
June 2026 Newsletter

Co-Presidents' Greeting

Libraries are more than places to borrow books, they are centers of learning, connection, and opportunity for our entire community. At the heart of the Friends of South Park Township Library is a shared mission to promote literacy, lifelong learning, and access to educational and technological resources for people of all ages.

Every fundraiser, outreach effort, and volunteer project supports this mission. From distributing books throughout the community and creating Little Libraries to supporting programs and technology, we are committed to strengthening the library and expanding opportunities for young readers, students, families, and lifelong learners.

As our organization continues to grow, we are actively developing the policies, procedures, and organizational framework that will guide our future. We are also building a new website that will honor our history while highlighting new and innovative ways to serve the community, expand outreach, and strengthen fundraising efforts that support the continued growth of our library.

Our progress would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers, donors, community partners, and supporters. Every event attended, book donated, and hour volunteered helps ensure the library remains a vibrant and welcoming space.

With gratitude,

Maureen Humes and Colleen Moses

Co-Presidents, Friends of South Park Township Library

Upcoming Events

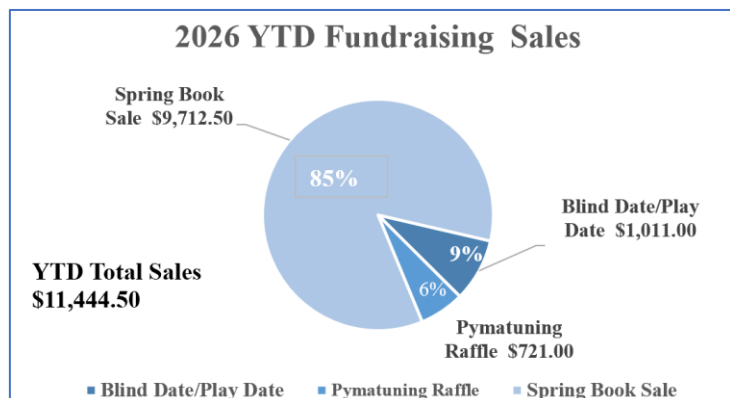
Membership Meeting, Jun 24th, 6–8 PM, Community Center
Community Day, Sept 19th, 11 AM – 5 PM, South Park Oval
Membership Meeting, Sep 23rd, 6–8 PM, Community Center
Library's Bingo Tea, Sept 25th, Community Center
Book Sale Donation Collection, Oct 5th – 20th, Library
Book Sale, Oct 22nd – Oct 24th, Community Center
Holiday Market, Nov 28th, Community Center, come shop!



Treasurer's Report

Our checking account balance now exceeds \$24,500, fueled by the tremendous success of the Pymatuning cabin week raffle donation, another outstanding Spring Book Sale, and the steady annual support of our members.

Fundraising Campaign Update



*The Friends of the Library are at it again,
Turning good ideas into fundraising wins!*

*From Blind Date/Play Date (a bookish surprise),
To raffle fun where excitement flies,
And the Spring Book Sale, what a sight to see,
Tables of treasures for you and me!*

*Books found new homes, funds did swell,
All thanks to the Friends who do it so well.*

*So here's to the helpers, the buyers, the crew,
The library's better because of you!*

Did you Know?

Many Friends of the Library organizations started during the Great Depression and grew into one of the largest volunteer movements supporting public libraries in America.

Ahoy, Friends!

We're excited to share this year's **Annual Community Day on Saturday, September 19, 2026** featuring the adventurous theme **"South Park Shipwrecked."** This fun-filled day will transform our community into a playful pirate world with games, crafts, activities, and surprises for families and children of all ages.

To bring this vision to life, **we are seeking volunteers** to join the Community Outreach Committee. This group will help further develop ideas, organize activity stations, coordinate volunteers, and assist in planning and setup. Whether you enjoy decorating, working with kids, organizing events, or simply want to help behind the scenes, there's a place for you aboard the crew.

We also welcome support in the form of:

- Volunteers for booth staffing and activity support
- Purchase of small prizes and treasure items (stickers, books, toys, pirate-themed goodies, and more)
- Creative input to help expand and refine activities and decorations
- Help with setup, decorating, and event-day coordination

The Community Outreach Committee will meet ahead of the event to collaborate, assign roles, and turn these ideas into an unforgettable community celebration. The event lasts from 11 AM to 5 PM and is located at the South Park Oval.

If you're interested in joining the committee or volunteering in any capacity, please contact Maureen Humes by June 30th at friendsofsplibrary15129@gmail.com.

We hope you'll set sail with us and help make "South Park Shipwrecked" a memorable day of creativity, connection, and community fun!

Summer Reading Program Call to Action

Summer fun is headed to the Community Center, and Miss Tami, our Children's Librarian, needs volunteers to help bring our Toy Story-themed Children's Summer Reading Program to life!

Your time and enthusiasm help create joyful memories, encourage literacy, and bring enriching experiences to children in our community. And it's fun! Check out the great opportunities below. To volunteer, contact Maureen Humes at friendsofsplibrary15129@gmail.com.

