

Friends of the Library Book Sale

By Melodee Pedersen

It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a book lover in possession of a good fortune, or any money at all, must be in want of a book. Ok, that might not be exactly how the opening line of "Pride and Prejudice" goes, but if you consider yourself a book lover, have we got a sale for you! The Friends of the Columbus Public Library are having a book sale during Columbus Days, August 18-21 in the lower level of the library. The sale will be open Thursday 6:00-9:00 pm and no preview fee will be charged. Friday hours are 9:30-5:00 pm, Saturday 10:00-5:00 pm, and Sunday 1:30-5:00 pm. All remaining items will be sold for \$2.00 per bag on Sunday. At these prices, it will be easy to stock up for winter. Most hard-backed books are \$1. Paperbacks, young adult and children's books are 50 cents. The sale also has DVDs, VHS tapes, CDs, books on CD and more.

The volunteers who sort books into categories are constantly amazed by the wonderful donations we get. I thought I would share a small sampling of our selection for this particular sale. In our "Nebraska" section, which includes books about Nebraska or by Nebraska authors, some of our choices include classics by Willa Cather and Mari Sandoz, books about Husker sports, and the intriguing title "Not by the Sword" by Kathryn Watterson, about a Ku Klux Klansman living in Lincoln who was befriended by a Jewish couple.

There is just something special about old books, with their cloth covers and often gilt lettering. Our "Golden Oldies" are books generally at least 50 years old, but so many are still well worth a read or are just fun to display on a shelf. This time around we have "The Power of Positive Thinking" by Norman Vincent Peale, "The Spirit of St. Louis" by Charles Lindbergh, and "The Jungle Book" by Rudyard Kipling, along with many others.

A newer category we have recently instituted is "Staff Picks", books that have caught the eye of our volunteers for one reason or other. Titles in this category really run the gamut. "The Baffle Book" by Lassiter Wren and Randle McKay has several short mysteries for you to solve, with questions to be answered after each story, an answer key and points to be won with your correct answers. "The Lady Nurse of Ward E" by Amanda Akin Stearns seems to be the actual diary of a nurse working at Armory Square Hospital in Washington, D. C. during the Civil War. One category with a particularly good selection this time is our "Nearly New"; books published within the last 3 years. We have titles by John Grisham, Sue Grafton, David Baldacci, Jennifer Chiaverini, Lisa Scottoline and others. We even have "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins, which has spent 74 weeks and counting on the New York Times best seller list.

Don't forget to stop by the library tent during Columbus Days, see the plans for the new building and register to win a free tablet, provided by the Friends of the Columbus Public Library!