



**Save the Date!**

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

Next Meeting: **February 21 at 7:30PM**

# Footnotes



Dear Friends,

It is my great pleasure to write as the new President of Friends. I am greatly honored to join the Friends leadership team. Sheree Link, who was recognized at our November Annual General Meeting as *President Emeritus*, remains on the Board as Secretary. Anne Homa was re-elected Treasurer. Barbara Bye, who was recently appointed to the Library Board of Trustees, remains on the Friends Board and will serve as Presidential Advisor. Ira Berkowitz and Sue Cone are also continuing on the Board as are Larry Bergmann and Amy Hyfler. With such a strong team in place, it is exciting to look forward to 2012 with the many plans that Friends has on its agenda.

We are very pleased to announce our foray into social media. Thanks to the efforts of volunteer Angela Wang (see page 2), Friends now has a Facebook page. We have set up photo albums for your enjoyment and list our upcoming programs. We hope you will check us out and “like” Friends of the Livingston Public Library.

Readers may be familiar with the three signature series sponsored by Friends—*Music Matters*, *Think Theatre*, and *Literary Liaisons*. Launched in 2011 with programming developed by our Library’s wonderful Programming Department, we look forward to sponsoring a wide array of offerings in 2012 (see pages 4-5).

On April 19<sup>th</sup> Friends will host its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting and Auction/Raffle. Planning is underway for a better-than-ever “fun-raiser.”

As the Library has transitioned from books-on-tape to books-on-CD, Friends will continue to make the best of books-on-tape available to patrons through our on-going book sale. All books-on-tape are available at the low price of two for \$1.00. Our inventory changes regularly, so stop by often. With the proceeds from the on-going sale, the Library has been able to purchase some 200 books and non-print media items.

All we accomplish is, of course, due to the support of members like yourself. We are having a very successful membership drive and hope to break a previous membership record (See page 3.)

In closing, I want to wish you all a wonderful 2012. As ever, we welcome your participation and also look forward to seeing you at some on the Friends-sponsored events.

In Friendship,

*Bernadette Stephan*, President

## Meet Friends Volunteer Angela Wang



In a previous issue of *Footnotes*, Friends sent out a call for volunteers to help us develop an approach to social media. Fortunately for us, Angela Wang answered the call. As Angela explains, the Livingston Library has served her and her family very well for many years and volunteering for Friends is her way of giving back.

Educated in science and technology, Angela was an Information Technology professional working primarily in the pharmaceutical industry. Since retiring from Hoffmann La Roche in 2010, she has volunteered at various non-profit organizations including the Livingston Arts Association.

Now Friends is lucky to have Angela's assistance. She has set up a Friends page on Facebook—Friends of the Livingston Public Library. With her assistance, Friends has begun to post photos from recent events as well as news about upcoming events. She hopes you will follow Friends on Facebook and “like” us.

When Angela is not busy with her volunteer activities she loves to travel, read, attend theater and movies, and learn new things. She is also an accomplished oil painter. Her family—son Eric, daughter Stephanie, and cat Sunny—is a source of great pleasure.

## Raising Money By Saving: TD Bank Contribution

Friends will receive a payment of more than \$2,700 from its participation in TD Bank's Affinity Program. Under this program, depositors at TD Bank can designate Friends as the not-for-profit for which they have an “affinity.” If a threshold number of accounts is reached, TD Bank makes an annual donation to that organization based upon the total amount of funds. Existing depositors can request that TD Bank designate their account on behalf of Friends. New depositors who open a non-interest bearing account will receive a \$25 credit from TD Bank.

Assistant Library Director and Friends Board Member Amy Hyfler happily accepts a check from Livingston Store Manager Michael Staryak (right) and Customer Service Representative Gilbert Torres.



## Membership Drive Underway



The Friends' 2011-12 Membership Drive has nearly 500 members subscribed thus far. Over one-quarter of our members are new members. The remaining three quarters are Friends who have renewed from previous years including many loyal supports of Friends for *multiple* years. We extend our hearty thanks to all and welcome both “new” and “old” Friends.

Friends has collected nearly \$16 thousand in membership dues including corporate matching gifts. We have already surpassed our level from the previous membership year and are only slightly behind our *record* year of 2009-10. If you have not yet renewed your membership there is still time and we hope you will help “push us over the top.”

Friends held a contest to encourage membership upgrades which generated nearly \$800. Pictured above is the Miller Family—Robert and Judi with son Andy and daughter Ashley—who won the contest. As Friends in the Members' Circle, two Library books were selected to honor the family. Andy and Ashley display these books which are available for circulation from the Children's Department. Pictured with the Millers is Children's Librarian Linda Sempendorfer (left) who observed that there is no better way to honor someone than with the gift of reading.

