



OF THE EASTERN MONROE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Spring 2020

4th Annual
**CHILDREN'S
BOOK
SALE**

Saturday, April 25

9 am to 4 pm

Sunday, April 26

12 noon to 4 pm



35TH ANNUAL



BOOK SALE

MAY 30 - JUNE 2

Saturday, 9am – Noon

**OPEN TO FRIENDS
MEMBERS ONLY**

Memberships available at the door.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

Saturday • Noon – 5pm

Sunday • Noon – 5pm

Monday • 9am – 8pm

1/2 price day!

Tuesday • 9am – 8pm

\$6 a bag!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Cathleen Conway

Welcome Spring!

As we begin our spring cleaning, I am sure that some of us are purging our closets, garages, books and other stuff. Don't worry, you still have time to donate books for our annual book sale that is coming up in a few months.

The Friends are grateful to everyone who donates books every year. This helps us to give back to the Library the things they need. Last year we donated \$25,000. It was used to buy a variety of things such as lighting, WIFI upgrades, printers, carpeting, security, computers and a few other things.

One item that we donated is the new electronic bulletin board. Check it out the next time you are at the library. As our library hosts a variety of meetings each day, this is a great way to show the rooms where the meetings are being held along with some upcoming events.

Please keep the donations coming and visit the Friends Bookstore in the café along with the upcoming children's book sale and the annual book sale.

Happy Reading!

— Cathleen 

Children's Book Sale becoming a tradition

As you probably agree, time seems to pass more quickly the older we get. So, I shouldn't be surprised that this is already the fourth year that the Friends are holding their separate Children's Sale! What was once a tentative effort to host an early sale to alleviate crowding at our main sale has grown into a successful and highly anticipated event.

This year's Children's Sale, held as usual during the last weekend in April, will, *as usual*, be a wonderful supply of appropriate materials for parents, grandparents, teachers, and of course, the young people who love books (which I wish were every single one of them). If you know a child, give them the gift of reading. Children introduced to books as babies tend to continue that positive relationship as they grow.

And for those who have grown and are still looking for a good read (like me!) our Annual Used Book Sale is celebrating its 35th year! Talk about time flying! Although I wasn't involved with the Friends at that time, I do remember going to the sale on the front porch of the old library on Main Street. How fortunate we are to have a beautiful, well-stocked and well-

staffed resource at our fingertips here at the Hughes Library.

So, mark your calendars. As a Friend in good standing you'll be invited to our Members Only Preview Night on May 29 from 4 to 7pm, and have early admission on Saturday morning, May 30.

We have something for everyone: from current bestsellers to vintage titles, graphic novels, cookbooks, nonfiction, games, DVDs, and so many other genres. We will also have the remaining children's books available. The prices are unbeatable! Come early for the best selection!

If you just can't wait until May, there is a source that I hope you are using: the Friends Bookstore! It's located across from the Café on the first floor and has quite a variety of books for both adults and children. Check it out, and have a cup of coffee at the Café while you are browsing.

I hope I see you at one, or both, of these sales! Happy reading!

— Martha Linne 

From the Director:

Monroe Counts! Libraries and the 2020 Census

by Susan Lyons

This month the U.S. Census Bureau will begin mailing out invitations to complete the 2020 Decennial Census. This year there are three ways to complete the questionnaire: online, by phone, and by filling out the survey and mailing it back. The results will shape our federal funding and electoral representation for the next decade.

Libraries have an important role to play in making sure residents of Monroe County are fully counted and represented. In the spring and summer of 2019 the library offered meeting space to the Census Bureau as they trained the first group of new hires. This winter, we provided a weekly table at both the Hughes and Smithfields libraries to a Census staffer as she recruited the final round of door-to-door census takers.

Beginning March 12th (the day the online census opens) the library will advertise the Census on our website, provide information handouts to patrons, and make our public computers available to anyone wishing to complete the census online. Beyond that, librarians offer reliable information about the census, and can help answer questions for new residents or young adults who may be answering their first census.

Census data are used to decide how \$675 billion in federal public funding is spent every year.

Pennsylvania gets \$26.8 billion annually through our 16 largest federally funded programs. That's about \$2,000 per Pennsylvanian each year. Some of those federal dollars will filter down to local and county governments.

These numbers may change based on our 2020 Census data. Federal funding supports many important programs and services for Pennsylvanians,

including healthcare, food security, education, transportation, housing, community development, support for families, and more.

The 2020 Census is the first census to take place primarily online. In addition to the historical challenges seen in hard-to-count areas, there will be the additional barrier to those individuals who struggle with the digital divide. As trusted community institutions, public libraries are well positioned to help overcome these barriers.



