
Next Book Sale Friday, November 17, 10–5 and Saturday, November 18, 10–4

Happy 48th Anniversary

Formed on October 29, 1975, the Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL) just celebrated its 48th anniversary. The organization was created in response to a greater need for library services in Hockessin during the mid-1970s. H.B. Dupont Middle School had recently been completed, and subdivisions were quickly being built on agricultural land, increasing the population. Hockessin had been served by a weekly bookmobile from the Wilmington Public Library since 1961, but by 1975, demand for the bookmobile had outgrown its capacity.

FOHL promptly began to look for a way to expand library services to Hockessin, obtaining a charter from New Castle County to form Hockessin Public Library, Inc. in 1977. The small library in the Lamborn building was intended to be a temporary solution until a new library was built. The current building was dedicated in



Friends of Hockessin Library march in the Hockessin May Fair Parade 1979

1994. Continuing the mission of the original Board, FOHL takes great pride in supporting the mission of the Hockessin Library and is still going strong.

Among Friends

FOHL has our fourth and final book sale of the year, the holiday sale, this Friday and Saturday. Each sale has been a great success and helped us raise more funds to further support the library and its mission. Most books are priced between \$1 and \$3—great prices for great books!

When you come to a FOHL book sale, make sure to also visit the library. Check out all its offerings: books (of course), magazines (read them at the library or check them out), newspapers, the Library of Things (games, puzzles, and more), DVDs (movies, TV shows, and series), and CDs (audio books and music). Look at the calendar for upcoming events. Reserve a museum pass online. Read or listen to a book through Libby. There are so many ways to enrich your day through our library.

How FOHL Supports the Library

This fall, FOHL provided the following for the the Hockessin Library: museum passes to Tyler Arboretum in Media, Pennsylvania; the yearly BookPage subscription; membership to the Hockessin Business Association; supplies for the Little Explorers program; and a subscription to Cricut Access.

FOHL Meetings

The FOHL Board meets monthly from September through May, and these meetings are open to the public. If you are interested in learning more about FOHL and getting involved, come join us. We generally have a speaker to start the meeting. For the September meeting, Library Manager Rachel West spoke about book banning. Melissa Hopkins, from the Delaware Association of Non-Profit Alliance (DANA), spoke at our October meeting about advocacy. Our speakers for November are Librarians Terri Jones and Christina Celona. New Castle County Community Services Manager Diana Brown will join us in December. The meetings, which start at 7:30 pm, are held the second Monday of the month in the Library's Community Room.

Looking Ahead

In 2024, FOHL will be taking part in Do More 24 Delaware, a unique fundraising and awareness day for Delaware nonprofits on March 7 and 8. Expect to hear more about this as we get closer to that date.

Enjoy the holiday season and visit the library often!

Geri Krolin-Taylor
President

In Memoriam

One of the Friends of the Hockessin Library's long-time volunteers, Bill Cahill, suffered a great loss when his wife of 34 years, Pam, passed away on October 4, 2023. As a volunteer organization, FOHL relies on the commitment of individuals to accomplish its mission. Volunteers work together, creating relationships and memories along the way. We send sympathy to our friend Bill and have donated to The Alzheimer's Association in Pam's memory.



Cindy Gamble and Geri Krolin-Taylor visited Tyler Arboretum to accept Hockessin Library's museum passes.

From the Director's Desk

Every autumn, our library takes time to reflect on the previous year's accomplishments and sets new goals for the upcoming year in accordance with our mission to meet the community's informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs. We invite you to visit us at 1023 Valley Road and join us in discussing, learning, growing, and sharing.

For adults, come enjoy one of our lecture series programs, which features guest speakers like Syl Woolford and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, or connect with other crafters in our recurring programs for fibercraft, papercraft, and beading. You can also participate in one of our many lively book discussions.

Our youth services department is bustling with activity, offering 3 story times and a Construction Challenge each week, in addition to 6 book discussion groups for different ages throughout the month. Our library mascot, Groovy, is ready to go on Flat Stanley-esque adventures with young patrons as they explore the world beyond the library!

