



Friends of Huntington

From the President

The Time Is Now

Oneonta is a wonderful community with a variety of activities and resources for all ages. Superb health care and education. Interesting climate. Public services that employ people with many talents and commitments. These resources are well known. Linger in the background are unsung heroes. The quiet that live among us. They go about their daily living, doing for others, not for the rewards but because that is the type of person they are. Recently the community lost a person of that caliber. Phil Santos. He was a gentleman. He was a kind, caring and thoughtful person. He was a teacher, letter carrier, and he worked at the Greater Plains School where he was a role model for all. In his memory his family suggested that donations be made to the library. Phil loved the library and enjoyed the calm and peace of the building along with all it had to offer him. The donations continue to arrive from across the country, not just the Oneonta community. The donations in his memory show that he was respected and loved.

The staff and Phil’s family are focusing on library needs and what will best preserve his memory. Phil will be remembered. He would be overwhelmed by the response and amount of donations. Sometimes we wait too long to acknowledge the good we see in others.

We always think there is more time. The time is now. Thank someone, tell them how you feel.

Karyl Sage, President Friends of HML

National Library Week
April 3 - 10, 2022

Theme: Connect With Your Library

Molly Shannon, actor, comedian, former Saturday Night Live member and a librarian’s daughter, will help celebrate our nation’s libraries as Honorary Chair of National Library Week and will highlight the ways ‘libraries serve to connect communities to books, resources, programs and each other.’ The week’s theme is an explicit call to action—an invitation for communities to join, visit, or advocate for their local libraries. During the week Tuesday, April 12, is designated **National Library Workers Day**, a day to recognize the importance and contributions of the library staff who keep libraries running and fulfilling those needs and expectations by making information, books and resources accessible. “Libraries work because they work!”. During this week, Friends pay special recognition to the library staff and, if you have the opportunity to offer your appreciation to this fine staff, stop in and show your support.

FRIENDS' DONATIONS JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022

\$1000 Children’s Programs
\$1000 Adult Programs

\$200 Supplies

Thank you for your generous support!

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Friends of Huntington Memorial Library shall be to maintain an association of persons interested in strengthening the library, enhancing its collections, and promoting its usefulness.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Gavin who joined HML in December 2021 and serves as a library clerk. This new staff member is a fine addition to HML as his friendly demeanor behind the desk or out on the library floors is always welcomed by library patrons. Among Gavin’s library duties, he cites one as being ‘the simple joy of properly alphabetizing sets of books’. When asked what Gavin felt would surprise patrons about his duties, he answers that he



chooses books and creates art for various displays. Gavin lists his favorite books as *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole and *Leviathan Wakes* by James S.A. Corey. His favorite DVDs include *Spirited Away* and *The Darjeeling Limited*. In leisure time, Gavin enjoys hiking and his favorite hiking trails include those in the Catskill and the Adirondack Mountains. When asked what people should know about the library, Gavin cites the 3-D printer that is available for patron use with help included as needed.

Thank you, Gavin, for being part of the fine HML staff.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS

Mattie Clune is the winner of the Friends’ sponsored \$25 Green Toad Book Store gift card drawing for submitting her 2022 membership donation by November 13, 2021.

In highlighting the value of free and open access to information, Friends sponsored drawings of banned books during Banned Books Week September 26-October 2, 2021.

Winners included:

- Calene Berman *The Kite Runner*
- Jacob (first name only) *George*

THANK YOU

Thank you for responding to our 2022 membership drive by renewing your membership or by becoming a new member. If you have not already done so, please consider renewing or becoming that new member. With increasing postage and printing costs, we ask that you consider receiving the newsletter by email.



A sincere ‘thank you’ is also extended to all who, along with membership donations, have included additional donations so greatly appreciated. In addition, this thank you is also extended to individuals and couples who view HML as the extraordinary asset it is in our community and have reached out with personal donations helping the library provide services beyond its budget. To name a few, donations have helped with photography classes, children’s Take and Make kits, an anticipated spring time refurbishing of the entry foyer and the list goes on. Perhaps, as a way to honor someone in memoriam or whatever your reason, your donation to HML is accepted with sincere gratitude.

From the Director

Library Services in the Time of COVID

During the second full year of the global pandemic, library services changed, modified, altered, then adapted again. Through it all, the library aimed to provide important services to the public with as little disruption as possible. As 2021 came to a close, the incidence of COVID-19 was at an all-time high and it was time to assess the library’s activities for the year.

The library collection consisted of 36,035 print items, 18,083 electronic items, and 3,926 items on disc for a total of 58,044 items. The total print book circulation was 48,807, the circulation of material on disk was 10,698, for a total physical circulation of 59,505. Electronic materials (downloadable ebooks and audiobooks) circulated 12,128 times last year making the grand total circulation 71,633. Print Adult Fiction was the most popular material type; circulating 22,870 times. The least popular material was Children’s Print Nonfiction; circulating at 1,877 times last year.

Library programs provide enriching, educational activities for the community. They cover a wide range of topics from Book Clubs and Writers’ Groups to Minecraft Clubs and Early Literacy Training. Most were held online or in the park last year and a lot of our efforts were devoted to developing Take & Make Kits. Besides the classic group programs, library staff also provided One-on-One assistance in a broad range of services from local history requests to home delivery. In total, we held 259 programs; 65 for adults, 191 for children and 3 for a mixed audience. 775 adults, 3,195 children, and 272 mixed ages attended programs for a total participation of 4,242. In the past, the state report didn’t have a place to record the number of Take & Make Kits distributed, but this year we were able to include the 32 kits that were provided to 1,470 people. Whew! Thanks to the Friends of HML for helping to fund and package all of these enriching activity kits.

