



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

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

## Footnotes



Dear Friends,

We offer our best wishes to all for a healthy and brighter 2021. We hope you and your family and friends remain safe and well.

2020 was a trying year, but our great Library rose to the challenges. We are pleased to have supported many of its endeavors. Friends' funding of programs (live and virtual) provided patrons with entertainment and education. As one attendee to Senior Happening wrote, "We were grateful to have the remote option as we are pretty much in quarantine." Friends also expanded its funding for library technology and access. Some of this was in infrastructure such as web hosting, fax services, and Zoom while other aspects were program oriented such as Rokus with Disney+ service. Underlying Friends ability to support the Library is our membership base. So thank you for being an integral part of sustaining and promoting our dynamic Library.

Our thanks also to the dozens of patrons currently supporting Friends on AmazonSmile. See page 4 for more info about signing up.

Turning the page to a new year, November's Annual General Meeting gave us a strong Board. I am delighted to continue as Friends President for 2021 with Teresa Allard continuing as Treasurer. Linda Alterman, Secretary during 2020, recently moved and, thus, left the Board. Heartfelt thanks for her great service; we hope she continues to keep in touch. Doreen Mollenhauer has joined the Board. Rounding out the team are Library Director Amy Babcock Landry, Larry Bergmann, Ira Berkowitz, and Barbara Bye.

The Library saw the departure of Youth Services Librarian Anna Coats and Technology Librarian Joseph Emery. Joseph will head Circulation at the Leonia Public Library where one of his responsibilities will include liaison with their Friends group! Anna will be Newark Public Library's Assistant Director. We will miss them very much, but, it is with pride that we realize that their experience at our Library enabled them to move on in their careers. We wish them the best in their new endeavors.

We are thrilled that Gina Vaccaro has been promoted to Head of Youth Services, bringing all her talent and commitment to this new role. We look forward working with her.

In Friendship,  
Mary Jane Dough, President

See article on Page 4 about:



# Programming in the Time of Covid-19

## Adult Programming

Friends continued its support of life-long learning on many topics with virtual lectures during December and January. There were practical lectures such as *Best Practices for Smartphone Photography* (12/1) and *Tools to Create a Dynamic Resume* (12/3), as well as entertaining lectures on topics such as *Indoor Gardening* (1/5) and *Party Hearty in the Middle Ages* (1/7). We are looking forward to the engaging lectures planned for February and March such as *Famous African American Artists* on February 1 and *Hamilton Musical and the Schuyler Sisters* on March 8.

This season, *Creative Arts* workshops allowed patrons to explore their creative side. During December and January, participants of *Pinterest Inspired Adult Crafting* picked up supplies and created gorgeous upcycled snowflakes while following along to a YouTube video tutorial. Participants of the *Adult Paint Night* and *Mason Jar Painting* workshops enjoyed a structured crafting experience; they picked up supplies the week prior to the program and then joined us through Zoom for step-by-step instruction.

The Library also kicked off the third year of its popular *Reflective Journaling* program. Participants registered for supplies to create a watercolor cover for their journal. New weekly journaling sheets are available every Monday both inside the Library and on the Library's blog. We are looking forward to the upcoming February and March crafting programs with *Pinterest Inspired Adult Crafting: Wine Glass Painting* the week of February 22, *Origami Bookmarks* the week of March 22, and a *Frida Kahlo Inspired Art Class* on March 10.

Livingston seniors can look forward to the return of virtual *Senior Happening\** on Friday, March 19 at 1pm when Fred Miller will perform *Lectures-in-Song: Words and Music*. Senior Happening is scheduled to remain virtual through June.

\*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.

## Youth Programming

Youth Services has a wide range of exciting programs planned for this winter! Xtreme Readers, the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade book club, continues to meet virtually. In January, the group is discussing *Coo* by Kaela Noel, a beautifully written “unforgettable animal story about friendship, family, home, and belonging.” The book is available on Hoopla in ebook and audiobook formats. In honor of African American History Month in February, the group is discussing *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-Winning Stamped from the Beginning* written by Jason Reynolds and Ibram Kendi. This award winning book “reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future.” Pick up your copy at the Circulation Desk, or download the ebook or audiobook version.

(cont'd on page 5)



## 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.
- **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.

**Not all discounts may be in effect currently due to covid-19 conditions.**



## You shop. Amazon gives. Friends of the Library WINS!

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your AmazonSmile purchases to Friends of the Livingston Library NJ whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know: Same products, same prices, same service.

Support Friends by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com/](https://smile.amazon.com/)

Your information stays private; Amazon doesn't share your customer information with us. **You do not incur any cost.**

You can use your existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile if you have one or create a new account if you don't. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you'll be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations before you begin shopping. Choose Friends of the Livingston Library (in Livingston, NJ). Amazon will remember your selection. Then, every eligible purchase you make on AmazonSmile will result in a donation.

### Thanks to Our 2020-2021 Extraordinary Friends\*

**President's Circle:** Ellen Friedman    Sasha Pailet & Matthew Koff    Thalia Palmer  
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**Sponsors Circle:** Laurence Agron    Laurence & Deborah Bergmann    Ira & Joan Berkowitz  
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Lorraine & Robert Tomczyk    Andrea & Harry Tuber    Cynthia Waller Vallario  
Robert & Linda Weinstein    Hua Zheng

\*Reflects memberships processed from 6/1/2020—1/20/2021. List shows Circle Member and Patron level members. Our thanks to supporters who wished to remain Anonymous. A full list of members will appear in our Summer issue.

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.



## Youth Programming (cont'd)

*Little Listeners OnDemand* will offer winter-themed storytime videos for children ages 2-5 and their caregivers. Topics include: winter, snow, bears, snowmen, and winter clothing.

Our young artists can look for a new *Art Class Watercolor Video* tutorial on the Library's Youtube Channel coming soon. Miss Gina will teach you how to create your own unique watercolor Valentine's day cards.

There is also plenty of fun for teens. In January, teens used fabric and simple sewing skills to make a cute *Bubble Tea Plush* decoration. In February, there will be a *Virtual Black History Month Challenge Puzzle* for grades 5 and up. Participants will compete to be the first to solve a puzzle using clues that celebrate the contributions of Black Americans. Also in February, take home crafts will offer a dragon craft for Lunar New Year and Valentines cards for Valentine's Day.



## In Other News

**Take A Chance on the Library Auction & Raffle:** Friends is already preparing for our spring fund-raiser, Take A Chance on the Library. This annual event invites the community to purchase raffle tickets for the chance to win cash (50% of raffle tickets sales) and to bid on items in our silent auction.

We are expecting to launch the silent auction in early April. The sale of 50/50 Cash Raffle tickets will begin as soon as we receive our gaming license. Stay tuned! Take A Chance will culminate on May 18 when winners will be announced. Access by the public to the culmination will be dependent on social distancing criteria in effect at that time.



**Book Sales:** Although conditions have not yet allowed for the safe re-opening of the Book Store, Friends has expanded its online selling via eBay. Thanks to the unstinting efforts of Doreen Mollenhauer and Soumya Bapuji, we currently are offering more than 200 items with the option to have items shipped or ready for local pick-up. Thus far, we have received 100% positive ratings from buyers. For instance, one wrote, "Wonderful books in amazing condition" while another wrote, "I recommend this seller. Thank You Very Much!" Our inventory includes a wide array of books, DVDs, board games, puzzles, and art. We invite you to browse at [www.ebay.com/usr/friendslivibrary](http://www.ebay.com/usr/friendslivibrary). If you want to learn more about selling on eBay on our behalf, please call or email Friends.

**Senior Happening Grant:** Friends has received a Local Arts Grant of \$4,200 from Essex County to support Senior Happening during 2021. Treasurer Teresa Allard noted, "This amount is the second largest award we have ever received. It comes at a time when some of our other sources of funding have been curtailed, so this is truly great news. Friends appreciates all those Senior Happening attendees who completed our surveys because our grant requests are buttressed by positive feedback from attendees."



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**Take A Chance On the Library  
Auction & Raffle: April — May 18**



**Friends is currently not able to accept book donations.  
Please stay tuned for future announcements.**

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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