



**Save the Date!**

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

Next Meeting: **8/19 at 8:00PM**

Please join us!

# Footnotes



Dear Friends,

“Summer passes and one remembers one's exuberance.” This quote, attributed to Yoko Ono, seems very apt for Friends as we are very excited and energized by all our recent and upcoming activities.

Since our last issue of *Footnotes*, we celebrated *Friends of the Library Day* at TGI Friday's, participated in the Memorial Day parade, supported wonderful programming in our three signature series—*Think Theatre*, *Music Matters*, and *Literary Liaisons*—and held our Pool Prose & Beach Book Sale (see articles on pages 5-7). We also ventured into online book selling; through the efforts of one of our volunteers we have successfully sold books on e-bay.

In our last issue, I reported that we had a record membership year for 2013-14. I can now add that for our fiscal year ending May 31, we also had a record level of revenues—over \$40,000. This all-time high reflects our strong membership results, our very successful Taste of the World benefit as well as remarkable book sales. As Frank Sinatra once sang, “It was a very good year.” We could not have done this without your support, and, on behalf of the entire Board, I offer a big Thank You!

Friends does not rest on its laurels, however. In the coming weeks, we'll be preparing for National Night Out on August 5, Macy's Shop for a Cause on August 23, and our 2014-15 membership drive in September. In keeping with our policy of seeking donations of books and non-print media all year round, our volunteers will find themselves busy sorting all summer long. And, although we are on a hiatus with Senior Happenings until the fall, our volunteers are now engaged in helping with the Children's Summer Reading Program (see article on page 6). Last but certainly not least, we are very excited by the fare that the Library programming team of Thea White and Chris Demidowich are cooking up for the latter half of the year (see article on page 4) and look forward to continuing our support.

We hope you and yours enjoy the rest of the summer.

In Friendship,  
*Bernie Stephan*,  
President

# Meet Anna Coats, Head of Youth Services

The Livingston Public Library is delighted that Anna Coats has joined our Library as Head of Youth Services. Anna's enthusiasm is contagious and she explains that she loves the busyness and size of our Library. She also greatly admires the dedication of the Youth Services team. Since coming on board in April, Anna has worked with the Youth Services team to take the department to the next level.

Anna brings vast knowledge and experience to the Library. Most recently, she joined us from the East Rutherford Library where she was children's librarian. Before pursuing a career as a librarian, Anna worked as an ESL teacher, held positions in marketing, and tutored in writing.

She is a "double master", holding graduate degrees in both English (from Rutgers-Newark) and Library Science (from the University of Illinois at Urbana). Fortunately for us, Anna decided that a career in public libraries was more aligned with her interests than academia. Through librarianship, she feels she can combine the best of both fields.

While Anna is still getting to know our Library, she is already making her mark. For instance, she has used her knowledge and connections with several organizations. During Youth Appreciation Week in May Anna spearheaded the highly popular Star Wars Family Night with the assistance of Amanda Winter. She arranged for a visit from volunteers from the Mandalorian Mercs, the costuming club based on the Star Wars methodology and ideology. In addition, some 250 patrons enjoyed Star Wars themed crafts and/or watched the original Star Wars movie. Attendees were encouraged to wear a Star Wars themed costume. Separately, through her association with REFORMA, National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos & the Spanish Speaking, Anna received free promotional Legends of Oz T-shirts and temporary tattoos to give to youthful patrons and created a wonderful display.

Her goals for the Youth Services Department include an expansion of home-grown programming. Anna has already added one enhancement to the Summer Reading Program (SRP)—the introduction of "Express Reporting" which allows children to use a computer to enter the number of books read and their favorite book for that week. Anna worked with Karen DeWilde and the rest of the Youth Services team to perfect this idea. By showing their log at the Children's Desk children can then claim their weekly prize. This Express option is offered in addition to the "traditional SRP Reporting" where children come into the library weekly and sit down one-on-one with an adult to talk about what they read. (continued on page 7)



Anna is pictured with the Rube Goldberg Machine built by Librarian Karen DeWilde for the Teen Summer Reading Program with the help of teen volunteers

# With a Little Help from Our Friends

In addition to individual members of the community who join Friends, we receive support from many members of the business community in a variety of ways. We extend our thanks to them and encourage our members to remember these establishments:

## Members & Merchants Program

Members of Friends receive discounts from the following when they present their Friends membership card.

