

### How to Contact Us:

Homer Public Library  
141 W. Pioneer Ave.  
Homer, AK 99603  
<http://library.ci.homer.ak.us>  
907.235.3180

Hours:  
Mon., Weds., Fri., Sat.  
10am-6pm  
Tues. & Thurs.  
10am-8pm

Friends of the Homer Library  
141 W. Pioneer Ave.  
Homer, AK 99603  
[www.friends-homerlibrary.org](http://www.friends-homerlibrary.org)  
907.235.3180

## Library Happenings

### January

Preschool Story Hour, Wednesdays at 10am  
FHL Membership Drive, Jan. 6-31  
FHL monthly meeting at the Library, Jan. 11  
"When the Library Lights go out" Pajama party @ the Library, Jan. 20  
FHL Volunteer Appreciation Party, Jan. 22  
Submissions due for Top Drawer 2006, Jan. 31

### February

Preschool Story Hour, Wednesdays at 10am  
Scrabble Tournament sponsored by FHL, Feb. 11 and 12  
FHL monthly meeting at the Library, Feb. 14 at 6pm

### Coming Soon...

Get the Card Month-Library Card promotion sponsored by FHL and Girl Scout Troop #580  
"Researching Genealogy" Workshop with rep. from the National Archives TBA  
FHL Children's International Film Series at the Homer Theatre, TBA

## Feeling Escapist? Fantasy Reads for Young Adults

If you liked the Lord of the Ring series, check out [www.pollardml.org/tolkien.html](http://www.pollardml.org/tolkien.html)

For books in which bizarre, fantastic things happen to otherwise ordinary people: [www.evanston.lib.il.us/library/bibliographies/magical\\_adventures.html](http://www.evanston.lib.il.us/library/bibliographies/magical_adventures.html)

Want more old-fashioned fairy tales? [www.cantonpl.org/ya/fairy.html](http://www.cantonpl.org/ya/fairy.html)

Visit these other general YA fantasy lists:  
[berkeleypubliclibrary.org/teen/fantasy.html](http://berkeleypubliclibrary.org/teen/fantasy.html)  
[www.gepl.org/youngadult/bibfan.html](http://www.gepl.org/youngadult/bibfan.html)  
[www.wheaton.lib.il.us/library/tlyfantasy.html](http://www.wheaton.lib.il.us/library/tlyfantasy.html)

This website allows you to search by subject, author or title. It also has a list of suggested gifts for fantasy-loving young adults: [www.vandsandworlds.com/](http://www.vandsandworlds.com/)

### *Inkspell*, by Cornelia Funke

Meggie and Farid become trapped in INKHEART, the book whose characters became real, and the story evolves in ways neither of them imagined.

### *High Rhulain*, by Brian Jacques

Young Tiria Wildlough wants to learn the ways of the warrior, against the wishes of her father. When an injured osprey arrives at the Redwall Abbey, Tiria knows what she must do.

### *Eldest: Inheritance, Book Two*, by Christopher Paolini

After evading an Urgal ambush, Eragon is adopted into the Ingeitum clan and sent to finish his training so he can help fight against the Empire.

### *The Will of the Empress*, by Tamora Pierce

On Namorn to visit her land holdings and her devious cousin, Sandry must rely on her childhood friends and fellow mages, despite the distance that has grown between them.



► NEW LIBRARY UPDATE  
PG. 1-2



► BOOK REVIEW PG. 3



► LIBRARY EVENTS PG. 4

Volume 1, No.1, January-February 2006

# At the Homer Public Library

Sponsored by the Friends of the Homer Library

## Top Drawer Collection Is Alive and Well

Friends of the Homer Library is pleased to announce that the Top Drawer Writing Program resumes production this year. The Top Drawer committee—Daisy Lee Bitter, Kelly Thompson, Ann Keffer, Dave Swarthout and Marylou Burton—hope that local writers will once again move their stories, poems and essays out of the "top drawer" and onto the Homer Library shelves, where they can be preserved and enjoyed for years to come. Authors will also read selections from their books as part of the National Library Week celebrations this coming April.

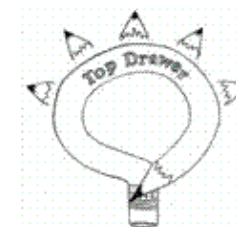
Top Drawer selections will be handled in much the same way as they have been in past years. A Call for Submissions was issued in December 2005, and manuscripts are due by January 31, 2006. All submissions meeting the guidelines—copies of which can be picked up at the Library or downloaded from <http://library.ci.homer.ak.us>—will be bound and added to the Top Drawer Collection.

Authors may also opt to have their Top Drawer manuscript submitted to a panel of distinguished local judges, including local authors Tom Kizzia, Dan Coyle and Rich Chiappone, for possible selection as a "Top Shelf" book.

Books will be chosen for Top Shelf distinction on the basis of literary merit and will receive a \$459 publication package from iUniverse.com. This package includes five trade paperback copies of the book as well as listing for print on demand in various on-line catalogs, including Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Authors will be asked to donate one of the iUniverse copies to the Homer Library.

To encourage young people's awareness of both the Top Drawer program and library programs in general, this year's Top Drawer program also sponsored a Top Drawer logo contest at the Flex High School. Congratulations and thank you to Audrey Bryant, who took first place with her original design, and to runners-up Patric Payne and Dustin Steen, who were also recognized for their designs. We also wish to acknowledge Nancy Vait and Flex High School for their support.

Lastly, we wish to thank the Homer Foundation for its generous grant to help us breathe new life into the Top Drawer Writing Program. Homer has so many gifted writers—we do not want their voices to be lost.



## NEW LIBRARY IS TALK OF THE TOWN

Anyone with functioning eyeballs has seen it: the new Homer Public Library is happening in a big way on the property behind First National and Wells Fargo banks. Thousands of residents who were asked to "just imagine" a new library in Homer during the two-and-a-half-year capital campaign now find it much easier to do so, and appear to be pleased with what they're seeing. Construction began soon after the Groundbreaking Ceremony in May, and has proceeded at an impressive

(Continued on page 1)

