



# Friends of the Youngstown Free Library Quarterly Newsletter

Looking Forward. . .

**JULY 20**  
**Children's Activities**



**Summerfest**  
*Porter on the Lake*  
 Dietz Rd, Youngstown  
 Saturday, July 20, 2024  
 3:00 to 10:00 p.m.

**AUGUST 9**  
**Bake Sale**



**6:30-8:30  
P.M.**

**FALKNER PARK  
CONCERT SERIES**

July 5, The Mackenzie Highlanders  
 July 12, 2nd Time Around  
 July 19, Custode & Parisi  
 July 26, The Jerry Andres Band  
 August 2, Joe and the Schmoes  
 August 9, Emerald Isle  
 August 16, The Taverners  
 August 23, Waterstreet Quartet

Main Street, Youngstown, NY

## Letter from the FOYL President

Hello to all Friends:

The warm summer days are upon us and as always there are so many educational and social choices to attend. The FOYL have been busy putting together future events that we hope you we will attend:

- Saturday July 20: Children's activities at Summerfest
- Friday August 9: Bake Sale at Falkner Park Concert Series
- Monday Sept 2: Labor Day Parade

Be on the lookout for details about an exciting new addition this fall, Jubilee Tea, Oct @ 1pm at the Youngstown Presbyterian church. As always, stay tuned for any additional events.

THANK YOU:

Our Spring Book Sale was one of the biggest sales we have sponsored. Thank all the members of the FOYL and community volunteers. There is a lot of work in organizing and sorting that is done prior to the sale. The event would not be as successful without all their support. Many thanks to chairperson and board member, Jill Mazur, for her exhausting efforts to schedule all the volunteers.

75th ANNIVERSARY:

This November the Youngstown Free Library will be celebrating 75 years of providing learning and educational resources to our Village. Plans are coming together for this celebration and will be made public soon.

SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM:

Please visit the Youngstown Free Library Website to view the Summer Reading Calendar for July and August. There are activities for all ages. Also find resources on the website for adults, with access to Hoopla, a family Ft. Niagara Pass and other cool things our Library can offer.

MEMBERSHIP:

We continue to encourage our community to support this valuable resource. There is information on the Library website about becoming a new member and if you have time to volunteer at any of our fundraising events, we appreciate your support.

# Financial Report

<b><u>Revenue:</u></b>	
Friends' Memberships	\$793.17
Bandana's for Books Event - June 13th	\$0.00
Street Dance - June 30th - Donations	\$75.00
Interest (May m/e)	\$97.06
<b><u>Total Revenue:</u></b>	<b><u>\$965.23</u></b>
<b><u>Expenses:</u></b>	
Gifts to Library - Support of special Hoopla program	\$1,500.00
Book Sale - Shopping Carts Purchase (re-imburse Jill Mazur)	\$150.00
Bulk Envelope-purchase for Membership- & Fund Drive mailings	\$1,260.00
<b><u>Total Expenses:</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,910.00</u></b>
<b><u>Net Gain/Loss since previous report:</u></b>	<b><u>-\$1,944.77</u></b>
<b>( <u>Net Gain/Loss since 2023 Year-End:</u></b>	<b><u>\$14,123.17</u></b>

Maggie Steyn: 716-745-7427 or [jandmsteyn@gmail.com](mailto:jandmsteyn@gmail.com)

**Angel Sun @ The Jug  
Youngstown, NY  
5-10-24**

On Friday May 10, our Friends of Youngstown Free Library board held a fundraiser that raised a little over \$650 due to the graciousness of our community. Our sincere gratitude to Maureen Gambino (a fellow board member) & Joseph F. Gotta of Angel Sun Acoustic for so kindly giving of their time to put on a fantastic show. With a joint effort of FOYL Board members who donated their time (and Kim Winning for her excellent baking skills) the helpfulness of Chris Harden and his staff at The Ontario House aka "Stone Jug", and a special thank you to Mike and Barb Costello for hosting our event, we had a successful night with all proceeds benefiting the Youngstown Free Library. We are both appreciative and grateful! Thank you everyone for coming out..



# Friends Membership Update

*"Thank you for becoming a Friend"*  
Friends Membership Update for June

Since we kicked off the new Membership Campaign for 2024 in March, over 200 friends and families have signed up for membership, raising over \$10,000 for the Friends, and ultimately the Library. Thank you to everyone – returning members and new members – new to the area maybe and/or new to the realization of what a wonderful asset the Library is to our Community.

