



April 2, 2024

LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE

The Village of Forsyth Library Commission has scheduled a meeting for
Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held in the Program Room at the Forsyth Public Library.
The agenda for the meeting is attached.

If you have any questions, please call the Library at 217-877-8174.

Melanie Weigel
Library Director

cc: Mary Jane Linton
Rebecca Wayne
Mary Jo Rowley
Laura Reimer
Ken Kirschner
Pat Parr
Lisa Peck
Trustee Bob Gruenewald
Trustee Dave Wendt
Trustee Marilyn Johnson
Trustee Jeremy Shaw
Trustee Jeff London
Trustee Lauren Young
Mayor Jim Peck
Village Administrator Jill Applebee
Village Clerk Cheryl Marty
Village Administrative Assistant Kim Taylor

Village of Forsyth Public Library
Library Commission Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 10, 2024
1:00 p.m.
Forsyth Public Library Program Room

The regular monthly meeting of the Forsyth Public Library Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. in the library's Program Room.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Minutes

- Minutes from March 13, 2024

Public comment: Anyone wishing to address the Library Commission may do so now. Please state your name and address, and limit comments to three minutes or less. Relevant printed material and handouts that support your concerns or topic are welcome.

Old Business

- Policy Manual Update

New Business

- Library Commission Meeting Time

Librarian's Report

- Comments and Discussion
- Circulation, Attendance, and Library Stats

Adjournment

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Library Commission Meeting Minutes

Village of Forsyth Public Library

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Call to Order

Call to order at 1:01 p.m. by Mary Jane Linton

Roll Call

Mary Jane Linton

Laura Reimer

Mary Jo Rowley

Becky Wayne

Ken Kirchner

Lisa Peck

Absent

Pat Parr

Also Present

Melanie Weigel, Library Director

Minutes

Motion made by Mary Jo Rowley to accept the meeting minutes for the February 14, 2024 meeting.

Seconded by Ken Kirchner. Motion carried on voice vote; all members present voting yea.

Public Comment

None

Old Business

FPL Policy Manual corrections and additions were discussed including Unattended Children policy.

Melanie will email Commission members a couple different draft versions. The Policy Manual will be voted on at the April meeting.

New Business

None

Librarian's Report

- FPL hosted the first of 3 Golf Cart Registration events with the Village Staff March 11. Twelve golf carts were registered.
- FPL had a very successful annual Book Sale. Donations totaled \$800.00.
- The second very popular Bingo event was March 12 in collaboration with the Village.
- FPL is celebrating Pi Day on March 14 with patrons being able to sample a piece of pie.
- The weekly Adult Trivia is very popular. Patrons can win a \$5.00 Casey's gift card.
- Chair Yoga is every Monday and Wednesday at 11 AM.

- Adult March programs are Next of Kin on March 2, A Visit with Jane Austen on March 26 and Tomato Growing on March 28.
- A Leap Day program for kids was held February 29. Children opened the 2020 Time Capsules and created new capsules to be opened the next Leap Day.
- March kids' events are a Kids' Take and Make Project available March 12, Kids' Movie Day March 13 and a Youth Art Drop In March 16.
- Patron card registration as of February 29 includes 1,406 adults and 149 juveniles. The February 2024 patron count is 2,857 which is 353 more than February 2023. Circulation for February 2024 is 3,756 which is 220 less than February 2023. Materials checked out by Non-Forsyth Patrons is 1,354. Materials checked out by Forsyth patrons at other libraries is 351.

Adjournment

The next library commission meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2024. Lisa Peck moved to adjourn. Ken Kirchner seconded. The motion carried on voice vote; all members present voting yea.

