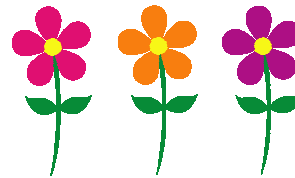
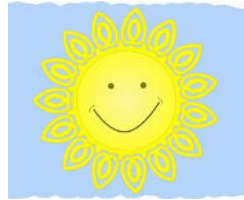


Spring



Volume 14 Issue 4  
Spring 2022

The Friends Board usually meets monthly. For information email or call us.

## Footnotes



Dear Friends,

If the past two years have taught us anything, I would bet that appreciation and gratitude would be included in the top ten list of lessons learned. I would also venture to say that while appreciating and feeling grateful for life's milestones – like the birth of a baby, a wedding, a new home, a promotion – it's often the little things in life that give us the most pleasure. As many of us venture out of our homes, experiences like meeting friends for coffee, planning a trip to a local art exhibit, or having a simple meal with friends have become celebratory events. Perhaps one of the most renowned novelists, satirists, and more recently graphic artists of our time, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., said it best when he claimed, "*Enjoy the little things in life for one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things.*"

Taking a lead from his quote, I would like to draw your attention to our annual auction and raffle which is currently underway. This year, perhaps more than ever, the nearly 30 items in the silent auction seem to target precisely what most of us need after an unprecedented two-year hiatus from the "little things." For example, how about an evening out at a local theater? Whether you prefer a musical, like *Sister Act* at the nearby Paper Mill Playhouse, or a Shakespearian production, like *Richard III* or *As You Like It*, in a local park or university, we've got you covered. Or, how about taking in a local concert – live, not over Zoom – to satisfy that desire to experience an in-person, musical event? What about a generous gift certificate to a neighborhood brasserie or store, where you can browse, shop, and return home with a bottle of wine and a selection of gourmet delicacies to enjoy with family and friends? And, of course, there is our 50/50 raffle whereby *you* can use cash winnings to fulfill your heart's desire and *Friends* retains half of the proceeds to support the programs, services, and activities of our Library.

Whatever your pleasure, I hope that you take this opportunity to support our annual auction and raffle, which has been one of our major fundraising events since 2015. And while you peruse our list of performing art events, food and eateries, and cultural events, take time to savor the little things in life.

In Friendship,  
Doreen Mollenhauer,  
President

See inserts for more info about our Take A Chance on the Library Auction & Raffle. Open now and culminating on May 17.

Visit the website:

<https://takeachance.livingstonlibrary.org/>

## Meet Danielle Cesena , Head of Technology and Community Engagement

When you hear the words “head of technology,” you may imagine a Gen-X male, who is introverted, a computer geek, and shuns the limelight. Well, put aside any stereotypes you may have when you meet Danielle Cesena, a female millennial, who is vivacious, an accomplished “techie,” and has held that position here at the Livingston Library since September 1.



A self-described “creative” individual, Danielle brings a wealth of educational credentials, along with years of experience to her position. She holds a master’s degree in Library and Information Science from Drexel University, a bachelor’s degree in English from Montclair State University, and studied at the University of Sydney in Australia. Prior to joining the Livingston Library, she held the position of Supervising Children’s Librarian at the Glen Rock Public Library for over six years. She also was the Head of Children’s Services at the Belleville Public Library and Information Center for over five years. While at the Glen Rock Library, she was awarded twice by the New Jersey Library Association for her design of the Summer Reading Booklet for Immersive-Themed Storytimes. In addition, she is currently a member-at-large for the New Jersey Library Association’s Executive Board.

As the Head of Technology, Danielle begins her day by checking the Library’s website and weekly newsletter to make sure both are up-to-date. She also spends an hour or two at the Adult Services Desk, providing reference services to patrons, frequently troubleshooting problems they may encounter on their various tech devices. In order to enhance the technological experience for Library patrons, Danielle is currently involved in transforming the Adult Services Office into a new tech lab. When completed, this new area will include a touch screen television for presentations, along with a camera and sound system for in-person and hybrid learning.

While she thoroughly enjoys her professional life, Danielle also has many interests to pursue during her “down-time.” A multi-faceted artist, she creates an array of objects from wall art to displays. She has also studied acting, and has performed in various community theatre productions. She practices yoga, listens to pop-culture podcasts, visits museums, competes in trivia events, and attends theatrical productions.

And, of course, she is an avid reader, and her favorite genres include historical fiction and mystery-thrillers – especially who-done-its. “I have read around 40 Agatha Christie mysteries, and currently belong to two book clubs – a millennial one and a true crime one. I also have a subscription with Book of the Month, because I like having a home library.”

In summary, Danielle says, “Since joining the team this past September, it has been such a rewarding experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow within this position and within this community.” And, Danielle, we are so pleased to have you aboard!

