

# Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library

## Laura Mentor: Stained glass artist

### Special Interest Articles:

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*By Chris Helvey*  
Special art works require a special artist. Louisville artist **Laura Mentor** is creating the stained-glass windows that will highlight the east end of both floors of the new Paul Sawyer Public Library.

Light fills her small wood-and-glass studio and the results of her labor lay scattered about in a lovely, colorful profusion.

The painting of the glass is what gives the work the character and grace and beauty, and it is not an easy, nor a quick, process. The palate of a stained-glass artist is quite extensive.

For example, Laura notes that there are about 30 shades of green glass alone. Once the shade of glass that corresponds to the artist's vision has been selected, the paint which contains ground glass and color pigments must be put on in layers, with drying time required between each application. It is this skilled, artistic application of the paint which gives form, depth and character to those colored pieces of glass.

She uses a traditional painting technique, nearly lost in the recent technological advances,

that was taught to her by a stained glass artist in Iowa, where Laura lived for more than 20 years. She refers to this person as her mentor and notes that much of her mentor's stained-glass art was done for churches. Stained glass has traditionally found much of its use in religious edifices, and the migration of stained-glass art into the public sector, as we are facilitating in Frankfort, is considered unusual and worthy of note.

After the laborious designing and painting and firing (it takes up to five or six days to

complete six or seven "bird" pieces), the finished pieces of glass must be joined together by specifically heated and shaped lead strips. These strips are then glazed with a putty-like cement which seals the panel and ensures rigidity. Properly installed and maintained, finely crafted stained-glass windows should last for hundreds, even thousands, of years.

Laura is a great lover of the outdoors and the birds who live there. Our Friends' window will feature the birds of Kentucky (continued on page 5)



Laura Mentor's painting of one of the birds that will appear in the stained-glass window.

## Friends Board Members

### Officers

**Mary Lynn Collins**, President

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First Vice President

**Mimi Gosney**,

Second Vice President

**Mary Cheek**,

Secretary

**Jules Delambre**,

Treasurer

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### Directors

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**Mildred Browning**

**Eileen Cackowski**

**Evelyn Claffy**

**Libby Cwiak**

**Michael Embry**

**Chris Evans**

**Chris Helvey**

**Carol Hummel**

**Cecilia Broadwater**

(Past President)



## Summer Reading program about animals

The Paul Sawyer Public Library presents...



Animal lovers of all kinds are invited to join in "Paws, Claws, Scales and Tales" at the Paul Sawyer Public Library. The 2006 Summer Reading Program is open to young people, birth through young adult, with programs, prize drawings, story hours, a reading club and more! Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins on Monday, June 5. For more information, call the Youth Services Department at 223-1658 or visit [www.pspl.org](http://www.pspl.org). All programs are free of charge.



## Friends sponsor part of Summer Reading Program

The Friends are pleased to sponsor, as part of the Summer Reading Program, two performances of "The Cat Acrobats" by the Heiken Puppets. They are very large, colorful and imaginative puppets created by the Heikens family from Evansville, Indiana.

The performances will be on June 26 at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Collins Lane Elementary School. The performances are free and open to the public.

Proceeds from the May Giant Book Sale will be used in part to bring the Heiken Puppets to Frankfort.

## School Librarians rewarded with gift certificates

The Friends will host its third annual Librarians Tea on April 18 at the Paul Sawyer Public Library. This is an effort by the Friends to bring librarians from all the local schools together to talk with the PSPL staff and showcase the resources available at the library.

Friends will present to the librarians attending the event a gift certificate for \$10 that each librarian can use at the May Giant Book Sale. Thanks to **Carol Baughman** for once again organizing the tea.

## Richard Taylor to lead discussion on Southern books

Friends member **Richard Taylor** will lead an intriguing book discussion on the works of Southern authors.

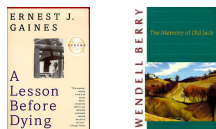
Taylor is the owner of Poor Richard's Books and teaches literature at Kentucky State University. He served as the state's poet laureate from 1999-2001.

All discussions will be held at Paul Sawyer Public Library at 7 p.m. Taylor says that the discussion groups are open to everyone, and should appeal to individuals from middle school on up.

