Terman Library, a City meeting room and the Friends' "Bargain Room" – but try to fit 40,000 books into that small room. The City of Palo Alto has offered an 1,800-square-foot portable room at Cubberley Community Center for the Book Sale, which currently uses 7,000 square feet of space in Terman's Wing 30. The search for 5,000 square feet of additional space is ongoing. If you have can help us find large and better facilities than Cubberley, contact **Tom Wyman** at 325-9483 or **Marty Paddock** at 493-5672.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Welcome new volunteers **Betty Moore, Tom Engelsing, Lena El-Kareh, Nancy Mayo, Sandy Smith, Julia Gray, Valerie Taylor** and **Steve Tull**. **Frenchie Perry** is now working at the Book Room preparing donations, having moved from managing the book sales at the Downtown Library. Don't let the bad news above keep

you from volunteering. There still will be hundreds of fascinating books to unpack until August. Volunteers for book sale days are especially needed right now: Saturdays May 11, June 8, July 12 and August 14. Volunteers will work as cashiers or floor attendants on three-hour shifts—10:30 to 1:15 or 12:30 to 4:00. We sustain you with delicious snacks. Join us and meet the wonderful volunteers who make the sales happen. Barbara Silberling, at 856-1862, will sign you up.

Hooray to **Lucy La Pier**, new supervisor of Children's Room 32. She has taken over for **Winnie McGannon** who did a masterful job of supervising children's books for two plus years. We all thank you, Winnie, for your fine work.

Book Room phone number: 493-7432 (leave message if not answered).

Book Room hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon; Wednesdays and Thursdays 2 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays 3 to 5 p.m.

Upcoming sales are April 13 and May 11 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Terman.

For donation information call Book Sale Manager Marty Paddock at 493-5672. **To volunteer** call Barbara Silberling at 856-1862.

For information on Non-Profit Day call Maggie Anderson at 856-7741. Monday after every sale, teachers and non-profit organizations choose free books from the Bargain Room.

--Barbara Silberling



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

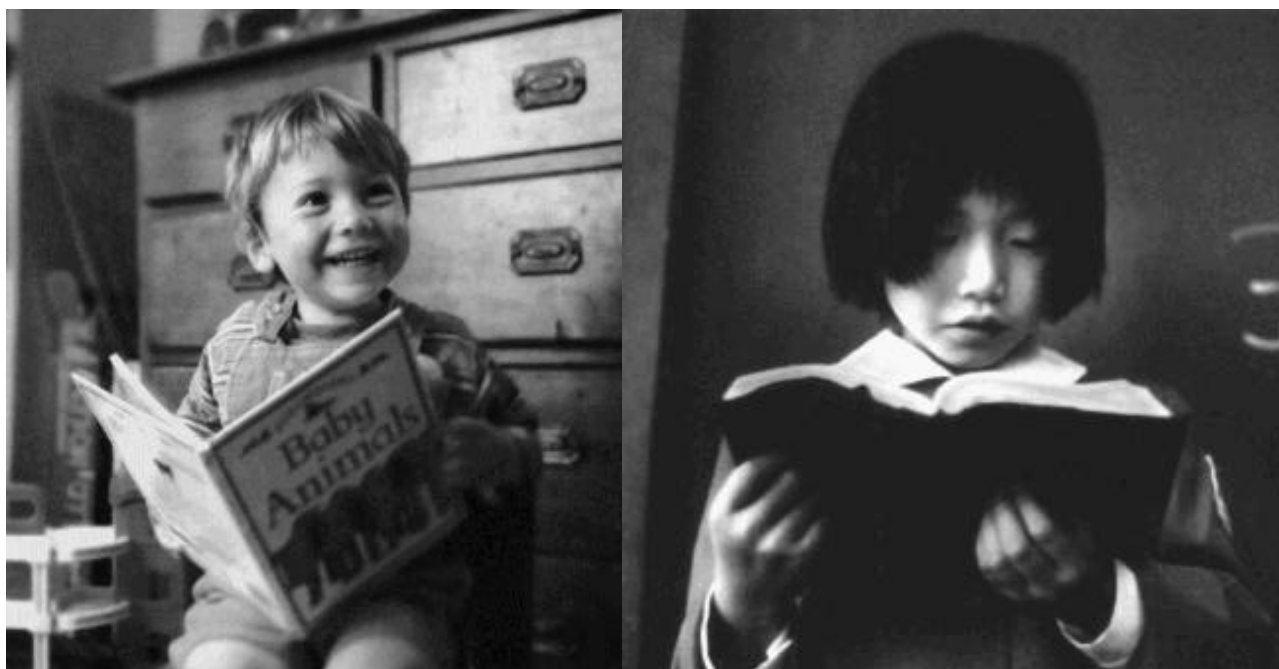
The Friends of the Palo Alto Library Board of Directors welcomes new members **Wendy Akers-Ghose** and **Jeff Levinsky**.

