



F·R·I·E·N·D·S
OF NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Supporting Friends of the Library Statewide

NC F*R*I*E*N*D*S TALK 2023

Happy Fall Friends,

September has been a very interesting month. We have consulted with a number of groups on some interesting issues. The September Open Mic topic was on book banning and we had our largest audience ever—21. This is such a hot topic—and a very, very important one for Friends and libraries everywhere. Don't think it can't happen in your area—all it takes is one aggressive person with an agenda. And don't think that your Friends are safe from attack either—several Friends groups in western NC have been targeted and their reputations publicly assaulted. FONCPL is in the process of developing a toolkit specifically for Friends to be both pro-active and re-active. In the meantime, if your group or your library is being challenged, do reach out to us. And we hope your group acknowledged Banned Books Week, October 1-7. Send us your articles and photos if you did.

September 15th was the deadline for FONCPL member groups to apply for funding for Friends' projects. We had eight groups submit and we funded all of them. The list is elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations to our winners!

If you have not yet signed up for the NC Friends listserv, please do so. This NC State Library listserv is for those interested in friends related activities and public library service. To join: <https://statelibrarync.simplelists.com/> To send a message via the listserv:

nc-fol@statelibrarync.simplelists.com FONCPL uses this listserv for reminders and notices.

If your group celebrated National Friends of the Library Week October 15-21, please send our editor a short article and pictures. It is not too late to set something up, if you haven't already.

That's it for October. We wish those of you holding book sales or fundraisers this month every success! We'd like articles and pictures on those as well.

Did you notice the repeated message: send us your articles and photos!!!

Get outside and feast on the autumn colors!

Judy Hills, FONCPL President

Don't Forget These Weeks in October!

October 1-7, 2023

Banned Books Week will be October 1 – 7, 2023. Book bans and restrictions are on the rise in classrooms and libraries across the country. We invite readers, authors, educators, librarians, and everyone who opposes censorship in America to get involved during Banned Books Week 2023.



Friends of Libraries groups have their very own national week of celebration!

United for Libraries will coordinate the 18th annual National Friends of Libraries Week Oct. 15-21, 2023. The celebration offers a two-fold opportunity to celebrate Friends. Use the time to creatively promote your group in the community, to raise awareness, and to promote membership. This is also an excellent opportunity for your library and Board of Trustees to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library.

Found on the Jackson County Friends Facebook Page.....
Their display for Banned Books....



**DON'T ALLOW YOUR
FREEDOM TO READ
TO GO UP IN FLAMES.
Book banning is the match.**

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

NEW BERN-CRAVEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

What a Great & Fun Event !

Swansboro Friends of the Library hosted a Summer Social on August 23rd at the Swansboro Area Heritage Center and Museum. The collaborative event was attended by Friends of the Swansboro Library members as well as officers and members of the Jacksonville Main Library Friends, neighboring Western Carteret Friends and Bogue Banks Friends. Other guests included a number of members of the Swansboro Historical Society. Attendees enjoyed meeting and mingling, a guided tour of the Heritage Museum, courtesy of Amelia Dees-Killette, President of the Swansboro Historic Association and longtime member of the Friends of the Swansboro Library, followed by lunch and fellowship.

The initiative to host Friends of the Library members from throughout Onslow County including the four library branches of Swansboro, Jacksonville Main, Sneads Ferry and Richlands, as well as Friends from adjacent Craven and Carteret Counties stems from the budding effort to build a broader coalition of Friends of Libraries in our immediate coastal region. We find that we all are working diligently with local libraries to fundraise and contribute financially to library needs outside their budget and to bring attention to literacy, technology, online services and assistance as well as many special programs offered. The challenges for local libraries and Friends groups are similar. Through networking, exchanging ideas, brainstorming and creativity, we are able to find solutions and strength in numbers. We hope to continue to foster growth of a regional network of Friends of Libraries and work together to increase volunteer membership, leadership amongst members, encourage the next generation of Friends members, enhance community presence and supplement funding for essential library operations.

Written by Paula Patselas

President, Friends of the Swansboro Library

**Please scroll for the
pictures!!**









To all the Winners of the Challenge Grants!!

The Friends of Braswell Memorial Library – using the Grant for a portable table, table cover with logo, a three-way display board, and business cards.

The Friends of Camden Library – using the Grant for a Library foyer display, furniture, & promotional items.

The Caswell Friends of the Library – using the Grant to re-do the Library Staff breakroom – furniture, paint, backsplash, coffeemaker, water filter, and supplies.

The Friends of the Harrisburg Library – using the Grant to buy materials for the Harrisburg Author Fair in January 2024.....sponsoring swag bags for authors and customized FOHL merchandise.

The Friends of the Henderson County Public Library – using the Grant to purchase 250 gift cards with Friends logo for sale in bookstore.

The Friends of the Midland Library – using the Grant to honor all Veterans with a Friends of Veterans Commemorative coin at the Book Sale at the local American Legion Post.

The Friends of the Stanly County Public Library – using the Grant to print up new updated Friends Brochures.

The Friends of the Swansboro Library – using the Grant to purchase four (4) double-sided VEVOR book carts.



Double-sided VEVOR book cart



20 Best Haunted House Movies

by Matt Mills. 7/24/23

- 
- | | | |
|----|-----------------------|-------------|
| 20 | Dark Water | 2016 |
| 19 | The Uninvited | 1944 |
| 18 | Sinister | 2012 |
| 17 | The Conjuring | 2013 |
| 16 | The Woman in Black | 1989 |
| 15 | 13 Ghosts | 1960 |
| 14 | Paranormal Activity | 2007 |
| 13 | The Changeling | 1980 |
| 12 | The Others | 2001 |
| 11 | The Orphanage | 2007 |
| 10 | Lake Mungo | 2008 |
| 9 | Beetlejuice | 1988 |
| 8 | Crimson Peak | 2015 |
| 7 | Poltergeist | 1982 |
| 6 | House on Haunted Hill | 1959 |
| 5 | His House | 2020 |
| 4 | House | 1977 |
| 3 | The Haunting | 1963 |
| 2 | The Shining | 1980 |
| 1 | The Innocents | 1961 |

It's a horrifyingly atmospheric thriller that's torturous in its quietness, making every twitching curtain and figure walking across the frame a silent terror that will imprint on your retinas. The performances are all believable and fragile, the costumes magnificent and the color contrast striking. To this day, it is one of the most visually flawless (not to mention flat-out terrifying) black-and-white movies you will ever see. Every frame truly is a painting in this master stroke that's waiting, begging to be recognized.



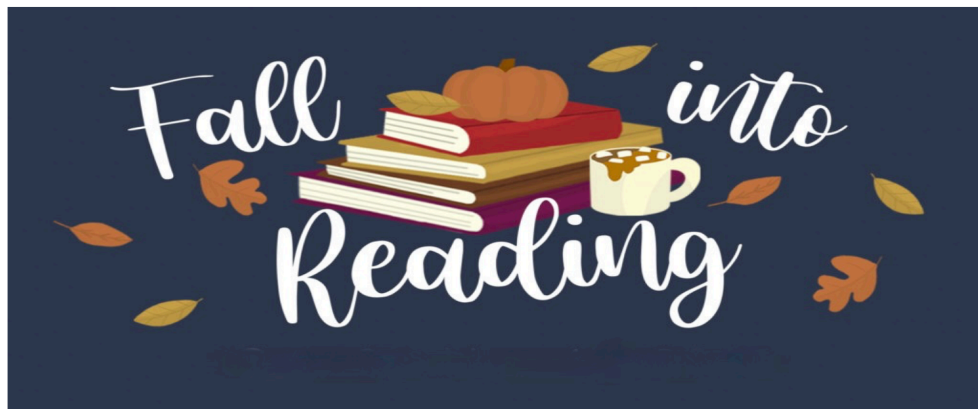
An excerpt from..... **The Reason Why Americans Refer to Autumn as 'Fall'**

By Michele Debczak

The season between summer and winter was known as *harvest*, or *hærfest* in Old English. The word is of Germanic stock and meant “picking,” or “plucking,” a nod to the act of gathering and preserving crops before winter.

