Spring 2018
What’s Happening!

2. A Note from the President
3. National Library Week
4. At the Friends Store Now
5. From the Director,
   Amazon Smile
6. Mark & Pat Pierce are Leaving,
   It’s the People
7. It’s the People (Cont.),
   Save the Date,
   We Sell on Amazon
8. Are You on Facebook,
   Board of Directors,
   Watch Movies & Help the Friends
   Plant Tour
10. New Friends Members,
    Newsletter by Email,
    Friends Volunteer Opportunities
11. Donations to the Friends,
    Used Book Sale Volunteers,
    2018 Book Sale
National Library Week this year is April 8-14, the 60th year of this event. The first National Library Week was March of 1958, with the theme “Wake Up and Read”. A Gallup poll in 1955 found that almost two-thirds of adults had not read any book apart from the Bible in the previous year. A 1957 survey found that only 17% of Americans were currently reading a book. And spending on books was decreasing, as more of the country’s entertainment dollars went to televisions, radios, and even musical instruments. The American Library Association (ALA) and the American Book Publishers Council formed the National Book Committee in 1954 to fight these trends. One of their ideas was National Library Week, and here we are 60 years later.

This year’s theme is “Libraries Lead,” which emphasizes the leadership of libraries and library workers in their communities and the role of libraries in helping patrons develop their own leadership skills. Jim Neal, ALA President, says: “This initiative emphasizes the Leader in the Library, the extraordinary teams of library workers who provide influence, innovation and solutions in their organizations, in their communities, in their profession, in the nation and in the world. Libraries also make leaders, and Libraries can emphasize their transforming impact on leadership for both those who work in our libraries and those who depend on our libraries”.

So you may ask – how are the Friends involved in helping “Libraries Lead”? The Friends’ main goal is to raise funds to help support library programs and purchase special items that the library may need. In order to do that we need volunteers to help organize and conduct our various fund raisers. Volunteers get an opportunity to meet new people and grow their skills as they participate in events, whether behind the scenes or interfacing with library patrons. Volunteers are also “ambassadors” for the library as they interface with patrons, friends, relatives and co-workers. Isn’t it rewarding to be able to talk about our library and brag about how wonderful it is? And then there is the advertising we do for our events – articles in newsletters and local papers, signs in the library, email blasts to Friends’ members, etc. Sure our advertising calls attention to the fund raisers the Friends are promoting, but it also reminds people that there is something going on at the library. One of our events may encourage someone to come to the library for help on an issue they are facing, and then our fantastic librarians can get involved and show how they lead. Libraries Lead, and it’s great to be a part of the process.

Thanks for being a supporter of the Friends and the Rochester Hills Public Library. It is through your donations that we are able to provide significant funds to give to the library and help it maintain its outstanding support for our community.

Ron Meegan
Friends President
Each year, during National Library Week, the Friends of RHPL take the opportunity to “talk up” libraries (especially the Rochester Hills Public Library) and ask you to consider supporting the Friends financially. Everything the Friends bring in through fund raisers, book sales, memberships or donations goes to support the RHPL.

“Libraries are about freedom. Freedom to read, freedom of ideas, freedom of communication. They are about education (which is not a process that finishes the day we leave school or university), about entertainment, about making safe spaces, and about access to information.” Neil Gaiman said that, and I agree. Libraries lead our communities and transform lives every day. Libraries are not just about what they have for people, but what they do for and with people. I treasure our library and I know I can count on the assistance of our librarians and library workers whenever I need help finding information, or just a great book to read. Our librarians help patrons to find opportunities for education, employment, entrepreneurship, empowerment and engagement in our community. The Rochester Hills Public Library leads our community in innovation, by providing STEAM programming, Makerspaces and access and training for new technologies. The RHPL continues to lead the way in leveling the playing field for all who seek information and access to technologies; it is a pioneer supporting democracy and effecting social change, with a commitment to providing equitable access to information for all library users regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic status. The RHPL works in our diverse community, including everyone in it, by offering services and educational resources that transform communities, open minds and promote inclusion and diversity.

