

Library News



The Newsletter of the Friends of the Town of Chester Public Library

518-494-5384

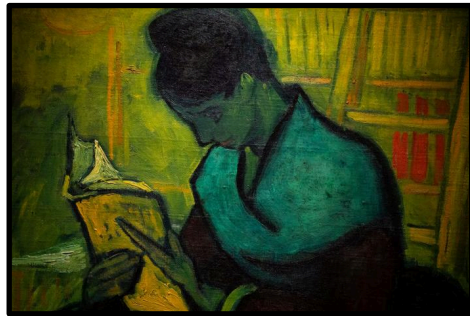
www.chesterlibrary.org

Fall 2023

Fall Wine Tasting

A wonderful time was had at the Friends' Wine Tasting fundraiser at the Friends Lake Inn, on September 17th. The event was attended by 120 people! There were delectable appetizers, fine wines, a wonderful array of auction items, including many local artisan works. It was a resounding success thanks to our entire community of businesses, individuals and artists who know the value of our wonderful library and the importance of the work that keeps it thriving.

The Friends would like to extend a special thank you to The Friends Lake Inn and its entire staff, Empire Merchants North (who donated the wine), the many businesses, artists and individuals who donated items for the raffle, baskets and auction, and the community members who purchased raffle tickets and attended the Wine Tasting Event. It was a great day and we set a record for attendance raising over \$7,400.00, all of which goes directly to benefit the Library. A special thanks to the Wine Tasting Committee, Chair Kathleen Rivers, Linda Taverni, Noelle McCrum, Anne Gabrielle, Monica Herrington, Liz McNamara, and all those who helped in some way to put this event together!



The Novel Reader
Vincent van Gogh-1888



Library Hours

M, W, Th, F
9-5
Saturday
9-1



Story Book Trail

The Friends' Story Book Trail at [Dynamite Hill](#) saw nearly 200 visitors over the summer, with many repeat visits. The new book for Fall is [Apples and Pumpkins](#) by [Anne Rockwell](#).

For a donation of \$50.00 you can contribute to the purchase and lamination of a new book for the trail in honor or memory of a friend or family member. The dedication will be posted at the initial sign-in kiosk. [Apples and Pumpkins](#) is dedicated in memory of Ed Griesmer by Barbara and Bob Colegrove and in memory of William LaPierre by Sandra LaPierre.

Reading online? [Click the purple links throughout the newsletter to learn more!](#)

Dolly Parton Imagination Library



We currently have 46 pre-schoolers enrolled in the program, receiving a new book each month. The program is available to pre-schoolers in the communities of the Towns of Chester and Horicon. More information and the [application](#) to participate are on our website.

Digital Downloads

The Library has two services available for downloading ebooks, audio books and films:



Southern Adirondack Library
ON-Demand

[See details on our website](#)

Friends Board of Directors

Linda Taverni – Chair
Bob Walp – Vice Chair
Lynne Hagmann – Corresponding Secretary
Liz McNamara – Recording Secretary
Rich McCrum – Treasurer

Directors:
Kathleen Rivers
Linda Thorsen

Meetings are held the 2nd Friday of each month from September to June, at 10am in the Library. All are welcome.

All Together Now

Summer Reading Program 2023

The Town of Chester participated in the New York State Summer Reading Program themed 'All Together Now'. The theme served as a guide for the program to celebrate working together.

Our Summer Reading Program advances literacy and academic performance by engaging children and teens in reading during the summer months. The program is designed to foster a love of reading in students of all ages by encouraging self-selected voluntary reading. These fun and creative experiences help create lifelong readers and learners.

At the Town of Chester Library, participants in 'All Together Now' were tasked with earning as many points as possible. Points were earned by reading as many books and pages as possible, but also through visiting the Library, and attending Library

sponsored performances. Summer performances included Planetarium Adventures, Birds of Prey, Rural Soul Dancing, Interactive Dance, Magician Jim Snack, and the Puppet People.

In total, the Town of Chester had nine participants who read a total of 44,977 pages across 394 books. The 1st place winner read ninety-five books and a total of 31,796 pages and won a \$50 Amazon gift card.



The second-place winner read 78 books and a total of 2,839 pages and won a Kindle Fire. All participants earned a free ice cream cone from Stewart's.

Friends Scholarship

The Friends are happy to announce the award of a scholarship to a North Warren graduate interested in pursuing a career in language arts, literature, library science or a related field. The scholarship is funded by the proceeds from the raffle of a beautiful quilt donated by Karen Pelletier. This is the 2nd year the scholarship has been awarded.

This year's recipient is Keziah Winchip, who will be studying to be a speech-language pathologist at SUNY Adirondack.



