



# of the Rochester Hills Public Library

Dedicated to Promoting a Closer Relationship Between the Library & Its Constituents



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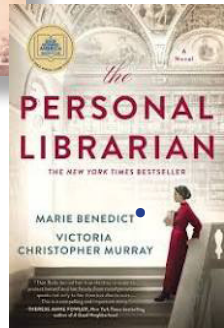


# A Note from the President

Libraries and books go together, right? When I say the word “library” you would automatically think about “books”. I don’t know about you, but it seems to me like there are a lot of books that have come out lately that are about libraries. When I say the word “book” you might think “library” but more likely you would think “reading” or “study” or “information”, not “library.”

Let me give you some examples of the books I've read recently about libraries. Some were historical fiction:

- *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis - a story about the early years of the New York Public Library.
- *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles takes place in World War II and describes the things the librarians at the American Library in Paris did during the occupation of Paris by the Germans.
- *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Murray is an interesting story about Belle da Costa Greene who was the personal librarian to J.P. Morgan as he was building up the collection for the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York City in the early 1900s.



One was a murder mystery by Linda Fairstein - *Lethal Legacy*, which takes place in the New York Public Library.

And another was a little bit Sci/Fi or Fantasy. *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig where a young woman comes across the Midnight Library and each book in it represents a portal into another variation of what her life could have been.

So what did I learn from these books? I learned that the New York Public Library on Fifth Avenue is a reference library, not a lending library. You can't check out a book there, you can only use their books for study and research in the building. I learned that the marble lions beside the steps of the New York

Public Library were named “Patience” and “Fortitude” by Mayor La Guardia during the Great Depression because those were the qualities he felt New Yorkers needed to get through it. I learned a new word, “Incunabula”; which means “an early printed book, especially one printed before 1501”. I learned that during wartime, people will go to extraordinary lengths to make sure that books are protected and preserved. And I learned that no matter the location and no matter the time frame; books are treasured by people for what they can teach, for how they can inspire, and for how they connect us to those around us now, to those who preceded us and to those who are yet to come.

As you can tell, I love books and I love my library. And I'm proud to be a Friend of the Rochester Hills Public Library. As Friends we are involved in fund raising for the library, but we are also ambassadors for the library. We want the people of our community to get to know and love the library just like we do.

Won't you join us? We may not have marble lions on our doorstep, but we have lots of books inside. And they are waiting for you to discover them.



*Ron Meegan*

Ron Meegan  
Friends President

# Message from the Library Director



The Greater Rochester area has many points of pride. Recent statistics show a safe community with access to excellent amenities that enhance the quality of life such as nature trails and green spaces, a strong school system, multiple faith communities and houses of worship, art appreciation, nonprofit organizations, cultural institutions, and popular community festivals.

The one statistic that stands out, however, is the number of highly educated residents in the Rochester area. According to recent census numbers, approximately 60% of adults have obtained their bachelor's degree (or higher) compared to the national average of 32%. Greater Rochester is home to two universities, has the largest school district in Oakland County, and offers enrollment in at least ten private schools in the library's service area. Education is a significant priority to members of this community.

Over the past year, RHPL has invested in education for the community at large by:

- Offering an afterhours online tutoring service to students available all hours of the day;
- Hosting lifelong learning programming for adults with a mix of virtual and in-person lectures, which increased attendance by 40%;
- Curating specialized collections for popular titles and experience-based learning that has pushed RHPL's annual circulation over one million titles for the year.

Additionally, the 2020 census shows how much the community is growing. Rochester Hills Public Library

now serves approximately 110,000 individuals in the three communities of Rochester Hills, City of Rochester, and Oakland Township -- an increase of 10,000+ since 2010. During the same ten years, there has been tremendous advancements in how people learn and consume media. Young people and students seek more ways to collaborate using local study rooms. Readers continue to push the popularity of digital titles.

So how can RHPL do more when serving more people? Friends of RHPL is pivotal to the library's success. From 2010 to 2020, Friends of RHPL has donated over \$1.3 million dollars to the library. The group's annual donation helps the library stretch every tax dollar. The library team thanks the Friends of RHPL for underwriting informative lectures, book discussions, coding classes, workshops, and entertaining newsletters and appreciates the community building initiatives the group fosters.

As a Friend and library supporter, you invest in education daily. Thank you.



*Juliane Morian*

Juliane Morian  
Library Director

# Pewabic Pottery at the Friends Store

## On sale for one week only!



Pewabic Pottery is a historic studio and school that has produced handcrafted ceramic art in Detroit since 1903. You may well have seen their tiles in your travels, both around Michigan and throughout the United States. Some of the locations where installations can be found include the DIA, Comerica Park, the Belle Isle fountain, and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC.

