

Friends Forecast

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A Message from the President ~

I'm sure you all know the Friends of the Duluth Public Library is a nonprofit, membership-based organization that assists with the development and promotion of the Duluth Public Library and advocates its importance in the community.

But, did you know that money raised at Friends' events is contributed to the library and then used to help pay for immediate resource needs? Those needs can include books, database services, e-readers and magazines. In addition, the Friends help fund library programs like the Kaleidoscope Series, a free entertainment series for children held throughout the summer on the Main Library Plaza, and the Cabin Fever Reliever Program, a series of events held throughout the winter for adults, teens and kids.

Members are encouraged to like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/friendsoftheduluthpubliclibrary as well as periodically check out our website at www.friendsofdpl.com.

These sites can help you find upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and membership renewal forms. Hit our Facebook page and share the name of the book you're reading along with a brief synopsis. Sharing that information on our social media site could spark a great community conversation and get others interested in that same book, or books in the same genre.

One final note before you get on to the remaining newsletter: The Duluth Public Library will celebrate its 125th anniversary this year and will kick off the celebrations with a community gathering beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 14, at the main library in downtown Duluth. Celebrations will also be held at the Mount Royal and West Duluth branches beginning at 3 p.m. Monday, March 16.

The community is invited to celebrate with the library on both days. Cake and sparkling juice will be served at all three locations and a string quartet will play during the main library celebration.



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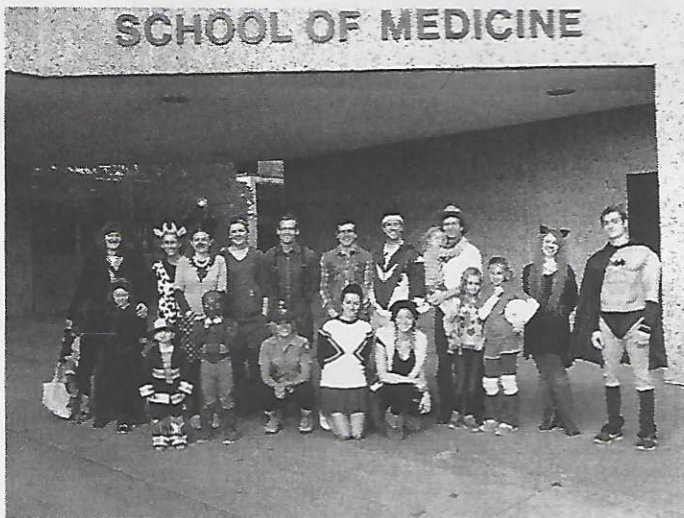
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Enjoy the Spring!
Tina Gaida



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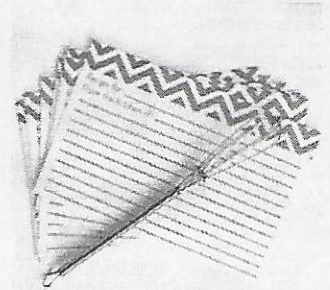


Two days before Halloween, Carla Powers received a request from a second-year medical student at the University of Minnesota Duluth. He and some of his classmates were hosting a Halloween party for children with food allergies who couldn't celebrate the holiday in the traditional manner. These medical students were wondering if the Library could donate children's books to their event. The books were going to be given away to grade school children in a "cake walk" game. This request was forwarded from Carla to Marcia Semerau, Book Sale Chair, to Diane Carlson who sorts the children's materials that are donated to the Friends for their annual book sale. Diane was able to fill their request. The following week she received an email from another of the Students; a sincere thank you for the generous donation of books. There were 15-20 kids who attended the Halloween party and each of them was able to go home with several books!

Mystery Series Book Review By Betty Ramsland

The author, Kerry Greenwood, has written 16 or more murder mysteries centered on her flamboyant heroine, Phryne (rhymes with briny) Fisher, a 1920s flapper. Phryne lives in Australia, surrounds herself with a cast of eccentric characters, and solves crimes with wit and ingenuity. I consider this a cozy mystery series: lots of fun, not too much blood and guts, and an interesting time period (the 1920s). I've read the first two books, *Cocaine Blues* and *Flying Too High*. Both were under 200 pages long; easy fast reads, and quite delightful. The library has them all!

RECIPES FOR THE BOOKISH COOK



We are starting a feature of recipes with titles based on clever literary allusions. So my entry follows. It is as clever as I get. I am sure our readers will do much better, please send your submission to:

Email: info@friendsofdpl.com

Mail: Friends of Duluth Public Library
520 W. Superior Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

What Is Between Pooh's Ears? Fluff

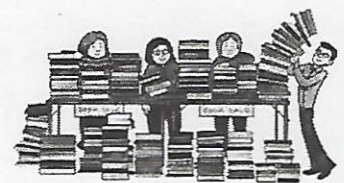
- 1 vanilla pudding (not instant)
- 1 tapioca pudding (not instant)
- 1 jello Flavor of your choice cherry, orange, etc.

Add to 3 cups of boiling water stir constantly until mixture sheets off of spoon. Refrigerate until mostly set fold in a container of cool whip and fruit of your choice, drained canned fruit or about a cup of fresh fruit.

A favorite of my grandchildren!

Mark your Calendars for our 2015 Book Sale!

The annual Friends of the Duluth Public Library used book sale will be held June 8 through 12, 2015.



Proceeds from the sale go to support the library to help them purchase resources and offer programs to the community. Donations of gently used books are accepted each year July through April 30 at the Returns window at the main Duluth Public Library.

We hope to see you there!



Carla's Corner - March 2015

As we turn the calendar page to March, many of us – myself included – turn our thoughts to the upcoming gardening season. If you're about to set up the grow lights, dig out those seed starting flats and pick up some potting soil, you may be wondering what's going on with the Duluth Seed Library.


Last September the Minnesota Department of Agriculture paid us a visit and informed us that the seed library was not in compliance with state law. Minnesota agricultural law requires those who package seeds for distribution (even free distribution) to apply for a permit, label the seed packets very specifically, and conduct germination tests. This all makes sense for large-scale agricultural suppliers but is not feasible for our small operation that handles packets of 10, 20 or 30 seeds. To their credit, the ag department did not shut down the seed library. Instead they offered to work with us to help us come into compliance with the law.

Unfortunately coming into compliance wasn't really feasible, and we began looking into the possibility of getting the law changed. The Duluth City Council passed a resolution in support of a change in the law. Shortly afterwards State Senator Roger Reinert authored a bill to exempt seed libraries and seed exchange among individuals from the law's requirements. At this writing, the bill is awaiting a committee hearing and an identical bill has been introduced in the state House of Representatives.

If the bills pass, Minnesota will become the first state to permanently protect community-based, non-commercial seed sharing. With approximately 300 seed libraries operating throughout the country and more in the works, there is a lot of public support behind legalizing small-scale seed sharing. I am so proud that our community made its voice heard on this issue and that our elected officials took the lead on this historic change in the law.

The Duluth Seed Library will be open for the 2015 gardening season beginning Saturday, March 14. Check on details about upcoming programs at .

And thank you, gardeners and seed library members, for your support!



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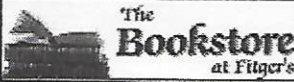
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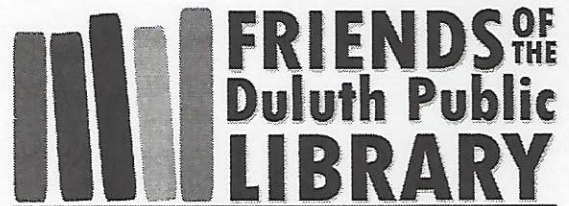
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