

June - The Friends File: *Library as Paradise...or Spring*

The Argentine poet and writer Jorge Luis Borges writes in his poem "The Library":

*I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library.
Every book in that place, I believe,
Is almost certainly accessible to each of us.*

I found this poem on the Daniel Boone Library's website. The author continues:

"Libraries have gone through their own transformation in the digital age — it's not just books anymore... [But] just seeing a library is enough to inspire me, whether it is one of the creative *Little Free Libraries* or the *Library of Congress*. Libraries have always been magical places that make me want to be better and know more, and I feel so lucky to be a part of one. But you are a part of one, too, even if you didn't know it! This library belongs to all of us!"

Adds Andrew Carnegie: "*A library outranks any other one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in a desert.*" According to Wikipedia between 1883 and 1929 Carnegie built a total of 2,509 libraries! That's a lot of springs! We do not have a Carnegie Library. We are blessed with a Caroline Weeks Public Library whose philosophy in her philanthropy surely mirrors that of Borges and Carnegie. A library can be a kind of paradise and is a kind of never failing spring. And we are benefactors of her beneficence:

Weeks Public Library belongs to all of us...and we to it.

If you are not already a Friends' member won't you please join us in support of it...indeed in support of our whole Greenland community? Membership brochures

are available at the Front
desk...and thanks.

~David Phreaner, Friends Chair