Thirty years in the future, young Wade Watts lives in a real world of poverty, crime, and loneliness. But in the online world of the OASIS, he goes to school, hangs out with friends, and tries to solve a complex riddle left by a dead computer-gaming genius who loved the culture of the 1980s. If Wade succeeds, he'll win a fortune. If he fails, he could lose his life.


New Hope will host the second annual “Quilts Then and Now” show on Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Elizabeth Carpenter Public Library, the Northern Lodge, and the New Hope United Methodist Church. Pay the $5 registration fee at the first site you visit. Quilts will be displayed at all three locations. There will be hands-on quilting at the library, as well as a drawing for a quilt at 2:30 p.m. You can buy a hot dog lunch and shop vendors’ wares at the lodge. The church also will host vendors plus two bed-turning sessions at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The show is sponsored by Friends of the Library. For more details, call 256-723-2995 or “Like” the quilt show’s Facebook page, Quilts Then and Now: New Hope’s Annual Quilt Show.
Spring into fun with Friends of the Library

By JAN KELLY
Friends of the Library, Downtown Huntsville

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm diluting round the perfect trees…

from “A Prayer in Spring” by Robert Frost

The new year is moving into spring, and spring is always a busy and uplifting time for The Friends of the Library. Many good and important things happen in spring. First, we end the winter with a 25-CENT BOOK SALE, which will be held in the Downtown Library auditorium on March 7 from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The public is always invited to these gigantic book sales when we sell thousands of books for 25 CENTS each!

Next we will be visited by ghosts at our last Hertha Heller Forum on March 22. Come and meet the ghosts on the third day of spring!

“School Spirits: Ghost Stories from Alabama Campuses” is the final Hertha Heller Forum for 2015. Held on March 22 in the Downtown Library auditorium at 2 p.m., it will be presented by Dr. Alan Brown, who has been a member of the Alabama Humanities Foundation’s Road Scholars Speakers’ Bureau since 1990. Since 1996, he has published a number of books on Southern ghost stories, including The Face in the Window and Other Alabama Ghostlore (1996), Haunted Places in the American South (2002), Stories from the Haunted South (2004), Ghost Hunters of the South (2006) and Haunted Birmingham (2009).

Dr. Brown earned his B.A. in English at Millikin University, his M.A. in American literature at Southern Illinois University, and his Ph.D. in rhetoric at Illinois State University. The forum is free, and the public is invited.

This, a time of renewal, is when our annual Membership Drive occurs in April. Membership application cards are sent out in April for current members to renew. Those who wish to become new members may pick up a membership application card and envelope in the Friends Bookstore, or use a form which is always published on this page of Cover to Cover, or an application form may be downloaded from the Library website at www.hmcpl.org.

There are perks for Members of Friends of the Library!

• The Library newsletter, Cover to Cover
• 50%-off Members’ Book Sales in June & October
• 3-week check-outs for Library books & audiobooks
• 2-week check-outs for DVDs

Join the Friends of the Library!

Fill out this membership form, and mail it to Friends of the Library, P.O. Box 443, Huntsville, AL 35804

Name:__________________________________________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________________________

Branch (If you join multiple branches, you must pay a fee per branch): ______________________________________

☐ Senior/Student......... $15  ☐ As a member, I would like to volunteer in the bookstore.
☐ Individual ............... $20  Phone: ______________________________
☐ Family .................... $25
☐ Good Friend ............ $50
☐ Best Friend .............. $100

Please make checks payable to Friends of the Library.
Learn how to pick your stocks

You have another chance to participate in Mind Your Money, the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library’s free financial literacy program.

Basic Stock Valuation, an advanced two-part course that builds on the original Mind Your Money classes, will be held on Mondays, March 16 and 23, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The classes will meet in the second-floor Events Room of the Downtown Huntsville Library, 915 Monroe St.

Our expert instructors will show you how to use basic stock investing tools, including Morningstar® Investment Research Center. This online database offers library patrons real-time access to comprehensive data and independent analysis on thousands of investments, spanning mutual funds, stocks, exchange-traded funds, and closed-end funds.

If you can’t make it to the classes, you can view recordings of previous Basic Stock Valuation classes online at hmcpl.org/mym. Handouts and worksheets from the stock classes and the original four-part Mind Your Money series are available online, too.

Mind Your Money is made possible by a grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation through Smart investing@your library, a partnership with the American Library Association.

For more information or to sign up, contact library Deputy Director Sue Royer at sroyer@hmcpl.org or 256.532.5952. For financial tips, visit hmcpl.org/mym and facebook.com/mindyourmoneyhmcpl.

Libraries seeking teen volunteers

We need good volunteers this summer. If you’re a teen aged 14 or older and you’re looking for a fun way to spend your summer hours, maybe we’re looking for each other.