Wendy, a nine-year resident of Palo Alto, is active with the PTA as editor of the *JLS Panther Tracks* and the PTA Council's *Community Kiosk*. She is also a Girl Scout leader and teacher of a monthly self-acupressure class at Kaiser. She was formerly a property manager and president of the Escondido PTA.

Jeff is a computer scientist who has worked on many projects in education and information retrieval, including the computerization of millions of historical documents and records. He has been active in Palo Alto non-profits for all of his working life. Jeff is also FOPAL's Webmaster. Go to www.friendspaloaltolib.org to check it out.

--Chris Kenrick

Look Who's Turning 100?



Join us as we kick off a year-long centennial celebration!

Sunday, April 28, 2002, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Lucie Stern Community Center Ballroom, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

A festive event with turn-of-the-century music, refreshments, gallery of historical library photos, re-enactment of great speeches from our library history, period costumes and a huge birthday cake. Admission is free.

A full-color poster commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Palo Alto Library will be given free to the first 100 guests.

Co-sponsored by Palo Alto Woman's Club and Friends of the Palo Alto Library, in collaboration with the City of Palo Alto Library Department.





JOIN THE FRIENDS!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Membership Fees

Friend \$15

Family Friends \$25

Patron Friend \$40

Sustaining Friend \$100

Lifetime Friend \$250

The last dues reminder you'll get!

Please check here if this is a renewal.

Please don't send me the newsletter.

Please keep my name off the membership list.

Renewing members: Please make any changes to your current address on this form. If no changes, leave it blank (your address label on the other side is all we need).

I would like to volunteer:

Fund raising committee

Staffing Book sales

Art and Graphics

Friends Board

Program and project assistance

Membership

Friends Publicity

Newsletter

Posters, brochures

Distribution, mailing

Friends of the Palo Alto Library, P.O. Box 41, Palo Alto CA 94302-0041

Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Palo Alto Library

For more information see: <http://www.friendspaloaltolib.org/>

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WebPage: <http://www.friendspaloaltolib.org/>

Email: info@paloaltofriends.org

<p>Monthly Book Sales: Second Saturday Terman Library, 661 Arastradero Road 11a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>April 13 May 11 June 8</p>	<p>Board of Directors Meeting: First Wednesday Lucie Stern Community Center Community Room, 1305 Middlefield Road 8:30 to 10 a.m.</p> <p>May 1 June 5</p>
<p>Library Commission: Fourth Thursday Council Conference Room, 260 Hamilton Ave. 7 p.m.</p> <p>April 25</p> <p>See http://www.city.palo-alto.ca.us/clerk/schedule.html to confirm meeting date and time.</p>	<p>Book Discussion Group: Second Thursday Lucie Stern Community Center Fireside Room 1305 Middlefield Road 7:30 to 9 p.m. For information, call Crystal 961-1528</p> <p>April 11, May 9, June 13</p> <p>You are invited to join us April 11, when the books for the next 11 months will be selected from your suggestions. All subjects welcome; titles should be available in paperback. You don't have to be a member to attend this meeting. A list of books that have been reviewed since 1987 is at our web page: http://www.fopalbookgroup.homestead.com</p>

Friends of the Palo Alto Library (FOPAL) Board of Directors: Ann Shelby Valentine, President; Amy Greene, Vice-President; Paula Sandas, Secretary; Bob Jack, Treasurer. Members: Wendy Akers-Ghose, John Burt, Gretchen Emmons, Chris Kenrick, Jeff Levinsky, Shantha Mohan, Robert Otnes, Marty Paddock, Mary Jean Place, Cecilia Rodriguez, Barbara Silberling, Cherie Stephens, Karen White. Library Representatives to the Board: Mary Jo Levy, Director of Libraries; Coordinator, Downtown Library: Barbara Geibel. Foreword Staff: Chris Kenrick, Shantha Mohan, Cherie Stephens; Digital Photograph: Robert Otnes; Webmaster: Jeff Levinsky; Circulation: Post Haste Direct Mail Service.