



Fall 2024

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The year has gone quickly, the leaves are falling and just as certain, the Friend's Room is filled with tons of books. **November 1 and 2** are the dates for the last book sale for 2024. Coralville is very blessed to have many generous donors who keep the Friend's Room stocked with inventory. Our vice president **LeeAnn Logan** has continually done a phenomenal job categorizing books so shopping is easier. Also in this newsletter, read how she has also received the most notable Library volunteer honor.

During the pandemic instead of setting a per item price for book sale items, we started asking for just donations. This change has been successful. We have been impressed with the generosity of our patrons. Some people ask what is fair and ask for suggestions. It's up to you but, a guide might be the former prices \$1 for paperbacks, \$2 for hardcovers, 25 cents for children's books and media for \$1. Because of your generosity, the Library, Coralville Central, Kirkwood, Northwest Jr High, and the Coralville Community Food Pantry all received significant grants.

In our recent donations we received a huge selection of the Great Courses Books and DVDs. What a treasure of knowledge. They would make great Christmas gifts. (Hint)

In the last sale and also for November the Library Foundation will have a selection of stained-glass art and local area prints. At the August sale 43 of the prints and 24 stained glass items were sold. There is still a significant selection available including some really unique lamps.

Besides providing funds to the library and local schools, we have helped the prison as our new intern, **Kenny Mack**, is a library science major doing his practicum at the Coralville library and has a special interest in working with prisons. The Friends have also provided books for a school in Liberia.

We hope soon to direct you to the Peace Pole on the library grounds. The pole says "May Peace Prevail" in eight different languages and was donated by Veterans for Peace in honor of **Lloyd and Donna Epley**, long-time CPL supporters. Be on the lookout for the date of dedication.

Hopefully you will attend the sale, donate books and, if possible, volunteer as you can.

Another reminder—you will be receiving a note about membership renewal. Memberships are only \$15 but many people donate more, which is also much appreciated.

Enjoy the leaves and keep on reading.

Bill Benson



NO PRE-SALE SHOPPING OCTOBER 31



IMPORTANT

Membership Renewal
2025 Sale Schedule

Officers & Board Members

President
BILL BENSON

Vice President
LEE ANN LOGAN

Secretary &
Community Outreach
MARGARET MELLECKER

Treasurer
PAT DARLING

Archivist
LINDA CRETZMEYER

Book Sales
DEB GILL

Library Liaison
SARA JANE PITCHER

Members at Large
SHIRLEY ALTENHOFEN
WENDY GRASBY
JULIE PULKRABEK

Newsletter
SANDIE HERWIG

Publicity
SARA JANE PITCHER
MARIE WAKEMAN

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Summer Reading Programs were a huge success this year—a big thanks to the Friends for your ongoing support of these programs. It has taken a few years to get back to the onsite participation in summer reading after the shift that we all went through with the Pandemic, but we definitely saw numbers this year that looked like our 'pre-Pandemic' summer reading participation!

Fall is well under way, and we have a couple of exciting special programs that I wanted to let you know about. The annual Paul Engle Prize event will be on Thursday,

November 14th at 7:00 pm. **Camille Dungy**, an acclaimed poet and insightful nature writer is this year's winner. She lived for a time in our community during her teenage years and graduated from West High School. We look forward to welcoming her back! The event is free and everyone is welcome to the reception in the Library rotunda following.

The second event I wanted to share is an evening program on November 12 at 6:00 pm with **Mary Engle Burge**. Mary is Paul Engle's oldest daughter and is traveling back to Iowa to attend the Engle Prize event. She will be sharing memories

from her childhood in Iowa City, her father and the Iowa Writers' Workshop in the early days, along with excerpts from *American Child*—a book of poetry that Engle wrote for Mary in 1944. She has wonderfully vivid memories of her childhood and growing up in Iowa City and many of the famous authors who were guests in the Engle home. It will be a delightful program.

I hope you can join us for both of these special 'homecoming' events. Thanks again for all that you do! I look forward to seeing you at the Library!

Alison Ames Galstad

FRIENDS HIGHLIGHT *Deb Gill*

In this newsletter we will introduce our Book Sales chair, **Deb Gill**. A 42-year Friends member, Deb has successfully headed up the quarterly book sales for 15 years. There are many details ranging from picking dates, reserving rooms, contacting and scheduling volunteers to take down and clean up. It's always amazing to see how the basement rooms can transform into a wonderful showcase for books. Even more amazing is taking it all down in less than an hour.

Deb is graduate of both City High and University of Iowa in College of



Business. She and Tom have been married for 55 years and have lived in Coralville for forty-six. They have two daughters and five granddaughters, who keep the Gills busy. There is an extremely popular craft table at the library dedicated to daughter Annie's memory. Daughter Maggie's family lives in Illinois so the Gill grands can visit often.

Deb has always been a willing volun-

teer. She headed up the landscaping project at Coralville Central. In 1988 she received the Governor's Volunteer Award from the Iowa City School District. Deb has always given back to the community, and we are very thankful that she shares her skills with us,

Bill Benson



2024 T. Patricia Dee Volunteer Award Winner



As our Friends president recently noted **Lee Ann Logan's** "passion is organizing. Because of her hard work with other volunteers the Friends' room is the most organized it has ever been. We are blessed that Lee Ann is using her talent and energy for the benefit of the Friends."

