The mission of the Friends of Porter Public Library is to foster awareness and strengthen this invaluable resource for the community through advocacy, fundraising, and volunteerism.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The last fourteen months have been challenging for the Friends. The library has done a spectacular job of offering online sessions for all patrons and handled the challenge of checking out books when the building was closed, now offering browsing, and more.

Unfortunately, most of the activities for the Friends are not possible because of the limit of ten people with social distancing. The latest casualty is the Ice Cream Social which will NOT be held this coming summer.

Our gift shop Portables is now open with a lot of great items available for purchase. (Check online for current days and times.) The Book Nook is currently open the first and last Saturday of the month from 10 - 2 in the old café. New materials are constantly being added in what we are calling the annex, and that space allows us to have 8 customers at a time plus more room in the hallway for customers waiting. If our days change, they will be posted online: https://westlakelibrary.org/friends

Thank you to those of you who have continued to support the Friends through membership. We continue to financially support library programs and requests for items not in the library budget. We look forward to being able to resume our activities when “normalcy” has returned.

Please continue to stay safe so we can get back to normal sooner rather than later.

Lynn Pettyjohn
From the Director …

As 2021 unfolds there are so many things to be thankful for. At the top of that list, I am thankful for Sharon Didion. A former Library Trustee, current Friends Board member and the recipient of both the Tom Fox Distinguished Trustee Award and the Myrna Chelko Volunteer Award, Sharon has given so much to Porter Library it is impossible to quantify.

Almost 30 years ago Sharon was instrumental in starting Portables Gift Shop which has raised tens of thousands of dollars that have gone back to the library to help support the library’s mission and fund programs and capital improvements such as Summer Reading and the garden at the front of the library.

After giving so much, Sharon is stepping down from managing Portables and I simply cannot thank her enough for all she has done to make Porter Public Library a better place.

I have to say it was very difficult to contemplate the library without Portables. Thankfully, because our Friends are so awesome, someone emerged to take over the responsibility of overseeing the shop and raising funds to support the library.

Please join me in welcoming (and thanking!) Barb Gauthier as our new manager of Portables Gift Shop. Though relatively new to the Friends, Barb has jumped right to learn the ropes.

In addition to Portables staying open, the Book Nook has also resumed operation selling used materials that also earns revenue to support library initiatives.

I am so grateful for all of the volunteers that have been willing to come in and staff Portables and the Book Nook. It takes a lot of dedication and volunteer hours to make it happen and it is very much appreciated!

Sincerely,

Andrew Mangels, Director
Portables Gift Shop

Portables Gift Shop is open! Please come and check us out. We just added some spring and summer merchandise. Stop by to browse through our jewelry selection, home decor and, of course, our wonderful selection of greeting cards.

The hours are:

Tuesday- Wednesday-Thursday: 10:00-4:00

Saturday: 11:00-3:00

Many thanks to Sharon Didion for managing the gift shop all these years. She will be a tough act to follow. Luckily, she will still be around to share her knowledge!

If you know of anyone who would like to volunteer in the gift shop, please let me know. We are hoping to be open more as COVID 19 cases subside.

We hope to see you soon!

Barbara Gauthier
THE BOOK NOOK

The Book Nook is currently open in the old café on the first and last Saturday of the month from 10 - 2. If we add hours in the future, they will be posted on our webpage: https://westlakelibrary.org/friends.

This new space allows us to have more customers (8) at a time, and we are continually adding new materials. Thank you to all of you who “came back” to support us once we had enough volunteers to re-open.

Thank you to those of you who support our $1 shelves located directly in front of the reception desk. Those items are available for purchase anytime the library is open.

Apparently, we are one of the few libraries still accepting donations; however, this does not mean we will take everything. If you have items that are in such a state of disrepair as to be worthless, or items that are outdated and you would not be willing to buy them, please do not bring them to us. It is very disconcerting and annoying for our volunteers, of which we have fewer since the pandemic, to have to sort through boxes and boxes of “trash.”

Thank you to those of you who are donating quality books, DVD’s and CD’s. Whenever we are able to have our next big book sale, we will have more great items than ever for sale.

The Book Nook is honoring Used Book Bucks from both 2020 and 2021. We also accept most charge cards using Square Reader.

We hope to continue to stay open in the Annex until we can safely reopen the Book Nook and not worry about social distancing. Thank you for your continued support.

Lynn Pettyjohn

ANNUAL BOOK SALE

The 2021 Annual Book Sale in February had to be cancelled because of the pandemic. However, we have continued to collect books and have added to our collection of special items. We have decided that we cannot have our large book sale until the library is opened fully again. We are hoping to have the sale sometime this fall, but will have to wait to see what the future brings. If we reschedule the sale, we will send a newsletter letting you know, and the dates will be announced on the library website. Thank you for your patience.

Carol Masek and Jim Hajek      Annual Book Sale Chairs
IT’S TIME TO RENEW FOR 2021

Some of the ways your membership supports YOUR extraordinary library:
- helps underwrite the summer reading program
- purchases vans for book delivery to the homebound
- presents Sunday à la Friends programs
- supports the Investor Interest Group
- funds National Library Week activities
- and much more!

You receive:
- 10% discount at Dean’s Greenhouse (when you show your Friends Membership card)
- a coupon for a scoop of Mitchell’s ice cream
- a Used Book Buck worth $1 towards a purchase in the Friends’ Book Nook
- and admission to the Preview Night for the Friends’ Big Book Sale

—and all it takes is your Friends membership card!

Family, Patron, Silver Patron, or Golden Patron members will receive 2 Mitchell’s coupons, 2 Used Book Bucks, and a second membership card upon request (check the ‘Send second card’ box on the form).

Please renew today! Fill out the form below and drop it off at the library reception desk, or mail to:
Friends of the Porter Public Library
27333 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, OH 44145

Name (please print) ____________________________________________
Address _______________________________________________________
City/State________ Zip________
Phone ______________ E-Mail __________________

New member  Renewing Member  Change of Address
Yes, please send a second card (Except Individual membership)

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I would like to volunteer to help, please call me:
- Annual Big Book Sale
- PORTABLES Gift Shop
- Book Nook
- Join the Board of Friends
- Other Friends events
- Purchase bakery for events

Our membership year is January 1 through December 31
Please make checks payable to: Friends of Porter Public Library
Mail or bring this form and payment to: Friends of Porter Public Library, 27333 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, OH 44145
DELIVER PROMPTLY
DATED MATERIAL

Officers of the Friends of Porter Public Library
President – Lynn Pettyjohn
Vice President – Jennifer Cirincione
Secretary – Barb Frase
Treasurer – C J Lynce

THANK YOU
FOR BEING A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY