

Friends Supported Events

November

- 7 Friends monthly meeting, 7 p.m.
- 15 Friends Used Book & Cookie Sale and Silent Auction, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 16 Friends Used Book & Cookie Sale and Silent Auction, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- 23 Block Party, 10 a.m., all ages, **pre-registration required**

December

No Friends Monthly Meeting

- 2 Holiday Decorating, 6 p.m.
- 14 Make-a-Gift, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., youth and teen
- 24-25 Library is closed
- 31 Library closes at 5 p.m.

Please note:

- Unless otherwise indicated, all events are held in the Library's Stafford Room.
- Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Related information may appear in the Daily News, on the Library's website, and/or the Friends of the Flat River Community Library Facebook (FB) page, where you will also find event photos.

*Friends of the Flat River Community Library wish you Happy Holidays.
Thank you for supporting Friends and the Library during 2013.*

FOOTNOTES

Friends of the Flat River Community Library
200 W. Judd Street
Greenville, MI 48838



This beautiful cascade of ruffles is comprised of many individual, handmade scarves for sale in the Friends Books 'n' Things store. At less than \$10 each, they are affordable, come in many colors, and make great Christmas or anytime gifts. Proceeds support the Library!

January 2014

- 2 Friends monthly meeting, 7 p.m., new budget meeting
- 25 Block Party, 10 a.m., all ages, **pre-registration required**

February

- 6 Friends monthly meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22 Block Party, 10 a.m., all ages, **pre-registration required**

March

- 6 Friends monthly meeting, 7 p.m.
- 22 Block Party, 10 a.m., all ages, **pre-registration required**

FOOTNOTES

The newsletter of the Friends of the Flat River Community Library. **Fall-Winter Edition — November 2013**

Editor and Photographer
Pat Lobenstein,
My Learned Hands

If you have questions, comments, suggestions or Friends-related news to share, please contact us by

E-mail at
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Web at
www.flatriverlibrary.org.

or
USPS
Friends of the FRCL
200 W. Judd St.
Greenville, MI 48838



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FOOTNOTES



FLAT RIVER
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

This newsletter is published three times a year in April, August, and November by the Friends of the Flat River Community Library. **Fall-Winter Edition — November 2013**

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Summer Reading Program Wrap-up

What a great program the Library offered this summer. The final statistics are in and Library Director Laura Powers says, "There were 908 participants, with 320 finishing and turning in activity logs—a 37 percent increase in teen and youth participation from last year's program."

The Library offered many activities in conjunction with the program such as a Kick-off Party, Cup Stacking, Story Weavers, PaleoJoe, Burrowing Beasts, and there was a finale party for teens who completed and turned in their reading logs—replete with pizzas piled high and snacks, as well as many activities and prizes. Combined attendance from all of the activities totaled 2,301 participants, an 88 percent increase from last year's program.

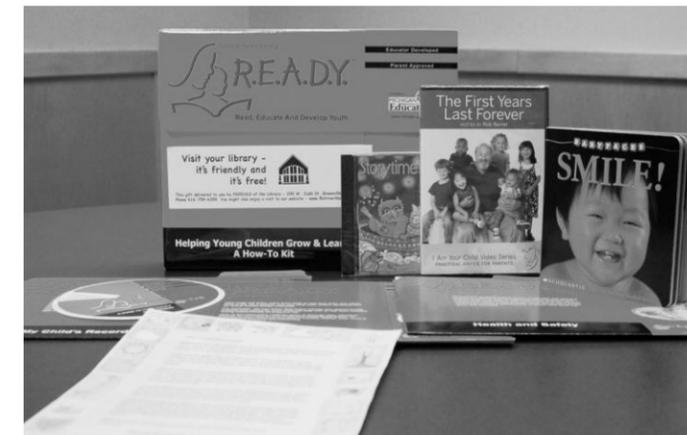
Powers also shared what some of the Library patrons and community members liked best about Summer Reading. The comments she received included parents' observations of their children's interaction with books.

- "The excitement in my daughter's face while picking out books"
- "The kids were very excited and it kept them reading, thank you!"
- "Kept us focused on reading every day."
- "Kids were even more excited about reading. They would just sit for an hour and happily read."



Above: Secret Agent Laser Course during Teen Finale Party

The Summer Reading Program was a great success with people of all ages participating, including those who really did, "Dig into Reading!"



Books for Babies Program

Nearly 14 years ago, Barb Christensen, a former Friends president, invested both time and money in the Books for Babies Program to promote reading and education at a young age. In conjunction with the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District (MAISD) and Spectrum Hospital, Friends continues to offer Books for Babies kits to new mothers. "By reading to their babies and by becoming regular library users themselves, parents help their babies develop language skills and start them on the path to success in reading and learning," says the program literature, and Gisela Peek agrees.

