

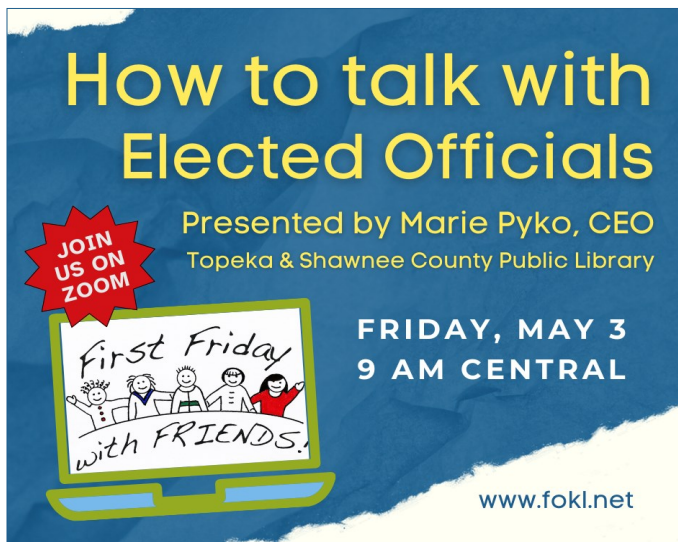
friends of kansas LIBRARIES

Assist - Support - Educate

FoKL POINT Newsletter — April/May 2024

First Friday with Friends

Ramp up your advocacy game! Join us **Friday, May 3 at 9 AM Central** for *First Friday with Friends* featuring Marie Pyko, CEO, Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library. Join Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88484969231>



How to talk with Elected Officials

Presented by Marie Pyko, CEO
Topeka & Shawnee County Public Library

**FRIDAY, MAY 3
9 AM CENTRAL**

www.fokl.net

JOIN US ON ZOOM

First Friday with FRIENDS.

FoKL Board

Members of the FoKL Executive Board met at the Manhattan Public Library on April 19 for a pleasant and very productive day together. Agenda items included: grant and award application reviews, planning for KLA and upcoming regional meetings, by-laws review, and much more. Pictured below (l to r) Judy Burgess, Sheryl Erickson, Cheryl Sylvester, Jan Schmidt, Laura Carroll, Caroline Little, Linda Knupp, Barb Mathews, and Susan Bryant.



Focus on Friends — Winfield Public Library

The Friends of the Winfield Library is an action-oriented group that raises funds for the library through book sales, membership fees, and special fundraising projects. According to the WPL website, the group has sponsored “Adult & Kids Summer Reading, special exhibits, board game check-out, music concerts, collection development, Grab & Go Craft Kits, building landscaping, and more.”



The group also has a direct hand in library programming. In April, they celebrated National Poetry Month with a presentation by local poet Susan Lowe at their regular monthly meeting. Lowe is the author of *A Well-Versed Life: Poetic Contemplation and Photos*. The event included a poetry reading and discussion.

The Friends also host a monthly book club *Bookn' with Friends*. This evening book discussion has featured a wide variety of genres and topics in recent months including: *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich, *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier, *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi, and a “book share” where participants were invited to select their own book that met the Reading Challenge topic “a collection of short stories or essays.”

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Focus on Friends — Andover Public Library

When you read the Andover Friends “Who We Are” section of the library website, you can feel the energy of the group: *The Friends of the Andover Public Library are a wonderful group of citizens in our community inter-woven with the library and the surrounding community. We help promote and support the library by fundraising, developing activities, presenting special programs and helping to fund the Summer reading program.*

The group raises funds through memberships, donations and memorials, and through book sales (including online). Their book sale rack is a popular spot for all library visitors to stop by, with books sold on the honor system with a suggested donation of \$1.00. They also actively participate in and promote the Dillons / Kroger Community Rewards Program, which allows shoppers to select a non-profit to receive donations from Dillons.

The Friends have supported many unique services/programs at the Andover Library including:

- **Whale Drums** - located in front of the library so people of all ages can try their music skills
- **American Girl Dolls** - available for a one-week check out and come with a variety of outfits and accessories
- **They even sponsored a Petting Zoo** for a Summer Reading party. See below!



This group is especially notable for the number and breadth of programs they directly plan and carry out all year long in their “Friends Room” at the library. This pleasant room, decorated with the Friends logo, is equipped with cabinets, sink, microwave, and plenty of tables and chairs. Regular programs include:

First Fridays - This get-together focuses on crafts, games, and conversation with a new activity each month. In April participants made shower steamers that fizz and release essential oils into the shower.

Adult Coloring - A relaxing evening event with coloring pages and pencils provided

Yoga Classes - YWCA instructors offer Chair Yoga and Gentle Yoga every Wednesday. Friends of APL pay a discounted price of \$3, Andover residents pay \$5, and non-residents \$6.

Bunco and Bingo Game Nights - These events are for age 21+ with BYOB and snacks.

American Mahjongg - Along with a 4-week series of Mahjongg lessons, the Friends also host regular Wednesday afternoon game times.

Kudos to Friends of the Andover Library for your ongoing, vibrant support for your library.

- Sue Windsor, President
- Diane Rebstock, Vice President
- Nancy Mattke, Secretary
- Leianna Coble, Treasurer
- Sharon Turner, Membership
- Carolyn Kaplan, Book Sales
- Angela Davis, Activities
- Sue Steele, Adult Education
- Rowena Underwood, Volunteers
- Melissa Steinman, Newsletter
- Tom Taylor, Library Director
- Caroline Hale, Library Board Liason

Focus on Friends — Jetmore Public Library

The Friends of the Jetmore Public Library held a special Spring Luncheon celebrating National Poetry Month with Traci Brimhall, Poet Laureate of Kansas. Traci is a poet and professor at Kansas State University where she teaches creative writing and narrative medicine.

Her program “A Memory Feast” explored the connection between present sensations and memories and how these resonate in our lives.



The luncheon featured individual charcuteries and a variety of delicious pies made by local baker Jordan Rae Ochs.

Pictured here is FOL President Deanna Bradford serving up some cherry pie.



What's new and interesting in your Friends group? Share your news with other groups and libraries around the state in FoKL Point! Send news items to susanwalkerbryant@gmail.com

Contact us

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