Libraries Need Friends

It’s just that simple.

Many public libraries, including ours, were established through the efforts of community members who understood the value of libraries to their communities, and who recognized that libraries need community support to survive. That's how the Bloomfield Township Public Library came into existence in 1964.

So how do libraries benefit from Friends groups? They benefit by the expansion of available resources to serve the public, and by extending a library’s capacity through volunteerism, dollar gifts, program support, and through advocacy.

Few libraries are able to turn away help from supporters. Even if a library is so self-sufficient that additional funding isn’t immediately needed, libraries without a well-developed group of Friends supporters often find the going tough when they need to raise additional funds, such as when they would like to remodel or expand, build a new building, or when they wish to grow their collections and services. Additionally, libraries that seek grants often find themselves in a much more competitive position for funding if they can show they receive tangible support from the very people who use and benefit from library services.

Politically, Friends groups are very important and effective to libraries’ longevity, as they are community advocates by default, giving their time, energy, and financial support to an entity that they’re willing to stand up for.

Every day, Friends make a difference for the libraries and communities they serve. Thank you for being a Friend and helping to make a difference in our Library and community.

Regards,
Kathryn Conner, President
Friends of the Bloomfield Township Public Library

2023 Friends Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Please join us Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 11:30 a.m. for our Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Author, historian, and photographer Jeff Morrison will present a program featuring spectacular pictures of interesting architectural sculpture found on buildings throughout Michigan. You will learn about the symbolism behind this artwork, and hear some of the stories of the artists and architects involved in the creation of these wonderful structures. His books Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City and Guardians of Michigan: Architectural Sculpture of the Pleasant Peninsulas will be available for purchase after the program.

This luncheon is open to Friends members only. There is no charge, but reservations are required by noon on April 28 by either calling (248) 642-5800 or visiting the Library’s Welcome Desk.
Treasurer’s Report 2022-2023

Balance as of April 1, 2022 $ 76,734

REVENUES
- Memberships $ 11,970
- Library Shop / Second Saturday Sales $ 80,506
- Donations $ 23,310
- Miscellaneous Income $ 74
  TOTAL REVENUE $ 115,860
  SUBTOTAL $ 192,594

EXPENSES
- Gifts to Bloomfield Township Public Library $ 49,941
- Sales Tax $ 3,483
- Bank Fees $ 900
- Annual Meeting / Report $ 691
- Office Expenses $ 620
- Other Expenses* $ 2,315
  TOTAL EXPENSES $ 57,950

*Includes Annual Meeting mailing, pre-Board Meeting lunch, sale display, and other materials.

Balance as of March 31, 2023 $ 134,644

Highlights from the Treasurer’s Report

By Kim Hoke and Ann Pohl

Revenues in all major areas were up this past year. Increasingly successful sales and Library Shop performance accounts for a large part of the increase. Personal donations and estate bequests have also greatly benefited our revenues. And, as always, memberships (renewed and upgraded) are the bedrock of our financial success.
Friends 2022-2023 Gifts to the Bloomfield Township Public Library: $49,941

ADMINISTRATION

› Chamber Music Concert Series ....................... $2,000
› Entrance Arrangements ........................... $2,250
› Outreach Giveaways ................................ $1,000

ADULT SERVICES

› Book Club Books ............... $7,500
› Books by Indian Authors ...... $500
› Closed Captioning of Virtual Content ............... $500
› Mystery Series Replacement Copies ........ $2,000
› Podcasting Equipment ........ $400
› Prize Patrol ........................................... $500
› Vitality Kit Updates ......................... $2,500

CIRCULATION

› Carts for Processing Holds ..... $1,120
› Two-Way Radios ............. $130

FACILITIES

› Electric Leaf Blower .............. $350
› Water Bottle Hydration Stations ...... $1,180

SYSTEMS

› Mobile Whiteboards ................. $1,400
› Notebooks for Patrons ................ $350
› Wall Mounted Glass Markerboards and Supplies .................. $5,636

