



The Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting our library, and is made up of volunteer members who believe in and support this valuable community asset. Our mission is to increase awareness of the library – both its services and its needs. Volunteer activities, membership fees, donations, and profits from our various fund-raisers provide additional programs, services, materials, and supplemental financial support that the library budget is unable to provide.

What were the Friends up to this past year? We held a one-day outdoor book sale in tents outside the library on a beautiful sunny day. Shoppers purchased bags overflowing with terrific selections of books and DVDs. We also held our very popular Chicken Barbecue at Toomey's Corners, provided by Gale-Wyn Catering. With profits from these events, the Friends supplied treats and refreshments for various library events throughout the past year. The Friends also provided funding toward the library's Summer Reading Program, including a visit from Wildlife Rockstars, Grace and Grins Puppetry, as well as goodie bags, raffle prizes, an ice-cream social and pizza party program finale.

We are currently working, in conjunction with the Bloomfield Garden Club, on plans to restore a very neglected garden located in the rear corner of the library property. We hope to create a Sensory Garden where patrons can sit, enjoy peace and solitude among native plantings, appreciate a connection to nature that will allow quiet meditation, as well as a new place to enjoy reading a good book or using the library Wi-Fi. We hope that it will also serve as a location for outdoor library programs. Our goal is to raise enough donations to make the Sensory Garden a valued treasure for the library and the community!

As we continue to seek ways to provide additional services to the library, here are some ways you can help:

- **BECOME A MEMBER**, or **renew your membership for 2023/24**. All members are welcome at our monthly meetings, currently held at the library on the second Monday of the month.
- **By joining the Friends of the Library**, you can make a difference. This happens through your membership fee, your gift of time, your voice, and your own individual talents.

Please SHARE your enthusiasm and dedication for the library.

Coming up in 2023:

- **Chicken Barbecue Sunday, May 7 11am - until sold out.**
Parking lot next to Shivers, Shakes & Cones on Routes 5 & 20.
- **Summer Reading program.** 2023 theme: **"All Together Now"**
- **One-day book sale Saturday May 6 10 am – 2 pm** Outside of the library.

We will accept book donations at the library between March 13 and May 3.

Please take some time, **complete the enclosed membership form, and return to the library.**

You will make a difference. We thank you!