



Friends of the Mansfield Library

NEWSLETTER

Vol. XXXVIII, No. 1
January 2024

BOOK SALE



**Saturday,
February 10th
9am-4pm**

**Sunday,
February 11th
9am-3pm**

This will be an indoor sale in the auditorium!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

It's not too late to renew your Friends membership for the fiscal year October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. We hope you will continue to support the many programs, events, materials and technology made possible by the Friends of the Library.

You can mail in the form on the back of this newsletter, renew online on our website: friendsmansfieldlibraryct.org, or use the cash box on the sale shelf in the library. Please be sure to include all your information, including an email address if you would like to receive the newsletter by email.

Thank you for your support!

Board Member Appreciation

If you don't venture into the children's section of the library you may not know or may have forgotten about the Betsy Hamill Reading Nook. This is an area with two comfy chairs created in memory of Betsy Hamill, the much-respected long-time president of the Friends of the Library. On the wall in this area is a plaque memorializing Friends board members who have passed away. While it is important to commemorate these Friends, we hope they knew they were appreciated while they were still with us. With that thought in mind, the current board would like to recognize the contributions of two members who have recently retired from the board. Sharry Goldman and Dennis Pierce served on the board for many years, probably decades. Sharry served as the secretary for much of that time and spent many hours sorting books, working at the sales and generally being helpful and knowledgeable. Dennis performed many of the behind-the-scenes tasks for the group including organizing the cleanup of the book sales, managing roadside signage and countless other tasks that just seemed to get magically taken care of. We appreciate and miss the contributions of Sharry and Dennis and know from having worked with them that the group was better for their presence.

Help Needed for the Book Sale

We will be setting up the sale on Friday, February 9th. There is a program in the auditorium in the morning so we will be starting at 1pm and will need all the help we can get in order to finish by 5pm. If you can spare some time that day to help we'd love to have our regular helpers and hopefully some new faces (and hands). No lifting is required, but if you are able to lift we will certainly take advantage of that! Anyone who volunteers can purchase up to 10 regular priced books that day.

We also need help cleaning up after the sale at 3pm on Sunday. This is a much faster process and usually takes about an hour if we have a lot of help. This also does not require lifting unless you are able.

Cashiers are needed on both days. We schedule 4- hour shifts with 2 people at each of 2 stations, so you never have to work alone. No experience is necessary and all books are priced at 50 cents or \$1.00 or multiples thereof, so no complex math is required. Email Anne at FriendsoftheMansfieldLibrary@gmail.com if you would like to cashier or would like to work on Saturday putting out new books.



A few of the volunteers at the January 6th donation day.

Welcome Devon Andrews!

Some of you may have noticed a new face at your last trip to the library, if you weren't too dazed with holiday-related exhaustion.

Ms. Devon Andrews began as the new Director of the Mansfield Public Library in mid-November of last year, stepping into the vacancy left by the retirement of Leslie McDonough who held the position for nearly 12 years. Ms. Andrews has had extensive professional experience in library services and community engagement and impressed those who interviewed her as creative, innovative, and committed to community involvement. Seems a good fit for a library where you can borrow tools and baking pans as well as books, or learn to knit, or work on a puzzle, right?

Our new director has very recently moved here from South Carolina, coped with the holidays, and started a new job, so let's give her a warm welcome and our very best wishes for her time at Mansfield's library. The Friends look forward to working with her.



The annual mini holiday sale was a big success and much appreciated by library patrons.

September 2023 Book Sale Results

The September Book sale made \$3,995. This was another smaller, inside-only sale. Thank you to all who helped set up, restock, cashier and clean up. Special thanks to book movers Liam Goode and Heidi Levin. Thanks also to Mike Bulkus, Peter and Alan of the Mansfield Maintenance Department for help with the set up. A special thank you to Boy Scout Troup 56 who help our clean up go so quickly and smoothly. A book sale requires a lot of effort from a lot of people and we are always appreciative of our workers:

Sarah Accorsi, Jane Allinson, Diane Benson, Pat Biggs, Terry Bitwinski, Sterling and Eric Bobbitt, Irene Burke, Ann Charters, Maidie Cohen, Rachel D'Antonio, JoAnn Goodwin, Marla Hauslaib, Jan Hilton, Careen Jennings, Barbara Katz, Mary Kinsella Shaw, Rosemary Marcellino, Marie McCain, Pat McMullan, Susan Meisler, Bronwyn Mott, Patrice Pfeffer, Dennis Pierce, Julia Sherman, David Spencer, Judy Spencer, Leslie Turner, Jordan Van Dyke, Chris Walsh-Braheney, Robin Whittemore, Laura Wright, Liz Vitullo.

BOOK DONATION DAY

Our next book donation day will be on January 27th from 9am-noon in the auditorium. There will not be a donation day in February due to a library program for "National Take Your Child to the Library Day" on February 4th.

We accept used books, DVDs, CDS, puzzles and games in good condition. We cannot accept video or audio tapes, records, magazines, or moldy/dusty books. In order to have time to process the many donations we receive, we must limit quantities to two (reasonably sized) boxes or bags per household.

A big thank you to the volunteers who have helped at previous donation days. The response to our requests for help has been wonderful. It has been great meeting our members and the general reaction has been that it was more fun than it ought to be!



Friends of the Mansfield Library
54 Warrenville Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250

Return Service Requested

Membership dues now run from October to September for everyone. If you have not renewed yet, you can do so using the form to the right. As you fill out the form, please consider contributing to the Friends of the Mansfield Library Endowment Fund. Since its inception in 1999, we have received through stocks, donations, the Book Sale (\$1,000 has been deposited from almost all book sales since 1999), and interest on the Fund where it resides - over \$200,000. Contributing to this fund gives you an opportunity to support the Mansfield Library's mission of offering the highest quality of library services to the community.

FRIENDS AND EDITORS

Anne Greineder, President & Editor
Sarah Accorsi, Treasurer
Leslie Turner, Secretary

**MEMBERSHIP REQUEST FORM
for the Friends of the Mansfield Library**

Name _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

I would like to receive the Friends of the Mansfield Library newsletter by e-mail

Enclosed is \$10.00 per address for dues and a tax deductible contribution of _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Make checks payable to: Friends of the Mansfield Library, Inc., and mail to:
Sarah Accorsi, 284 Storrs Road, Mansfield Center, CT 06250.

If you would like to make a separate contribution to the Endowment Fund, make your check payable to: THE FRIENDS OF THE MANSFIELD LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND and send it also to the above address.

Thank You!