FRIENDS

OF THE

YOUNGSTOWN FREE LIBRARY OUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Letter from the FOYL President

Hello to all Friends of the Library;

Summer is in full swing and so are your Friends of the Youngstown Free Library.

We had another successful Spring Book Sale raising over \$4,000.00 with memberships, book sales, a 50/50 and donations. Thank you for your generous support.

We have two new exciting fundraising events this summer. First, we are having a Garage Sale July 19th and 20th at the Village Center, AKA the Red Brick School House. Our second new event is a BBQ/Boil sponsored by Bandanas. There will be music, food the kids and more.

Another fund raiser, sponsored by the YPBA, is the first annual Golf Tournament on Monday September 15th at the Niagara Frontier Golf Course. Proceeds will go the Youngstown Free Library this year and the YPBA.

Returning events this year:

- ➤ Bake Sale at Falkner Park on August 22nd for the Friday night Concerts.
- ➤ Walking in the Youngstown Labor Day Parade, September 1.
- ➤ The Harvest Tea at the Presbyterian Church, October 4.
- > Fall Book Sale November 6-8, Red Brick Schoolhouse gym.

For the youth of our area, Sonora and her staff have put together endless summer activities to keep the kiddos busy and engaged. The theme is "Color Our World." Please go to the library website: Youngstown Free Library, to view all that is happening, and it is ALOT!!! Sonora is always looking for volunteers to help with these programs, so if you have a few extra hours this summer please stop in the library and see how you can be instrumental in shaping children's lives in our community.

You can read more about the details of all of these events in the newsletter body.

As always, we are so grateful for our library community and how you continue to show up in forces to support our free library. The fundraising events would also not be as successful without all our volunteers. If you are not familiar with all the Youngstown Library has to offer, please stop in and get to know our tireless Library Director and her incredibly helpful staff. If you are interested in joining our Friends board or Trustees board, please let any of us know and we will be happy provide you with more info. As always, the public is invited to attend any of our meetings to learn more.

Thank you,

Kim Winning

President for the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library

Thank you!

Since our last newsletter, the Friends have been busy raising awareness and support for our amazing Youngstown Free Library.



Friends board member Jill and her team put on another successful Spring Book Sale May 1-3. Yes, despite the cool temperatures, it was actually Spring. Thanks to all who came to browse and buy books, we raised over \$4,000.

On May 17 former Friends board member Colleen Summerville held her annual Clothing Exchange, which raises money for various charities. This year Colleen Summerville's Clothing Exchange raised \$250 for the Youngstown Free Library's Digital Library. Thank you to Colleen and all who participated!





Youngstown Business & Professional Association's Summer Street Dance was held on June 19th this year and The Friends were there. Despite the chilly weather, freeze pops, books and kazoos were very popular. Sonora distributed ALL of her summer reading brochures and we also gave away quite a few fliers for the Garage Sale and BBQ & Boil. Over \$100 was raised in donations. Thank you to all who visited The Friends table and to those who donated. We appreciate you!

Notes from the Board of Trustees

The Ruby Carey Memorial Scholarship

The Ruby Carey Memorial Scholarship was first awarded in 1989. Ruby Carey, in whose memory the scholarship was named, was a lifelong giver, a donor, someone who generously contributed her time and abilities to her church, many civic organizations, and her community. Because she also loved and respected books, Ruby helped organize the Youngstown Free Library in 1949, serving as a member of the staff for many years following the opening of the one-room library in the Village Office.

The scholarship is designed to help a deserving student purchase textbooks in their pursuit of higher education. The Board of Trustees of the Youngstown Free Library, and the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library are proud and honored to award this scholarship in her name on an annual basis.

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to award the 2025 Ruby Carey Memorial Scholarship to Grace Pasquantino.