In their report on the 2020 Census, the American Library Association notes that more than 24 million Americans do not have high-speed internet at home. Rural communities, low-income households, and persons without secure housing are among those that could be at risk for being undercounted due to limited digital

access. Libraries can bridge the digital divide and support a fair and equitable count by connecting people to high-speed internet access for the 2020 Census.

A full and complete count translates into full representation in Harrisburg and Washington and funding for roads, bridges, education, housing, public health, and yes, state aid to public libraries. We are ready to do our part. 📖

Be sure to check the back page of this newsletter and renew your membership if you haven't already. Special invitations for Book Sale Preview Night (Friday, May 29th) will be mailed on May 4th to current members only!



BOARD NOTES

By Ann Super, President, EMPL Board of Trustees

I would like to give you an update on the status of the new Smithfields branch of the Eastern Monroe Public Library (EMPL). We are very excited to partner with Middle Smithfield Township to create a permanent home for the Smithfields Branch. The new library, centrally located at Echo Lake Park, will serve a fast-growing area of Monroe County. The new building will use reclaimed materials from the old Mosier's Dairy Farm, integrating local history into the new building.

We anticipate the new library to be a very busy place highlighting the following features:

- Dedicated children's library.
- Conference room for community groups and two study rooms.
- Intergenerational environmental programs.
- 20,000 print volumes and 600,000 e-books / e-audio books.
- Computer classes as well as free Wi-Fi & computer access.
- Book clubs, weekly story time and lap-sit activities for our younger patrons.
- Literacy, GED and ESL tutoring.
- Programs on health and wellness, financial literacy, nature and more.

In order to realize our goal of establishing a permanent location for the Smithfields, we invested \$1,000,000 and several years of work. Funding came from grants, a commercial loan and EMPL reserve funds. The EMPL goal is to repay the loan as soon as possible to have funds available for other important initiatives.



Artist rendition of the Community and Cultural Center and Library



The new Middle Smithfield Community & Cultural Center will house the Library of the Smithfields branch of the Eastern Monroe Public Library, as well as a little local museum, American Red Cross Eastern Pennsylvania Region certified emergency shelter, display space for Pocono Arts Council, rain gardens and landscaping in conjunction with the Brodhead Watershed Association and the Penn State Master Gardeners, Monroe County Beekeepers Association and more.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

EMPL is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your tax-deductible donation helps fund programs for EMPL's service area of ten municipalities and the Monroe County Correctional Facility.

Levels of recognition are as follows:

- **Silver:** \$1,000 to \$4,999. Recognition on the Founders' Tree in the new library.
- **Gold:** \$5,000 to \$10,000. Recognition on Founders' Tree and a named library shelf.
- **Platinum:** \$10,000+. In addition to Gold recognition, there are naming opportunities within the library.



Donations can be made by check or credit card. Checks can be mailed to the Eastern Monroe Public Library or EMPL at 1002 North Ninth Street in Stroudsburg, PA 18360 or online at <https://monroepl.org/>. Click on the Donate tab and you can use PayPal, Visa, Discover or Mastercard. We are very grateful for your ongoing support for our programs. 📖

April 19-25, 2020

Celebrate National Library Week at EMPL

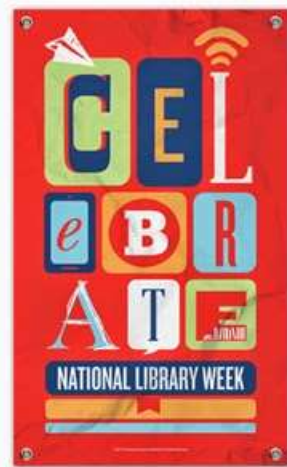
National Library Week is an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role Libraries, Librarians and Library workers play in transforming communities and improving lives. To celebrate our relationship with our community, the Eastern Monroe Public Library will be honoring National Library Week throughout the entire month of April.

Planned special events for April include a car show sponsored by Monroe County Cruisers at the Hughes Library; our “Buy a Heart, Do your Part!” Campaign, where you can show your love and support for EMPL by stopping in and donating any amount to earn a heart that will be placed on our giving wall; a child-friendly “Paint n’ Sip!” and much more.

In addition to the other Library sponsored events, we are excited to announce that EMPL will be collaborating with local businesses to fundraise and encourage support for our libraries.

Throughout the month of April, local businesses will join us in supporting National Library Week by offering literary themed items with a portion of the proceeds being donated to EMPL. So far, over twenty businesses have pledged their support, and we are loving their creativity and enthusiasm! Some specials that will be available in April include:

- a Harry Potter themed *Dementor’s Kiss* lip balm at Pocono Soap
- *A Secret Garden Salad* at Sweet Creams
- *The Lion, The Witch and The Whiskey* at Siamsa’s Irish Pub
- *Read Between the Wines* with Mountainview Vineyard featuring *The Grape Gatsby* and *Gone with the Gin*
- *The Catcher in The Rye*, *The Gin Gatsby*, *Last Call of the Wild*, and *The Zelda Fitzgerald* featured by The Deer Head Inn
- and many more!