In exciting news, we recently added a video games collection, adult and juvenile Library of Things collections, an adult graphic novel collection, and expanded our adult World

Languages collection of reading materials. There's no need to worry about renewing items that you check out—as of September 1st, the system automatically takes care of renewals for eligible items.

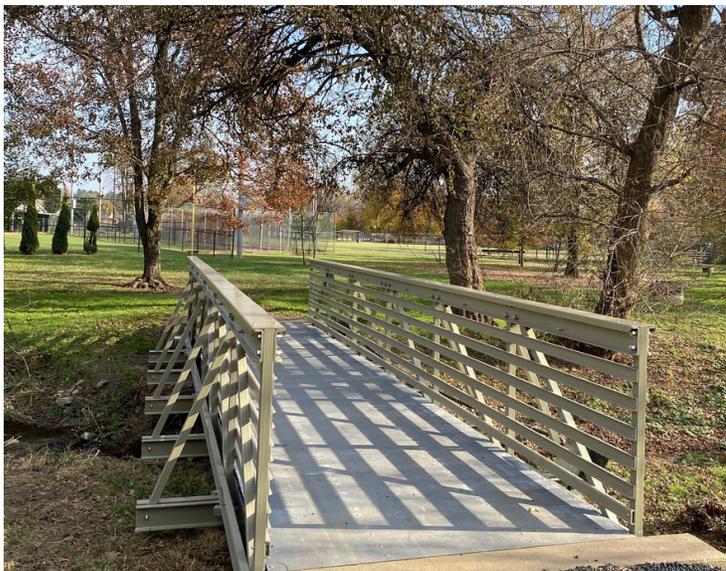
Visit our [library website](#) and [sign up for our newsletter](#) for information about our programs and services, and we hope to see you soon!

Rachel West
Hockessin Library Manager

Book Sale News

It's time for the Friends of the Hockessin Library Holiday Used Book Sale! In addition to the usual selection of books, many holiday-themed books will be available. Children's holiday books and holiday fiction are the most numerous offerings; there are books on cooking, decorating, and everything you ever wanted to know about the holidays. A variety of coffee table books in excellent condition suitable for gifting are on sale.

In case you haven't noticed, the book shed lot has become a staging area for ongoing road construction and train track replacement. Work should be finished some time in November, so the next book drop-off is



You can once again walk from Wawa to the library through Swift Park. The bridge has been replaced.

tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 9 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Please check our website or Facebook page for updates. If you have some great books that you need to donate before then, please contact me, and we can arrange an individual drop-off.

Book sale volunteers are always needed to help set up, clean up, and work during the sale. Please contact me at lnlauria@aol.com if you would like to be placed on our volunteer list. Hope to see you at the sale!

Linda Lauria
Book Sale Chair

All Together Now

Hockessin Library experienced its best Summer Reading for Adults since 2019! The library welcomed 99 registrants with 64 active participants who received a Certificate of Congratulations. To complete and receive a Certificate of Congratulations, participants needed to read and log four books on the Beanstack website. Many read more than four books and also wrote reviews. Hockessin Library had the most completions of all the New Castle County libraries. Kudos to all who participated and enjoyed this year's Summer Reading for Adults!

A heartfelt thank you and much appreciation to FOHL for its ongoing support of the library's summer reading program. All who completed the program received a gift card to Woodside Farm Creamery, compliments of FOHL. The summer reading program theme for 2024 is Adventure Begins at Your Library.

Please check out all the exciting programs and events at the library for adults, including book groups, craft programs, Dungeons & Dragons, music, 3D printing, and much more.

Here's a link to "What Do I Read Next" to get a jumpstart on new and upcoming fiction titles as well as monthly Staff Picks:

<https://www.newcastlede.gov/374/What-Do-I-Read-Next>

Shelley Stein
Adult Services Librarian

Reasons to Read to Young Children

I want to take this opportunity to talk about some powerful reasons to share books with young children. Reading provides an opportunity for an adult and child to spend time together and bond in a positive way. Reading regularly to children teaches them how to handle books, which is one of the first steps toward literacy. Reading offers rich language experiences. As a result, children who have been spoken to and read to often have larger vocabularies than those who have not had this experience. These children's vocabularies will be much more dynamic, as books contain unfamiliar or rare words that are not often heard in everyday speech. Reading stimulates their brain development and increases their attention span. A child's success in learning to read is directly linked to their early literacy experiences with books.

