

LITERACY

# Celebrating a 10th anniversary

## Books Again at \$1M in sales; proceeds help library

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THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

If classic paper books are dead in this world of high technology, no one bothered to tell the managers of Pueblo's Books Again used bookstore.

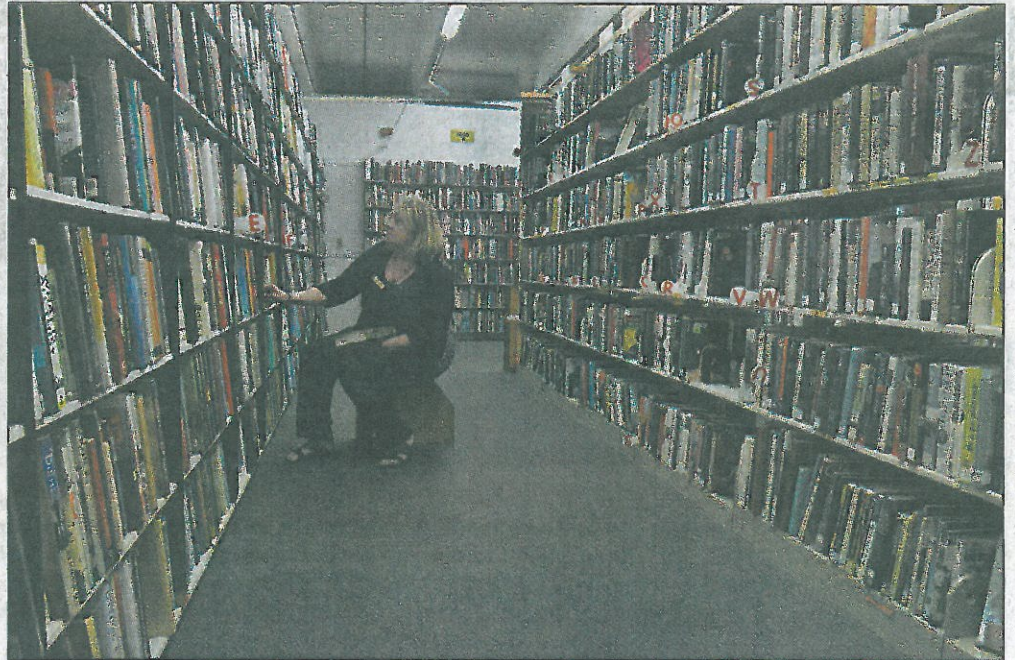
The store at 622 S. Union Ave. will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Aug. 14-15. The store will offer all books at half off of the already discounted prices.

In 10 short years, the store has been able to make \$1 million in sales.

The store, which operates independently, is run by the Friends of the Library district. Portions of the sales from the bookstore are donated to the Pueblo City-County Library District.

The Friends organization was established in 1960.

"Ten years ago, we decided to open a bookstore rather than just



CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/JOHN JAQUES

Terrye Oliva, a volunteer worker at the Books Again used bookstore, shelves books on Thursday.

having our annual sale at Colorado State University-Pueblo," said Jim Stuart, store manager.

"We wanted to sell books and accept donations on

a year-round basis."

Margaret and Bud Benz, members of the Friends organization, spearheaded the idea of the used bookstore.

"We've been told that it's the best, friendliest bookstore in the state," Stuart said.

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The books are all donated, and most of them are sold at 75 percent off of the retail price.

"We sell only the best of the books. We take in a lot of books, but we can't sell them all," Stuart said.

Stuart said volunteers have donated more than 100,000 hours over the past 10 years.

"We have about 20 volunteers who operate the store and we have people that specialize in handling the books and others that take care of the cash part of it and the actual sales," Stuart said.

"The sales we make are passed on to the Friends and everything the Friends get goes to the library. We've generated over \$500,000 in profits that benefit the library in many different ways."

"We are pretty proud of this store and it has been very successful."

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