

Newsletter

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Friends Board of Directors

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Tom Skirbunt, At Large		Charly Karlsson, Valerie Little, Book Sales				Eileen Evon, PR & Community Outreach	
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HAPPY NEW YEAR – AND THANK YOU

We want to start the year off with a hearty thank you to all those who supported us in the year gone by. Whether you shopped our sales, donated money or books, or donated your precious time to us as volunteers, you all have been part of our work to support the Reston Regional Library and our community. As we look forward to the coming year, we can't know everything that it will bring. We are encouraged and strengthened by the number of you out there who share our belief that literacy is worth cultivating, and libraries are worth supporting!

Want to support the Friends in 2022? In this issue of the newsletter, we will highlight three main ways you can provide us with support. If you have time to volunteer, that is a precious and welcome gift. We always welcome energetic contributors who can pitch in and help with our routine work as an organization. **Page 2** describes some of the volunteer roles we have to offer, but if you have an idea for something not on the list, let us know! No matter what your skill set, there is a job for you.

If you have funds to spare, find information about FRRL membership on **page 3**. If you have books to donate, head to **page 4** to learn more about donating books.

UPCOMING SALES

As we all know, conditions continue to change and library hours and policies do too. These hours and days are current as of this newsletter but are subject to change to meet facility requirements and/or safety concerns. Please contact the Friends if you have any questions, or follow our social media accounts for the most up to date information we can provide.

For both Mystery and Kids Sales:

* We reserve the right to limit quantities. * NO SCANNERS or other electronic price-checking allowed. *

MYSTERY SALE

Thursday, February 3 through
Saturday, February 5
(no Sunday hours!)

Brace yourself for twists and turns, tangled tales and tingling spines -- it's the return of our annual sale of Mysteries and Thrillers!

Thursday, February 3 - 10am to 5pm
Friday, February 4 - 10 am to 5 pm
Saturday, February 5 - 10 am to 5 pm



CHILDREN, YOUNG ADULTS, AND EDUCATORS

Last week in March!

Browse everybody's favorite sale of gently used books for kids and young adults and those who help them learn! From fact-filled non-fiction to best selling new picture books and novels, and from newborns to college, this sale really does have something for readers at any level.

Since the library recently announced schedule changes, we will be waiting until closer to March to publish final Kids Sale dates!



"THE BIG SPRING SALE" -- Last Week In April

The Big Spring sale is currently scheduled for the **last week in April**. As of this writing, the library will be closed on Sundays through at least the beginning of April. We will provide final sale dates as the year progresses. Please make sure you are on our emailing list, check our website, or follow us on social media for updates!

New to our big sale? This is our largest one, typically held twice a year at Reston Regional. We offer 35-40,000 items, in over 20 categories. There are NO children's books at these sales. We recommend small kids take a pass on this one; it's quite big, there are books under the tables, and shoppers set aside large bags and baskets in a lot of the small spaces.

Scanners are allowed at this sale, but not in all areas. Quantities in some sections may be limited. Additional guidelines are provided at the sale to make it safe and pleasant for all. We will ask shoppers to leave if they can't play nice.



LIBRARY NEWS – TEMPORARY CHANGE IN LIBRARY HOURS

Beginning Sunday, January 16, and effective through April 1, all regional and community Fairfax County Public Library (FCPL) branches will be **closed every Sunday and Monday**, and will keep their regular hours Tuesday through Saturday.

The current surge in COVID-19 cases and a high number of staff vacancies necessitated this change in hours. You can read the full announcement from the County on their website:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/fcpl-announces-schedule-modification>

For the most current information on any FCPL schedules or policies, always check the FCPL website <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/>

Please note, this may affect future Friends sale dates and other Friends activities, so watch the Friends website for updates. Reston Regional Library will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.



We cannot accept donations on days when the library is closed.

