



FRIENDS *of the*
Plymouth Library
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

CHECK IT OUT!

CHANGES TO THE *MEMBERS-ONLY* HOUR OF THE BOOK SALE: PLEASE READ!

Starting with the upcoming book sale on May 13th, there will no longer be an outside check-in for members. Please **line up at the entry door to the library**, not the back door to the sale. The library doors will open promptly at 9:00 a.m. There will be two lines of entry into the book sale. One line will be for those who have brought their Friends membership cards and one line for those who don't have their cards with them and will need to be verified on our master list. This line will also be for those who need to purchase or renew their membership. These lines will be clearly marked. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause, but it has become necessary for these changes to be implemented.

LIBRARY BOOK SALE - May 13th

The Friends of the Plymouth Library will be holding its next book sale on Saturday, May 13th. The sale begins at 9:00 am for Friends members (please see the above article) 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 RETURNED AS A HUGE SUCCESS

The return of Plymouth READS welcomed about 200 people to the main event, featuring Matt Goldman, author of “Carolina Moonset”. Goldman had the crowd laughing with his dry wit and his self-deprecating remarks. He answered audience questions for more than an hour, welcoming questions about his stand up-comedy career, his work on the first seasons of the Seinfeld show and answering everything anyone asked about his books, writing process, even financial questions were allowed. Goldman was definitely “on” and everyone seemed to enjoy it. It didn’t hurt that he praised the Plymouth Community Center venue and joked he was going to move to Plymouth! FYI, he currently lives in Edina but went to Armstrong High School in Plymouth.

Our “Carolina Moonset” book discussion session at Plymouth Library on April 15 was well attended. A couple of people came expecting to see the author but stayed to talk about the book anyway. And, they also attended the actual author event on April 20.

On our website, plymouthreads.org, you can learn a bit more about Lewy Body dementia and the book. We have a seven minute video from Dr. Samantha Banks, who will be a neurologist at Mayo in June. Take a look at it!

Our introduction to pickleball also on April 15 had an enthusiastic group of 25+ people of all ages. We now know the rules and how to play. At least one person asked about purchasing a paddle so we likely brought more people into this growing sport.

We are seeking a few additional community volunteers for the Plymouth READS book selection committee. It is a bit like a book club, with meetings on the third Thursday of each month-Sept through April or May. Books are provided by the Plymouth Library. For more information contact LuAnn Svendsen, luann3645@gmail.com



AUTHOR. MATT GOLDMAN, ADDRESSING THE PLYMOUTH READS AUDIENCE.

PlymouthREADS2023 was a big success! Thank you to all who helped in any way and to all those who attended our events!



LIBRARY STAFF MEMBER ANGELA LANGEBERG, AND PLYMOUTH FRIENDS CARRIE ALMAER AND JOSH VELASQUEZ GREET VISITORS AT THE FRIENDS BOOTH.

Friends of the Plymouth Library Raises Awareness, Gives Away Hundreds of Kids' Books at Discover Plymouth

For the second year in a row, the Friends of the Plymouth Library (FOPL) proudly participated in Discover Plymouth, the city's annual community showcase featuring Plymouth-based non-profits, community groups, city services, and local businesses. The Plymouth Community Center's fieldhouse dome provided much-needed shelter from the rainy weather while hosting 88 exhibitors and a steady stream of attendees to the April 15 event.

The Friends of the Plymouth Library had the good fortune of being situated in the first aisle of exhibitors, meaning virtually every attendee passed our booth during their visit. Our vibrant booth drew the attention of hundreds of passers-by with our colorful display of flyers, posters, and giveaways, all aimed at raising awareness about the Friends and what we do. This year's awareness effort included an impressive shelf of hundreds of kids' books to be given away for free to kids and families visiting the

booth. (We made sure people knew they could also buy wonderful kids' books like these for as low as 50¢ at our used book sales.)

