

FRIENDS OF THE MENOMINEE COUNTY LIBRARY

Spring 2018

Bookmobile Update



Like an old war horse, the present bookmobile (pictured) is ready for retirement. The eagerly awaited new bookmobile is close to completion. Selection of final design elements is taking place, and the anticipation is intense.

In preparation for the new bookmobile's final paint job, the library ran a contest to provide a new identity for the vehicle. First place went to Pam and Rylie Colie with "Words on Wheels." Second place went to Bark River Student McKenzie Hoffmeyer with "Bookie Monster." Both winners will get a new paperback edition of the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus* and gift certificates provided by the Library Board. The first-place certificate is to Saz's, and the runner up's certificate is for Subway.

Friends of the Library will join the library director and staff in a combined bookmobile introduction and staff appreciation reception in June. Current plans also include having the new bookmobile available for viewing at the Menominee County Fair this summer.

Director's Report

Library director Amanda Winnicki reported at the Friends' meetings in February and April. Key points from her reports:

- **Staff:** Jen Hirn has moved up to the cataloger position. Gina Thompson is the new bookmobile assistant, and Heather Harris is the new library assistant. Library staff members Amanda Winnicki, Ann Best, and Jen Hirn are going to the Rural Library Conference in Traverse City April 30 – May 2.
- **Library:** The new large-print fiction is now over with the other new books. The library is also looking for a small table suitable for doing puzzles on if anyone has one that they are looking to re-home.
- **Purchases:** Friends of the Library paid for a new paper order and received thanks from Amanda.
- **Bookmobile:** Expected delivery is in June. The naming contest winner is "Words on Wheels." Amanda is working with the company on the exterior design.
- **Programs:** Amanda has booked a music program for summer reading and they will have a Recycled Crafts program. The rest of the summer program will be set by the time this newsletter reaches you. Most programs are scheduled for here on Wednesday starting at 1:30.
- **Building and Grounds:** Amanda talked with the new county administrator, Jason Carviou, about the trim needing painting or repair and about the back steps, which suffered snowplow damage.

Friendly Focus—New Employees

If you've noticed new faces around the library and the bookmobile, you may have met one or both of the library's two new employees. **Heather Harris** is the new library assistant, and **Gina Thompson** is the new bookmobile assistant. Our Friendly Focus for this issue will introduce our readers to Heather and Gina.



Heather Harris, the new library assistant, is married to Tim Harris, and their two boys are Gabriel, age nine, and Elijah, age two. Tim and Heather were married Oct 21, 2006, and their first son was born August 7, 2008, and their second son was born April 11, 2016.

Although Heather began working at the library March 19th of this year, she has been a regular patron of this library for about eight years. Heather's parents are Stephen and Janice Wilke from Marinette, and she has one brother, Matthew Wilke, who is coming up on his one-year wedding anniversary to a wonderful woman Haley (Renee) Wilke. Her in-laws are Randy and Tina Harris, who have always lived in Stephenson in the Koss area. Her husband's aunt and uncle are Sally and Ron Harris, Sally having worked at the library for many years. Tim's family has nearly always had someone working in the library. Heather's mother-in-law, Tina, had several family members here—her grandmother Bess Hallfrisch, her aunt Rose Hansen, and her cousin Barb Routhier.

Heather was born and raised in Marinette WI, and she met her husband Tim in 2001 when she was still in high school. She graduated from high school in 2003, went for three years of college, and then married in 2006. They ended up buying his late grandparents' (Darrell and Lena Harris) home in 2008 right after their first son was born and have been there ever since.

Heather's high school was Catholic Central high school in Marinette WI. She went to Bay De Noc in Escanaba for one year for CAD and then transferred to NWTC in Green Bay WI for landscape horticulture for two years.

Heather and her family love the great outdoors—hunting, fishing, walking in the woods, playing outside with the kids. She also enjoys baking/cooking, painting, horseback riding, and gardening. Her favorite is fiction— more specifically science fiction/fantasy. She has always loved the library and now that she has a place here, she is exploring the different avenues on getting her master's of library science. She's here to stay!



