



LARRY BAKER RECEIVES THE JOYCE ANN MAIERLE AWARD



Larry Baker has been an asset to both the Royal Oak Public Library, and the Friends of the Library for several years. Larry has been a Friends member since 1993. In 2000, there were some budget concerns relating to the children's area. During Public Comment at a commission meeting, Larry and his family voiced their support for the children's department. Larry remembers approaching the microphone holding his twin baby boys, one in each arm, prompting chuckles from the mayor and the commissioners, especially when one of his sons started playing with the mic. Soon, the children's area received the funding they needed. Shortly thereafter Joyce Maierle called Larry to ask if he would like to join the Friends board.

In addition to the Friends board, Larry was a board member of the PRO Library (People of Royal Oak for Our Library), the group that successfully spearheaded the drive to pass the library millage in 2003.

Larry has worn quite a few hats for the Friends over the years; in the past, he was corresponding secretary and membership chair, he has been treasurer (and budget committee chair) since 2012, he has been book sale chair since 2015, and lead for the Friends' book scanning operations since 2016.



Sunday Hours at ROPL!

Royal Oak Public library is now open Sundays! On September 10, the city held a celebration for the new Sunday afternoon hours at the library and the 20th anniversary of the Star Dream Statue. The ribbon cutting was followed by a kickoff of 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. Families can sign up for 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten anytime at the library.

Make the library a regular Sunday afternoon destination! It will be open from **1-5pm on Sundays during the school year**. And remember, **parking is free on Sundays** in the city parking lots!

Available for a Sunday Shift in the Shop? Contact Vanessa at (814) 571-3731 or vanessa.salliotte@gmail.com.

Summer Reading 2017

Records were broken during Summer Reading 2017! 727 families which included 1,227 preschool and elementary aged children participated! The 74 different programs that were offered during summer reading attracted 4,765 attendees. These programs were funded by the Friends of ROPL. Teen summer reading had 216 participants who attended 44 programs and also helped as volunteers in the youth programs. All youth and teen summer readers were eligible for prizes generously donated by local businesses and each participant could choose their own book to keep. The free books are funded by the Friends and the Royal Oak Chapter of Kiwanis.



Summer reading is designed to keep children reading and learning during the summer vacation so that they do not experience "summer slump" in their academic skills. By providing many different programs and activities for a variety of age groups, ROPL keeps families excited about visiting the library during the summer. These activities would not be possible without the support of the Friends! Thank you!



Thank you to Bruegger's for hosting a fundraiser June 10-11 and to everyone who made a purchase supporting the Friends and ROPL!



The ice cream was a big hit and a successful fundraiser! **Thank you to Brandon and Carly Kolo** for their generous donation, to **Lyndsay Sloan** for organizing and executing the fundraisers, to the **volunteers who scooped**, and to **everyone who purchased ice cream** at the library's summer concerts.

Friends Book Sale News

The Friends are happy to report that donations from patrons continue to come in at a steady pace! (Keep 'em coming!) With that mind, we're looking to increase the number of book sales we do throughout the year (as evidenced by the last two Junes, when we piggybacked onto the Summer Reading Kickoff date, with both the library and the Friends benefitting from each other's audiences!). The one-day sale in June netted the Friends a total of \$634.60 (\$393.85 in the auditorium and \$240.75 in the shop).



Right around the corner, the Friends are holding a **two-day sale: Saturday, October 14 (10 am–4 pm), and Sunday, October 15 (1 pm–4 pm)**. And it's not too early to start thinking about our **annual three-day sale**, which will take place **Thursday through Saturday, March 8-10, 2018**. Both of these popular community events are only possible with the help of many volunteers. Please consider donating your time for this event. Volunteers are needed to help set up, work during the event, and tear down. Larry Baker continues as the chair of the Book Sale committee. Contact Larbaker4@gmail.com or (248) 515-4560 to volunteer.

2016-2017 FRIENDS SUPPORT AT ROPL

During the past fiscal year, the Friends spent over \$35,500 supporting library materials and over 500 programs for adults, preschool kids, youth, and teens. Much of the Friends' revenue is generated from sales in the Friends Shop (please stop by when you're checking out a book or attending a program!), fundraisers in the Royal Oak community (such as ice cream sales at summer concerts), and special book sales. The Shop earned over \$22,000 this past fiscal year, and the combined earnings of the Annual Book Sale and the special Summer Reading Opening Day Sale netted nearly \$4,100. (In addition, we're planning on increasing the number of book sales we have throughout the year!)



An increasing revenue stream exists with the Friends' online activity and scanning operations. Working with third-party dealers, Friends volunteers scan donated books from the community to check for potential sales to book buyers across the country. Buyers include organizations/stores such as Look at a Book, Powell's, Textbooks.com, SellBack, Bookstores.com, and Textbook Rush. In 2016–2017, outside sales revenue totalled just over \$10,000. Another source of revenue is the sale of City of Royal Oak merchandise (T-shirts, hats, and tote bags that are available in the shop). The Friends are also supporters of local organizations and have donated books to groups in need and little free libraries. Along with membership dues and generous donations, Friends' total revenue was nearly \$40,000, a fantastic year! As Friends, you have helped raise this money—be sure to make use of the materials and programs we fund!



