

Friends Membership

Membership in the Friends of North Olmsted Branch is an opportunity to give back and be involved in your community. Members of the organization are important and should consider themselves as recruiters and encourage their families, friends and work associates to join.

Members can help by:

- Assisting with our ongoing book sale
- Serving on a committee
- Planning an event
- Attending a program or event

Renew your membership or join this year. Membership applications are available at the Branch. Upon joining, you will receive a "Book Buck" which may be used toward purchases at the ongoing book sale.

Membership Levels and Dues:

Individual: 1 year – \$5 / 2 years – \$8

Family: 1 year – \$10 / 2 years – \$15

Patron/Business: 1 year – \$25 / 2 years – \$40

The Friends of the North Olmsted Branch hold an ongoing book sale to raise funds for library programs and special events. Books can be found in the Friends book room near the magazine section of the branch. Special book sales are scheduled throughout the year. If you would like more information about the book sales, volunteering, helping with events or preparing the materials for sale, please contact the branch at 440.777.6211.



Friends of the North Olmsted Library
27403 Lorain Road / North Olmsted, Ohio 44070



Friends of the North Olmsted Library

A Branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library

Letter From the President

It is time for our winter and early spring newsletter. Although the month of February can be very cold and snowy, March will come in soon and give us small hints of spring.

The Friends of the Library have remained busy with the ongoing book sale that provides funds for programs in all departments. The Annual Student Friends' book sale is scheduled for April 21st and 22nd. We need to have some adult supervision for this book sale. Please let one of the librarians in the Children's department know if you can help. A separate DVD sale will be held on the same dates.

Proceeds from the Friends' book sale have paid for a new TV screen located outside the meeting rooms. This electronic bulletin board will inform all as to current events in the meeting rooms.

It is the time of year for some membership renewals. For those who are due for renewal, a membership envelope will be included in this newsletter. We are very thankful for all of the members and hope you will renew your memberships. If you do not receive an envelope, that means you have at least another year on your current membership.

The annual meeting for the Friends of the Library will be on April 17th. All are invited, whether you are a member or not. The program will feature Cuyahoga County Public Library Internet Specialist Joseph Salamon, who will speak on the many eGadgets (Nooks, Kindles, iPads and more) as they relate to the library. Watch for more information at a later date.

Sharon Raquet, President
Friends of the North Olmsted Branch Library

A Message from Kacie Armstrong Branch Manager



This year marks the eighth anniversary of the current North Olmsted Library building. Recently, the staff and I went back to the original building (the current Board of Education Building). It was such a nice time to look back on the history of the library and reflect on how far we've come. Diane Schenek, who has faithfully served as the Circulation Supervisor and as a branch clerk for more than 30 years, tells many stories of her time in the original building. She also has great tales of moving day eight years ago. There

have been many changes during this time. As we celebrate this anniversary, it's a good time to think about our programs, services and goals. The North Olmsted Branch will continue to provide many of our long-time favorites, such as Storytimes and Baby & Me. However, we plan to add a few new programs, such as Elementary Einstein and eReader programs.

This year we want to attain a major new goal: to be one of the highest-circulating branches in the Cuyahoga County Public Library system. In 2011, we almost reached the mark of 1 million items checked out! We were just 50,000 items away from this remarkable goal. Friends, this is our year and we need your help! In 2012, we'd like our community and Friends to check out a million items or more. The best thing about this goal is that it's easy, doesn't cost any money and is fun! All we need is for you to encourage your family, friends and neighbors to stop by the branch and check out a book, CD, Playaway or DVD!

As you stop by to check out items, please join me in thanking our Friends' officers and volunteers for all of their hard work and support. Sharon Raquet, Vicki Birchenough, Joan Grace, Beverly Fleming, Alice Ciotta and Judith Bates really work hard to support our programs and services. They are an outstanding team of volunteers, and the staff and community appreciate all that they do.

I look forward to seeing you all at the North Olmsted Branch this year.

Happy Reading!



Find us on:  

Scan me for more events
and classes at the
North Olmsted Branch!



Cuyahoga County Public Library
North Olmsted Branch
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LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

You can now have library events sent directly to your email. Learn about programs at a specific branch, upcoming author events, and get information on the latest books! To register for email updates, go to <http://cuyahogalibrary.org/EmailSignup.aspx>.

FEATURED ONLINE RESOURCES: Books & Authors eResource

Our Books & Authors eResource is a great tool to find a good book. You can search for fiction or nonfiction books by title, author, keyword and series. Browse new reads using the "Who What Where When" application to find books by genre, character, subject, setting or period. While looking at a specific title, find the "read-a-likes" tab to see similar titles you might enjoy. Finally, you can sign up with Books & Authors to keep lists of authors and titles, and it will keep track of your previous searches as well.

Quick steps to finding the eResource:

- Log on to cuyahogalibrary.org
- Click the "Research" tab
- Click "Electronic Resources A-Z"
- Click the letter "B"
- Select Books & Authors from the list

STUDENT FRIENDS



STUDENT FRIENDS' NEWS

This group of students in grades 3 through 5 meets at 4:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each month throughout the school year at the North Olmsted Branch library.

This fall, we started the year with a celebration of Roald Dahl's birthday. The students presented a Readers' Theater version of Dahl's book *The BFG* and made dream catchers. In celebration of the Mexican holiday Day of the Dead, the students created beautiful masks that were displayed on the wall outside the Children's Room in October. In November, they made reindeer food and strung bells on ribbon in preparation for the wildly popular Polar Express program in December. And in January, they learned how to cook Chinese food for our Chinese New Year party.