In exchange for the free books, our dutiful volunteers made sure each family walked away with a bundle of FOPL materials including a membership brochure, a book sales bookmark, a Plymouth Reads flyer, and a teaser bookmark for this summer's Garden Tour. Over the course of the five-hour event, we gave away nearly 200 books and promotional bundles, all thanks to the hard work of our FOPL Board volunteers: Board president Cathy Fischer, vice-president Josh Velasquez, and directors Carrie Almaer, Margaret Bird, and Brian Wilkerson, and teen director Shritha Devaraju.

The FOPL volunteers were joined by Plymouth librarian Angela Langeberg and her three tubs full of library flyers and goodies (plus a rather large Storm Trooper figurine to help advertise upcoming Star Wars-themed library events). Angela also came equipped to sign visitors up for new library cards, in support of the Hennepin County Libraries' strategic goal to make sure every resident in the county, no matter how young, has a library card.

For two years now, Discover Plymouth has proven to be a worthy investment of time and energy to build awareness in the community of the Friends of the Plymouth Library and what we do. We look forward to exhibiting FOPL again in the future, at Discover Plymouth and events like it. If you know of an event where FOPL should be present, please email plymouth@supporthclib.org and let us know!



LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES



When driving around Plymouth, have you noticed any small boxes with windows planted on the side of the road? Look closer and you'll see books behind a display case. That is a public bookcase, where anyone can take books to read or leave books for others. It's called a Little Free Library.

The Little Free Library system was started by Todd Bol with help from Richard Brooks. He wanted to honor his late mother, who loved books and had been a school teacher. The first location was on his own front yard and, together with Brooks, Todd created more in other areas of the American Midwest. Bol's initial goal was 2,510 Little Free Libraries. Does that sound arbitrary? It's not. He wanted to one-up Andrew Carnegie, whose philanthropic efforts established 2,509 libraries.

Todd Bol accomplished this goal by 2012, and his idea spread over the world. Literally, there are Little Free Libraries in 115 countries, numbering as many as 150,000 locations. Today the Little Free Library is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose goal is to expand access to books to all, regardless of background, and to foster community building through a shared love of reading.

Sources

1. <https://www.npr.org/2018/10/19/658962057/little-free-library-creator-todd-bol-dies>
2. <https://web.archive.org/web/20220406063900/https://littlefreelibrary.org/ourhistory>

GROWING OUR ENDOWMENT

Now that the Friends have established an endowment fund to support the Hennepin County Library collection, our thoughts have turned to growing the principal in the endowment. Since an endowment gift is given with the intent of preserving the original value of the gift, while growing it over time, only the accumulated appreciation and income on the investment are used to fund the annual distributions. As the endowment grows, so do the distributions. There are three options that are commonly used to grow an endowment: making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), including the fund in an estate plan, and making a legacy gift.

Making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), is a great way to donate to a charity and also reduce your taxable income. A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian to a qualified charity, up to \$100,000 per year. QCDs are excluded from your taxable income, so you can get a tax break for your donation. You must be at least 70.5 years old to make a QCD, and the charity must be a qualified 501(c)(3) organization. To qualify, donations must be made directly from your IRA to the charity and not through a donor-advised fund.

Another more long-term method of contributing to the Endowment is to keep it in mind as you do your estate planning. Funding can be accomplished with cash, bonds and shares of public companies, as well as real estate, life insurance policies, private securities, charitable gift annuities, artwork, jewelry and intellectual property.

A gift to the Endowment can also honor a special event in the life of a friend or loved one such as a special birthday or anniversary, and it can be a lasting memorial as well after their life has ended.