The Friends Store is proud to be one of the few area retailers to offer Pewabic tiles and vases for sale. Through our agreement with Pewabic, we are allowed to discount their products once a year. So, for one week only, from November 14 – 21, come in to the

Friends Store and choose from our inventory of tiles and vases and receive 20% off your selection. You will also receive your customary 10% Friends member discount.

This only happens once a year, so make sure you take advantage. Think “holiday gift giving!”

**Sale 20% Off**  
One Week Only  
November 14-21



Michigan-themed and nature tiles and vases in traditional Pewabic glazes are on sale for a limited time. Photo courtesy of Pewabic.org



## WE NEED YOU!

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 and to pick up an application.





## United for Libraries Recognizes Friends

“United for Libraries” designated October 17th through the 25th as the 16th Annual “Friends of the Library” week. This is an annual event to promote the Friends in our communities, to raise awareness of what Friends groups do, and to encourage Friends membership. Thanks for being a member of the Friends of RHPL.

## Book Carts are Available All Day, Every Day

Looking to buy a book? Well, you could shop at the Friends Used Book Sale held four times a year, but books are also available every single day at the library from the Self-Serve, Honor System Book Carts located in the West Lobby (near the fish tank).



Hard cover and soft cover fiction books published within the last 5 years are priced at \$3.00 and \$2.00, respectively. Non-fiction books published within the past 10 years are priced the same. Then there's an entire shelf of children's books for only \$1.00. A shelf is also designated for youth-appropriate books, along with a shelf of cookbooks and another of DVD's. More books are located on a table next to the carts.

We always look for new ways to make a variety of materials available in the book cart area from children's \$3 book bundles and puzzles to a Quality Cart of nearly new books, individually priced. Seasonal and holiday books can be found on the carts periodically. The Book Carts are an on-going process to best serve our patrons while providing earnings for the Friends.

The Self-Serve, Honor System was established when Covid-related precautions began so that used books are available without requiring volunteers to interact with patrons. The original arrangement that required 2 shifts of volunteers each day to set up the carts for 4 hours was successful, but we have found that making the carts available during regular library hours has paid off financially earning an average of \$65 to \$70 per day, an increase over the former method.

Stop by to shop. Carts are re-stocked every day with incoming donations.

## Used Book Sales Scheduled for 2022

The used book sales have had to be very creative this last year and a half during the pandemic. Fortunately, our volunteers have been flexible and dedicated, and the donations continue to pour in. We hope to have a normal schedule of book sales in 2022. If we have to schedule special events, we will send out notices to members of the Friends.

Winter Sale	January 26–30
Spring Sale	April 20–24
Summer Sale	July 27–30 & August 1 (Bag Day)
Fall Sale	October 19–23

### Sale times:

Presale for members of the Friends:  
Wednesday night 5:30 – 8:00 pm  
(Memberships may be purchased at the door)

### Open to the public:

Thursday	10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Friday	10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday	1:30 to 4:30 pm (\$5 per bag)

Note that in the summer, when the library is closed on Sundays, Bag Day is Monday morning.

## Longtime Board Member Jac Caldwell Passes

Jac Caldwell, a longtime member of the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library Board, passed away on February 3, 2021, at age 80. While on the board, Jac served as the Assistant Treasurer, writing checks and making deposits for the various Friends fundraisers. Jac was also a volunteer at the Friends Library Store for 17 years where he wrote checks and made deposits for the store as well.



When something needed to be done, Jac was ready to volunteer. Need to mail out some newsletters, Jac was there. Need to collect money for Art and Apples parking in the library lot, Jac was there. Jac was one of the original volunteers for the lobby book cart when it started in 2004 and was also a volunteer at the Friends Used Book Sales over the years.

In the words of his family – “Jac loved the library and Jac loved the Friends”.

Rest in peace Jac Caldwell, you will be missed.

Friends Board

### 61/39.

### What does it mean?

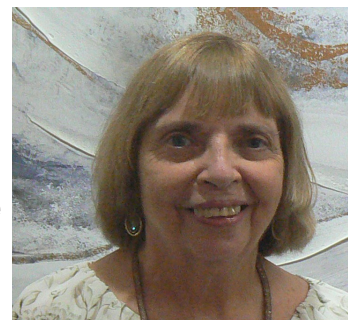


Secret code? Score of a lop-sided basketball game?  
Another catchy name for a new bank?

Fret not! All will be revealed in January. The revealer:  
the Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library.  
Watch rhpl.org for the first details when 2022 dawns.

## Vickie Baker Is Selected Volunteer of the Year for 2021

It has been a very interesting year and a half for the Friends Library Store along with other entities of the Friends Group due to Covid-19. As you know the store closed along with the library in March of 2020.



