

The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library Spring 2025 Newsletter



Mission Statement: *The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library, Inc. is an independent, non-profit community organization dedicated to promoting the Paw Paw District Library as an essential institution in our community.*

BOOK SALE!

Friday, May 16
Saturday, May 17
9AM – 4PM

*Pre-sale for Friends Members
& Teachers w/School ID
Thursday, May 15 5 – 7PM*

PAW PAW DISTRICT LIBRARY

609 W Michigan Ave, Paw Paw, MI 49079
(269) 657 – 3800

FREE ADMISSION
New Books Put Out Each Day



Featured Library Programs KIDS

Wednesday
April 30
6:00 – 7:00 PM

Spoon Man
Experience the interactive, musical comedy of Spoon Man as he shares his love of music and the world's best utensil.

Wednesday
May 14
6:00 – 7:00 PM

Sticky Sand Castles
Make a sandcastle with kinetic sand to be displayed in the library.

TEENS

Tuesday
May 6
3:00 – 4:00 PM

Zen Zone
Zen Zone is an afterschool haven for teens seeking a calm and peaceful environment.

ADULTS

Tuesday
May 13
6:00 – 7:30 PM

Glass Bead Suncatcher
Add a touch of sparkle to your space with a glass bead suncatcher! This simple and fun craft uses just beads and glue to create a beautiful decoration. All supplies provided. Registration opens April 29.

Look for more information about these and other programs on the Library's online calendar.

The Friends Calendar of Events

May 8, 2025	Book Club Meeting
May 15, 2025	Pre-Sale Event (open only to Friends members & teachers w/school ID)
May 16 & 17, 2025	Used Book Sale @ Library
May 28, 2025	Regular Board Meeting
June 12, 2025	Book Club Meeting
July 10, 2025	Book Club Meeting
July 23, 2025	Regular Board Meeting
Aug 14, 2025	Book Club Meeting
Sept 11, 2025	Book Club Meeting
Sept 24, 2025	Regular Board Meeting

The Friends **board meetings** are open to the public & typically held at 4:00 PM on the fourth Wednesday of alternate months in the PPD L Program Room.

The monthly Friends Read **book club meetings** take place at 6:30–7:30 PM on the second Thursday.

Note that the Donation Drop Off Events (to LookSharp! location) have been discontinued.

For most current schedule information please check the Events section of the PPD L website.

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

T.S. Eliot

Contact/Follow The Friends

Email: friends@pawpawlib.org
Facebook: FriendsOfPPDL@facebook.com
Website: <https://www.pawpawlib.org/friends-of-the-library/>
By Mail: The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library
609 West Michigan Ave
Paw Paw, MI 49079



At the April 2025 PPDL Internet Users Group meeting over twenty attendees (in person and via Zoom) learned general Microsoft Windows tips and tricks as well as the implications of sunsetting (later this year) of support for the Microsoft Windows 10 operating system.

The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library Membership & Volunteer



Application & Annual Renewal Form

Return to: The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library
609 West Michigan Ave
Paw Paw, MI 49079

Name(s):

Address:

Phone:

Email Address:

Please contact me/us about volunteer opportunities!

Membership Level

(Please make checks payable to:
The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library)

- Student \$ 5
 Senior (60+) \$ 5
 Adult \$ 20
 Family \$ 30
 Carnegie \$100 & up

Internet Users Group

Boost your technology skills and explore new (or new-to-you) digital-world topics by joining the Internet Users Group in the PPDL Program Room (or remotely via Zoom) on the second Saturday of most months from 10 AM to noon. Moderator Debby Stasek has served as a “technology ambassador” (in cooperation with local libraries) since 1995 and encourages participants to bring their devices and questions to her free presentations. Each program focuses on a particular topic (indicated in the online PPDL Calendar of Events), and includes a presentation along with handouts (in hard copy and email attachment form) of notes and helpful links related to the current topic. As time allows Debby can also help participants with other issues.

The May 2025 meeting will focus on digital photography and phone scanning, while future presentations will cover streaming and ripping music, moving files, online fun and shopping hints, Facebook, email, phone and smart TV set-up and maintaining “healthy” computers. You need not be a regular participant, but rather may attend whenever a topic is of interest.

In addition to computers, Debby also supports smartphones (both Android and iPhones), iPads, smart TVs, cameras and selected other electronic devices. Participants with more than a few questions may also schedule a one-on-one session with her through the PPDL circulation desk.

