



Jane Heisler, Director of Public Affairs: 503-697-6573

For Immediate Release
January 6, 2008

Contact: Cyndie Glazer
503-675-2538

LAKE OSWEGO READS PROGRAM KICKOFF FEATURES THREE CUPS OF TEA, FREE BOOKS AND PAKISTANI MUSIC AND FOOD

LAKE OSWEGO – The Lake Oswego Public Library kicks off its second annual "Lake Oswego Reads" program on Tuesday, January 8 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Library (706 Fourth Street). Enjoy music and food from Pakistan and show your Library Card to receive your free copy of this year's selection, Three Cups of Tea, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin.

Cyndie Glazer, Library Volunteer Coordinator, who is coordinating the program said, "The success of last year's program demonstrates our community's love of books, intellectual pursuits, and thoughtful discussion. You won't want to miss the lively sounds, aromas and camaraderie of the kickoff," which will also feature many area Pakistanis in native dress.

During the month of February, the Library, local schools, businesses and organizations will offer special programs and festivities connected with the Lake Oswego Reads book selection. This year's selection is the inspiring, true story Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. The food, music, history and customs of Pakistan, the book's setting, will be celebrated and explored.

Visit www.lakeoswegolibrary.org and click on the Lake Oswego Reads box to get all the latest event information. The 2008 program is presented by the Lake Oswego Public Library and sponsored by West Coast Bank and the Friends of the Lake Oswego Library. The program is also made possible in part by a grant from the Oregon Council for the Humanities, a statewide nonprofit organization and an independent affiliate on the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Oregon Cultural Trust, which invests in Oregon arts, humanities and heritage, also helped fund OCH's Grant program.

Additional events include:

Wednesday, February 6, 7 p.m.: Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin will be speaking at the Lake Oswego High School Auditorium. Admission is free but a ticket is required for this event. Tickets will be available at the Lake Oswego Public Library starting at 2:30 p.m. on January 12. There will be a 2 ticket per person limit.

Friday, February 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m.: Join fourteen professional artists and local high school art students as they showcase their interpretations of this unique book at a reception at the former US Bank building on 120 N State Street. Special appetizers, wine and, of course, tea, will be served.

January 21 to February 1: Lake Oswego Reads brings Pennies for Peace to Lake Oswego Elementary Schools. Help bring global peace by donating pennies to bins stationed in any of the nine elementary schools.

For more information on these events, go to the Community Calendar at www.ci.oswego.or.us/calcalendar.htm.

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