

Shelf life

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS AND VIEWS

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"King of Kensington" Al Waxman gave his collection to the public library because he wanted to make it available to everyone. His most popular roles were portrayals of ordinary people.

King of Kensington memorabilia at library

The personal collection of the late Al Waxman, best known for his television roles in *King of Kensington* and *Cagney & Lacey*, is now available to the public in the Performing Arts Centre at the Toronto Reference Library.

The collection includes original memorabilia from Waxman's career such as scripts, scrapbooks, correspondence, clippings and photographs.

Waxman offered his

collection to the library in 1994. "He said he chose the public library because he wanted the collection to be available to everyone since his most popular roles were portrayals of ordinary people," says Sara Waxman, his widow.

Following Waxman's death, Sara Waxman donated additional material including videotapes of his work, photographs and awards that Waxman

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Use of newspaper reading room jumps

Since re-opening in November, The Toronto Star Newspaper Centre at Toronto Reference Library has seen a substantial increase in use on all fronts. With 1,800 users a week, patronage is up 20 per cent. Reference inquiries are up almost 50 per cent. Online news station use is up nearly 200 per cent.

Online News Station Use

36 users per day	92 users per day
Before	After

Reference Inquiries

82 questions per day	118 questions per day
Before	After

"We are thrilled to be able to provide such a high quality service in this modern, updated environment. The Toronto Star Newspaper Centre allows us to meet the information needs of Toronto's diverse population in a manner that truly contributes to the idea of a global community. We are grateful to The Toronto Star for its generous sponsorship and hope that this generosity inspires others."

— City Librarian Josephine Bryant

Did you know...

You can read *Japan Times* and many other multilingual newspapers online via NewsConnect, the library's electronic gateway to news of the world?

You can read back issues of: *London Times* from 1785 *York Weekly Post* from 1821 *New York Times* from 1852 *The Toronto Telegram* from 1876 to the last issue in 1971



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\$53,450 to help kids read

Library volunteers working in Book Ends, the bookstore for retired library materials, averaged sales of over \$1,000 a

 **Related Clicks**
Toronto Public Library
(Support Your Library/Volunteers)
www.tpl.toronto.on.ca

week in 2001. All proceeds go to Leading to Reading, a library program for primary school children who need help reading at their grade level.

Book Ends is staffed entirely by volunteers, who do everything from sorting books and stocking shelves, to staffing the cash desk.

Did you know....

You can help a kid learn to read?
Call Answerline at 416-393-7131 to find out about volunteer opportunities at Toronto Public Library.

You can get great books cheap and help a kid learn to read at the same time? Visit Book Ends, located in two convenient locations:

Book Ends
North York Central Library
5120 Yonge Street (North York Centre subway stop)
open Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Book Ends South
Toronto Reference Library
789 Yonge Street (one block north of Bloor)
open Thursday 12 noon-8 p.m.
Friday, Saturday 12 noon-5 p.m.

"People can lose their lives in libraries. They ought to be warned." – Saul Bellow

Get lost...

at Toronto Public Library

I already knew what was in [the note]. I had sneaked a look on the way home from school. Beatrice is twenty-two pounds underweight, said Miss Malloy's

sterile handwriting. We recommend that you contact your relief authorities. Any Canadian child exceeding the twenty-pound underweight limit is eligible for free government milk.

Ordinarily this information would have upset my



mum to no end. But today she just plucked my dress out of my bloomers and remarked absently, 'You'll have to eat up, Booky.'
I already ate up everything in sight, so that didn't mean much. But her calling me Booky did. It meant she wasn't mad at me and I wasn't going to get heck for anything. And it meant she loved me. That funny little nickname told me so.'

– from *That Scatterbrain Booky*, by Bernice Thurman Hunter.

Hunter was named to the Order of Canada roll in January for her contribution to children's literature.