YOUTH SERVICES

› Apple Pencils ........................................ $275
› Art Lab and Art Lab Junior Programs .......... $2,700
› Battle of the Books ......................... $2,500
› Deluxe Catalog Display Racks .............. $150
› Discussion Group Books .............. $3,500
› Kindergarten Readers Round Up ............ $3,500
› Podcasting Equipment .............. $400
› Prize Patrol .............. $400
› Stories and Stuff Subscription Boxes ...... $3,600
› Summer Reading Books .................. $3,500

Since 1995 the Friends have donated over $1.75 million dollars to the Bloomfield Township Public Library
2023 Friends of the Bloomfield Township Public Library
Annual Meeting & Luncheon ~ Wednesday, May 3 at 11:30 a.m.

Slate of Board Member Candidates

Up for Re-Election (2-year term):

Kathryn Conner – Kathy is a long-time Library patron and active Friends member and has served on the Board for 11 years. She is currently President and has also served as Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, and Vice President. She worked many years as the Fiction Section Manager in The Book Nook, and currently is one of our vintage book price rs. She handles membership and works in various capacities at the monthly book sales. Kathy’s professional career was spent in the banking and staffing industry.

Sikander Rashid – Sikander joined the Friends after a career as an engineer in the automotive industry. He has been a long-time member of the Friends and has served on the Board as Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, and on the Nominating Committee. He is interested in History and Biography, and helps set up those sections. He works at most sales and is a regular weekly sorter in the Book Nook. This will be Sikander’s third term on the Board.

Nancy Lambert – Nancy has been an active Friends member since 2008. She has served seven terms on the Friends of the Library Board including roles as President, Vice President, and Secretary. Currently she is reprising her role as Secretary, as well as serving as Literature Section Manager in the Book Nook, Assistant Saturday Sales Manager, Donation Room Manager, and serving on various committees as needed and assigned. Nancy joined the FOL after a career as a high school librarian/media specialist.

Linda Saukkonen – Linda has been an active volunteer with the Friends for four years. She serves as a Section Manager for Art, Animals, Crafts, Gardening, Cookbooks, and others in the Book Nook. She is a sorter in the Donation Room, a volunteer during monthly sales, and has served on the Nominating Committee. This will be her second term on the FOL Board. A former elementary school principal for 20 years, she was active in the Friends of the Library in Oregon and as a volunteer in school libraries.

Up for Election (2-year term):

Nick Altwerger – Nick has been immersed in the book industry for over 60 years – as a book store manager, his own company director, publisher, book collector, and online book seller. He worked as a book sales rep over 35 years for over 200 different publishers. His company was responsible for the book trade in 13 states. He has also been a stamp and coin collector and dealer and a primitive art collector. For over a year, Nick has been active with the FOL – as Book Nook Section Manager for Sci-Fi, Young Adults, and Sports, and on the Vintage Team. This will be Nick’s first term on the FOL Board.

Lisa Beth Speck – Lisa is a lifetime patron of the Bloomfield Township Public Library and a longtime Friend of the Library. She had a long and happy career as an internist/geriatrician, and successfully ran a solo practice. She taught acute care medicine at Beaumont, and primary care for medical schools at the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. She also served 25 years on her condo board. Since her retirement in 2021, Lisa has been an active Friends of the Library member both in the Donation Room and as a cashier at the Saturday Sales. This will be her first term on the FOL Board.
From the Director...

We get by with a little help from our Friends – it may be cliché but it’s true! The Friends provide added support to the Library in the form of people and funds, and the Library provides them the place and opportunity for their volunteerism to happen. Every year the Friends utilize many different spaces in the Library to collect, sort, and price hundreds of thousands of books and media, and then place these where they can be most beneficial, from book sales to outreach programs. Friends can be found all over the Library – the Donation Room, Book Nook, Library Shop, Friends Office, and meeting rooms where they meet to plan and execute their great work. Library Administration, in turn, supports their efforts by helping design posters and website graphics to promote the Friends efforts. Each month, the Friends Second Saturday Sales draw huge crowds to the Library and generate community good will. Our Friends pour so much love and energy into this process, raising significant funds each year and ensuring the Library has resources that might not otherwise be in our budget.

