August-September, 2020

Budget Cuts Are Coming--Contact City Council Now

Due to the ongoing structural deficit, the City is considering cutting almost $1 million from the Library budget--or approximately 20%. Staffing, hours of service, and collections will all be reduced. The City has already made substantial budget cuts this year to many City departments, and the pandemic has created an even larger problem. The Mayor and Council members are asking for public input before September 3. Please let them know how important the Everett Public Library is to you. Clicking on the buttons below will take you to email for all Council members and the Mayor.

As the Mayor and Council begin preparing the 2021 budget, they are looking at more drastic cuts. You can watch the August 19 Council meeting for a presentation on proposed departmental cuts. For even more detailed information on the budget process visit the City’s budget webpages.

Contact City Council
Contact Mayor Franklin

Friends Support for the Library During COVID-19

Library staff have come up with creative ways to continue to serve you and your family even though the buildings are closed to the public. We want to highlight a few projects being funded by the Friends, but be sure to check out the Library’s website for online programs for adults and children, downloadable books, and online learning such as Lynda.com.
Reusable Bags for Holds

Right now we all have to rely on putting materials on hold to satisfy our need to read. A donation from the Friends is paying for reusable bags to make holds pick-up more eco-friendly. If you return your materials in the same bag, it can be used again after a short decontamination period.

Stories in the Park

The Youth Services Department has been busy creating Book Walks to place in Everett parks, allowing families to get their exercise and enjoy a bi-lingual story at the same time! This photo was taken at Hauge Homestead Park by Silver Lake, but the stories will soon be placed in other parks. So keep your eyes peeled! The project was a collaboration between the Library and Parks & Community Services, and funded by the Friends.

Book Give Away at Schools

The Friends bought the books from Scholastic Literacy Partners, and library staff, teachers, and volunteers passed them out to families at summer meal sites at Hawthorne, Lowell, and Garfield Elementary schools in the Everett School District and Challenger Elementary in the Mukilteo District because it's so close to the Evergreen Branch.

As of August 21, the library has given away 1,740 books to about 870 children and teens. With schools and public libraries closed and the annual summer reading program moving online due to the pandemic, library staff wanted to prevent the "summer slide" and eliminate barriers to reading such as lack of a library card or transportation.

First E-Newsletter from the Friends of the Everett Public Library
In the past you have received two paper newsletters from the Friends every year. The Friends Board has been discussing the need to add another way to communicate more frequently with members for a while now, and given that the pandemic has created problems with meeting in person for mailing parties, we are herewith launching our first e-newsletter. You'll still receive the membership reminder in hard copy once a year, and we promise not to fill up your in-box with messages. We also will not share our email list. You can opt out of receiving this email, as you'll notice at the bottom of the page, but we hope you won't.

We welcome your feedback. Just click on the Contact Us button below.