



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

**Next Meeting:
TDB—Contact us
for info**

Footnotes



Dear Friends,

In an unprecedented move, the Livingston Library – like all libraries throughout the state -- closed its doors nearly three months ago, in response to the gubernatorial directive to combat the spread of COVID-19. While our Library's doors may be locked, our building darkened, and our corridors empty, we have tried to continue to provide some of the activities for which our vibrant library community is so renowned.

If you visited the Library website, you may have noticed that several events have migrated to the virtual setting and that YouTube videos feature some of our staff members. However, while on-line classes, Zoom conferences, and face-time phone calls, can help keep us connected – somewhat, at least – we are missing the face-to-face conversations and interchanges with all of you! As these mandatory restrictions continue, please know that our hearts and prayers are with each one of you, and while our focus is on the health, safety and well-being of you and your families, we cannot wait to welcome you back again in person!

This issue of our newsletter marks the end of our membership drive, and despite the challenges in our current environment, we have achieved an all-time financial record from membership revenue. I am pleased to report that membership income exceeded \$30,000 for the first time in our history, quite a milestone! This achievement is especially critical since we had to cancel our annual Beach Books & Bling Sale and since our Book Store has been closed. On behalf of the Friends Board, I want to thank all of our members for this achievement, as our membership has ALWAYS been our single most important source of income. Again, a sincere and heartfelt thanks.

In closing, please know that while the actual building at 10 Robert Harp Drive that houses our library community may remain shuttered, the spirit of our vibrant library family remains alive and well. Our Library staff, our volunteers, and our board are looking forward to opening our doors and welcoming you back. Until then, be safe and take care of yourselves.

In Friendship,
Mary Jane Dough, President

A Message from Director Amy Babcock Landry: Friends Support During Covid-19 Outbreak

The past few months have been an unprecedented time in the history of the Livingston Public Library. We closed our doors to the public on March 13th with heavy hearts, uncertain what the future would bring. The future of the library in the wake of the Covid 19 pandemic still has many unknowns. However, there is one thing I am certain of - we will get through this together and emerge as a smarter, stronger, public library.

The support of the Friends of the Library has been vital to our success in transitioning into a virtual service model and this support will continue to be essential as we begin our phased reopening and reinvent our services to resources to best serve the needs of our public. Friends funding has provided critical dollars for investment in our growing e-book and e-audiobook collection. Your support for our website has allowed us to highlight health and safety information, create virtual programs, and provide patrons with virtual library cards so they may access our digital materials.

As we look towards reopening, Friends funding will be crucial to our continued success. Friends funds have offset the expenses of deep cleaning and preparing for reopening the building in a way that puts the health and safety of our library workers and library patrons at the forefront.

We ask for your feedback and patience as we work through the complicated future that is ahead of us. While many things remain uncertain, one unwavering pillar of strength is the support of our incredible Friends of the Library, and for that we thank you.

Senior Happening Resumes Virtually

As a Footnotes reader, you know Senior Happening* has been a key part of Library programming for decades. In the past, members of our community would enjoy socialization and a sweet treat followed by live entertainment. Senior Happening always drew a lively crowd, and we all miss it dearly. The Library just announced that June's Senior Happening will be taking place; this time virtually on Friday, June 19 at 1:00 PM. At our virtual Senior Happening, Fred Miller will be performing "They Wrote the Words: Part 1," a performance celebrating the work of many lyricists associated with the Great American Songbook. To register for and enjoy the June Senior Happening, please navigate to: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/preview-fred-millers-6/register> and click on "save my spot."



Library staff and Friends are working with Dreamcatcher Rep to contribute content for a July program.

*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.

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 2019-2020 Extraordinary Friends*

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*Reflects memberships processed from 6/1/2019—5/31/2020 List shows Circle Member and Patron level members. Our thanks to supporters who wished to remain Anonymous. See our Summer issue for a full list of all members.

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.



Take A Chance



Friends' annual Take A Chance on the Library Auction & Raffle culminated on May 20. Several participants won an assortment of baskets, merchandise, and gift certificates. Claire Scholz was the lucky winner of our 50/50 Cash Raffle, receiving a check in the amount of \$1,500. When called, and after being assured that she was not being kidded, Ms Scholtz exclaimed her pleasure, "How exciting! I already feel very fortunate that we have such a wonderful Library so receiving this prize is like the frosting on the cake."

Due to the Library's closure, the event—rescheduled from April 30—was held online. Associate Director Melissa Brisbin observed via Facetime while Event Coordinator Barbara Bye pulled the winning raffle ticket. The event was captured on video and posted on the Friends Facebook page. Auction and raffle winners were also posted on the dedicated Take A Chance website.

Friends Thanks Our Wonderful Sponsors & Merchandise Donors and All in the Community who Participated by Bidding or Buying A Raffle Ticket

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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

\$5 Blaze Pizza Day—scheduled for Jun 10—is Postponed

Plans for the Members Appreciation Social—originally scheduled for August 9—are currently on hold

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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