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## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **LIBRARY CELEBRATES ITS FRIENDS**

#### **NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK IS OCTOBER 16 TO 22**

EAST PEORIA, IL, OCTOBER 1, 2016: Fondulac District Library celebrates its Friends of the Library group October 16 to 22, 2016, as part of the 11<sup>th</sup> annual celebration of National Friends of Libraries Week. Friends of Fondulac District Library was established in 2004 and has donated tens of thousands of dollars to the library to date. Currently, more than 40 community members contribute annually to the Friends. About a dozen of the members actively volunteer their time to assist the group with fundraising efforts that include the annual used book sale held every summer and a holiday craft and bake sale held each December. The volunteers also manage an ongoing book sale, which is open during all of the library's regular operating hours.

"The library has always been a very valuable asset to me with all of its resources and wonderful programs. Being a Friends Group member is an opportunity for me to give back to the library," said President Vicki Lambrich. "There's so much satisfaction in what I do, and I enjoy myself very much!" Besides Lambrich, other officers of the organization include Barb Pokarney as Vice President, Dolores Eads as Treasurer, and Tom Armbruster as Secretary and Media Coordinator.

Activities celebrating National Friends of Libraries Week at Fondulac District Library include an afternoon and evening Meet and Greet on Wednesday, October 19, with giveaways, a drawing, buy one-get one book sale specials, and a lemonade stand managed by one of the library's youngest Friends. All are invited also to the group's presentation of a financial donation to the library at 1 p.m. The Friends also celebrate the week by providing library staff with an appreciation lunch and drawing.

Library Director Genna Buhr noted, “National Friends of Libraries Week is the perfect time to publicly thank the Friends of the Fondulac District Library. The group significantly enhances the library and what it is able to offer the community. While the group has raised funds to cover costs of children’s programming, summer reading, special collections, equipment, and even some furniture for our new building, what makes the group irreplaceable for the library and for the community is the support they provide beyond what is financial. The members’ generosity with their enthusiasm, time, and talents is immeasurable and so very valuable. I know that the library has grown to be a source of pride for East Peoria. Our Friends group is a source of pride, as well. I hope that, especially during this week, everyone will call or visit the library to find out how they can join and support this outstanding group.”

**About the Friends of Fondulac District Library**

The Friends of the Fondulac District Library support the mission of the Fondulac District Library through advocacy, financial support, and volunteerism. For more information about the group, its activities, or membership, please call (309) 699-3917 or visit [fondulaclibrary.org/support-fdl/friends](http://fondulaclibrary.org/support-fdl/friends).

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