Gina Thompson sends us her greetings, having recently begun her exciting new career as the bookmobile assistant. After receiving an Associate's Degree in Horticulture, she went on to perform landscape maintenance, installations, and renovations for several years, which was a great "hands-on" learning experience. Looking for a new challenge within the green industry, she jumped at the opportunity to manage a native plant nursery in Door County. Her then-future husband Sean and she made the move from their hometown of Oconto to pursue a new life across the bay. They got married, had their first son, Odin (five years), and priorities changed—which is what brought them back closer to "home," relocating to Marinette County.

Gina was grateful to have worked at the Marinette County UW-Extension office for the past four years as the Horticulture Program Assistant. In that time she vastly expanded her knowledge of horticulture while assisting the general public with any gardening issues they had. It was gratifying being able to give community members a better understanding of *any* topic presented. (After all, "Extension" covers many services.) By having the opportunity to get well acquainted with the Northern Lights Master Gardener Association, many wonderful volunteers spilled into her life, many of whom taught her valuable lessons on gardening and of life itself. During this time she also had the pleasure of sharing the arrival of her second son, Titus (one year). After the elimination of her position at the end of 2017, she began to explore different career opportunities. Through that search the duties of librarian surfaced, and

ultimately they fit with her skills and the type of community outreach that she ultimately enjoys. Although not directly horticulture related, she is pleased to be part of providing a resource that makes a difference in the lives around her. She continues as an active Master Gardener volunteer and welcomes any and all gardening questions!

On a more personal note, some of her interests include exploring the outdoors, fishing for hours, playing with plants, even mindlessly weeding in the gardens. She has not done much vegetable gardening and she expects to learn more from her own mistakes with that soon! When it comes to eating, she will try just about anything new! She likes to dabble with arts such as freehand wood burning, painting, and photography. Most of what she reads is non-fiction with an interest in wilderness, history, or reference material (anything she can directly apply). Recently she has been expanding into the non-fiction world, and with each novel completed the temptation to pick up another is greater.

Gina is excited for the future in this position, with so many great people to meet and work with all while making a positive difference in their lives. She finds the wealth of information available here to be amazing!

Annual Raffle

The process of gathering prizes for our annual raffle has begun. Quilting Friends have a lovely blue and white quilt with coordinating decorative pillows. Other donations so far include an Instant Pot pressure cooker from a Friends member and a rustic cedar bench from Cedar Creek Rustic Furniture of Ingalls, one of our strongest supporters. Saz's restaurant, another loyal supporter, has donated two gift certificates that will provide tasty meals for two ticket holders.

Members are out gathering prizes, but we welcome other donations of prizes and gift baskets from members and area businesses.



We also give our hearty thanks to the owners of Anderson-Diehm Funeral Home, who have agreed again to pay for the ticket printing. With such wonderful assistance from area businesses, our mission of supporting library projects and activities becomes far easier.



Spring Pajama Story Time



We owe huge thanks to the 4-H Leadership Council for doing such a masterful job of organizing the readings and maintaining the interest of a lively crew of young readers at our Spring Story Time evening on April 10th. The 4-H student readers were well prepared, and the leader kept the activities running smoothly and efficiently. A dedicated group of enthusiastic Friends of the Library prepared snacks, supervised the registration process, and cleaned up afterward.

Our young patrons listened and watched eagerly and quickly demonstrated their approval of the snacks by the gusto with which they devoured crackers, cookies, and donut holes. Another successful celebration of reading for Menominee County Library!



Spring Pajama Story Time, Continued:



Plant Sale Suspended for 2018

At the April 22 Friends meeting, members present voted to suspend the plant sale for this year. Several factors went into this decision. Although a very good money maker, the plant sale is a heavy-duty activity for the volunteers that day—particularly in the first two hours when workers are pricing, organizing, and accepting the morning’s donations. All this occurs while answering questions from the pre-sale buyers who have arrived early in hopes of scoring the perfect plant purchases for their yards and gardens. Younger, hale and hearty members and volunteers would be able to provide assistance with this—or we need to find a way to keep the plants safe overnight if we add a Friday evening preparation session to the weekend. President Joan has been doing an awesome job of chairing the sale, but this year she’s had to turn her attention to other matters. Having added help and co-chairpersons might fill the need.