The Friends Board of Directors

President:	Kris Steward
Vice President:	Cindy Barres
Secretary:	James Miller
Treasurer:	Tom Shoemaker
Membership Director:	Susan Anderson
Book Sale Director:	Carla Chase
Director at Large:	Darlene Wilson

Recent Friends Activities



Semiannual Used Book Sale (Mid-October 2024)



Spooktacular Event @Tapper Chevy (Late-October 2024)



Santa's Winter Workshop (December 2024)



Sorting of Donated Items for Book Sales (Year-Round)

Friends Read Book Club

Enjoy talking about books, but don't want the pressure of traditional book club deadlines? Join our Friends Read Book Club that meets the second Thursday of each month from 6:30-7:30 PM in the PPDL Program Room. The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library now facilitate this group, after Library Director Gretchen Evans got us off to a great start in January 2025. Come ready to tell us about a book you have read (either recently or in the past) or to just listen to others talk about their books. Really, no pressure!

The first four meetings this year have been fun as we shared books that we enjoyed (or didn't) and why. So far we have discussed a wide variety of genres including science fiction, murder mysteries, various nonfiction topics and everything in between. After the meeting, all participants are sent a list of the books discussed that evening, along with a brief plot description.



Participants shared snacks and insights about their chosen books at the March 2025 Friends Read book club meeting.

“If this nation is to be wise as well as strong, if we are to achieve our destiny, then we need more new ideas for more wise men reading more good books in more public libraries. These libraries should be open to all — except the censor. We must know all the facts and hear all the alternatives and listen to all the criticisms. Let us welcome controversial books and controversial authors. For the Bill of Rights is the guardian of our security as well as our liberty.”

John F. Kennedy



The Paw Paw District Library Board of Trustees proudly present their Impact Year Challenge certificates issued by the Southwest Michigan Library Cooperative, indicating their recent completion of extensive training for Michigan public library board members. Left to right: Suzanne Miller (Vice President), Julie Pioch (Secretary), Krystal Seibert, Sharon Bennett, Brian Wiersma (President), Jeremy Davison and Catey Bolton (Treasurer). (Photo taken in March 2025)

PPDL People Profile: Suzanne Miller, Library Board Member

As a retired Paw Paw Public School elementary and music teacher, Suzanne Miller has always understood the vital function that a library performs within its community as a primary source of free information and learning. To give you an idea of her dedication to our library, note that when she first began her service as a member of the board of trustees, the PPDL was housed in a former strip mall building (which has since been demolished but was at the same location although much closer to Michigan Avenue). In the twenty-plus years since then (and as the board member with the longest tenure) Suzanne has continued to take this role very seriously, albeit with the humor and joy she brings to all of her community service (currently including with the local food pantry and her church). One of the main highlights to her PPDL board service was involvement in the planning, fundraising, design and construction processes that resulted in our current library facility. Over the years she has also enjoyed getting to know each of the PPDL staff members as she firmly believes that maintaining good communication amongst all library personnel can only benefit the operation. Looking forward she hopes to assist with the PPDL's future development of an adjacent property (the former Soapy's Car Wash location). She applauds her fellow board members for their commitment and expertise and is proud to serve alongside them to support the PPDL.

As non-partisan elected officials, public library trustees must reside within the library district where they serve (typically for one or more four-year terms). Their primary responsibility is fiduciary, ensuring that the taxes collected by their district are spent to maximize benefit to the entire community that they represent. PPDL board meetings are open to the public and usually held in the PPDL Program Room on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. More information as well as meeting

agendas and minutes can be found on the Library's website: <https://www.pawpawlib.org/board/>.

In addition to attending the monthly (and occasional special) meetings, PPDL board members serve on one or more of five associated committees (Committee of the Whole, Building & Grounds, Finance, Personnel & Nominating and Policy & By-Laws). They also routinely seek out periodic training and other opportunities to remain knowledgeable regarding not only the Michigan Public Library Trustee Manual guidelines but also current trends and challenges facing all public libraries, changes within the Michigan library system and issues specific to our own library.

Acknowledgements

The Friends of the Paw Paw District Library express their appreciation to:

- Donors, Friends members & volunteers who made the October 2024 book sale a success
- Asia Weber of ChapterNook (chaptersnook.com) for accepting & transporting unsold materials after October 2024 book sale



- Kerry Tapper of Look Sharp! Marketing/ Sporting Image (www.looksharponline.com) for providing The Friends with year round storage & sorting work space



LOOK SHARP!
MARKETING
SPORTING IMAGE