Wine, Wit & Wisdom

Set aside the evening of March 8th, 6:30 – 9:00 pm for Wine, Wit & Wisdom at RHPL. This event is a new fund-raising activity sponsored by the Friends of RHPL. Wine, Wit & Wisdom is based on the popular Ted Talks (ted.com). TED is a nonprofit devoted to “Ideas Worth Spreading,” bringing together people from different disciplines. The Friends hope to bring a salon type atmosphere to the evening that will stimulate interesting conversations.

Kathy Dorn, President of the Friends is excited about the event. “Our goal is to have 6-8 knowledgeable speakers who will inform, inspire or entertain our audience. In addition to interesting speakers, those attending will share some wine, appetizers, and desserts.”

Registration will begin December 26. Look for registration forms in the information rack by the library front desk or go online to www.rhpl.org/friends-of-rhpl/special-events and print a registration form. Tickets are $45. Dorn encourages everyone to register early. “We believe this will be a very popular event and could sell out.”

★ New this year: Boutique at the Holiday Home Tour!!

On Nov. 17th the Friends Holiday Home Tour will have several boutique tables at the Cranberry Lake Farm Barn. Many items are made in Michigan by local artists, such as Barbara Markham’s cards and paintings, Bebe Beads, and Children’s Bows. For the decorator set, we will have Bob Koendens’ specially made fresh bouquets, as well as socks and scarves by Joan Engle and Marcia Decker.

The Friends store will be selling Michigan Jams, jellies and Christmas items. It is an opportunity to start or add to your Christmas shopping. You can pick up some delicious Toffee from Heidi Patterson. Don’t forget to shop at this FIRST EVER Holiday Home Boutique.
Get ready to be swept away into a holiday wonderland. The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library Holiday Home Tour has six enchanting homes to be toured this season; from a Greek Revival Farmstead, to a home reminiscent of the Eastern Seaboard with cedar shake exterior and Native American and European interior influences, to a Gabled Bungalow with English Court Holiday décor.

The event benefiting the Library programs for children and adults will be held Sunday, November 17 from 12 noon to 5pm.

Tickets are available for purchase at The Friends Library Store located on the main level of the RHPL and at four local retail businesses.

Mark Roberts Fairies adorn the Christmas tree that is center stage in the gabled bungalow. A toy train circles the base of the tree. A court jester hangs in the entry way greeting visitors as does a dragon gargoyle.

Live musicians will perform for a period of time at each of the homes on the tour, including a harpist, wind instruments, a pianist and violinist.

New to the home tour this year will be a holiday boutique featuring Michigan made items including holiday décor and gifts. The boutique will be at the Cranberry Lake Farm home tour location.

A pre-event party will take place on the evening of Wednesday, November 13 from 6 to 8pm, offering attendees an opportunity to meet the tour homeowners and discuss the planning and decorating of their homes. These tickets are available only at the Friends Store in the RHPL for $50. This ticket also grants entrance to the home tour on Sunday.

Home tour tickets will be on sale at the library beginning October 15, Monday through Saturday from 11 to 4 at the Library, 248-650-7179.

Tickets will be for sale at Lytle Pharmacy, 340 S. Main Street, Dillman & Upton at 607 Woodward Ave, Sharon’s Hallmark at 115 South Livernois and 3038 Walton Blvd.

The tickets are $25 each and can be paid for by cash or check.

Home Tour tickets will also be available for purchase online and by credit card at www.rhpl.org/friends-of-rhpl.

THANK YOU SPONSORS - Many local businesses donate money to help sponsor the tour. The Friends would like to acknowledge the following individuals and businesses for their support of the 2013 Holiday Home Tour:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adams Cleaners</th>
<th>Golden Eagle Restaurant</th>
<th>Lucido’s Jewelers</th>
<th>Paul VanRaaphorst, DDS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balian Eye Center</td>
<td>George &amp; Heather Tweed</td>
<td>Lytle Pharmacy</td>
<td>Robin &amp; Dick Moore</td>
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<td>Bill &amp; Jean Kroger</td>
<td>Hollywood Market</td>
<td>Manny’s Liquor &amp; Wine</td>
<td>Rochester Elevator</td>
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<td>Commissioner Jeff &amp; Kimberly Matis</td>
<td>Independent Expressions Photography</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Pat Pierce</td>
<td>Rochester Hills Tire &amp; Serv</td>
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<td>Dick &amp; Julie Bates</td>
<td>James Thomas, DDS</td>
<td>Millman-Derr Center for Eye Care</td>
<td>Rochester Plumbing &amp; Heating</td>
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<td>Dillman &amp; Upton</td>
<td>Juanita Mallman</td>
<td>Modern Art Jewelers</td>
<td>Ron &amp; Theresa Meegan</td>
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<td>George’s Coney Island</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Kathy Dorn</td>
<td>Modetz Funeral Homes</td>
<td>The Toffee Store</td>
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<td>Gofrank &amp; Mattina, P.C.</td>
<td>Krazy Greek Restaurant</td>
<td>North Hill Marathon</td>
<td>Yates Cider Mill</td>
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2013 FALL USED BOOK SALE

Thanks to an incredible amount of donations, we had a record number of items in our Fall used book sale; an estimated 40,000. In fact we had an overflow and were forced to move several categories into the hall. But it all worked out well, and we ended with a profit of $17,110. Our next sale will be a Quality Sale Dec 7 –8 in the library lobby. We will be selling new or like-new donated items that we think would be suitable for giving as gifts.