I am proud to be a member and serve our community on its Board of Directors. If you can, volunteer your time or make a monetary donation, which may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. You will have an untold return on your investment. All money donated to the Friends goes to support library programs as well as providing funds for projects, activities and acquisitions in excess of those provided by the general library budget. Donating to the Friends helps to keep the Rochester Hills Public Library vibrant and up to date. From education to job resources to lifelong learning, your library provides access to the programming and services you need to reach your potential and grow as a leader.

The Rochester Hills Public Library is celebrating this year’s National Library Week, which is April 8-14. You can visit the Rochester Hills Public Library today or go to www.ILoveLibraries.org for additional information. You can also find more information through the Friends of RHPL tab on the bottom of the rhpl.org website, or call the Friends membership line, 248-650-7178.

Kimberly Matis  
Board Member
At The Friends Store Now

Want to Help Save 2400 Trees?

How about 1.1+ million gallons of water? You can, and the Friends Store helps make it possible. We now carry Tree-Free Greetings® note pads, greeting cards and gift items. When you purchase these products, you’re not only lowering your carbon footprint, you’re doing your part to keep chlorine out of our rivers, greenhouse gases out of our atmosphere, and divert waste from landfills.

And there’s more. The company uses 100% recycled paper, 100% solar energy, and products are 100% USA made. Not only that, but the quality is outstanding and prices are very affordable. Stop into the store soon and see for yourself.

Friends Store Supports the Community

New in the Friends Store are notecards featuring artwork by Paint a Miracle Artists and assembled by Rochester Community Schools students. We’re proud to support Paint a Miracle, which recognizes the value that people with disabilities and other challenges add to our world, often because of the challenges they face. Each package contains four attractive and colorful blank cards of the same design. You’ll want them all. To find out more or volunteer at Paint a Miracle, visit: www.paintamiracle.org

Need More Time?

We can’t help you find more time, but we can make knowing the time more fun and appealing. The Friends Store buyer went a bit cuckoo over clocks. We have such a great variety in stock right now, that you’ll have a great time choosing one that’s perfect for your home. Whether it’s to hang on a wall, sit on a shelf or to give as a gift, we’re pretty sure we have a clock you’ll love.

Friends Store Seeks Volunteers

The Friends Store is run entirely by volunteers. It’s fun and rewarding to be on the team. If you have 3 hours to spare one day a week, why not join us? Stop by the store for more information.

Helping patrons like Julia and Amelia with their selections is always a treat for Friends Store volunteers.

25% Off
Entire purchase

Original coupon must be presented in store at time of purchase.
One use only. Expires 10-30-2018
I recently received a report on Michigan public libraries with the highest circulation numbers for 2017. Of the almost 400 public libraries in Michigan, our library was listed as the fifth busiest after:

- Kent District Library serving 395,660 people and checking out 7,045,660 items
- Ann Arbor District Library serving 163,590 people and checking out 6,501,554 items
- West Bloomfield Township Public Library serving 71,990 people and checking out 2,774,828 items
- Capital Area District Library serving 238,859 people and checking out 2,189,403 items, and
- Rochester Hills Public Library serving 100,485 people and checking out 1,849,839 items.

The challenge for us is that we are not as well funded as the other four libraries. They are able to purchase more materials and in a couple of cases offer more hours of service. The RHPL Library Board is beginning to look at our funding situation to identify options for increasing our revenue and therefore our budget.

Circulation, the number of items checked out by a library, is only one indicator of how well used a library is. We have high program attendance with 30,000 people attending our library programs each year. I believe that our customer service cannot be beaten, and I know you, our Friends are the best Friends group in the state.

Last year the Friends gave the library $190,000. This helps us do what we do. We use the Friends money to:

- Hire performers and speakers,
- Send out quarterly newsletters to everyone living in our service area,
- Purchase equipment that helps people use the library.

Thank you for your continuing support. The staff and I are here to serve you, your family and friends. I feel blessed to have Friends like you!

Christine Lind Hage
Christine.Hage@rhpl.org
248-650-7122

---

Order from amazonsmile and donate to Friends of RHPL at the same time

You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you order from amazon.com? If so, you can contribute to the Friends of RHPL at the same time at no additional cost to you.

The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library have signed up to be a part of the amazonsmile program. Before you start your shopping just log into amazon via smile.amazon.com, sign in with your current amazon account information and select a charity to support – who else but the “Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library Inc.” Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase total to the Friends every time you shop. It’s that simple.