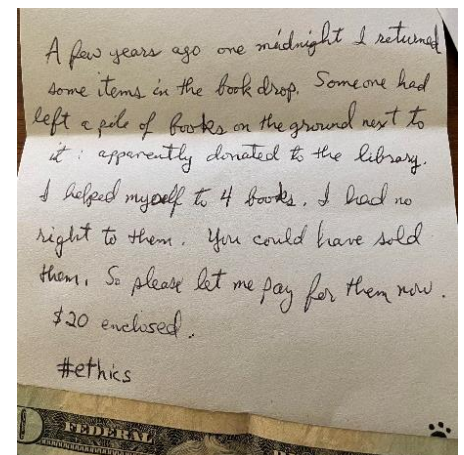
WE GET LETTERS!

Talk about a good deed for the day! We found this letter in our mailbox, sent from an anonymous library patron.

Having spotted a pile of donated books left unattended at the library (ahem – see **page 6** for our rules on when to drop books at the library. Hint: *don't donate and dash!*)... This patron spotted some appealing titles in the pile and took a few for themselves.

But like all good book lovers, the guilt of possibly depriving others of good reads gnawed at them. They sent us their apology, and a generous cash donation to cover their past transgressions.

Awww. We forgive you, Anonymous, and thank you for the reminder that it's never too late to do the next right thing.



WAYS TO GIVE – DONATE YOUR TIME

Interested in Volunteering?

Our volunteers come from a wide range of backgrounds and perform a variety of roles. We would love you to join in our success and passion to help our community. If you have a special skill but don't see it listed, contact us. We never know where our next good idea may come from! Send an email to RestonFriendsPR@gmail.com

General Book Sale Worker

The heart and soul of our work is in our seven yearly book sales! Step right up and help us with setting up, restocking, and taking down our sales. Hang signs, haul books, help customers. There are many roles, but the majority of book sale jobs require the ability to heft boxes of books and other sale materials. A great workout!

In-Kind Donations

Build and maintain relationships with area vendors to secure donations of food and supplies for FRRL activities. Pick up donations at local businesses and deliver to the library.

Publicity incl. Social Media

Writing newsletters and announcements, designing and printing materials such as flyers, bookmarks, brochures. Regularly scheduled and ad hoc postings on social media advertising sales and other news. *Experience with mass e-mailings, newsletters, and social media for other organizations can be helpful.*

Event Volunteers

Generating community awareness of the library and the work the Friends do to support it. Interact with the public, Friends, and Library staff. Volunteer at events inside and outside the library branch, such as Farmers Market, author talks, etc. *Experience with community orgs (Girl/Boy Scouts, info fairs, etc.) or customer relations can be helpful.*



WAYS TO GIVE – DONATING FUNDS TO THE FRIENDS OF RESTON REGIONAL LIBRARY

- You can DONATE ONLINE any time at our website: www.RestonLibraryFriends.com/membership--donations.html
- Donate by SHOPPING ON AMAZON. When you shop on Amazon for things you need anyway, use **Amazon Smile** and designate the Friends of the Reston Regional Library as your charitable recipient. Amazon then donates 0.5% of your total to the Friends!
- Donate through CHARITABLE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS. Take advantage of your investment firm or bank's charitable savings account programs, such as Schwab Charitable or Fidelity Charitable. These accounts let you set aside funds for charitable purposes now, and distribute the funds at a time of your choosing. You can designate FRRL as your chosen recipient any time!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

PLEASE APPLY OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE

<https://www.restonlibraryfriends.com/membership--donations.html>

To renew or apply online, please fill out an online donation form at our website. There is no separate “membership” form or page, so please [click here to go to our general Donations page and then take the following steps:](#)

1. Once you're there, **click on the DONATE button.**
2. To enroll (or renew), **click on the amount you want to donate and the payment method you want to use.** Annual Membership is \$15 (\$5 for Seniors 65 and over). When you donate at least these amounts, you're automatically entered into our rolls.
3. **On the next page that appears,** there will be a field near the top of the donation page that says, “Add a note” or “Write a note” (depending on which payment method you select). In that space, **please indicate the following:**
 - Is this a RENEWAL or NEW MEMBERSHIP?
 - Your mailing address (if you want us to have it)
 - Your email address (if you want us to have it) – we do not share your information with outside organizations!