We also have friends who have moved away but still remember the Library – in California, Virginia, Washington State, Minneapolis and Tennessee and of course our snowbirds in Florida! Thank you for remembering the Friends every year!

However, if you know your neighbors or grown children haven't yet renewed, please ask them to do so. Remember we have several summer events coming up and in the Fall we have a new event – a Jubilee Tea - to look forward to, and of course, membership allows you to come to the first evening of the November Book Sale. So please encourage everyone you know to join or renew. We'd love to grow our membership.

If you want to share this QR code with your neighbor, it will take them to the web page, shown below, where they can make their donation.



**Friends Membership Drive 2024**

\$10,806.79 Raised	207 Donations	\$15,000 Goal
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**Would you enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you have directly helped your neighbors by supporting our Youngstown Free Library?** Show your love of libraries and appreciation of the many rewards it offers you, your family, and your community.

**Join the Friends for the 2024 calendar year!**

**Membership Benefits**  
You are supporting outstanding library services and programs at the Youngstown Free Library while receiving the following benefits:

- Subscription to the quarterly Friends' newsletter with information on Library news and programs
- Access to exclusive previews at the twice yearly Friends book sales (5,000+ books at each!)
- Invitation to attend Friends' meetings

**Choose amount**

Your support at any level will help our tiny Library continue to serve its community.

One-time  Annually

\$10 Individual

\$20 Family

\$100 Sustaining

\$Custom Amount  
Enter custom amount

Write us a comment

**Next →**

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## A note from Board of Trustees

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Board News

Summer 2024

I hope that you had a glorious spring and are getting ready for a sizzling hot summer. If the weather forecasts hold, the services and programs which the Library offers, might be just what you need. The Library is certainly a place where you and your family will find a place to relax, read a current newspaper or magazine, enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, and certainly find a book which will peak your interests.

If you have noticed, the shelves in front of the checkout desk hold our **new arrivals**, and are full. As new fiction and nonfiction materials arrive, they are first placed here and then closer to their permanent shelving. But each new book does have a NEW sticker placed on the spin of the book as if calling for your attention. Give these new offerings a try.

Our Director is currently working to finalize the **Summer Reading Challenge**. Materials were handed out during the **Village Street Dance** on June 20, 2024. As the Challenge has in the past, individuals who meet the various time challenges along the way will receive a small acknowledgement of that victory. Signups for the Reading Challenge can be done online or at the Library.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to visit **Old Fort Niagara**, the Library has a **membership** through the generosity of the Friends organization. Your library card lets you 'borrow' this membership and take your family for the day. The Old Fort has many events during the summer months that call attention to the people who lived at the Fort and protected the area. See their website at [www.oldfortniagara.org](http://www.oldfortniagara.org).

Two of the technical items I want to call to your attention are the **hotspots** which the Library has available to borrow and the increased strength of the **WIFI** which covers the parking lot in front of the Village Center, also known as the Red Brick School. During Covid, the Library increased the strength of the WIFI booster which covers the parking lot. This was done to make the WIFI available for patrons' use when the building was closed. We have continued this service. The WIFI is available 24/7.

Allow us to make a request for a contribution and your time through volunteering. The **Friends** of the Youngstown Free Library is a nonprofit organization and is currently in the midst of their **Annual Membership Drive**. The information to obtain a membership is available through the Library website: [www.youngstownfreelibrary.org](http://www.youngstownfreelibrary.org) and click on the tab for the Friends. The Friends are also looking for **volunteers** to help with their various **Friends activities** such as the upcoming Jubilee Tea in celebration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Library being open in the community, and of course, the November Book Sale.

Speaking of volunteers, starting this fall the library will also need **volunteers**, both for **library services** and to apply for consideration to serve on the **board of trustees**. Contact us for more information.

Thank you for using the Youngstown Free Library and being part of the community we serve.

Karran Swayze  
President, Board of Trustees  
*Youngstown Free Library*

# Ruby Carey Scholarship

## Ruby Carey Scholarship

Provided by the Board of Trustees of the Youngstown Free Library and Board of Directors of the Friends of the Youngstown Free Library.

Ruby Carey was a lifelong giver who donated her time and abilities to her church, community and many civic organizations while raising five children. She was an expert seamstress, was involved in organic gardening and nutrition and loved reading. Ruby helped organize the Youngstown Free Library in 1949 and became a highly valued member of the staff.

The Ruby Carey Scholarship is designed to honor a deserving graduate who demonstrated some of the attributes exhibited by Ruby Carey through achieving excellence in academics and by giving back to their community. The scholarship is awarded to help them purchase textbooks and required materials 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 honored to offer this scholarship in her name.

