

LET'S BE FRIENDS

Friends of the Creston Public Library Newsletter

FOL Officers

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Corresponding Secretary:
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Mary Young

Library Board of Trustees President:
Ann Coulter

Library Director:
Danielle Dickinson-Thaden

Assistant Library Director:
Jordan Foote

*The Friends of the Library Board meet the
third Monday of the month
at 1:00 at the library. All
FOL members are welcome*



USED BOOK SITE

OPEN: July 4th 9:00 - 2:00

The Used Book Site will be open July 4th from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. There s always a fresh stock off donated books, games, and puzzles. The book collection contains many genres of fiction including novels, mysteries, sci-fi, fantasy, western, classics, as well as, non-fiction including biographies, memoirs, cooking, self-improvement, and reference to name a few. There is a nice selection of large



print novels and westerns. The site has audio CD's and movie DVD's too.



The featured author for July is Anne Perry. Anne Perry was a prolific British author of historical mystery and detective fiction, best known for her immersive series set in Victorian and Edwardian England. She wrote over 100 books, including several long-running detective series and a beloved collection of holiday novels.

The Used Book Site, located in the building which houses the Creston News Advertiser, is open when the CNA is open which is usually 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M Monday through Friday. Please use the east door by the parking lot.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

During the past fiscal year, the Friends of the Library (FOL) have been busy raising money to help the library by providing programming, purchasing books and other supplies, and furnishing physical improvements to the library. Although Library Director Danielle is always actively searching for grants and other resources, the FOL completely funds some areas or partially funds other areas. Here is a summary from last year's projects.

July 2025 - On the Fourth of July, the Scholastic Book Fair was held at the Restored Depot. In addition, the Used Book Site located in the Creston News Advertiser building was also open.

August 2025 - Friends of the Library Kick-Off. A membership in the Friends of the Library (FOL) runs from August 1 to July 31 of each year. Although people may join the Friends of the Library at any time, they are encouraged to join in August to get the full use of the perks that come with the membership. Last year 140 people joined the Friends. This included both single and family memberships.

September 2025 - During Creston's Balloon Days, the Used Book Site was open.

October 2025 - The National Friends of the Library Week was celebrated by giving books to the children in Union County who attended a preschool. The Kick-Off for the Dolly Pardon Imagination Library was held at the library. The Friends serve as the fiscal agent for this endeavor and provided \$10,000 in seed money to get it started.

November 2025 - The Friends were busy preparing for the events in December. Getting the Used Book Site organized took many hours.

December 2025 - Photos with Santa at the Lighted Christmas Parade was the first event in December. The second event was Merry Marketplace when the Used Book Site was open. The third event was the Holiday Bake Sale which is always popular with the community.

January 2026 - Plans for the annual Valentine Cookie Sales was the priority in January.

February 2026 - This year was the 25th anniversary of the Valentine cookie sales. What started out as a small fundraiser in 2001 of making 100 Valentine cookies into cookie bouquets evolved into a major production this year of baking, decorating and delivering almost 4,000 cookies.

March 2026 - Pi Day to celebrate International Pi Day was held on March 14th. A record 70 pies were donated by the Friends and other community members. Customers were waiting outside for the Library to open in order to get their favorites.

April 2026 - National Library Week was celebrated by honoring the Gibson Memorial Library's fabulous staff with gifts and recognition in the Creston News Advertiser.

May 2026 - The Used Book Site was open during the Market on Maple. There was a special quilt display and quilting books. Several Friends members helped with the Summer Reading Kick-Off which was a big success.

June 2026 - The Friends funded performances for children each Wednesday, drawing close to 200 at each event. Officers and board members for the Friends of the Library were elected. A new year of fundraising activities are being planned.

Chair Strengthening Class w/Feel Better Fitness

Chair Strength Training is to help slow the loss of muscle as we age. We lose 10% of our strength every year after age 40 if we're not doing something to build strength. This training provides beginner friendly ways to build strength from a chair using small objects like books or soup cans. The goal will be for you to have a plan to follow at home after program is complete.

When: Thursdays starting July 9th running through July 30th from 11:00-11:45 AM in the library's Genealogy Room.



The library staff have been busy planning lots of fun activities for you and your family to enjoy, learn and experience. If you are a FOL member and have email, O.J. Fargo sends a complete listing of all of the offerings each month. The Friends of the Library newsletter highlights some of the activities, but for a full list, please check O.J.'s email or pick up a monthly calendar at the library.