



Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library

Chapter & Verse

March/April 2010



A 'KILLER' EVENING WITH RIDLEY PEARSON

On Tuesday evening, May 11, the Friends will sponsor a fundraiser with Ridley Pearson as the keynote speaker. The festivities will be held at Greenbriar Hills Country Club.



The final details, including a delicious dinner and silent auction, are still being worked out.

We're naming our event based on Ridley's recent series of "killer" books. The newest title, *In Harm's Way*, features the "killer" cast and will be released August 3. Previous books in the

series are *Killer Summer* (2009), *Killer View* (2008), and *Killer Weekend* (2007). And, we're convinced that you'll experience a real 'killer' evening thanks to Ridley. The talk he will give is titled "From Flaming Fingernails to Peter Pan: An Author's Journey." Who would want to miss out on that!

For those of you who do not know him, we offer a brief overview of his amazing writing career to date. He is a #1 nationally best selling author of more than 25 crime fiction novels as well as a dozen novels (several co-written with Dave Barry) for younger readers. His books have been translated into 22 languages and are in print in over seventy countries. Ridley adapted his novel, *The Diary of Ellen Rimbauer*, as a two hour ABC TV movie (2003), and has written television

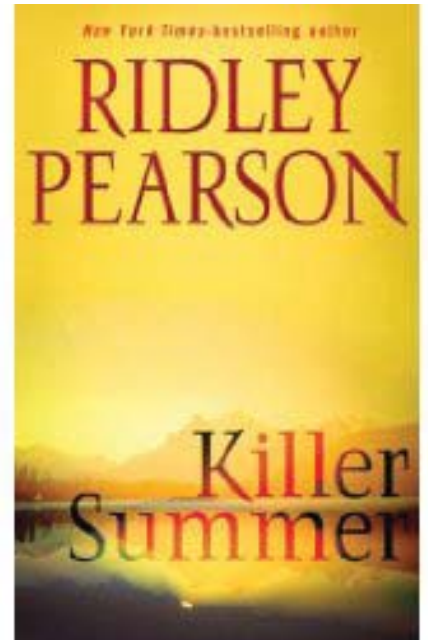
documentaries, including "Alcoholics Anonymous," for the A&E network. He has been on the *New York Times* bestseller list numerous times.

His crime novels are known for their detailed forensics. Research conducted for his novel, *Undercurrents* (1988), has gone on to help investigators solve three real-life homicides. At the request of authorities, Ridley also contributed to the task force attempting to catch the Washington, DC sniper.

Ridley has co-authored, with Dave Barry, four books in the "Starcatcher" series for young readers. *Peter and the Starcatchers* (the first of the series) has been adapted for the stage by Rick Elice ("Jersey Boys") and is being produced by Disney Theatrical.

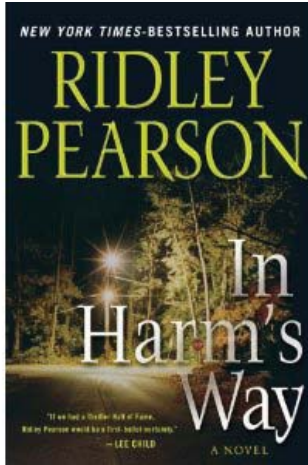
In 1990, Ridley was the first American to be awarded the Raymond Chandler Fulbright Fellowship in Crime Fiction at Oxford University. In 2008-2009 Ridley served as a visiting professor in the College of International Language and Literature at Fudan University, Shanghai, China.

That's all very impressive, right? But, the equally impressive part is what an engaging and energetic speaker he is. Whether he is informing you about his experiences teaching in China while living there with his wife Marcelle and their two daughters, or explaining about the research he does for his novels, or — even better



— demonstrating the fact that he speaks fluent pigeon, porpoise, and python,* you'll be spellbound by this entertaining author.

Please mark your calendars and join us on Tuesday evening, May 11. We'll keep you up-to-date on plans as they become available. You can learn even more about Ridley by visiting www.ridleypearson.com.



*If you had attended his talk at the Kirkwood Amtrak Station on January 30, you would have learned how multilingual he is in the animal world!

NAME THE NEW SHOP AND WIN \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE

As you may have read in the most recent edition of *Outlook*, we are sponsoring a contest to name our new bookshop. Details below...

