



100 Poverty Road, Southbury, Connecticut 06488 • 203-262-0626

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTHBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Summer/Fall 2023 Newsletter



It's time! It's time!

Time to renew your membership – or join The Friends for the very first time. But why pay money when you get all the benefits without joining? Sooooo many reasons! Your membership dues, whether at the \$10 minimum level or higher, help underwrite the cost of the services The Friends provide to the entire community. Summer reading for kids and teens, movie licenses, scholarships for college-bound high school students, passes to area museums and attractions, programs (so many programs), equipment – wouldn't you like to know that you helped fund all of that?

To join or renew, go to <https://www.southburylibrary.org/about-us/support-the-library/friends>, return the form sent with this newsletter, or pick up a membership form at the library.

Feeding the Book Sale Volunteers

Many thanks to these Southbury restaurants and bakeries for providing lunch and treats for the many volunteers who made the book sales such a rousing success: The Bakery, DiPalma's, Hometown Pizza, Hudson's Café, Julio's, Leo's, Mercato, Mikee's, Miranda's, Oriental Gourmet, Rathskeller, Señor Pancho's, ShopRite, and Samui.

Book Donations

You don't have to wait for Donation Days to bring your gently-used items to the Friends to sell. Drop them off at the door at the ramp entrance in back of the library any Tuesday or Thursday between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., when our volunteers are downstairs sorting books, and when the green "We're open" sign is out. We accept books in all genres for all ages, DVDs, CDs, audiobooks on CD, vinyl records, puzzles, wall art, jigsaw puzzles (all the pieces, please!), and games. If you have only a few items, you can drop them at the library's Circulation Desk – please specify they're for the Friends, and please don't put them in the book return or leave them outside anywhere. And if you have a lot of items, call Ken at 203-233-1714, Jeff at 203-578-5988, or John (after Labor Day) at 203-525-0199 to arrange for a pickup.

Do you have old, interesting, collectible books sitting around collecting dust? Leather-bound sets? PreWorld War I cookbooks? A Boy Scout manual from 1940? As long as they're in good condition (again, not moldy or musty), we accept those for either our Old and Interesting section of the sale, or for our occasional online auctions.

Do you want to sort books for the sale? We welcome new faces! Come to the lower level of the Southbury Public Library between 9:30 and 11:30 on Tuesday or Thursday mornings and ask for John or Ken, or talk to any of the volunteers you find.

Would you like to work at the book sale? Watch for online announcements or notices in the local paper or on the Friends Facebook page.

Museum Passes

The Friends purchase passes to area museums and attractions that can be checked out with a current library card (library cards are free). Passes offer free or discounted admission, and are checked out for three days. Passes are first-come, first-served, and can't be reserved. You can find a list of passes at <https://www.southburylibrary.org/using-the-library/services/museum-passes>.

Programs? What Programs?

While the Friends don't fund all of the programs the library offers to the community, we do fund the great majority of them. If you look at the budget further down in this newsletter, you'll see that we've allocated \$44,000 for programs for the new fiscal year that began on July 1. So how many programs? And who attends them? By far the largest percentage of our expenses goes for programming. For 2022-23, the Friends contributed \$36,000 to the library for programs for the community. Because of the success of our book sales, we are able to increase that to \$44,000 for the 23-24 fiscal year. Of that, \$11,000 will fund programs for adults, \$15,000 will cover programs for children (including Summer Reading programs), \$10,000 for teen programming, \$5,000 will bring concerts to the town, and \$3,000 has been allocated for programs that don't fit neatly into any single category.

For the period from July 2022 through June 2023, here are the numbers for programs funded by the Friends:

	# of Programs	Attendance
Adult Programs	70	1,201
Teen	67	1,761
Children	325	9,325
TOTAL	462	12,287

Programs included crafts and food, music, story times, author talks, history programs, genealogy programs, and movies, and so many more. What a great service to the community!

What Do the Friends Do with the Money We Raise?

Your membership dues, proceeds from the book sales (annual, half-price, and year-round in the lobby) fund almost all of the library’s children’s programs, some of the concerts, movie licenses so the library can show films legally, and some of the digital services available to everyone in town. While the total amount of membership dues may not seem like a lot, every dollar we raise contributes to an ever-better library for our community. Our most recent special project funded a major upgrade to the sound system in the meeting room. 4K movies and an enhanced sound system certainly make the movies special!

**Where Does the Friends’ Money Come From, and Where Does It Go?
The 2023-24 Budget**

Income		Expenses	
Book Sales	\$62,200	Museum Passes	\$2,000
Contributions	\$1,000	Programs	\$44,000
Labonne’s cash for receipts	\$200	Scholarships	\$2,000
Membership	\$4,000	Movie/ Other Licenses	\$1,545
Miscellaneous Income	\$900	Donor/Volunteer Recognition	\$2,500
Interest income	\$500	Marketing/Fund-raising	\$7,070
Directed Donation*	\$90,000	Improvements	\$2,500
Total	\$158,800	Capital Fund	\$1,000
		Communications	\$500
		Directed Donation*	\$90,000
		Contingency	\$1,700
		Dues & Fees	\$120
		Insurance	\$450
		Postage, Office, Supplies	\$2,275
		Printing	\$1,000
		Total	\$158,660

*This is a pass-through donation for a special project that will be announced soon.

Friends of the Southbury Public Library Board of Directors 2023-24

President	Jeff O’Sullivan
Vice-President	Glenn Heckendorf
Treasurer	John Michaels
Recording Secretary	Anita Barney

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