Grace has been active in the music and theater programs at Lewiston-Porter throughout her high school years. She has been involved in several clubs at Lewiston-Porter including Traditions Club, Drama Club and Key Club. She participated in the Youngstown Yacht Club Jr. Sailing Program in July of 2020, became an assistant coach in 2023 and is currently on the Lewiston-Porter Sailing Club Team. She has a job as babysitter for a local family, works as a dishwasher in a local restaurant, and is the proud owner of Grace's Jewel Shop in Youngstown where she makes quality jewelry including special order items. Grace is graduating from Lewiston-Porter in the top third of her class.

In her essay on <u>How libraries have contributed to your life</u>, Grace identifies a goal of establishing her own theater company. At that time, she went to the Youngstown Library looking for materials. She writes, "that though the selection for theater was very small, and the librarian seemed rather apologetic when he could not find what I was looking for, he helped far more than he could have known. I walked away with some classics and a little book on directing. If I had walked away with nothing, I would have done nothing. The library has given me the resources and materials I need to become successful in my goals and career." She plans on attending American University in Washington D.C. and majoring in business. With these skills and her love of theater, she hopes to achieve her goal.

Congratulations Grace and great success in the future. Or as the saying goes in theater, "Break a leg."

Karran Swayze Ruby Carey Scholarship Committee Board of Trustees Youngstown Free Library



SAVE

THE





Hosted by the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library

Red Brick Building Gym 240 Lockport Street, Youngstown

Saturday, July 19 from 9:00 – 6:00 Sunday, July 20 from 9:00 – 3:00 \$5 Bag Sale All Day Sunday



Summer/Fall 2025





 ${\it All proceeds from the sale benefit the Friends of the Youngstown Free\ Library}$

Donations gratefully accepted.

Please drop off your gently-used clothing, household items, toys, tools and small appliances etc.

(save your books for our November Book Sale)

at the Red Brick Building Gym, 240 Lockport Road, Youngstown
on Thursday July 17, 4:00-8:00 and Friday July 18, Noon-8:00

* For details about donating, call Ron at (716) 245-1872, email us at foylboard@gmail.com or ask at the Library

any unwanted spectacles, eye glasses or hearing aids for the Lions.

All monetary donations will benefit the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library. Hope to see you there.

We are excited to be reviving the "Community Garage Sale" which the Friends last staged in 2018.

We are asking for your no-longer cherished items to be brought for donation to the Gym in the Red Brick Building on 240 Lockport Street on Thursday July 17th and Friday July 18th. Unfortunately, we can't accept any large household items such as washing machines or sofas or TVs or electronics (they get outdated so quickly).

If you would like to donate some things but are unable to get to the Gym for any reason, we may be able to arrange a pick-up. Please call Ron at (716) 245-1872 for information. (For large items, please consider taking a photo and we can post the photo at the Gym for people to view. Again Ron is the contact guy!)

We look forward to seeing you again on Saturday or Sunday July 19, 20 to then browse our Sale and find some bargains! Hotdogs will be provided by the Lions, there will be a small bake sale as well as a 50/50.

Consider also bringing your bottles and cans for recycling and

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ТПЕ



Friday, August 22nd: Friday Night Concert in the Park Series-The Friends will have a cookie stand at the concert, so come along and get some sweet treats while you listen to Blue Grass music presented by Rick Schaeffer.



Melissa and Rob Kudel are very generously hosting a BBQ & Boil Cajun-styled evening to benefit the Friends at Bandana's on Thursday, August 28th in their beautiful outdoor event-space.

A varied buffet-styled menu includes a cajun seafood boil and BBQ chicken, as well as Rob's famous "Pork & More" and multiple sides. Tickets are \$40 for Adults and \$12 for Kids under 12. (Kids' menu includes Mac n' Cheese, chicken fingers and fries.)

A background of New Orleans jazz will be provided by "Brass Chance"!

Tickets are now on sale at the Library and Bandana's. Seating will be limited so get yours early!



