



FRIENDS *of the*  
Plymouth Library  
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

# CHECK IT OUT!

## LIBRARY BOOK SALE - November 18th

The Friends of the Plymouth Library will be holding its next book sale on Saturday, Nov. 18th. This is the last book sale of 2023. The sale begins at 9:00 a.m. for Friends members and then at 10:00 a.m. for the general public. If you are not a member, you can purchase an annual membership at the door for \$10. The sale ends at 3:00 p.m., with the last hour being reserved for the \$5.00 bag sale. For the members coming at the beginning of the sale (9:00 a.m.), remember to **line up at the entry door to the library, not the back door to the sale**. Stock up on your cold-weather reading material by purchasing some great books at the Friends of the Plymouth Library Book Sale.



## UPCOMING AUTHOR TALK AT PLYMOUTH LIBRARY

Author Kathleen West, who wrote popular recent titles "Home or Away" (2022), "Are We There Yet?" (2021), and "Minor Dramas & Other Catastrophes" (2020), will be appearing at the Plymouth Library on **Thursday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m.** West is a veteran middle and high-school teacher. She graduated with a degree in English from Macalester College and holds a Master's degree in literacy education from the University of Minnesota. She lives in Minneapolis with

her family. Her talk will discuss the inspiration behind her books, the writing process, and her experiences in publishing. Time for Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration required at <https://hclib.bibliocommons.com/events/65175af9a9308cd24119945e>.

## **News from the Annual Friends Member Meeting**

At the October Board meeting of the Friends, four new officers were elected by acclamation and will begin serving their two-year terms in November. **Josh Velasquez**, who previously served as Vice-President, will become President. **Carrie Almaer**, who recently joined the Board, will be the new Vice-President. The new Treasurer will be **Bernadeen Brutlag**, who previously served in that role with the Friends of the Maple Grove library. And **Cathy Fischer**, who has been the Board president for the last four years, will begin serving as Secretary.

Committee chairs were also announced:

Book Sales: Katherine Jaeger and Sandy Hoglund, co-chairs

Membership: Ellen Griffin

Communications: Josh Velasquez

Volunteers: Sandy Hoglund

Plymouth READS: LuAnn Svendsen

Newsletter: Josh Velasquez

Nominations: Vacant

Historian: Cathy Fischer

## **Friends Membership Goal of 600 Update**

Currently we have 550 members, but we are still reaching for a membership of at least 600. We still have a little way to go, but we could use your help in spreading the word. The funds that the Friends of the Plymouth Library raises goes directly to the programs and services of the library. In today's world, what better group to be a member of than one that supports the well-being of the library that provides services for **all** members of the community?

## LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

Plymouth residents who walk along the east side of Medicine Lake are familiar with the Little Free Library situated near the entrance to Missions Inc. Programs, at 3409 East Medicine Lake Blvd. This charming red and yellow LFL has a background of grass and water, and is often visited by Canadian geese. (They must be the most well-read geese in the state.)



## **Meet Steve Richter, The Newest Plymouth Library Staff Member**



(Steve with his son Josh)

**What is your professional position at the Plymouth Library?**

Patron Experience Supervisor

**Why did you decide on a career in the library field?**

Started right out of high school and never left. 😊

**What is your hometown?**

Bloomington, MN

**What is your current place of residence?**

Maple Grove, MN

**Tell us about your immediate family.**

We have a daughter Sadie (10) and a son Josh (25). Mango our dog just turned one this summer.

**What are your hobbies?**

Looking for a hobby, still haven't found one.

**What is/are your favorite genre/genres to read?**

Non-fiction history. Currently reading "On Bloody Sunday: A New History of The Day and Its Aftermath- By The People Who Were There", written by Juilann Campbell.

**Which book has made the greatest impact on your life?**

Music, not books has made the biggest impact in my life.

**What is your favorite book?**

"Snow Treasure" by Marie McSwigan

**What was the last great book you read?**

The last great album I have listened to is Red by Taylor Swift. It is amazing. I am late to the Swiftie party.

**What are you really good at?**

Eating junk food!

**What do most people not know about you that you are willing to share?**

I have dealt with depression and at times suffered depression most of my adult life. Here is my PSA: If you are dealing with any mental health issues please reach out for help. It could change your life.

**What do you like the most about working at the Plymouth Library?**

I really enjoy how busy a large library like Plymouth is.

## **The Library's Local Homework Help Program**

Homework Help is a program run by Hennepin County Library (HCL) that supports students in grades K-12 with assignments in any school subject area. Many libraries in the HCL system have been hosting this program for years. At the beginning of the 2023-24 school year the Plymouth branch of HCL became a new site for the program. Library staff at Plymouth are excited to have Homework Help in their building as they are already seeing many youth coming in to get help. Homework Help takes place 4-7pm on Mondays and Tuesdays during the school year, though people are encouraged to check the library website for the full schedule as there are a few Mondays and Tuesdays when we don't have the program. The library is also seeking more tutors for the program at Plymouth and other branches. If interested in being a Homework Help tutor you can apply at <https://www.hclib.org/about/volunteer>.

