



2023 Annual Report



Our Mission:

Through fundraising and volunteer efforts, our mission is to promote, support, encourage, and enhance the services of the Northville District Library and to help build a strong relationship between the library and the community of Northville.

Friends of the Northville District Library 2023 Accomplishments at a Glance

- Awarded 2 Friends Scholarships to Northville High School seniors
- Contributed \$10,500 to support the Summer Reading Programs for Youth, Teen, and Adults
- Contributed \$3,500 to support Battle of the Books (Middle School reading competition)
- Sponsored 7 evening library programs including City Lights Chorus
- Sponsored Free Comic Book Day
- Donated towards the Youth Department's Winter Extravaganza in December
- Contributed \$500 to the new Adult and Teen Dyslexic Book Collection
- Co-sponsored the annual "Volunteer Fair" and the "Local Author Fair"
- Purchased the monthly Book Page magazine for distribution in the library
- Contributed \$1000 to maintain the Teen Comfort Cabinet
- Attended workshops and networking events with both FOML (Friends of Michigan Libraries) and the Northville Chamber of Commerce
- Helped assemble the monthly craft kits for the Youth Department that were handed out to families, and provided imprinted, reusable tote bags for the fall craft



- Provided treats for the library staff in April for National Library Workers Day, and in December for the holidays. We also contributed to the staff party in August.
- Added to the Library of Things by funding the Dungeons & Dragons game starter kit

2023 - 2024 FRIENDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Martha Nork	President
Denise Stacer	Vice President
Kathy Fox	Secretary
Linda Schwelnus	Treasurer

Claire Kreher	Gift Books
Kathy Fox	Membership
Christine Litka	Newsletter & Public Relations
Denise Stacer	Scholarships & Read to Me
Linda Bastien	Used Book Operations

Linda Bolam	Board Member-At-Large
Charlene Cach	Board Member-At-Large
Regina Mingela	Board Member-At-Large
Rick Nork	Board Member-At-Large
Betty Kaiser	Board Member-At-Large
Carol Murray	Board Member-At-Large
Cindy Frango	Board Member-At-Large

President's Report

Martha Nork

2023 was another successful year for the Friends of the Northville District Library in fulfilling our mission to provide financial and volunteer support for the library, and to enhance the relationship between the library and the Northville community. In addition to our annual events, the Friends Board was ready to try some new things! The first new thing was that a group of Friends volunteers began helping the Youth Department provide the monthly craft kits for children. The library staff selects the craft and prepares the necessary components and then this fun group of volunteers gets together on the 4th Tuesday of the month to assemble the kits.



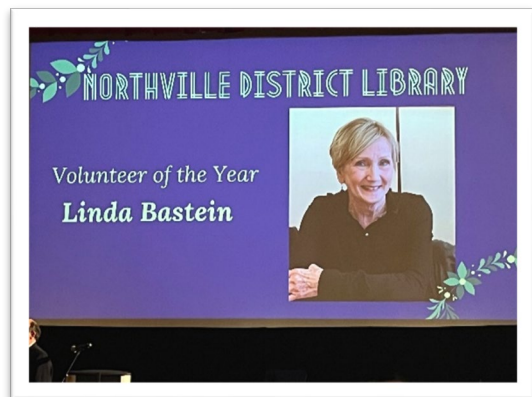
The craft kits are available for free to children and caregivers at the Reference Desk all year long.

Another new event for the Friends was a “Kids Only” used book sale held on March 25th. This sale was purposely held at the start of spring break and featured used books for kids through teens. The books were separated by age with colorful signage, and we also offered an Eric Carle themed craft for kids in one corner of the room. This event was well attended.



A “Bookmark Contest” was held by the Friends for the first time for Northville kids ages 5-12. Two winning designs were selected from among the many entries, and 500 copies of each design were printed. The winning bookmarks were then unveiled at our Cider on Sunday event in October and one of the young artists attended and received a certificate. Book Cellar hours and other information is printed on the reverse side of each bookmark.

Our used book operation is a huge undertaking and one which the community of Northville seems to embrace! The resulting 2023 income of over \$23,000 is outstanding! Selling used books is the Friends’ main source of income and so we are very grateful for our many volunteers. The Friends acknowledge the generosity of Long Plumbing, Heating & Cooling who provide off-site storage space to the Friends that allows used book volunteers to prepare for special sales. Also, our Book Cellar received some new artwork in 2023 thanks to artist and volunteer, Pam Unsworth, and to a team of volunteers who had a plan to secure the new pieces to the tops of existing bookshelves.