**Jay's Shoe Box**, 20 East Mount Pleasant Ave: \$5.00 off on purchases of \$50.00 or more. Excludes sale items and Uggs. Cannot be combined with other offers.



**Philly Pretzel Factory of Livingston**, 21 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue: Buy 3 pretzels and get 3 pretzels free. Available on equal or greater value purchases.



**Eye Level Learning Center**, 184 South Livingston Avenue (CVS Plaza): 50% off first month's tuition for new customers. Valid only at the Livingston location. Cannot be combined with other offers.



**The ACL Art Gallery**, 2010 Town Center Way: 15%-off discount. Cannot be combined with other offers.



**Chocolate Works**, Town Center Way: 10%-off discount on products. Cannot be used on parties or workshops.



**Skybox Sports Collectibles**, 517 S. Livingston Ave: 15%-off discount on products. Cannot be combined with other offers.



Skybox  
Sports  
Collectibles

SINCE 1988

## Affinity Program with TD Bank

TD Bank makes an annual contribution to us based on the activity of all participating customers' TD Bank accounts. Checking, savings, money market, CDs and retirement accounts are all included! Participation in the Affinity Program does NOT alter the terms or conditions of your TD Bank accounts and none of your funds or personal information is given to Friends.



To open an account with TD Bank call or visit the Livingston Store (185 S. Livingston Avenue, Livingston, NJ 07039; phone: 973-992-5277). Let the TD Bank Representative know that you want to participate in the Affinity Program for the Friends of the Livingston Library (code: A1224). You may also be eligible for a \$25.00 credit if you open a non-interest bearing checking account (see [livingston.bccls.org/Friends-TDAffinity08-20-13.pdf](http://livingston.bccls.org/Friends-TDAffinity08-20-13.pdf)).

If you already have a TD Bank account, just visit or call the Livingston store and tell the TD Bank representative you would like to participate in the Affinity Program for the Friends of the Livingston Library (code: A1224).

## Programming

Friends was again delighted to be able to support the very exciting programming brought to us by our Library's Programming staff. On May 21, a rapt audience delighted in Dreamcatchers Rep's presentation of *How to be Old: A Beginners Guide to Old Age*, a sequel to Jan Slepian's *Astonishment*. Part of the *Think Theatre* series, the play, featured performers Noreen Farley, Teri Sturtevant and Daaimah Talley.



On the previous day (May 20), scores of attendees were regaled by NJ author Michael C. Gabriele on the history of diners in the state. Part of the Friends-funded *Literary Liaisons* series, this program continued the Library's celebration of NJ's 350th anniversary.

In June our *Music Matters* series presented the talented Karkowska Sisters performing on violin and piano. A packed auditorium was delighted by the musical selections and laughed at the anecdotes the sisters told. Thea White, organizer of the event, said "They are wonderfully talented musicians with personalities to match."

Our Library Programming staff has many programs under consideration for the fall and Friends is thrilled to be able to support these efforts. Among those under discussion are a return of the Princeton Tigertones music group, a musical lecture program on a great composer, a fun program on "Non-Essential History," and one or two programs to continue the celebration of New Jersey including birding in the Garden State and a history of jazz in Newark. Stay-tuned!