The names of the two famous stone lions that rest in front of the New York Public Library are Patience and Fortitude. It was mayor Fiorello LaGuardia who named them. Now is your chance to attain similar fame when you name the Friends new bookstore, opening this summer with the revamped library. Even if you have no aspirations to become mayor, you can still celebrate with a \$50 gift certificate for books from the shop you named.

Formerly known as the Greentree Books Shop, the Friends store will now rest in a prominent new location inside the library. To gain even more prominence — and the resulting sales — an eye-catching name is needed. Entry forms, and complete rules and details, are available at the circulation desk.

All entries must be received at the library by March 31, 2010.

JOIN US FOR THE ENGLISH TEA

The Friends of the KPL will hold their annual English Tea on Wednesday, April 7, at 1:00 pm in Epworth Hall at the Kirkwood United Methodist Church, 201 West Adams. Our distinguished speaker will be Dr. Nora Beiswenger and the topic of her presentation is “Jane Austen’s Perennial Appeal.”

In 1994, Dr. Beiswenger was voted Distinguished Professor by alumni, professors, and students at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee. She received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Michigan, and her literary specialty focused on women writers. Dr. Beiswenger is an enthusiastic member and participant of the Jane Austen Society of North America. Nora, a native of Michigan, has become a staunch advocate of the cultural life of Saint Louis and is always ready to share her literary interest with others. While Jane Austen wrote romantic fiction about young love in the 18th-19th century, our presenter Nora and her husband’s love story appears in the newly published book *Autumn Romance: Stories and Portraits of Love After 50*. Here they are portrayed with 29 other couples who have found love after midlife.

Please plan to join us for this event. Tea and refreshments will be served after Dr. Beiswenger’s presentation which is open to the public. Admission is free to Friends’ members. Non-members will be charged \$5.00 the day of the event. The fee will be waived for non-members who join the Friends when registering or attending the event. Due to limited seating, reservations are required and must be received by April 2, 2010.

You may register by signing the registration sheet at the Circulation Desk at the library or you may phone 821-5770 ext. 1023 and leave your name and phone number.



SHOP MANAGER AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

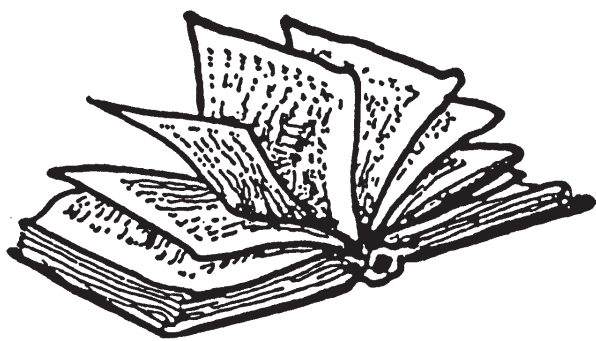
We are looking for a new Shop Manager, for our brand new shop. The Shop Manager manages the overall operation of the Shop; schedules meetings of the Shop Committee and chairs the group; and arranges for publicity and promotions. The position includes being a member of the Friends Board.

Both the Shop Manager and the Volunteer Coordinator will share responsibility for updating the Shop manual. The Shop Manager will assist the Volunteer Coordinator in the training of the volunteers and both will be available to support and back each other up as needed.

This is a wonderful opportunity to become one of the Friends volunteers and we guarantee you will not only have fun, but will also make new FRIENDS, and you will be proud to be a part of the Friends support team for the Kirkwood Public Library.

We are also still looking for a few volunteers to work in the new shop. If you would like to be a Shop Volunteer you can also call and leave information for us to call you back – but don't hesitate too long as there are only a few two-hour shifts left.

If you would like to be considered for one of these positions, please call the Friends office (314) 821-5770, Ext. 1023, leave a message, along with your name and phone number and someone will call you back.



DID YOU KNOW?

There are more public libraries than McDonald's in the U.S.—a total of 16,604 including branches.

