

## DONORS WANTED

The Oak Bluffs Public Library has exciting plans for new programs in the year ahead. In order for the Library Friends of Oak Bluffs to fund many of them we need your help. Many of you gave generously to our mid-year Annual Appeal, but we ask you now to make an additional gift to the LFOB. This will enable us to help the library remain a vital resource in the community.

Just think — the summer months of July and August saw close to 21,000 visitors to the library, with 45 different adult and 52 different children's programs put on. The library must be doing something right.

So, please send your tax-deductible dollars to the Library Friends of Oak Bluffs, Inc., PO Box 1421, Oak Bluffs, MA 02557 and please include your postal and email address. Many thanks to all who love our library. §

## BOOK ENDS

Official Newsletter of the  
Library Friends of Oak Bluffs, Inc.

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## SHE TOILS BEHIND THE SCENE

She is rarely seen by library patrons, but Rosemary Hildreth is an indispensable member of the Oak Bluffs Library staff. As the administrative Assistant/Technical Service person she wears a lot of hats. First of all, Rosemary assists Library Director Sondra Murphy in many areas, handles the payroll, transfers money and, most important, decides on what books to buy for the library and what books to discard.



Rosemary's roots are planted firmly in Massachusetts. She grew up in Holliston and visited Martha's Vineyard many times before she and her husband, Kenneth, bought a house here in 1987. Unhappily, he died of cancer in 1990 and she moved permanently to Oak Bluffs a year later. Today Rosemary lives quietly with her mother, Gertrude Knowlton, who is 101 and still going strong. "She reads all the time," says Rosemary.

She first worked at the library 20 years ago in 1993. "The part of my job I enjoy most is putting the book collection together," says Rosemary. "I read every book review available and then make a decision on what books the library should buy. I read as much as I can at home, do some photography and birding and to bed early."

"I wouldn't be able to do my job without Rosemary," says Sondra Murphy. "Rosemary takes care of all the little details that no one else ever thinks about. Without her the library would fall apart. She's the backbone of the whole operation. We are very lucky to have her here." §

*The mission of Library Friends of Oak Bluffs is to promote the library as an active, dynamic, education and information center in the community and to support and enhance the library's programs, services and collections.*



## BOOK ENDS

### WHERE THE FUNDS WENT

So where do all the funds go, you might rightly ask. Your contributions to the Library Friends of Oak Bluffs enable us to provide for programs and activities that are not fully funded by the Library's taxpayer-supported budget, which is pretty lean to begin with.

Your support makes possible a host of such adult activities as monthly Book Club meetings, free yoga, scrabble, jazz lectures and author talks. For the children there are the annual seasonal holiday events, reading programs, family pizza movie nights and many more events that can be found on our award-winning website at [www.oakbluffslibrary.org/events](http://www.oakbluffslibrary.org/events).

The exciting Golf Night, which was one of the library's most popular events ever, will be repeated next year on Jan. 10 and 11. With Sondra, Miki and Zoe constantly cooking up new events, the Oak Bluffs Library is the place to be. It is all because of your heartfelt contributions. §



## SHE DOES DOUBLE DUTY

For those of you who claim your plate is too full to do any volunteer work, please consider the workload of Colleen Morris. She is not only the President of the Library Friends of Oak Bluffs, but also runs the organization's Steering Committee, all the while holding down a fulltime job as Administrative Assistant for the Town of Oak Bluffs Building Department Board of Health and Zoning Board of Appeals.

For good measure, Colleen also is member of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School advisory board, as well as an active member of the Martha's Vineyard NAACP, serving on several committees. For relaxation she plays a lot of duplicate bridge, reads biographies, is a member of an informal book club and walks Shadow, her nine-year-old beagle. Where Colleen gets her energy is a mystery.



Colleen was born in Brussels, Belgium and grew up all over Europe and Washington DC as an army brat. She majored in German and French at Howard University, in German studies at Middlebury College and in German language studies at the University of Salzburg's Goethe Institute.

Colleen's work before moving permanently to Martha's Vineyard in 1998 has been equally varied. Her very first job was as a tour guide in the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institute, followed by a stint as an administrative assistant at the Washington National Cathedral. Later she worked as a paralegal with the Historic Trust for Historic Preservation. Finally, Colleen taught English and was the dean of students at the Kirov Academy for Ballet in Washington DC.

Colleen joined the LFOB in 2011 and became president last year. "I am very pleased that so many programs can be realized now with a new and vibrant library staff in place. I want them to succeed and benefit from all of our fund raising efforts."

"Colleen brings unique experience and a fresh perspective to the LFOB," says former president Marilyn Miller. "The Friends are so lucky to have Colleen as president." §