

The **F**riends of the North Shore Library

Fall 2020 Newsletter

From the Board

Dear Friends,

Unusual is an understatement. Due to the COVID 19 virus, almost nothing in our lives today is happening in ways to which we are accustomed – from work to play, from meetings to health care, from school to community activities.

So also does this affect our library. After a period of complete closure, several North Shore libraries made the decision to be open on a limited basis. There are no in-person gatherings, hours of operation are limited, face masks and shields are required, many services are provided online or by curbside pick-up. We are all so grateful to our excellent library staff for arranging these services.

The March 2020 Friends Book Sale was abruptly cancelled. At this time, book sales for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 have also been cancelled. Future plans will be considered later, as more information becomes available.

Our regular board meetings were also cancelled in April and May, but with the help of Zoom, we held our Annual Meeting in June. The Friends presented the North Shore Library with a check for \$20,500 for our 2020-21 donation.

Friends books are still available for sale inside the library during limited in-person visits. Because of space and virus considerations, no book donations are being accepted at this time.

We are all very concerned about the safety and health of everyone, and we look forward to the time when things can return to “normal.”

Until we are able to meet again, stay safe.

Evelyn Ericson
Friends President

What's happening at the Library...

LOTS OF CHANGE! When we suddenly closed the Library on March 15th, I never imagined that it would be three months before we would reopen to the public again. Library Staff worked remotely from home and quickly shifted the library service model to include telephone reference, CHAT, Curbside Pick-up and Virtual Classes and Programs. The pandemic has forced us to look at everything we do and evaluate how we can continue to do it while following the latest health requirements. We do so many classes and programs at the North Shore Library. When we started our Virtual Programs in March, we certainly thought we would be back to in-person programs by June and now, in August, we hope we will be back in the Spring!

One change you should be aware of is that we are quarantining all returned materials for 5 days and then backdating them to the date of return so that fines are not added to your account. We sometimes fall behind due to the heavy volume of returns so if you notice an item you returned is still on your account, please wait 7-10 days before contacting us about it.

We have so many Virtual classes this fall! Virtual Storytimes are popular with kiddos logging in to watch, listen, sing and dance. Kids Book Clubs, Lego Clubs, Family Fun Nights, Homeschool Classes and Library Makers Club are all virtual and going strong. Performers have also moved their work to Virtual, and kids will meet



with Milwaukee Ballet ballerina, Misty Copeland, in September, Bembe Drum and Dance in October, and Yoga in November.

Teens will do Virtual Crafting, picking up kits-to-go and then attending online classes to make Pop Sockets, Spa Day supplies, a Whale Phone Stand, and Light-up

What's happening at the Library... (continued)

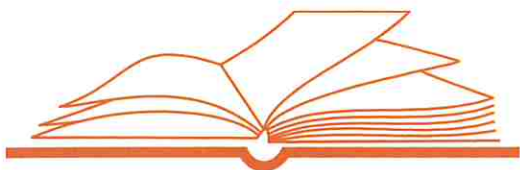
Greeting Cards. We will also offer a class on Bullet Journaling in December. Author Chad Lewis will present an online class discussing his books and research about the most haunted locations in Wisconsin on October 26th. This one is available for teens and adults. See our website for the link to join in.

Adults can learn how to video chat with family and friends, get resume help, consult with a Dementia Care Consultant and learn about free resources and services available for seniors from the Milwaukee County Department of Aging – all online. You can log in for a lively discussion with our monthly Book Club and test your memory skills at our monthly trivia programs. See our website for dates, times and the login links.

Change is difficult for some but it can also spark creativity! We are all learning new ways to work, communicate and have fun. I hope you will embrace it and learn a new skill. If you need help, call the library to book a Virtual Book-a-Librarian appointment. You can schedule a 30-minute phone or video chat with a librarian to learn a technology skill. Remember: You don't stop learning when you age, you age when you stop learning!

Many of you may already know that I will be retiring this fall. I have loved my time at the North Shore Library with all of you and I wish you all the very best!

Susan Draeger-Anderson
North Shore Library Director



Library Staff

Erica Kallas

Hi! My name is Erica and I recently began working as a Shelver at the library. About a year ago, I became a member of the library's Teen Advisory Board. Through the Teen Advisory Board, I was able to volunteer often at the library and become more involved in its community. I especially enjoy helping out with the children and teen programs.



I am a Junior in high school, and some of my favorite extracurricular activities include Mock Trial, National History Day, and Science Fair. I am also very involved in my school's French and Japanese clubs, and I love planning the meetings for both. In my free time, I enjoy making digital art, baking, and listening to music. I am so glad that my first job is at the library, and I am very excited to be working here!

Emily Morrison

I was hired at the North Shore Library in late August 2020. I moved to Milwaukee from Omaha, Nebraska, in June to begin work on a Master's in Library and Information Science degree at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and was thrilled to find a job at a library so quickly. My love of libraries stems from my childhood, as I was a frequent visitor of my local library and especially enjoyed participating in the summer reading program. Since then, I have decided to pursue a career as a librarian and have held part-time positions in three other libraries, now four including North Shore. When I am not working at the library or endlessly browsing the shelves, I enjoy spending time with my two cats, taking long walks, biking, listening to music, and baking.