## **Local Board Member, Katherine Jaeger Wins Award**

Each year the Minnesota Association of Library Friends (MALF) sponsors a program, Stand Up for Standout Friends, which honors members from Friends groups across the state who have contributed in outstanding ways to their organization. This year the Plymouth Friends nominated Katherine Jaeger, who has been a Board member since 2011 and began serving as our treasurer in 2013. She continued in that role until 2016, when she volunteered to chair the book sale committee. She continued in that role until 2018, when she again became the treasurer, serving until this year. As if those jobs were not enough to keep her busy, Katherine also served as chair of the



nominating committee for 3 years, set up our accounts at UPS, Office Depot and Amazon Smile, volunteered for various subcommittees and events, arranged for purchase of signage for our book sales, rented our P.O. box, filed tax forms, arranged for auditing of the group's finances, developed task lists for our book sales, and designed and printed promotional materials for our Garden Tours. She has cheerfully filled in or assisted in doing various tasks when others are not able to do them. She often makes suggestions for improving the processes and procedures of the organization.

Katherine is a valued member of the Board of the Friends of the Plymouth Library, and her passion, commitment, dedication, and leadership truly epitomize a "Standout

Friend"! She is pictured on the right with Board President Cathy Fischer, who presented her with a certificate from MALF honoring her contributions and a copy of Allen Eskens' new book, which was inscribed and autographed by the author.

## **Hennepin County Has A New Library Director**



On October 9, after an extensive nationwide search, Scott Duimstra began his role as the new Director of Hennepin County Library.

Scott brings a wealth of experience to the role, having dedicated two full decades to the field of librarianship. His library journey includes serving as the Executive Director of the Capital Area District Libraries (CADL) in Michigan, where he oversaw library services for the City of Lansing and Ingham County residents. Under his leadership, CADL achieved the distinction of being one of the most utilized library systems in the state of Michigan. His commitment to remarkable service was acknowledged when he and the CADL team received the State Librarian's Excellence Award in 2019 and Star Library honors from Library Journal in 2022.

Scott's dedication and expertise were also recognized by his peers, as he was elected to the Board of Trustees for the Michigan Library Association (MLA) in 2019 and served as the President of MLA in 2022.

Scott and family have just settled into their new home in Minnesota, and he began work at Hennepin County Library earlier this week. As a cyclist, he says he's eager to dive into the Twin Cities bike scene.

The library was very fortunate to have Assistant County Administrator Dan Rogan serve as interim library director for the past two years. His leadership and innovation have made an immeasurable impact, greatly benefiting our library and community.

Please join us in extending a warm Minnesota welcome to Scott Duimstra!

Note: Thanks to the Friends of the Hennepin County Library for the text of this article.

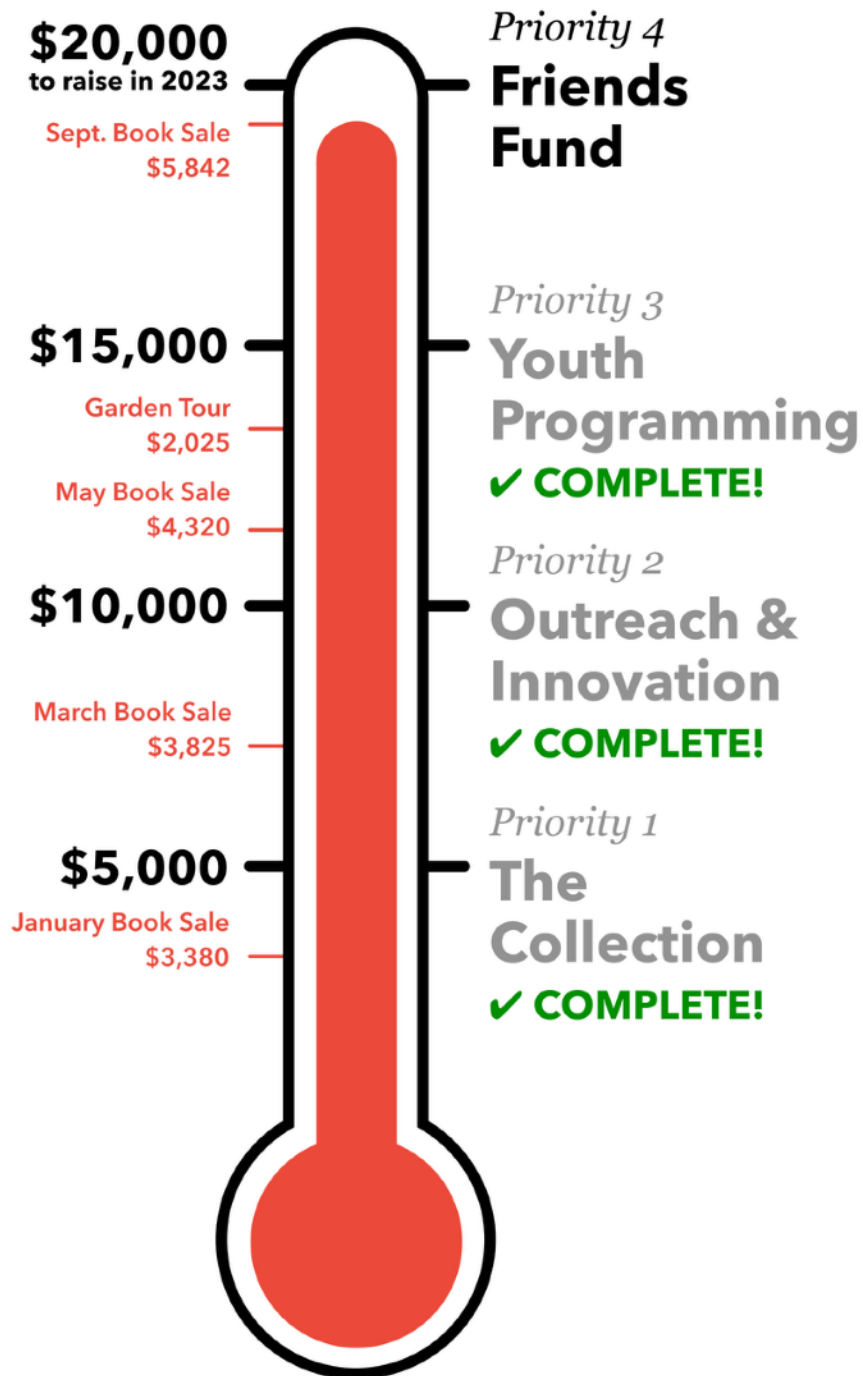
The week of October 15th was National Friends of the Libraries Week and the Plymouth Friends of the Library celebrated with displays in the library. In case you missed them:





