Every day at the John P. Holt Brentwood Library, the enchantment of the Children’s Library (above, left) welcomes youngsters, and the rich resources of the Great Hall (above, right) are available to adults. On October 5, you will be welcomed to those spaces as the 2024 Annual Conference of the Friends of Tennessee Libraries convenes. A tour of the library will include the award-winning Children’s Library and the famous Bookie Monster, the automatic book return and sorting machine.

Here are some of the highlights of the program, designed to give your group new perspectives on the financial and communication challenges that it faces.

- “Scaling Your Fundraising to Your Community”
- “Online Auctions for High-Return Fundraising”
- “The Top 10 Ways to Amplify Your Group’s Message”
- Spotlights on local groups doing great things, like Friends of the Charles Ralph Holland Memorial Library, winner of a 2023 grant
- Announcement of the 2024 recipients of FOTL grants and recognition awards
- Behind-the-scenes tour of the eBay and Amazon operation in Brentwood that is selling $100,000 per year
- Meeting novelist Avery Cunningham, author of *The Mayor of Maxwell Street*. Her novel will be available for purchase. See page 3 for details about the writer.

To register for the conference online or by mail, see page 2 for details.
Register for FOTL’s October 5 Conference at friendstnlibraries.org/registration/
OR
by check and mail (see below).
Registration including lunch and snacks is $35.
Detach this form and mail it with your check, payable to FOTL, to
Janice Ware, FOTL Treasurer
9605 Rittenberry Drive
Brentwood, TN 37027
Registration must be received by FOTL by September 28.
Cancellations made by September 28 will receive a 50% refund.
Questions? Check out our website at friendstnlibraries.org.

Name__________________________________________________________
Affiliation/Friends Group___________________________________________
Phone____________________Email_________________________________
Street Address___________________________________________________
City/State/Zip____________________________________________________
Lunch Option ___________ ❑ Check if this is your first FOTL conference.

Lunch Your Way


Option 3. Black Angus Roast Beef Sandwich with Chips: Black Angus roast beef, Provolone, spring mix, tomato on baguette.

Option 4. Veggie Salad with Garden Salad: Spinach, tomato, cucumber, red onion, house-roasted multicolored peppers, avocado, and herb mayo on nine-grain bread with side salad.

Option 5. Classic Turkey Sandwich with Garden Salad: Roasted turkey, spring mix, and tomato on baguette with side salad.

Detailed nutritional information is available at mcalistersdeli.com/nutrition
From President Kathy Dooley-Smith

Partnerships Here and Across the Country

Over the last three years, FOTL has been hard at work fostering partnerships inside the state and across the country.

As part of this initiative, I recently presented at the American Library Association United for Libraries Virtual 2024 conference, and I’m already excited about the new connections and opportunities that will result from this session. We also collaborate with the Tennessee Library Association (TNLA), Tennessee Association of School Librarians (TASL), and Tenn-Share to sponsor Library Legislative Day, the March for Libraries, and a booth at the Southern Festival of Books. We share information at the statewide Trustee Workshops and work with the State Library and Archives. Representatives from TNLA and TSLA sit on our board, and we have ongoing conversations with state-level and local Friends in Georgia, California, New York, Delaware, and Michigan.

All of this communication and cross pollination is amazing! Without a doubt, we learn just as much in these conversations as we share. And that all benefits YOU, our local Friends. We now have more resources, more ideas, and more connections to help you be as successful as possible.

We can’t wait to share these great ideas with you at the Annual Conference. Please join us for a full day of practical and inspiring information! Thank you for all you do to support libraries and your communities!

See you at the library!

Kathy

Avery Cunningham: Keynote Speaker on October 5

Avery Cunningham, author of the debut novel The Mayor of Maxwell Street, will be the keynote speaker at FOTL’s Annual Conference on October 5. A 2016 graduate of DePaul University’s Master of Arts Writing and Publishing program, she has logged more than a decade of editorial experience with literary magazines, small presses, and bestselling writers. She grew up among exceptional African Americans who strived to uplift their communities while also maintaining a tenuous hold on prosperity in a starkly segregated environment. Since childhood she has grappled with the sensation of being within and at the same time without, a perspective that she explores in her work.

The Mayor of Maxwell Street has been described as an epic love story, a riveting historical drama, and a brilliant exploration of the complexities of the lives of a wealthy Southern Black family in Chicago in 1921.

When she is not writing, Avery devotes time to her Bernese Mountain Dog Grizzly and to digging deeply into research for her next novel. She lives in Memphis.
Friends of Tennessee Libraries
4109 Forest Glen Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37919-5214

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Online at Facebook
Website: friendstnlibraries.org

The Friends of Tennessee Libraries is a volunteer organization of individuals and groups dedicated to supporting Tennessee libraries and local Friends of Library groups through
■ Establishing and helping Friends of Library groups succeed
■ Communicating with libraries and trustees about the value of Friends
■ Serving members as a communication network and clearinghouse for information
■ Advocating for library funding and legislative support on a local, state, and national basis

Renew Your FOTL Membership or Join Now

Online at friendstnlibraries.org/support-us/join

OR by mail

Fill out this form and send it, along with your check, payable to Friends of Tennessee Libraries, to Marcia Flatt, Membership Chair
1436 Howell Lane
Cookeville, TN 38506

INDIVIDUAL                                          ORGANIZATION
☐ Friend $25/yr                                      ☐ 1–99 Members $25/yr
☐ Good Friend $50/yr                                ☐ 100–399 Members $50/yr
☐ Best Friend _______ (You choose: $100 minimum)    ☐ 400+ Members $100/yr

Name_______________________________________________________________________________

Phone__________________________________Email address________________________________

Street Address_______________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip________________________________________________________________________

County_________________________________Friends Group________________________________