Other factors in the decision included concern for the unusual spring this year—would our contributors be able to divide their perennials to donate to us? Also, people who usually raise plants for us either didn’t plant this year or have been having a relatively unsuccessful seedling-growing season. Another concern was the leftover plants.

In short, although a wonderful event and an excellent money raiser, the plant sale requires more than those present at the meeting have to give this year. We’ll return to the decision next year, but we’re going to try increasing our fund-raising components of the book sale and the fall dinner. Perhaps a craft and white elephant sale accompanying the book sale? And/or a table at the Stephenson flea market to sell items people have donated to us? And/or a bucket raffle or silent raffle at the fall dinner, with a popular author (possibly Steve Hamilton?) to draw more people? Any observations or ideas? Call the library (906-753-6923) or Gerri Newnum (906-863-1057) to comment.



Membership

The membership year for Friends extends from January 1 to December 31 each year. Thus, we are in the fifth month of our 2018 membership year, and we will be sending out dues statements with this newsletter. If you have a life membership, you are current on your dues, as the \$100 pays them for life.

To see the year your membership expires, check the mailing label of the envelope that contained this newsletter. The year in parentheses shows the year in which your membership ends (on December 31, 2018 for most of us). Life members should have “life” in the parentheses. A few paid-ahead people have “2019” or “2020” in the parentheses instead of “2018.”

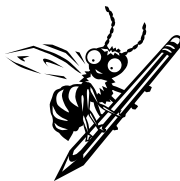
If you just became a member late in 2017, we have extended your membership through 2018. Please call the library to let us know if we did not extend your membership or if we failed to record a payment you made.

<p>Jane Doe (2018) 1234 Fifth Avenue Stephenson, MI 49887</p>	<p>On this sample mailing label, Jane Doe’s membership ends on the last day of 2018.</p>
<p>Jim Doe (2017) 1234 Fifth Avenue Stephenson, MI 49887</p>	<p>On this sample mailing label, Jim Doe’s membership ended on the last day of 2017.</p>

Membership—New or Renewal

Use this short membership form, a renewal form you received in the mail, or any paper with your name, contact information, and the type of membership you’d like. Mail it to the library or drop it off whenever you’re at the library. **Please check the type of membership you’d like.**

- Individual or Family \$10
- Business \$50
- Individual Life \$100



<input type="checkbox"/> New
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal

I want to be a Friend of Menominee County Library.

Name: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Friends of the Menominee County Library is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.

CALENDAR—2018

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Thursday	May 17, 2018	9:00 – 11:00	Garden Cleanup	MCL Gardens
Thursday	May 24, 2018	1:00 – 2:30	Turning Leaves Book Club- <i>Gilead</i> , Marilynne Robinson	MCL Hayward Room
Thursday	May 24, 2018	2:30 – 4:00	Friends of the Library Meeting	MCL Hayward Room
Saturday	Cancelled.	Cancelled.	Friends' Plant Sale	M.C.L. Library Lawn
Thursday	June 28, 2018	1:00 – 2:30	Turning Leaves Book Club- <i>Goodbye, Mr. Chips</i> , James Hilton	MCL Hayward Room
Thursday	July 26, 2018	1:00 – 2:30	Turning Leaves Book Club- <i>I Am Malala</i> , Malala Yousafzai	MCL Hayward Room
Wednesday	July 26, 2018	9:00 – 12:00 & 1:00 – 3:00	Organizing Sessions for Book Sale	Township Hall
Fri.-Sat.	July 27-28, 2018	To be announced	Friends' Book Sale	Township Hall
Saturday	Cancelled.	Cancelled.	Friends' Plant Sale	M.C.L. Library Lawn
Saturday	November ?, 2018	To be announced.	Raffle Drawing	To be announced.

- **The Hayward Room is located in the Menominee County Library *(MCL).**
- **Friends of the Library, Turning Leaves Book Club, and Writers' Group all welcome new members.**

LOCATION



Where to Find Us:

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Library**
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