



FRIENDS *of the*  
Plymouth Library  
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

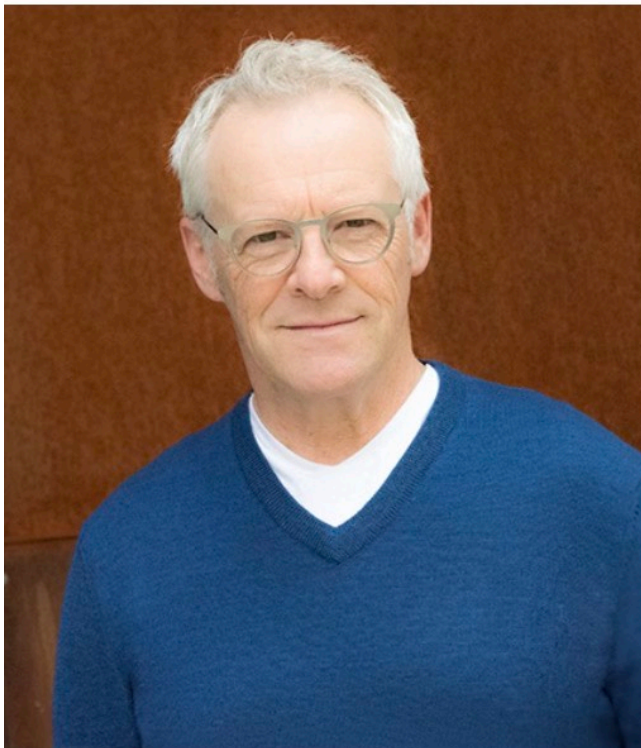
# CHECK IT OUT!

## Great Things Are Planned In 2023!

### LIBRARY BOOK SALE - March 11th

The Friends of the Plymouth Library will be holding its next book sale on Saturday, March 11th. The sale begins at 9:00 am for Friends members and then at 10:00 am 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 pm, with the last hour being reserved for the \$5.00 bag sale.

## PLYMOUTH READS 2023



MR. GOLDMAN WILL SPEAK ON APRIL 20TH

Friends of Plymouth Library are pleased to announce that Plymouth Reads is alive and returns full force in April.

This year's book is Carolina Moonset by Emmy Award winning writer, playwright, and author Matt Goldman. It is our first mystery novel and was unanimously chosen by our hard working Plymouth READS (PR) volunteer readers.\*

A mystery novel, Carolina Moonset is both suspenseful and deeply moving, an engrossing story about family, memories, secrets, and, of course, murder. It's a mystery, after all.

Matt Goldman, formerly a television writer for the Seinfeld & Ellen shows as well as others, will be speaking in person on **Thursday, April 20, at 7 p.m. at Plymouth Community Center, Black Box Theater**. Goldman, who

now makes his home in Edina, published his first novel Gone to Dust, featuring Minnesota detective Nils Shapiro in 2017 and three more Nils Shapiro books followed. Carolina Moonset is a stand alone story set in South Carolina.

Thank you, Friends members, for providing 100 community copies of this book through your membership contributions and book sale purchases. Community copies of Carolina Moonset are to be immediately read and shared with family members, friends, and neighbors, then returned to the library front desk to be read by others. We once received a community copy returned with 11 readers' names listed on the inside cover! The library also has multiple copies for check out. And it is easily available at bookstores. Mr. Goldman's books will be available for purchase at his appearance on April 20.

The Goldman talk will include time for Q & A, as well as autographing books following the program.

\*We are looking for additional readers to help us choose the right book for PR2024. It's a commitment of a book a month and is a bit like a book club that only reads books by local authors. If you enjoy reading and community involvement, let us know. We are particularly interested in increasing the male perspective and hearing more from younger readers and people of color. Contact LuAnn Svendsen 612-799-3645 text/talk for more information.

And a big thank you to the diverse group of 15 volunteer readers who thoughtfully considered the books for 2023 and made the project fun while doing it!

