



FRIENDS *of the*
Plymouth Library
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

CHECK IT OUT!

Author Talk, February 22nd



The Friends of the Plymouth Library are excited to announce that Plymouth resident and Uruguay native Tessa Bridal will speak at the library about her recently-published literary non-fiction book, “The Dark Side of Memory: Uruguay’s Disappeared Children and the Families who Never Stopped Searching.”

Her book is a chronicling of how the Cold War played out in South America, told by the children and families who survived.

Born and raised in Uruguay, a third-generation descendent of a resilient and courageous Irish woman who boarded a ship she believed was sailing for Boston only to discover once she was on the high seas that she was heading for Buenos Aires instead. Bridal completed her ancestor’s journey by immigrating to the United States in her early 20’s. She later returned to South America to conduct interviews with those who survived imprisonment, torture and disappearance under the extremist military dictatorships in Uruguay and Argentina during the 1970s.

The book also documents the involvement of the U.S. in South America at the time. In an interview with Kristen Miller of the [Plymouth-Wayzata Sun Sailor](#), Bridal said she hopes readers will gain “a knowledge of their own country’s involvement in the crimes committed in South America - knowledge that might lead them to reconsider their opinions about immigrants and asylum seekers.”

Bridal is also the author of two novels, “River of Painted Birds” and “The Tree of Red Stars.”

Bridal will appear at the Plymouth Library on Tuesday, February 22, at 6:30 PM. Copies of her book will be available for sale and signing after the program. Masks are required of all attendees.

Message from the Friends' President

The year 2021 is now in our rear-view mirror. A year ago, we were all hoping that the beginning of 2022 would see most of the changes wrought by COVID behind us, but, as we know, that hasn't happened.

In spite of that, the Friends had a very eventful year, due to the support of you, our valued members (now numbering 399 households).

One highlight of the year was an extremely successful virtual Plymouth Reads program in the spring. Linda LeGarde Grover kicked off activities with a talk and slide show about Native American Boarding Schools. The Campfire Play & Sing, which featured songs mentioned in the Plymouth Reads book selection, *This Tender Land*, received a lot of praise and some people watched it over and over again. Several book lovers have reported that they got choked up by the memories that these songs invoked. Another viewer confessed that she sang so loudly her upstairs neighbor pounded on her ceiling but she said it was worth it. It felt so good! The festivities concluded with a delightful talk by the book's author, William Kent Krueger. Kudos to Board member LuAnn Svendsen and the Plymouth Reads Committee for all their hard work (which included reading a large number of books before making the final selection).

Our wonderful library staff continued to provide excellent service throughout the year, and the Friends recognized their hard work with handwritten notes of appreciation and small gift cards for use at Lunds & Byerlys. When the library expanded its hours in the fall, the Friends purchased snacks and Board member Josh Velasquez and his family delivered them to the staff during the first week of longer hours. And over the holidays, the Friends provided "Twelve Days of Snackmas," again as a gesture of support for the library staff.

The Friends Board of Directors continued to meet regularly on the second Thursday of each month, albeit virtually. Election of officers was held in October and we also sent out several newsletters.

In-person programs sponsored by the Friends resumed with the Garden Tour in July, two in-person book sales which generated over \$7300 in revenue, and an author talk by Jodi Melsness about her book "The Lemon Bar Queen."

We face some challenges in 2022: book sales are currently on hiatus, although we expect to resume them at some point this year, and Plymouth Reads will not be held due to circumstances beyond our control. But with the involvement of our members we will continue to support the Plymouth Library and to grow as an organization. Thank you all!

Cathy Fischer, President

Who Are We?

The Friends of the Plymouth Library (FPL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to support the Plymouth Library by providing resources, promoting programs and services, and strengthening community. FPL volunteers also assist library staff with many activities throughout the year. Membership is open to all.

