



October presents an opportunity to recognize the efforts of Library Friends Groups during **National Friends of Libraries Week October 15-21**. United For Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, coordinates **Friends of Libraries Week** each year. 2023 marks the 18th annual recognition as a time to promote local Friends Groups, raise awareness of their efforts, and thank them for their work in support of libraries everywhere.

The Friends of the Spirit Lake Public Library is a very active group that provides multiple resources to enhance the quality of materials and experiences at the SLPL. Every new baby born at Lakes Regional Healthcare receives a book thanks to the Friends Group. They provide refreshments for the library book club and for children's activities. Author talks and other programming are all supported by the Friends of the Spirit Lake Public Library. Are you a parent who enjoys the Summer Reading Program with your child(ren)? The SRP is funded, along with some wonderful community sponsors, by the Friends of the Library. The creation of the Learning Resource Kits is also thanks to the Friends.

Hopefully, you are familiar with our website. If not, go to slpublib.com and check it out! Several of the digital resources, such as A-Z World Travel, Transparent Languages, Dickinson County Newspaper Archives, and the Dickinson County cemetery index are provided and maintained by the Friends Group.

The Friends Group has also been helpful in providing funding for different furnishings both inside and outside of the library. The storage cupboards in the Community Room and the fireplace in the reading area are a couple of recent examples. Outside on the NE corner of the building, we are in the process of installing a new patio area. The Friends have had a hand in that as well.

Anyone can become a Friend of the Spirit Lake Public Library. Just talk to one of our staff to sign up. Please call us at (712) 336-2667 if you have any questions!