

# PAGE TURNER

SPRING/SUMMER 2022 • A PUBLICATION BY FRIENDS OF THE WHITEFISH BAY PUBLIC LIBRARY



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY ANN LOWREY

I'm pretty pumped about spring!

Birds are coming back.  
Baseball is underway.  
Our book sale is bigger and better than ever!

Did you know?  
Our inventory of books is oh! So fresh! Each book goes through only three book sales. After that we pull them off the shelves. How do we know which books to pull? We mark each book with an ultraviolet marker, not defacing the book as a Sharpie would. After three book sales the book is pulled.

What then?  
The books that have been culled out after three book sales may be sold in bulk to book dealers. They may go into our two Little Free Libraries. They may be donated. Do you know of a worthy cause that would accept donations? Let us know at [FriendsWFBLibrary@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsWFBLibrary@gmail.com).

What else?  
We are continually evaluating what categories of books sell well and eliminating categories that do not sell. This gives us more room on the shelves for the books in higher demand.

We have so many books (seems everyone cleaned their closets in the past two years) and we're proud of the improvements we've implemented. Come check it out on May 6, 7 and 8!

Ann

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY NYAMA Y. REED

The We often hear glowing stories from people who grew up in Whitefish Bay and used the 1955 Library when they were children. A favorite was a former resident who told about gluing a quarter to the floor under the pay phone. He would sit at a table and watch for someone to try to pick it up, and then laugh himself silly.

I never know whether to call it the "new-old" library or the "old-new" library, so I settle on the 1955 Library. One thing I'm certain of after reading through old files is that the more things change, the more they stay the same. In the case of the Library, residents have always LOVED the Whitefish Bay Public Library (WFBPL).

2022 is a year of anniversaries for WFBPL. We are celebrating 85 years as an independent Library (1937), 20 years in the current building (2002), and 40 years since Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library incorporated as a 501(c)3 (1982). Of note, the history of Friends goes back to 1953 when a group of citizens formed to support building the 1955 Library.

From 1937-1955, the Library was in the village hall basement. You might be wondering why the Village needed a dedicated library space by the mid-50s. According to "Mrs. Mary Bowen, librarian, (the library) had reached a point where books are 'purchased by pages instead of desirability. There is no room for more thick tomes.'" At times the old room at Village Hall was so crowded with patrons that people had to wait their turn to enter.

In March 1952, the WFB Village Board decided to "erect a village library within two years." At the same meeting, they "turned down an offer to lease 3,000 square feet of space in the post office to be erected at Bay Ridge and E. Silver Spring Drive." Initial plans were estimated at \$25,000 for the building and furnishings. The cornerstone of the Library was laid April 30, 1955, with plans to complete the project by the end of the year. As we all know, things do not always go according to plans. The 1955 Library, made of Lannon stone, opened November 28, 1957 and cost \$140,000.

As the construction was nearing completion, "four youngsters appeared at the door, asking if they could come in and just look." Lucky for them, Mrs. Bowen was obliging and let them in after they promised "not to disturb" the construction workers. A news article described the new building as "light and cheerful, and it also seems restful and warm." Students came back to the building to help move books from Village Hall to the new library, using their study hour during the school day to help out.

Pictures of the 1955 Library interior, with a busy children's area. The more things change in libraries, the more they stay the same.



Photos (Clockwise):

1. Original Library, a village hall basement
2. Interior of the newly erected library
3. The children's area



## Adult Services Updates

By Scott Lenski, Community and Adult Services Librarian

If you've been to the library this spring, you may have seen our Seed Library. Seed libraries are becoming more popular among libraries. There was a recent article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel about seed libraries and Whitefish Bay Public Library Director Nyama Reed was interviewed in the article. So what is a seed library?

It's just like what it sounds. We've got nearly 20 different seed types available to take including a mix of flowers, herbs, and some vegetables. All vegetable and herb seeds are organic. This is the third year that the seed library is available, and seeds are free to everyone thanks to Friends. The seed library is located directly across from the circulation desk. We even have some garden tips and directions found on our website. You can also see a full list of seeds available at:

[https://www.wfblibrary.org/at\\_the\\_library/seed\\_library.php](https://www.wfblibrary.org/at_the_library/seed_library.php)

This summer sees a return to in-person programming at the library. History will come alive with two of our upcoming programs. On Monday, July 18 at 6:30PM, join us for an evening with Abraham Lincoln. Actor Kevin Wood portrays Lincoln in his program titled "A New Birth of Freedom." The presentation covers Lincoln's life from Independence through the Civil War, especially the 12 turbulent years from 1854-1865. It also includes Mr. Lincoln's inspiring personal story.

On Monday, August 15 at 6:30PM, come visit with Eleanor Roosevelt played by Jessica Michna. In "First Lady of the World," Eleanor Roosevelt shares with the audience her tragedies and triumphs. This isn't Michna's first presentation at the library. Back in 2019, she brought Laura Ingalls Wilder to life and I know folks will be excited to have her return. Both programs are funded by Friends, so thank you!