The “gift of friendship” is a great idea for the reader in your life. For more information about gift memberships please call us at 973-992-4600 X505.

### Raising Money (cont'd)

We thank all of you, who, by opening or identifying your account to Friends, made this contribution possible.

**Note:** TD Bank maintains full confidentiality for the depositor.. To find out how you can help, call us or TD Bank for more information!

## “AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL...”

Our own Thea White returned to her theatrical roots in November as she, along with fellow actors Rick Delaney and J.C. Hoyt sparkled in **O Speak Again, Bright Angel**. In this wonderful performance of staged readings, Thea wove a tale about the many facets of love using works ranging from Shakespeare to Dorothy Parker. Thea



was a coy Katherine as she was wooed by Henry V and a spirited (and perhaps “tamed”) Katherina. Matching Thea were her partners in love—Rick Delaney and J.C. Hoyt.



The Library was the place to be on Saturday afternoon, February 12 when the **Concert by Families & Friends for Families & Friends** filled the room withwith glorious music from the talented hearts and fingers of young performers. Enjoying the concert were young parents, their offspring and, indeed, some babes in arms as well as their elders—some 70+ people in all.

Arranged by Gottfried Stoger (see Fall issue, *Concert for Peace*), the concert featured several professional musicians and their musical children and



## SPRING “FUN”-RAISER



### The 3rd Annual Wine Tasting and Auction/Raffle: Thursday April 19, 2012



Planning has already begun for the Friends’ Spring event. We are very much in need of volunteers who can:

- 📖 Assist with gift packaging during the week before the event (April 12– April 17)
- 📖 Assist with set-up the morning and afternoon of April 19<sup>th</sup>.
- 📖 Assist during the event at night (**THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!**)
- 📖 Provide an introduction to stores or banks with whom you have a relationship so that we may ask for their support of our Raffle and Auction.

**For info about volunteering call us at 973-992-4600 X 505.**

## **“AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL...” (CONT’D)**

young friends playing strings, piano, flute, clarinet and saxophone. Their talent and focus brought tears to the eyes of some of our listeners. As one attendee commented, “these children give me hope.” Another simply said, “WOW!” (For a full list of performers and more photos, visit our Facebook page.)

Elaine Bromka and Reathel Bean delighted the audience on January 17 with their performances in **As Time Goes By**. The actors explored the age-old question of “what does it all mean?” by weaving together readings by Thornton Wilder, Neil Simon, Garrison Keillor, Erma Bombeck, Nora Ephron, Judith Viorst, and others.



Photos by Ellen Lazer

## **Mark Your Calendar**

### ***Think Theatre:***

#### **First Mothers—Feb 15, 2012 @ 7:30 PM**

L E McCullough’s play about fourteen women who raised America’s presidents is a perfect way to celebrate President’s Day. Lisa Bansavage who enthralled us in *Irish Delights* is joined by Wynne Anders, Laura Bosley, and Vivian Meisner as they portray these remarkable women.

#### **Astonishment**

The Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre performs an adaptation of Jan Slepian’s book. The show is a cornucopia of reflections on aging with humor and grace—bittersweet, insightful, and laugh-out-loud funny.



### ***Music Matters:***

#### **Jewish-American Broadway Composers—Mar-22-2012 @ 7:30 PM**

The musical team of Francine Evans and Joel Zelnik will bring us a delightful evening of Broadway highlights

#### **Civil War Music—March 12, 2012 @ 7:30PM**

Dressed in historically accurate clothing and using instruments appropriate to the period, Anne & Ridley Enslow will give a concert of classic and less well-known ballads and songs of the Civil War era.



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**Visit Friends online at:** <http://livingston.bccls.org/friends.html>

**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](mailto:Liv_bookfest@yahoo.com)

## Follow-Us on Facebook and LivingstonNavigator

On Facebook we are *Friends of the Livingston Public Library*, not Friends of the Livingston Library System.

## Thanks to Our 2011-2012 Extraordinary Friends

### Presidential Level:

Ira & Joan Berkowitz    Barbara & Pete Bye    Laurence & Deborah Bergmann    Thomas Waldron

### Sponsors:

### Member's Circle:

Omer & Rumeysa Gokcekus    Roberta & Fred Horowitz    Francis Lai    Carolyn Marlow & William Teltser  
The Robert & Judi Miller Family    Nadia & Achilles Perry    Joy & Neil Prupis & Family

Bookplates honoring all Extraordinary Friends are placed in the Library. To identify the book recognizing your donation, contact us at [Liv\\_bookfest@yahoo.com](mailto:Liv_bookfest@yahoo.com) or 973-992-4600 X505.