Email and mailing addresses are used to provide notice of upcoming sales and FRRL events. We do not share our mailing list with other organizations and we do not receive any contact information from the Fairfax County Public Library or its internal mailing lists. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law for a 501(c)(3).

Membership Donation News

The Friends Board of Directors appreciates the loyal support of our community. See above for instructions on how you can make a donation, apply or renew your membership online. The Board extends special thanks to all those who contributed financially in recent months, especially those who went above and beyond the minimum “dues” amounts for your household. Your support means so much!

Baumgartner
Catlett
Filippini*
Flint

Goplerud
Hargis
Konnert

Lyon
McCrackin
McMahon

Musick and
Thorne
O'Beirne
Plaza

Reges
Savage
Sylvester

Tracy
Wexler
Williams

*FRRL Board member

WAYS TO GIVE -- BOOK DONATION FAQs

The Friends are happy to accept donations of books in very good, saleable condition! We want to find a home for your books, but we have to be able to store and sell them. Generally, the Friends accept donations at the library from **10am to 3pm**, any day the branch is open, except Wednesdays. We limit donations to **2 bags or small boxes** per household per day. Please **NO** books with highlights, underlining, torn pages, water, mildew, animal, or smoke damage. Please review our Frequently Asked Questions below before you bring your donations to the library!

DONATIONS OPEN



What do you do with donated books? First, we identify any books from the Library's wish list and pass those on directly to the library. We process the rest for sale at one of our sales. Unsold books after our sales are offered to other Friends groups.

Can I leave donations at the library if the library is closed or if the sign says donations are closed? Nope. Unattended boxes will be tossed due to safety concerns.

Are there specific times of year when donations are closed? We close when space is not available, when we are prepping for or recovering from our big sales, and from mid-December to early January, to give our volunteers a holiday. We never accept donations on days the library is closed.

What books do you take?

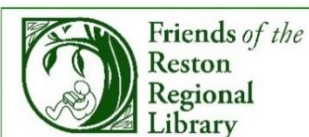
- New books, Best sellers, coffee-table
- Art, Architecture, History, Philosophy, Science
- Books for Young Adults, Children, and Educators
- Collectible books, Antiquarian items, prior to 1950
- Cookbooks (very recent or favorite classics)
- Non-English Books: Non-fiction only; educational books such as dictionaries, language learning, "Berlitz", etc.
- General Magazines--Prior to 1960 or < 3 months old
- Good condition Puzzles or Games (all the pieces!) – give to librarians at desk
- Media—CDs, DVDs, Audio books on CD ; Great Courses
- Recent (typically last 5 years) Educational books, Text books, Test-Prep materials (no high school or college foreign language text books, please)
- Specialty Magazines--up to 12 months old (e.g., Architectural Digest or Saveur)

What books won't you take?

- NO VHS tapes, audio cassettes, or phonograph / vinyl records
- NO Self-Help/Medical more than 3 years old
- NO Travel Books more than 3 years old
- NO maps, atlases, TripTiks, etc.
- NO National Geographic, Smithsonian, oversized magazines, or free/membership magazines (AARP, AAA, etc.)
- NO Reminders from yard sales, rummage sales, etc.

Why don't you take National Geographics (or this other thing that I love?) They are awesome! Sorry. We don't have room to take all the awesome things.

Are my donations tax deductible? Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Donations cannot be reclaimed or returned. Please check your donations carefully. FRRL is not responsible for misplaced items.



Friends of the Reston Regional Library, Inc. is an all-volunteer, registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Proceeds from our sales go to funding library and literacy materials, programs, and equipment in our community. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

www.RestonLibraryFriends.com