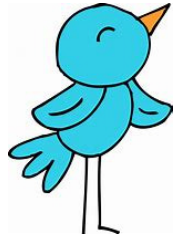


SPRING



Volume 10 Issue 4
Spring 2018

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

Next Meeting:
Jun-26
(4th week)
Time: TBD

Footnotes

FRRIENDS of the
Livingston Public Library

Dear Friends,

May marks the end of our membership and fiscal year. I am pleased to report that we had a record-breaking year. We reached an all time high with nearly 650 active members. Membership revenue was 9% ahead of last year's record. Our thanks to all of you who have shown your support! As a token of appreciation we invite you to our 3rd Annual **Members-only Social on Sunday, July 15 at 1:00 PM** in the Program Room. We are especially excited that Dreamcatchers Repertory will be performing a cabaret program of Broadway show music—with a twist. The tunes will highlight shows that came from books! For those of you who want to sing along, we plan to have lyrics available. Please see our enclosed invitation. We request that you RSVP, as we will be providing refreshments and don't want to run short.

Your membership dollars—along with funds raised from our other record-setting endeavors—have enabled us to support a wide array of exciting Library programs and services. These range from an expansion of the Museum Pass Program to children's chess boards. Adults may now enjoy a range of craft programs as well as educational forums, and, of course, we have our time-tested programs including Senior Happening, movies, and concerts.

While we bid farewell to John Sitnik as Head of Adult Services, we are delighted to welcome John to our roster of volunteers. Attendees of Senior Happening will see John proudly donning a Friends apron as he services coffee & dessert and chats with patrons. We look forward to welcoming the new head of Adult Services, Katie Neylan, who comes to us from the Upper Saddle River Library. Katie has extensive experience in programming, community outreach, and collection development.

Looking ahead, we begin our new fiscal year with Beach Books & Bling—a book and jewelry sale extravaganza featuring over 12,000 books and hundreds of pieces of jewelry. Held from June 1-3, it kicks off our recognition of June as Brain Awareness Month. We encourage you to commit to a brain healthy life style by, among other things, reading more.

I hope you enjoy catching up with our activities by reading the rest of Footnotes.

In Friendship, Mary Jane Dough, President

For more information about brain awareness, we invite you to visit www.alz.org/nj

Meet Joe O'Brien, Library Assistant

Our Youth Services has always been known as a place where things are humming, but with the addition of Joe O'Brien in October of last year that is now literally as well as figuratively true. Joe does *Musical Story Times*, playing his guitar or ukulele and reading to a delighted audience of newborns & toddlers and two-to-five-year olds.

As a Library Assistant, Joe spends most of his time in Youth Services. With his music skills he was delighted when Youth Services Head Anna Coats allowed him the opportunity to develop the Musical Story Time programs. When not delivering programs, Joe's Youth Services responsibilities include covering the Children's Desk where he loves to recommend books to children and parents. One of his favorites is Roald Dahl's children's book, *Witches*. Joe also uses his time to stay current on trends at other libraries and conduct research in the area of youth literature. In addition, Joe serves as a back-up in Adult Services and does shelving.

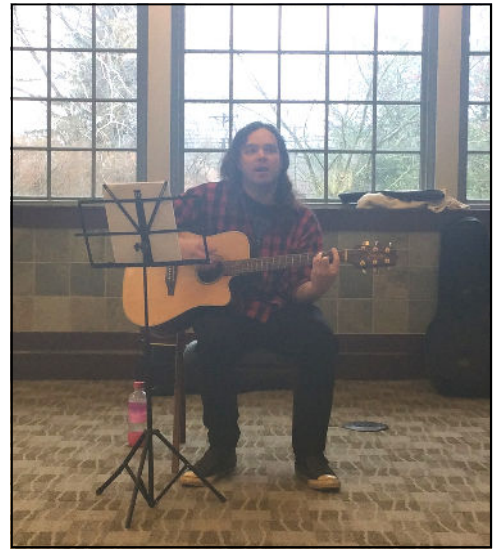
While Livingston Library is Joe's first professional association with libraries, he volunteered in his high school library on Long Island where he grew up. He brings a wide range of skills and interests to our Library. After graduating from NYU with a degree in film and screenwriting, Joe free-lanced as a writer, composer, and musician. He is a published author of poems and short stories. Over time, including a stint at Strand Book Store in NYC, his interest in books and publishing grew and he sought a career in libraries. Fortunately for us, he and his wife decided that they wanted to move to New Jersey. This happy turn of events brought Joe to our Library.

Recently, Joe helped staff our Maker's Day (March 10), serving as our primary photographer. Joe was delighted that youthful participants experienced robotics demonstrations from local robotics clubs, engaged in interactive activities and crafts with LEGOs, electrical circuits, and SLIME, and learned more about our Library of Things, a collection of portable makerspace kits and other borrowable items such as mobile hot spots and telescopes.