Summer Reading Program & Youth Services

The Youth Services Department at the North Shore Library finished another Summer Reading Program, and to say this year was exciting would be an understatement! Our Summer Reading Program is free to all participants thanks to the generous donations from The Friends of the North Shore Library. This year's slogan was "Imagine Your Story" and focused on fairy tales, mythology and fantasy. Participants ranged in age from birth to seventeen years old.

This summer started like no other, with schools in our area going virtual due to COVID-19. It became very clear to the Youth Services Staff that we were going to have to engage readers at home in order to prevent summer learning loss and stave off boredom. In order to do this, we re-designed the Summer Reading Program to allow families to participate on their own at home. We were able to get coupons for things like a free Lou Malnati's Pizza, a Breadsmith cookie, a free hour at Rockin' Jump, a Cousin's Subs coupon and a pass to the Milwaukee Public Museum. Besides coupons, participants who reached each level received a book and a DIY Treasure Chest Kit that had everything needed to create a craft or an activity at home. In addition to the regular prizes, participants also earned raffle tickets at each level for a chance to win one of our sixteen different raffle prizes!



This summer, 445 children and teens registered for our Summer Reading Program and 161 children and teens participated in Summer Reading Bingo, a weekly program of learning activities to keep families active. Each week, participants of Reading Bingo earned an additional raffle prize entry by completing a bingo. Each week a new Reading Bingo worksheet was distributed with new activities that families could do at home.

We continued our Pen Pal program this summer and paired children and seniors in a postcard exchange at the library. Pen Pals dropped off or mailed postcards at the library, sharing interests, memories from childhood, and favorite books. Children practiced their reading and

writing skills and learned about letter writing. Seniors developed new relationships and supported young learners. At the end of the summer, children and seniors met over Zoom to see their pen pal and have a fun chat!

Donations provided by the Friends of the North Shore Library allowed us to provide engaging hands-on learning opportunities. During our Summer Reading Program we offered 75 programs and classes for children and teens virtually over Zoom or in-person outside of the library. A total of 1,654 people attended our programs this summer. We kicked off the summer with a curbside frozen custard party and activity kit pick-up with 335 people stopping by to grab their items.

The Youth Services Department also hosted virtual entertainers, storytellers, and educators at the North Shore Library. Families learned about the natural world with Mad Science and the Schlitz Audubon Raptors. We hosted a comedy show with Kidsplay and two magicians amazed participants. Bembe Drum and Dance hosted a virtual dance class where participants learned to Bomba.

Youth Services Staff presented three weekly story times to regular patrons and some new faces. We hosted evening Family Fun Nights that included activity kits with several crafts and activities for participants to use together during the program. Book clubs continued all summer with high participation and lots of lively discussion among readers. Our Online LEGO Club presented an opportunity for participants to show off their collections of LEGOs at home and chat with other LEGO enthusiasts.



Teens were not left out of the virtual fun this summer and were able to participate in many programs, including making a Fairy Garden, using conductive thread to make a Light-Up Bookmark, and creating their own DIY Pop-Socket for their device.

Summer Reading Program (continued)

Every Friday Youth Services Staff took Summer Reading outside for “Prizes & Popsicles,” an opportunity for kids, teens, and families to visit the library to pick up their prizes in a safe and fun way. Many families came week after week, even after they received all their prizes, in order to get popsicles and to say hi to the Youth Services Staff and Teen Advisory Board Volunteers who were handing out prizes.

We are already thrilled to begin planning activities for next year’s Summer Reading Program. The theme of next year’s program is animals and the slogan is “Tails and Tales.”

Thanks to our sponsor, the Friends of the North Shore Library, for helping make the summer a success!

New Books

Fiction

The Big Door Prize by M.O. Walsh

Anxious People by Fredrik Backman

Shadows in Death by J.D. Robb

The Invention of Sound by Chuck Palahniuk

Monogamy by Sue Miller

All the Devils Are Here by Louise Penny

The Order by Daniel Silva

The Guest List by Lucy Foley

Non-Fiction

Fast. Feast. Repeat by Gin Stephens

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

Amboy: Recipes from the Filipino-American Dream by Alvin Cailan

The Happily Ever After: A Memoir of an Unlikely Romance Novelist by Avi Steinberg

The Politics Industry: How Political Innovation Can Break Partisan Gridlock and Save Our Democracy
by Katherine M. Gehl and Michael E. Porter

Smile Again (at Amazon for the North Shore Library)

AmazonSmile continues to generate dollars for the Friends of the North Shore Library. The most recent quarter brought in another \$21, bringing the total to date to well over \$100. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, donations quickly add up, and every little bit counts. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. The only difference is that Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the North Shore Library.

It’s easy. Just follow these few steps:

1. Go to smile.amazon.com
2. In the box titled “Or pick your own charitable organization,” type **Friends of the North Shore Library** and click Search
3. Select Glendale option
4. Click yes
5. Start shopping

AmazonSmile only works if you are on the website. It is NOT compatible with the mobile apps.

Always start at smile.amazon.com. Any questions: contact Sharon Luecke at slluecke1@gmail.com. Thank you for helping us.

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