

Friends of the Edmonds Library

# Newsletter

MAY-JUNE 2016

[Sno-isle.org/locations/edmonds/friends](http://Sno-isle.org/locations/edmonds/friends)

## The Edmonds Library

is one of 16 of the Sno-Isle Library System's 21 libraries receiving the "Maintain the Current Facility" rating in the 2016-2025

Draft Capital Facilities Plan.

The report was presented by Sno-Isle's Nancy Purcel to the Friends of the Edmonds Library Board May 12. Purcel is Volunteer Program Administrator for the library system.

By contrast, libraries at Lake Stevens and Stanwood are recommended for total replacement and major renovations are recommended for the libraries at Arlington and Mill Creek. An entirely new library is recommended for the Lakewood/Smokey Point area.

Details and rationale for the above can be found at [www.sno-isle.org/facplan](http://www.sno-isle.org/facplan).

The 20,000 square foot Edmonds Library offers great views of Puget Sound. Built in 1982, it is well-sized for the community and can accom-



## Edmonds Library Fits the Community

modate projected population growth, the report says. Together with the Frances Anderson Community Center next door, the library is a hub of community activity. In

2014, the library circulated a total of 382,188 materials and averaged 75 visitors per hour. On the average, current customers travel three miles to reach the library. Only 13 percent of Edmonds' customers live more than five miles from the facility.

On the less than ideal side, the library is stressed for parking and the site is not conducive to future expansion.

When surveyed 65% of the Edmonds respondents said that renovations were not needed — but there was a need for quiet study space, more comfortable reading space and additional space for materials and technology.

Again, the full report can be accessed at [www.sno-isle.org/facplan](http://www.sno-isle.org/facplan).

## FROM THE FEL PRESIDENT

Libraries are found all over our nation and all over the world. Whenever I travel, I seek out a local library. In the past few years I have visited a one room library building open just a few hours a week in a Maine village, the British National Library in London, a beautiful library set on Mackinaw Island, an impressive modern structure in Beijing, China and of course, most frequently at home, the Edmonds Library. I always get a similar feeling on my library visits, an appreciation of the home of books and other resources as well as the very competent staff that serve their community.



Across our nation libraries in schools, campuses and communities are celebrating the dynamic changes that are happening in today's libraries. These changes have resulted in the changing role of libraries, librarians and library workers. Libraries today are more about what they do for library users as opposed to what they have for patrons. Libraries have become creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using technology learn how to pursue new hobbies, or just relax.

National Library Week was celebrated during April 10-16 and our FEL Board chose to focus on one of our most loved libraries, the Edmonds Library, for our April program. Chy Ross, Managing Librarian, shared a presentation entitled "Backstage with Library Superheroes"

which recognized the behind the scenes staff that are an integral part of the entire Sno-Isle Library System. In addition to our program, later that week the FEL Board provided special goodies and flowers as recognition of the hard-working Edmond's Library staff.

Another meeting announcement that Chy Ross shared with us was that he has accepted a promotion as District Manager in the Sno-Isle System beginning in May. Although we will miss him and his fine leadership, Richard Suico has been named his replacement. Richard's skills and familiarity with our library will help ensure a smooth transition. Welcome Richard!

**Leslie Elsaesser**, FEL President

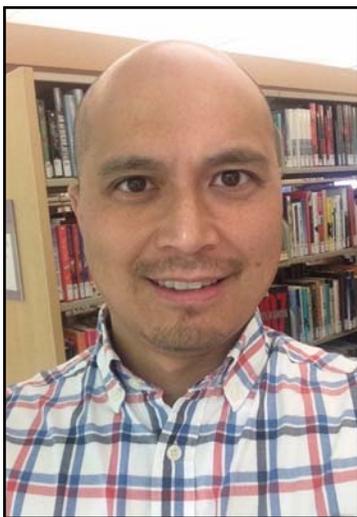
### Seattle Author Speaks to Friends

Yoga instructor and "Downward Dog" mystery series author, Tracy Weber was the speaker for the May general meeting of the Friends of the Library.



Tracy won an Agatha Best First Novel award in 2014 for *Murder Strikes a Pose*. Named for Agatha Christie, the awards are given to mystery and crime writers who write in the **cozy mystery** subgenre (i.e. closed setting, no sex or violence.)