We Are All Beekeepers!

Come learn what you can do to help bees survive in our current environment. Join Joan Mandell on Thursday, October 12, 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Friends Auditorium for a presentation including a vibrant slideshow and a scrumptious honey tasting. You will learn ways to support honeybees and other pollinators at home, in your garden, in your neighborhood, or even at city hall. Joan Mandell is co-founder and co-owner of Green Toe Gardens, an apiary based in Royal Oak. She helps care for 100 beehives in the backyards, farms, and gardens of the city of Detroit and its suburbs.



Greeting Cards Needed!

Did you know? The Friends Shop sells unused greeting cards for all occasions. Our inventory is low! **Please consider donating unused greeting cards with envelopes.**

Mixed Media Writing & Write-In

Explore opportunities to blend your writing with other forms of storytelling, including podcasts, illustrated narratives, and oral traditions with writing instructor and author Alicia Schaeffer on **October 4th from 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Friends Auditorium**. Bring your writing at any stage of the process – an idea, a 1st draft, or a 20th draft – and develop it further with one-on-one guidance from the instructor.



This newsletter is distributed up to three times a year, free of charge.



Volunteer Appreciation Tea

In appreciation of our regular volunteers who work many hours during the year to make our shop and other activities a success we are holding a Volunteer Appreciation Tea **Sunday October 22, 2-4 pm in the Friends Auditorium.**

Nancy Spigliano

Many of you may know volunteer and Joyce Ann Maeirle award winner Nancy Spigliano. Some volunteers have asked for an update on her health. Unfortunately, she is still ill. If you have the time, take a moment and reach out to her (248-542-3849), she would love to hear from you!



Volunteer Spotlight: Yvonne Busby-Dean

Yvonne Busby-Dean has lived in Royal Oak for 14 years. She became involved with the Friends after coming to a book sale 4 years ago. She currently volunteers in the shop the 3rd Thursday evening slot, and the 5th Wednesday early. She continues to volunteer for Book Sales and subs when she can. She also has a garden at the Detroit Zoo and works at the Science on a Sphere, along with Special Events as needed.

Often on her Friends Shop shifts she would hear people say “ they didn’t know the shop was here.” At a recent volunteer meeting Yvonne suggested that a little more advertisement might help with awareness for the Friends Shop and took the initiative to address this.

Yvonne’s career has been in Graphics Arts. She is still working, but has reduced her professional full time efforts to be able to spend more time helping non-profits. At this stage in her career, she gets to bring the experience and hopefully help the budget of some non-profit organizations. She partnerend with the Friends to bring a cohesive look to our signage and print material! Developing a color palette and a style which helps with identification to the organization, much like a trademark. The result has been a **beautiful retractable banner that is portable** and can be used for promotion for the Book Shop in any location, a **see through window decal**, and a **new hours sign**. Stop in and take a look! **Thank you Yvonne!**



LIVE MUSIC @ ROYAL OAK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us in the Friends Auditorium for these free performances. Perfect for all ages!

Saturday, October 7 at 3pm – Sheila Landis: Celebrates the music of Brazil and Latin America. Listen to the sounds of the bossa nova, samba, cha-cha and much more.

Saturday, November 4 at 3pm – Vintage Stringband: An eclectic group of eight southeast Michigan musicians plays Celtic, and other tunes blending hammered dulcimers, fiddles, guitars, banjo, penny whistle, bass and vocals.

Monday, December 4 at 7pm – Royal Oak Handbell Ensemble: Will perform a variety of holiday pieces. The ensemble performs with Schulmerich handbells with use of hand chimes, percussion and other instruments.

Tuesday, December 5 at 7pm – Holiday Cello Performance: Traditional and jazzy holiday tunes presented by the cello students of Priscilla Hawkins.

Saturday, December 9 at 3pm – RJ Spangler Quartet: A *Swingin’ Holiday* featuring trumpeter James O’Donnell.

Saturday, January 28, 2018 at 3pm – Martin Mandelbaum and Friends: Martin Mandelbaum and Friends return with the Best of Broadway music.



In Memory of Betty Jean Mathie

We sadly announce that long-time volunteer Betty Jean Mathie, passed away peacefully on May 18, 2017 surrounded by family. Betty loved her family and was happiest when they were with her. Betty was a resident of Royal Oak for over 60 years, and a retired Detroit Public Schools teacher. In retirement, Betty was an active volunteer for Beaumont Health System and ROPL. She was also very involved in her neighborhood crime prevention. The Friends have donated to the library for the purchase of books in her memory.