In the 1500s, English speakers began calling the seasons separating the cold and warm months “fall of the leaf” or “spring of the leaf,” or “fall” and “spring” for short. Both terms were simple and evocative, but for some reason, only *spring* had staying power in Britain. By the end of the 1600s, *autumn*, from the French word *autompne* and the Latin *autumnus*, had overtaken *fall* as the standard British term for the third season.

Around the same time England adopted *autumn*, the first-ever British American colonists were voyaging to North America. With them they brought the words *fall* and *autumn*, and while the former fell out of fashion overseas, it solidified itself in the local vernacular by the time America won its independence. Today, using both words to describe the season before winter is still a uniquely American behavior.



Here are August's top ten titles searched in library catalogs that include NoveList Select:

1. *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett
2. *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros
3. *None of This Is True* by Lisa Jewell
4. *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride
5. *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
6. *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
7. *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese
8. *Happy Place* by Emily Henry
9. *It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover
10. *Verity* by Colleen Hoover



Here's a sad note.....we received word from Ashley Anderson, Treasurer of Friends of the Lewisville Library, that their *President Maire Sessoms* died unexpectedly. Her enthusiasm and energy revitalized their Friends group and they miss her intensely.

Crossroads Chronicle COMMUNITY

Cashiers library book clearance runs Sept. 13-16

BY NICK CHILDS
Staff

Cashiers residents who want to add to their "to be read" stack of books for cheaper will have an opportunity to do so this month.

From Sept. 13-16, the Cashiers library will hold a fall book clearance in the community room.

Wednesday through Friday, the clearance will run from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, it will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This will be the second clearance of 2023. The library traditionally has a clearance every June,

then if they have extras, they will hold another one in the fall.

"It's a tradition, we know some people who actually plan their travel schedule around when the book clearance is going to be," said Charlotte Collins, chair of the marketing and communication committee with Friends of the Library.

Collins has served on the board of directors as well as many other committees since 2016.

Collins said book donations have continued to come in during the summer, although she said the library always looks forward to

more donations to fuel demand for future clearances, as well as keeping the Cashiers library's bookstore replenished. The library's bookstore is the only bookstore in Cashiers and its books tend to be quite a bargain.

Charlene Homolka, who has been the bookstore manager for eight years, is responsible for curating the book clearance. Homolka said there have been fewer donations this year, so the clearance is expected to have around 2,000



File photo

The Cashiers library is hosting its second book clearance sale of the year Sept. 13-16 in the community room.

See **CLEARANCE** page 3B

CLEARANCE

Continued from page 1B

books. Homolka said it tends to have around 4,000 books.

The book clearances fill the community room with material from the bookstore. This helps the bookstore clear out some books. The clearance, which runs on donations, also raises funds for the Cashiers library.

"We invite the public to come in, look at the books, and take whatever they want. All we ask for is a donation," said Collins. There is no suggested or minimum donation, but Collins asks "people to use their own judgment, their own sense of generosity, and to remember they are donating to help support this library."

The majority of the books in the clearance tend to be fiction, particularly hard cover. There are usually also paperbacks and non-fiction, although Homolka said there is a select amount of non-fiction this year.

Depending on supply, there may be children's or

young adult books, audio books, and DVDs as well. Homolka said the June clearance made a massive dent in juvenile books, but there should still be some for this clearance.

Homolka said the clearance pulls fiction books that have been on the bookstore shelves for a while. Fiction books published before 2005 are automatically sent to the clearance.

It is important to note the books are not junk or in shabby condition. The library takes care to accept books in good condition that can be valuable.

All books come from community donations. Homolka then makes decisions on what goes on tables. Book donations are always encouraged and accepted.