Upcoming events for Student Friends include **Kinect games** and the **Student Friends Logo Contest**. A guest artist will teach the kids how to bring their logo to life, and then they can enter their finished product into our contest.

We encourage our Student Friends to bring their friends from school. The group has grown over the past several years because of this, and we are very grateful for the spirit and participation that they bring to all their activities.

For more information on Student Friends or TAG, contact the branch staff at 440.777.6211.

REGINA BRETT VISIT



New York Times bestselling author Regina Brett spoke at the North Olmsted Branch in January. Regina is the author of *God Never Blinks: 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours* and *Be the Miracle: 50 Lessons for Making the*

Impossible Possible. Regina shared information about life, love and lessons learned. The Friends of the Library host many author events. Please check our website for upcoming author visits.

TEEN FRIENDS



The Teen Advisory Group (TAG) meets the first Thursday of each month throughout the school year. All students in grades 6 through 12 are welcome. Teens help with decorating the branch, preparing books for our ongoing book sale and getting ready for the Summer Reading Program and other library programs.

Upcoming events include **making green duct tape bows** for St. Patrick's Day; **playing new board games**, such as Banagrams and Whoon; and **hosting our spring Teen & Children's book sale**. We invite all teens to join this creative group. One of the best things about this group is that many of our activities count toward your community service activities for future college and scholarship opportunities. If you want to learn more about how you can be involved in TAG activities, please contact the branch any time.

Meet your North Olmsted Branch Staff...

We welcome our new staff members to the branch!



Homework Center Coordinator Ashley Zver

Tell us a bit about your prior work experience.

I've been a page at the North Olmsted Branch since my sophomore year of high school. After a break to get my undergraduate degree, I returned to paging during my master's program and stayed on until I was promoted. I've also worked as a server in a nursing home and as a sales associate as well. Currently, I'm one of two Homework Center Coordinators at the North Olmsted Branch and a bookseller for Barnes & Noble.

Are you from the area?

Close enough! I live in Olmsted Falls.

What are your favorite books or authors?

My favorite book of all time is *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card, followed closely by George R.R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* series. In general, though, I'm really fond of teen literature and Japanese comics (manga). As far as genre is concerned, I tend to gravitate toward fantasy, science fiction and the occasional paranormal.

What do you like about working at the North Olmsted Branch?

In all honesty, the best thing about the branch is how homey it feels. These are good caring people, and I've had a lot of support and encouragement from them over the years. (Thanks for everything, guys!)



Homework Center Coordinator Regina Gerrity

Tell us a bit about your prior work experience.

I have over 10 years of experience working with youth and families in education, advocacy and community outreach. I have a master's degree in Social Work and would like to continue my education in that area.

Are you from the area?

I continue to live on the west side of Cleveland, where I also grew up. I attended Saint Joseph Academy for high school, Cleveland State University for my undergraduate degree and the University of Akron/CSU for my graduate degree.

What are your favorite books or authors?

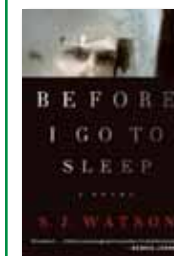
I enjoy nonfiction books and the writings of Shel Silverstein. One of my favorite books is *In These Girls, Hope Is a Muscle* by Madeleine Blais.

What do you like about working at the North Olmsted Branch?

Very helpful and supportive staff who assist in making programs like the Homework Center successful. Staff will go out of the way to make sure customers have a good experience at the North Olmsted Branch. I am also lucky to have an awesome group of youth to work with in the Homework Center who demonstrate how effort and hard work can lead to great things academically.

Friends' Book Review Build the Buzz

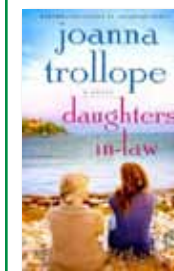
book reviews by Matt Skvasik



Before I Go to Sleep S.J. Watson

What would happen if you lost yourself every time you went to sleep – your name, your identity, your past and even the people you love? Everything vanishes from your mind every single night.

Christine Lucas is plagued by an unusual kind of amnesia. Every time she goes into a deep sleep, she wakes with no memory of anything after her accident. She thinks she's in her twenties but is in her forties. Her husband Ben is very kind and patient, and he explains her situation every morning and helps her get through her days. A telephone call from a Dr. Nash who is trying secretly to treat her amnesia convinces her to trust him in this treatment. The story is revealed a little at a time and sorting out all of the puzzle pieces is truly part of the experience of reading it. This debut thriller is a masterful bit of psychological suspense at its finest. This title is highly recommended for readers who relish the kind of suspense that builds like that of Alfred Hitchcock, Tana French and Dennis Lehane.



Daughters-in-Law by Joanna Trollope

This title should be required reading by anyone who is already the daughter, the mother or the in-law – or planning to become one. Following the complicated but for the most part joyous

interactions of a mother and father with their three sons and daughters-in-law, Trollope has created a book that is fun to read while also forcing both the characters and the reader to assess their own relationships. As the Brinkley family welcomes their third daughter-in-law to the family, they don't quite realize the profound shift that is about to take place. For different reasons, the Brinkleys' two previous daughters-in-law hadn't been able to resist Rachel's maternal control and Anthony's gentle charm and had settled into their husbands' family without rocking the boat. Never judgmental, Trollope's story shows a family situation from multiple points of view and through the eyes of different generations. She allows the reader to stand back, observe and think about the precarious bonds of love and family among these characters.