Lee Ann's energy is infectious; it's easy to see how the Trustees chose her.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

We had a wonderful summer—more than 1,200 children signed up for the **Summer Reading Challenge**. We hosted 48 children's events at the library, many of which included special guests that you generously funded. Each of these programs created an opportunity for children and families to experience something special together and hopefully fostered lasting memories. We were thrilled to offer several programs about animals and conservation efforts, which fit in very well with our Summer Reading theme, "Read, Renew, Repeat!"

On June 11, more than 300 people walked through the Barnyard Discoveries mobile petting zoo to meet a piglet, a miniature pony, a cow, two goats—named Sam and Frodo, and many other animals.

Around 90 young children and caregivers enjoyed using their imaginations to visit outer space with musical guest **Dino O'Dell** on June 18. **Magician Mikayla Oz** returned on June 19 with a show that engaged the whole family (145 people) and resulted in wild and joyful laughter.

On July 10, nearly 90 children and caregivers enjoyed learning about sharks with "**Ocean Odyssey**," the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium's traveling touch tank. After learning about the animals, kids had the opportunity to get up close and touch a shark. At our July 22 Family Night, the **Iowa Raptor Project** brought three raptors with them—a kestrel, a barn owl, and a red-tailed hawk. An audience of 75 enjoyed this event.

In addition to funding special guests, your support of the Summer Reading Challenge provides fantastic incentives for participants. Children love choosing a book for a halfway prize. This summer, we handed out 550 books! Children also get to enter a virtual ticket into a prize drawing when they finish. Thank you for providing funds to allow us to buy prizes that appealed to each age group. This year we offered wooden puzzles and toys, a tiny gardening set, a movie theater gift card, and Prairie Lights gift certificates.

Thank you, as well, for your ongoing support of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Coralville. We have 480 registered children and 186 graduates! So far, children in Coralville and rural Johnson County have received 11,631 books.

Thank you for your continued support of children's services at the library and your dedication to serving the community of Coralville.

Sara Glenn and
Erika Binegar



TEENS / TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

On behalf of the teens who participate in the teen programs at the Coralville Public Library I want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your continuous support.

Our theme for the 2024 Summer Reading Challenge was "Grow to Your Library" and we were thrilled to have over 300 teens sign up and participate in library activities. Your generous funding for our programming needs has been crucial to our success. With your support, we were able to hire a 20-hour-per-week teen intern, greatly enhancing our program.

Additionally, we hosted a fantastic Do Art: comic book guest, provided essential craft and program materials, snacks, prize bas-

kets, and a wide selection of quality prize books.

We are also thankful for the T-shirts you provided for our hard-working Teen Advisory Board members. These shirts, designed by the teens themselves, are worn at all teen events during the summer. Your funding for the monthly craft kits, distributed every third Wednesday of each month throughout the year, has been invaluable.

We are incredibly grateful for the Friends' consistent recognition of our dedicated teen volunteers. The Friends Teen Service Award, in the amount of \$1000, was presented to **Carly Ephraim**, a deserving West High School senior, at the

annual April Friends Meeting. This year marks the fourteenth anniversary of this annual award, which assists a graduating high school senior with their future education.

Furthermore, **Aster Jacobson**, a teen volunteer, was acknowledged for volunteering almost 200 hours this past year and received \$100 to purchase books in their name for the library.

We truly appreciate the Friends' generosity and cannot thank you enough. Many of the services we provide to our youth would not be possible without your support. Investing in our youth is a worthwhile and meaningful use of your funding, as they are one of our community's most valuable assets.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

*Karen Stierler
Teen Services Librarian*



Teen Service Award Winner



Carly Ephraim had 50 plus hours volunteering last year at the Library and won the \$1,000 teen service award. She is proudly displaying her certificate alongside **Karen Stierler**, Teen Services Librarian.

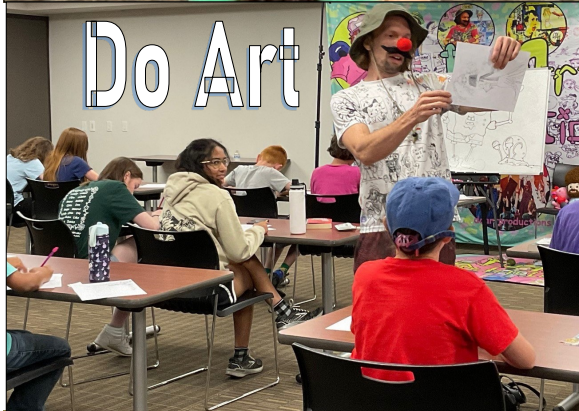
A four-year TAB member in high school, Carly is attending cosmetology school this fall.

.... MORE SUMMER FUN

Raptor Project



Do Art



Teen Hangout





Among those present at the Friends Annual meeting for the Pat Dee award presentation:

Bob Turnquist (President, Board of Trustees), F. X. Cretzmeyer (Member of both the CPL Board of Trustees and the CPL Foundation Board), **Lee Ann Logan**, Pat Kenner (Board of Trustees), and Molly Logan (Board of Trustees).

**2025
BOOK SALES**

Feb. 7-8
April 25-26
Aug. 1-2
Nov. 7-8

Friday 11:00-5:30
Saturday 10:00-3:00



MEMBERSHIP

The Friends have moved to a yearly renewal model—
ALL renewals will be due in
January.

Your continued support of
the Friends is very much
appreciated.

NO PRE-SALE SHOPPING OCTOBER 31, 2024

Update your membership online!

Visit

<https://coralvillepubliclibrary.org/about/friends-of-the-library/>



 *friends*
of the Coralville Public Library