

News from the Shelf

May 2018

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Friends of the Library annual meeting hears author

The Friends of the Carthage Public Library annual meeting was held Tuesday, April 24, at the Trinity Lutheran Church Welcome Center. President Joy Swearingen gave a report on activities of the group from the past year. Treasurer Cheryl Underwood gave a report of finances.

The Friends helped with book sales and the annual fall patron count for the library. They paid for Rick Brammer of Absolute Science, to present an assembly at the Carthage Primary School on May 18, to kick off last year's summer reading program and bought kits of MeeperBots for children to design and build. The friends also purchased eight computer chairs.

This March the Friends of the Library held a spelling bee with 12 teams participating. With most of the expenses covered, Cheryl reported the bee raised nearly \$2,000. Other income for the year came from annual memberships, book sales, and donations. The treasury grew to \$7,650.09 as of April 30, 2018, the end of the fiscal year.

Following reports, election of officers was held. Janet Nicholas presented the slate of officers for the coming year: Joy Swearingen, president; Melita Finney, vice president; Linda Tobias, secretary and Cheryl Underwood, treasurer. The slate was elected.



Elaine Printy speaks about her book during the annual meeting of the Friends of the Carthage Public Library.

The speaker for the evening was Elaine Printy, who recently published "A Sign Upon his Head." Printy talked about how she began writing and why she created this particular book. She described some of the challenges, pitfalls and successes in the process, and looked ahead to her next work.

Friends of the Library memberships are due

The Friends of the Carthage Library annual memberships run on the fiscal year, May 1 to April 30. Many members have already renewed their membership that help support Friends projects.

New Friends members are always welcome. To join or renew your membership, use the form on the back of this newsletter or stop in at the library for information on the adult, student, family or supporter membership options.

Looking at history: Illinois & Carthage library

As Illinois celebrates its bicentennial year, the Carthage Public Library looks ahead to the 125th year for the library. An ordinance creating the library was passed on Sept. 11, 1893, and the library opened March 10, 1894.

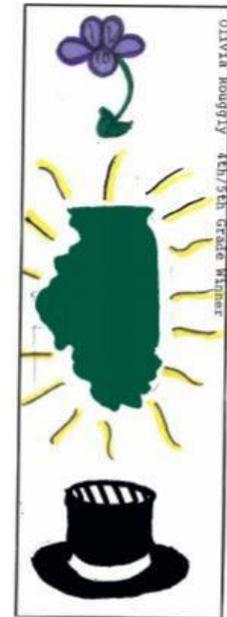
“Illinois Prairies - A Sense of Place” was presented by Professor Charles Schweighauser (retired from U of I Springfield) on May 7. The program chronicled the birth of the prairies combined with the voices of prairie poets such as Carl Sandburg, Vachel Lindsay, and Edgar Lee Masters. It was followed by a discussion of the prairie and its role in the history of Illinois.

The library has applied for an Illinois Humanities grant to provide a program on Sept. 11, centered on the Spoon River Anthology, with enactors of characters from Edgar Lee Masters’ book and folk music from the times. Watch for details as the Friends help with this event .

Summer includes book sales, summer reading program

The library plans book sales this summer. Sales were held along with the community Spring Open House in March, and at May Market May 5, which brought many shoppers to businesses on the square. Another is planned June 1 and 2, along with citywide garage sales and the Hancock County Fights Cancer event.

Above, these bookmarks were part of the National Library Week contest, this year with a historical theme.



Share this registration form with anyone you know who would like to be a Friend of Carthage Public Library.

I have enclosed a check payable to “Friends of the Carthage Public Library” for membership:

_____ \$5 Student _____ \$10 Individual _____ \$25 Family _____ \$25 Supporter

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

Email _____ I’m interested in volunteering _____

Please mail this form & your check to: Cheryl Underwood, 710 North Haven Dr., Carthage, IL 62321.
Or drop it in the box at Carthage Public Library desk.