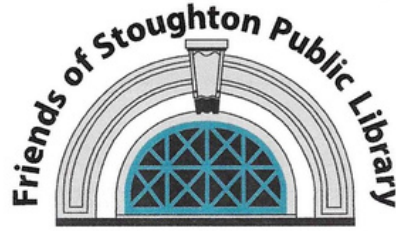


October to December 2023 Newsletter



Fall Raffle Fundraiser Results

The Stoughton community businesses and artisans came through again for our Fall Raffle Fundraiser. Net income from the event is \$ 5,004. Thank you members for purchasing raffle tickets. **Jeanne Burt** served as our chairperson and did an incredible job, once again, to make this a success.

Thank you to our sponsors: Stoughton Rotary, Culvers, CMA Accounting, Pizza Pit, Thomas Fendrick of Edward Jones and the UPS Store.

Thank you to our prize donors:

Stoughton Country Club
Merlin and Judy Luschen
Nancy Odalen
Kathryn Vaughn
Van Horn Automotive Group
Viking Lanes
Tabby and Jack's
Stoughton Opera House
Yahara Dental
Adriana Jaramillo, DDS
Gunderson Funeral & Cremation Care
One Community Bank
Deirdre Jane Stylist
Jung Garden Center

Yahara Chocolate and Tea
Walmart Supercenter of Stoughton
Gemini Games
Macs de Kat LLC
The Bench Dog - Mike Andersen
Noodles
Lotus Salon
VFW Post #328
Stoughton Pizza Pit
Milio's Sandwiches
Springer's
Sarah Bukrey
Amanda Bosky
Lesley Johnson

Congratulations raffle winners:

Paulette C. - Stoughton Country Club golf outing
Jean S. - Wood Nesting Tables by Merlin Luschen
Erin M. - Cash gift Friends of the Library
Emily C - Ryfylke Rosemaled plate by Nancy Odalen
Ann M.- Terrarium by Kathryn Vaughn
Margaret A. - Van Horn Auto bag

continued - Congratulations raffle winners:

- Nancy E - Viking Lanes bowling party for 10
- Mark P. - Tabby & Jack's dog gift basket
- Kim S. - Stoughton Opera House -2 tickets
- Amy K - Yahara Dental gift bag
- Janice K - Adriana Jaramilio DDS electric toothbrush
- Andrew K - Gunderson Funeral & Cremation Care duffle bag
- Mary F- Tabby & Jack's cat basket
- Janice B - One Community Bank coffee break basket
- Amelia B - L Johnson punch needle embroidery design on crock
- Jipze N - J Luschen Longaberger pie dish
- Mary Anne R - Handmade wool blend scarf by Sarah Bukrey
- Jayne B - L Johnson punch needle embroidery design on crock
- Rosanne S - Deirdre Jane Stylist gift card
- Cindy V - Jung Garden Center gift card
- Chris P - Yahara Chocolate & Tea gift card
- Sue N - Walmart two gift cards
- Nicole A - Gemini Games gift card
- Cindy G - Macaroons/Macs de Kat LLC gift card
- Lynn P-H - Mike Anderson intarsia raccoon plaque
- Gwenn N - Noodles gift card
- Tracy M - Noodles gift card
- Janet H - Noodles gift card
- Jayne B - Noodles gift card
- Karen L - Lotus Salon gift card
- Thomas C - hand crafted macrame wall hanging by Amanda Bosky
- Lynn T - VFW Post # 328 gift card
- Jim F - VFW Post # 328 gift card
- Gary H - Stoughton Pizza Pit gift card
- Joshua H - Stoughton Pizza Pit gift card
- Erin M - Milio's Sandwiches gift card
- Peggy K - Milio's Sandwiches gift card



Pictured above top: Judy Luschen, Claudette Higgins, and Jeanne Burt

Remembering Patricia “Pat” Anne Erickson



Pat Erickson was instrumental in forming the Friends of the Stoughton Public Library with Nancy Hagen in Feb. 1984. As we approach our 40th anniversary in 2024, it is with sadness that we mention Pat's passing in August.