Since we started with amazonsmile, your purchases have brought in $148 to help support library programs. Thank you.

Watch Movies & Help the Friends

How Cool is That?

One of the profitable activities of the used book sales is selling items online through Amazon.

One of the most popular things we sell are used DVDs. Customer satisfaction is very important to us, and we are very proud of maintaining a 100% satisfaction rating. Therefore, we want to make sure that the DVDs play properly before we list them for sale. If you like to watch movies, we could really use some help previewing the ones we wish to offer online.

If you are interested, call (248) 650-7178 and leave a message, or send an e-mail to rhplfriends@aol.com.
After many years of living in Michigan, and many trips from Michigan to Connecticut to visit children and grandchildren, Mark and Pat Pierce have decided to eliminate the travel and move to Connecticut. Great for the family, not so great for the Friends of the RHPL.

Mark and Pat have been outstanding volunteers for the Friends for many years.

- They’ve worked with the Used Book Sale for the last 10 years and functioned as co-chairs with Ann Gruenewald for the last six. They were both at the Library four to five days a week making sure everything ran smoothly.
- Mark and Pat were the 2014 Friends Volunteers of the Year.
- In addition, Mark was a member of the Friends Board for three years, and filled in as board secretary when needed. He was part of the Friends 50th Anniversary Committee to prepare displays of 50-year area businesses. He was also very active in the online sales area and was always willing to do the “extra” tasks – build shelves, pick up donations from shut-ins, and DWPS (do what Pat says).
- Some of Pat’s duties over the years included: checking all donated audio/video material, helping with online sales, coordinating the December Quality Sale, book sorting, book cart volunteer, a quilter who donated quilts to fund raiser silent auctions, and she made the Friends quilt that is used on book sale membership nights and at our annual membership week in April.

Pat Mark will be greatly missed and hard to replace.

Connecticut’s gain will be our loss.

Friends of RHPL Board

It’s The People

We started to volunteer at the library when Mark retired, ten years ago. It seemed like a good idea because it would give us something to do together without getting on each other’s nerves. It really was important to us to have something to keep us busy. Back then, a new volunteer started out sorting books into categories, putting them in boxes, or other basic tasks. As we learned the system we both were able to branch into other areas; Pat took over the Winter Quality sale in December, Mark served on the Board and started listing books for online sales. Both of us would do many of the small things that make our book sales so successful. It has been very rewarding for us to see the contributions the Friends have been able to make to our library and to our community and to realize we were a part of making it all happen. We feel our efforts have really helped.

Everywhere we worked in the Friends organization we met new people, who have become great friends. The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library is an organization blessed with the best kind of people. Everyone loves books so, of course, we share a strong common bond. Whenever we would come into the library there was always some work that had to be done, but more importantly there were the friends volunteering to do the work.

We found that as volunteers we could come in to work as many hours as we were comfortable with, there was always something to do. Pat often tells volunteers, or perspective volunteers, that the library will keep you as busy as you want to be. We could always feel like we were contributing in a positive way to the book sale activities.
It’s The People (Continued)

The book sales themselves were an opportunity to meet many people. We would be very busy during the book sale and would be tired out at the end but the sales were always a lot of fun. There was always something to do and we could talk with a lot of new people.

We have had people express thanks for all of the work we have done for the library but we are thinking how much we have received in return. Working at the library has been very good for us, it provided a transition from working ever day to a retirement where we worked when we wanted. It has helped keep us busy. We both have a sense that we have accomplished something by working with the Friends and a feeling we have contributed to our community. But most importantly it’s the people; we have met so many people, made so many good friends and had a lot of fun doing it. We would like to thank the Friends, the Rochester Hills Public library and all of our friends for the experiences we have had while volunteering for the Friends.