## TWO PR2023 EVENTS TO CONSIDER

Both are on Saturday, April 15:

1. Plymouth Friends will host a book club style discussion of "Carolina Moonset" on Saturday, April 15 from 2-3 pm at Plymouth Library. Drop in to chat about the book and consider questions to ask the author. (Mr. Goldman will **not** be present for this discussion).

No registration needed and there is never a fee for a library event.

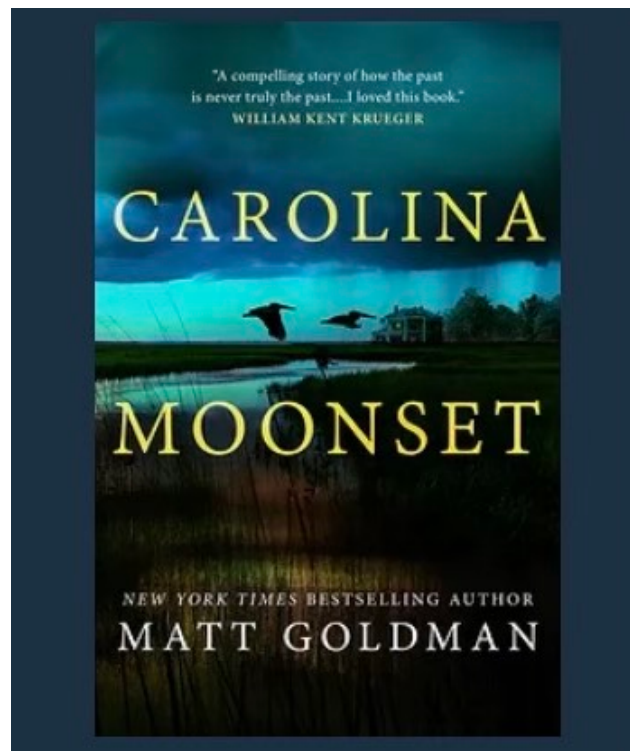
2. The City of Plymouth has put together a fun event in support of PR2023. Folks from the Park & Rec Dept will be explaining Pickleball! By now, most of us have heard of pickleball but many of us know nothing about this fast growing sport for all ages. Here is a chance to learn a bit about the history, the rules and how to play. There will even be

an opportunity to give it a try, if you choose. This event is at 3:30 pm at Plymouth Community Center on Saturday, April 15. No registration and no cost. Just drop in!

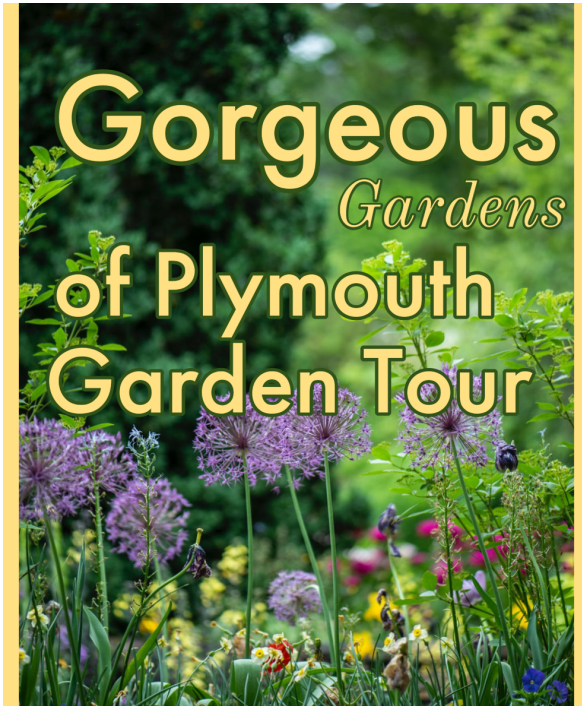
Plymouth READS is a community wide event supported by the Friends of Plymouth Library, Hennepin County Library Plymouth, the Plymouth Arts Council, the City of Plymouth, Plymouth Parks & Recreation and Friends of Hennepin County Library. Thank you to these groups for continued support.