Many of our Friends are retired, and all of them are volunteers. Running this 300+ member organization and holding monthly sales is an opportunity for each member to share the considerable skills they gained during past employment, including organizational management, finance, marketing, education, and book knowledge. Our Friends relish in the opportunity to serve and support an entity they hold dear and believe in. The Library and Friends continue to collaborate in a myriad of ways to provide the stellar library experience that is Bloomfield Township Public Library. It’s amazing what the power of friendship can do!

~ Tera Moon, Bloomfield Township Public Library Director

Membership Roll of Honor

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Mr. Robert H. Allan
Dr. E. Alpert
Mr. & Mrs. Basharian
J.D. & Paula Carlson
G.J. Coatworth
Russell & Kathryn Conner
Martha & Harry Cornish
Paulina & A. Michael Deller
The H.L. DeRoy Foundation
Sandra Edwards
Mrs. B. Ewing
John and Karen Fischer
Ellen Freed
Mark & Nancy Frey
Grant & Klaren Gerhart
Dr. & Mrs. Theodore Golden
Stephen L. Goodale Fund *
Pamela Grozdon*
Shirley Harris
Dianne Hayden Family
Mr. & Mrs. J.E. Henderson
John & Kim Hoke
Dagnya Iyla

Karen Kotulis-Carter
Mr. And Mrs. Elton Kruger
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Lada
Richard & Nancy Lambert
Dr. & Mrs. H.Y. Liu
Barbara Mayer
Mrs. Julio Mazzoli
Tera Moon
Dr. Kiran Sirisma Nandalur
Ann O’Dell
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Mr. Ward Randol, Jr.
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Frank A. Smith, M.D.
Larry & Isabel Smith
Rob & Carlene VanVoorhies
Patricia Wagner
Marilyn Hey Webster
Fred and Mary Ann Wendell

Mr. & Mrs. J. Lee Juett
Mr. Yong Yi
Myra & David Zoll

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Charlton Burch
Keith Carduner
Patricia Harris
Diane M. Hied
William Hollingsworth
David Jacobs
Debbie LaPonsa
Jack Lay
Judy Lindstrom
Ellen & Urban MacDonald
Jeffery Marraccini
Tim & Cindy McGrane
Joy Murray
Rose F. Oblow
Dr. Tom & Chris Petinga
Steven & Robin Read
Mary-Louise Rynski
Membership Roll of Honor

**Membership Roll of Honor**

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Ruth & Mark Theobald  
Barbara & Roger K. Timm  
Lyn Wethy  
Paul & Imogene Zimmermann

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Tom & Joan Daniels  
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Sherrie English  
Joanne Fisher  
Joanne Forbes  
Mary Freeman  
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Dr. Sidney Goldstein  
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Luise Illuminati  
Patricia Joyner  
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Tracy Morisi  
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Dr. Barry H. Tigay  
Ben & Gena Tiseo  
Myra E. Wetzel

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Lydia Barron  
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Crystal Boersma  
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Joe & Stella Evangelista  
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Dennis & Lee Jakubik  
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Sean Kerman  
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Lei Liu  
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Emily Sherman  
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Francisca Soliven  
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Gary and Linda Strappazon  
Wendy Strip & David Cohen  
Frances & Louis Sturm  
Charlotte Tharp  
Linda B. Thomas  
Deb & Clay Thompson  
Donald Umlah & Jane Kennedy  
Craig Varterian  
Wampler Family  
Greg & Mary Ann Williams  
The Wyzgoski Family  
Timur & Diana Yakubov  
The Zadoff Family

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Majd Aburabia  
Nick Altwerger  
Peter Angehelescu  
Mark Arauz  
Ibrahim Arslan  
Peter Backailis  
Jean Backlund  
Glenda Bard  
Baxter Barrowcliff
Membership Roll of Honor

