

St. Louis County Library ***News Release: April 22, 2009***
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The Westfall Favorite Author Series Presents Author and Activist Michael Pollan

St. Louis County Library Foundation presents bestselling author Michael Pollan who will discuss his book, "In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto," Friday, May 22, at 7:00 p.m. at Library Headquarters, 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

The program is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Books for signing will be available at the event from Borders. Don Marsh, host of KWMU's "St. Louis on the Air," will serve as the program's Master of Ceremonies.

Not only was Michael Pollan's "The Omnivore's Dilemma" a national bestseller and New York Times Best Book of the Year, but it also galvanized a new national conversation on food and American agribusiness. His latest book, "In Defense of Food," answers many questions posed by "The Omnivore's Dilemma" and guides readers through today's daunting dietary landscape to identify what to eat, what not to eat, and how to think about health.

Taking a clear-eyed look at what science does and does not know about the links between diet and health, Pollan proposes a new way to think about the question of what to eat that is informed by ecology and tradition. Michael Pollan's bracing and eloquent manifesto shows us how we might start making thoughtful food choices that will enrich our lives and enlarge our sense of what it means to be healthy.

Pollan is also the author of "Second Nature," "A Place of My Own," and "The Botany of Desire," which received the Borders Original Voices Award for the best nonfiction work of 2001 and was recognized as a best book of the year by the American Booksellers Association and Amazon. A longtime contributing writer to the New York Times Magazine, Pollan is also the Knight Professor of Journalism at UC Berkeley. His writing on food and agriculture has won numerous awards, including the Reuters/World Conservation Union Global Award in Environmental Journalism, the James Beard Award, and the Genesis Award from the American Humane Association.

The program with Michael Pollan is a St. Louis County Library 'Buzz' Westfall Favorite Author Series presentation. The Westfall series features authors of politics, current issues, history, and sports. The series is co-sponsored by Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies; Jack Dubinsky and Sons; McMahon Berger; Piper Jaffray; Plaza Frontenac; Sachs Properties; Brown Smith Wallace LLC; Royal Banks of Missouri; St. Louis Business Journal; St. Louis Bank; Midwest Library Service; The Booksource; and Ivey-Selkirk Auctioneers.

Program sites are accessible. Upon two weeks notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Contact St. Louis County Library by phone 314-994-3300 or visit www.slcl.org.

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