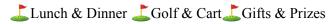
SAVE

THE





Sept 15 the Youngstown Business & Professional Association is holding their First Annual Golf Tournament, benefiting YPBA and the library. \$150entry fee includes:







The Friends are once again co-hosting this elegant afternoon tea in the lovely setting of the Youngstown Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall.

So please save the date and watch out for fliers and check social media for more information and ticket sales. (Again, tickets will be limited to 160 and last year we sold-out.)



SAVE





BOOK SALE

Youngstown Village Center Gym 240 Lockport Street

Friday, Nov. 7: 9:30 - 6 Saturday, Nov. 8: 9:30 - 3

Bag sale all day Saturday

Friends Members' Night: Thursday, Nov. 6: 5 - 8

Join at the door or in advance here:

Do you have books to donate? We are currently low on storage space, so please save your donations until November 3 - 5, when you can drop them off at the Red Brick Gym between 10 - 3 and 6 - 8 PM.

Do you have books to drop off for the Fall Book Sale?

Do you have books to donate to the Friends of the Library? There is no more storage space available at the Library, so please save your donations until the beginning of November.

You can drop off your donations to the Red Brick Gym (next to the Youngstown Free Library):

Monday, November 3 from 10 AM - 3 PM and 6 PM - 8

Tuesday, November 4 from 10 AM - 3 PM and 6 PM - 8 PM

Wednesday, November 5 from 10 AM - 3 PM and 6 PM - 8 PM

Please note, we cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, VHS tapes, and any materials with mold issues.

Notes from the Library Director

Summer Programs for Children and Teens

FOR AGES 2-5:

Toddler & Preschool Storytime is held on Wednesdays from 10:30-11 AM in Falkner Park. Join Miss S. for stories and songs perfect for your toddlers and preschoolers. It will be an active romp of reading, singing and learning. When storytime is finished, the splashpad turns on!

- Wednesday, July 2 from 10:30-11 AM
- Wednesday, July 9 from 10:30-11 AM
- Wednesday, July 16 from 10:30-11 AM
- Wednesday, July 23 from 10:30-11 AM
- Wednesday, July 30 from 10:30-11 AM
- Wednesday, August 6 from 10:30-11 AM

FOR AGES 4-8:

Art Adventurers is held on Wednesdays from 1-1:45 PM in Falkner Park. Let's get messy and make art! Every week, we'll enjoy the process of making art--from bubble painting to flower smashing, this will be an active and playful program. After we finish, we'll have a frozen treat for everyone!

- Wednesday, July 2 from 1-1:45 PM
- Wednesday, July 9 from 1-1:45 PM
- Wednesday, July 16 from 1-1:45 PM
- Wednesday, July 23 from 1-1:45 PM
- Wednesday, July 30 from 1-1:45 PM
- Wednesday, August 6 from 1-1:45 PM

FOR AGES 5-10:

Take & Make Craft Kits are available for pick-up at the Library every Monday starting at 2 PM. There will be 20 kits released every week--first come, first served.

- Monday, June 30
- Monday, July 7
- Monday, July 14
- Monday, July 21
- Monday, July 28
- Monday, August 4

Summer Programs for Children and Teens (continued)

FOR AGES 6-16:

Dungeons & Dragons Arts & Crafts Edition is a weekly series held on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30-6 PM at the Library. Using the D & D 5th edition, you'll be crafting your own characters, equipment, villains, dungeons, and so much more! Pre-registration for this series is not required, but we'd love to know if you plan to come to make sure we have enough art supplies. Parents are welcome.

- Wednesday, July 2 from 4:30-6 PM
- Wednesday, July 9 from 4:30-6 PM
- Wednesday, July 16 from 4:30-6 PM
- Wednesday, July 23 from 4:30-6 PM
- Wednesday, July 30 from 4:30-6 PM
- Wednesday, August 6 from 4:30-6 PM

FOR AGES 7-12:

Make Your Own Book is a weekly series held on Tuesday afternoons from 4-5:30 PM at the Library. Every week, we'll tackle an element of creating a book. By the end of this 4-week series, you'll have written & illustrated your own book! Then we'll have a book presentation reception on Saturday, August 9 from 11 AM-1 PM. Pre-registration for this series is not required, but we'd love to know if you plan to come to make sure we have enough supplies on hand.