Mark & Pat Pierce

---

Save The Date
Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library
HOLIDAY HOME TOUR 2018 Returns
To a Sunday in December

Holiday Home Tour
Sunday December 9, 2018
12:00pm - 5:00pm

- Five homes in our community will be decked out for the holidays
- Also includes a boutique in the Van Hoosen Museum Dairy Barn
  (extra bonus: free admission to the train display in the Van Hoosen Calf Barn)

---

We Sell on Amazon

The Friends’ Online sales have been doing very well. In 2017, we sold 2793 items on Amazon.com with a profit of over $35,000. Presently, we have an inventory of 1636 items and are on course to do even better in 2018. Most of the items we sell are donated, but we also sell library discards. This includes books, DVDs, CDs, and books on CD. It takes 17 volunteers putting in a lot of hours to make this work, but we all enjoy seeing these discarded items go to a good home. If you order a used book from Amazon, look for friendsusedbooks… that’s us!
Friends Volunteer Opportunities

The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library is an all-volunteer organization. Its heart beat is the hundreds of volunteers and thousands of hours each year to plan, organize, conduct, and communicate a wide variety of activities and fund raising events to support the library.

See the list for most of the opportunities. In every case, training is provided. Your service can be a few hours per year or several hours weekly. Volunteers develop new friends, learn more about the library and have a great sense of accomplishment.

Friends Volunteer Opportunities

Friends Library Store: Stop in to get an application. Job includes sales, assisting customers, housekeeping, opening and closing tasks.

Book Cart: Spend a 2-hour shift with a cart of books located by the information desk. Straighten shelves, collect cash, and answer questions. Work as often as you like, within a schedule.

Used Book Sorting and Shelving: Sort donations from patrons as well as Library discards and prepare them for the book sales. Organize the donations that have been sorted onto shelves in the 2nd floor used book room. Both tasks involve working a few hours a week in the sorting area and/or used book room.

On-Line Book Sales: Research books and other media to determine if the value is high enough to be sold on-line, list items on on-line websites, prepare items for shipping to customers.

Used Book Sales: Volunteer for a shift on one of the sale days as cashier, bagger, or book arranger. You could even be the chairperson for a shift. Big sales happen four times a year with other smaller sales.

Wine Wit & Wisdom: Annual event in the spring that includes speakers, a strolling dinner with wine and beer and dessert, and a silent auction. Help with set up and teardown the night of the event, solicit businesses for silent auction items, etc.

Holiday Home Tour: Annual event in November or December that features homes for viewing that have been decorated for the holidays. Help with obtaining homes for the tour, arrange for sponsors, publicity, ticket sales, docent captain at a house, or be a docent yourself.

Mailing: Label and sort mail to go out to all members. Two to three times a year.

2018/2019 Board of Directors

Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Ron Meegan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Bill Kroger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Karen Calavenna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>John Coombs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst. Treasurer</td>
<td>Jac Caldwell</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tom Asmus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberly Matis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Tabacchi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Weber</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex Officio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library Director</td>
<td>Christine Hage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used Book Sale</td>
<td>Ann Gruenewald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends Store</td>
<td>Darlene Tomczyk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Connie Livingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>John Smyntek</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Phone Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friends Membership</td>
<td>248-650-7160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends Events</td>
<td>248-650-7176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Used Book Sale</td>
<td>248-650-7178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Sales</td>
<td>248-650-9790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Library</td>
<td>248-656-2900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Website

[www.rhpl.org/friends-of-rhpl](http://www.rhpl.org/friends-of-rhpl)

Newsletter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editor/Publisher</td>
<td>Tim Schulte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Coordinator</td>
<td>Karen Calavenna</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library are hosting two tours of the Detroit News and Free Press Printing Press Facility on Friday, May 18, from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm and from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Each tour is limited to 25 so that is why we have set up two times. Once 50 reservations are reached, names will go on a waiting list for cancellations. If we receive many requests over 50, we will look at setting up an additional tour. Sign up early!!

The printing facility is a 480,000 square foot 6-story building opened in 1971. It was considered one of the most technologically advanced printing facilities in the world in 2005. The entire facility is an engineering marvel of high-tech wizardry, consolidation and automation. Both the Detroit Free Press (c. 1831) and Detroit News (c. 1873) are printed here after agreeing to combine their business operations in 1987. The facility consists of six MAN Roland GeoMAN 75 offset press lines. Each towering press line is 6-stories (90ft) high, 540ft long and can print 75,000 full newspapers (ie: 7-sections, 80pgs, 40pgs of color) per hour. The press line is “offset” because the paper itself never actually touches the printing plate. For higher quality, printing blankets (big rubber cylinders) offset the ink and image on the paper.

