



# FRIENDS FOUNDATION OF THE WICOMICO PUBLIC LIBRARY

SUMMER 2025



## SPRING BOOK SALE

Our most recent book sale was a HUGE success, resulting in several new records being set for this event! We are pleased to announce that we generated a total of \$6,581.85 in sales – the highest profit we have achieved since we began holding our biannual book sales. That includes our highest ever Friends preview night, our highest ever single day of sales (\$2,846.16 during just our first day of the sale), and the sale of 30 tote bags full of books during our Bag of Books promotion at the end of the sale. We take pride in knowing that our sale resulted in having 2,741 individual books placed in the hands of many eager readers of all ages!

## IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Spring Book Sale
- Friends History of Financial Support!
- A Fun Volunteer Opportunity!
- New at Sarbanes
- Summer Reading Program
- Design Reveal and Campaign Kickoff
- Why do you think being a Friend of the Library is important?



We could not have done this without the help of many individuals who came forward to help organize materials, alphabetize hundreds of books, keep items neat and stocked during the sale, collect payment at the check-out table and help with clean up after the completion of the sale. A special shout-out and thank you to the Leo Club members from Parkside and James M. Bennett High Schools who once again gave up their free time on 2 Sundays in a row to help us!

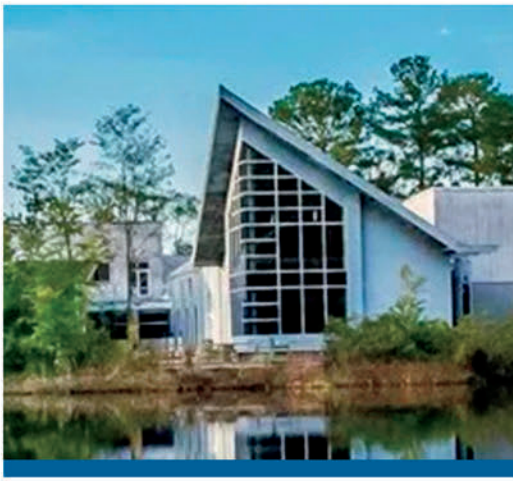
These students completed much of the heavy lifting required to bring seemingly endless boxes of books to and from storage spaces, sorted books by category before set up began and then

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

### FOLK FESTIVAL Book Sale

OUTSIDE THE PAUL S. SARBANES BRANCH  
SEPTEMBER 20th and 21st NOON- 4:30 p.m.





## FRIENDS HISTORY OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT!

### Did you know?

From 2017–2024, the Friends Foundation has raised a total of **\$197,681.00** in support of our Wicomico Public Library!

#### **\$59,000.00:**

for support of PROGRAMS (including staff support and activities)

#### **\$68,200.00:**

to supplement library equipment and supplies

#### **\$70,481.71:**

donated to the Capital Campaign to provide a Vending Space Cafeteria in the new Sarbanes Library (that will be located in the former Ward Museum upon completion of renovations).

Note: We have pledged to raise a total of \$100,000.00 to fund this portion of the project.



## SPRING BOOK SALE CONTINUED

boxed remaining items after the sale. Their efforts streamline and expedite the entire process and help ensure that the rest of our tasks are completed in a much more timely and organized fashion!

We are also indebted to the many library staff members who helped the Friends with this event. They continue to be indispensable! Much of the success of our Book Sale was due to their efforts behind the scenes. These dedicated staff members devoted extra hours of their time to help ensure our success by preparing signage to advertise the event, by organizing volunteers before, during and after the sale and by sending informational emails to keep volunteers informed of important details prior to the sale. We appreciate all you have done and continue to do to support the Friends Foundation's work on behalf of the Wicomico Public Library!

Meanwhile, we continue to evaluate how we are doing with our own performance! Thank you to those of you who completed the survey asking for your analysis regarding various aspects of your volunteer experience with the sale. While the overwhelming majority of responses were positive, we appreciate your feedback and will continue to attempt to improve and streamline the entire process based on your comments and suggestions for making the book sale and setup run more smoothly. (We are already looking at ways to create a more cheerful atmosphere through the use of music)!

