



Friends of the Youngstown Free Library Quarterly Newsletter

Looking Forward. . .

**Spring Book Sale
5/4 to 5/6 2023**



**YBPA 13th Annual
Street Dance &
Car Show
June 22, 2023
7pm - 11pm**



**Thank you to ALL our
Fund Drive Donors!**



Letter from the FOYL President

Hello, Friends! Spring is upon us - bringing sunshine, longer days, and a new Friends of the Library President, yours truly, Jodee Riordan.

I am delighted to return to the Friends, and excited to lead this amazing group in support of our Library. Welcome also to new board members Maggie Steyn, Chris Schwartz, Maureen Gambino, and Janice Mariani. Thank you to our outgoing board members, especially President Wendy Guild for her leadership and creativity. Wendy will be staying on our executive board as our Secretary, joined by Elaine Barbiero and Colleen Summerville as co-Vice Presidents, and Maggie Steyn as Treasurer. Bill Siddall, now a member of the Library Board of Directors, will serve as their liaison to the Friends.

Spring is a time of renewal, and we encourage you to take this opportunity to renew your membership in the Friends of the Library. Your membership and support are vital to our Library. The annual membership drive is on, and membership invitations and renewal letters are also out in the mail. Renewing your membership, or joining for the first time, is as easy as returning your renewal. You may also visit the Youngstown Free Library website, go to the Friends page and [JOIN THE FRIENDS](#) online.

Another sure sign of Spring is the upcoming Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale. Watch for signs to pop up in yards throughout the village, and consider donating your gently loved books in advance of the sale. This year, the Book Sale takes place Thursday, May 4 through Saturday, May 6. As a member of the Friends, you are invited to the exclusive Members Night on Thursday evening, a private night to shop in advance of the public (with music, wine and fancy snacks). You can also renew your membership or join at the door.

Your Friends of the Library are everywhere this Spring: From the recent 5K in collaboration with the Stone Jug and the Chili Cook Off at Bandana's, the Youngstown St. Patrick's Day Parade, and the YBPA Street Dance in June, you have Friends in all the fun places! Watch for details on the upcoming annual Dessert in the Stacks and announcements of summer events. There are so many delightful ways to be involved with the Library community.

Thank you for being a Friend!

Warmly,
Jodee Riordan

Financial Report

Our cash balance as of Feb. 13 is \$24,018, of which \$5,969 are Unrestricted Operating Funds.

The year to year trends on page 6 of the spreadsheet show that our chili bowl this past Sunday at Bandanas was the most financially successful ever. We sold \$670 in tasting tickets and \$315 in 50/50 draw tickets. We paid out \$100 as the 50/50 prize.

Bill Siddall
716-745-3081 home
716-550-1470 cell

NOTE: Please welcome Maggie Steyn as our incoming Treasurer, and view her report 6/2023!

5K Run for Our Library - #Jug4Run

Thank you to all who participated, and made the day a great success!



Meet Your Friends:

Each Season we feature a "Friend" of the Library, and we are asking YOU to nominate someone for us to feature in our next FOYL Newsletter. Please send your nomination by text to Colleen Summerville at 716-531-6701 We appreciate your help! 😊

The Youngstown Free Library Board of Trustees is seeking 1 to 3 new members. The Board of Trustees is the administrative faction of the Library. Some of the duties of the board include approving the annual budget, reviewing and revising bylaws and policies, as well as securing funding. The board meets monthly except for August and December and the meetings are open to public attendance.

Information about the Board of Trustees and an application are available on the Library website www.youngstownfreelibrary.org. Look under the "About Us" tab for Board of Trustees. If interested, return an application to Library or reach out to Barbara Costello at 716-523-3597.

Chili Cook-Off February 12, 2023

What a day, and the weather was amazing! Thank you to everyone who helped make this day a success, especially Rob & Melissa Kudel. We raised funds, brought smiles, and had great tasting chili!

Here are the winners:

1st Place - Derek Martin with "Red-Headed Step Chili"

2nd Place - Colleen Summerville with "Andouille Chili" AND Mary Clinch with "Texas Chocolate"

3rd Place - Mary Armstrong with "That's Good Chili" AND Sonora Miller with "Adobe Chili"



A note from Board of Trustees President Karran Swayze

I would like to congratulate those readers who took part in the Winter Reading Challenge which ran from mid-December until mid-January. Reading is a skill like writing or riding a bike, and the more you practice the better it becomes. I would also like to remind patrons that the Library is open on Saturdays from 10 until 2. While I know that Saturdays can sometimes be super busy, this is an opportunity for those who are unable to make use of the Library during the week.

New materials are being processed as they come in. Check out the bookshelves in front of the checkout desk for the latest books in all categories. If you find materials that we do not have in our collection, ask the staff. We may be able to get it for you through the NIOGA system, interlibrary loan, or if it fits with our collection criteria, put it on our to be purchased list.

Plans are underway for the Summer Reading Challenge. Watch for the announcement.