Plymouth READS began in 2010. To get some great book ideas, go to [Plymouthreads.org](http://Plymouthreads.org) and click on the history tab to see the past PR books.

All PR events are open to all with no fees.



## **PLYMOUTH FRIENDS GARDEN TOUR 2023**



The Friends are happy to announce that, once again, you will be able to tour gorgeous gardens in Plymouth, on Sunday, July 16th, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. As always, the gardens will be appealing, charming and delightful, with enough flowers to satisfy the most avid garden lover.

We could use one more garden in the tour, so if you know someone who has a gorgeous garden (or if you do), please consider asking them to volunteer to participate. Contact information is listed in this newsletter.

Watch for more information on how to purchase tickets for the tour in the next newsletter.

## **FRIENDS ESTABLISH ENDOWMENT**

In January, the Plymouth Friends Board saw the fruition of many months of discussion as they signed an agreement with the Friends of the Hennepin County Library to establish an endowment fund in the amount of \$25,000.

The Friends of HCL describe an endowment gift as “a donation given with the intent to preserve the original value of the gift, while growing it over time. The funds are held in perpetuity and invested. The accumulated appreciation and income on the investment is used to fund annual distributions” according to the donor’s wishes.

The Plymouth Friends Board determined that the distributions from the endowment will be used to support the Hennepin County Library’s collection, so that it will continue to remain the most comprehensive library collection in the Upper Midwest. Specifically, the distribution will support the Library’s acquisition, digitization and preservation efforts.

The Plymouth Friends have reason to be very proud of the many years of volunteering and fundraising that have gone into raising these funds. The Endowment that we have established will be a lasting legacy for our organization and will enrich lives far into the future.

## **2022 Annual Report from the President of the Friends Board**

Another year has passed by and the Friends of the Plymouth Library continues to be a strong healthy organization, thanks to our many committed volunteers and members.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic curtailed some of the Friends activities during 2022, for the most part we had returned to pre-pandemic status by the end of the year. We resumed in-person meetings in February, albeit with a virtual option. In June we held our first book sale of the year, followed by two more in September and November.

In April the Friends staffed a booth at the Discover Plymouth event. The books we gave away were a big draw, and many people “discovered” the Friends. Plans are moving ahead for participation again in 2023.

Due to a confluence of events beyond our control, the Plymouth Reads program was forced to take a hiatus in 2022, and we all missed it a lot. But the good news is that the planning committee worked really hard during that hiatus and will be presenting a fabulous program for 2023; look for details in a separate article in this newsletter.

Gorgeous Gardens of Plymouth returned in July, and as always, the gardens were beautiful and interesting. For the first time, the tour included a vegetable giving garden, at Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church in Plymouth, and visitors also had a chance to see the oldest house in Plymouth. This year the garden tour is planned for **July 16th**.

Membership in our organization continues to increase; we began 2022 with 399 household memberships and ended the year with 485. We’ve set a goal of 600 household memberships by the end of 2023.

Many of our Board meetings in 2022 included a lot of hard work around the issue of why we raise money and how we spend it once we have it. We participated in several exercises that helped to narrow our focus, and at the end of the year the Board voted to contribute \$25,000 to make an endowed gift to the Friends of the Hennepin County Library. Details about the endowment are shared in a separate article in this newsletter.

Another result of these discussions was that we pinpointed 4 major goals for fundraising in 2023: The Library Collection, Library Outreach and Innovation (to remove barriers to library use and build bridges with marginalized communities), Youth Programming, and The Friends Fund (to support the entire library system and be responsive to needs of local communities). There will be a giant thermometer display at every book sale going forward that will track our progress toward those goals.

Here’s to our ever-growing community of library friends. We look forward to sharing library events, book recommendations and conversations in the stacks with all of you!

Cathy Fischer

President, Friends of the Plymouth Library Board

## **Treasurer's Report for 2022**

Once again, the Friends of the Plymouth Library had a notable fiscal year.