## MEET THE NEW MANAGING LIBRARIAN



It is with mixed feelings that I report Chy Ross has accepted the District Manager position for Sno-Isle Libraries effective May. He will manage several libraries in the north and west end of the library district. I am thrilled for him and his

opportunity to grow professionally to the benefit of our entire library system. The library district's gain is Edmonds' loss, however. He will be sorely missed for his professionalism, his depth of knowledge and insight on librarianship. Most of all, we will miss his gentle and respectful approach in his interactions with every one.

As for me, my name is Richard Suico and I am excited to have the opportunity to be the Managing Librarian for the next year. I have been fortunate to live in the community in which I've worked since 2003 in the capacity of Assistant Managing Librarian. I started at Sno-Isle Libraries as a sub librarian in 2002. Previously, I managed or worked in the Kitsap Regional Library system, Brooklyn Public Library, Vancouver Public Library and Surrey Public Librarian in British Columbia with almost 20 years in the profession.

Over the years, I have helped many of you with your information needs: recommending a new author to read; finding an audiobook for your summer vacation trip; helping set up your device to download an eBook on Overdrive, to name a few. I'm proud of my role of not only providing you with answers but the relation-

ships we have developed when coaching or teaching you that have made working at Edmonds Library such a rewarding experience.

I am excited to build on those relationships from continuing to help with your personal information needs to being the point person and vocal advocate for our wonderful library and its recourses in the greater community. We are so fortunate to have such a vibrant library that reflects the wonderful city in which it is located. That vitality is not sustainable without the generous time, energy and resources of grassroots organizations like the FEL and its volunteer members who contribute to the ycle that makes the Library and Edmonds so special and relevant to its citizens and users.

I thank you all for your hard work and support to supplement library services!

I look forward to working with you to ensure the library continues to be a significant and well used institution whose purpose is to connect people with library resources to meet their information needs.

*Richard Suico*, Managing Librarian

Sno-Isle Libraries and Friends of the Edmonds Library have agreed to conserve volunteer power and combine efforts regarding websites. The resulting cooperative website can be accessed at:

**[www.sno-isle.org/  
locations/edmonds/friends](http://www.sno-isle.org/locations/edmonds/friends)**

## Friends Scholarship Chair Announces Group's 24th Recipient: Erika Nicole Miller



Diane

Diane Stanhope, chair of the Friends Scholarship Committee, announced today the organization's 2016 scholarship winner.

Erika Nicole Miller is the 24th Library Sciences student to receive the award since the Friends initiated the program in 1992. She will receive

\$4,000.

Erika will be honored at the June 23 FEL General Meeting. She is a student in the University of Washington Information School Masters of Library Information Science program where she currently maintains a 3.8 grade point average. She expects to be graduated in the spring of 2017.

As part of her educational program, in April of this year she worked with the Children and Young Adult Services (CAYAS) iSchool reps to present a booktalk at the Washington Library Association conference. As part of her field work, the aspiring librarian also observed numerous "storytimes" for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers. She focused on teaching early literary skills to children and developed her own preschool storytime which she offered to a group of Head Start kids on March 3.

In addition to her full Masters program, Erika is employed as a fulltime library assistant with the Kitsap Regional Library in Silverdale, WA. As Outreach Lead for the library, she visited local businesses in the community to promote the library's resources, programs and events. Since September of 2015, her group has visited 70 business, and has spoken to more than 90 people.

"The Friends' Scholarship Committee and I are quite proud to be a part of helping such an outstanding student as Erika Miller to attain her educational and professional goals," commented Ms. Stanhope who is entering her seventh year as chair of the committee.

Other members of Stanhope's committee currently include Sharron Cramer, Sue Fitzsimmons, Ivette Urban and Chy Ross, representing the library staff.

The scholarship process begins in January of each year when the committee chair sends out an announcement to the University of Washington's Library Information School. The University distributes the information to the student body, collects the resulting applications, makes copies and forwards the materials to Stanhope's committee.

The committee then interviews each of the candidates, makes their recommendation, and presents it to the FEL Board. The name of the winner is made public at the May general meeting and the winner him or herself is introduced at the June meeting.

"Serving on the Scholarship Committee is one way to advance the purpose of the Friends of the Library as a volunteer," Ms. Stanhope reminds us. As per the organization's bylaws, the organization is charged with supporting and enhancing the Edmonds Library, promoting literacy, reading, and the use of information services, and advancing education in library and information science.

During her years as a Friends member and volunteer, Diane Stanhope has also worked on the Annual Book Sale, the Ongoing Book Sale, and currently serves on the Board of Directors.

## Win a Kindle! Libraries Inspire Creativity in All Ages

Planning is underway for the second “win a Kindle” contest brought to you through the efforts of Wendy Kendall, the Symetra company, and the Friends of the Edmonds Library. This time it’s bigger and more collaborative than ever.