Event	Date / Time	Number of Volunteers Needed	Type of Help Needed
Summer Reading Kickoff Party	Thurs, June 18 th from 3 PM-8 PM	4-8	Help is needed with activity stations, crafts, food service, gift bags, setup, and cleanup.
Jurassic Alcove	Wed, June 24 th from 11 AM to 12:15 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to distribute craft supplies to kids
Digging Up Some Donuts	Sat, June 27 th from 2 PM-3:30 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to help kids with donuts, cupcakes, and waffles
NI Coal the Traveling Scientist	Wed, July 8 th from 11 AM to 12:15 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to distribute craft supplies to kids
Aliens	Mon, July 13 th from 6 PM to 7:30 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to distribute craft supplies and snacks to kids
Mad Science	Wed, July 22 nd from 11 AM to 12:15 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to distribute craft supplies to kids
Forky	Mon, July 27 th from 2 PM to 3:30 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to distribute craft supplies and snacks to kids
Soccer Shots	Wed, July 29 th from 11 AM to 12:15 PM	1-2	Assistance needed to distribute craft supplies to kids

Seeking Holiday Market Fabric Ribbon and Trinket Donations

At our last Holiday Market, our beautifully wrapped holiday-themed books were a huge hit — so we're bringing them back! We offered holiday-related children's titles, adult fiction and nonfiction, cookbooks, paperbacks, hardcovers, puzzles, and more. Each item was wrapped in festive fabric ribbon and topped with a small holiday trinket like cookie cutters, spatulas, kids' craft kits, or ornaments. Those touches made everything feel gift-ready and helped boost sales.

For this year's sale, **we're seeking donations of holiday fabric ribbon and small holiday trinkets** in new or like-new condition. Your contributions help us create appealing, gift-ready items that support the library and delight shoppers.

We welcome donations at any of our upcoming events, or by contacting us at friendsofsplibrary15129@gmail.com. We are sincerely grateful for your continued generosity.

Behind the Scenes

Colleen and Maureen recently had the pleasure of meeting briefly with Sydney Krawiec (Syd), our new Library Director and South Park resident, to begin what we hope will be a strong and lasting partnership in support of our library and community. From her very first week, Syd made a wonderful impression by reaching out to introduce herself and connect with the Friends.

We were delighted by how quickly she familiarized herself with the library, recognizing both its strengths and areas for growth while bringing fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and an inspiring vision for the future.

During our conversation, Syd shared her support for cherished library traditions such as the Bingo Tea, Holiday Market, holiday tree decorating, and the annual children's Christmas party. She also emphasized the importance of keeping the Friends informed and involved and looks forward to attending the upcoming Membership meeting.

We discussed exciting projects already underway, including new patio furniture, the upcoming "Patio of Progress" ribbon-cutting ceremony, and plans to brighten the library entrance with colorful perennial gardens.

With Syd on board, the library is looking ahead to a season filled with growth, creativity, and community spirit. If you have not met Syd yet, be sure to introduce yourself as a Friend of the Library the next time you check out your next great read.

And the Survey Says.....

Following our recent book sale, we invited feedback from the 33 volunteers whose generosity, hard work, and enthusiasm made the event a success. We were truly grateful to receive responses from 45% of participants, along with thoughtful suggestions, kind words, and helpful insights. We deeply value our volunteers' voices; their feedback helps us improve future sales and reflects the strength of our caring, dedicated community.

Among the responses, volunteers most often highlighted the joy of working alongside friends and neighbors from South Park and neighboring communities, noting the welcoming atmosphere, strong teamwork, and sense of belonging that make the sale so meaningful.

They also shared constructive suggestions for improvement. During busy periods, long customer lines sometimes cause delays, particularly for smaller purchases, with ideas including adjustments to the lobby layout and front desk staffing. Separately, space constraints were noted in the sorting and packing areas, which can become crowded during peak library activity.

Responses also reflected the range of volunteer roles required: book sorting (10 responses, 36%), community room setup and the sale itself (7 each, 25%), and cleanup (4, 14%), underscoring that every contribution matters.

Remarkably, an event of this scale is made possible by just 33 volunteers. Their dedication, flexibility, and enthusiasm are the heart of the book sale. We are deeply grateful and look forward to welcoming even more Friends for the October 2026 sale as we continue improving together.

Volunteer Spotlight: Donna Woods



Donna is one of those truly special volunteers who brings more than her time—she brings heart. She shows up consistently with a warm smile and a quiet willingness to step in wherever she is needed. No task is ever too small, and she approaches everything with kindness, humility, and care.

Beyond her hands-on support at events, Donna is also an active part of Friends' social outings. She is always present where community support is needed, offering her time generously and without hesitation.

And then there are her cookies, oh the cookies. Beautiful, handcrafted creations that are as delightful to look at as they are to eat! Whether at the New Member Meeting, Bingo Tea, Holiday Market, or children's programs, Donna's delicious cut-out cookies have become a cherished part of our events and a gift that brings joy to so many.

When asked why she volunteers, Donna's answer reflects the heart she brings to everything she does—"I enjoy building connections with others and developing meaningful relationships. Volunteering provides me with a strong sense of purpose by allowing me to contribute positively to the community".

We feel incredibly fortunate to have Donna as part of the Friends organization. Her kindness and quiet dedication make a lasting difference, and she is truly a gift to us all.

Until Next Time...With Appreciation

Thank you for being part of our growing community of Friends. Your continued support helps our library thrive and ensures it remains a place for generations to come. As we continue building momentum this year, we invite you to stay involved in our mission, whether by volunteering, attending an event, sharing ideas, or simply helping spread the word.

The Board of the Friends of the South Park Township Library