When interviewed, Joe was preparing to celebrate Youth Appreciation Week with a Guitar Concert on May 16 at 7PM. During this lively concert full of fun, catchy, family-friendly songs, Joe performs traditional folk favorites as well as classic rock & pop by bands like The Beatles. The concert is for kids aged 4 through 8 years and their caregivers. This great program follows on the heels of a similar all-music children's concert Joe performed in February.

With all of these many activities, Joe maintains his love and commitment to books. He is a fan of Kurt Vonnegut.

"With all our Library has to offer kids and adults, I hope attendance continues to grow," Joe says. He invites all to come in and have a great time. "After all, we are *the* place to be."



Programming

The excitement of Library programming has been in evidence through 2018 as Friends has funded a variety of programs to fit the tastes and interests of our community.

Cultural Series (Think Theater, Music Matters, and Literary Liaisons): Among the jewels that audiences experienced were a lecture, *Springsteen and his Layered Lyrics*, by Montclair University Professor Prudence J. Jones, hilarious improv skits by 11 actors from Nutty By Nature and, in celebration of Saint Patrick's Day, a presentation by David Emerson portraying *The Shannachie of Glendunbun Ballybeg* who, as a storyteller (the shannachie) shared the wit, wisdom, humor and humanity of a people through their traditional stories. Mr. Emerson came dressed in traditional Irish garb, with a pipe and cap and green vest and a cane for props.



Senior Happening*: Our winter and spring shows continued to attract room-filling audiences. In recognition of Women's History Month in March, Fred Miller wowed patrons with his another of his terrific programs, *Great Lady Songwriters*. Pictured right is the Stephen Fuller Quartet who appeared in April in an afternoon of *The Great Crooners*. May features the annual tradition of the Livingston High School Jazz Band. The season concludes in June with the NJ Symphony Orchestra Chamber Players *Musical Conversations*. Attendees can enjoy the great composers including Mozart, Bach, Telemann and Sibelius as unique violin and viola duets demonstrate through short dialogue and playing how the instruments converse with each other.

Mark your calendars for the third Friday of each month this fall when Senior Happening returns: In September, Brad Ziffer performs, *Sing'n the Oldies*. Fred Miller's *Cantare!* presents the Italian influence in American popular music in October. Prof. Diane Cypkin performs and lectures in *A Musical Salute to Molly Picon, Star of the Yiddish Theatre* in November. The year concludes with a seasonal concert by Robin Greenstein.

*Sponsored by Friends, Senior Happening is made possible in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/ Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts and administered by the Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs.

Crafts & Lifelong Learning: Continuing our support of adult crafts and education, Friends supported sustainable design workshops and lectures. On June 11, look for a combination of learning and arts as Lecturer Janet Mandel does a presentation on the renowned Impressionist painter, Renoir.

Movies: With funding from Friends, our Library will show all nine Oscar nominated best pictures during July and August from *Dunkirk* to *The Shape of Water* and *The Post* to *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*.



It Pays to be A Member of Friends of the Library

Under the **Merchants & Members Program**, as a member of Friends, you are eligible for discounts from the following establishments by showing your valid Friends membership card. It pays for you to carry your card!

- **ACL Art Gallery**, 2030 Town Center Way, 201-247-8787: 15%-off discount. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **Baroque Orchestra of New Jersey**, Performances at College of Saint Elizabeth, Morristown and Grace Episcopal Church, Madison, 973-538-7562: \$5.00 off adult and senior tickets for the cardholder and guest(s) for at door sales for any regular season or Summer Festival concert. Valid for up to 4 tickets.
- **Boon Thai Kitchen**: 21 E. Northfield Ave, 973-994-7383: 10% off discount.
- **Chocolate Works**, 1170 Town Center Way, 973-740-9090: 10%-off discount on products. Cannot be used on parties or workshops.
- **Dunkin Donuts**, 464 W. Mt Pleasant Ave (Route 10), 973-422-0007 and Livingston Mall (Lower Level, Sears Wing) 973-992-1925: 10%-off discount. Not valid on pound coffee, K-cups, and items already on sale or discounted.
- **Eye Level Learning Center**, 184 South Livingston Avenue (CVS Plaza), 973-992-8008: 50% off first month's tuition for new customers. Valid only at the Livingston location. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **Grooves Unlimited**, 355 Eisenhower Parkway # 100, 973-878-2836: Waiver of all registration fees. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **Ike's Bagel Café**, 277 Eisenhower Parkway, 973-369-7526: 10%-off discount on purchases. Not valid for catering. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **Morris Tutoring**, 38 Park Terrace, East Hanover (by Castle Ridge Plaza), 213-709-4085: 50% off first month's tuition for new customers. Valid only at the East Hanover location. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **Philly Pretzel Factory of Livingston**, 21 West Mt. Pleasant Avenue, 973-994-1004: Buy 3 pretzels and get 3 pretzels free. Available on equal or greater value purchases.
- **Skybox Sports Collectibles**, 517 S. Livingston Ave, 973-740-0060: 15%-off discount on products. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **West Essex YMCA**, 321 S Livingston Ave, 973-992-7500: Access all 3 potential benefits, as follows:
 - Receive a one week free trial as a guest of the Y; one-time use only.
 - Become a member of the Y and pay no joiners fee for your Y membership (a \$50 savings for families, a \$25 savings for individuals); valid for first-time members of the Y only.
 - Become part of the Y 20/20 Rewards Program. Join with a friend and you can both save 20% on your membership fees each month, for as long as you both remain members of our full facility.