Next, I would like to thank those who have supported the Youngstown Free Library's 2022 Annual Drive. Without this vital support, we would not be able to offer the services that we do from hours the Library is open, to staff, to programs and new materials. While our annual drive kicks off in November, we accept contributions throughout the year. The Village of Youngstown, the Town of Porter and the County of Niagara do support the Library with funding; this only accounts for about 70% of our operating budget. The remainder comes from those who generously support the Library through the annual Drive. Thank you for your generosity.

I would like to urge neighbors, friends and patrons to support the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library Annual Drive. This organization provides the Library with funds for new materials such as newspaper and magazine subscriptions, books, music and videos. It also helps with special projects during the year. AND it supports the Ruby Carey Memorial Scholarship which recognizes a graduating senior in the 14174 postal code for scholarship, involvement in extracurricular activities and community services helping others. A plaque recognizing the previous awardees is in the Library. If you are a graduating senior, ask staff about an application or check out our website:www.youngstownfreelibrary.org.

The Library is a wonderful space for reading, yes. But also for research, computer use and the various book clubs the Library hosts during each month. Check us out.

Karran Swayze
Youngstown Free Library
Board of Trustees

2022-2023 Library Fund Drive

The Board of Trustees would like to say a huge Thank You to all of this season's Fund Drive Donors who rose to the challenge and yet again have been even more generous than in previous years. By the end of 2022, we had received donations more than matching the previous year (over \$31,000), and in 2023, we have already logged well over \$8,000!

We would like to recognize those donors listed below (~ 200 names) as well as an additional 30 donors who would prefer to remain anonymous. (*...And apologies if your donation may have "crossed in the mail" with the publication of this newsletter and you don't see your name listed. Of course, a big Thank You is owing to you too!*)

As mentioned in the President's Fund Drive letter, unlike many other libraries in the area, none of our revenue is generated as a result of your paying your local town or school taxes. Very generous, but discretionary funding is provided by the Town of Porter (\$70,000), the Village of Youngstown (\$1,000) and Niagara County (over \$5,500) and we are, of course, very grateful. But your support, through your donations to the Fund Drive, accounts this year for over 20% of our budget and allows the Library to purchase the core items that make our Library (alongside our invaluable staff of course!) - digital services, books and periodicals and everything necessary to run the many, many programs which the Library provides free of charge.



All other funding has to come from gifts, fund-raising events, and especially our partners 'The Friends of Youngstown Free Library'. So your contributions are **vital** to the Library's continued financial health. It is **never** too late to send in your donation or go online to give. Click: youngstownfreelibrary.org and click on the "Donate to the Library" button (or use the QR code on the left) and Thank You again!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT:

Sandra & OC Allen, Jr
Kathy Amoretti
George Anderson
Dr. & Mrs J. C. Andres
Glenn Arthurs
Allan & Mary Ellen Aureli
Jeff & Gloria Baker
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Vincent & Peggy Dowell

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Stan & Pat Gruber
Rev. Bob & Kate Hagel and Family
Linda & Charles Hageman
Margaret-Ann Hanson
Martha Haseley
Kyle & Katie Heath
Scott & Melissa Heidt
Susan Geissler & Peter Henderson
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Jill & Phil Hessinger
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Lynne Landon
Donald & Suzanne Larrabee
William & Judith Leardini
Barbara Leonetti
Robert & Eleanor Lindsay
Jillian Long
Gloria Loraine
Stephen & Karen Lyle
Grethe Mackiewicz
Judith & Will Maggs
Main St. Pizzeria
Leo & Martha Mardirosian
David & Janice Mariani
Juan & Molly Marietta
Maisie Martinik
Sue Martinez
Jan Mathews
Paul & Debra Matiasz
Wendy McCarley
Patricia McClemon
Mary Mielke
Faith Koch & Philip Miller
Tim Cramb & Mary Miller
Patricia Minner
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Lauren & Nick Morse
Geraldine Mowers
Judith Muoio
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Mark Nicklas
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Janice O'Keefe
Ray & Garda O'Keefe
Kevin & Rhonda O'Shea
Patti & Paul Oleson
Mary Ann Oliver
Nancy & Paul Orsi
Victoria Orsi
Linda & Jaime Pabilonia
Dorothy Packman

Bruce Paeplow & Darcy Tower-
Paeplow
St Peter & St Bernard Parish Church
Tom & Joan Patrick
Helene Pavlock
Judy Pera
Jessica & Sophia Perina-Fox
John & Darlene Placek
Nancy & James Poole
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Carla & Paul Siwinski
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Don & Barb Smyton
Bruce & Jill Spira
Joan & George Spira
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Derek & Michelle Wesley
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Christine White-Schemel
Kim & Jim Winning
Arthur & Dolores Winslow
Eugene Wojcinski
Mary Ann Yadon
Youngstown Vol. Fire Co
Ann & Will Ziegler
John & Kathleen Ziemer
Gregory Benning
Thomas & Marie Bindeman
Janet Chikofsky
Cheri Clark
Bill & Janet Collesano
Heidi Dent
William & Judith Leardini
Stephen & Karen Lyle
Main St. Pizzeria
Helen Murray
Janice O'Keefe
Linda & Jaime Pabilonia
Bruce & Jill Spira
Ben & Diane Wells



WE
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YOU!