# Programming

## Adult Programming

The Livingston Library was excited to offer many wonderful in-person, virtual, and hybrid adult programs with the start of 2022 and the New Year. Those looking to explore their artistic side enjoyed the Library's popular *Creative Arts* programs with instructor-led workshops such as *Create a Pair of Watercolor Earrings* on February 9 (pictured right) and *Adult Paint Night: Paint by Number* on March 16. Livingston patrons also enjoyed the Library's drop-in *Craftersnoon* events and our librarian-led *Pinterest Inspired Adult Craft*, where attendees painted bud vases. Livingston patrons can look forward to many crafting opportunities in spring, including librarian-led *Pinterest Inspired: Mason Jar Suncatchers* on April 18, and instructor-led *Make Whimsical Fairy Gardens* on April 27.



Our Life-Long Learning series continued with in-person, virtual, and new hybrid lectures such as: *Highlights of the NYC High Line*, *Sammy Davis Jr: The Ultimate Mystery is One's Own Self*, *Yayoi Kusama: The Moment is Imminent*, and *Writing and Publishing*. Local beekeeper Lior Shliechkorn (pictured right) gave an introduction to the fascinating world of beekeeping and harvesting of honey.



Patrons can look forward to attending lectures such as *Secret Museums of NYC* on April 25 and *101 Tips for Maximizing Garage Sale Revenue* on May 4.

In-person Senior Happening\* performances returned this season with refreshments for the first time since 2020. In-person performances included a one woman show on *Julia Child* by Linda Kenyon (pictured right) and a lecture-in-song on *Judy Garland* by Fred Miller. Seniors can look forward to attending our April 22 Senior Happening which will feature a Cabaret by Vivid Stage (formerly known as Dreamcatcher Repertory) and which will be taking place both in-person and virtually on Zoom.



We are excited for the return of our Music Matters Programming Series with an in-person concert performed by The Kootz Band. The Kootz will be at the Library on Sunday, April 24 at 1pm for a “rocking” afternoon!

\*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.
- **Chocolate Works**, 1170 Town Center Way, 973-740-9090: 10%-off discount on products. Cannot be used on parties or workshops.
- **C2 Education of Livingston**, 155 S Livingston Ave #6, 973-994-9301: a \$100 discount for a full Diagnostic Test & Conference (normally a \$120+ value) for students in grades 5-12 and 5% off tuition at C2 Education of Livingston. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **Dunkin'**, 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.
- **Livingston Circle Car Wash**, 395 W Northfield Ave, 973-992-0876: 10% discount for Car Wash or Detail Package. Not valid with any other discount.
- **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.
- **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.

Discounts may

be impacted by 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 2021-2022 Extraordinary Friends\*

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**President's Circle:** Laurence Agron Ellen Friedman Sasha Pallet & Matthew Koff  
Carol Kurtz Thalia Palmer Patricia R Schaefer Shelley & Rick Simon

**Sponsors Circle:** Laurence & Deborah Bergmann Ira & Joan Berkowitz Sam & Rose Bickel  
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Marjorie "Marge" Winokur Karen Wolfe Louise Wydra Zhaohua Xie Hua Zheng

\*Reflects memberships processed from 6/1/2021—4/4/2022. List shows Circle Member and Patron level members. Our thanks to supporters who wished to remain Anonymous. List of all members will appear in 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.

## Programing (cont'd): Youth Programming

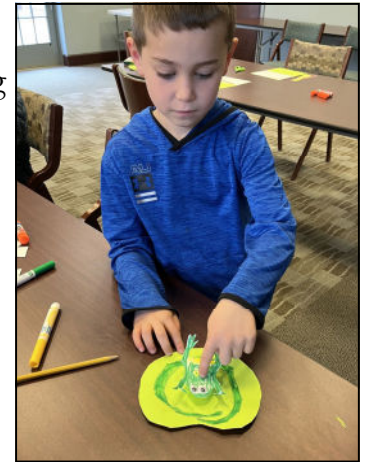
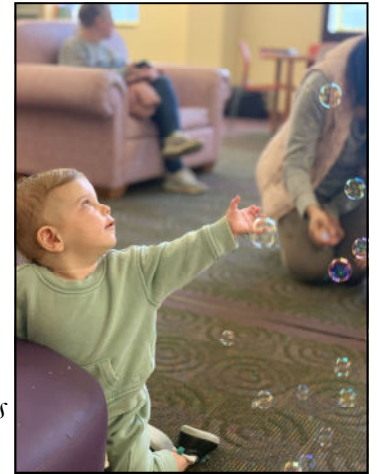
Spring is once again bringing a flurry of activity to the Youth Services Department and a joyous return to in-person programming after a mostly virtual winter session.

*Little Listeners Storytime* for ages 2-5 is back weekly for in-person stories, songs, and flannel boards, drawing a crowd of 30 or more. *Nursery Rhyme Time* began again for our youngest patrons, with a regular crowd of 20 or more gathering for stories, songs, and sign language. The bubble machine continues to be a huge hit with the under-2s as they enjoy open play and develop their socialization skills. *Little Listeners* and *Nursery Rhyme Time* finished up for the spring during the week of April 4. *Little Bookworms* for K-1st graders returned to in-person sessions and attendance quickly reaches capacity each week. The children are enjoying strengthening their fine motor skills and exercising their imaginations. *Little Bookworms* finishes for spring on April 20.

