

October 2023

Dear Friend of the Library,

This **is** an exciting year to be a “Friend”. The Capital Campaign Committee has raised \$2.3 million as of May 2023 surpassing our goal for the new library building. The low bid for the building came in under 1.4 million. The groundbreaking occurred on August 26 with about 100 people attending, including major donors Rolland Larson, Christine Marten and the Ed and Shirley Mahlum Family. Mayor Brady Weiss had a moment of silence for those who contributed to this cause over many years and were no longer with us including Shirley Mahlum who was present when our Capital Campaign commenced in December of 2019. Dell Construction began building just after Labor Day this Fall with hopes finishing in April. Then after furnishings are complete, a Grand Opening date will be chosen. Be sure to watch the Buffalo County News and the library website (mondovilibrary.org) for updates.

It is easy to become a member of ***Friends of the Library***. Dues are inexpensive, levied at \$3.00 for an individual and \$5.00 for a family. There are four meetings a year, once a quarter, and their purpose is to plan how to support the library to organize fundraising or awareness events. The Friends support the summer reading program with prizes, provide supplies for children, youth and adult activities, sponsor author visits and finally consider any needs that the library staff might have and generally support this busy place.

Here is a list of upcoming events for the Friends of the Library.

1. The third annual Friends of the Library PANCAKE BREAKFAST during Mondovi's Oktoberfest will be held on Saturday, October 14 from 8:00-10:00am at the Marten Center. This year as a THANK YOU to Mondovi for the support of our new library building project, the proceeds will benefit the Mondovi Area Ambulance Service and the Mondovi Area Food Pantry. Something unique about this Oktoberfest is that a 40% Solar Eclipse will occur at midday. Glasses to watch it **safely** are available at the library. **A FOL mini book sale will also be held on the stage that morning.**

2. If you're interested in learning more about the Friends, our quarterly meeting is coming up and newcomers are welcome to attend with no commitment necessary. This will be on **Tuesday, October 17 at 5:30 pm in the library.**

3. One of the successful and fun fundraisers last November was our Lefse Konkurransen. It is in the beginning planning stages for this year and your ideas would surely be welcome. The date planned is on the morning of Veteran's Day at the Marten Center.

4. The Friend's biggest fundraiser is the annual **Book Sale.** It will be at the Marten Center on **Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.** The Garden Club will be joining this event as has happened many years in the past. Help is needed for set up on Friday starting at 4:30 p.m., during the sale on Saturday, and after the sale to store unsold books and clean up afterwards. Systems are in place, so this is a very pleasant day. It is fun to see adults and kids find books to enjoy. The sale is made up of books from the library that no longer check out, and books donated by patrons.