The Friends were proud that our own Linda Bastien was recognized as Library Volunteer of the Year at the Northville Community Awards Dinner on March 9th, 2023.

Our "Cider on Sunday" event was held on Sunday, October 16. The purpose of this annual event is to thank our supporters and to raise awareness for the Friends and the library. Parmenter's cider and donuts were served, and a craft was provided for kids, along with a scavenger hunt in the library. Raffle baskets were available with items generously donated by local businesses.



The Friends were saddened by the passing of Judy DeFrancesco on May 19, 2023. Judy was a library staff member and then joined the Friends Board after her retirement. For many years she was an active and contributing member who had the vision to start our Read to Me program. The Friends Board purchased a "funhouse" type mirror for the Youth Department in Judy's memory.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Used Books Operation

Linda Bastien - Director

Total sales for 2023 were \$23,279.75. Expenses include a hand truck which was purchased in January for use at the storage unit.

Three special sales were held in 2023:

Kids Only – March 25th

Pop-up sale on the Front Porch – June 17th

Used Book Sales in the Carlo Room – July 30th



Gift Book Program

Claire Kreher – Director

Thanks to the generosity of the Northville Community, we received a total of 45 Gifts in 2023. 39 were in Memory of Someone; 4 in Honor of Someone; and 2 Gifts. The dollar amount received was \$2,327, which includes \$180 from the Friends as Memorial Gifts.

124 Books were added to the Library's Collection, as well as 10 Audio Books and 4 CDs.

Book and materials in the Gift Book Program are selected by library staff after receiving suggested topics from the donor, or the honoree's friends or family. The honoree is recognized with a bookplate placed in each item. The Friends handle all correspondence.

Friends Newsletter

Chris Litka - Director

The Friends Newsletter was issued twice in 2023, in the spring and in the fall. The newsletter includes messages from our President, Gift Book donations, notices of Friends events, "What the Friends Are Reading Now", scholarship winners, recognition of "Over and Above" donors, Battle of the Books winners and other Friends news.

The Newsletter goes to all Friends members by mail and is available in the Friends kiosk at the library and on-line via the "About" tab on the library website.

Public Relations

Chris Litka - Director

Promoting the Friends is part of our mission. We use the Mail Chimp app to notify our membership of Book Cellar news, lectures, social gatherings, musical presentations and other news. In 2023 we sent out 18 emails to approximately 163 members.

In addition, we announce events in the Downtown Development Authority's newsletter and in The 'Ville which reaches the entire Northville community.

Membership Committee

Kathy Fox - Director

The Friends membership for 2022-2023 was 163 members:

- 14 Lifetime
- 30 Patrons/Business
- 75 Individual
- 39 Family
- 5 Teen

Our members support the goals of the Friends with their membership dollars. Our membership drive encourages current members to renew in April by enclosing a membership form and envelope in our newsletter. Members can pay membership dues or make donations via check, credit card, electronic cash transfer, or a PayPal account. To facilitate enrollment there is a QR code on our website, on our Newsletter and brochures, and on all of our enrollment documentation. We continue to advertise the Friends in the NDL display case during the month of May. We updated the Friends' Brochure and the Friends' tab on the NDL website in 2023 to reflect new directions and changes in processes. We appreciate all the support from all our board members over the last year.

Scholarship Committee

Denise Stacer – Director

The Friends awarded scholarships to two Northville High School students that were selected by the Scholarship Committee. The winners in 2023 were: Owen Kirkpatrick and Leo Jackson. Both students attended the Friends June Board meeting. We are grateful to Northville Marathon Bridge who once again donated \$1000 specifically for a scholarship which went to Owen.



The scholarship applicants are required to have volunteered for the Friends or the library during their junior or senior years, and are also required to submit a 350 word personal essay entitled, “How I Have Made a Difference Volunteering at the Library”.

Friends Sponsored Evening Programs

Total spent in 2023 - \$2,800.00

‘Tis Merry Berry Season – 12/5/22 (paid in 2023)

Tidysmart - 1/25

Through the Eyes of Rose with Author John Kozak – 5/15

Lotus Flower Lantern Craft – 5/18

Notable Author 6/13

Music of Motor City – 7/20

Dore Productions – The Roosevelts – 11/21

City Lights Choir – 12/4



**Friends of the Northville District Library
Used Book Operations
2023 Year End Report**

<u>Month</u>	Cellar	Special Sales	Vendor	Total
January	\$1,163.35		\$1,763.56	\$2,926.91
February	\$1,106.85			\$1,106.85
March	\$1,272.63	\$322.00		\$1,594.63
April	\$1,431.10		\$2,245.84	\$3,676.94
May	\$1,400.75			\$1,400.75
June	\$1,489.10	\$250.00		\$1,739.10
July	\$1,736.60	\$1,000.00		\$2,736.60
August	\$1,291.55		\$1,762.00	\$3,053.55
September	\$1,490.00			\$1,490.00
October	\$1,159.60			\$1,159.60
November	\$1,201.92			\$1,201.92
December	\$1,192.90			\$1,192.90
Total 2023	\$15,936.35	\$1,572.00	\$5,771.40	\$23,279.75

Friends of Northville District Library - Year Ended 12/31/2023

Category	Total
Income	
Dividends and Bank Interest	
Certificate Dividends	680.87
Bank Interest	24.59
TOTAL Dividends and Bank Interest	705.46
Donations	
Donations restricted	1,200.00
Donations unrestricted	3,067.41
TOTAL Donations	4,267.41
Gift Book Program	2,147.00
Membership	7,825.00
Credit Card Fees	-28.96
TOTAL Membership	7,796.04
Used Book Sales	
Book Cellar	17,508.35
Vendor Sales	5,771.40
TOTAL Used Book Sales	23,279.75
TOTAL Income	38,195.66
EXPENSES	
Administrative	
Advertising_Promotion	200.00
Annual Meeting Expenses	97.82
Dues _ Memberships	240.00
Honor Gifts	1,060.00
Postage	261.00
Printing	
Newsletter	908.36
Membership Brochure	164.96
TOTAL Printing	1,073.32
Supplies, Miscellaneous	109.06
Tax Preparation & License	300.00
TOTAL Administrative	3,341.20
Friends Operating	
Used Book Sales - Misc Exp	352.87
Used Book Sales - Sales Tax	0.00
TOTAL Friends Operating	352.87

Friends of Northville District Library - Year Ended 12/31/2023

Category	Total
Library Donations and Requests	
2024 Wish List Donations Paid in 2023	2,600.00
Adult summer reading	1,000.00
Battle of the books	3,500.00
Comic Book Day Program	400.00
Local Author Fair	350.00
Friends Sponsored Programs	2,800.00
Gift Books	2,375.00
Halloween Tote Bags	900.00
Staff Appreciation	557.82
Teen summer reading	2,500.00
Youth summer reading	7,000.00
TOTAL Library Donations and Requests	23,982.82
Programs	
Cider on Sunday	451.81
Book Mark Contest	285.54
Scholarships	1,500.00
TOTAL Programs	2,237.35
TOTAL Expenses	29,914.24
OVERALL TOTAL	8,281.42

2023 Assets

Beginning Balances 1/1/2022

Checking	39,016.32
Certificates	21,357.07
Total	60,373.39

Ending Balances 12/31/2022

Checking	46,616.87
Certificates	22,037.94
Total	68,654.81

Change in Assets	8,281.42
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Summer Reading Program

Caryn Bartone, Head of Youth Services

The 2023 Summer Reading Program, *All Together Now*, was a huge success with a record number of participants. Overall, 1,370 people of all ages participated.

The Friends of the Library generously provided the Youth Dept. with a \$7,000 gift and the Teen Dept. with a \$2,500 gift, which made the following programs possible:

- Every Friday morning we offered an all ages Storytime.
- Toddler Explorations
- Rufus the Dufus: Everyone enjoyed a spectacular show with juggling, unicycling, balancing acts, and more.
- Tie-Dye Together: Families were able to
 - make their own tie-dye masterpieces.
- Kindermusik: These classes showed how music can bring joy to even the youngest children.
- Sounds Like Science with Mad Science of Detroit: Kids learned how sounds are heard.
- Sloan Museum of Discovery: The museum taught the kids how to make light up circuit friendship bracelets.
- Creature Feature with Little Creatures Co.: The kids were able to see some very special animals including an Albino Burmese Python, a Tarantula, a Leopard Tortoise, an African Grey Parrot, a Chinchilla, and more.
- Chalk the Walk: We provided chalk to everyone to add their drawings to the sidewalk outside the building entrance.
- Stuffed Animal Workshop: A fun workshop to build your own fur-ever friend, along with a story.
- Art Together Now: The tweens worked together to create a mystery masterpiece that we displayed in the Library.
- Howell Nature Center: Wildlife in Your Backyard: The kids learned about the wildlife found around our homes.
- Downpup Yoga: Yoga for the whole family and all abilities.
- Teen Shelter Pets Art Contest
- Teen Bleach T-shirts: Teens made their own custom t-shirt.
- Teen Henna Workshop: A hands-on workshop with a professional henna artist.
- Teen Shelter Pets in the Pawrk: Rescue organizations brought pets
- Teen Ultimate Movie Night
- Teen Quest for Camp Half Blood
- Teen Summertime Not-So-Snowball Fight
- Teen Friendship Bracelet Station: Throughout the summer, teens were able to make friendship bracelets.