Americans spend more than twice as much on candy as they do on public libraries.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to the Friends and thank them for supporting KPL:

AUTHOR LEVEL

Berny & Nancy Engel

Dolores Goerger

Nelda Carlisle-Gray

David Poger

LIBRARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The library has submitted and accepted bids for furnishings in our new library building. These furnishings will include not only shelves for our books, but also tables for our computers, comfortable seating to enjoy that beautiful new reading room and easy-to-move tables and chairs for the public meeting room. We are asking donors to consider a gift to help fellow Kirkwoodians enjoy these new furnishings. Donors who give \$500 and above will be recognized on a special plaque that will hang prominently inside the entryway of the new library. Through the generosity of many donors, the library has already raised \$86,000.

The library's Buy a Shelf Campaign is ongoing and for every \$100 given, the donor's name (or any name the donor designates) will be placed on a shelf. Please note that gifts made to the Buy a Shelf Campaign are recorded in the library's business office and are set aside specifically for furnishings.

The library and the Board of Trustees appreciates your consideration as we work together to support this Kirkwood institution.

If you have any questions or need more details, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sarah Erwin, Acting Director
Kirkwood Public Library

UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

Events for Youth

Tuesday Toddler Storytime weekly at 10 am.

Family Storytime (all ages) Tuesdays, 6:30 pm and Saturdays at 10 am. Last winter/spring event May 8.

Books for Babies meets on Thursdays at 9:30 am for babies 6 to 24 months and their caregivers. The last winter/spring Books for Babies will be April 8.

Mother Daughter Book Club Tuesdays, March 16 and April 20 at 7:30 pm.

Special Events for Youth

Thursay, March 18, 7-8pm - **Family Night Bingo**— Families are invited to play bingo and win prizes.

Tuesday, March 23, 3pm - **Teen “Silent Library” Challenge** – Teens do wacky stunts while trying to maintain silence. Teen Space –Ages 12 –up.

Wednesday, March 24, 3:30-4:30 - **Kaleidoscopic Craft**- Make your own kaleidoscope- Ages 8-up. KPL.

Saturday, March 27, 10-11 am - **Princess Hyacinth Party**- Stories, games and crafts. KPL. Ages 4-7.

Saturday, April 10, 2 pm - **Paper Toys** – Make amazing paper toys. KPL. Ages 2 and up with parent.

April 13, 3:30-4:15 – **After School Book Club** - *Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams. Ages 12 and up.

Thursday, April 22, 6:30 pm – **What To Read This Summer** – Staff book talks on new titles for kids and teens. Kirkwood Library.

Friday, April 30, 6:30-8:30 pm – **Teen Game Night** – Board games, food and fun. Ages 12 and up. KPL.

Ongoing Book Discussions

Saturday Morning Perk Book Discussions
Rose Hill House, 10-11am.

March 6 – *Disgrace* by J.M. Coetzec
April 17 – *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Stout.

Book into Movie Discussions
Wednesdays, 7:30-8:30 pm, Kaldi’s @ Station Plaza

March 24 - *Mystic River* by Dennis Lehane.
April 14 - *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier
May 5 - *Time Traveler’s Wife* by Audrey Niffenegger.
May 26 - *Flags of our Fathers* by James Bradley.

Tea and Mystery Book Discussion
Saturdays, Kirkwood Train Station.

March 20, 9:30-10:30 am – *Murder on the Lusitania* and *Murder on the Mauretania* by Conrod Allen Pace.

April 10, 2:30-3:30 – *Mystery on the Blue Train* by Agatha Christie.



READERS’ CIRCLE

Going Over East: Reflections of a Woman Rancher

We will meet Thursday, May 6th, 7:00 pm. at Kirkwood United Methodist Church in Room 108 to discuss *Going Over East: Reflections of a Woman Rancher* by Linda Hasselstrom. Jane Bond will lead the discussion.

This short book, first published in 1987, is now out in a new edition with a poignant postscript. The book’s style, though spare and simple, is so vivid the result is not only visual, it also is almost tactile, and at times it even seems you can smell what the author is writing about.

It depicts the struggles and hardships of single family ranching in a world that seems bent on mass production without regard to consequences on the land. The writing style is frank and matter of fact with bits

of dry humor throughout.

The author, now age 66, currently conducts writing retreats and workshops, but for many years she was a rancher. This came about largely by circumstance – to help her father while she herself was dealing with the aftermath of a divorce (and later when she was dealing with the failing health and subsequent death of her second husband).