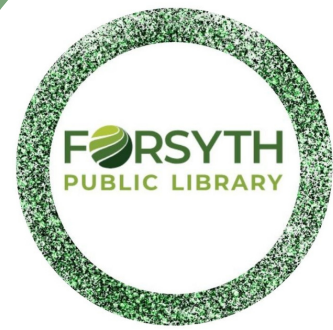
Meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Wayne

Library Director's Report

Library Commission Meeting

April 10, 2024



Library Updates:

- Huffman Cabinets installed the Library's new Coffee Bar cabinetry last week. This will give a more permanent home to our usual coffee offerings and allow us to use that space for smaller programs and meetings.
- The new Community Room furniture has also arrived! This was a collaborative project with the Village, and we're looking forward to putting it to great use with a wide range of programming fun.
- Art programs continue to be extremely popular at the library. We had a full house for Sea Glass Bird Art on March 25 and are planning for an adult water color painting class on April 20.
- I recently submitted a Community Arts Access grant application to the Decatur Arts Council to provide funding support for a resin art program planned for this summer. Their support will allow us to offer a unique program that would normally be cost-prohibitive.
- We continue to see good numbers with our adult programming. Just Jane: A Visit with Jane Austen on March 26 was well-received by an appreciative audience, and the tomato growing workshop led by the U of I Extension Office on March 28 was at full capacity. On April 4, the Audubon Society will be presenting a special Backyard Birds presentation.
- Kids had fun exploring the library as part of our library-wide scavenger hunt to earn a special egg prize. On April 13, families are invited to participate in the kid-friendly Concrete Garden Story Stroll, and kids' take-and-make craft kits are available starting on April 16.
- The Library is collaborating with Village staff to host an eclipse viewing party on Monday, April 8. Beginning at 11 AM, community members can pick up solar eclipse glasses, information packets, and a special treat.
- Later that same day, we will also be hosting our Library Open House from 4-6 PM. We invite the entire community to tour the new FPL Historical Archives, see the unveiling of our new coffee bar & expanded large print collection, preview our Summer Programming schedule, participate in kids' activities, enjoy refreshments, and so much more!
- The Library will be closing early at noon on Wednesday, May 1, for Staff Professional Development Training.

MONTHLY STATS

3,188

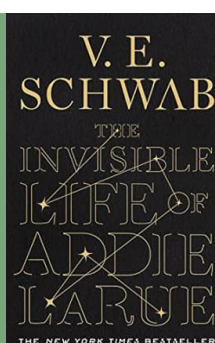
Patrons Visited the Library in March, up 167 from 2023

