

April 2026

Friends of GPL

FRIENDS

OF GALWAY LIBRARY



A Year of Community, Growth, and Impact

Dear Members and Friends,

Over the past year, the Friends of the Galway Public Library have continued to strengthen our mission of supporting the library through fundraising, programming, and community engagement. Thanks to your ongoing support, 2025 was a year full of meaningful contributions and successful events.

Annual Book Sale – A tremendous success, raising nearly \$2,000 to benefit the library

Holiday Swag/Wreath Event – A festive and well-attended community activity that raised around \$300

These efforts continue to bring our community together while directly benefiting library programs and services. The proceeds from these fundraising events have enabled us to provide meaningful financial support to the library, including contributions to Memorial Day parade items, the Summer Reading Program, the Adult Winter Reading Program, and other initiatives throughout the year.

Leave Your Mark at the Library—Brick Fundraiser Returns!

Did you miss the chance to be part of a lasting community project? Good news—the Friends of the Galway Public Library are excited to reopen their engraved brick paver fundraiser!

This special initiative offers community members the opportunity to leave a permanent mark at the library while supporting its continued growth and success. Engraved bricks will be installed in prominent locations along the library's entrance walkway, where they will be seen and appreciated for generations to come.

Whether you're new to the library or simply missed the first opportunity, now is your chance to be part of this meaningful project.

Join us in celebrating our community and supporting the Galway Public Library—one brick at a time!

Details to come.

Organizational Updates

- **Chair:** Jennifer Baxter
- **Co-Chair:** Donna Zelanko
- **Treasurer:** Sharyn Kalinkewicz
- **Secretary:** Melissa C. Jones
- **Members at Large :** Jen Evans, Joan Slagle, and Nanci Wilson



The Power of Volunteering: Helping Others Helps You, Too

Volunteers are the heart of every nonprofit—and their impact goes far beyond the people and causes they serve. Research highlighted by the Mayo Clinic Health System shows that volunteering not only strengthens communities, but also provides meaningful benefits for those who give their time.

Volunteering strengthens communities—and benefits you, too. Research shows it can reduce stress, improve mood, and even support better physical health. Staying active through service often brings a sense of fulfillment that carries into daily life.

It also provides a strong sense of purpose. Whether you're mentoring, organizing, or helping behind the scenes, your contributions matter. Along the way, you can build new skills, grow your confidence, and gain valuable experience.

Just as important are the connections you form. Volunteering brings people together, helping you build relationships and feel more connected to your community. Even small acts of service can create meaningful change—for others and for your own well-being.

Join us and be part of something meaningful.

Stay in Touch



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