2014 SALES
BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2014 SALES:

JAN 29-FEB 2ND
MAY 14-18TH
SEPTEMBER 24-28

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Ami Burns was selected as Volunteer of the Year because she has been involved in the library since we were first in the current building. Ami has so many talents that this short article does not begin to do justice.

Ami has put in long hours in the Friends store. She has purchased, sold, dusted and inventoried many of the items and she still comes in at least once a week to work her shift.

She is gifted with a pen and has written countless descriptions of homes on the Holiday Home tour, formally known as the Holly Walk. The store and the Friends have been gifted with her beautiful poetry as well as many other places where it has been published.

Our newest Volunteer of the Year also exemplifies excellence in service at the OPC Minibranch Library. Ami continues to see that our senior community has great service in the store library along with sharing of the written word.

Having always a smile and the kindest of words, I am happy to announce that Ami Burns is our newest RHPL Friends Volunteer of the year!

KATHY COURTRIGHT - NEW BOARD MEMBER

Kathy Courtright, Associate Director of Investments with Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. located in downtown Rochester has been elected to the board of the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library. She and her husband Tom Zelinski have lived in Rochester Hills for 23 years where they have been very active in the community. They are avid soccer boosters and are entering their 16th and final season as soccer parents, supporting their son Alex in his senior year at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, VA.
From the Friends President...

It is my great pleasure to introduce the new Friends Board for 2014:

**President:** Ron Meegan

**Vice President:** Bill Kroger

**Secretary:** Karen Calavenna

**Treasurer:** Elaine Shenkowsky

Sometime in 2010 I was invited to join the Friend’s Board at RHPL. I knew little except that they raised funds for the library programs, both adult and children. They bought computers and other extras for public use in the library.

In October of that year I was suggested as a new president and now the rest is history.

What a ride it has been, filled with so many new friends and experiences. I learned that book sales make up the bulk of our income. Ann Gruenwald runs the sales well and has a wonderful capable bunch of “friends” helping. We do Online and Cart sales -- each successful in their own way. Our big event in 2010 was a Holiday Home Tour which continues to this day (Sunday November 17th). Wonderful Friends of the library open up their homes, beautifully and uniquely decorated for Christmas. We sell tickets for $25.00. Each house has approximately 500+ visitors that day.

In the spirit of adventure we initiated several new fundraisers, including the sales of Friends shirts and ornaments, a mystery dinner, cooking classes, and a GM Heritage Center Tour. In addition, we sold parking at Arts and Apples which was successful and manageable. I am sure the new leadership will make new choices while continuing many of the “tried and true” events.

What I take away most from this experience is getting to know the amazing people involved in all levels at RHPL. The staff is friendly, knowledgeable, and has wonderful helpful suggestions. I had lots of leadership from friends like Ann, Sharon, Chris, and Darlene who direct so many volunteers doing so many important and necessary jobs. The Board worked side by side with the library staff and myself to get new ideas launched and old favorites set up; Ron, Pat, Mark, Diane, Mary, Elaine, Jac, Bill, Theresa and so many others have been a blessing to have in my life. They are a great bunch of RHPL Friends!

Lastly thanks to all of YOU, the members of Friends, for continuing to support the library by attending, joining and contributing in so many wonderful ways.

**Sally Giacobbe** is retiring at the end of this year after many years of service both here and at other libraries. She has mailed this newsletter out for many years and certainly deserves our loud applause.

The Board is grateful for all the wonderful contributions Sally has made, such as; note taker, mail queen, letter writer, bookmark maker - *in addition to the best secretary we could want.* She also lined up many musicians for the Holiday Home Tours. She leaves the board to full retirement in December. We wish her the best and hope to see her around frequently. She will certainly be missed. *Thanks so much - you are both energy and efficiency combined!*
The Latest from the Friends Store

As the seasons change, so does our handbag selection. We are excited to have a beautiful selection of handbags featuring warm tones, unique color blocking, and fashionable cross body styles. Along with solid hues, many are accented with studs, puckers, faux snake accents and more creating a real fashion statement.

A dramatic way to add fashion to your fall handbag is to tie one of our great scarves to the handle or strap. We have a great selection from which to choose. Why not make an extra touch of color your style signature?

Also, look for us at the Holiday Home Tour Boutique at Cranberry Lake Farm. We’ll be bringing some great items from the store, whether for holiday shopping, home décor or just for you. This might be the perfect time to pick up a special Christmas decoration or maybe a commemorative Friends’ pewter ornament. We’ll also have some luscious Cherry Republic and American Spoon foods, along with a number of items ordered specially for the Boutique. Be sure to stop by to see us.

