















"Google can bring you back 100,000 answers. A librarian can bring you back the right one."

- Neil Gaiman, graphic novelist



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Athenaeum?



What is athenaeum? I divined this may be the first response to the new design, so let me explain. A simple Google search, as Neil Gaiman pointed out, returned "about 218,000 results (1.01 seconds)."

The Online Etymological

Dictionary defines athenaeum as a "gathering place for the learned" and/or "an institution for the promotion of learning." The American Heritage Dictionary defines it as "a building containing rooms for study, reading, and the collection of books."

Mythology reveals to us that athenaeum were sacred to the goddess Athena. Athena- lets see if you remember your mythology lessons from school- is the patroness of literature, the arts, wisdom, courage, inspiration, civilization, law, justice, mathematics, and again the list goes on. A library is where these virtues find many of their incarnations. The hope of the newsletter is to further promote and create an environment of learning at the FCPL.

The reason for the change is that the library, as a dynamic system, is always in flux; new responsibilities, tasks delegated, new and creative ways to be the best library we can be for you, the patron. The new name helps as a symbol of newness for me, the writer, and you, the reader.

Every month the form of the newsletter will be similar, but the focus will shift. This month, the focus is The Friends of the Fulton County Public Library. Each month will be a surprise.

Another idea that I am introducing is called Patron. It is a Q & A with an individual we may pass by everyday and know nothing about. While working at the library I have had the honor of meeting some very interesting individuals. I thought it would be nice to showcase them, their talents, interests, and hobbies.

I am honored to craft this newsletter. This is Volume 1, Issue 1 of Athenaeum. If there is any subject that you think would be engaging for the community, be it person or concept, ask for me, Timothy Roe. I would love to be a part of the conversation. Come by literacy or call (574) 223-1008.



Inner Knowing
by Jessica Powers

Who am I? No one. I believe vou are someone of great importance. How can you be so sure? I see a light in you, a greatness vet to be discovered. When will I discover this greatness? Soon, but first you must rediscover yourself. I feel far too lost, broken, confused, overwhelmed and lonely; how will I find myself? All journeys must start somewhere; find the pieces that spark life and joy within you... Dear child this will not be an easy journey but it will be worth it. I feel a glimmer of hope: Thank you. Now I'll do what's best for me.

Patron: Jessica Powers

How long have you been attending the FCPL?

I do not remember the actual number of years, but when I was a teenager in middle school.

Do you have a favorite memory from the library?

Teen gaming on Saturdays with Mary Scott.

You won our poetry contest. Can you speak a bit to your writing process?

Usually random words and phrases come to me that I write down and later piece together to contextualize and understand the fragments of my life.

What is something interesting about yourself that others wouldn't know?

I am a gamer; not an all the time gamer, but I do like to play. I have an Xbox 360. My favorite games are Legend of Zelda, Skyrim, and Venetica.

Do you have a favorite book?

The Vampire Academy Series by Richelle Mead, the spin-off Bloodlines by the same author, Shapeshifters by Ali Sparkes, and Den of Shadows by Amelia Atwater-Rhodes

Do you have a favorite movie, or series?

I like cartoons the best. *Ōban Star-Racers,*Avatar: The Last Airbender, the Disney movie

Brave, and Treasure Planet.

Who are your favorite musicians? What is in your cd player now?

I love all music. I am all over the spectrum when it comes to genre. In my cd player right now is *Nightwish*, a symphonic metal band from Kitee, Finland.

Where do you work?

I work for *Little Lambs Daycare Center*. It is my first job and I have been there 3 years.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be?

This one is easy. I have thought about it a lot. Teleportation, the gift of healing both animals and humans, and shape shifting.

Favorite quote in life?

Legends are lessons, they ring with truth.

-Merida, from the movie *Brave*

Who inspires you? Who do you aspire to be like?

Steve Irwin. He taught people how to understand animals and not be afraid of the unknown. He inspires me because he found what he loved to do and did it.

If you got a tattoo, what would it be?

Either the promise mark from the book *The Vampire Academy* or a semi-colon. The former because it represents protecting the one's you love and the latter because of its grammatical significance.

If you could invite one person from history to dinner, who would you invite?

Edgar Allen Poe

If your life were a book, what would you name it?

Winding Path by Jessica Powers

If you could have the answer to any question?

Is there such a thing as a soulmate?

What is home to you?

Home is where you are. I have always had an interest in the life of a gypsy. They have learned how to adapt to wherever they were.

National Friends of Libraries Week

October 16th - October 22nd

Have you ever had refreshments at the library or a library related event? You can thank the Friends of the Fulton County Public Library. Have you ever watched a movie at the Fulton County Public Library? Again, you can thank the Friends of the Fulton County Public Library. In fact, these are just a few of the many services that are directly inspired, or indirectly funded, through the efforts of the Friends of the Fulton County Public Library.

All across the nation, there are individuals who work to make our libraries better. These people are dedicated to supporting and promoting library programs. They also strive to improve the services and resources of the libraries through a professional relationship with the administration of the library.

The Friends of the Library are a 501c3 non-profit organization that raise money through various means, i.e. Book Sales, to help fund library programs. They often volunteer on many levels. They are less known for providing refreshments for all library events and paying dues so that we can watch movies for free.

United for Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, coordinated the 11th annual National Friends of the Libraries week. Take some time this month to thank a Friend, or if you are passionate about libraries, inquire about becoming a Friend of the Library. Meetings are open to the public and the annual fee is nominal. The staff and board of trustees at FCPL would like to say, "Thank you, Friends!"



United's logo. A division of the American Library Association.

Friends of the FCPL

The Friends of the Fulton County
Public Library were established in 1982
and have raised over \$90,000 for the
library to date. Their projects during the
past year have included an ice cream social
during the Summer Reading Program,
Easter Egg Hunts for all three branches,
the Chili Cook-Off, funding towards the
Fulton Branch's art wall, Patron
Appreciation Day at all branches, the
library's movie license, Christmas Open
House for pre-school story time, and new
Arboretum signs.

"The small library in my Iowa hometown was a game-changer for me," said Friends President Jeannie Haack. "I came from a very poor family, and had no way to visit larger libraries in neighboring towns. However, the kind librarians, Mrs. Watkins and Mrs. Beardsley, were always there to guide me towards the use of the

services, including inter-loan books. With their help I was able to borrow books from other libraries in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids. The process really opened my world and prepared me for college. I believe our libraries in Fulton County are extremely important in serving the needs of our patrons, and we should be very proud of them. I enjoy being able to give back by being an active member of the Friends."

"Our library is lucky to have such a supportive Friends group," said Interim Director Andrea Stineback. "Without our Friends, we would not be able to offer many of the programs our patrons enjoy. The Friends allow us the opportunity to go above and beyond for our patrons." Celebration activities include serving refreshments at all library branches the week of October 16th.



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