

## A Letter from the President

As President of the Friends, sometimes people will tell me what a good job I'm doing. While this is music to my ears and makes me puff up a bit, I'm well aware that an organization is only as good as its members. Maybe that's why our events are successful and the new library has become reality; because of good members and a hard-working board. The history of the Friends would prove that to be true.

Our Plant Sale in May brought those who beautify the earth to Cambridge. On August 7 & 8, the Annual Used Book Sale will bring book readers from the area to stock up on bargains. On November 7, shoppers from the mid-west will come to our Art & Craft Fair to purchase a wide array of gifts for the holidays. The Friends' three fundraisers raise about \$15,000 each year and it all goes back to support the Cambridge library, its services and programs. For many years, a portion of the funds that were raised were saved. This allowed the Friends to contribute \$185,000 to build the new library. Now, we continue to support the library's on-going needs and save for its future needs.

Libraries aren't what they used to be, they're better! As one of our members, Bruce Summers, stated, "I see it as a gathering place. Kids read, parents peruse and check out books, it gets the whole family together. I see folks using the computers to search for jobs. There's an atmosphere of camaraderie. People come on specific days and just talk." It's apparent there's something for everybody at the library, no matter your interest.

I'm excited about our new spacious library. It will be a hub of activity, a gathering place, a resource for reading and literacy, a resource for small businesses, and a place where technology and information is available to everyone regardless of income level. Bottom line is our library will forever change to fit the needs of the community. You're invited to help us meet those needs.

Faithful Friends members make things happen!

Sincerely, Sharon Erb, President



Members of the Friends Board display a mock-up of their donation to the new library. From right, Sharon Jacobson, Kathy Grunwald, Louise Dalby, Nancy Lust, Bruce Summers, Jerol Riesch, Sharon Erb, and Dave Peterson. Loretta Byrne is not in this photo, but is on page 3.

## This Issue Is Our Last

We're changing with the times. This will be the Friends' last printed newsletter. Postage and print costs have increased and more people are communicating via social media. We will still keep in contact with you through the library staff and through our bulletin board at the library.

Here's our social media contact information: on Facebook, Friends of the Cambridge Community Library; on the web, [cambridgelibraryfriends.org](http://cambridgelibraryfriends.org); or email us at: [cfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:cfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com)

"When people move into a community, one of the first things they want to do is check out the library. The Cambridge library, like most libraries, is like a free university."

George Coulter



## Your Public Library...what's in it for you?

Your public library—what's in it for you? A lot, it seems. It provides:

**FREE ACCESS FOR ALL**—Historically, "access for all" is what drove the establishment of most public libraries. This mission still rings true today. Our local library is an important source for free public access to information, to computers, and to the Internet. In this time of changing technology, the expanding gap between digital haves and have not's, the public library plays an essential role.

**PERSONAL SERVICE**—Our librarians on staff help many people find out more about what they seek and discover new ways of accessing information. Librarians are passionate about your community and they are passionate about what you need.

**A JOB CENTER**—As the economy continues to struggle, our library offers help. Librarians offer online job application assistance, help in finding the right format for a resume, free faxing for job searchers.

**RESOURCES FOR LITERACY**—Librarians strive to encourage and help raise readers.

**A PLACE FOR POSSIBILITIES**—In addition to traditional library resources, such as books (both online and hardcopy), DVDs, and children's programs, our library will soon offer opportunities for teens and adults in the new "high tech" room and will provide better access to the materials collected by the Koshkonong Historical Society.

**A PLACE TO GATHER**—Our public library often brings people together in a way no other community organization can.

Be sure to take advantage!

## The 2015 Cambridge Art and Craft Fair is Coming on November 7

It's the best holiday shopping! There are paintings, hats, mittens, scarves, sweaters, purses, jewelry, pillows, candles, candy, salsa, jellies, holiday ornaments, dog items, baby items, rosemary, wood items and more. Plus we have a bountiful raffle with over 100 items including a handmade quilt, serve a tasty lunch, and offer an array of homemade bake sale goodies. **The 2015 Cambridge Art and Craft Fair is off to a good start** with over half of the 95 booths filled with a large variety of handmade items guaranteed to put a smile on your face. We are making an extra effort this year to insure variety.

**Share in the excitement - come and help.** For information on how you can be involved in set-up, bake sale, raffle, ticket sales, kitchen help, etc., call (608) 423-2001 or e-mail jeriand188@yahoo.com and share your skills.

The annual Cambridge Art and Craft Fair is always a great success because our community steps-up and runs the show. Join in the fun and volunteer.

*Our library? "It fosters a sense of community."  
Betty Stoffel*

## BOOK CLUBS!

**Monday Evening Book Club**—Meets the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the library. New members are welcome at any time.

**Wednesday Evening Book Club**—Meets the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. This group, also known as the Ladies' Rhythm and Movement Society, has limited its members to 12, but has a waiting list at the circulation desk.