Among his selections are books by Kentucky writers **Bobbie**

**Ann Mason and Wendell Berry.**

Taylor hopes to attract a diverse group who like to read and discuss books.



All four discussion books are available at PSPL. There is no charge for participating in the Literary South: Old & New. The program is funded in part by the Kentucky Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

For more information call the library at 223-1658.

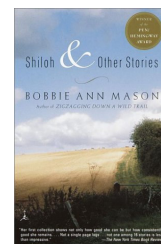
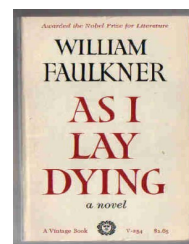
### Discussion Schedule

**April 27** – *A Lesson Before Dying* by **Ernest J. Gaines**

**May 18** – *Shiloh and Other Stories* by **Bobbie Ann Mason**

**June 8** – *Memory of Old Jack* by **Wendell Berry**

**June 29** – *As I Lay Dying* by **William Faulkner**



## Footnotes:

A big "thank you" to McAllen Solutions for agreeing to maintain the Friends' Web page.

McAllen Solutions is a Frankfort firm specializing in information technology services and design of Web pages. We appreciate McAllen Solutions' willingness to step in and help us out since our Web master, **Amy Hodge**, has moved.

Be sure and thank **Jonathan Vaught**, president of McAllen Solutions, the next time you see him.

The Friends

recognized all the outstanding staff of Paul Sawyer Public Library during National Library Week (April 2-8) by serving them pizza and giving them coupons for Baskin-Robbins ice cream.

Any library is only as good as its staff, and we are fortunate here in Frankfort to have such a wonderful group of people to keep our library operating smoothly.

Longtime Friends members, **Amy** and **Thomas Hodge**, looking for adventures and opportunities, have moved

to California. Amy was Friends vice president and spent countless hours helping with our newsletters and Web pages. Both Amy and Thomas volunteered many hours to our book sales. Good luck, Amy and Thomas! You will be missed!

In honor of Amy and Thomas's work for the library, the Friends purchased a library brick, part of the library's capital campaign, that will have their names engraved and placed on the outside of the new library.

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***The Friends purchased a library brick in honor of Amy and Thomas Hodge for their dedication and hard work.***

**Friends looking for some help with May book sale**

The Friends will gather in the basement of the library **every Tuesday** to sort and shelve books for the May Book Sale on May 18-21.

Proceeds from our book sales are important to many projects, such as the purchase of the stained glass windows for the new library building and support for the

library's summer reading program. All Friends are encouraged to come and help prepare for our big spring event.

The Friends will be working from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and then again from 5:00-7:30 p.m. Although you are welcome to do so, you do not have to work an entire shift. Even 30 minutes or an

hour of sorting and shelving will be a valuable contribution.

Preparing for a book sale is always a fun time as we meet Friends (old and new) and discuss books, authors and the new library.

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**A special sorting of books will be held Saturday, April 22, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.**

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***Giant***  
*May Book Sale*  
*May 18-21*

**PSPL Friends Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Level (please circle one):**

Individual (\$5)   Student (\$3)   Senior (\$3)   Family (\$10)   Patron (\$50+)   Benefactor (\$100+)

**If family membership, list family members:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to receive Friends newsletter by (please circle one):**

E-mail only      Regular mail and E-mail

**I would like to help with (circle as many as you like):**

Book sales/Book Fair   Newsletter   Public Relations   Fundraising   Children's Programs  
 Adult/Special Programs   Other

**Dues and gifts may be tax deductible**

*Make checks payable to "The Friends of Paul Sawyer Public Library"*

Return completed application to: The Friends of Paul Sawyer Public Library

305 Wapping St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

**Applications may also be dropped off at the Friends mailbox at the PSPL Circulation Desk.**

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## Donate to the stained glass window fund at PSPL

### Friends' Stained Glass Window Donation Form

I would like to make a donation to the Friends stained glass window effort for the new library and have enclosed the following amount:

- \$5 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$10 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$50 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$100 Phone/E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form with donation to:  
 Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library  
 305 Wapping Street  
 Frankfort, KY 40601

Forms may also be dropped off at the Friends mailbox at the PSPL Circulation Desk

## Laura Mentor: Stained glass artist

(from page 1)

while other of her stained-glass panels on the library's first floor will present the trees of the Commonwealth. She hopes "the windows stimulate curiosity about our natural heritage." Field guides on the birds and trees represented in the windows will be maintained in an adjacent reading room.