Any of the above types of gifts should include a letter or memo specifying "Friends of Plymouth Library Endowment Fund in support of The Collection" and be directed to:

Friends of the Hennepin County Library
300 Nicollet Mall, Suite N290
Minneapolis, MN 55401

If you have any questions about the endowment in general or how to help us grow it, please don't hesitate to contact us. And many thanks for considering assisting the Friends in investing in our community and enriching lives today, tomorrow, and far into the future

Save the Date! - Upcoming Gardens Tour

The Plymouth Friends are having their annual Gorgeous Gardens tour on Sunday, July 16th, from 11 am to 3 pm. As always, the gardens will be appealing, charming and delightful, with enough flowers to satisfy the most avid garden lover. Tickets will be available in early summer at the Bachman's garden store in Plymouth.



MEET MARYAM GIL - ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN

What is your hometown?

My lovely hometown is “Lahijan”, a town which is located in northern Iran. In October 2000, I immigrated to the United States, and I lived for seventeen years in California (alone). In October 2017, I moved to Minnesota with my partner ‘Terry’ who is my lovely husband now.

What is your current place of residence?

I have two locations for living: First, our permanent home in Forest Lake. Second, renting an apartment in Edina.



MARYAM GIL - ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN

What hobbies do you have?

My favorite hobby is reading. I like drawing, painting, sewing, crafts, gardening, and cooking.

What are your favorite genres to read?

I'm a Non-Fiction reader. I like to read about technology, history, and art.

What book has made the most impact on your life?

The book which has impacted me the most throughout my life is, “The Gadfly” by Ethel Lilian Voynich”. “The Gadfly” is set in Italy during the revolutionary ferment of the 1830s and '40s. The protagonist is a young Englishman, Arthur Burton, who moves to a Catholic seminary after the death of his mother. There he becomes devoted to his guardian and mentor, Montanelli, who, unknown to him, is also his biological father.

What is your favorite book?

I love the children’s book “Peace” by Wendy Anderson Halperin. This book is my favorite book.

What was the last great book you have read?

The last great book that I have read is “Life Lessons: Two experts on death and dying teach us about the mysteries of life and living” by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross. I also read “American Fire” by Monica Hesse, which is an interesting book based on a true story.

What are you really good at?

I am good at teaching. If I know the concept, I can make anyone learn very well. I know three languages: Farsi, Arabic, and English. I am also creative with the stuff we don't use. Drawing on mirrors and making some art pieces are my favorite things.

What do most people not know about you that you are willing to share?

There is a moment that I never share with anyone. I had hardships once I arrived in the US; I didn't know who could answer my questions. I only had a suitcase with one thousand dollars to pay for a hotel, but I was sure that librarians could help me.

What do you love about being a librarian?

For as long as I can remember I've known what I wanted to do with my life. A librarian career has always been a passion of mine and helping others research in a library is very appealing to me. Life can be so shallow and unrewarding if you are living each day with no plan for the future and little thought toward helping others. Life is full of different decisions. Some of them are choices. Some are compromises. Some are accidents. My library career was my childhood decision. When I was seven years old my mom took me to our public library to teach mathematics in the nearby school every day in summer. Our librarian was my mom's best friend and she tried to teach me everything about the library. While I was there every day, I read all of the library's books. It was then I decided to be a librarian.

Anything else you would like to add?