- Tuesday, July 15 from 4-5:30 PM
- Tuesday, July 22 from 4-5:30 PM
- Tuesday, July 29 from 4-5:30 PM
- Tuesday, August 5 from 4-5:30 PM

FOR AGES 10+:

Take & Make Teen Craft Kits are available for pick-up at the Library every other Monday starting at 2 PM. There will be 15-20 kits released every other week--first come, first served.

- Monday, July 7
- Monday, July 21
- Monday, August 4

Summer Programs for Children and Teens (continued)

FOR ALL AGES:

Tiny Art Show kits will be available for pick-up at the Library starting June 30. Turn your creativity loose! Return your finished artwork by July 30 to have it included in the Library's Tiny Art Show in August. Then we'll have an art show reception on Saturday, August 9 from 11 AM-1 PM.

Town of Porter Rec Dept is held on Tuesday mornings in July from 10-11 AM at the Youngstown Free Library.

- Tuesday, July 1 from 10-11 AM
- Tuesday, July 8 from 10-11 AM
- Tuesday, July 15 from 10-11 AM
- Tuesday, July 22 from 10-11 AM
- Tuesday, July 29 from 10-11 AM

Storywalk in the Park is held on Fridays from 2 PM to 8:30 PM (when the weekly concerts end) in Falkner Park. Each StoryWalk integrates a children's picture book into stops along a walking path. Families can walk...and read!

- Friday, July 4 from 2-8:30 PM
- Friday, July 11 from 2-8:30 PM
- Friday, July 18 from 2-8:30 PM
- Friday, July 25 from 2-8:30 PM
- Friday, August 1 from 2-8:30 PM
- Friday, August 8 from 2-8:30 PM

Explore our newest Scavenger Hunt in the Children's Room--find the artists and their artwork!

Programs for Adults

Tech Help with Sonora and Adam is a one-on-one appointment program, held at the Lewiston Senior Center, to answer your questions about your cell phones, tablets, and laptop computers.

- Tuesday, August 5 from 1:30-3 PM
- Tuesday, September 2 from 1:30-3 PM
- Tuesday, October 7 from 1:30-3 PM
- Tuesday, November 4from 1:30-3 PM
- Tuesday, December 2 from 1:30-3 PM

Please call Melinda at the Senior Center to sign up for a half-hour slot: 716-754-2071

Evening Book Club meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 PM at the Youngstown Free Library, and we offer a simultaneous Zoom option for those who would like to attend the meetings virtually. Here's what we'll be reading and discussing this year:

- Wednesday, August 13 at 7 PM: Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead
- Wednesday, September 10 at 7 PM: Life After Life by Kate Atkinson
- Wednesday, October 8 at 7 PM: author study of Louise Erdrich
- Wednesday, November 12 at 7 PM: Sabrina by Nick Drnaso
- Wednesday, December 10 at 7 PM: Small Things Like These by Claire Keegan

Afternoon Book Club meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 1:30 PM at the Lewiston Senior Center. Here's what we'll be reading and discussing this year:

- Tuesday, August 19 at 1:30 PM: The First Ladies by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray
- Tuesday, September 16 at 1:30 PM: *The Stranger in the Woods* by Michael Finkel
- Tuesday, October 21 at 1:30 PM: *Tell Me Everything* by Elizabeth Strout
- Tuesday, November 18 at 1:30 PM: *James* by Percival Everett
- Tuesday, December 16 at 1:30 PM: This Time Tomorrow by Emma Straub

Non-Fiction Book Club meets virtually over Zoom every other month, usually on a Monday at 1:30 PM. Here's what we'll be reading and discussing for the August meeting:

• Monday, August 11 at 1:30 PM: Guns, Germs, and Steel by Jared Diamond



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE:



READ TO WIN PRIZES! There are 3 ways to win prizes while reading 20 minutes a day this summer. We CHALLENGE YOU to participate in one or ALL of these "COLOR OUR WORLD" themed reading adventures:

- 1. Complete one of our Local Library Summer Reading Programs- prizes awarded by local library
- 2. Complete Assemblyman Morinello's Reading Challenge—scan QR code to the right to register
- certificates awarded in the fall



3. Post a pic of ANY of your summer reading adventures to our Lew-Port Elementary Summer Reading Padlet!
-post pictures of you reading, checking out books at one of our local libraries, or attending one of the local library
events between June 27th and September 6th. Post to Padlet as often as you visit to win prizes awarded in school the
2nd week back in September. QR code is below or look for our posters at our local libraries.

WE CHALLENGE EACH OF OUR STUDENTS TO READ 20 MINUTES DAILY

Call local libraries to confirm events and register if required

Lewiston Public Library:

#716-754-4720 Mon & Tues 10am-8pm Wed & Thurs 10am-5pm Fri 12pm-5pm Sat & Sun Closed

Youngstown Free Library:

#716-745-3555 Mon & Wed 2pm - 8:30pm Tues 9:30am- 8:30pm Thurs 2pm-6pm Fri & Sat 10am-2pm Sun Closed

Ransomville Free Library:

#716- 791-4073 Mon & Wed 2pm-7pm Tues & Thurs 10am-7pm Fri, Sat, & Sun Closed

AUGUST

LEW-PORT ELEMENTARY SUMMER READING PADLET



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
28 2:00–8:30 Take & Make Craft Kit Pick-Up Ages 5-10 8:00–7:00 Messy Art Family Event	29 10:00-11:00 Town of Porter Story Hour All Ages in Gym 10:30-11:00 Toddler Time 18 mo-3y 1:00-2:15° Reading	30 10:30-11:00 Little Sprouts Birth-16 mo 10:30-11:00 Falkner Park Storytime Ages 2-5 1:00-1:30 Falkner Park	31 11:00-12:00 Multi- Age Storytime All Ages	1 12:30-1:30 Let's Get Creative Family Event 2:00-8:30 Story Walks Falkner Park All Ages	2/3
8	Adventures: Challenge Island 4:00-5:30 Make Your Own Book Ages 7-12	Art Adventurers Ages 4-8 4:30-6:00 D&D Arts & Crafts Edition Ages 6- 16 Parents Welcome * All-Ages Tiny Art Show Canvases Due	2000	*	
4	5	6	7	8	9/10
2:00-8:30 Take & Make Craft Kit Pick-Up Ages 5-10 2:00-8:30 Take & Make Teen Craft Kit Pick-Up Ages 10+ 6:00-7:00 Art with Miss Val Family Event	10:30-11:00 Toddler Time 16 mo-3y 1:00-2:15° Reading Adventures: Color Our World With a Surprise 4:00-5:30 Make Your Own Book Ages 7-12	10:30-11:00 Little Sprouts Birth-16 mo 10:30-11:00 Falkner Park Storytime Ages 2-5 1:00-1:30 Falkner Park Art Adventurers Ages 4-8	11:00-12:00 Multi- Age Storytime All Ages	12:30-1:30 Let's Get Creative Family Event 2:00-8:30 Story Walks Falkner Park All Ages	11:00-1:00 Saturday 8/9 All-Ages Tiny Art Show Reception & Book Presentation
		4:30–6:00 D&D Arts & Crafts Edition Ages 6– 16 Parents Welcome			E
11	12	13	14	15	16/17
6:00–6:30* Sensory Storytime & Mix It Up by Tullet All Ages	10:30-11:00 Toddler Time 16 mo-3y 6:00-7:00 Make a Sticker Book/ Swap Family Event	10:30-11:00 Little Sprouts Birth-16 mo	11:00-12:00 Multi- Age Storytime All Ages	12:30-1:30 Let's Get Creative Family Event	00
18 6:00-6:30 Kid's Yoga 7:30 All Raffle Tickets & Reading Logs Due	19	20	21 11:00-12:00 Multi- Age Storytime All Ages (Additional Storytime on 8/28) 5:00 Freddy's Foam Party & End of Summer Reading Family Event	to Si Lew-Pe	chance CAN the ort Padlet ode for izes!

