

Friends of the Library Launch Campaign for Excellence

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For Immediate Release

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Bloomington, IN--The Friends of the Library announce the launch of their **Campaign for Excellence in support of Monroe County Public Library's programs and collections for children**. The campaign goal is to raise \$25,000, of which 90% will support current children's initiatives, and 10% will help build the Children's Endowment. Honorary chairs of the campaign are long-time library supporters and advocates Charlotte and Paul Zietlow and Becky and Frank Hrisomalos.

"Becky has served on the MCPL Board of Trustees, and we both have served on the Friends of the Library Board for over 30 years combined," says Charlotte Zietlow. "For all of us, the lifetime we have spent getting pleasure from our library is something we treasure. Now we want to assure that all the children in our community can have the same wonderful experiences we have had."

While circulation and visits to the library are increasing -- a record-setting 2.6 million books circulated in 2009 and there were 1.4 million visits -- tax dollars are not.

Reading is the key to learning and the library helps children at every stage: from learning to read to reading to learn and developing the lifelong habit of reading. Gifts to the Friends' Campaign for Excellence will help the library to:

- support early literacy and children's success in school.
- sustain programs that introduce children to the joy and power of reading.
- keep the children's collection current and fresh.

Donors can contribute online at [The Friends of the Library website](http://www.mcpl.info), or pick up campaign envelopes at the Main Library, Ellettsville Branch, and Bookmobile. The Friends of the Library Office at the Main Library can answer questions about the campaign, Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (349.3050, ext. 1080).

In 2009, MCPL was honored as a **Top Ten American Library** in the *Hennen American Public Library Rankings Index* and ranked a **Three Star Library** by *Library Journal*. Gifts to the Friends' Campaign for Excellence will help ensure that the library continues its tradition of excellence in serving our community's children.

For more information about children's services and programs, contact: Josh Wolf, Children's Manager, 349.3100.

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- Links:
- [1] <http://mcpl.info/friends>
 - [2] <http://mcpl.info/print/printpdf/newspage/friends-library-launch-campaign-excellence>
 - [3] <http://mcpl.info/print/printpdf/newspage/friends-library-launch-campaign-excellence>
 - [4] <http://mcpl.info/print/printpdf/newspage/friends-library-launch-campaign-excellence>