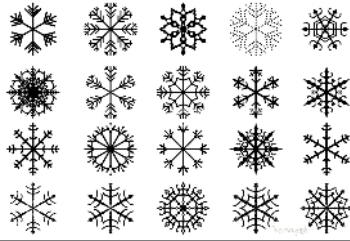




Winter



Volume 11 Issue 3
Winter 2018-19

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

Next Meeting:
February 19,
2019
Time: TBD

Footnotes



Dear Friends,

As a member of Friends you probably know about the great programming that Friends helps to bring to the Livingston Public Library as a result of your support. Today I'd like to highlight some of the ways that Friends helps our Library accomplish its strategic goal of becoming "the community's leader in technology."

In 2018, the Friends began funding a subscription to Canva - a graphic design website. The Library team has been using this tool to create the eye-catching flyers, bookmarks, and brochures you have come to expect from the library. This tool allows the Library to create professional level designs to promote programs and expand its reach.

Did you know Friends also pays to host the Library website? So if you have used the website to access an e-book, find information about a program, or access a database, know that your contribution to Friends is working behind the scenes to help keep you connected to the Library.

Since 2012 when Friends first purchased Nook e-readers with pre-loaded books that maybe borrowed as part of the Library of Things, we have also been funding updates of these e-readers with the latest e-books. You can view the list of available titles on our website.

Friends also funds technology to help our youngest library users learn and grow. Since 2015 Friends has sponsored the Library's subscription to Little Pim. This award-winning Kids Language Learning Program helps children learn a second language through educational videos, games, and lessons. Livingston cardholders can access this resource from home or in the Library. In 2018, Friends secured funding for four new AWE Learning Stations for the Children's area of the Library. These kid-friendly computers provide a safe, secure, and engaging learning experience. Children can play games focusing on different educational concepts, while at the same time learn basic computing skills.

There is even more to come in 2019. Museum Pass lending (also Friends funded!) is one of the Library's most popular services. Thanks to your generous contributions, you will be able to reserve the passes online later in the year. New software is being acquired that will make taking advantage of this library service easier than ever.

By supporting programs, access, technology, and education, Friends membership is an integral part of sustaining and promoting our dynamic, exciting Library.

In Friendship,
Mary Jane Dough, President

Meet Jessica Bielen

As the newest member of the Adult Services Department, Jessica Bielen continues our Library's great tradition of community-oriented, dedicated commitment. At the same time, she brings her own unique talent to Adult Services. Since joining our Library in October, 2018, Jessica has helped to significantly expand and deepen program/service offerings. For instance, she manages the Library's new *Reflective Journaling* program which launched with a successful Cover Crafting Kickoff as attendees created imaginative and inspiring covers for their reflective journals. Every week there are new reflective journaling pages on the counter near the main entrance for patrons to take home and complete at their leisure.



Along with Adult Services Head Katie Neylan, Jessica is responsible for the new *Adulthood 101* series. Begun on January 30 and continuing monthly through May, it gives millennials the skills necessary to be a successful “adult”. Programs include budgeting and managing your finances, prepping healthy, easy meals, and handling job interviews.

Jessica is very excited by *Read It & Eat*, an offsite book club that meets at a local restaurant during the afternoon. It's perfect timing for those on their lunch break, those out and about running errands, and those waiting to pick up their children from school. The first book club meeting will take place at Livingston Bagel on February 11. The choice of books is designed for busy lives, focusing on essays, short stories, and shorter works of light fiction.

Jessica's talents make her the perfect person to expand the Library's social media presence. Along with Youth Services Librarian Gina Vaccaro, she manages *Livi Lit*—videos posted on the Library's Instagram account @LivingstonLibrary and which offer readers a quick insight into what they are reading. Her work on the Library's blog including Reader's Advisory posts are a must for book aficionados and those who just want to keep up with Library activities.

Since the Library community is made up of writers as well as readers, Jessica moderates *It's a Writer's Thing*—the new Creative Writing Group which began on January 17. Writers and aspiring writers of all levels and of all genres gather together to discuss ideas and workshop writing in an informal and nonjudgmental environment.