Items Checked Out in March

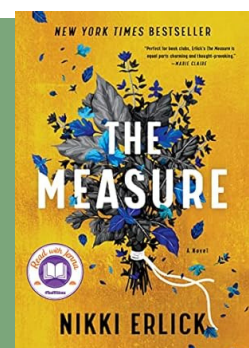
3,730

*See Note on Back

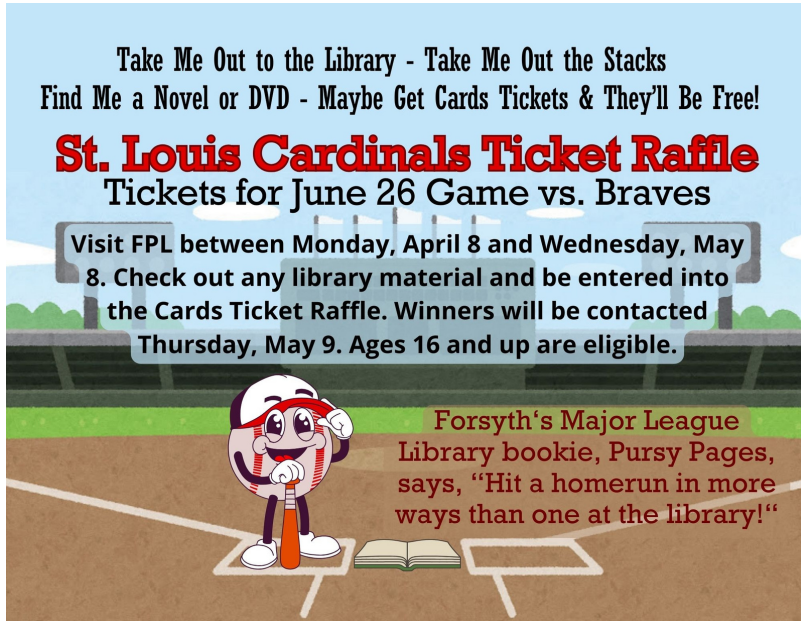
FOOD FOR
THOUGHT
APRIL 11



BOOKKEEPERS
APRIL 19



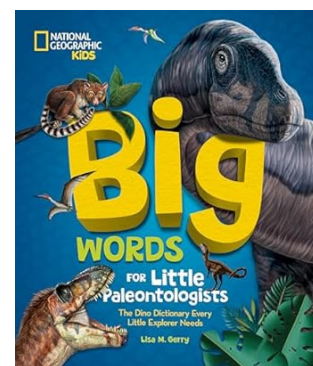
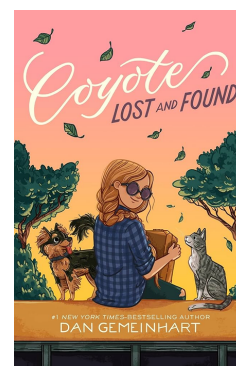
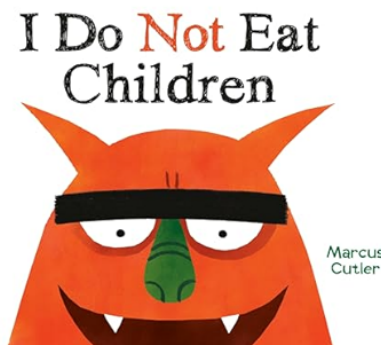
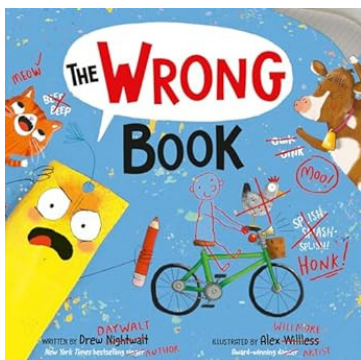
Melanie Weigel, Director



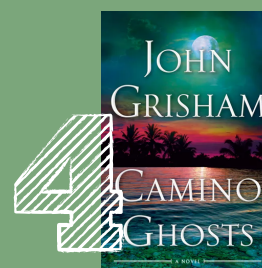
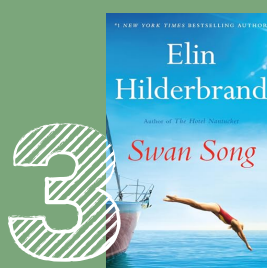
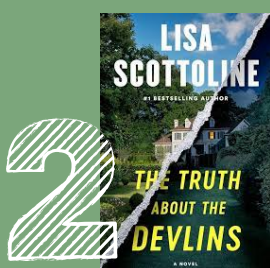
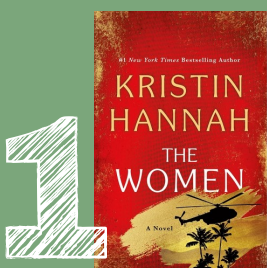
Circulation Stats:

Interestingly, overall circulation has been trending downward. We have a few theories that I will share in the meeting, but I still want us to put an emphasis on checkouts. We were gifted 30 tickets from the St. Louis Cardinals organization. We're setting up a raffle where every time a patron checks out from the library, he or she receives an entry into the drawing for a family pack of tickets. We're hoping this will spur some additional checkouts and showcase some of the great materials available at FPL!

NEW ITEMS NOW AVAILABLE FOR KIDS



MOST REQUESTED ITEMS BY FORSYTH PATRONS IN MARCH



Programming Numbers:

Programming continues to drive our patron count up, and we're very pleased with the growing numbers. We're particularly excited about Bluey Bash on May 4. Over 400 people have expressed interest on our Facebook event, so we're expecting a big crowd! Jerseyville Public Library is loaning us their Bluey costume free of charge for the event.