Do you have a few spare hours each week? Do you enjoy making friends and meeting the public in a comfortable pleasant environment? The Friends Store is looking for volunteers. For more information or to sign up, visit the store and fill out an application. You’ll be glad you did!

FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

About one year ago the board decided on a simpler membership plan and one that would renew annually. We hope to have current email addresses so we can reach our friends quickly when a special project or need comes up. Nothing has changed for our Lifetime members.

Members receive 10% off at the store and they get into the first night of the major book sales. We currently number about 732 strong. Some of the people who faithfully join and renew every year do not come to our book sales or other events. They are often life long library users and it is the way to assure that quality programs continue for all, young and old. Our funds make sure the fish tank is cleaned and fish are fed. We make sure the employees have current computers and programs every year. We pay for extra training for staff to enrich their job performance. We keep the computers in the public access room up and working. We purchase round tables for the meeting room. Our funds are used by the library as enrichment for all the communities who use the library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual (under age 60)</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior (60 &amp; Up)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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From the Director – Christine Hage

On behalf of the Library Board, staff and over 100,000 people in our library service area I want to thank all of you for your hard work on behalf of the Library. Your wildly successful fundraising efforts enabled you to present the Library with a check for $125,000 again this year. That money is used to fund the Library’s newsletter as well and all the wonderful programming that takes place here in the library. We are able to purchase new materials for our bookmobile, also a gift from the Friends, as well as many extras that make the Library what it is. In fundraising they say you should thank donors seven times so here’s at you – THANK YOU!

Last spring I wrote to you about the new carpet and upholstering projects that were going to take place. The flooring is finished and we are almost done with the upholstering project. I think it looks great, but more changes are on the way.

The Library Board is looking into putting a small expansion on the south side of the building to make it easier for everyone to return materials from their car. If approved, that construction would most likely take place next summer. We are also considering some flooring options for the main public staircase. The carpet looks unsightly so we are looking at some hard surface solutions.

Last spring I gave a talk at the Friends of Michigan Library meeting in Freemont, MI. I summarized all the amazing things that you, our Friends, have done over the years. Not only your fundraising efforts, but the effective organizational structure the Friends’ Board has created. The talk was very successful and I’ve been asked to repeat it verbatim to Friends groups around Muskegon. I never tire of singing your praises. You are just the best Friends a Library could have!

2014 Board of Directors

Officers
President Ron Meegan
Vice President Bill Kroger
Secretary Karen Calavenna
Treasurer Elaine Shenkosky
Asst. Treasurer Jac Caldwell

Board Members
Robin Moore
Kathy Courtright
Kathy Dorn

Ex Officio
Christine Hage Library Director
Historian Robert Gaylor
Used Book Sale Ann Gruenewald & Mark Pierce
Used Book Cart Sharon Muir
Online Sales Chris Wilder
Friends Store Darlene Tomczyk
Manager

Phone Numbers
Friends Membership 248-650-7160
Friends Events 248-650-7176
Friends Store 248-650-7179
Used Book Sale 248-650-7178
Main Library 248-656-2900

Newsletter
Published Spring and Winter

Editor/Publisher - Kristin Pitcairn
Mailing Coordinator - Sally Giacobbe

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FRIENDSOFRHPL.ORG
Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow

After many years, Mark Pierce has decided to step down from the Friends Board. We will miss his practical insight, his willingness to volunteer, and yes, even his sense of humor. But Mark won't be leaving the Friends, only the Board. He will still volunteer as the Assistant Book Sale Coordinator and all the other duties he has been involved in over these past years. In Mark’s words, he will be our "Chief Grunt". And as the picture shows, Mark is picking up another duty - outdoor advertising for our book sales. The Friends Board will miss you, Mark.

Let’s Get Grilling – Friends Cooking Class
Fund Raiser

Get Grilling cooking class to benefit the Friends of RHPL was held this year at Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club on August 14. Chef Randy Mathy, along with Sous Chef Ann Shalal, showed us how to use the grill to make delicious dishes from appetizers to dessert; including Fire Roasted Romaine Salad, the Chef’s Award Winning Chili, Pulled Pork served on a Pretzel Roll, Sliders stuffed with Boursin Cheese, Grilled Potato Wedges, Vegetable Medley with Parsley and Tarragon, and Grilled Pear Cobbler. Chef Randy’s Chili is a three–time award winner at Arts, Beats, and Eats; and he shared with us that he took the best chili crown away from his dad who is also an Executive Chef.

We received many cooking tips as the chefs demonstrated each dish, and the smell of the chili cooking while the class progressed was ‘wonderful’. The best part of the day was when we were able to enjoy a lunch that included each of the dishes demonstrated. Everyone left full and satisfied, and with a list of recipes.

Thanks to all who attended and also to those who donated items for the silent auction. Thanks to the chefs and Twin Lakes as well.
MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

NOV. 17