

## Library Now Opens at 10 am on Fridays

### Stephen King

Stephen Edwin King was born in Portland, Maine in 1947. He sold his first professional short story, *The Glass Floor*, to the periodical 'Startling Mystery Stories' in 1967. After receiving a BA in English from the University of Maine, King obtained national recognition in 1973 with his novel *Carrie*, the story of a persecuted teenager who gains revenge through her use of psychic powers. In 1975 King next introduced *Peyton Place* to *Dracula* when he authored *Salem's Lot*. He then moved to Colorado and wrote *The Shining*. His successful writing career was on its way.

At last count, the 'King of Horror' has written fifty-four novels (many of them made into movies), six works of non-fiction, and about two hundred short stories. He's infused new blood into modern literature, mostly with his portrayals of the residents of mythical New England towns. King's a veritable fire hydrant of mystery stories. (So far, his books have sold about 400 million copies.) Along the way, he's received numerous Bram Stoker, World Fantasy, and British Fantasy Society awards; as well as formal acknowledgements by the National Book Foundation, the Mystery Writers of America, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Although a significant contributor to the recent canon of American humanities, King has had his share of detractors. (The noted literary critic Harold Bloom, for example, penned a scathing review of King's writing.) Most of America's *literati*, however, have praised King for his penetrating social eye, for his creative characterizations, for his intricate plots, and for his ability to give his novels an 'everyman' quality. In June of 1999, a Dodge van driven by a distracted driver struck King as he was walking along a quiet road on the outskirts of Lovell, Maine. After a relatively short period of hospitalization (and five operations along with some closely monitored physical therapy), King returned to his writing – and we are the beneficiaries.

Essay by Bill Lounsbury

*KRL has Carrie, Salem's Lot, and The Shining as well as many, many more books & movies by Stephen King.*

### Harbor WildWatch: Qa'Qad (Stormwater) Park

Thursday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:00 - 3:00 pm Kids of all Ages  
Call 871-3921 or register online

Blubber: Discover the unique features that help marine mammals of the Puget Sound survive in frigid waters.

**SPECIAL EVENT**

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### Friendship Bracelets Monday, August 6 2-7 pm

Craft a beautiful accessory using a variety of colors and a selection of designs from simple to intricate.



### Summer Book Recommendation (s)

*Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate (Newbery medal-winning author)

An old red oak tells us about life at a different pace, with crow friend Bongo and many other animals that shelter in the tree's "arms". They help their human neighbors learn to get along, and we find out that trees can't tell jokes, but they tell a good story if we can learn to listen. *A kids' book every grownup can enjoy.*

*Grant* by Ron Chernow

Having just finished *Team of Rivals*, which introduces the soldier Ulysses S. Grant, your editor is ready for a "sweeping and dramatic portrait of one of our most compelling generals and presidents". On the evidence of *Hamilton* and *Washington*, Pulitzer Prize-winning Chernow is certain to provide a good read!