Peek has been the face and voice of the Books for Babies Program at Friends for more than eight years. Now retired as the Friends contact, new member Robin Burd assumes all duties.

Burd picks up the R.E.A.D.Y. (Read, Educate and Develop Youth) kits from MAISD, includes a letter from Friends to the baby about the importance of reading and learning, and delivers the kits to the hospital's OB/GYN clinic where they are distributed to new mothers. Contained in each kit is a CD of stories, music and songs; a DVD of first year experiences; folders in which to keep baby records; a baby development wheel, from birth to one year of age; the board book, *SMILE!*; and a sturdy portfolio in which to keep all baby records.

"Friends of the Flat River Community Library is the only library in the region that does this," says Peek who joined Friends more than 15 years ago. "Books for Babies was one of my first projects. It fits with the Friends mission to make our Library an even better learning center for the dynamic growth of our community."

Inspired Christmas Baskets for Sale

Three years ago, Librarian Kelly Worden suggested to Friends that they put together baskets of items to be sold at the Library's circulation desk. Worden's idea was warmly received and Christmas baskets were agreed on. Mary Magirl volunteered to collect contributions for this new venture and create the baskets.

This year, Magirl will put together eight Christmas baskets and four cellophane wrapped and decoratively tied small gifts—this is significantly more than in previous years. "This helps to raise funds to support library projects. We receive contributions from a lot of people, which makes this a 100 percent funded donation to the Library," said Magirl.

Magirl joined the FRCL Friends organization in 2006 and was on the board of directors. She is now the Friends Secretary and has worked in the Books 'n' Things store for two-and-a-half years. "That's fun," she said gleefully, "In my next life I want to be a librarian. We have regulars who look for specific books and come to me when they can't find them. I enjoy helping people."

A self-described Grandma Moses when it comes to inspiration for the baskets, Magirl said, "I have fun with it. It's so rewarding. I love to decorate for the Christmas holiday, so maybe that's the inspiration behind creating the baskets."

The 2013 Christmas Baskets offered are cellophane wrapped, tied with a bow, and are themed: Children's Activity; Children's Tea Party; Children's Reindeer; Teas, mug and Debbie Macomber book; Cook's Kitchen; Sugar Free; Yuletide Book Set; Snow Globe and Electric Candles. Additional gifts for sale that are decoratively wrapped are: Snowman candle set; tea-light candle with decorative holder; snowman candle; candle and FRCL Books 'n' Things Gift Certificate.

Baskets and small gifts range in price from \$5 to \$20, are tagged with contents, and go on sale at the circulation desk after Thanksgiving. "There's something for everyone," said Magirl. "And, I want to give a big thank you for everyone's contributions."

So Thankful ...

Pat and Stan Zank are passionately philanthropic. You may know them as they have been written about in the *Daily News* and various newsletters, including ours. The Zanks send unsolicited care packages to U.S. military soldiers overseas. The packages contain useful items of food, toiletries, socks, stationery, and books. Although Friends provides books and postage for the packages, much of what is sent is paid for by the Zanks or collected through donations. Pat said, "We don't go on fancy vacations and we don't spend a lot of money. We can afford this."

In return, they have received hundreds of heart-felt thank-you letters, e-mails, telephone calls, hugs and flowers from soldiers who received a care package. And, the Zank's family now includes many self-adopted military daughters and sons. They have met several of these soldiers and continue a relationship.

At our October Friends monthly meeting, Pat read to us several of the letters and e-mails she has received. It was moving to hear how our soldiers react to each care package.

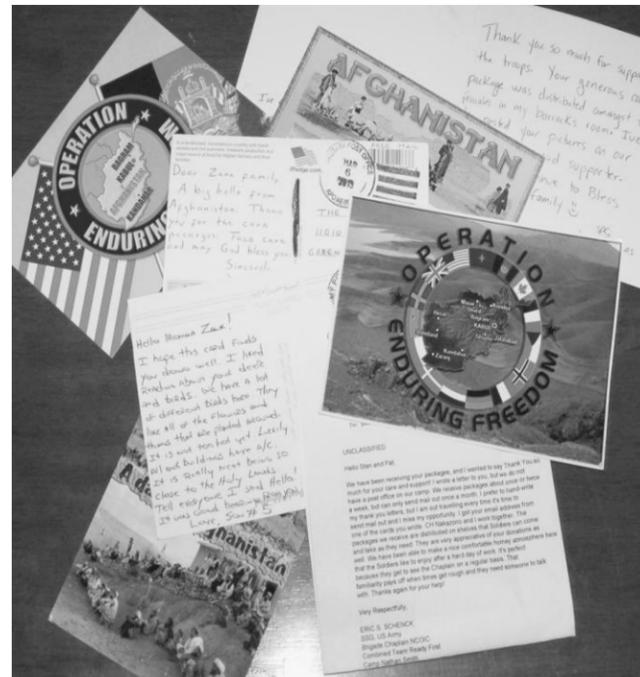
Thank you, Pat and Stan, for your unselfish and continued passionate philanthropy. And a big thank you to the men and women who serve and have served so selflessly to keep us free.