Our book sales in October and December each made more than \$4,000 after expenses. And the annual Garden Tour was a smashing success, earning almost \$1,500 after small expenses.

The Ready Reads cart in the entryway to the library, which holds a wide variety of books for adults and children, continued to have strong sales throughout the year. Despite no increase in the suggested donation of \$1.00 per book, the cart raised more than \$3,500 in 2022, almost as much as an average book sale.

Membership income increased slightly from the 2021 level. It had dropped by more than half due to the pandemic. We're encouraged to see it creep toward pre-pandemic levels. 2019: \$3,193 / 2020: \$1,295 / 2021: \$2,109 / 2022: \$2193.

The largest expenses for the year included the Endowment Fund, as explained by Cathy Fischer in her Message from the Friends President, and rental of a storage locker for book sale books. If you know of an easily accessible spot in the city of Plymouth that would be willing to share their space with boxes of books awaiting our sales, at little or no cost to the Friends, please email us at [Plymouth@SupportHCLIB.org](mailto:Plymouth@SupportHCLIB.org).

Thank you to many members of the Friends of the Plymouth Library for generous additions to your membership checks. And thank you to all members for renewing your memberships and continuing to support the Plymouth Library!

## **MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT**

The Friends of the Plymouth Library now has a membership of 530, which is really 530 households! We lost some membership during the pandemic; we had about 350 members then. Once the libraries reopened, the membership started to grow again. We have the goal of reaching the 600 membership mark and would love to have your and your friends and neighbors join the Friends of the Plymouth Library. We really appreciate each and every one of you. Fewer libraries in the Hennepin County Library System have active Friends groups and ours is the largest. Thank you!



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: Cathy Fischer

Vice-President: Joshua Velasquez

Treasurer: Katherine Jaeger

Secretary: Barbara Wills

Book Sales: LuAnn Svendsen, Charlie Knuth

Membership: Ellen Griffin

Communications:

Volunteers: Sandy Hoglund

Plymouth READS Chair: LuAnn Svendsen

Newsletter: Charlie Knuth

Nominations: Katherine Jaeger

Directors: Shannon Banks, Margaret Bird,

Kristin Blomquist, Bernadeen Brutlag, Claudia

Hunter, Bryan Wilkerson

Library Liaison: Joanna Redman

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

[plymouth@supportthclib.org](mailto:plymouth@supportthclib.org)

Call (612)543-5825



## Book Sale

The next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, March 11, 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 false from 2-3 p.m.

## Books recommended by the Board:

Forgotten Botanist by Wynne Brown

Last Circle of Love by Lorna Landvik

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman

Carolina Moonset by Matt Goldman

The Way Out by Tafayel Ahmed

The Library at Night by Alberto Manguel

Any Other Family by Eleanor Brown

Ain't Burned All the Bright by Jason Reynolds

Hawthorne Legacy by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Build Every Day by Alec Posta

A Killing of Innocence by Deborah Crombie

The Dogs Bark by Truman Capote

Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt

Today's Menu for the Emiya Family by TAA

River Sing Me Home by Eleanor Shearer

Trilogy—Rules of Deception, Rules of Vengeance, Rules of Betrayal by Christopher Reich

Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

What Happened to the Bennetts by Lisa Scottoline

Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

Mort by Terry Pratchett

The Boys by Katie Hafner

Lucy by the Sea by Elizabeth Strout

Flight by Lynn Steger Strong

Ragtime by E.L. Doctorow

The Anomaly by Hervé Le Tellier

## 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.

This is the first edition of “Check It Out” that is being sent out electronically only, unless you don’t have an easily accessible email address and have contacted the Friends - Friends of the Plymouth Library, PO Box 46232, Plymouth, MN 55546.

**THANK YOU, MEMBERS!!**

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

\*Coupon counts towards books only.

**FROM:** Friends of the Plymouth  
Library  
PO BOX 46232  
Plymouth, MN 55446

TO