Last year it was an essay contest. This year it is an opportunity to develop an “Artful Creation” — designed to showcase the inspiration provided by libraries in people’s lives.



**Who:** Everybody. All ages eligible.

**What:** Show your Artful Creation as part of the Edmonds Art Walk. Bring your project as a raffle entry for one of five Kindles (three provided by the Symetra company and Friends of the Library, and two provided by the library itself). Creator of project must be present to win and be able to carry creation to and from the event without assistance.

**When:** 6:00 PM, November 17, 2016.

**Where:** Plaza Room, Edmonds Library. Enjoy the live jazz music of the Trio Nouveau, refreshments, free librarian help with Kindle setup and view everyone’s projects.

**Why:** For fun! Call it an artful, intergenerational event inspired by libraries.

**Sponsored by:** Friends of the Edmonds Library, Symetra, Sno-Isle, and the Edmonds Art Commission.

**THE BACK STORY:** Wendy Kendall works for the Symetra company. Symetra established a program whereby it supports the community interests of its employees as well as the community itself.

For every hour an employee such as Wendy volunteers for the Friends of the Edmonds Library, for instance, Symetra donates \$10 up to 50 hours or \$500 per year. FEL benefits from both Wendy’s volunteer work and the cash donation. Wendy helps out with the FEL ongoing book sale, the annual book sale, and does publicity for the organization. She racks up 50 hours pretty easily.

In 2015, the FEL board, at Wendy’s suggestion, dedicated the \$500 to the purchase of Kindles to be used as prizes for an essay contest drawing attention to the influence of the Library in people’s lives. The contest was well-received and the program grew.

Congratulation Wendy on a great idea and many thanks.

## Edmonds Library Board: Meetings Suspended Until Further Notice

The Edmonds Library Board came first and provided community input for the city’s library. Libraries from Snohomish and Island counties joined forces and formed the Sno-Isle libraries system, which met for the first time in January 1962. The Edmonds Library joined the system sometime after that, but retained its own Library Board. Leslie Elsaesser currently sits on that Board as president of the Friends of the Library and Wendy Kendall, active Friends member, sits on the Board as secretary.

“The mission of the Edmonds Board had actually been assumed by Sno-Isles and the Board itself was found to not be needed in its present form,” explains Ms. Elsaesser. “Meetings have been suspended as part of the mayor’s review of the continuing role of various boards and commissions.”

“The Friends of the Edmonds Library is now the defacto conduit for public opinion regarding libraries in our community,” she adds

## Judy Forgey Chairs Ongoing Book Sale Program

Judy Forgey assumed the duties of chair of the Ongoing Book Sale program in mid-January. She has been a member of the Friends for nearly ten years and a volunteer with the OGBS for about the same length of time. What does she like about the work?

### Todd Sandhop to Coordinate Large Book Donation Pickups

Todd Sandhop has agreed to serve as coordinator of the "Large Book Donation" service. Such a donation is defined not by the weight or dimensions of the books involved, but rather by how many books are included. One or two books is a donation. One, two or more BOXES of books, is a LARGE donation — "anything that the donor cannot handle him or herself," Sandhop explains. If a person just has too many books and wants to donate some of all of them to FEL, they should contact Todd at: **425-220-2333** (cell), or e-mail him at:

**BooksToDonate@aol.com**

"We will arrange for a pickup from anywhere within a five mile radius of the Library," Sandhop explains. "FEL acceptable materials include books, but also Other Media such as records, CDs, DVDs, audio books, VCR tapes, cassette tapes, music, and magazines (under a year old.)"

"FEL acceptable materials must be in good condition, i.e. no mildew, musty odor or water damage, not beat up or falling apart. We cannot use encyclopedia sets, textbooks, or outdated/obsolete subject matter such as old computer user guides or similar items," he adds.

"Everything. Working with some terrific people. Interacting with the public — getting to know their likes in books and media. And at the end of the shift, looking back at all the things our group has accomplished."



In addition to her new duties, Judy will continue on the FEL Board as co-chair for Membership and editor of the Membership Directory.

If a book donor has a book or a few books, he or she should place the donation in the book drop located in the library foyer.

Carol Davis and her crew then transfer large donations to the Sorting Room for use in the FEL Annual Book Sale, scheduled this year for Oct. 28 and 29, according to Chairperson Darla Lane.