In addition to these initiatives, she assists members of the community at the Reference Desk, serves as a member of the BCCLS Adult Services Committee, and arranges for author visits including the talk by Lynda Cohen Loigman on February 7.

Since she first worked part-time as a page at the Clifton Public Library, Jessica has known she was destined to be a librarian. “There is nothing else I'd rather be doing.” At Clifton she advanced to part-time library assistant and then a full time assistant after graduating with a BA in English & Creative Writing from Montclair State University. She earned her MLIS degree from Rutgers and worked as an adult services Librarian in Hawthorne before joining Livingston.

Jessica's interests include reading and writing—she is working on a collection of poetry and co-manages an outside book blog. She is also a student of jujitsu!

With all the exciting doings at the Library, Jessica invites the public to visit.

Programming

In a recent survey, one respondent noted, “An opportunity to experience varied & talented performers and programs.” Friends is delighted to support the great programming available to all in our community. Some programming highlights: **Senior Happening:** 2018 ended with a splendid program by Robin Greenstein and Stuart Markus presenting *Songs of the Season*. The new year started brilliantly with a program by the Belle Tones—a sparkling All American female trio, often called The 21st century Andrews Sisters. They celebrate music’s great harmonic girl groups with class, panache, and fun—performing group tunes from the 40s, 50s, and 60s, with plenty of patriotic classics, plus a sprinkling of country music to boot! The winter season continues with Rhonda Denet & Steve Kazlauskas performing *Ella & Frank* in February and Mike Plunkett doing *Paddy Has Gone for A Soldier* in March. The spring line-up has Linda Kenyon appearing as Eleanor Roosevelt in April. May brings the return of the Livingston High School Jazz Band. The season concludes in June with the always popular Fred Miller.



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.

Cultural Series: Sixty people attended Bill Ervolino’s *Importance of Stories* program on January 10. Now retired from the Record, Mr. Ervolino recounted how he got his first newspaper job in 1975 in Massapequa, NY. He delighted attendees with his many amusing stories including one about how his mom would spread her homemade ravioli on the bed for it to dry. He also read two stories from his book, *Some Kind of Wise Guy: Stories About Parents, Weddings, Modern Living and Growing Up Italian*. As we go to print, plans are underway for Lynda Cohen Loigman to appear on February 7. Loigman is the author of two novels, *The Two Family House* which was named Best Book of the Month by GoodReads in March, 2016 in historical fiction and the just published *The Wartime Sisters*. Friends volunteers will be on hand to sell copies to be autographed. *A Musical Salute to Molly Picon, Star of the Yiddish Theatre*, cancelled as Senior Happening’s November program due to weather, will be presented to the public at large as part of Think Theatre. Professor Diane Cypkin of Pace University will present the life story of this exciting First Lady of the Yiddish Stage, through the countless Yiddish songs she sang and often wrote during her years on the Yiddish stage.



Continued on Page 6


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.
- **Mezza Mediterranean**, 277 Eisenhower Parkway, 973-992-9300; 10%-off discount on dine-in lunch/dinner and take-out. 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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Thanks to Our 2018-2019 Extraordinary Friends*

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*Reflects memberships processed from 6/1/2018—1/31/2019. List shows Circle Member and Patron level members. ur 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.

Programming (cont'd)

Movies: Friends is pleased to continue our sponsorship of films during 2019. Saturday Afternoons at the Movies is celebrating women with *RBG* on January 12, *Hidden Figures* on February 23, and *Made in Dagenham* on March 9.

Life-Long Learning: It is said that when we stop learning we stop living. Friends keeps us going by supporting life-long learning lectures. Pictured right is lecturer Janet Mandel discussing *Paul Cezanne: Father of Modern Art* in December.

As we go to print, *The ABCs of Candy* is scheduled for February 4; just in time for Valentine's Day, it tells the history of a variety of candies—old and new. The program, presented by Madison's Museum of Early Trades and Crafts will discuss a different candy for each letter of the alphabet and conclude with free candy samples. On February 28 Bob McGee discusses how Rock and Roll lyrics from the 1960s & 70s gave voice to some of the most compelling poetry ever produced by American writers. He'll explore the work of Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, CSNY (Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young), Joni Mitchell, Grateful Dead lyricist Robert Hunter, and others.