Pick up an application at the branch where you’d like to volunteer. Here’s a list of branches and application dates:
- Bailey Cove, March 2-April 17
- Bessie K. Russell, due May 15
- Eleanor E. Murphy, March 2-April 17
- Elizabeth Carpenter, New Hope, begins April 15
- Gurley, May 1-May 22
- Madison, due April 25
- Downtown Huntsville, March 2-May 15
- Monrovia, begins March 1.

Let’s read all day

The Monrovia Friends of the Library will hold a Read-A-Thon fundraiser on Saturday, March 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Monrovia Public Library.

There will be special reading times and activities all day with snacks and drinks provided. Children are welcome to come in their pajamas and bring a favorite pillow or stuffed animal. For more information, call 256-489-3392.
March Lunch & Love Romance Book Club
Tuesday, March 3 • 11am
Monrovia Library
Discuss “Hot Pursuit” with author Lynn Rae Harris. Free. 256.489.3392.

Gentle Yoga
Thursday, March 5, 12, 19 & 26 • 10am
Downtown Huntsville Library
Class focuses on stretching, balance, relaxation, and learning the basics.

LEGO Build
Saturday, March 7 • 2pm
Bailey Cove Library
Have fun with the Tennessee Valley LEGO Club. Limited to 25 people. Sign up at 256.881.0257.

Sock-Knitting Class
Saturday, March 7, 14, 21 & 28 • 1pm
Elizabeth Carpenter Library, New Hope
You must know how to knit and purl. Sign up at 256.723.2995.

Nonfiction Connection
Monday, March 9 • 4pm
Madison Library
Kids in grades K-5 will learn about tropical rain forests through books, activities, and crafts. Sign up at 256.461.0046.

Home Buyer Seminar
Saturday, March 14 • Noon
Bessie K. Russell Library
A local realtor will talk about steps to buying a home. Sign up at 256.859.9050.

Celebrate and Embrace Diversity
Tuesday, March 17 • 5pm
Triana Library
Learn about St. Patrick’s Day and make a craft. 256.772.9943.

Alabama Youth Ballet
Thursday, March 19 • 9:15 & 10:30am
Bailey Cove Library
Dancers perform excerpts from their upcoming show during storyline.

Southern Authors Expo
Saturday, March 21 • 10am - 4pm
Downtown Huntsville Library
Meet local authors and talk to them about their work. Books available for sale and signing. 256.532.2362.

Discussion Group: Do We Have the Right to Privacy?
Saturday, March 21 • 2pm
Bessie K. Russell Library
Join us for this thought-provoking topic. 256.859.9050.

Alan Brown: “School Spirits: Alabama Ghost Stories”
Sunday, March 22 • 2pm
Downtown Huntsville Library

Storytime with Chuck E. Cheese
Wednesday, March 25 • 3:30pm
Downtown Huntsville Library
Chuck E. Cheese and friends will share a story for kids.

Cityscape Graffiti Art
Wednesday, March 25 • 2pm
Bessie K. Russell Library
Tweens and teens can create a cityscape using spray paint and stencils, or draw free-hand. 256.859.9050.

Crafts with Crystal: Arm Knitting
Friday, March 27 • 10am - Noon
Madison Library
Learn how to knit a scarf with your arms. No experience required. Open to adults and teens ages 14 and older. Bring yarn. Space is limited. Sign up at 256.461.0046.

Family Movie Night
Friday, March 27 • 6pm
Triana Library
See “Wreck-It Ralph.” Refreshments available. 256.772.9943.

Scrabble Tournament
Saturday, March 28 • 11am - 4pm
Downtown Huntsville Library
Three-round tournament open to anyone who knows the basic rules, from beginners to advanced players. $5 fee. Sign up at the library or send email to asprogramming@hmcpl.org.

Art in Your Library
Atrium, Downtown Huntsville:
Oils and acrylics by Christina Wegman through March. The artist for April and May will be announced later.

Auditorium, Downtown Huntsville:
Works by Huntsville Art League artists on view during public events.
Gentle Yoga
Thursday, April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
• 10am
Downtown Huntsville Library
Class focuses on stretching, balance, relaxation, and learning the basics. 256.532.2362.

A Hopping Good Time: Egg Hunt and Bunny Storytime
Friday, April 3 • 3pm
Downtown Huntsville Library
Celebrate spring with an egg hunt in the Youth Services Department.

Easter Egg Hunt
Friday, April 3 • 3pm
Triana Library
Paint real eggs and hunt for treat-filled eggs. 256.772.9943.