An award of \$1500.00 will be presented to the successful candidate upon entering college or university and their name will be added to the Ruby Carey Memorial Scholarship plaque which is displayed in the Youngstown Free Library.

This year's recipient is Madeline Heidt. A graduating senior of Lewiston-Porter, she is ranked in the top 15% of her class with a weighted average of 97.5 . Madeline has been active with theater at Lewiston-Porter. She writes that "Theater has made me learn to push myself and try new things even if it seems scary." During her senior year, she volunteered at her elementary school library, helping to organize books, crafts, and activities. She learned to process, prep and prepare books before they were available for student use. She plans on an English major in college.

Congratulations to Madeline.

Karran Swayze  
Board of Trustees  
Youngstown, Free Library

## Summer Reading Season is Coming!

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# ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™

Summer Reading Season will run from July 1st to August 9th this year. The calendar of events is available on our website at [www.youngstownfreelibrary.org](http://www.youngstownfreelibrary.org) and a flier of events is available at the Front Desk of the Library.

We look forward to sharing weekly storytimes in the park, LEGO Club, craft kits, and StoryWalks with you this summer! All Summer Reading Programs are drop-in; no registration is required.



In addition to the programs, children and teens are invited to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge, a summer-long challenge to read as much as they can for small prizes and library glory! Readers log their minutes spent reading. Rather than counting pages or books, time evens the playing field for everyone; no matter their reading speed or facility, everyone's time is equal.

Last year, Youngstown Free Library's readers tracked more than 87,000 minutes they read over the summer—that's more than 1,451 hours, or more than 60 straight days of reading! Starting July 1, families can register for this year's Summer Reading Challenge by downloading the ReadSquared app on their phone or tablet; please feel free to call the Library or come in if you'd like help with registering!

Library News

Summer 2024

## Youngstown Free Library Book Club Meetings

**Evening Book Club** meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 PM at the Youngstown Free Library.

- Wednesday, August 14 at 7 PM: *A Gift from the Sea* by Anne Morrow Lindbergh

**Afternoon Book Club** meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 1:30 PM at the Lewiston Senior Center.

- Tuesday, July 16 at 1:30 PM: *On Censorship: a public librarian examines cancel culture in the US* by James LaRue
- Tuesday, August 20 at 1:30 PM: *A Single Thread* by Tracy Chevalier

**Non-Fiction Book Club** meets on the first Tuesday of every other month at 1:30 PM virtually only.

- Monday, August 5 at 1:30 PM: *Ghost Map: the story of London's most terrifying epidemic and how it changed science, cities, and the modern world* by Steven Johnson

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-2024>

<https://donorbox.org/friends-membership-drive-2024>

**Donate your can & bottle redemptions**

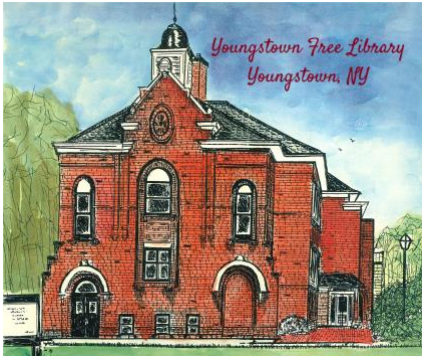
Lewiston Redemption, 820 Seneca St.

Please specify Youngstown Free Library when dropping off.

**Plan for the Youngstown Free Library Foundation in your will.**

The Youngstown Free Library Foundation is managed by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.

# Friends of The Youngstown Library



## Library Contact Information

Librarian - Sonora Miller

Phone: (716) 745-3555

Fax: (716) 745-7122

Email: [yfl@nioga.org](mailto:yfl@nioga.org)

Website:

[youngstownfreelibrary.org](http://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.

# We Are Here to Serve You!!!

### 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!

### 2024 Friends of the Library Board of Directors

Gina Mashai, President

Kim Winning, Vice President

Maggie Steyn, Treasurer

Devon Tower, Secretary

Dave Smith, Liaison to the Library Board

Maureen Gambino

Janice Mariani

Jill Mazur

Cheryl A Milcia

Christine Schwartz

Colleen Stortecky

Colleen Mary Summerville

Michelle Wesley (Newsletter Editor)

### Friends Board Meetings

7 p.m., third Wednesday of every month

Friends email: [foylboard@gmail.com](mailto:foylboard@gmail.com)

Inform Engage  
Educate Entertain