In addition, members of the West Essex YMCA will receive a 5% discount on a new Friends membership.



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*Reflects memberships processed from 6/1/2017—5/12/2018. List shows Circle Member and Patron level members. A complete list of members will appear in our summer edition. Our thanks to those supporters who wished to remain Anonymous.

Bookplates honoring all Extraordinary Friends are placed in the Library. To identify the book recognizing your donation, contact us at friends_livlibrary@verizon.net or 973-992-4600 X505.

In Other News

Museum Pass Program: Friends is pleased to add the Jewish Museum to the museums forming the Library's Museum Pass Program. Located on New York City's Museum Mile, the Jewish Museum is at the intersection of art and Jewish culture for people of all backgrounds. Founded in 1904, the Museum was the first institution of its kind in the US and one of the oldest Jewish museums in the world. The Museum maintains a unique collection of nearly 30,000 works of art, ceremonial objects, and media reflecting the global Jewish experience over more than 4,000 years. Under the Museum Pass Program, Livingston residents, 18 years or older who have library cards in good standing, may borrow passes and visit museums without having to pay an admission charge. More information can be found at <https://www.livingstonlibrary.org/museum-passes/>.



Dining for Dollars: Our latest endeavor—a Donation Day at Shake Shack on April 17—was tremendously successful, raising hundreds of dollars. Scores of diners enjoyed a meal and helped with our fundraising. We extend our appreciation to Shake Shack for their 25% contribution on diners bills. As part of our program, diners receive a free item from our Ongoing Book Sale by showing their receipt. Stay tuned for our next dining adventure!



National Library Week: Friends was pleased to join celebrations from April 8-14 by supporting staff and patrons. On Tuesday, April 9—National Library Workers Day—Friends hosted a Pizza Party to honor staff. For the week, we donated a delicious chocolate tray for a drawing for the public.

Beach Books & Bling: Plans are well underway for our *In Beach Books & Bling Sale*, to be held **Friday, June 1 through Sunday, June 3**. The Program Room will house 12,000+ adult fiction books and books for children, ideal for summer reading. The sale will offer tremendous savings and feature a Bag Sale for books on Sunday. This sale is one way we encourage folks to read—a message we especially want to send during June which is **Brain Awareness Month**. We encourage you to come by and pick up a flyer with tips about how to reduce your risk of cognitive decline by adopting key lifestyle habits.* We also invite you to enter our free drawing for two baskets (for adults and children) filled with books, puzzles, baseball tickets,...and toys for the kids.

Several tables in the Program Room will be devoted to donated jewelry for sale. Friends Board Treasurer Teresa Allard who managed last year's *Spring Bling & Things* explained, "Last year, patrons told us that one day for the jewelry sale was not sufficient, so we decided to combine it with our summer book sale to allow for 3 days of shopping." Our *Beach Books & Bling Sale* will also have children's puzzles, toys, and games.

*Our thanks to the Alzheimer's Association/NJ for their material about Brain Awareness Month.

In Other News (cont'd)

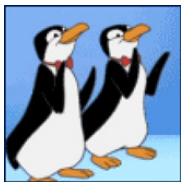
Take A Chance on the Library Auction & Raffle: Friends held its annual spring fundraiser in April to overlap with National Library Week. We had our most successful spring fundraiser in our history with this year's A Chance on the Library! Our thanks to all who participated with raffle purchases and bidding and to those volunteers who sold tickets and reached out to merchants for donations.



Thanks to the generosity of local merchants, restaurateurs, arts organizations, and individuals, our auction offered three dozen items. Our 50/50 Cash Raffle broke a record for ticket sales and the lucky winner who is camera-shy received \$2,770. Winners of the Auction and Raffle were announced in the Library Program Room on Tuesday, April 24 as members of the public watched with anticipation.



Proceeds from the event fund programs and services not covered by the Library's budget from the Township.



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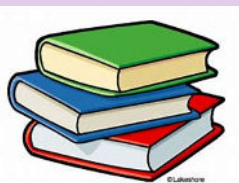
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Beach Books & Bling Sale

Friday, June 1 - Sunday, June 3

Honor Brain Awareness Month



Friends is seeking donations of gently used books, board games, electronic games, CDs, DVDs, books on CD, puzzles, and toys.

973-992-4600 x505

To keep up-to-date with the latest program offerings, subscribe to the Library's e-newsletter.

Instructions can be found at <https://www.livingstonlibrary.org/>

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