“Twelve Dancing Princesses”
Tuesday, April 7 • 4pm
Bailey Cove Library
Fantasy Playhouse Children’s Theatre offers a sneak peek at its upcoming show. We’ll also read the fairy tale.

Film Screening & Discussion: “Interstellar”
Saturday, April 11 • Noon - 4pm
Downtown Huntsville Library
Following the science fiction film, Dr. Gang Li from UAH’s Space Science program will discuss the theory of relativity, black holes, and more. Free. 256.532.2362.

The Book Report
Thursday, April 16 • 7 - 8pm
Yellowhammer Brewery, 2406 Clinton Ave.
Talk about whatever you’re reading, no pressure. Organized by Eleanor E. Murphy Library, 256.881.5620.

Social Media Etiquette: Is There Really a Need for It?
Saturday, April 18 • 2pm
Bessie K. Russell Library
We’ll explore the rules of posting online. Free. 256.859.9050.

Rocket City Modern Quilt Guild
An exhibit of quilts by guild members is on view in the Atrium of the Downtown Huntsville Library. Quilts marked with a price are for sale with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library. Visit rocketcitymodernquiltguild.weebly.com/ for details.

LOOKING AHEAD:
Creative Young Minds Art Show
Friday, May 29
Bessie K. Russell Library
The show is open to ages 4-18. Registration starts March 2 and continues through May 27. 256.859.9050.

Find more events on our website: hmcpl.org.
Library managers and staff members gathered at the Downtown Huntsville Library on February 16 for our annual Staff Development Day. Local businesses, organizations, and library groups provided door prizes. We thank these donors for their generosity: Bonnie Auten, Con Kasterborous; Breugger’s Bagels; Chambers Bottling Company; Huntsville Library Foundation; LEGO Show Committee; Dave Nadler, National Weather Service, and Michael Werner; NerdCon Committee; Jessie Patterson, independent Jamberry nail wraps consultant; Publix; Redstone Federal Credit Union; Sam’s Club; Southside Burrito; Theatre Huntsville.

Showers Center presents author, Walk-A-Thon

The Showers Center Library has two big events happening in March and April.

The library’s Sister 2 Sister Brother 2 Brother Book Club presents an author program each year. Local poet, author, and lecturer Marc Lacy will be featured on Saturday, March 28, at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the Downtown Huntsville Library, 915 Monroe St. Admission is free.

Marc is author of the novel *Curse of the Whiskey House*, and his poems have appeared in several anthologies, including *Pillow Talk* and *The Soul of a Man*. He has performed across the country at spoken-word venues and literary events.

The annual Walk-A-Thon fundraiser presented by the Showers Center Friends of the Library has been held on the second Saturday in April, but this year’s event has been moved to the third Saturday, April 18. As in previous years, the Walk-A-Thon will start at 8 a.m. on the grounds of the Richard Showers Center, 4600 Blue Spring Road.

For information on Showers Center Library programs, contact Branch Manager Lillie Cawthorn at 256-851-7492.
CONTRIBUTIONS

IN MEMORY

Mr. Clarence Billings by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Crabtree
Dr. Richard A. Brown by Robert and Ellen Bergman
Dr. Richard A. Brown by Alyce P. Smith
Dr. Richard A. Brown by The Study Club
Myron and Margaret Cole by Ed R. Miller and Mariza Segura
Esther Davis by Twickenham Town Chapter DAR
William Dawson by Madison Senior Center
Helen Harrell Dedman by Twickenham Study Club
Michael M. Dembo by Barbara Roberts
Gresham G. Downs by Ivy Downs
Linda Giardini Drzycimski by Robert E. Adams
Corinne Fanning by Irene Charles
Corinne Fanning by Circle 4 Group
Corinne Fanning by Mary Margaret Cofield
Corinne Fanning by First Presbyterian Church
Corinne Fanning by Wynn P. Rodgers
Corinne Fanning by George and Sue Royer
Corinne Fanning by John and Denise Terry
Corinne Fanning by Lucy Thrasher
Jim Fillenwarth by Kathy Lane and Tom Fillenwarth
Lois Foster by Twickenham Town Chapter DAR
Ann Craig Francis by Peter A. Baldridge
Ann Craig Francis by Barfield Health Care, Inc.
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Ann Craig Francis by Gregory Seavers
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Charles Gooch by The Twickenham Study Club
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Jerry James Webb by Terri King
Jerry James Webb by Glenda Myers
Jerry James Webb by Donal and Margaret Von Achen
Doris Tofboy Williams by The Thursday Bridge Group
Dr. Robert Wood by Jean Wessel Templeton
Judge Thomas Younger by Charlotte Foster Baugh

If you would like to make a donation to the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, please contact Diane Metrick at dmetrick@hmcpl.org or 256.532.5950.

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