Did you know?

Benefit your favorite charity and save Tax!

Were you born before 1954 and do you have an IRA or a 401(k) savings account? If so, you probably certainly know that you have to take your RMD - "Required Minimum Distribution"- before December 31st 2025? BUT did you know that by making a gift to your favorite charity or charities directly from your IRA Account <u>BEFORE</u> you draw the balance of your RMD, you can <u>avoid paying tax</u> on that part of the withdrawal?

Is that music to your ears?



This is *very simple* to set up.

Just ask your Financial Advisor, Financial Institution or even your Tax preparer for advice on how to go about doing this, or access your online IRA account and find out how your IRA Custodian allows you to make a gift to your favorite charities. (This is called a "QCD" or Qualified Charitable Distribution.) Sometimes the Financial Institution/IRA Custodian will send the monies to your charity on your behalf, or they may mail you a check made payable to your charity, for you to send.

The Youngstown Free Library is a 501(c)3.

Our EIN is: 16-0845533

The Friends of the Youngstown Free Library organization is also a qualifying 501(c)3.

Our EIN is: 16-1424368

Friends' Membership

This year's membership campaign is still open if you have not yet renewed your membership. Remember, being a member allows you first look on the Thursday evening of the Book Sales, with beverages and refreshments, as well as a copy of this newsletter.

So far, we have over 240 members for 2025, some 30+ more than this time last year. Membership dues and donations have also reached well over \$14,000 – a record – about \$5,000 more than in 2024.

Please check with your neighbors and friends to see if they are members, and thank you for your continued support of the Friends.

Other ways to support the library

Support the Library and the Friends of the Library with a donation

Online donations can be made here:

https://donorbox.org/annual-fund-drive-for-2025 https://donorbox.org/friends-membership-drive-2025



Donate your can & bottle redemptions



Lewiston Redemption, 820 Seneca St. Please specify the Library when dropping off

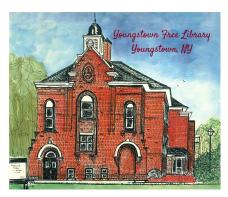
Plan for the Youngstown Free Library Foundation in your will.

The Youngstown Free Library Foundation is responsibly managed by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. You can contact the CFGB or see our website (https://youngstownfreelibrary.org/legacy-gifts.html) for more information on how to include the Youngstown Free Library in your will



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR GENEROSITY

Friends of The Youngstown Library



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.

2024 Board of Trustees

Karran Swayze, President
David Brooks, Vice-President
Dave Smith, Treasurer
Mary Clinch, Recording Secretary
Shawn D'Luhy, Corresponding Secretary
Dr. Nancy Askins
Peter Phohl

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!

Library Contact Information

Library Director - Sonora Miller

Phone: (716) 745-3555 Fax: (716) 745-7122

Email: yfl@nioga.org

Website: youngstownfreelibrary.org

We Are Here to Serve You!!!

2025 Friends of the Library Board of Directors

Kim Winning, President
Christine Schwartz, Vice President
Maggie Steyn, Treasurer
Dave Smith, Liaison to the Library Board

Maureen Gambino Ron & Toni-Marie Peters

Janice Mariani

Seth Phillips

Jill Mazur

Colleen Stortecky

Michelle Wesley (Newsletter Editor)

Friends Board Meetings

7 p.m., third Wednesday of every month