The library has a number of resources to help you start your child's reading journey off strong. We hold story times each week:

Rhythm and Rhyme Story Time for ages 3 and up meets on Tuesdays at 10:15 a.m., Toddler Tales for 18–35 months is held on Wednesdays at 10:05 a.m., and Book Babies for newborn to 17 months meets on Wednesdays at 10:50 a.m. No registration is required for any of these programs.

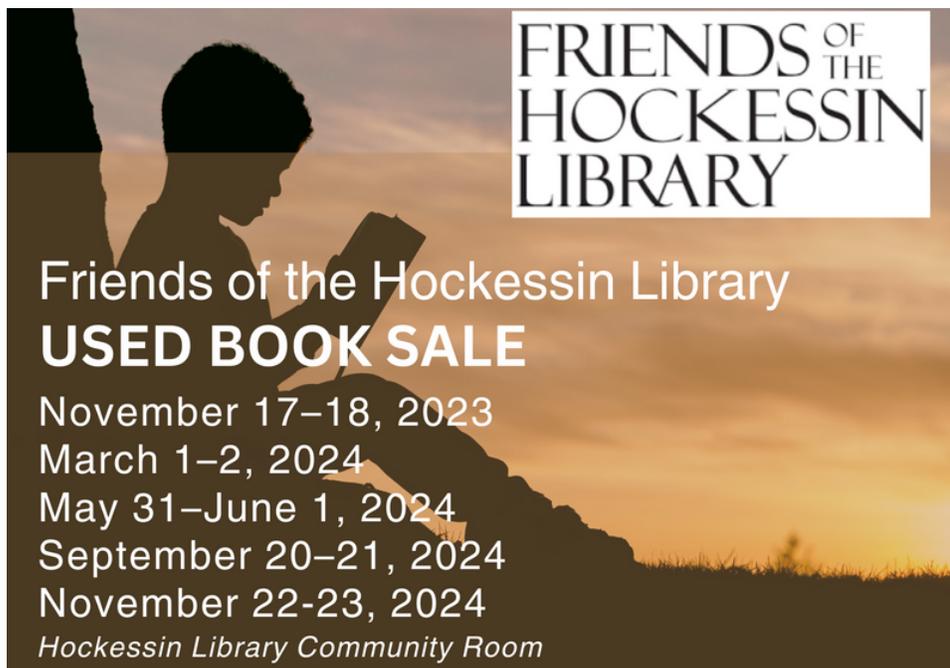
In addition, the Youth Services staff of the New Castle County libraries have developed reading lists to help you choose age-appropriate books for your child. Reading lists for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/NCCReadingLists>.

And finally, every child in Delaware and Chester County, Pennsylvania, up to the age of 5 is eligible to enroll in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Enrolling entitles each child to receive a brand-new book each month until their 5th birthday. The book will be mailed to their home. More information can be found here: <https://lib.de.us/imagination/>. See you soon in the library!

Terri Jones, MLS
Youth Services Librarian

Save the date!

The next book drop-off is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 9 from 9 a.m. to Noon

A poster for a used book sale. The background is a silhouette of a child reading a book against a sunset sky. The text is white and yellow. At the top right, it says 'FRIENDS OF THE HOCKESSIN LIBRARY'. Below that, it says 'Friends of the Hockessin Library USED BOOK SALE'. The dates are listed as 'November 17-18, 2023', 'March 1-2, 2024', 'May 31-June 1, 2024', 'September 20-21, 2024', and 'November 22-23, 2024'. At the bottom, it says 'Hockessin Library Community Room'.

Friends Focus is published by the Friends of the Hockessin Library, Inc.

Please send comments or questions to:
P.O. Box 55, Hockessin, DE 19707 or email
membership@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org

Officers

Geri Krolin-Taylor	President
Cindy Gamble	Vice President
Juli Powers	Treasurer
Maria Iversen	Secretary

Hockessin Library Hours of Operation

Monday - Wednesday	10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday	Closed
Friday & Saturday	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

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