The Library is a place where all people are welcome regardless of age, interests or background. From audiobooks and job-seeking resources, to children’s programs and GED classes, EMPL has something for everyone. However, we would not be able to provide these services without the support of our local community. We would love for you to show your support for our community and your libraries by offering

your patronage to the participating businesses and attending our special events.

Please visit our branches or EMPL’s Facebook page in March for a list of literary themed specials that will be available in April. And stay tuned for more upcoming special events to celebrate National Library Week!

— Hope Kuchinski, Library Assistant 📖

Welcome New Friends

Margie Becker
Marguerite Mayfield
Pat Milenkowic
Julie and Brian Victory

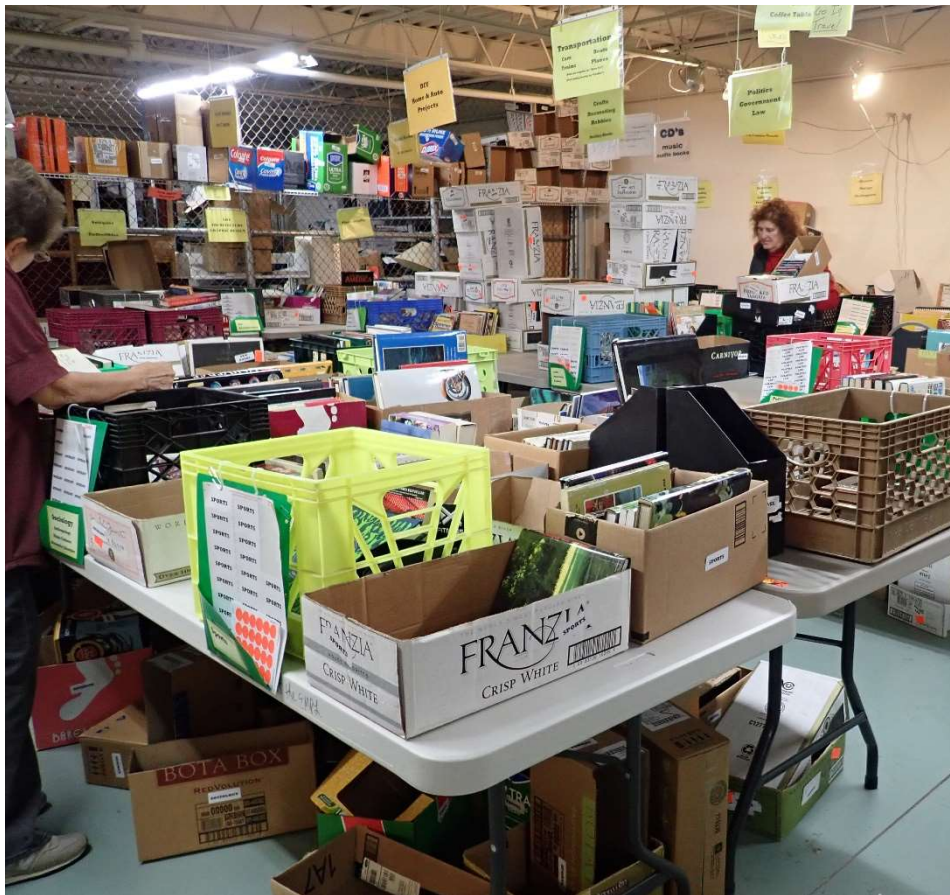


On November 10, 2019, the Friends hosted the Mountain Winds Woodwind Quintet. Donna Predmore, flute; Molly Malone, oboe; Jenny Galunic, horn; Lisa Schwartz, bassoon; and Marta Oberlin, clarinet entertained library patrons at this free concert. Stay tuned for upcoming events like this.

Friends funding 2019

Here's where your money was spent last year:

Outside lights on the building and remaining parking lot lights.....	\$2,541
WiFi upgrades including server, ports, switches, access points	5,864
Youth Services printer	399
DVD player for the community room.....	48
Tree trimming in the parking lot and alley.....	1,195
New security cameras and server upgrade.....	4,591
New carpeting in the Pullen Room	2,631
Contribution to the front door curb replacement	4,096
New floor mats.....	165
First floor carpet cleaning	1,662
New(ish) computers (8 @ \$150 each).....	1,200
Electronic Bulletin Board for the front entrance	288
TOTAL	\$24,680



Volunteers work year-round sorting book donations on the mezzanine at the library. The Friends continue to accept donations of good condition books, DVDs, CDs, and audio books. Donations can be dropped off at the Hughes Library circulation desk during normal business hours until May 15.

News from the Friends of the Eastern Monroe Public Library

Spring 2020

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