Also summer brings back the Adult Summer Reading Program. This year the program starts on Monday, June 13 and runs through the end of August. The program is available online at <https://wfblibrary.beanstack.com/reader365>. Challenge yourself to read more this summer and you could win some great gift cards to local businesses, paid for by Friends!

## Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library Writing Contest Winners 2022

Congratulations to the winners of the 2022 writing contest! A reception was held where the winners read their pieces on Tuesday, March 29 at 6:30PM. You can click on the names below to read the winning entries.

### Short Story

- 1st Place- Diane Morrow
- 2nd Place- Jon Kolb
- 3rd Place- Kat Gál

### Memoir

- 1st Place- Christel Maass
- 2nd Place- Gretchen Seamons
- 3rd Place- Margo Renner

### Poetry

- 1st Place- Jon Kolb
- 2nd Place- John Phillips
- 3rd Place- Dina Schachtely



## Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library Book Sale Returns

By Jan Concannon

It looks like we might be getting a break from the pandemic so it's time to mark your calendars! The Spring Book Sale is set for May 6-8 at the Library.

A special preview party will be held Friday evening, May 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. This invitation-only event is open only to folks like you - Friends of the Whitefish Bay Public Library. Look for your invitation coming soon. For the general public, the sale is open from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 7, and noon - 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 8. The Sunday sale includes our popular \$5 Bag of Books for all remaining merchandise.

And if you know someone who would like to attend the Friday night sale who is not currently a Friend, please let them know they can join Friends at the Friday night sale for as little as \$15 a year.

If you can't make it to the sale, you can still help out. Please pass on word of the sale to every book lover, reader and teacher you know. And Friends are always looking for volunteers. If you're interested, go to [WFBLibrary.org](http://WFBLibrary.org) and click on the Friends tab to find out more.

Proceeds from the book sales go to supplement the wide range of activities at the Library including reading programs, computer equipment purchases, speakers, furniture and much more.

Donations are also accepted for the Library Book Sale and for the Book Room in the Library. All books, CDs, DVDs, records and other media; puzzles and other slightly-used toys and games can be dropped off throughout the year at the Library. Also, if you or someone you know is downsizing or considering an estate sale, Friends can help take the previously-mentioned items off their hands. In certain situations, we'll even pick them up.

E-mail FriendsWFBLibrary@gmail.com for more information.

## Welcome New Members!

It's a pleasure to welcome the following new members who have joined Friends since the last newsletter was published:

Jeanne Christiansen	John Rumpf
Christine Erickson	T Lin
M Savage	Rosalie Valenti & Nick Tocco
Ken Artrip	Wendy Welsh
John Cameron	Jon and Karin Welstead
W. Brett Christiansen	Jane Murray
Michele Hall	Gale Shelton
Ron Ormsby	Audrey Small
Rex Raasch	Carol Krigbaum
Tammy Ripp	Carrie Kelly

Thank you for your support.

Members are the lifeblood of our organization!





## Youth Services Update

By Katie K

While COVID didn't completely derail our summer reading plans over the past two years, it did change how we approached programming. In previous years, we loved bringing in musicians, magicians, and more to entertain and educate our community, but we made the tough decision to skip some of the larger performances. This year, I'm excited to announce that performers are back, with the help of Friends funds! Some of our favorite past performers will be returning, and we're also bringing in some new exciting classes and presenters.



### Yoga in the Park with Joanna Brooks of Embody Yoga *Tuesdays at 10am. June 21st, June 28th, July 12th and July 19th*

This special class is for our tweens: those entering 4th-6th grade. Joanna will approach yoga as play, using a variety of games and team building exercises to help tweens learn poses and breathing techniques, as well as meditation/relaxation exercises. In addition to learning the basic aspects of yoga, participants will further develop the soft skills that they need to be successful off the mat including leadership skills, teamwork skills, emotional regulation and more.



### Music in the Park: Fox and Branch *Tuesday, June 21st at 6:30pm in School House Park*

Dave Fox and Will Branch play music perfect for all ages, and their family shows include sing-alongs, fiddle tunes, and lots of audience participation.



### Music in the Park: Pint Sized Polka with Mike Schneider *Friday, July 8th at 10:30am in School House Park*

Nationally known accordion player and Polka musician Mike Schneider brings the happiest music on Earth together with education and comedy, promising tons of fun for the whole family!



### Hoop Dance Class with Danielle Lee of Hoop Elation *Tuesday, July 26th at 10:30am in School House Park*

This instructional program will begin with a performance by Danielle. Then it's time to get hooping! Participants will learn beginner friendly hoop moves through the 10-Trick Game. Danielle will lead hoop based creative movement exploration exercises, partner/group activities, and games.

Friends, thank you again for making these great performances possible!



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## FRIENDS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board Meetings are held at the Library at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month (except July and August). Friends members are welcome to attend to get an idea of our work in progress, ask questions, or contribute ideas.