The author’s website has an online index and study guide for this book. To learn more about her visit www.windbreakhouse.com for photos of the author, the book’s setting, and to read about her life not only as a rancher but also as a writer and teacher of writing.

This will be our last meeting of the year. Suggestions for next year’s reading program are welcome.

LIBRARY RECEIVES GRANT FOR CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Congratulations go to Lynn Bosso, Acting Director of Programs and Youth Services, for receiving a \$5,549.00 grant for children's summer reading from the Missouri State Library.

Children in families with two working parents or a single working parent spend much of their summer in day camps and daycares and do not use the library as regularly as children with a stay-at-home parent. KPL was recently awarded a Technology Mini Grant for a portable circulation device, PocketCirc, enabling us to check out library materials off-site. The library's goal

is to provide weekly outreach programs and off-site check out to give more access to library materials and better serve this population.

The Youth Services department will also reach developing and reluctant readers by offering a Reading Buddies program. This program will partner children entering grades 1-4 with teen volunteers for one-on-one reading time. Little buddies receive individual reading encouragement while their teen counterparts benefit from a role model/leadership experience.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Computer Classes are held Wednesdays 10am-noon and Thursdays 1-3 pm at the Kirkwood School District Administrative building, 11289 Manchester Road.

Wed. March 10, Microsoft Excel 2007 II
Thur. March 11, Internet 1.0
Wed. March 17, Digital Pictures
Wed. March 31, Windows XP
Thur. April 1, Microsoft Power Point 2007 I
Wed. April 7, Social Networking
Thur. April 8, Microsoft Power Point 2007 II
Wed. April 14, Internet 1.0
Thur. April 15, Microsoft Word I
Wed. April 21, Microsoft Excel I
Thur. April 22, Microsoft Word II
Wed. April 28, Microsoft Excel II
Thur. April 29, Digital Pictures



SPECIAL EVENTS FOR ADULTS

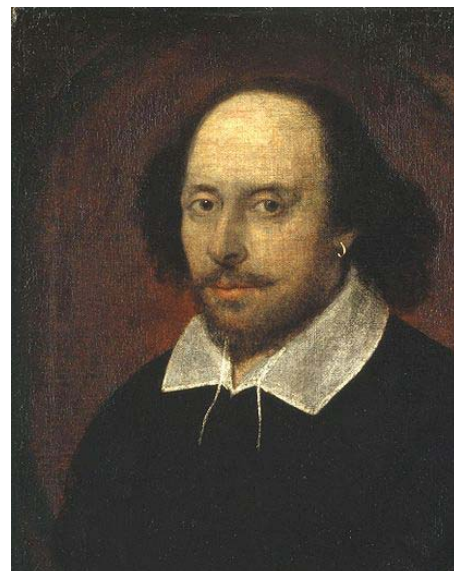
Mark Twain Remembered

Thursday, March 18, 7 pm – Rose Hill House.

Join scholar Thomas Dinan's discussion of Samuel Clemons and his connection to St. Louis.

An Actor's Guide to Shakespeare

Thursday, April 29, 7-8:30 pm – Get ready for Shakespeare Festival St. Louis 10th anniversary production of Hamlet in Forest Park with this fascinating introduction to the play. Christopher Limber, actor, director and Education Director for Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, will present new ways for audience members to discover and enjoy Shakespeare in performance! Kirkwood Community Center.



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TUESDAY, MAY 11
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Contact us!

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KPLFriends@kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org
http://kirkwoodpubliclibrary.org/friends_home.asp

Chapter & Verse is published 6 times a year by
the Friends of the Kirkwood Public Library.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March

17 Trustee meeting at City Hall at 5:30

April

4 Library closed for Easter
7 English Tea (see page 2)
19 Friends Board Meeting 1:00 pm, Commerce Bank
21 Trustee meeting at City Hall at 5:30

May

6 Reader's Circle Meeting (see page 4)
9 Library Closed
11 A 'Killer' Evening with Ridley Pearson
(see page 1 for details)
19 Trustee Meeting at City Hall at 5:30
30 Library Closed for Memorial Day
31 Library Closed for Memorial Day