# FRIENDS *of the* Plymouth Library

## 2023 Fundraising Goals



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: Josh Velasquez

Vice-President: Carrie Almaer

Treasurer: Bernadeen Brutlag

Secretary: Cathy Fischer

Book Sales: Katherine Jaeger and Sandy  
Hoglund

Membership: Ellen Griffin

Communications: Josh Velasquez

Volunteers: Sandy Hoglund

Plymouth READS Chair: LuAnn Svendsen

Newsletter: Charlie Knuth

Nominations: VACANT

Directors: Shannon Banks, Margaret Bird,  
Kristin Blomquist, Barb Wills, Brian  
Wilkerson

Library Liaisons: Aaron Albertson, Joanna  
Redman, Steve Richter

Teen Director: Shritha Devaraju

All members are welcome at Board Meetings, which are held at the Plymouth Library on the second Thursday of each month from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

For more information:

Visit [www.supportthclib.org](http://www.supportthclib.org)

E-mail us at



## Book Sale

The next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, November, 18, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m. for Friends members and 10:00 a.m. for the general public. We look forward to seeing you at the book sale. Don't forget the \$5.00 bag sale from 2-3 p.m.

## Books recommended by the Board:

Midnight Library by Matt Haig

Song of Achilles by Madeline Miller

The Mother by Pearl Buck

Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead

Wintering by Peter Gey

Sword Art Online: Alicization by Reki Kawahara

Love and Other Consolation Prizes by Jamie Ford

The Unlikely Thru-hiker by Derick Lugo

Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner

The Sweetness of Water by Nathan Harris

This Is How It Always Is by Laurie Frankel

Quitting by Julia Keller

Zero Days by Ruth Ware

A Moveable Feast by Ernest Hemingway

Tom Lake by Ann Patchett

Live Wire-Long Winded Short Stories by Kelly Ripa

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

End of Drum Time by Hanna Pylvanien

A Fairy Tale by Stephen King

In Love by Amy Bloom

Fighting Angel by Pearl Buck

Magical J + R by Sun-Young Lee

Salt Houses by Hala Alyan

The English Experience by Julie Schumacher

The Red Queen by Juan Gomez-Jurado

Strangers on a Train by Patricia Highsmith

**HAPPY READING!!!!**

**Plymouth Library Hours of Operation**

The library is 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.

**Book Donations**

Book donations are accepted the first Saturday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Donations are also accepted the Friday before the book sales, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

With the Friends of Plymouth Library's establishment of an endowment fund to support the Hennepin County Library collection, there are three options that are commonly used to grow an endowment: making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), including the fund in an estate plan, and making a legacy gift. Please consider these.

For questions, please contact us [plymouth@supporthclib.org](mailto:plymouth@supporthclib.org) or write us using the address found immediately below.

**THANK YOU, MEMBERS!!**

This coupon entitles the Member to one free book\* at the November, 2023 book sale.

\*Coupon counts towards books only.

FROM: Friends of the Plymouth  
Library  
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TO