*"If you are thinking about volunteering, you definitely should do it. You meet people you normally wouldn't meet, and you end up having conversations with them. I'd tell teens that even if they feel a bit awkward at first, they'll soon fit in."*

Lucie Frederick

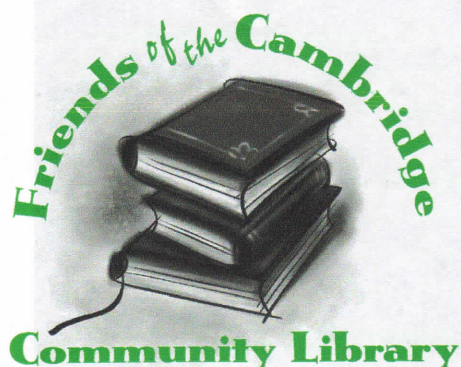
## BOOK SALE & RAFFLE August 7 & 8

Can you believe that this will be the 36th annual Used Book Sale?? Some may be surprised to learn that one of the first sales was held outside in Veterans Park. Imagine sorting thousands of books outside—and then, what if it rained? As in recent history, this year's sale will be held in the community room of the Amundson Center, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, and from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8. There will be books for everyone, all at discount prices. As a matter of fact, you will be able to fill a Piggly Wiggly bag to the top for just \$10.00. The companion basket raffle will feature baskets filled with toys, books, chocolates, wine and a variety of other items, all donated by volunteers.

## BOOKS AT HOME

The Friends want to help those who are unable to get to the library. Let one of our trusted volunteers deliver books, magazines, etc. monthly to your home. Contact the library staff if you or your parent, friend, or neighbor would like to take advantage of this free service. On the other side of the coin, if you would like to volunteer to provide this service to Cambridge residents, we'd love to hear from you.





## Words from the Director, Joan Behm

Since 2015 is such a year to remember, the year we moved to a new library, perhaps a review of things past might be in order.

1978—Cambridge opens a Library. For some of those involved in the project it must seem like such a short while ago that this progress was made. Community members worked together to make it happen. Also, the Village Board appointed the first Library Board, consisting of members Laurie Hagberg, Genora Bernhardt, Betty Stoffel, Dona Merg, John Jeffries, Jeanne Patterson and Harold Dahlen.

1979—The first used book sale to raise funds took place.

1982—The Friends held their first Folk/Craft Fair.

1984—The Friends donated a photo copier and an ELECTRIC typewriter to the library.

1990—Cambridge receives a gift of progress, the Amundson Building. The Library is able to have a bigger space at a new location. Community members worked together to make it happen.

2015 —Cambridge opens a new larger Library facility. Some of the same people who worked on the process in 1978 and in 1990 are now seeing progress once again. Community members worked together to make it happen.

Over the next 37 years may the Cambridge area community members, those who have lived here a long time and those who will live here in the future, be cognizant of the benefits of having a library in their hometown. Now it is time to use our new facility and enjoy our new facility - thanks to a community that works together.

***"I find volunteering with the Friends really satisfying. I find it much more fun behind the scenes than out front. You need a sense of humor. Also, I'd tell teens they might be surprised how much they'd enjoy it and that they'd make connections they otherwise wouldn't have. And I'd tell parents that when their kids are looking for work, volunteering is a great way to make connections."***

***Christine Albert***

## COLOR EVERYWHERE

The new library is alive with color. When you step into the foyer the floor carpet tiles are reminiscent of a dark sky with streaks of bright color shining through. This reception area is large and airy and partly lit from skylights. The counter is a generous space to check out books, ask questions, or make returns. The walls in this area are called slat walls. They look like wood paneling but afford ample space for racks to display new books and pamphlets or magazines.

Next, move on to the rooms that feature space for children, quiet reading, local history, computers, and young adults. The children's room pops with color from the large colorful carpet squares on the floor to the long windows that bring in the green of the wetland outdoors. The reading room with its cozy fireplace and comfy, colorful chairs also has windows that allow a lovely view of the wetland behind. There is often a live show of the birds that live outside. Each room has one colorful wall and you will notice tones of plum, soft orange and lovely green among others. The furniture is upholstered with beautiful, appealing prints and color mixtures.

Then there is the wonderful outdoor area where in good weather you can enjoy Wi-Fi or the birdsongs from the wetland while you sit and contemplate. Another new addition outdoors is the drive-up window where you can drop off books or pick up an order without leaving your car. We hope that you will stop by soon to see our lovely, welcoming library that will add some amazing color to your world.

Written by Loretta Byrne, Board Member

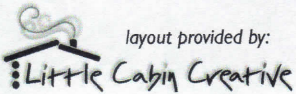




# Thank you!

The Friends of the Cambridge Community Library appreciates all the wonderful patrons who use the library, the hard-working staff, the volunteers that help in a variety of ways, the numerous materials and monetary donations from individuals, organizations and local foundations and the many generous businesses that contribute amenities that help to keep our library growing and up-to-date.

Thank you for your support!



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*Opening the door to your new library.*

***It's the Grand Opening!***

**Wednesday**

**August 19, 4:00-6:00**

The Cambridge Community Library Board is planning an eventful celebration to include a ribbon cutting ceremony, refreshments, and a chance to explore.

All are welcome.

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*Patrons enjoy the quiet reading room in the new library.*