*Codergals* for grades 3-5 met each Tuesday in March with teen volunteers from Livingston High School in the newly remodeled Technology Room to learn about coding and programming. The Teen Advisory Board continues to meet monthly and is having a *Teen Pancake Party* on April 7 where tweens and teens enjoy pancakes and Nintendo Switch games after school.

Book clubs have also returned to in-person, with *Yakety Yak* for grades 2-3 and *Xtreme Readers* for grades 4-5 each holding three sessions for the spring. March saw *Yakety Yak* reading *Miss Small is Off the Wall* by Dan Gutman and learning to juggle scarves, and *Xtreme Readers* reading the award-winning *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson and creating their own name art in a nod to the author's own story. Both book clubs continue in April and May, with *Yakety Yak* reading *The Show Must Go On!* by Kate Klise and *Who is George Lucas?* by Pam Pollack, and *Xtreme Readers* diving into *Otto: A Palindrama* by Jon Agee followed by *Stamped (For Kids): Racism, Antiracism, and You* adapted by Sonja Cherry-Paul.

Take-home craft kits continue to be in high demand, with several being offered each month. In March, children picked up kits to make Holi cards and bright spring flowers. April craft kits include a hatching Easter chick, jumping Passover frog, and colorful Ramadan lantern. Children will enjoy making both an adorable Baby Yoda and bumblebee puppets in May.



## Youth Programming (cont'd)

New Jersey Makers Day (celebrated during the week of March 21) also featured several take-home kits. Thaumatrope (Victorian-era optical illusion toys) for all ages, kirigami water blossoms and watercolor painting sets for grades 4 and up, and light-up squishy circuit kits for grades 5 and up were all extremely popular. Makers Day also saw children in grades 4-6 chatting with working scientists on March 24 for Solution to Pollution as Dr. Birthe Kjellerup from the University of Maryland joined us via Zoom with two of her graduate students.

Paper Mill Playhouse made a triumphant return to the Library on April 2 with the Children's Theater on Tour presenting *Lost & Found: A Musical Theater Revue*. Children and adults of all ages loved this energetic introduction to the world of musical theater.

It was wonderful seeing so many smiling faces at spring programs and hearing the gratitude from parents and caregivers. All are looking forward to an exciting Summer Reading season!

## Friends' Member in Need of Kidney Donation

Friends' Member Glenn Kaplinsky, Esq, has been diagnosed with Stage 5 chronic kidney disease and is reaching out to our library community in the hope that a living donor will come forward to donate a kidney. Visitors to the Friends Book Store may recognize Dr. Kaplinsky. As a former professor of history with a particular interest in military history, he has frequented our Store and book sales. He has also donated many books to our Book Store.



Dr. Kaplinsky's doctors have advised him that a living donor transplant is the ideal option since dialysis is not a good alternative for him. We wish him the most positive of outcomes. For more information about becoming a donor, call the Living Donor Institute at 973-322-5346 or visit [rwjbh.org/LDI](http://rwjbh.org/LDI).

## In Other News

**Books Sales:** As we go to print, plans are underway for our **Best Book Blast Ever**, running from **April 10 - April 23**. ALL books in the Book Store will be on sale: Kids books--hard cover at \$.25 and soft cover at \$.10; Adult books--hard cover at \$.50 and soft cover at \$.25; Dime books at \$.05; DVDS at \$.50; CDs at 2 for \$.25. Books Blasts are run on the honor system with a Cash Box in the Book Store. It is open anytime the Library is open. Shoppers may also use Venmo.

Following Book Blast, all remaining inventory will be taken down and the Store will temporarily close to allow the Library to refurbish the area. We are targeting to return in late May or early June with all new inventory. Stay tuned for details.

Mid-June will see the return of **Beach & Books & Bling**, after its cancellation in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic. This extravaganza will take place in the Library Program Room on **Thursday, June 16 and Saturday & Sunday, June 18-19**. It features a huge offering of adult fiction and kids books at great prices as well as a large selection of low-priced costume jewelry. As a minder, Friends is accepting donations of costume jewelry through April 30.



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**Beach Books & Bling Returns**

**June, 16 & June 18-19, 2022**

**We are collecting Jewelry for the Sale  
Through April 30**

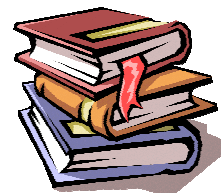
**A special donation box is set up in the  
lobby.**



**Visit our “Best Book Blast Ever ”**

**ALL Books and Non-Print Media in  
the Book Store on Sale**

**Sunday, April 10 - Saturday April 23**



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

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