



FRIENDS *of the*  
Plymouth Library  
HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

# CHECK IT OUT!

## Next Book Sale, November 5th

The Friends of the Plymouth Library will be holding its next book sale on Saturday, November 5th. 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.

If you have books to donate, you may do so on Friday, November 5th, from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

## Programs at the Library



The Plymouth Library is offering programs during November and December that appeal to a wide range of interests and needs. Some are described here; visit the Events page on the library's website for more information, <https://hclib.bibliocommons.com/v2/events>.

Seniors, are you trying to decide what to do about Medicare Open Enrollment for next year? Get help from Senior LinkAge Line in a **Medicare Counseling Session** at no charge. Registration is required and can be done at <https://trellisconnects.org/get-help/medicare/>. Sessions are available on Nov. 2 and Nov. 9, Dec. 7 and Dec. 14, 9 am to 1 pm. Choose to make an in-person appointment, select Plymouth Library and a date/time. Or call Senior LinkAge Line at 800-333-2433. Registration closes four days before the date.

Do you love talking about books that you have read? The Plymouth Library is offering several book clubs where you can discuss books with other literature lovers, hosted by Antonio from the Plymouth Library. The **Wednesday Afternoon Book Club** meets from 2-3 pm, and will discuss *The Hilarious World of Depression* by John Moe on Nov. 2 and *The Family Chao* by Lan Samantha Chang on Dec. 7. The **Monday Night Book Club** meets from 6-7 pm, and will discuss *Where the Deer and the Antelope Play* by Nick Offerman on Nov. 14 and *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb on Dec. 12. Some lending copies will be available at the Plymouth Library service desk. Registration is required; visit the Events page on the library's website for more information.

**Family and Baby Storytimes** are being offered in November. Registration is required; visit the Events page on the library's website for dates and times.

Drop in and meet with an employment counselor from **CareerForce for Career Counseling and Job Search Assistance**. They offer résumé critique, job interview coaching, and effective job search strategies. Sessions are scheduled on Nov. 10, Dec. 8, and Dec. 22, 1:30-4:00 pm.

At a program on **Writing the Young Adult Novel** you can learn what makes the teenage experience so compelling for both writers and readers, and how to begin your own work for and about young adults, whether it is a paranormal romance, realistic fiction, or any other genre. Sunday, November 6, 1-2:30 pm. Registration is required; visit the Events page on the library's website for more information. Collaborator: The Loft Literary Center. Sponsor: Friends of the Hennepin County Library.

Adults of all computer skill levels are invited to an introduction to the Python programming language being offered on Nov. 16 and Dec. 10 from 10 am to 12 pm. Published Python textbook author Paul Kaefer will lead this 2-hour **Python Crash Course**. Bringing your own laptop is required and instructions to download Python will be provided in advance. This in-person crash course is for adults but high schoolers are welcome. Registration is required; visit the Events page on the library's website for more information.

# Meet Josh Velasquez - Friends Board Vice President



## **What is your hometown?**

I grew up in Glendora, California, a suburb about 30 miles east of Los Angeles.

## **What is your current place of residence?**

My family has lived in Plymouth since mid-2019. The three of us moved to Minnesota from Massachusetts in early 2019. Prior to our move, I spent 16 years in Massachusetts and the 18 years before that in California.

## **What hobbies do you have?**

My newest hobby, as of 2022, is mastering my Cricut machine to create all kinds of fun paper and vinyl products – stickers, cards, iron-on t-shirt designs, scale 3D models of elevator interiors to help move a bookshelf, you name it! I'm also a casual collector of postcards, stickers, and postage stamps. (Stamp collecting is probably my oldest hobby, going back something like 30 years.)

## **What are your favorite genres to read?**

I have a penchant for enjoying a really compelling non-fiction book. Our world is just so fascinating, and I appreciate authors and historians who can put that fascination into words for me to absorb. More on this topic below. (I'm finding, however, that many of the not-so-compelling professional development books I have to read for work are ruining the non-fiction genre for me. I need to keep an eye on that.)