It opened by appointment only in the fall of 2020. The appointments were conducted by Ruthann Bajorek, Sue Falvo, Vickie Baker, and Darlene Tomczyk. Before the store closed there were 40 volunteers on the roster along with a list of substitutes that Vickie Baker coordinated and filled in for when needed. When the Library Director Julianne Morian gave the green light to open to the public with Covid-19 guidelines, a notice was sent out to the volunteers by email to respond back about once again volunteering in the Friends Library Store. Of the 40 volunteers only 14 responded stating they would be interested in returning. We then needed 26 more volunteers to open full time, but not to fear: John Smyntek from the Friends Board, Ruthann Bajorek, from the Friends Store, along with Tiffany Stozicki and Courtney Allen from Library Community Relations came to the rescue. Press releases were written and sent to local publications and posted on various web sites, an article was prepared for the Library's News & Views and posters were hung in the library about the need for volunteers in the Friends Library Store. As the volunteer applications arrived Vickie called the applicants and described the duties and made arrangements for a meeting time in the store. While in the store Vickie went into more detail about the volunteer duties, gave a tour of the library and found out when the person would be available to volunteer. After many phone calls and interviews the training started which lasted a few weeks for each new volunteer. Vickie tried to place the new volunteer with a person that had been volunteering for a few years to make it easier for the new person. Vickie Baker has been a trooper during the long training process of the volunteers and everyone is happy she has taken the time and effort.

The Friends congratulate Vickie Baker as their  
Volunteer of the Year for 2021.

## The Friends of RHPL Sell Little Free Lending Libraries

The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library invites you, your organization, your neighborhood/subdivision to Build Community, Spark Creativity, Inspire Youth, and Encourage Reading by providing a Little Free Lending Library near you.

Popular throughout the USA, these small, wooden libraries (often seen on street corners, in subdivision parks, on neighborhood cul-de-sacs or in owners' front yards) provide a free book exchange for children, teens and/or adults in a safe, neighborhood setting. These little boxes are not meant to take the place of our beautiful city library; but, instead, provide a convenient and close location to pick up a book to read or drop one off to share, 24/7!



Friends of RHPL is offering a fully constructed Little Free Lending Library, complete with post and installation instructions; just finish the little library with your own personal touches to make it your very own. Please consider joining this book-sharing movement by ordering a little library for \$325.00 (tax-free) and installing it in your yard, subdivision, and/or parking lot.

A sample Little Free Lending Library is on display outside the RHPL Friends Store. Orders will be filled in 1-3 weeks and you will be notified when your little library is ready for pick-up. We are taking pre-paid orders for these wonderful additions to your home, community, or business. For more information contact Kim Whitney at 248-224-0887 or email: [whitney.kim2347@yahoo.com](mailto:whitney.kim2347@yahoo.com)

Not only will your purchase support reading, but also our state-of-the-art Rochester Hills Public Library. Just "plant" a little free lending library and watch the readers "grow!"

## Holiday Home Tour Postponed Until 2022

The Friends Holiday Home Tour will not be held in 2021 due to a lack of homes for display. Please put December 11, 2022 on your calendar for the next Holiday Home Tour.

If you are interested in having your home be a part of the 2022 festivities, please call the Friends Events Line at 248-650-7176 and leave a message. Someone from the Holiday Home Tour committee will get back with you.



## Wine, Wit & Wisdom Returns to the Library



After the 2020 and 2021 drought of activities we have experienced, the Friends are pleased to announce the return of Wine, Wit & Wisdom 2022 to be held on April 30. Look forward to choosing two speakers from a roster of six, enjoy a delicious dinner buffet and sip on wine, beer and soft drinks. Watch for further details in newsletters and online.



## Welcome New Friends Members for 2021

Mark Albrecht  
Barbara Barber  
Jenn Batey Family  
Kirsten Bodo Family  
Elaine & David Chapman  
Donald Cook  
Carol Cooper  
Alan Crain  
Diane Davis  
Rachel Dolson  
Judy Dunseith  
Lynn Etenad  
Laura Ferrans  
Michael Fox  
Jordan Geiger  
Donna Gifford  
Shirley Gofrank  
Barbara Harris  
Joanna Jones  
Kelly & Kyle Keeley  
Katherine Kibbey  
Jacquie Klesing  
Marissa Larsen  
Robert Makie  
Mark Moran Family  
Heidi & Donald Patterson  
Kathleen Plutchak  
Judith Ramirez  
Dorothy Reeves  
Amy Reno  
Ruth & Lewis Richards  
Thomas & Andrea Schwanzenberger  
Phyllis Scroggie  
Bernadette Setlik  
Maureen Shannon  
Janis Shild  
Elizabeth Slawski  
Maratha Teeter  
Carmen Thomas  
Christian Versin  
Mark & Rene Vander Eyk  
Jeri & Michael Walker  
Suzanne Wing