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Shelly Benitah  
Jane Bersche  
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Lynne Bonda  
Barbara Borden  
Jacki Boyer  
Noah Brook  
Katherine Bryant  
Jon Buyle  
Mary Carpenter-Burke  
Maria Castedo  
Lili Cheng  
Bill Close  
Shari Cohen  
Charna Cook  
Traci Lynn Cook  
Bill Corporandy  
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Involut Vogel Jessup  
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Richard Ketelhut  
Steve Kiesling  
Lillian King  
Marlene Klinert  
Jonthan Knobel  
Mark Kobernik  
Mary Konen  
Adrienne Kozlowski  
Charles Krome  
Michael Langwald  
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Sun-Hee Lee  
Lorraine Lenihan  
Kathryn Loch  
Bart Lonchar  
Valerie Lonchar  
Donald M. Lucas  
Donna Major  
Marije Markaj  
Jeff Martin  
Melanie Matwiczyk  
Nadine Maynard  
Cathy McQueen  
Mary Anne Mehlhope  
Joann Michael  
Nancy Moss  
Srinivasan Murali  
Thomas J. Murphy  
Daynna Myers  
Kenneth Nahigian  
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Karl Nilsson  
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E.M. Ovies  
John Owens  
David Oyerly, Classic Book Shop  
Joe Parrino  
Eve Parsons  
Robert Pliska  
Sam Pollak  
Terrence Potvin  
Tania Prepolce  
Ann Quail  
Tom Reilly  
Cloyce Roberts  
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Karla Ruegsegger  
Maria Rus  
Beverly Sabbath  
Mary W. Shelly  
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Connie Silver  
Bob Silverman  
Nancy Silverman  
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Michael Smith  
Helen Spangler  
Shane Spradlin  
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Sandy Springer  
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Lynn Stephenson  
Mark Stern  
Cary A. Storchan  
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Tina Tisler  
Janine Toundaian  
Judy Tushman  
M. Updike  
Joan Ureel  
Debbie Valko  
Julie Verdun  
Erin Vogler  
Judith Webb  
Thomas G. White  
Mary Young

The Friends wish to thank the following people for their special donations...

The Estate of Richard Bilaitis  
Douglas Felt  
Dr. Katuri Puri  
Cary A. Storchan

Upgrade Your Membership

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Monthly Book Sales Got Even Better in 2022!

With ever-changing materials that people utilize and the wide variety of donations received, the Friends have found ways to promote and provide more than just books at its sales. In doing so, they have expanded from two rooms in the lower level for each sale to having four rooms, each showcasing differing types of items.

Room 1 has greatly expanded its offerings to include games, puzzles, and hands-on activities. Patrons love these additional items, and often purchase gifts for themselves and others at amazingly low prices. And the Friends standard offerings in this room – children’s books, coffee table books, and older fiction – are always popular. Each month there is also a “Special Feature” promoted on Facebook that is displayed in Room 1, attracting many buyers.

Room 2 is now permanently dedicated to all types of media, including CDs, movies, and audiobooks of all genres. The Friends also offer books about music and movies in this room, as well as CD and DVD cases and storage units. Movies and music continue to be popular with shoppers, and many have expressed appreciation for having these options available.

Room 3, which the Friends rarely used during past sales, is now regularly open and dedicated solely to Vintage books. This room has gained an enthusiastic following, with most featured books having been written prior to 1960, and many from the early 20th and late 19th centuries. Items span a wide variety of genres and topics, and are fun to peruse and purchase.

And then there is the dedicated spacious Friends’ Book Nook, which is always full of beautiful fiction and nonfiction books. In addition, the Friends utilize the surrounding areas and hallways during sales to showcase special monthly features in many different subjects, such as crafting, British mysteries, and art books.

Make sure to check out the entire lower level when you shop our next sale. You never know what you’ll discover!