



746 Lakeside Dr. SE
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Think outside the books

The *Friends* of the EGR Library sponsors a wide variety of programs and events.



Please visit www.kdl.org/events for a full list of *Friends* sponsored programs.



Follow us on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheEGRLibrary/

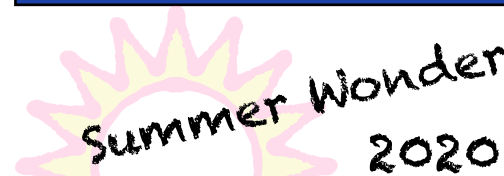
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FOOTNOTES



Newsletter

Spring 2020



We are heading full-speed into Summer Wonder 2020! Sign-ups will start soon for our Summer Wonder Reading program, for ages birth – adult. Read over the summer and claim an amazing prize! The EGR staff is also working hard to bring you an array of exciting online programs for children of all ages, including virtual storytimes, book talks, streamed performers and STEAM activities. And don't worry, adults – we did not forget about you! Adult virtual programs may include online book discussions, painting class, cooking and more. Stay tuned for updates by following us on Facebook, or check out our event page at [KDL.org/Events](https://www.kdl.org/Events).

—Dawn Lewis

One Fish, Two Fish... Our Fish and Turtle Tanks

Our Reeds Lake fish and turtles have been well taken care during days when the library has been closed. The *Friends* of the EGR Library have a contract with Blue Fish Aquarium. This company comes in twice per month to perform basic maintenance of the tanks, cleaning, changing water and making sure the lights and automatic feeders are working properly. Food is dispensed several times per day.



Did you know that East Grand Rapids elementary school children helped in a big way to bring these tanks to our library? During the library's expansion and renovation from 2005 to 2006 there was a "Catch, Watch, Learn and Release" fundraising campaign during which approximately 400 children gave \$1 or more to help pay for the project! When you become a member of the *Friends*, or donate used books for our book sales, you too are helping to provide ongoing maintenance of our library fish and turtles!

—Mary Dersch

EGR KDL Staff Spotlight

Shaunna Martz is the new Region Manager II at East Grand Rapids Library. She received her Bachelor of Arts in English and Literature from Grand Valley State University and her Masters of Library and Information Science from Wayne State University. She is from



Currently Shaunna is reading *Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope* by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

Muskegon but currently lives in Grand Rapids.
Shaunna, cont. on p. 3

New Website Coming Soon!

The *Friends* are in the process of transitioning to a new website service provider. This new provider will allow us to freshen up our web presence, provide more detailed information about our board, and integrate our social media posts right into the website. The *Friends* are also looking at ways to provide a more effective online membership purchasing and donation system. We expect the site to be launched by the end of May 2020. The address will remain the same: www.friendsoftheegrlibrary.org

—Kris Pachla

Book Sale News

FRIENDS OF THE EGR LIBRARY SPRING BOOK SALE

Due to concerns over the spread of Covid-19, this Spring's Friends of the EGR Library Book Sale is cancelled. We appreciate your continued support, and hope to see you at the Fall Book Sale!

Your membership helps support the
EGR Library.

Save the Dates! Fall Book Sale

Members'
Pre-sale

Fri., Nov. 6, 6:30 - 8:30pm

Join at the library, at the sale or via
www.friendsoftheegrlibrary.org

General
Sale

Sat., Nov. 7, 9am - 5pm

Bag Sale

Sun., Nov. 8, 9am - 3pm
\$5 per bag, no limit

FRIENDS OF THE EAST GRAND RAPIDS LIBRARY

Kent District Library, East Grand Rapids Branch

746 Lakeside Drive SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506, 616-784-2007

Name _____ Date: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15.00

☐ FAMILY \$25.00

☐ SUPPORTER \$50.00

☐ PATRON \$75.00

☐ BENEFACTOR \$100.00 or more

☐ Save the paper - I prefer to receive communications by email when possible.

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of the EGR Library

Endowment Fund Gift \$ _____

Do you wish to give an extra \$2.00 or more to support the library's fish and turtles? \$ _____

TOTAL

You may also pay via PayPal by visiting our website www.friendsoftheegrlibrary.org



Greetings from the Board President

I hope this newsletter finds you, your family, and loved ones safe and healthy. As we all adjust to the “new normal” that accompanies the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency, so too does the *Friends of the EGR Library*. Unfortunately, one of these adjustments is the cancellation of our spring book sale. While regrettable, our decision to cancel the sale was not difficult, given the need to prioritize public health and safety in these tumultuous times.

Another adjustment for the *Friends* Board has been the transition to virtual and online meetings. Traditionally, the Board has met in person each month at the EGR Library, but in April we held our first remote meeting via Zoom. While we hope we will soon be able to meet again in person, the Board is adapting to the situation by embracing technology that allows us to continue our work of promoting literacy and education programs and services by fostering curiosity, creativity and community.

