

the Bookmark

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Friends of the
Macomb Public Library



macomblibraryfriends.org

winter 2021

Welcome Back!

Paula Wise

Hello again! Hope you are all doing well! Remember us -- the Friends of the Macomb Public Library? We are back in action.

We have been surprisingly active throughout these nearly 22 strangest months in most of our memories. Although schools have been closed, restaurants and other businesses have been shut down, travel has been just about non-existent, and even the Public Library itself was closed down, the Friends of the Macomb Public Library have been rather busy.

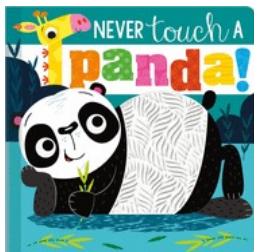
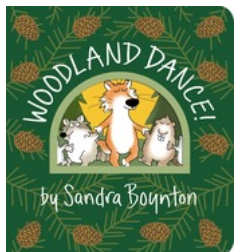
We have noticed that when people who are used to being out and about, spend more time indoors at home, often the cleaning bug hits. Many of us looked around and realized we have accumulated too much STUFF! AND some of us noticed that a lot of that STUFF includes books: books we have already read; books we bought, but let's face it, we will never read; and books we started and just couldn't get into (these books are labeled DNF – did not finish – by at least one on-line book club.)

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The Perfect Gift? A Book, Of Course!

Linda and Rick, owners of New Copperfield's Book Service, have once again provided great suggestions for the perfect gift. New Copperfield's has always supported our Friends organization, and we encourage you to shop local and support this friendly neighborhood bookstore as well.

BABIES & TODDLERS 0-4



Woodland Dance

From the author of the bestselling board book *Barnyard Dance!*, a brand-new and very lively story of dancing animals! This newest Boynton on Board book is destined to be a read-aloud favorite, featuring charming rhyming text and starring woodland creatures: bears, foxes, squirrels, beavers, rabbits, and a cello-playing moose (of course).

Never Touch a Panda

- Exploring the bumpy silicone touches on every page
- Stuart Lynch's bright and funny illustrations
- Laughing at the funny and easy-to-read rhymes

Dinosaurs

The prehistoric world comes alive with dinosaurs small, big, giant, and gigantic in this colorful book for the very youngest dinosaur lovers!

Triceratops Hand Puppet

Made from vibrant fabrics and allow great mouth manipulation.



EARLY READERS

Ooh la la--Fancy Nancy is so lucky! She and her reading buddy, Violet, read together every Monday. But when a few Mondays go by without being able to meet, Nancy begins to miss her new friend. Will Violet and Nancy find a way to read together even if they're not at school?



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from the President

Paula Wise



Greetings! As life in general continues to take baby steps toward normalcy, I wanted to share a few things with you all. First, our Friends of the Macomb Public Library Board looks quite different than it did when the pandemic began. After several years of the same people serving on the Board, we have had one death – Dick Vick – and several resignations – Gloria Hurh, Kate Joswick, Karen Proulx, Alison/Dave Vawter (who shared one position), and Phil Weiss. All of these former members are greatly missed. Fortunately, Kate Joswick has agreed to continue to coordinate the “What are you reading?” column that appears on Saturdays in the *McDonough County Voice*. We have already filled several of these positions but we still need one or two additional members. If you are interested in being a part of the Friends of the Macomb Public Library Board, please email me at ps-wise@wiu.edu. The Board meets one Monday evening a month in the Public Library from 5:00 -6:00 P.M.

You might be interested to know that we are tentatively trying to plan an annual dinner and speaker for Spring 2022. Our speaker who was scheduled for our cancelled 2020 dinner is interested in being part of this event. Of course, our primary concern is making sure that we can hold such an event safely. We may try to schedule it later in the spring and have it outside. Stay tuned for more information!

Hope the holiday season is Merry and Bright! Happy Reading!!