The funding also provided prizes for the Youth and Teen Departments. The kids who completed the program received a free book and a token for the gumball machine, which allowed them to win a small prize. Six grand prizes were purchased and a random drawing for each of the prizes was done for the finishers.

The Teen Dept. was able to provide prizes for all of the finishers, along with a random drawing of various gift cards for the finishers.

For the first time since before 2020, we were able to celebrate the end of Summer Reading with a Summer Reading Finale party that over 300 people attended. Kona Ice provided cool treats for everyone, there were inflatables for the kids and teens, lawn games, airbrush tattoos, and a hula-hoop performer.

Youth Program

\$7,000 donation by the Friends of the Library

2023 = 750 participants

2022 = 316 participants

Teen Program

\$2,500 donation by the Friends of the Library

2023 = 221 participants

2022 = 145 participants

Adult Program

\$1,000 donation by the Friends of the Library

2023 = 399 participants

2022 = 232 participants

Thank you, Friends of the Library, for your continued support of our Summer Reading program. As always, we are grateful for your support.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caryn Bartone
Head of Youth Services

2023 Northville District Library Annual Report

Laura Mancini, Director

Building Projects

The exterior of the Northville District Library was repainted in the fall of 2023 and looks amazing! The Library also made plans to renovate the Carlo Meeting Room in 2024 and replace all of its multimedia equipment. The biggest challenge the Northville District Library has is its lack of space to properly serve its patron population which has doubled since its building opened. To help address this need, the Library Board commissioned a space feasibility study with the architectural firm of Quinn Evans. The study which will be completed in 2024, will give guidance to the Library Board on the amount and kind of space the Library will need going forward.

New Services

The Northville District Library introduced several new services in 2023. MakeIT, the Library's very own Maker Lab debuted on December 1st. The new space offers 3-D printing, vinyl and paper cutting, sublimation printing and heat pressing, and laser cutting and engraving. All of these tools help users create, collaborate and learn and the NDL was delighted to be able to bring this technology to the Library for its patrons. The Library also partnered with the Northville Art House to offer a new patron book club, *From Page to Palette*. Participants in this club read fiction books based upon some of the most famous people in art history. The NDL expanded its partnership with the Northville Senior Center to offer technology classes on a quarterly basis. Last but not least, the Youth Department introduced the *Talk, Text and Learn* mobile app. This app provides daily tips to parents to help them prepare their children to attend school.



3-D Printer in
MakeIT Lab

Personnel

Laura Curtsinger Bomia, retired after serving 25 years as Librarian in the NDL's Youth Department. Whitney Jones was hired as a full-time Youth Librarian and Sara Jurek also joined the team as a part-time Adult Services Librarian.

Special Events

The Northville District Library hosted author Jennifer Murphy for a special visit on June 13th as part of *the Michigan Notable Books* program. The Library also held its second annual Winter Extravaganza on December 19th which featured a visit from Santa Claus and Buddy the Elf. The NDL's annual Local Author Fair returned for a third year and had record participation. The Library's two biggest programs, *Battle of the Books* and *Summer Reading*, also continued their successful runs in 2023. All of these programs received funding from the Friends of the Northville District Library.



Local Author Fair, 2023

Sunday Hours

Based upon feedback from the community, the Northville District Library added hours on Sundays during the summer months. Previously, the Library was open on Sundays during the school and now it is open on Sundays year round.



Usage Statistics

The Northville District tracks the usage statistics of all of the services that it provides to the public. Listed below is a snapshot of some of these categories and their 2023 usage figures.

Number of Items in Collection	1,453,213
Physical Visits to the NDL	147,545
Program Attendance	13,970
Circulation- Physical Items	463,502
Circulation- Electronic Items	125,160
Reference Questions Answered	29,642
Public Computer Sessions	7,185
Wireless Network Sessions	14,112

Volunteer of the Year Award

The Northville District Library established the Will Bastien Volunteer of the Year award which is given out each year at its annual volunteer recognition event. For 2023, the NDL's Volunteer of the Year was Sharon Rauner. Sharon relabeled 10,000 picture books in the Youth Collection with the author's last name in order to make locating a specific title in the collection easier. Due to Sharon's hard work and persistence, finding a picture book is now a breeze!