It was a challenging year at HML and we appreciate the patience and generosity of our patrons and supporters. We hope for a year of normalcy but in the meantime, the library will continue to offer home delivery, contact-free book pickup, take home kits, and virtual programs.

Tina Winstead, Director

Library Closings:

- February 21** **Presidents’ Day**
- May 30** **Memorial Day**
- June 20** **Juneteenth National Independence Day**
- July 4** **Independence Day**
- September 5** **Labor Day**
- October 9** **Columbus Day**

Huntington Memorial Library 432-1980
hmloneonta.org

Library Hours:
Monday- Wednesday 9:00-8:00
Thursday-Friday – 9:00-5:30

Friends’ Board of Directors

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“The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence the we may yet have hope for the future of man”

T. S. Eliot (1888-1965) American-English poet, playwright, literary critic, editor

Children’s News from Miss Kathryn

The Summer Reading Program is a yearly staple at the Huntington Memorial Library. Each year has a new theme and 2022 is no different. Our “Oceans of Possibilities” summer will focus on local waters, oceans, sea and lake creatures, and most definitely pirates! Reading and Activity Missions will make a comeback this year through our new Summer Reading Tracking Program - Beanstack! Beanstack will help participants track their reading online or through the Beanstack app with new and fun added elements like reading leaderboards between friends, personalized book recommendations, minute trackers, and more! With each new milestone met, participants will receive a badge, a prize, and a raffle ticket towards two grand prize baskets! Our Summer Reading Kick-Off is planned for Friday, June 24th at 5:30pm out in Huntington Park. For more information on our 2022 Summer Reading Program, please follow our Facebook page @hmloneonta. We hope to see you all there in the warm summer sunshine!



P.O. Box 1036
 Oneonta, NY 13820

To:

BANNED BOOKS - REVISITED



Although Banned Books Week is celebrated annually, the banned books controversy continues each day across our nation whether in public libraries or schools. Banning books is not a new phenomenon. Early mention of a book being banned dates to 1624 when an English businessman, Puritan Thomas Morton, unwilling to live by the strict Puritan rules, critiqued and attacked

Puritan customs and his work was banned by the Puritan community. Who can forget the Nazi books being burned ceremoniously in Germany and Austria during the 1930's? Censorship has long been present but the 'fight' against it began 40 years ago. In 1982, in the *Island Trees School District v. Pico*, the Supreme Court ruled that school officials could not ban books solely based on their content. But by 2015, over 300 books were challenged based on race, ethnicity and sexual preference. This grew to include sexual imagery, violence and any content considered abusive. At the close of 2021, a spasm of book banning has spread surprisingly quickly among state and local officials -Texas a repeat offender in the culture war where a Texas lawmaker called for the 'state's school libraries to review a list of 850 books for possible removal.' However, four librarians formed the #FReadom Fighters to resist this 'war on books.' School districts in at least 30 states are embroiled in book debates like the one in Texas. Despite the opposition from the American Library Association (ALA), books continue to be banned by school and public libraries across the United States.



NATIONAL BOOK LOVERS DAY

August 9, 2022

Book Lovers Day is celebrated on August 9 every year and is widely recognized on a global scale but its origin and creator remain unknown even to this day. This unofficial holiday is observed for all who love to read. So put away smart phones and every possible technological distraction, find your favorite reading place, pick up a good book - whether fiction or non-fiction- and read the day or night away.



HML HOME DELIVERY PROGRAM

Are you a person or know of someone who cannot get to the library due to illness or a physical limitation? HML is here to help you with books, CDs, etc. through home delivery.

The steps for that help are as follows:

- Applicant information through an application form is required- can be received via computer or by contacting the library 607-432-1980.

-Library card is required. Don't have one? Contact the library on how to register for a card. Your card is then kept at the library and the account is changed so that fine don't appear.

-Patron is connected with a volunteer who will deliver the materials when they become available. Patron and volunteer talk determining the best time for delivery.

-Books and other materials can be requested online or by calling the library.

-Reading preferences, etc can be given to the library and its staff can pick out appropriate materials.

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-Pickup and delivery of materials takes place once a month.

Note: The HML delivery service is available for City/Town of Oneonta residents but can be extended depending on the volunteer.

Questions/Concerns? Alex, Senior Clerk, will help.



HOME DELIVERY



NEW LOGO

The Friends' newsletter is arriving with a new front page logo. In keeping with HML's decision to redesign its logo, the Friends have followed the library's decision and all materials now sent from the Friends will feature the redesigned logo.

FRIENDS OF HUNTINGTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**Become a Friend of the Library 2022 dues are due now
(Membership January 1, 2022-December 31, 2022)**

I would like to join or renew my Friends' membership.

We look forward to your membership renewal/becoming a new member.

Your 2022 membership has already been renewed. Thank you!

Individual \$15 Sponsor \$60 Superfriend \$250

Family/Household \$30 Benefactor \$100 Additional donation

I prefer to receive my newsletter by e-mail. I would like to be called upon
to help with Friends' projects.

I would like to help with home delivery.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Online payments can be made via PayPal or credit card at hmloneonta.org/friends-of-hml or checks can be mailed to Friends of HML, PO Box 1036, Oneonta, NY 13820

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