

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for supporting library

On Sunday, the Mansfield Public Library was designated a Literary Landmark in recognition of the literary contributions of John Howard Griffin, author of the book "Black Like Me."

A very special thank you goes to Laura W. Bush for being a part of the dedication ceremony and honoring our library. Her continued support of all libraries shows what a crucial role libraries play in our communities.

We are grateful to filmmaker Morgan Atkinson for allowing us to show "Uncommon Vision: The Life and Times of John Howard Griffin" and for giving us so much more insight into the man John Howard Griffin was. Farr Best Theater graciously donated the use of their beautiful historic theater for which we are very appreciative. It was

wonderful to see every seat filled.

Many thanks to author and Griffin biographer Robert Bonazzi. Sharing your personal archives and your personal knowledge of Mr. Griffin really brought him to life for all of us.

Thanks to Daryle and Melisa Perez of Alternative Funeral Services for underwriting the essay contest for high school students. Congratulations to Legacy High School sophomore Zach McCartney for his winning essay "The Maples Want Their Sunlight".

To Amanda Rogers and the *Mansfield News-Mirror*, thank you for the outstanding series of articles highlighting John Howard Griffin, his work and the Literary Landmark designation. Your interest in library programs is always very much a part of how our library

reaches out to the community.

The volunteers, committee members and library staff deserve a big thank you for their efforts and for their enthusiasm. Their dedication and commitment is unrivaled and it shows every time we receive national recognition.

Lastly, the Friends of the Mansfield Public Library would like to thank the citizens of Mansfield for supporting this significant honor by filling our library to capacity for the dedication ceremony. The Friends are proud to be a part of this great community and proud to be a part of bringing this great honor to our library.

Sincerely,
**Paula Highfill, President
Friends of the Mansfield
Public Library
Mansfield**