The Kent District Library staff have also embraced technology recently by promoting online and remotely accessible resources. Many KDL staff members have also taken to Facebook and other social media to continue

reading books to children and others who have grown accustomed to attending family reading, story time and similar events at KDL branches. We wholeheartedly thank the KDL staff for their continued efforts and commitment to reach out to community members and library patrons during a very difficult time.

With the remainder of the school year cancelled for students in the KDL region, online access to KDL resources and continued learning opportunities throughout the Spring and Summer months will be more important than ever. As described in more detail in this newsletter, the *Friends* – with your support – are proud to help underwrite KDL’s summer learning initiatives for our community, specifically the Summer Wonder program.

By rallying together under the banner of literacy, education and continued learning, we hope to contribute in some small part to a return to normalcy over the months to come. While we miss seeing our *Friends* supporters in person at the EGR Library, we so appreciate your continued remote engagement with the KDL system in the meantime. Hopefully, we will soon be able to meet again at our Library on the Lake. Until then, take care, stay healthy and keep reading!

—Erik Daly, Board President



Behind the Scenes at EGR Library

As all of us have learned to Stay at Home and Stay Safe, the library staff have been working to continue to provide programs and services to help with continued learning and enrichment for residents. Hopefully many of you have found the multiple streaming programming options for children on [KDL.org/events](https://www.kentdistrictlibrary.org/events). If not, check it out! KDL has also worked to increase our digital download library, and are pleased to have Overdrive back for ebook and audiobook access. Information on how to download Overdrive is at [KDL.org/downloads](https://www.kentdistrictlibrary.org/downloads) or call 784-2007 for assistance. Staff members have been training and learning during this time and preparing to see you again soon in the library. We miss you!

—Dawn Lewis, EGR Library Manager

Friends Board Members

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Patty Sienstra— Vice President	Meghan Cai	Kris Pachla
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	Chris Linabury	Andrea Williams
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Bookshelves feeling bare?

Fall Book Sale November 6-7-8

Funds raised at bi-annual book sales and the *Friends Corner Book Shop*, help to support the EGR Library.

Friends’ Used Book Sales Throughout the Years

Did you know that the *Friends* have held used book sales since 1969?

1969 – 2004 The *Friends* held their bi-annual sales either inside the old (pre-expanded) East Grand Rapids Parks & Recreation program room in January or outside in the front of the library in June, weather permitting. The sales were held in June on the same weekend as the Reeds Lake Clothesline Art Festival. This brought a great deal of foot traffic and lots of sales! Sale dates have changed since 2006 and currently are held in May and November.

June 2005 The *Friends* used the Ramona Medical Arts building, courtesy of Jade Pig, to house donated books and hold their June 2005 book sale. The newly expanded and renovated EGR Library opened in August 2006. The *Friends* continued to use this facility to receive and store donations through December 2006. They began to occupy the new book storage room being made ready for them in the EGR Community Center/Library right around that time. The Ramona Medical Arts building was torn down circa 2007.

January 2006 – January 2012

The East Grand Rapids Middle School Cafetorium was the next location for the *Friends*’ book sales. This was a spacious venue which allowed for spreading out and really showcasing sale books! We worked in conjunction with the EGR School system.



Friends book sale at EGR Middle School, January 2008

2012 – Today The *Friends* began having their book sales in the

East Grand Rapids Parks & Recreation Department program rooms in June 2012 and were able to display over 30 different genres of books, music and movies for all ages. All proceeds from book sales support the EGR Library!

—Mary Dersch



Friends book sale at current location in EGR Parks & Rec Department program rooms

Shaunna, cont. from p. 1

Shaunna went into library sciences because she likes helping people, loves knowledge and books, and is a life-long learner. Her favorite part of her job is getting to know the EGR Library Staff and the patrons. I witnessed two such interactions and she was so helpful, kind, and knowledgeable with patrons. She is warm and inviting, with a wonderful sparkle in her eyes and a constant smile on her face.

Shaunna is married to a supportive husband, Scott, and has a house full of pets. She has three dogs—Patsy, Buck and Bella—plus one cat, Sweet Pea, who was found by, or rather found Shaunna. This rescuing of animals further demonstrates her caring spirit. Her hobbies include reading, of course, and hiking. She loves Lake Michigan, the beaches, and sand dunes.

—Patty Sienstra

Updated Membership Terms

Notice: We have switched from a fall-to-fall fiscal year to a January to December calendar year.

Join us today via mail (clip and mail the card to the right) or via our website: www.friendsoftheegrlibrary.org

Thank you for supporting the East Grand Rapids Library!

Donations: Please hold on to book donations until the library re-opens. Thank you!



The Friends of our wonderful EGR Library help to support all the fun the library brings to you...summer reading programs, educational and entertaining programs and activities for all ages, Makerspace creativity, book sales and so much more!

Thank you for becoming a member of the Friends.
May we call on you to help with any of our library activities?

- ☐ Help at the Used Book Sales and/or Friends Book Corner
- ☐ Help at the monthly book sorts
- ☐ Serve on the Friends of the Library Board of Directors
- ☐ Do you have a special talent you could share? (Explain below)

Comments or Suggestions _____