



Friends of Union County Library Help Celebrate Dr. Seuss' 116th Birthday

Union County Public Library's February 24 storytime celebrated Dr. Seuss' 116th Birthday with a special visit from the Cat in the Hat and FOUCL was pleased to provide each family attending their own "Cat in the Hat" book. This is just one of the many ways we support our local library and encourage literacy and lifelong learning.

The FOUCL Adult Winter Reading Challenge continues through Friday, April 24. Logs and a list of 2019 award-winning books are now available at our library on the bookcase outside the Friends' Room, to your left as you enter the building, and on our website (foucl.org).

On Wednesday March 18, beginning at 2 PM in the Community Room at our library, we are sponsoring a free-to-the-public showing of a book-based movie. You can help determine which of two Best Picture Oscar winning movies is shown by voting with dollars and cents. Choices are: "The Sting" - based on the nonfiction book "The Big Con: the Story of the Confidence Man" by David Maurer - or "From Here to Eternity" - based on James Jones' first novel by the same name. Votes (money) will be counted on March 5 and the movie choice will be announced the following week.

FOUCL is also sponsoring our first COMMUNITY READ. Our selection is "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean. This nonfiction book begins with a devastating 1986 fire at the Los Angeles Public Library. One small part of the book explains how saturated library materials are "saved": "Overnight, the city managed to procure thousands of cardboard boxes, fifteen hundred hard hats, a few thousand rolls of packing tape, and the services of Eric Lundquist, a mechanical engineer and former popcorn distributor who had reinvented himself as an expert in drying out wet things. The notion of putting the books in with groceries didn't faze Lundquist, since he'd freeze-dried his first salvaged books alongside a summer's worth of peas and carrots from his garden." That's right, they recruited volunteers to move and freeze them and then, eventually, dry them out because if mold had been allowed to grow, all the books would have had to be destroyed. The unsolved mystery of what started the fire, the history of libraries, and the behind-the-scene workings of a library are all included. Library lovers, book enthusiasts, and historians will all enjoy this book. Read the book and join us for a discussion in the Community Room at Union County Public Library on Friday, April 24, beginning at 1 PM.



**Advocating for Libraries,
Literacy, and Lifelong Learning**