Come see how newspapers are printed, and support the Library at the same time. All proceeds are used to fund Library programs.

Tour participants will meet at the News & Free Press Printing Press Facility, which is located at 6200 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights, Michigan. Note: Parking is limited so please car pool if possible. The tour lasts about 90 minutes and includes lots of walking and stairs, so bring some comfortable walking shoes. The facility is not ADA Accessible for tour participants. Photography is permitted on the tour.

Date: Friday, May 18
Time: 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm and 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
Location: 6200 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights, Michigan
Cost: $20 per person

To reserve your place, go to www.rhpl.org/friends-of-rhpl, and look for the “Special Events” link to download the reservation form. Instructions for payment and mailing are included on the form.

Please make your reservation by Tuesday, May 8.

We certainly hope you can join us this year for this interesting event.
Would you consider getting your future Friends of RHPL Newsletters by email rather than getting a hard copy in the mail? The benefits of an email newsletter include:

- Email version will be in color
- You can easily save back issues for future reference
- The Friends of RHPL will save money on printing and postage

If you would like to have future newsletters sent by email please send a message to friends@rhpl.org. Please include your name and address since some email addresses are cryptic, and we want to update our mailing list correctly.

To date, 53 Friends have agreed to have their newsletters sent by email.

Thank You!
Donations to the Friends

The Friends of RHPL are thankful for the donors who help support our organization and through us the Rochester Hills Public Library. Below is the list of donors since our last newsletter.

- Bonnie Abiko
- Judy Amir
- Roger & Eugenia Bajorek
- Meriel Ballantine
- Jagdeesh Bankekar
- Michael & Corrine Ballanger
- Rebecca Briesmaster
- Jack & Nancy Camilleri
- Rebecca Campbell
  - Gail Clor
- Donald & Susan Ferry
  - Cherill Flynn
  - Jennifer Gebbie
  - Deborah Hoyle
  - John Jasonowicz
  - Lucido Fine Jewelry
- Elizabeth Johnsonbaugh
  - Deborah Law
  - Lolly & Art Lewry
  - Kay Mann
- Ron & Theresa Meegan
  - Millman-Derr
- John Mohr Family
  - A. Caryll Moore
  - Molly Morrison
- Cynthia Newhouse
  - Lytle Pharmacy
  - Sandra Spencer
  - The Toffee Store
- Dennis & Sandy Tabacchi
- Paul & Alice Tamboulian
- Michael Price Tyler
  - John Ulrich
- Dillman & Upton
- Zigmund Urbanski
  - Marie Valente
  - Cynthia Wagner
  - Nancy Walsh
- Robert & Deborah Zeeb

You may send a donation to the Friends of RHPL at 500 Olde Towne Rd, Rochester, MI 48307 at any time ….. We will be pleased to publish your name in future newsletters.

Used Book Sale Volunteers

The Used Book Sales have 292 active volunteers

Book Sale volunteers logged a total of 10,515 hours in 2017

(Note that there are additional Friends volunteers who support the Library Store and our other fund raisers – Holiday Home Tour, Wine Wit & Wisdom, etc.; and they are not included in this data)

2018 Book Sale Dates

**Spring**
- April 25 - 29

**Summer**
- July 25 - 28 and Bag Day Monday July 30, 10 am - 1pm

**Fall**
- October 24 - 28

**Quality Book Sale**
- Nov 29 - Dec 1
  - Thu 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
  - Fri 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
  - Sat 9:30 - 4:30 pm

Times are the same for all sales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>5:30 - 8 pm</td>
<td>(Friends Members Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>10 am - 8 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>10 am - 5 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>10 am - 5 pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>1:30 - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>(Bag Day except as noted above)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library...What We Do!

- Library Store
- Book Cart
- Used Book Sorting & Shelving
- Online Book Sales
- Used Book Sales
- Wine Wit & Wisdom
- Holiday Home Tour
- Other Events

Friends’ Store

Our lovely store at the RHPL is stocked with some of the nicest gifts you can buy anywhere at very reasonable prices with great sales year round. The stock is changed often so there is always something new to find as a gift or as a new treasure for yourself.