Book Sales Recoup From COVID Cancellations

Becky Parker and Elisa Rasmussen, Book Sales Coordinators

Thanks to a beautiful day in Chandler Park, the Friends of the Library Better Books Sales was a big success. Purchases were steady, volunteers were extraordinary, and over \$3,000 in sales was taken in topping off a good year of sales in spite of the challenges presented by COVID.



You will recall our big Heritage Days Sale and Better Book Sales 2020 were both cancelled, putting a major dent into our major fund raising abilities. However, 6 pop-up “free will donation” sales in that summer resulted in nearly \$2,500 of donations. Heritage Days 2021 brought in over \$6,000. All of these efforts helped recoup our annual goal of \$10,000.

To give you an idea of what happens to the money we earn through out the year, this last year we paid for the new, high-quality metal book and media drop outside of the library and we are paying for all the expenses involved in the children and youth summer reading programs. We also have on-going contributions which supplement our media collection and pay for extra copies of highly popular books.

Again, thanks to everyone for your participation in sales and in your generous donations.

Volunteers Needed

Macomb Public Library is looking for volunteers to staff the Welcome table in the lobby of the library on Saturday mornings: 9am-1pm starting sometime in January 2022. Duties include greet the public, hand out library passes, enforce (within reason) the mask requirement, hand out masks if needed, enforce no food or drink, ask if help is needed, give directions, operate capacity management software, help with donated books, help with curbside service.

This volunteerism can be with a buddy. Please contact the library director at 309.833.2714 or email library@macomb.com

FOMPL Board

President	Paula Wise
Vice President	Cindy Cavett
Secretary	Candy McLaughlin
Treasurer	DeSiree Walton
Carol Clemons	Elisa Rasmussen
Barrie McVey	David Self
Becky Parker	

WELCOME from page 1

What do we do with this surplus of books? The first thing I do is consider whether any of my friends might be interested in one or more of these books. Next, if you're like I am, you select what might sell at our Friends of the Library book sales (click on donate/support on our website, macomblibraryfriends.org if you are uncertain) and drop them off at the Library as donations. After the Library delivers these books to the Annex, what happens? First, the books are priced by Sam Parker; then they are sorted usually by Elisa Rasmussen and Becky Parker. Then, two things happen.

1) We hold the ever-popular public book sales

During COVID, we hosted mini outdoor book sales – 6 just in the summer of 2020. In 2021 we held our usual Heritage Days book sale as well as a Gazebo Arts Festival book sale. All of these events were quite well-attended. We greatly appreciate all of you who participated in these events as helpers and of course as customers. Of course, we also greatly appreciate those of you who donated the books!!

2) What we don't sell after a sale or two, we often donate to not-for profit organizations. Some examples of the groups who receive donated books include: Retirement homes e.g., Wesley Village and LaMoine Retirement Center, and Correctional centers e.g., Schuyler County Correctional Center and McDonough County Jail, are recipients of some of the books. Children's books may go to daycare centers such as Wee Care. We also help stock some of the Little Free Libraries in town.

Be sure you read the article about the book sales in this newsletter as it also

describes how we spend the money we make from our sales. The new drop off box is certainly one of the most noticeable purchases we have made recently.

As I said in the beginning of this article, the Friends of the Library have been busy throughout the pandemic. However, we are now

New Bookdrop



Dennis Danowski, Library Director

The Macomb Public Library has a new book drop compliments of the Friends of the Library. The old book drop was deteriorating because of age and street salt. The “blue book drop” was often confused with the US Post Office Mail Box and our returned books often found themselves in a mailbox down the street for a ride to Peoria. The new book drop has two slots—one for books and one for media (CDs, DVDs and videos). With the new drop box you do not have to bring in the library media returns. They can be placed in the drop box. The new book drop is made of stainless steel, will not rust, and is water proof.

THANK YOU FRIENDS.

meeting regularly again and planning our activities for the future. And as I mention in the President's Column on Page 2, if you would like to be considered for a spot on our Friends of the Macomb Public Library Board, please email me at ps-wise@wiu.edu.

