



DOG EAR BOOKS

Local Business Fridays

Pat and Emily Young

How did you come up with the name ‘Dog Ear Books’?

“Dog Ear Books came about because I, Emily, wanted something that I could make a fun and iconic logo out of. Not only is it a literary play on words, but has a built in logo/mascot to draw upon, a Dog. Though, we do give out bookmarks so you don’t have to “dog ear” your pages. And, we figured it would be better received than Banana Fish Books, which was another option.”

How long have you been in open?

“We opened November of 2016 so we just completed our 3rd year and are going into our 4th.”

What all do you sell?

“We offer a selection of mostly new and some used books. We also have plenty of side items so there’s something for everyone. From book themed candles, to socks, to coffee mugs we’ve got all sorts of goodies. Plus, we have events for kids- story times, character meet-and-greets, and activities throughout the year. Open mic nights, author signings, and panel discussions are also something we offer monthly.”

Was it something that always interested you?

“Books were always a passion of my mom’s, and though I arrived a little late to the game, I can’t shake the love I have for reading. Fun fact: The book that got me into reading was Twilight. Though now I mostly read political/business/self-help books I still dabble in the Young Adult genre from time to time.”

What made you decide to start your own business?

“First, I started a graphic design business because there weren’t any jobs in the area that fit my skill and passion. After I had been in business a few years I decided to team up with my mom to open a bookstore because we wanted more civic engagement and a place that could be a second “home” to the community.”

Do you have any past experience in having your own business?

“Not a bit. We definitely did the proverbial “winging it” method. So far it’s worked out pretty well.”

Was it hard to get started?

“There is lots of help out there for people who want to open their own bookstore. We went to Massachusetts for a sort of Bookstore Boot Camp to learn a LOT about the industry, where to get our books, what point-of-sale to use, and so much more. The rest has just been learning as we go.”

What is your favorite thing about owning your own business?

“We really love having a relationship with our customers and helping people find the perfect book. Plus, being surrounded by books all day isn’t so bad.”



Where do you see yourself and Dog Ear Books in 5 years?

“Hopefully we’ll still be right in the middle of downtown where people come to hang out and grab their next read. We’d love to be surrounded by new and interesting businesses that will fill out our downtown, making it more of a place for everyone.”

Do you have social media for people to follow you at?

“We have Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: all the tags are @ilovedogear.”

Anything else that you want people to know about Dog Ear Books?

“We have monthly events that are listed on our website and posted on our Facebook pages. It’s always being updated so check it out!”

