

Recent Gifts and Memorials

GIVEN BY	ITEM	IN MEMORY OF
Portage High School Class of '54	<i>Butchering Poultry, Rabbit, Lamb, Goat, and Pork: The Comprehensive Photographic Guide to Humane Slaughtering and Butchering</i> by Adam Danforth	Larry Netzer
Pat Atkinson & family	<i>Fashion: A Visual History</i> by N.J. Stevenson	Eleanor Drury
Portage High School Class of '53	<i>Flight: 100 Greatest Aircraft</i>	Philip Wayne Huebner
Portage High School Class of '53	<i>The Essential Fishing Handbook</i> by Joe Cermele	Charles "Chuck" R. Parsons
Portage High School Class of '53	<i>Mr. Wrigley's Ball Club: Chicago and the Cubs during the jazz age</i> by Roberts Ehr Gott	Kathleen A. "Mick" Bortz
Pat Atkinson	<i>Bluegrass</i> (CD) by Jim Lauderdale	Ken Schwanz

Tech Tuesday Returns!
Tech Tuesday starts again on Oct. 18, and will be the 1st and 3rd

Palm of the Hand Memoir Writing Workshop will be held on the 3rd Wednesday at 10:30am at Heritage House starting Oct. 19. This is a group that is all about your memories and less about your writing skills. We brainstorm ideas, share stories and spend some time in quiet reflection in this group. More information can be found at: <https://spiritblogs.uwc.edu/memoirs/> There is currently a group in Baraboo and Reedsburg at their public libraries.

Friends of the
Portage Public Library
253 W. Edgewater St.
Portage, WI 53901



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If you have questions about the Friends of the Library contact any of the above board members.

Annual meeting an event for all Friends

A presentation about the enduring popularity of Laura Ingalls Wilder and her "Little House" series of children's books will be featured at the Friends of the Library annual meeting on Oct. 12. Dr. Anna Hajdik, a lecturer in the English Department and Film Studies program at UW-Whitewater will guide her listeners to view the series through the lens of tourism and popular culture with "Dreams of the Prairie: Laura Ingalls Wilder, Authenticity, and Literary Tourism in the American Midwest."



From touring the Surveyor's House or spending the night in a covered wagon at the Ingalls Homestead in De Smet, South Dakota, to participating in a Laura Ingalls Wilder look-a-like contest in Walnut Grove or Pepin, Dr. Hajdik contends that Wilder-related tourism is linked indelibly to the search for authenticity and a nostalgic vision of America's pioneer heritage. Dr. Hajdik earned her Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin and her undergraduate degree in History and Film Studies from Macalester College. Her research on Laura Ingalls Wilder was conducted while on fellowship at the Center for Rural and Regional Studies at Southwest State University in Marshall, Minnesota. The event will be in the Bidwell Room at the library. Light refreshments will be served starting at 6:30, with the brief annual meeting starting at 6:45, followed by the program at 7. All members of Friends of the Library are invited to attend this gathering.

New director sees strengths & challenges ahead

As she approached the two-month anniversary of her new job as director the Portage Library, Jessica Bergin paid compliments to the Portage community for providing the financial support to complete the library expansion, and ongoing support as evidenced by donations and memorial books given to the library. She is equally impressed with the quality of the library staff — "they are so-o-o-o good!" — and the "top notch facility." The library is especially impressive for the size of the community, she notes, and feels that with time "we can do just about anything!"



One of the challenges she sees is using the staff to its full potential. For instance, Amanda Pardo, recently the circulation supervisor, is now the teen and technology services coordinator, creating programs and activities for teens and tending to the

library's website, social media, and the public computers. Adult programming and services will be handled by Lynn Harthorne (who served as interim director before Jessica arrived) and additional vacant staff positions are currently posted.

Jessica intends to work hard to develop partnerships with other organizations, such as the schools, Portage Center for the Arts, and other community groups. Strong partnerships will ultimately have beneficial results for all involved, she maintains.

There's plenty of work for the new director — who also has a husband and children — but when she has time for recreational reading she likes books of the "cozy mystery" genre (e.g. books by author M.C. Beaton). She's also a fan of Charlaine Harris, author of the Sookie Stackhouse series, upon which was based HBO's *True Blood* series.

Did you know ...?

In the past five years Friends of the Library has contributed \$25,900 to the library. This does not include the \$2,500 pledge to the capital campaign for library expansion, and which was paid off one year early.