### A WORD OF APPRECIATION

A word of thanks to Carol Kensel, out-going chair of the Ongoing Book Sale program. Under Carol's leadership (and that of her late husband Hudson), profits from the project rose from \$5,000 in 2009 to:

\$13,112 in 2012,

\$14,492 in 2013,

\$14,677 in 2014,

\$14,955 in 2015.

## Friends Support Library “Above and Beyond”

The Friends of the Edmonds Library 2016 budget reflects a \$12,000 line item for library programming.

How DOES that money actually benefit the library program?

“It’s used for items and programming that is above and beyond the basic library budget,” explains Richard Suico, managing librarian., holding up a newly purchased Keno device available for checkout. The machine teaches and enables library users to build their own computers.

“In the past monies have been used to purchase furniture items,” he continues.



“Or to paint or refurbish old ones,” interjects FEL President Leslie Elsaesser. “We painted the red chairs in the Children’s Corner and the brilliant green ones in the teens section.”

“Our money also pays for the upkeep of the aquarium as well as the plants,” she adds.

“Supplies and other costs for the summer children’s programming are often provided through Friends contributions, including a series of classes for adults taught by Everett Community College staff,” Suico continues.

“It often has to do with legal restrictions, too,” according to Elsaesser. “The library cannot give away public funds,” she explains, “so the Friends’ privately-raised money can be used for contest prizes.”

And then there is the \$5,000 that has been set aside by the Friends in support of the public art project slated for the library grounds in 2017.

## CLEARANCE SALE!

“We set up one shelf of “sale” or “clearance” books for 25-cents each,” Volunteer Todd Stanhop explains. “These are books that have been in our inventory for a long time, have been pulled off the regular shelves to make room for newer donations, and are books that generally won’t sell at the Annual Sale. Since they have been through our rotation process we are trying one last time to see if we can find a home for these otherwise unwanted books. We started with 33 books on May 18, each marked with a 25-cent sticker. As of May 25, we had sold eleven. Our plan is to try this for two months and see how it goes.”



## Join the Friends Today

Annual individual membership dues are \$10 or \$15 per family. See:

**[Sno-isle.org/locations/edmonds/friends](http://Sno-isle.org/locations/edmonds/friends)**

MEETINGS are generally held on the fourth Thursday of each month in the Plaza Room above the Library - 650 Main Street, Edmonds, WA. Meetings start with a coffee get together at 1:00 PM. At 1:30 PM we feature a speaker discussing a topic of interest, followed by a short business meeting.

## Friends of the Edmonds Library

**PRESIDENT: Leslie Elsaesser**

**VICE PRESIDENTS for MEMBERSHIP:**

**Betty Evans & Judy Forgey**

**VICE PRESIDENT for PROGRAMS:**

**Shirley Vanderbilt**

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

**Kathy Womack**

**TREASURER & Asst TREASURER:**

**Ruth Allen & Charla Holst**

**BUDGET & FINANCE: Bea O'Rourke**

**DIRECTORS:**

**Bonnie Howard, Diane Stanhope, and  
Sharron Cramer**

**NON-BOARD POSITIONS**

**ANNUAL BOOK SALE: Darla Lane**

**ON GOING BOOK SALE: Judy Forgey**



## Frances Chapin Discusses Edmonds Art Process

The City of Edmonds, by ordinance, has set aside one percent of its capital projects budget for public art (including visual, literary, and performing arts). The Edmonds Arts Commission is in charge of project definition, developing a prospectus, selecting a jury to review artists and their applications, and developing a recommendation for City Council consideration. The process provides opportunities for public involvement.

The staff person in charge of making sure the system works is Frances White Chapin. Ms. Chapin is the city's manager for Arts and Culture (under the Department of Parks and Recreation.) She was the featured speaker at the Friends of the Edmonds Library February general meeting, speaking both about the City's Public Art Collection and how the city selects and commissions new sculptures.

The Friends of the Library were especially interested in the topic because the process will soon begin for the selection and development of an appropriate sculpture to be installed in an area at the entrance of the library — a location currently dominated by an old, ugly, former book drop structure. The Friends have pledged \$5,000 toward the \$120,000 project expected to be completed in 2017.



## NEW FEL BOOK BAGS ARE HERE

A spiffy new book bag with the Friends of the Edmonds Library logo on it went on sale at the February general membership meeting and will be available at all FEL events until the first printing sells out. The new design sports a handy mesh outer pocket for items that are difficult to "fish" out of many book bags. The new bag is \$10. A few of the older design are still available for \$3.

**Many thanks to Susie Nichols for her work and enthusiasm for this project.**