Laura, who has always loved nature, feels she was fortunate to spend more than 20 years on a farm in rural Iowa. There, she raised flowers and fruits and vegetables, traipsed through fields and woods, and began to develop her artistic gifts. Among her early projects was painting plants and trees on fine linen with fabric paint, sewing the

sheets of linen into pillowcases, and selling them at fine boutiques in New York City.

After home schooling her daughter, **Madalyn**, she moved to Louisville so that her daughter, whose artistic talents flow toward music, could attend the Louisville Youth Performing Arts School. Laura decries the loss of art education in today's public schools, noting that her first artistic training and creative endeavors began in the Maryland public schools.

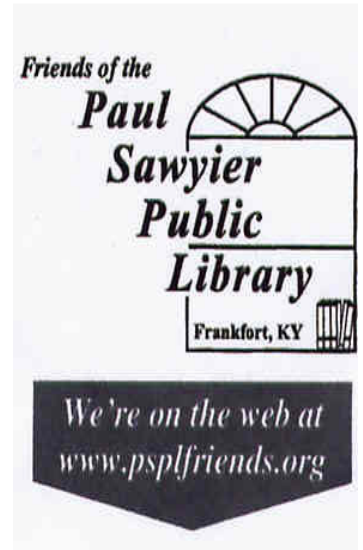
An avid reader, when she can find the time, Laura belongs to a book club in Louisville and feels a special affinity for Friends of Paul Sawyer Library. Recently her book club read *Cold Sassy Tree*, **Bill Bryson's A**

*Short History of Nearly Everything*, and *E=McSquared: A Biography of the world's most famous equation*.

Asked who her favorite writer is, she thinks for a moment, shakes her dark brown ponytail, and says without hesitation, "The poet **Mary Oliver**. I have loved her work for a very long time."

A wonderfully talented artist and book lover, Laura Mentor is the perfect choice for the artist to create the stained-glass windows that will grace our new library. She hopes to see many of the Friends at the dedication.

For more information about Laura and her work, visit her Web site at [www.lauramentor.com](http://www.lauramentor.com).



***With nearly three-fourths of the work completed, Laura Mentor sees no problems with finishing her stained glass creations for the library in plenty of time for the installation currently scheduled for late summer.***

**Friends of The  
Paul Sawyer Public  
Library**

305 Wapping St.  
Frankfort, KY 40601

PHONE:  
(502) 223-1658

E-MAIL  
members@psplfriends.org

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.psplfriends.org](http://www.psplfriends.org)

## Gwyn Hyman Rubio is featured author on June 11



**Gwyn Hyman Rubio** will be the Friends' guest author on June 11 at 2 p.m. at the Women's Club Building, 200 Washington Street.

Rubio wrote the best-selling *Icy Sparks* and *The*

*Woodsman's Daughter*. She is recipient of several



writing awards

Rubio, who grew up in Georgia, is the daughter of the late **Mac Hyman**, who published the bestseller *No Time for Sergeants* in 1954. The book was made into a

stage play and film, starring **Andy Griffith**.



Rubio and her husband, **Angel**, have lived in Kentucky for more than 25 years. They currently reside in Versailles.

She is currently working on a third novel.

## Friends potluck scheduled for June 12 at FPB Clubhouse

The annual potluck for Friends volunteers will be June 12 at 6 p.m. at the Frankfort Plant Board Clubhouse.

The Friends will

### ***About Friends...***

Friends of The Paul Sawyer Public Library is a group of community volunteers committed to supporting the library through fundraising, sponsoring library programs, and enhancing

provide fried chicken and drinks. There are many great cooks among Friends and the food is always delicious.

A brief business

meeting will be held immediately following the meal.

public awareness of the library and its services. The Friends further the appreciation of books, literacy and education in the community, support programming for children and adults, and support

Be sure and mark your calendar!

lifelong learning.

Contact Friends at members@psplfriends.org or drop a note in the Friends mailbox at the library circulation desk.

## THE FRIENDS OF PAUL SAWYIER LIBRARY

305 Wapping St.  
Frankfort, KY 40601

Non-Profit  
Organization  
Permit #