Books at the clearance may not be sorted in a way where volunteers can precisely direct clearance browsers to specific titles or authors, but Collins praised the loyal volunteers. During their shifts, volunteers will likely become familiar with the setup and be able to point browsers in the right direction.

If you want to or plan

to attend but can't come out during the week, don't worry. There shouldn't be an issue of books running out.

"If you come out Saturday, you can pretty much expect to see books even if you came on the first day of the clearance," Collins said. "I've never seen the tables empty. Charlene continues to replenish the tables during the clearance."

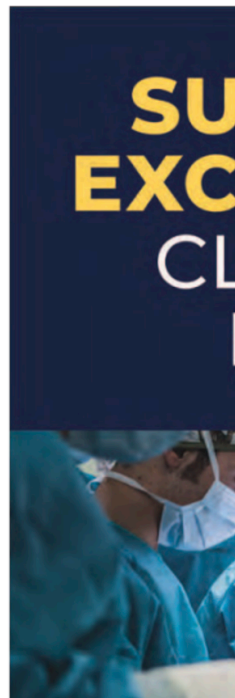
Serenity Richards, Cashiers branch librarian, said the county basically pays for the building to be open and staffed. Everything else in collections comes from local grants, donations, and money from Friends of the Library.

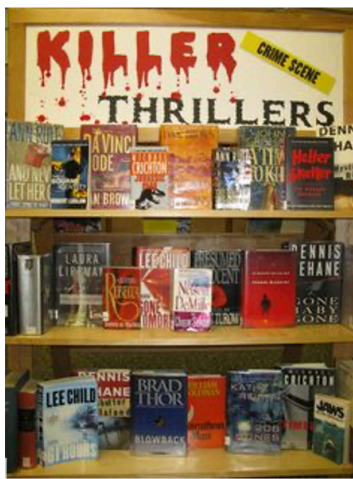
"Basically, the county pays for the building to be open and us to be there," Richards said. "Without money coming from Friends, we wouldn't have books or DVDs on the shelves. It would be a very pretty, almost empty building."

Richards said the clearances tend to bring in large, supportive crowds. People line up at doors prior to the clearances. Richards also said these clearance visitors tend to

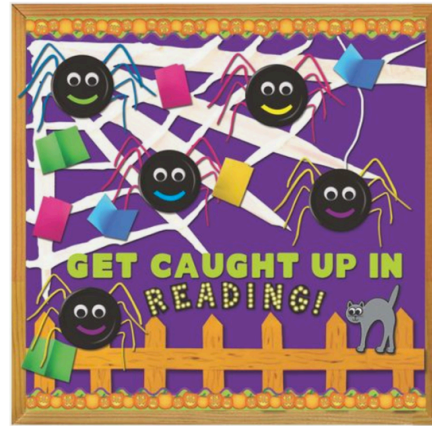
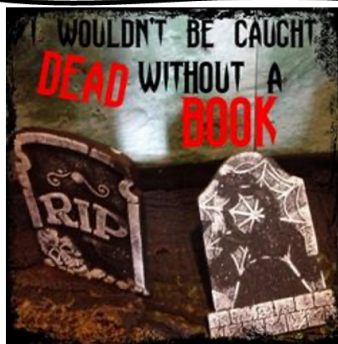
leave generous donations, worth well over their haul of books.

For more information on the Cashiers library, visit fontanalib.org/cashiers or cashiersfriends.com.





DECORATE FOR OCTOBER!



CREATE SOME EXCITEMENT!



IS YOUR FRIENDS GROUP THE NEXT TARGET?

By Judy Hills, FONCPL President

In September FONCPL was asked to help develop a response to a divisive group that was besmirching the reputation of local Friends groups in several counties. The following was the part of the statement that was read to county commissioners. We have withheld the name of the specific county mentioned.