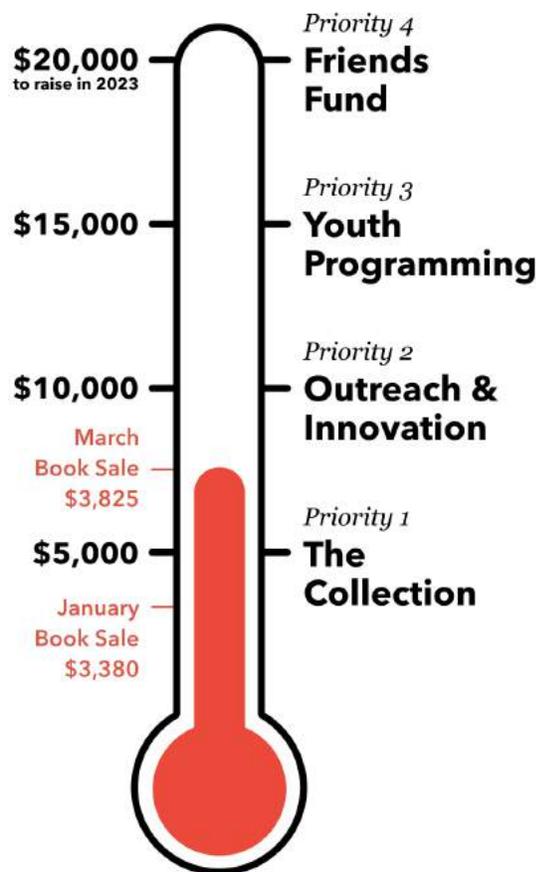
In general, I love writing. I love to read. I love to teach because it will help others to grow and succeed. I love to organize and lead events and to create and develop new ideas. My mother has always been my inspiration, not only to go for my dreams, but to make sure that my dreams and goals will benefit others and not just me. This may seem like an obvious statement and allowing me to live a life with true meaning. I feel very fortunate about the goals I have formed for myself over the past few years, and this is a reason that I want to be one of the Board of Friends of the Plymouth Library.

Friends of the Plymouth Library Meets First Fundraising Goal, Cuts \$5,000 Check to Support The Collection

Thanks to the continued success of our used book sales this year, the Friends of the Plymouth Library has met its first 2023 fundraising goal of \$5,000 to support the Hennepin County Libraries collection. The Board voted unanimously at our April meeting to donate these funds to the Friends of the Hennepin County Libraries. The funds we've donated are supporting acquisition, digitization, and preservation efforts to help ensure that the Hennepin County Library remains the most comprehensive library collection in the Upper Midwest.

Now, we move on to our second fundraising goal for 2023: \$5,000 to support Library Outreach & Innovation. Outreach Services helps build bridges with marginalized communities so they can enjoy the benefits of our library. New library innovations allow us to stay at the forefront of what's next and meet the needs of our patrons now and into the future.

FRIENDS *of the* Plymouth Library 2023 Fundraising Goals



A FEW MORE PICTURES FROM PLYMOUTH READS



Part of the PR2023 planning committee - Cathy Milostan, LuAnn Svendsen and Carrie Almaer with Matt Goldman.



THE AUDIENCE



MATT GOLDMAN WITH HIS MOTHER

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: Vacant

Volunteers: Sandy Hoglund

Plymouth READS Chair: LuAnn Svendsen

Newsletter: Charlie Knuth

Nominations: Katherine Jaeger

Directors: Carrie Almaer, Shannon Banks, Margaret Bird, Kristin Blomquist, Bernadeen Brutlag, Claudia Hunter, Bryan Wilkerson

Library Liaison: Joanna Redman

Teen Director: Shritha Devaraju

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.supporthclib.org

E-mail us at

plymouth@supporthclib.org

Call (612)543-5825



Book Sale

The next book sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 13, 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 sale from 2-3 p.m.

Books recommended by the Board:

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

Someone Else's Shoes by Jojo Moyes

Think Again by Adam Grant

Venom Doc by Bryan Fry

Raising Good Humans by Hunter Clarke-Fields

The Banned Bookshop of Maggie Banks by Shauna Robinson

River Sing Me Home by Eleanor Shearer

She Professed Herself Pupil of the Wise Man by

Hirotsugu Ryusen

Untamed by Will Harlan

The Ivory Key by Akshaya Raman

Old Lady on the Trail by Mary Davison

Boys in the Trees by Carly Simon

The Winners by Fredrik Backman

All the Broken Places by John Boyne

Starry Messenger by Neil deGrasse Tyson

Inheritance by Dani Shapiro

The Heart of the Matter by Graham Greene

The Last Chairlift by John Irving

Less by Andrew Sean Greer

Dead West by Matt Goldman

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 newsletter, "Check It Out", 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 May, 2023 book sale.

*Coupon counts towards books only.

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

TO