



Save the Date!

The Friends Board Meeting is usually the third MONDAY of each month.

Due to the holiday, our Next Meeting is Tuesday, January 19 at 7:30PM at the Library.

Footnotes



Dear Friends,

Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year to all! I am very pleased and excited to begin a new term as the elected President of Friends. We held a successful Annual General Meeting on November 16 which included the election of officers. Rounding out the new team of officers are Ira Berkowitz as Treasurer, Mary Jane Dough as Vice President for Membership, Anne Homa as Vice President for Programming, and Barbara Bye as Secretary. Our officer team along with Amy Hyfler, Assistant Director of the Library, and Sandy Solan, Library Board Trustee, comprise the Executive Board of Friends.

Along with a newly invigorated board, we are creating a new “look” to Friends with a new logo to match our new approach. We look forward to expanding our outreach by seeking avenues to bring in new members while bringing back “lapsed” members. We have set-up our own voicemail message box to make it more convenient for Members to reach us. You can call us at 973-992-4600 X 505. We are also introducing innovative fun- and fund-raising venues. On April 22 in the Library’s Program Room, we will be sponsoring a Wine Tasting and Auction. Save the date!

Friends is capitalizing on networking with libraries in the BCCLs system. Along with children’s librarian Amanda Winter, Barbara Bye and I attended a BCCLs breakfast in October where we exchanged ideas and heard informative presentations by other Friends organizations.

Livingston residents are often not aware that many of the programs offered free by the Library are not covered by the town’s budget. Thus, to continue these offerings, the Library seeks other support. With our successful book sale, our strong membership drive, and our plans for 2010, Friends will have the opportunity to support new and on-going Library programs and activities.

Several members of the Board attended the Library’s annual Holiday Party on December 15. It was an opportunity for Administration, Staff, Library Trustees, and Friends to socialize, share their outlook for the new year and enjoy some holiday cheer.

As ever, we invite all Friends to our monthly board meetings scheduled for the third Monday of the month. We meet in the Local History Room at 7:30PM. Fresh faces are warmly welcomed! We hope to see you there.

In Friendship,
Sheree Link, President
Friends of the Livingston Library

Meet Amy Hyfler

In Amy Hyfler, Livingston Library patrons have a dedicated, energetic, and talented professional who is keen to bring the best possible Library services to our community. Named Assistant Director of the Library in September, having served as Acting Assistant Director since October 2008, Amy celebrates her sixth anniversary with our Library this December.

As Assistant Director, Amy oversees the many functions that are necessary to keep our Library running. Whether visible or invisible to the public, they come under Amy's purview. With some 50 full-time and part-time personnel, Amy is responsible for the supervision of staff and for staff scheduling while overseeing all plant and equipment. Amy puts technology to work moving the Library beyond bricks & mortar to "24/7" accessibility through the websites of the Livingston Library and BCCLS (Bergen County Cooperative Library System) including downloadable books, and the Library's email announcement service.

Born and raised in Far Rockaway, Queens, New York, Amy recognized her calling at an early age. Always a voracious reader and lover of libraries, she began working as a Page in her local branch library while still in high school. With a BA from Brooklyn College and a Masters in Library Science from Queens College, Amy's first full time position was with the main central library of the Queens Borough Public Library System in New York.



In the ensuing years, Amy lived and worked in various parts of the country, as her husband, Bob, assumed a number of positions with not-for-profit organizations. While in Milwaukee, Amy worked at the University of Wisconsin Library. In Memphis, Tennessee and St. Paul, Minnesota, she served as librarian in the public libraries. Amy worked concurrently as a general reference librarian in the Montgomery County (MD) Public Library and as a K-6th Grade Library Teacher in a Jewish Day School in Rockville, MD.

During her tenure at these institutions, Amy developed and promoted innovative features to enhance the quality of the library experience for patrons of all ages. These ranged from services for homebound residents to telephone reference capabilities, from designing displays to introducing a hopscotch game to teach the Dewey Decimal System to youngsters.