### Thanks to Our 2013-2014 Extraordinary Friends

**Sponsors Circle:** Laurence & Deborah Bergmann Ira & Joan Berkowitz

Alan Glazer Caryn & Joel Mollin

**Members Circle:** Laurence Agron Samuel Bickel Jeanette Black Barbara & Pete Bye

Judy Silberner and Haim Erder Eric Handler Roberta & Fred Horowitz Francis & Candace Lai

Heather & Paul Lichtman James Lynch Nadia & Achilles Perry Doreen & Allan Mollenhauer

Joy & Neil Prupis & Family Michael Smilios in memory of Athena Smilios

Bookplates honoring all Extraordinary Friends are placed in the Library. To identify the book recognizing your donation, contact us at [friends\\_livlibrary@verizon.net](mailto:friends_livlibrary@verizon.net) or 973-992-4600 X505.

## Book Sales



Our 2nd Pool Prose & Beach Book Sale—held on Saturday & Sunday May 31-June 1—was a great success. Patrons were able to get a great bargain on light summer reading and other material. The sale brought in over \$1,000 for Friends. Proceeds from our book sales augment the Library’s collection budget. Our book sale extravaganza—BookFEST!—will be held in October when thousands of books and non-print media are available.



For a third consecutive year, Friends is participating in Macy’s Shop for a Cause on August 23. Through this event, patrons who donate \$5.00 to Friends of the Library receive a ticket that allows them (i) to enter a drawing for a \$500 Macy’s Gift Certificate, and, (ii) to receive great discounts—generally 25%—on most merchandise at any Macy’s store on August 23. We will also be staffing a table at Macy’s at the Livingston Mall from 10AM-4PM. We invite you to visit us to receive a complimentary gift.

Monies that Friends received from a grant from Macy’s in 2012 enabled us to fund the Library’s E-Reader experience, the program whereby patrons may borrow an e-reader with a selection of books preloaded. Since that time, the sale of Shop for a Cause tickets has allowed Friends to continue to support the E-Reader program with funds to update the e-readers with new books. Shop ticket proceeds also support programming.

Ticket at \$5.00 each may be ordered online at <http://livingston.bccls.org/> (click on Buy Shop for A Cause Tickets in the Friends section) or via phone at 973-992-4600 X505. You may donate with cash or check by completing form at the bottom of the page or using our flyer available in the Library lobby or from our website <http://livingston.bccls.org/ShopForACause2014.pdf>. If you are unable to shop on 8/23 but want to enter the drawing for the gift certificate, we will be delivering drawing ticket stubs to Macy’s Livingston on August 23. Just complete the ticket stub and drop it in a box we are setting up at the Library Help Desk.

### **RETURN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK TO ORDER *SHOP FOR A CAUSE* TICKETS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Shop for a Cause Tickets Requested @ 5.00 per ticket: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check payable to “Friends of the Livingston Library”

Please charge my credit card (circle one): MasterCard    Visa    American Express    Discover Card

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Card Holder or Address (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

#### MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO/MAIL FORM TO

**Friends of the Livingston Library, 10 Robert Harp Drive, Livingston NJ 07039**

Tickets will be mailed or delivered by messenger

## In Other News:

### Friends Joins Library in Memorial Day Parade:

Assistant Library Director and Friends Board member Amy Hyfler (left in the picture) lead a contingent of Library staff and Friends volunteers in this year's Memorial Day parade. The group marched



amid cheers of “Go Library!” and “Yeah Library!” and shouts of “Read”. Board member Barbara Bye (right in the picture) said, “It’s very exciting to hear and see how much the Library is appreciated.” Children’s Librarian Amanda Winter joined the pre-parade banner preparations.



### Friends Volunteers Join Summer Reading Program (SRP)

Friends volunteers have been familiar faces at Senior Happenings, helping serve guests dessert and coffee. This year, our volunteers are providing assistance at the younger age spectrum—as “listener” volunteers in the traditional “Reporting” of the Summer Reading Program (SRP). Chil-

dren come into the library weekly and sit down one-on-one with an adult to talk about what they read by means of a board game and to discuss the five activities they completed in order to claim a weekly prize. This version of Reporting helps children build verbal and oral skills, as well as confidence. Pictured is Friends Board member Teresa Allard working with a young reporter.