Board Members

President: Cathy Fischer

Vice-President: Joshua Velasquez

Treasurer: Katherine Jaeger

Secretary: Barbara Wills

Book Sales: Charlie Knuth, LuAnn Svendsen

Membership: Ellen Griffin

Communications:

Volunteers: Sandy Hoglund

Plymouth READS Chair: LuAnn Svendsen

Newsletter: Charlie Knuth

Nominations: Katherine Jaeger

Directors: Shannon Banks, Margaret Bird,

Kristin Blomquist, Claudia Hunter, Leslie

Ostrem, Megan Rothke

Library Liaison: Joanna Redman

All members are welcome at Board Meetings, which are held at the Plymouth Library on the second Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:00 p.m. (These will resume, hopefully, in the new year).

For more information:

Visit www.supportthclib.org

E-mail us at

plymouth@supportthclib.org

Call (612)543-5825



Book Sale

Book Sales were suspended again after our October book sale. We hope that we can resume them again in the near future. Until that time we are still not accepting book donations. May we return to normal soon and see you at a book sale.

THANK YOU!

We thank you for your continued support of the library by continuing your membership in the Friends of the Plymouth Library. If you have not already renewed, please do so. It is important, especially in a time in which we are not able to hold our much beloved book sales. We appreciate the devotion and commitment of our members

Books recommended by the Board:

One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot by Marianne Cronin

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishigura

The Painted House by John Grisham

The Dark Side of Memory by Tessa Bridal

The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan

Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo

Think Like a Monk by Jay Shetty

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin

Nives by Sacha Naspini

Rock, Paper, Scissors by Alice Feeney

The Sentence by Louise Erdrich

The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict

The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles

Five Total Strangers by Natalie Richards

The Greenlanders by Jane Smiley

The Huntress by Kate Quinn

Wayward by Dana Spiotta

The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

HAPPY READING!!!!

Library Hours of Operation

The library will be open Mon.-Thurs.
9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Fri. and Sat.
9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m., and Sun. Noon
to 5:00 p.m.

Another way of helping the library is through your purchases at smile.amazon.com. There is no cost to you as Amazon donates a portion of the sale to Friends of the Plymouth Community Library & Mobile Sers Comm Group.

<http://smile.amazon.com/>

Bits and Bobs

It the past 12 years, almost 16,000 volunteer hours have been worked at the library. It won't be long before our book sales return and we will need more volunteers. Please consider volunteering when you can. Thank you for the great work you have done for the library.

Thank You, Library Staff

The Library Staff has worked relentlessly through a most difficult time for the last two years. Please take a moment, when in the library, to thank our library staff for their great service. It has truly been remarkable and greatly appreciated.

FROM: Friends of the Plymouth
Library
PO BOX 46232
Plymouth, MN 55446

TO

Treasurer Report

Happy New Year! While 2021 continued to be challenging for many reasons, the Friends of the Plymouth Library were able to end the financial year positively. Our book sales in September and November netted more than \$6,400 after the cost of boxes and locker rental. We considered the Garden Tour a smashing success, earning almost \$1,900 after small expenses.

We were able to reinstall the Ready Reads cart in the entryway to the library in June. One dedicated Friend has made certain that a wide variety of books for adults and children are available for purchase from the cart when the library doors are open. At a suggested donation of \$1.00 per book, the cart raised almost \$2,100 in the last half of the year. Many thanks to the person who keeps the Ready Reads cart stocked.

Membership income has picked up after dropping in 2020, when we held only one book sale: 2019: \$3,193 / 2020: \$1,295 / 2021: \$2,109.

And, rounding out the top 4 sources of income in 2021, we received several generous donations during the year, totaling \$1,805. Large donations were made by a book group honoring a recently deceased spouse of one of the members, and at the bequest of a Friends Volunteer, who passed away during 2021. We are especially grateful for these generous donations.

The largest expenses for the year included funds toward programming, a grant to the library itself to install blinds in the northwest meeting room, and locker rental for book sale books. If you know of an easily accessible spot in the city of Plymouth that would be willing to share their space with boxes of books awaiting our sales, at little or no cost to the Friends, please email us at Plymouth@SupportHCLIB.org.

Here's to a much better 2022 ahead. Thank you to many members of the Friends of the Plymouth Library for generous additions to your membership checks. And thank you to all members for renewing your membership and continuing to support the Plymouth Library!