Welcome to our New Library Clerks!

Perhaps you've noticed some new faces at the Front Desk of the Library since January? We've welcomed two new library clerks to the team at the Youngstown Free Library: Lois and Mike. Their friendliness and helpfulness have helped them fit right in with our team of dynamite library clerks, Chris and Megan. I'll let them introduce themselves below, and I hope you get the chance to meet them in person soon!
~Sonora, Library Director



Lois K.

"I am Lois Kaminski, recently hired as a library clerk, and I am loving it!

The patrons I have met are truly special and reflect the genuine kindness of this community.

As a registered nurse for 35 years, my passion was community and public health. I also taught at NCCC, preparing student nurses for the many facets of caring for those in their homes, schools, and places of work. My greatest reward as a nurse was the work I performed and the people I cared for in Niagara Hospice.

Also, as a child, I remember trips to the library on the East Side of Buffalo. I still remember my favorite book, *A Nickel for Alice*, and the lovely little library on Fillmore Avenue.

As an adult, my favorite reads are historical fiction, *New York* by Edward Rutherford being at the top of the list. Some of my favorite authors are Ken Follett, Marie Benedict, Jeffrey Archer, and Sandra Brown, amongst many others. I'm looking forward to meeting you at the Youngstown Free Library!"

Mike B.

"Mike is one of the new members of the library staff. An avid fantasy reader, he counts Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman among his favorite authors. When not in the stacks, you might find him on the Niagara River in a kayak, or cooking duck confit in the kitchen. Romance novels may or may not be his favorite genre of reading, but he is happy to help everyone find their next great read at the Youngstown Free Library!"



O'Riordan St. Patrick's Day
Parade on Saturday
March 18th, 2023
Youngstown, New York



New Artist Featured in the Magazine Room

Heidi Lauger is a full-time wife, mother, and teacher/librarian and part-time photographer residing in Youngstown. She spends any available free time photographing beautiful places around town. Much of her extended family lives in other places in the Great Lakes Region (Michigan, Minnesota) and several times a year she gets the opportunity to take photos in these beautiful places as well. Heidi does some family/portrait photography but her favorite thing to do is explore and find unique, beautiful landscapes. She also sells landscape photo greeting cards. More photos, as well as greeting cards, can be viewed in galleries on her website:

<https://www.hslphotos.com/>

You can borrow Internet hotspots from the Youngstown Free Library

TAKE THE INTERNET HOME WITH YOU!



Check out an Internet hotspot to use wherever and whenever you need Internet!

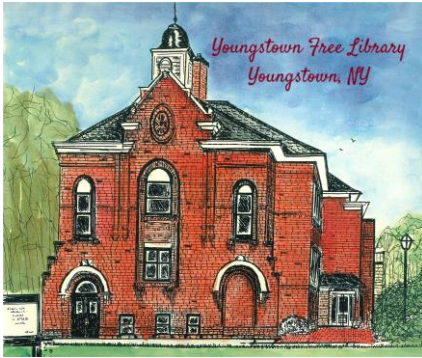
Hotspots are great for:

- avoiding data charges
- expanding Internet access
- camping and traveling

Pick up a hotspot for a 2 week checkout at the Youngstown Free Library

Ways to support the Library

- Support the Library and the Friends of the Library with a donation. Online donations can be made here:
Library - <https://tinyurl.com/mrswss7>
Friends - <https://tinyurl.com/yc6htnsy>
- Donate can & bottle redemptions at Lewiston Redemption: 820 Seneca St. Specify Youngstown Free Library at off.
- Shop using [AmazonSmile: You shop. Amazon gives.](#) .5% of your total purchase is donated to the Library.
- Plan for the Youngstown Free Library Foundation in your will. The Library's Foundation is managed by the Buffalo Community Foundation



We Are Here to Serve You!!!

Library Contact Information

Librarian - Sonora Miller

Phone: (716) 745-3555

Fax: (716) 745-7122

Email: yfl@nioga.org

Website:

youngstownfreelibrary.org

Library Hours

Monday & Wednesday

2:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday

9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Thursday

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Inform Engage
Educate Entertain

2022 Friends of the Library

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Jodee Riordan, President

Elaine Barbiero, Co Vice President

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(Co Vice President & Newsletter Editor)

Friends Board Meetings

7 p.m., third Wednesday of every month

Friends email: foylboard@gmail.com

2022 Board of Trustees

Karran Swayze, President

Bill Siddall, Vice-President

Dave Smith, Treasurer

Mary Clinch, Recording Secretary

Barbara Costello, Corresponding Secretary

David Brooks, Historian

Trustee Board Meetings

7 p.m., fourth Monday of every month,

The public is welcome to attend.

If you are interested in serving on the

Board of Trustees, please let us know!

Friends of The Youngstown Library