### Friends Supports Summer Reading Program Bookmark Contest

The talent of Livingston’s youth was evident as the Library held its annual Bookmark Contest as part of the SRP. In keeping with the SRP’s theme, the slogan for grades K-5 was *Fizz, Boom, Read* and for grades 6-12 was *Spark a Reaction*. Applicants tested their creativity with illustrations that fit on a 2”x 7” rectangle. As in previous years, Friends of the Library funded the winning prizes—gift certificates for art supplies. Winners were chosen in four age categories.



Pictured are winners Phebe Kressler (9-12) Sylvie Friedman (K-2), Rachel Hecht (3-5), and Brittany Gui (6-8). In the back row is Youth Services Head Anna Coats, flanked by Friends volunteers Judy Insabella on left and Joann Caronia on right.

## In Other News (cont'd)

### Second TGI Friday's Benefit: Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Following the success of our first benefit day at TGI Friday's of East Hanover on May 22, we are planning a second *Friends of the Library Day*. Mark your calendar for Thursday September 18. TGI Friday's will donate 20% of the bill of anyone who presents the Friends of the Library Day flyer at the restaurant (11AM-11PM). As Board member Teresa Allard said, "It was great for my family to enjoy a meal out together AND know we are helping Friends." Flyers are expected to be available starting in August.

As an added incentive, patrons will receive a free gift from Friends for participating in TGI Friday's *Friends Day* on September 18th. Bring your receipt to our Library and select one complimentary item (book or non-print item) from our Ongoing Book Sale shelves. Drop your receipt in the cash box in lieu of payment; there is no expiration date on use of your receipt.



### Friends Volunteers to Participate in National Night Out:

Friends will again join Library personnel on August 5 to celebrate National Night Out at the Oval. Visitors to our table will be able to learn more about Friends, and hear about volunteer opportunities. In addition, Friends will be giving out complimentary gifts and selling tickets for Shop for a Cause (for more on Shop see article on page 5).

### Meet Anna Coates (continued from page 2)

Anna explained that both versions of reporting have their benefits; children may choose which style best fits their needs—including alternating between both! Anna also introduced online event registration and worked with Gina Vaccaro and Ellen Lazer to make registration easier for both patrons and staff.

Anna's other goals include enhancing the opportunities for professional development of staff - already this year Amanda Winter attended NJLA, Latha Nair attended NJALA - and further review of the collection to ensure our Library has the fullest collection possible. "Taking a holistic review to the collection is very important," Anna explains.

Anna's outside interests are quite eclectic. She is a theater devotee, frequenting Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Off-Off-Broadway. Indeed, while pursuing her English master's degree, she managed the theater archives for NJIT. On the more athletic side, Anna enjoys boxing and yoga. Her reading interests include the early works of V S Naipaul (the Trinidad-born Nobel Prize-winning British writer of Indian heritage known for his comic early novels set in Trinidad) and Dominican-American writer Junot Díaz, who grew-up in New Jersey, as well as older classics such as Charles Dickens.

Anna is thrilled by the wonderful opportunities at our Library and is looking forward to continuing to meet new patrons—old and young.



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**Think Green:** If you would like to receive the Newsletter electronically instead of via U.S. mail, please contact us at [friends\\_livlibrary@verizon.net](mailto:friends_livlibrary@verizon.net)

**Join Us at Macy's Shop for a Cause  
Saturday, August 23, 2014  
Macy's Livingston Mall**



**Friends is seeking donations of gently used books, board games, electronic games, CDs, DVDs, books on CD, and toys for our sales.**

**973-992-4600 X505**

In order to keep up-to-date with the latest program offerings, we suggest subscribing to the Library's electronic news service. Instructions can be found at <http://livingston.bccls.org/electronicnews.html>.

**Follow us on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/friendsofthelivingstonlibrary>. If you are a Facebook member, please click on the "like" button to become a fan.**