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE WICOMICO PUBLIC LIBRARY BY HELPING TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THEY PROVIDE FOR OUR COMMUNITY!**



## A FUN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

Our Book Store continues to draw more and more attention and to be a popular place for patrons to visit when they stop by the downtown branch of the library. However, our hours of operation are solely dependent on volunteer availability. It is our goal to provide this popular service on a consistent basis, but your help is needed!

This is a fantastic way to find new, gently-used, inexpensive books to read while interacting with other book lovers as you help them locate books and audiovisual materials that meet their interests and needs. Most of our Book Store volunteers find they enjoy this fun experience so much, that they make it a priority to arrange their schedules so that they can volunteer on a weekly basis! However, we still find that there are times when the store must occasionally be closed due to a lack of volunteers. Thus, we are always looking for new people who would be willing to occasionally donate a couple of hours of their time to work a shift.

Training is very basic and only requires one hour of your time. It is not necessary to commit to any specific schedule once you begin helping in the Book Store – you simply sign up whenever you are available, according to whatever time you are willing/able to give. So if you or someone you know may be interested in becoming a volunteer for the Bookshelf, please contact Aurelio Giannitti at [agiannitti@wicomico.org](mailto:agiannitti@wicomico.org)

## NEW AT SARBANES

Watch for a selection of various materials from the Book Shelf to be on display for sale in the main section of the Paul S. Sarbanes Branch of the library.

These items will be available at all times during the library's normal operating hours!

## SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Have you signed up for the Summer Reading program? This year, readers are challenged to select their own reading goal. You can aim for 15, 25, 40, or even 60 days of reading.

We've made tracking super easy. You can use the library's Beanstack app to log your progress or if you prefer, grab a paper reading tracker. These tracking sheets are available in all Wicomico Library locations, in our summer Inspire magazine, or ready for download from the library website.

All participants are eligible for prize drawings scattered throughout the summer, and have until August 23rd to complete the challenge.

## DESIGN REVEAL AND CAMPAIGN KICKOFF


On Tuesday, July 22 at 4:30 p.m., the Friends Foundation will host a special event at the Schumaker Pond facility, unveiling designs for the new building and launching the public phase of its capital campaign.




### BUILDING OUR LIBRARY TOGETHER

## Design Reveal & Campaign Kickoff

We're opening the doors of this building for a very special occasion—and you're invited! Step inside to see the renovation designs for our new public library.

 See a list of our donors and learn how to participate: [wicomicolibrary.org/campaign](http://wicomicolibrary.org/campaign)

 Tuesday, July 22nd, 4:30pm

 909 S Schumaker Dr, Salisbury, MD 21804





## WHY DO YOU THINK BEING A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY IS IMPORTANT?

We asked our members to answer this question for us, and we hope you find their responses both inspirational and informative. Listed below are more of the heartfelt replies we received:

"I've been a Friend of the Library for many years because I love the library and want to help it carry out its many goals, especially to supply Wicomico County residents with reading materials and programs for all ages. As a Friend I enjoy volunteering in the Book Shelf and at biannual book sales."

"The library provides so many services beyond just taking out books. The Friends help pay for all these opportunities and in doing so contribute to the richness of our community."

"The revenue raised by the Friends supports library programs. The Book Store is a BIG asset."

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*"A library is a place where history comes alive, where the past speaks to the present, and where the future is shaped."*  
 ”

– Rabindranath Tagore

## FRIENDS MEMBERSHIPS: JOIN OR RENEW YOUR FRIENDS' MEMBERSHIP!

Please consider supporting our public library by becoming a Friends member. Membership is valid for one full year. All proceeds from memberships go directly towards helping provide programs and services in the library system. Simply choose your membership level from the options and membership benefits below, and then follow the link to join.

[www.wicomicolibrary.org/friends](http://www.wicomicolibrary.org/friends)

### FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP LEVELS



**Friends Foundation**  
 Wicomico Public Library

**\$25**

Bookworm

**\$50**

Book Lover

**\$100**

Bestseller



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