"As a side note, it would be worthwhile to investigate how the 501(c)3 wings (i.e., Friends of the Library...) of these libraries function as a money laundering outfit taking in resources and materials (purchased with tax dollars) from the library free of charge, reselling them at a retail store and then funneling money back to the library in whatever fits their fancy because then, it is "private donations" for the FRL to do with as they please instead of tax dollars. This behavior is disingenuous at best and fraud at worst."

This group has been making presentations to county commissioners for months trying to deny the public their intellectual freedom to read what they choose. We are unsure just why this came up, but it did, and it deserves a response. In case your Friends experience a similar attack, in this article I am going to identify important points. Your Friends may need to do some research to understand your specific situation.

1. Legal structure of the library

This information is needed because it determines who is allowed to make the rules about library discards.

- a. Is your library part of a regional system, county system, or municipal system?
- b. Does your library have a library Board of Trustees?

2. Library or system policy regarding discards

Does the policy specifically state the disposition of the discards?

Here is a good example of a trustee-approved policy that we recommend every library use: *"Withdrawn books are donated to the Friends of the Library for book sales. The proceeds from such sales are used for the benefit of the library. Books that are not sold will be disposed of at the discretion of the Friends of the Library."*

continued

3. Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs are not required, but some do have them)
 - a. If your Friends has an MOU with the library you serve, does it mention that the library will give the Friends their discarded books?
 - b. Does the MOU mention any agreement between the library and the Friends as far as how the Friends' money may be spent? If yes, it should not.
4. Legal structure of your Friends
 - a. Are you incorporated with the State?
 - b. Do you have a North Carolina charitable solicitation license or exemption? Is it current?
 - c. Do you have a 501(c)(3) designation? Is it current?

In order to be able to accommodate newer titles, libraries must weed their collections. So, what do libraries do with their discards? The first thing they do is stamp the book "discarded" or "withdrawn." This officially takes the book off their inventory. According to the NC School of Government, local governments (municipal, county, or regional government like a regional library) may discard personal property valued at under \$30,000 "...because it has no value, unable to sell, or poses threat to public health or safety." G.S. 160A-266(d) The library may legally "donate these items to non-profits, sister cities, and other units of government..."

As a nonprofit corporation, the Friends has an independent legal existence with all the rights and powers afforded to a corporation by law and provided for under the Friends' Articles of Incorporation. The Friends is not a subsidiary of, or under the control of, any corporation, government instrumentality, or other entity. Your Friends exist to support and advocate for the library and to foster literacy, reading, and life-long learning in the community. By law, the Friends make decisions on the allocation of their funding ensuring that these funding decisions are aligned with their mission.

Another point to make, should you have to draft a statement regarding your use of funds, is just how much financial support your Friends donated to the library over the past three years (by year). Remember that what you donate supplements, not supplants, library funding. You don't EVER want to make a misleading statement that says that the funding your Friends provide decreases the tax dollars that need to be spent for the library.

We hope these points are useful should your Friends be faced with similar accusations. FONCPL wants your Friends to be informed as to the issues cropping up around the state. If your Friends are being challenged in some way, please reach out to us.

Once More Bookstore: **Myles Williams & Brian Deutsch**

A New Chapter of Community Support and Connection

Reading. It's a large part of our work week- combing over information online, looking over documents, reading the newest articles or books on real estate trends. It can bring us wisdom and insight. Co-owners Myles Williams and Brian Deutsch understand the value that reading has as it relates to business, but they also recognize the importance it has for the community as a whole. They help support an ongoing mission to provide access to low cost reading materials and funding for local library programs for the communities of Oak Island and Southport.

When Myles and Brian purchased Southport Realty in January of 2023, there was little doubt that they would be continuing the long-standing tradition of housing the Friends Of The Library Southport and Oak Island's Once More Bookstore. Not only was the non-profit a valuable part of the area, over the years it had become a meaningful part of Southport Realty's connection to the community and desire to give back.