Happening soon in children's department

- Tuesday, Sept. 13, 3:30-4:30, 3rd-5th grades: "Roald Dahl Party!" celebrating 100 years of storytelling with games, crafts, refreshments, and more!
- Monday, Sept. 19, 3:30-4:15, PreK-2nd grade: "Curious George Party!" with games, crafts, refreshments & more!
- Pre-K Klub kicks off new year on Friday, Sept. 30, 9:30-10:15, 4-6 year olds, "Rocket Science" is the theme, registration required
- First ever Halloween Party for kids in 3rd-5th grade on Thursday, Oct. 27, 10-11 a.m. (no school day) Costume contest, games, foods, more!

From the Children's Department: A huge thank you for the financial support from Friends of the Library over the past year, including the Summer Library Program!



Portage Library to host 'Go Big Read' discussion

The Portage Library will follow the lead of Madison Public Library who partners yearly with University of Wisconsin-Madison for "Go Big Read." This year's selection is *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond. The discussion will be Tuesday, Nov.

15 at 6:30. Two students from the School of Library and Information Science will be facilitating the discussion. Books will be available on a first-come basis at the library starting Oct. 19. Fifteen copies available for extended checkout, and a reader may also purchase a personal copy and join the discussion.

According to Lynn Harthorne, Adult Service Librarian,

19 other libraries in South Central Library System have also signed on for the Big Read of *Evicted* this year. The Go Big Read program is designed to have students,

Book sale big \$Success

Year-round planning and organizing paid off well for the Friends of the Library book sale in late July with receipts totaling \$5,335. The annual book sale is the primary fundraising activity for the organization. According to Marvin Jensen, book sale committee chair, the sale "appears to be drawing patrons from a widening area, due in part to publicity in surrounding communities, invitations to dealers, and information targeted to visitors to Portage, such as this year's Edsel convention attendees." He adds that "scheduling the sale before the county fair seemed to work well—even in the face of road construction in front of the library, a gas leak, a major storm, and shortened library hours." Next year's sale is scheduled for July 20-22 (with member's preview night on July 19). Donations for the next sale are now being accepted at the library. Arrangements for pick-up of books can be made by calling 742-7783. Over 75 volunteers helped before, during, and after the sale; 19 volunteers helped at the sorts throughout the year. **The first monthly book sort for the 2017 sale will be Sept. 9, from 9-11 am, in the Bidwell Room.**

Calling all gardeners! You can help!

Library Grounds Fall Cleanup Day. **Sept. 23, 8-11 am**, weather dependent. If you can help for an hour or two or three please contact [Jean Damm at \[wmjd@frontier.com\]\(mailto:wmjd@frontier.com\)](mailto:Jean Damm at wmjd@frontier.com) More information to follow closer to the date.

Friends of the Library

2016 members

new & renewing members 6/14/16 –9/1/16

Individual

Meredythe Bender
Kelly Bond
James Chamberlain
Terri Drum
Beth Davenport
Connie Davis
Gregory Delfeld
Mark Foster
Patricia Geltmeyer
Eric Glass
Elayne Clipper Hanson
Katelyn Haueter
Susan Jensen
Patty King
Steve Kirschling
Barb Martin
John R. Miller
Timothy Noll
Mary Radford
Colleen Reitzner
Kathy Rowley
Dorothy Russell
Krista Russell

Gail Schultz
Miranda Shanks
Joe Trombley
Randy Van Ness
Jeff York

Family

Dorothy & John Bennett
Jeff & Jane Breuer
Ron & Lois Brzezinski
Laurie Deakins
Carrie Dimock
Eva Dubberstein
Bob & Linda Gorsline
Elizabeth Hansen
John Hmira
Joan Jacobson
Jenny Karpelenia
Dorothy Loomis
Gail & Linda Otto
David & Debby Perrodin
Vickie Schultz
George & Rita Smick

There's still time for you to make a contribution to help Friends of the Library support library activities in 2016. Use the form on this page, or pick up a form at the library.

Remember to register *The Friends of the Portage Free Library Inc.* as your choice for charitable organization to receive a portion of the purchase price for items purchased at smile.amazon.com. Once you have regis-



tered, just remember to return to Amazon Smile every time. It's that simple, and every little bit helps!

Time to renew your support of Friends of the Library

Annual Membership (Jan. 1—Dec. 31)

- Membership renewal New Membership

Please check the desired category

- Individual \$10
 Family \$20
 Business/Patron \$50

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

YES, I would like to receive information & newsletters by email to reduce mailing & copying costs.

Please indicate your areas of interest:

Children's Department

- Baking

Teen Department

- Baking

Library Book Sale

- Pre-sale sorting
 Staffing the sale
 Set-up or clean up

- Friend's board member
 Participate in book discussion
 Grounds beautification
 Provide refreshments

Please detach & return this section to:

Friends of the Portage Library

c/o Portage Public Library

253 W Edgewater St.

Portage, WI 53901

You will also find membership forms at the library.