Thanks so much for your continued support. Happy Reading!!

**Too cold to go out?
Visit the library online**
www.macomb.lib.il.us

Services for Blind, Print Disabled Available

Dennis Danowski, Library Director

The Macomb Public Library participates in the **National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled**. This is a program that is funded by Library of Congress and administered by Illinois State Library. If you have need for this service please contact the Macomb Public Library at 309.833.2714.

This is a free service that allows the homebound who have limited mobility or eyesight, the opportunity to still continue to read large print or listen to books on tape. The service includes a free audio player while in the program. You can pick the books you want to hear and a reader adviser will telephone to check on your selections. This program is also available to those in hospice, those recuperating from a fall, after surgery, etc.

You can download an application online at www.loc.gov/nls or applications are available at Macomb Public Library.

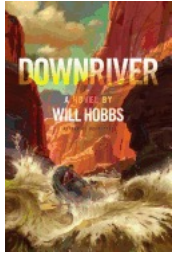
GIFTING BOOKS from page 1



An introduction to jazz for young children, in a lively picture book complete with sound buttons to hear the instruments, the rhythms, and the New Orleans sound of “When the Saints Go Marching In”--a jazz song everyone knows!

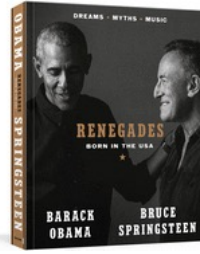
READERS 10-14

Twelve-year-old Jack and his younger sister visit Mesa Verde National Park, where they delve into the park's history while gradually uncovering the mysterious past of their family's teenage foster child Lucky.



Fifteen-year-old Jessie and the other rebellious teenage members of a wilderness survival school team abandon their adult leader, hijack his boats, and try to run the dangerous white water at the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

ADULT NON-FICTION

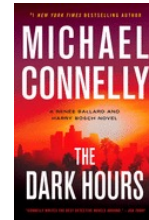


Two longtime friends share an intimate and urgent conversation about life, music, and their enduring love of America, with all its challenges and contradictions, in this ... expansion of their ... Higher Ground podcast, featuring more than 350 photographs, exclusive bonus content, and never-before-seen archival material.

ADULT FICTION



Superlative story, but the most impressive achievement is Whitehead's loving depiction of a Harlem 60 years gone--'that rustling, keening thing of people and concrete'--which lands as detailed and vivid as Joyce's Dublin. Don't be surprised if this one wins Whitehead another major award.



The fourth Renée Ballard and Harry Bosch novel is the best yet

Special Books & Media Sale December 4

Join us on Saturday, December 4, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the Library Annex, 109 E. Jefferson as we offer **History, Non Fiction, Oversized Books, and a large selection of CDs, DVDs, and audio books** for sale.

This year, there will be an additional special section of media as former NPR music director Jeff Holz has donated a large collection of audio books and CDs to the Friends of the Library. We will be offering these without prices but as a special “Free Will Donations” with proceeds going to the Macomb Public Library.

Continuing our Book Clubs?

COVID has changed the face of book clubs and put the two monthly Friends of the Library book clubs on hold. We need to re-evaluate the interest in joining and in finding coordinators for each club.

Please email Paula Wise paulawise19@comcast.net if (1) you are interested in continuing with or joining either/or both THE MYSTERY BOOK CLUB or the GREAT READS book club or (2) will coordinate either of the book clubs. This involves notifying members of location, date, book, and discussion leader.

Humanities Grant

The Macomb Public Library applied for and received a \$7500 grant from Illinois Humanities, a division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Covid-19 Emergency Relief and Recovery Grant. This grant was used for the purchase of virus cleaning and sanitizing, additional computers so community members can contact their family and friends, download eBooks and videos for leisure use, continue with the story walk, purchase a tent for use outside when the weather is nice for programs, increase online offerings like streaming videos, and expanding hours to pre-pandemic. One of the major items purchased were two Medify Air Purifiers that remove 99.9% of current viruses.

Continue to watch for additional online services.