 **Related Clicks**
The Writer's Union of Canada
www.writersunion.ca/h/hunter_b.htm

The Governor General of Canada
www.gg.ca/appointments/20020114_e.html

Reserve books by Christopher Paul Curtis and Bernice Thurman Hunter by clicking on the Find Books & Materials button at www.tpl.toronto.on.ca

Kudos

In granting Toronto Public Library the **President's Award for Exceptional Achievement**, the Ontario Library Association (OLA) cited, "the significant enhancements to library services, reaching a level of accomplishment quite above and beyond the ordinary." The award, in recognition for the leadership shown in meeting the challenge of amalgamation in the Toronto area, was presented to City Librarian Josephine Bryant at the OLA Super Conference in Toronto on February 2. More books are checked out in Toronto – about 28 million items in 2001 compared to 25 million in 1998 – than anywhere else in North America.

In awarding the library's gateway to local history, *Historicity: Toronto Then and Now*, with the **2002 Award for Technological Innovation**, the Ontario Library and Information Technology Association cited the "lasting benefit for library users, stitching diverse resources into a powerful, integrated search and showing the power of partnerships and strategic alliances with industry and the community."

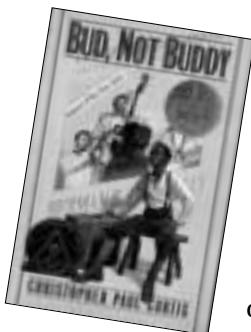


"It's funny how ideas are, in a lot of ways they're just like seeds. Both of them start real, real small and then... woop, zoop, sloop... before you can say Jack Robinson they've gone and grown a lot bigger than you ever thought they could."

— from *Bud, Not Buddy*, by Christopher Paul Curtis. *Bud, Not Buddy* was awarded the 2002 John Newbery Medal by the American Library Association.

One book, thousands of children

This February, Toronto Public Library is encouraging children in Toronto to read Newbery award winning book *Bud, Not Buddy*, by Windsor, Ontario writer Christopher Paul Curtis. Children 8 years and older are invited to read the book during Black History Month in February. The initiative kicked off with a Toronto Raptors appearance at Lillian H. Smith branch library January 28 and will culminate with an appearance by Christopher Paul Curtis at Bloor/Gladstone Branch on February 22. Spearheaded by A Different Booklist bookstore, this initiative is designed to encourage the celebration of Black History Month through literature and is being supported by the Toronto District School Board, Random House of Canada, the Raptors and the Tropicana Community Services Organization.



"*Bud, Not Buddy* is the perfect book to kick off the month long celebrations across the GTA," says Itah Sadu, owner of A Different Booklist. "We hope this is just the first of many successful years for this program."

The book tells the story of Bud Caldwell, a young orphan living through the Depression in Flint, Michigan who sets out to find his father. He soon finds himself on a journey that leads him clear across the state of Michigan and Bud is sure that absolutely nothing can stop him – not hunger, not fear, not even would-be vampires.

Meet Christopher Paul Curtis
February 22, 7:30 p.m.
Bloor/Gladstone Branch
1101 Bloor Street West



Toronto Raptor Eric Montross entertains children at Lillian H. Smith branch on January 28.



Related Clicks
Random House (search "bud, not buddy")
www.randomhouse.ca

Newbery awards home page
www.ala.org/alsc/newbery.html

King of Kensington

Continued from page 1...

received for both his artistic achievements and his community work.

Waxman worked in all media — television, film and theatre — and was well known for his community work. Born in the Kensington neighbourhood of Toronto, Waxman was known as "The King" for most of his career.

Along with *King of Kensington*, Waxman performed for five seasons as Lieutenant Bert Samuels on the CBS series *Cagney & Lacey*. His last roles included the prison warden in Norman Jewison's film *The Hurricane* and a recurring role on the television series *Twice in a Lifetime*.



Laurentien

Design-a-Bookmark
contest

Library Board member Mitchell Weisberg (right) gets down with four-year-old Jaare James, one of 16 Laurentien Design-a-Bookmark contest winners, many of whom joined the celebration evening at North York Central Library on January 29. The bookmark contest is run annually by Toronto Public Library. See the other winning designs in *Kids' Space* on the library website www.tpl.toronto.on.ca

Or drop into your local library branch this spring to get a bookmark designed by one of the winners.



Celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee with books recommended by Toronto Public Library
www.tpl.toronto.on.ca

Library Board Highlights

February 4, 2002

2002 Operating and Capital Budgets – Update

Staff provided the Board with an update on the 2002 Operating and Capital Budget.

Voice Based Application

– Award of Request for Proposal

The Board awarded Talkingtech.com the contract to provide voice based applications for its holds and overdue notification, renewal services, and for Dial-A-Story, the popular telephone-based story source for children available 24 hours, seven days a week.

School Outreach Initiative

The Board accepted the staff proposal to plan a new high school outreach program for 2002, based on the successful 2000-01 model. The result of this initiative produced an increase in youth registration of 60 percent over the previous year.

Maria A. Shchuka District Branch Library – Closure for Reconstruction

Effective March 2, 2002 the library is closing for a period of approximately one year to allow for the demolition of the old branch and construction of a new facility. The closure dates will be publicized and alternative service plans are being put into place.

Next Library Board meeting:
Monday, March 4, 2002.

Shelf Life is published 10 times a year by the Toronto Public Library Board, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4W 2G8. Marketing & Communications Office: 416-393-7117.

The Toronto Public Library Board meets monthly from September through June. Meetings are open to the public. The Library Board includes eight citizen members and seven City Councillors.

Calendar of Events

February/March 2002

Toronto Public Library Celebrates Freedom to Read Week

February 24 – March 2

Declaration of Freedom to Read Week
by Mayor Mel Lastman
Monday, February 25

Lawrence Hill
author of *Black Berry, Sweet Juice* reads
Wednesday, February 27, 10 a.m.
Downsview Branch
2793 Keele Street

Wednesday, February 27, 2 p.m.
Cedarbrae Branch
545 Markham Road

Deborah Ellis
author of *The Breadwinner* reads
Thursday, February 28, 10 a.m.
Richview Branch
1806 Islington Avenue

Thursday, February 28, 2 p.m.
Deer Park Branch
40 St. Clair Avenue East

Lyrics, Labrish and Lingo: Canadian Writers from the Caribbean
An evening of readings to benefit
PEN Canada
Friday, March 1, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto Reference Library Atrium
789 Yonge Street
\$10; \$5 students and seniors

Freedom of Expression – Post 9/11 Panel Discussion:
Moderator: Erika Ritter,
CBC Radio host and author

Participants:
Stevie Cameron,
Investigative journalist
Stephen McCommon,
Canadian Civil Liberties Association

Ron Brown,
Author, Member of Writers' Union

Stéphane Perrault,
Counsel, Human Rights Law Section,
Department of Justice Canada

Robert Warren,
Chair Ontario Film Review Board

Wednesday, February 27, 6:30 p.m.
Toronto Reference Library Atrium
789 Yonge Street

Black History Month
Christopher Paul Curtis,
author of *Bud, Not Buddy* reads
February 22, 7 p.m.
Bloor/Gladstone Branch
1101 Bloor Street West

March Break
Magic, music and more
For March Break programs at library branches across the city, check out *What's On*, the library's program guide, call Answerline 416-393-7131, or go to www.tpl.toronto.on.ca

Malvern Branch Public Consultation
Join us for a public consultation meeting regarding the proposed Malvern Branch renovation and expansion project. Meet project architect Philip Carter. Find out about proposed changes to Malvern. Tell

us what you think and what you would like to see change at Malvern.

Malvern Branch Auditorium
30 Sewells Road
March 7, 7 p.m.

Maria Shchuka Reconstruction
Maria A. Shchuka Branch will close at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 5 for approximately one year for a major reconstruction. During this time, customers who regularly use Maria A. Shchuka Branch should return library materials to any other Toronto Public Library branch and pick up their holds at the Oakwood Village Library and Arts Centre, 341 Oakwood Avenue, 416-396-3865. For other branches in your area, check *What's On*, call Answerline at 416-393-7131 or visit our website www.tpl.toronto.on.ca

For more programs and events, see *What's On*, the library's guide to programs and services, or check out our website www.tpl.toronto.on.ca