Friends Of The Library Southport and Oak Island (FOLSOL) has been helping to support programs at the

Margaret & James Harper, Jr. Library in Southport and the G.V. Barbee, Sr. Library on Oak Island for over 30 years. In addition to funding many programs for children and adults, a well organized and intrepid crew of volun-

teers work to provide minimal-cost book buying options for families and seniors at the bookstore. In 2011 FOLSOL experienced an unexpected need. They were occupying a space donated by the city, but when the city eventually sold the building, the nonprofit was left looking for a new space. That's when Southport Realty's former owners, Pamela Frandano and Kim Anne Russ, stepped in to fill the need. It's only fitting that when a non-profit suddenly needed a place to call home it was a real estate agency and its agents that provided the new location.

Southport Realty now dedicates 2,500 square feet of their building to FOLSOL. Seeing the impact on the community is something that inspires

Myles everyday. "I think literacy as a whole is very important, especially enjoying reading. It's being lost in this day and age. Everybody is focused on videos, so they don't tend to read books as much."





Brian shares a similar sentiment, “At Southport Realty, we are so happy to accommodate FOLSOL. The efforts of this non-profit organization helps support our local libraries and our community. Over the years this library has become a popular spot for locals as well as tourists that are here in town. We truly enjoy having the “Friends of the Library” as a part of our office, they have an amazing volunteer staff that we interact with daily!”

Myles enjoys seeing individuals from the community walk through on their way to peruse the bookstore. Watching children come in excited invokes memories from his own childhood of the afternoons he used to spend with his mother. “I love when I see kids walk in the front door and run to the back to pick out a book. Right before every weekend, my mom would take me to the library on Oak

Island. That’s the same one that the bookstore supports. I would be able to pick out books and play on the computers. It gave me activities to take home for the weekend.”

Although he still remembers the joy he found reading *The Boxcar Children* in his childhood, these days, Myles mostly reads books that reflect his career and business goals, such as books on finance. He enjoys perusing the bookshelves searching for a new title to enjoy. “The whole back of our building is set up like a giant library, including using the Dewey Decimal System and special sections. There’s a wonderful new release section where you can sometimes find titles that are currently at Barnes & Noble.” The bookstore also has a few other unique features, including a monthly book sale open to the general public. “Something that I take advantage of

is that they have a large vinyl record collection. You can get vinyls for a few dollars. So I’ll get a few and then once I’m done, I’ll donate them back so somebody else can enjoy them.”

For Brian, it is the joy of shared reading with his family that connects him to the mission of FOLSOL. “I have always enjoyed reading, but the most memorable experience was the first time I read a book to my daughters. That was the moment I realized the true magic of a good book.”

Myles has been in the real estate world since graduating from East Carolina University in 2016. Shortly after becoming licensed, he joined Southport Realty. He felt a special draw to the firm that had been part of his local community his whole life. “I was raised in the Southport area and this company was always number one.” He is proud

of the accomplishments of the agents and their ability to provide their clients exceptional service. Southport Realty currently has 26 agents. "We are a boutique brokerage with only half the number of people compared to the larger firms, yet we're still competitive."

Myles and Brian continue to foster the benefits that come with being a smaller real estate firm, such as being able to provide their clients a unique personalized experience and connect with the local community. "We tend to hire agents that are ingrained in the community and who have influence locally. Everyone who works here is a part of some charity or community organization. We have an agent who's working hard to build a pool for our community to do water aerobics here in the city. We also help out with Matthew's Ministry, where we

provide a drop off location for people to donate food for underprivileged families (non-perishable items can be left in the little red wagon). We support Powerwalking Ministries, which provides shoes to children ranging from elementary to high school. We provided 700 pairs of shoes last year." Communities in Schools is another charity that the firm supports, which works towards keeping students in school and drop out prevention.

Improving people's lives through philanthropic endeavors is an ongoing goal for both Myles and Brian, within their careers, their personal efforts, and their company, Southport Realty. Myles puts it clearly, "We have a welcoming spirit and strive for personal connections. I love to read, and encourage all members of the community to stop in and explore the library."