**What book has made the most impact on your life?**

I had to dig deep for this one. After careful reflection, I'll respond with a book I read decades ago in middle school: The Giver by Lois Lowry. The book touched on themes which were off-limits in my generally sheltered existence until then, but I could get away with reading it because it was assigned in school. I vividly remember the effect this book had on my young brain, and I'm sure it planted some very early seeds of thought which still linger in my head to this day.

**What is your favorite book?**

Easy... Stephen King's The Stand. It's a guilty pleasure page-turner I can pick up and read over and over. (And I have.)

**What was the last great book you have read?**

Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind, by Yuval Noah Harari. This could be the modern-day answer to the "what book has made the most impact on your life" question for me. Harari does a masterful job of breaking down humanity as we know it into an immensely compelling historical exploration. (My answer to the next question might illuminate why this approach resonated with me so deeply.)

**What are you really good at?**

I have a knack for wrapping my head around complex topics and simplifying them to either make use of the information or to explain it. This manifests in my day-to-day life as being "tech support" for most of my friends and family, being quick with understanding and manipulating new tools and interfaces, and being good at creating information resources like how-to guides for colleagues at work.

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

I eat pizza slices and sandwiches from the outer edges inward, saving the best bites for last. I also pulled out one of my own wisdom teeth. (With my dentist's approval and supervision, of course. I watched her take out the first three and asked if I could get the fourth! Teenagers, am I right?)

**Why are you on the Board for the Friends of the Plymouth Library?**

Being on the Board is a no-brainer for me. It's a great way to apply my skills as a consultant to make an impact on my immediate community, and it lets me extend my life-long relationship with libraries. My very first job as a kid was for my local library. As a college student, I worked part time as a library page. When I became a freelance designer and marketer, one of my favorite campaigns was for a university library. When my wife and I moved to Minnesota with our then two-year-old, the Hennepin County Libraries were amongst the first "attractions" we visited. And now, as a parent of a kindergartener, libraries take on a whole new level of significance for her education and development. Needless to say, libraries hold a special place in my heart.

### 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, Leslie Ostrem

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, November 5th, 2022, beginning at 9:00 a.m. for Friends members and 10:00 a.m. for the general public. Our last book sale netted the Friends \$4600. I hope you found good books for the summer.

## Books recommended by the Board:

Golden Handcuffs by Nina Burleigh

The Princess Spy by Larry Loftis

The Stolen Hours by Allen Eskens

Mexican Gothic by Silvia Moreno-Garcia

Babel by R.F. Kuang

While Justice Sleeps by Stacey Abrams

Curse of Strahd by Wizards of RPG Team

Daring Greatly by Brene Brown

Broken Ice by Matt Goldman

Escape by James Patterson

The Last Green Valley by Mark Sullivan

The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah

The Language of Flowers by Vanessa Diffenbaugh

Carolina Moonset by Matt Goldman

Somewhere in the Unknown World by Kai Kalia Yang

Taekwondo: Ancient Wisdom for the Modern Warrior by Doug Cook

The Break by Katherine Vermette

Creating Magic by Lee Cockerell

The Cousins by Karen McManus

## 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.

Another way of helping the library is through your purchases at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). Using this access to Amazon sends a donation from Amazon to the charity of your choice, at no cost to you. Search for Friends of the Plymouth Community Library & Mobile Sers Comm Group.

**Reminder**

This is the last printed newsletter you will receive. It will be sent by email only. If you do not have an email address that easily accessible, please contact us: Friends of the Plymouth Library, PO Box 46232, Plymouth, MN 55446 and we will continue sending you a hardcopy.

**THANK YOU, MEMBERS!!**

This coupon entitles the member to one free book\* at the NOVEMBER, 2022 book sale.

\*Coupon counts towards books only.

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

TO