



Dear Friend of the Bridgman Library,

As the year comes to an end, we want to update you on some of the things the Friends of the Library have done this year.

There are several ongoing projects which we continue to fund for the library, including the Summer Reading Program activities and prizes and the Gift of Reading, which gives a book to every Bridgman Elementary School first grader. We also purchased some special items for the library - a popcorn machine which is used during movie events and club meetings - and additional supplies for the Makers Space, including art supplies, materials for 3D printing, and a storage cart. The Makers Space is becoming a popular library activity. You're welcome to come to the library on the first Thursday and third Wednesday of every month from 5:00 - 7:00 to use art supplies and learn to use the Cricut machine and 3D printers.

The Friends held a lovely lunch reception for our volunteers and recognized Sally Holobaugh as our Volunteer of the Year. Volunteers help with the Book Shoppe and our used book sales. We also provided lunch for the library staff to thank them for all they do to make the Bridgman Library a welcoming place in our community.

Our next book sale will be on January 26 and 27, with set-up on Thursday, January 25. Please let me know if you are interested in helping at the book sale. We also need more people to help sort books that are donated to the library. This entails checking the books for cleanliness, condition, saleability, and sorting them into categories

In October, we celebrated National Friends of the Library Week with free give-aways and a gift basket raffle. Most of the ideas for projects the Friends fund come from our library director, Sarah Skinner, and other library staff members. However, if you have ideas of things that you think would enhance the library, feel free to share your thoughts. Our goal is to support the library and its patrons.

Our Friends board is a wonderful, fun group - and we invite you to join us. We are in need of a Corresponding Secretary since Linda Curtis, our current Corresponding Secretary, is moving out of the area in January. I'm happy to provide you with more information if you are curious about joining the board. You also can come to our next board meeting - Thursday, January 18 at 9:00 in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We wish you very happy holidays and all the best in 2024. We are very grateful for all of you!

Julie Bernstein, President
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Carl Ceithaml, Treasurer

Carol Nash, Vice-president

Judith Ray, Recording secretary

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