Crafts: Adult craft programs continue to be a very popular component of programming. *Adult Paint Night* is becoming a staple. Pictured right is December's program, the theme of which was Nighttime Owl Landscape. The February 11 program has as its theme Lovebirds as artist Erica Pizza will instruct attendees how to use acrylic paint on canvas to create an original painting focusing on love. In January, the Creativity Caravan led a *Tunnel Books* workshop (pictured right) where participants crafted their own tunnel books, using greeting cards, postcards, photos and other personal items to take scenes from their own lives and create a 3-dimensional memory book.



Youth: Friends is pleased to support *Sensory Story Time*, an inclusive, engaging, and fun multi-sensory program designed for differently-abled children and their families to enjoy the Library. This program, part of an ongoing initiative to make the Library a welcoming destination for all members of our community, was designed by Youth Librarian Gina Vaccaro for children of all abilities in grades K-5. Compared to a traditional story time class, there is less sitting, more action, interaction, and freedom of movement as children are encouraged to actively participate in the class. The first session is being offered Saturday morning, February 9 at 9:15 AM. This early start time is designed to create a private and stress-free library experience. Class size is limited to offer individualized attention.



Other exciting Friends-supported youth initiatives include *Gaming @ the Library* using the Nintendo Switch, *Boogie Woogie Babies*—a 45 minute dance class for caregiver and baby—and programs to be held on the 3rd annual Maker's Day celebration on March 10.

In Other News

Take A Chance on the Library: Friends' annual Auction & Raffle returns in April. The community is invited to purchase cash raffle tickets and bid on a range of items. The auction gives the public the chance to win tickets and gift certificates for restaurants, arts organizations, etc. Our 50/50 Cash Raffle gives participants the opportunity to win cash. The lucky winner will take home 50% of the proceeds of all raffle ticket sales. Last year's winner received nearly \$2800.* It's a win-win because proceeds fund programs and services not covered by the Library's budget from the Township. Auction bidding can be done online and in the Library. Winners of the Auction and Raffle will be announced in the Library Program Room, starting at noon on Thursday, April 25. All are invited.



*Winnings and chances of winning are a function of number of tickets sold.

Jewelry Donations Sought for Beach Books & Bling Sale: From February 1 to March 30 Friends is seeking donations of jewelry from the public. Donated jewelry will be sold during the Friends Beach Books & Bling Sale to be held in the Library Program Room from Friday, May 31 through Sunday, June 2. Friends Board Treasurer Teresa Allard who co-manages the sale explains, "Following the success of last year's sale, our summer fair will offer a wide array of jewelry and books." A special box is set up inside the Library for the collection of jewelry. All items should be in saleable condition. Since the sale will not feature personal wear accessories, watches, and household bric-a-brac this year, we are unable to accept such items for donation. Donors may request a tax-receipt from the Circulation Desk.



Library of Things: Friends has funded the latest addition to the *Library of Things*: "calming kits" are now available to take home or use in the Library. The kits include visual timers, ear defenders, a sound spa portable sound machine, a liquid motion bubble toy, stretch balls, and various fidget toys.

"Circle" Donor/Volunteer Year-End Luncheon: On December 11, some 30 Friends volunteers and "Circle-level" members celebrated the year-end with a lovely luncheon. Attendees chatted about the accomplishments of Friends over the last year and heard Library Director Amy Babcock Landry thank them for their support. Following a catered lunch from Anthony Franco's guests enjoyed an amazing assortment of home-baked pastries and cookies from Friends Secretary Linda Alterman. As they say, "A good time was had by all."



Dining For Dollars: This fund-raiser returns with two events. On March 21 from 4-8PM we invite the public to have dinner at Blaze Pizza which will donate a % of the proceeds of participants to Friends. On June 18, we will be doing an all-day event at Shake Shack. Participants can receive a free item from the Friends Ongoing Book Sale by showing their receipt. Stay tuned!



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Take A Chance on the Library Auction & Raffle: April 25, 2019

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

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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