“”

We have a welcoming spirit and strive for personal connections.

I love to read, and encourage all members of the community to stop in and explore the library.

FOLSOT's Once More Bookstore is located inside Southport Realty at 727 N. Howe Street. The store is open Monday through Friday from 1-3pm (except holidays) and every Saturday from 10am-12pm (except holidays). Donations are accepted on Tuesdays and Saturdays, from 10am-12pm. Please see the website for information on what type of donations are accepted. <https://folsoi.org/>



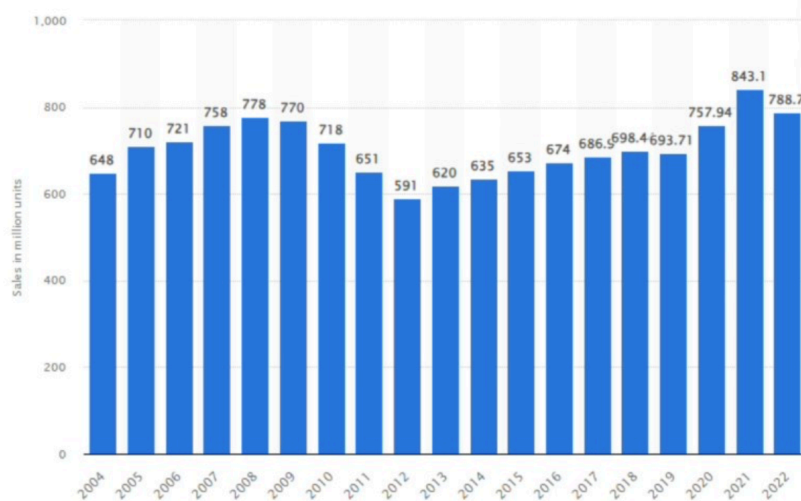
An excerpt from...

Buy A Book Day: Are Physical Book Sales really decreasing?

by Laurel Stone 9/7/23

As digital media has an increasingly large role in daily life, it prompts the question: Are fewer people reading and buying print books? According to Craig Duster, owner of POP! Art Books Culture in Boardman, the print book industry is still alive and well. "I think that there's a narrative that the digital is, is killing of physical books, and I just I don't see that. I don't think that's true," Duster said. "What I see is that people are changing the way that they're reading. I have customers come in all the time who are reading, they're reading a physical book, they're listening to an audiobook, and then they also have something on their e-reader, too."

According to data from [Statista](#), 788.7 million units of print books were sold in 2022. This shows a decrease from the 843.1 million sold in 2021 but still marks the second-highest figure in the last decade.



Not only are book sales increasing, but libraries are seeing an increase in physical book circulation as well. Data from the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning Valley shows the number of physical books checked out increased from 79,989 in 2020 to 93,755 in 2022.

According to a study conducted by [Pew Research Center](#), 65% of adults said they had read a print book in 2021 while around 30% said they had read an e-book.

Just a really interesting video.....take a moment to learn.....

What Would a Journey to the Earth's Core Be Like?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3FoSAHk7DMA>



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82745104270?pwd=R0ZZRVpXVC9DaVJtcM0yMlBiaFlSZz09>

Mobile 309.205.3325

Meeting ID: 827 4510 4270

Passcode: 046732

Topic: More on Banning Campaigns

FYI: Banned Books week plan (October 1-7) and National Friends of the Library week (October 15-21).

If you wish to share some photos or an article with us for the November

F*R*I*E*N*D*S TALK,

please email your information to klambe@me.com by October 25, 2023.

Your 2023-24 FONCPL Board

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REFUGE OF ALL THE ARTS

AGAINST THE RAVAGES OF TIME
ARMOURY OF FEARLESS TRUTH

Against Whispering Rumour
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FROM THIS PLACE WORDS MAY FLY ABROAD

NOT TO PERISH AS DIGITAL WAVES BUT FIXED IN TIME
NOT CORRUPTED BY THE HURRYING HAND BUT VERIFIED IN PROOF



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