Her many contributions to the library and the Friends continue to influence our community and we are grateful. Pat was from Reedsburg and was the oldest of 12 daughters. When her family moved to Montana, Pat chose to remain in Reedsburg to finish high school and lived with her grandmother. She put herself through college and earned a degree from UW-Platteville in Secondary Education with majors in English and French, and minors in speech and history.

In 1957, Pat married UWP classmate Charles “Bud” Erickson, with whom she worked on the school’s newspaper - she as editor and he as sports editor. In August of 2022, Pat and Bud celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Early in her career, Pat taught English at Portage Junior High School and was a substitute teacher and lay reader in the Janesville school system. Later, while on a teaching project with her husband in Nigeria, Pat taught the children of missionaries as well as her own children for two years.

When the family moved to Stoughton in 1968, Pat worked part time at the Stoughton Public Library, while at the same time working to complete her master's degree in Library Information and Science at the UW-Madison. In 1977, she became the Stoughton Public Library Director, a position she held and enjoyed until her retirement in 2002. During her tenure, she worked tirelessly with the architects and design committee to build the city’s new library, which was dedicated in 1990.

Nancy Hagen has wonderful memories of Pat, starting with her move to Stoughton with her husband and 2 sons, and a third son on the way. Not knowing anyone yet, Nancy visited the library and found Pat to be very welcoming. Nancy went to the library quite a bit in those days and her friendship with Pat grew. Pat urged Nancy to start a Friends of the Library group, as it would be helpful to the future library expansion project. At first Nancy said no, but Pat persisted and Nancy agreed. The Friends of the Stoughton Public Library was formed in Feb. 1984. Nancy was our first President. Pat was a great supporter who helped a lot with fundraising events.

Pat loved to bake pies, and the first Pie Place began in 1989 during Syttende Mai. Nancy recalls selling pies out of the front window of the new children’s area facing

Main Street. The library addition windows weren't installed yet, and there was just a concrete and steel structure. Pat's wit and writing skills were on full display with fundraising events, such as the historic walks to homes and skits on the front porches. Pat wrote a play called *The Murder of Lena Lefsky* in which participants traveled either on a hay wagon or bus to various places in town getting clues. The trip ended at the auditorium with additional clues given to solve the mystery.

“There wouldn’t be a Friends if it wasn’t for Pat,” recalled Kathy Rausch. As third President of the Friends, Kathy was involved in extensive fundraising during the construction and completion of the library addition. She and Pat worked diligently to raise funds for the community’s portion of the cost. The first referendum to build a new library near the river failed. The second referendum was for the existing library to be expanded. The city would match the \$1 million the library needed to raise. Kathy says that her most enduring memory of that time was the physical moving of the books, in paper shopping bags, back and forth from the storage facility. And the night of the big, final fundraiser (a formal ball in the empty addition), Pat and Kathy stood on the new second floor. Pat turned to Kathy and said “it’s too small.” Ever the forward thinker, Pat seemed to know the challenges that were ahead for more library space.

Kathy and Pat were *Entre Nous* study club members for 36 years. They also were members of Chapter DG of P.E.O in Stoughton. At age 50, Kathy considered pursuing a Library and Information Master’s degree. Pat encouraged Kathy, wrote a recommendation letter for admission to the university, and arranged for Kathy to do an internship in the children’s dept. of the Stoughton library. “She changed my life,” said Kathy and was “an invaluable and generous mentor.”

Amy Hynek of the current library staff had the pleasure of working with Pat as well. What stands out to Amy is Pat’s beautiful writing and being a gentle leader. Nancy and Kathy describe Pat as kind, caring, witty, knowledgeable, smart and a wonderful writer. Pat retired from her role as Library Director in 2002. Nancy recalls Pat's retirement speech in particular, which left a big impact on her. Pat said leaving her job was like finishing a really good book. You know the book will end but it will stay with you forever.