## Friends & Friends Store Donors for 2021

**Thank you to our faithful donors!**

Judith Amir  
Meriel Ballentine  
Diane & Mike Bennett  
Frank Black  
Myrna & Barry Boardman  
Robin & Suzanne Dobblesstein  
John & Diane Donahue  
Ken & Kathy Dorn  
Jordan Geiger  
Sally & Vince Giacobbe  
Jeff & Mindy Glickman  
Shirley Gofrank & Mike Maegawa  
Debra Hibbein  
Thomas Holleman  
Kelly & Kyle Keeley  
Melvin Kozek Family  
Mary Jean Lawson  
Art & Lolly Lewry  
Linda Lusk  
Kay Mann  
Kate Matrilie  
Lisa McAllister  
Ron & Theresa Meegan  
Nicholas & Rosemarie Mendes  
John & Millie Merz  
Mark Moran Family  
Karen & James Morr  
Don & Jeanette Nadler  
Nancy Need  
Peggy Phillipi  
Marcia Preston  
Phyllis Scroggie  
Janice Shild  
Mary Smart  
Keith Tack  
Carol Tough  
Van Hoosen Farms  
Jeri & Michael Walch  
Thomas Wheeler  
Dorothy Wolf  
Robert & Deborah Zeeb



**GIVING  
TUESDAY**

We at the Friends appreciate every donation from our community whether it is used books, volunteer time, or financial donations. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

A collage of eleven book covers from various publishers, including Rodham, One Mighty and Irresistible Tide, Pelosi, Children's Bible, Dirt, Lawrence Wright, The End of October, Little Eyes, The Arab Winter, The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, and others.

- A reminder: Please consult [rhpl.org](http://rhpl.org) before the sales for the latest updates of the library's Covid-19 access guidelines.

## Friends Change to New Online Membership Database



We have good news to share. The Board of the Friends has been looking for a new online database for the Friends. The one we are currently using meets our needs but is targeted for larger-sized organizations and is priced accordingly. Since we started using this service several years ago, online databases more in line with our size have been developed. We need to be good stewards of the money we raise to help support our library.

So, after doing research (and with the help of the outstanding library IT staff) we have decided to purchase a new platform to help us keep track of our members. "Little Green Light" will help us keep our membership rolls current and provide the resources necessary to keep you up to date on activities, at a fraction of the cost. You can rest assured that we will continue to send membership reminders and new membership cards in a timely manner.

And if you haven't joined the Friends or you let your membership lapse recently, WE ARE HERE, WAITING AND ABLE. Come join us.

## Order from AmazonSmile, Donate to Friends of RHPL All at the Same Time



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 <https://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, 66 people have signed up to support the Friends with their Amazon purchases. Those purchases have brought in over \$700 to help support library programs.

## 2021 Friends Annual Meeting Held in October

The Friends of RHPL held their 2021 Annual Meeting this year on Thursday the 28th of October at the library. Minutes from the 2020 meeting were read by Secretary Sandy Tabacchi, and a financial report was given by Treasurer John Coombs. President Ron Meegan presented a check for \$100,000 to the Library Director Julianne Morian, and she thanked the Friends for the efforts they make on behalf of the library. Committee reports on various fundraisers were given by Ann Gruenewald, Theresa Meegan, Darlene Tomczyk and Ron Meegan. President Meegan got approval for three re-elected board members (note that one board position is still open and will be filled in the near future) and also approval for the slate of officers for the next year. The meeting ended with the introduction of the 2021 Volunteer of the Year by Darlene Tomczyk, Vickie Baker – (see article elsewhere in the newsletter).



## 2021 Board of Directors

### Officers

President	Ron Meegan
Vice President	Bill Kroger
Secretary	Sandy Tabacchi
Treasurer	John Coombs

### Board Members

Tom Asmus  
Connie Dowe  
Kimberly Matis  
John Smyntek  
Kim Whitney

### Ex Officio

Library Director	Juliane Morian
Used Book Sale	Ann Gruenewald
Lobby Book Cart	Theresa Meegan
Friends Store	Darlene Tomczyk
Membership	Connie Livingston

### Phone Numbers

Friends Membership	248-650-7160
Friends Events	248-650-7176
Friends Store	248-650-7179
Used Book Sale	248-650-7178
On-Line Sales	248-650-9790
Main Library	248-656-2900

### Website

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

### Newsletter

Published: Spring and Fall  
Editor/Publisher – Tim Schulte  
Mailing Coordinator – Sandy Tabacchi

## Why Not Get Your Newsletter by Email!!

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 will get your newsletter earlier than those who select mailing
- 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](mailto: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, 76 Friends have decided to have their newsletters sent by email.



Like us on Facebook@Friends of RHPL



## 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
- Little Libraries
- 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.

