

FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF THE PRESQUE ISLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY



Join us in Celebrating Our Library Staff!

"You don't know what you've got till it's gone." Yes, 2020 has definitely reminded us that the cliché is true! When libraries were forced to close last spring, Presque Isle residents realized how important libraries are to us. We certainly missed the people and services we previously had taken for granted.

Please join the Friends of the Library in congratulating and celebrating Director Shelly Knaack and Assistant Sarah Krembs, who are successfully managing our library through all the changing circumstances.

When the library was forced to close, they used their time to order new materials, answer questions, and organize library stacks and furniture to make our space more useful. Once curbside delivery was possible, they made it easy for us to request and pick up our library materials.

Our library is Presque Isle's central gathering place. But, even when we could not gather in person, both Shelly and Sarah made us feel welcome by phone. We thank them for their extra efforts and can't wait till we all back together in person.

Friends of the Presque Isle Library

Pipke Park made for a spacious, recent Friends of the Library meeting. It was lovely to meet in person!



Pictured from left: Library Director Shelly Knaack, Carol Brewer, Carol Stone, President Kathy Sprester, Mary Watkins, Diane Schroeder, Membership, Darlene Berdan, Pam Whipple and Treasurer Ronie Jacobsen. Missing from the picture: Vice President Kathy Curtis, Secretary Carmen Farwell, Library Assistant Sarah Krembs, Mary Koster, Jorja Burke and Terri Sullivan.

Did you know...

Our free, 24-hour Wi-Fi has been boosted and can now be accessed in the back of the library!



Our kids' section will soon have a new look! Library Trustees Merry Beckel and Susan Casey, working with Director Shelly, have been working hard to renovate the kids' section of the library. New shelving has been purchased, and cheerful new posters will adorn the walls. The area will be bright and inviting, and we can't wait to see the finished product!



Gale Courses offers a wide range of highly interactive, instructor-led courses that you can take entirely online. As a library card holder in good standing, you are entitled to these courses at no cost. Courses run for six weeks and new sessions begin every month.

Go to:

www.presqueislelibrary.org/elibrary/gale-courses/

Library Programs

Virtual Children's Summer Programming

Page Turner Adventures is a Florida-based vaudeville style steampunk themed live show. However, with the magic of the internet, Page Turner Adventures went virtual this year, allowing libraries all over the country to tap into their programming. PICL bought the entire summer lineup. There were new videos and craft projects every day of the week all summer long. From author interviews, to silly skits, to how to make a solar oven, there was something for kiddos of all ages. The links were provided on the library's FB page and website. For a summer where in-person programming was not possible, the library felt this was a great alternative for the youth of our extended community.



Dottie Reeder, left and Kathy Curtis, right

"Joy of Cooking"

Remember when we could actually meet in person? Way back in those times the library hosted entertaining programs including a viewing of the *Downton Abbey* movie which was made complete by serving afternoon tea with homemade scones. The movie *Chocolat* was also shown with chocolate treat accompaniments. In other food related programs Dottie Reeder and Kathy Curtis gave a *Joy of Cooking* program which celebrated the new edition of the classic cookbook. Janelle Kohl and Blaze Burton from area libraries gave a "Toss the Dish" presentation on digitally streaming television. And the library hosted a kids' ornament workshop for the annual town winter party. All programs had great attendance!



Thank you for your continued support!

We invite you to fill out the enclosed form and return it with your check. Donations of any amount will help us to continue our work, enhance the collections and the programming at the Presque Isle Community Library

Friends of the Presque Isle Library

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Remembering Jackie Bassett

Local artist and gardener Jackie Bassett was a loyal fifteen-year trustee of the Presque Isle Community Library, before her passing in 2018. She also was the impetus behind the wide variety of art works which have adorned our library's walls and shelves for years. We knew Jackie was a woman of many talents. Since her passing, we have learned what a truly remarkable person Jackie had been.

Jackie rode and showed horses, earned a pilot's license, and drove to Alaska in 1949 before paved roads existed. She rafted, sailed, scuba dived, and created pottery, all while raising three children.

After she returned to Presque Isle in the 1970s, she became a Master Gardener, raised sheep, learned how to spin and weave, ran a cross-country ski center, and traveled to every continent except Antarctica and Australia. At 88, she zip-lined across the Buller Gorge in New Zealand with walking stick in hand.

We have been honored by a very generous bequest to the Friends of the Library and are most grateful to know that this library was among Jackie's many passions. As her obituary concludes, "Anyone who loved Jackie found inspiration in her indomitable spirit, her independence, and her ceaseless curiosity."