Pat is survived by her husband, Bud; her children, Tim of Madison, Kip of Taiwan and Dana (Kamil) Tanyeri of Sarasota, Fla.; grandchildren Eren Tanyeri (Maddie Bright) and Tanner Tanyeri (Ellen Sauer); and sisters, Sally Duckert, Paula Ziebarth, Linda Walker and Michelle Stevenson, all of Montana. She is further survived by many extended family members and friends.



The Wine and Cheese event July 28 at Cheesers was fun and delicious. Forty individuals met in the wine tasting room and took a trip to Spain, tasting 5 wines and cheeses. We'd like to do this again in 2024. Thank you Brian Johnson of Cheesers and Ben Taylor of General Beverage. The Friends raised \$805 from our great supporters.



Tenacious!

Local author Patty Cisneros Prevo read her book *Tenacious-Fifteen Adventures Alongside Paralympic Athletes* on Sept. 17 at Norse Park in Stoughton. What a great event! Thank you Patty and family, Matt Lesperance, Jeromie Meyer, Caleb and Megan for showing us your sport, heart and tenacity! The Friends of the Library were pleased to offer this experience with the Stoughton Public Library, especially Mary our great children's librarian. And thank you to Thrivent for action team funds. You can find Patty's book at the library or purchase your own copy at A Mystery to Me bookstore in Madison.





Our **One Day Mini Book Sale** was held Sept. 30 and netted \$344. Thank you Nancy Fuhrman, Chris Phillips and Sybil Pressprich for your work on this and thanks to the book lovers stopping by! We are grateful to Friend Courtney Pena for donating her mother's beautiful handmade earrings to sell.

Save the Date

A Hole Lot of Fun
Friends of the Library
Fundraiser with businesses
sponsoring 18 holes.
March 17, 2024 from 1-5 pm
where the library transforms
into a mini golf course!



January 9, 2024 Board of Directors meeting at the library
(time to be determined). Current members always welcome.

A special thank you to **Judy Luschen** for her many years of service as a Friends board member. Our January newsletter will feature Judy.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our Honor and Remember Donors this quarter:

In Memory of: Pat Erickson by her Friends and Family
Marjie Hanssen by her anonymous Friend





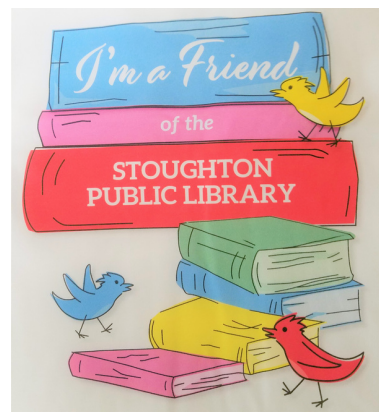
Visit the **Book Nook** on the library mezzanine to buy gently used books, DVDs, CDs and audio books. Help support the Friends and the library!



The Friends offer **In Honor Of** and **In Memory Of** cards for recognizing someone special in your life. Make a donation to the Friends in the name of your special person and we provide a card for you to send or we can send it. **Your donation will be recognized on the annual giving sign in the Library's entry area.** For more information and the donation form click here: <https://www.stoughtonpubliclibrary.org/honor-and-remember>

You can also pick up a card (with instructions) on the counter near the check out desk.

I'm A Friend t-shirts now available at the library circulation desk. 100% cotton. Children sizes 6-8, 10-12 and 14-16 for \$18. Adult sizes for \$21. A great way to show your support.



Contact us! Friends of the Stoughton Public Library

Mailing address: 2364 Jackson St. #186, Stoughton WI 53589.

Email: friendsofstoughtonlibrary@gmail.com

Tel 608-873-4050 "Like" us on Facebook

Find us at: <https://www.stoughtonpubliclibrary.org/friends-library-officers>

If you're a **Thrivent client** with membership, consider donating to the Friends: Click here <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice>. Thrivent covers all the processing fees, so 100% of your donation goes to the Friends.