Above: A basket of teas, mug, and Debbie Macomber book.



Left: A gift that would make anyone happy, candles and snowmen.



Above: 2003 marked the beginning of the Zank's philanthropic endeavor.

Friends Used Book & Cookie Sale and Silent Auction!

Our book sale begins Friday, November 15 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and continues Saturday, November 16, with the same hours, in the Library Stafford Room.

Titles for the auction are:

- The Best of Aloha,
- Impressionists' Seasons,
- American Idol: The Untold Story,
- Spirit of America,
- The Civil War: An Illustrated History.

In addition to the titles above, a handcrafted wooden cart (**pictured below**) is also on the auction block. As always, the highest bids win and you need not be present!

Items' photos and info on our FB page!



Friends 2013 Gifts to the Library List

2013 has been a banner year for Friends contributions* to the Library. So, we thought we'd share it with you, our members and readership. Thank you for helping us support the Flat River Community Library with financial and in-kind donations. We couldn't do this without you.

Sensory Bins for babies and toddlers, Legos for Saturday Block Parties, Puppet Theater, Playaways, Books for adults, Summer Reading Programs 2011, 2012, 2013 and FRCL logo tote bags, New DVDs, "It's Your Lucky Day" books, Honorariums and Memorials, Youth and Teen Programs—new puzzles and props for Story time, new puppets, Wii video game system for teen events, and board games.

*This contribution list is comprehensive as of the time we went to press.

Welcome ...

Since the August edition of *Footnotes*, we are very happy to welcome back the many members who have renewed their memberships. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you at one or more of our monthly meetings.

Books 'n' Things Gift Certificates

Available in any amount you choose, this meaningful gift will delight any book lover on your Christmas list. Please purchase at the Library Circulation Desk.

Many Thanks!

Nearly 1,000 people visited the Friends of the Flat River Community Library Danish Festival Used Book & Cookie Sale and Silent Auction! This event remains the largest of the three annual book sales.

To everyone who came out and to those who made a purchase; to all of the volunteers who gave freely of their time before, during and after the book sale; and to the bakers who made delicious treats for us to sell, thank you very much!

We appreciate your continued support of Friends and of the Library!

Tids 'n' Bits

• Don't forget about the "Lucky Day" **bookshelf** in the Library. Currently, there are 33 titles of popular, newly published books for a 3-week checkout—with more books on order. No holds or renewals and first come, first served.

• **Donations** of books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles are accepted at the Library Circulation Desk. Donations to charities are tax deductible; please ask for a receipt when you donate.

• December 3—look for our new **holiday decorations**, at the Library.

• Are you a cookie baker? If so, please consider a **baking donation** of unfrosted cookies for the November 15, 16 cookie sale. Contact Gisela Peek at 225-8291, she will explain the drop-off process. And, please, accept our thanks for your donation.

• **Make-a-Gift** was such a hit last year that we're doing it again. **Teens and youth** are invited to the Library on December 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to create gifts that Friends volunteers will help with and wrap. It'll be fun!

'Tis the Season!

Give a Friends Membership to Someone Special!

This gift will never be the wrong size or wrong color and will last all year long! Is there a person or a family on your gift-giving list who loves reading or libraries but isn't a supporting member yet? Please consider giving a gift membership to Friends. Recipients receive a standing invitation to our monthly meetings, a spiffy newsletter, an opportunity to volunteer and support the Library, which supports our entire community by providing a safe and quiet place for children, teens, and adults to read, participate in activities, and learn.

Individual Member \$5.00 Family \$10.00 Contributing Member \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip code _____

Phone or E-mail _____

What are your interests? _____

The membership year is January 1 through December 31, 2014. Please make your check payable to **Friends of the Flat River Community Library** and mail it to or drop it off* at the FRCL, 200 W. Judd St., Greenville, MI 48838. Thank you, we appreciate your support!

*Checks may be dropped off at the Library Circulation Desk with this completed form. **(2014)**