Amy had these career achievements while running a household and raising her son, Joshua, who now works with special needs adolescents in the Chicago area. She is very proud that Joshua will soon be pursuing a Masters Degree in Special Education.

A resident of Livingston, Amy is a multi-faceted individual who is also at ease in the kitchen baking up a killer flourless chocolate cake and in the den doing needlework. She even manages to find time to travel and engage in photography.

Among Amy's most important goals are staff education and improving customer service. She does extensive "Train-the-Trainer" classes in both technology and library services, fosters employee cross-training, and mentors junior staff. Thanks to her efforts, Library patrons have shorter wait times when reserving books. Amy can also be found doing community events and she recently joined the Board of the Friends as the Library's representative. She welcomes Livingston residents to take advantage of the wide array of resources that is our Library.

Friends has recently partnered with TD Bank in its Affinity Membership Program. TD Bank will make an annual contribution to Friends based upon the aggregate average balance of all our members' accounts. Individuals can easily designate their accounts for inclusion in this Program on a completely confidential basis with privacy assured. To become part of this effort, please see our brochure or contact Catherine Bubet, TD Bank, at 973-992-5277 or Catherine.Bubet@yesbank.com.



The BCCLs Breakfast provided an opportunity to network with and learn from other Friends organizations in Bergen and Essex counties.



BOOKFEST: A GREAT SUCCESS

Hundreds of book aficionados attended the Friends' Annual BookFest during October. Enthusiasts of all ages found a huge assortment of books, CDs, and videos at bargain basement prices. There was something for everyone—"coffee table" art books to romance paperbacks; books for children and mystery lovers. Members of Friends received an extra bonus of a free book with their purchase.



The Board thanks the many volunteers who contributed their time and effort to sort books and staff our sale. A heartfelt thank you is extended to the Town's



residents who donated books, as well. As a result of these endeavors, Friends had its most successful book sale in history, raising nearly \$5,000. These funds are used to sponsor some of the wonderful programs that the Library offers.

Photos by Nilsa De La Cruz

Thanks to:

Presidential

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| <u>Level</u> | <u>Benefactors:</u> | <u>Sponsors:</u> |
| Greta Roesch | Barbara & Pete Bye | Ira & Joan Berkowitz |
| | Mary Jane Dough | Dale & Richard Gianni |
| | | Joy & Neil Prupis & Family |
| | <u>Member's Circle:</u> | |
| Laurence & Deborah Bergmann | Kenneth DeGhetto | |
| Francis Lai | Sheree & Martin Link | |
| Patrick Po Shun Ng | Nadia & Achilles Perry | |

Bookplates honoring all Extraordinary Friends have been placed in the Library. To identify the book recognizing your contribution, contact: Barbara Bye at Liv_bookfest@yahoo.com or 973-992-4600 X505.

Friends invites our members to visit us on www.LivingstonNavigator.com

Click on Groups and post a suggestion or comment on our message board.

10 Robert H. Harp Drive
Livingston, NJ 07039
973-992-4600 X 505



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Visit the library online at:

<http://livingston.bccls.org/>

Think Green: If you would like to receive the Newsletter electronically instead of via U.S. mail, please contact us at Liv_bookfest@yahoo.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

FRIENDS WINE TASTING AND RAFFLE/AUCTION

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2010—6:00 PM



Friends will be celebrating Spring with a Wine Tasting and Raffle/Auction fundraiser on April 22. Kings Fine Wines & Spirits of Short Hills will assemble distributors and importers of fine wines representing the USA, France, Italy, Spain, Australia and South America. Over 50 wines will be available for sampling from Napa Cabernets and Merlots to Italian Super Tuscans and Malbecs from Argentina. Sparking wines and roses from around the globe will also be opened to herald the arrival of Spring. Those in attendance will be able to discuss the wines with representatives of the wineries and enjoy sampling a range of wines in all price categories.

Closing out the evening will be a raffle/auction of gifts donated by the many local merchants in Livingston.

This should be an informative, relaxing and fun evening of tasting wines from the great wine growing regions of the world.