Word Nerd

by Greg Gross, Library Trustee & Professor of Social Work
at The College of St. Rose, Albany

(The title is not a palindrome but fits our human subject, a self-proclaimed HODAPHILE, which means... uh... um... "word nerd").

Susannah Stiehm, MBA, Poughkeepsie native, and Library Clerk for the past eighteen months or so, scrambled from her desk and duties to tackle the object of my challenge— what do you do when you look out the Town Hall window and look across to the grocery parking lot (answer must be a palindrome; that is, must spell the same forwards as backwards). Full of excitement, she tracked me down at the Senior Center to exclaim with great pride— "Spot Tops!" YES!! Susannah smiled the rest of her workday at the job she loves for its people, its place near her family's 1977 second home on Schroon Lake where she now resides with her daughter, Susan Jeanette, and son, August, and, of course, one more thing – its words.

A library rises as The Keeper of The Words. Susannah says she basks in the glow of those books, books that cross her desk and those that beckon her gaze from the shelf. She takes reading recommendations from we patrons; faves include *Great Expectations*, *Cod*, *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*, *The Worst Hard Times*, and *Dark Music*. Why? Because they have words – powerful words, words that grab gut and mind. Soooo, back to palindromes....

So, you're driving down Rt 8 to More Gore, one more of Susannah's reasons to live here rather than in sunny Florida where Mom awaits her frequent visits. The dashboard clock reads 9:01. You think nothing of it. But how about 9:10? Or 9:11? Catches your eye, eh? That's why we word nerds feel a rush and a gush at 9:09, or 9:19, or 9:29, or 9:39, or...And 11:11? GET OUT!!! Susannah has some favorites. For example, "Madam, I'm Adam" and "Able was I ere I saw Elba."

Susannah loves books and Susannah loves palindromes so is it not fitting that she would love books ABOUT palindromes? The Library has one, titled *Otto: A Palindrama* by John Agee. *Otto* sells itself as a children's book, but to any word nerd of any age, *Otto* rocks! Dig these:
"Sad, no Hondas"
"Go hang a salami! I'm a lasagna hog."
"Was it a rat I saw?"

"Spoon it in- Oops" Susannah leaves the library for a rich life here in our mountains. But word nerdiness never leaves her. Is it any wonder that she plays Scrabble WITHOUT a board? Or that Boggle isn't challenging enough; she has to play BIG Boggle? Is it any wonder that her favorite ski trails are Rumors and Lies? Is it any wonder that this Susannah named her son, August, simply because while she was reading a book on Renoir the word "august" "just jumped off the page to me"? Which raises the question – How does Susannah resist re-naming herself HANNAH?

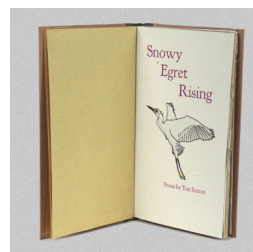
Afterword/ Drowretfa

(Ok, ok, ok! Not a palindrome above. Please see below)

What's going on in Ukraine? Raw War!v
What's great in the snow? A Toyota.
What do you do when you flash fry pistachios?
Saliva etiquette = spit tips
Stun nuts!Anti-vampire policy: Stab bats!

Book Arts Collection & Ruplin Art Gallery

The Library's collection of rare handmade books is the only one of its kind in the Southern Adirondack Library System. Presently the collection holds over seventy-five books in a non-circulating collection. The books can be seen anytime in a display cabinet in the Library. For a hands on viewing email our curator, [Robert Walp](mailto:bob@chestercreekpress.com), at bob@chestercreekpress.com. Guided tours for a group may also be arranged.



The [Book Arts Collection](#) is funded by the Friends of the Library.

[Check here](#) for a schedule of exhibits and openings at the Ruplin Art Gallery in the Library.



Join the Friends of the Library

Annual Membership–July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

We are grateful to all of our friends who have supported the Friends and the Town of Chester Library over the years and made it the special place it has become. If you have not already done so, please be sure to renew your membership. If you are interested in becoming more active, such as working in the book room, at our book sales or at the Farmers Market, please indicate that on your form. You can mail in the attached form with your check or renew on line using Paypal. Remember, the Friends of the Library is a 503(c) 3 organization so all donations are considered tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Submit your membership online at <https://www.chesterlibrary.org/online-membership.html>

Or print the membership form and mail it with your check payable to:

Friends of the TOC Library, PO Box 451, Chestertown, NY 12817



Annual Membership Form –July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Name(s) _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Local Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Individual \$10 _____ Household \$15 _____ Special Friend \$25 _____ Other Donation \$ _____

Your privacy is important to us. We will never share your information with any other organization.
Members are automatically added to the Friends of the Library mailing list.

Interested in volunteering? Please indicate how you might be willing to help:

Book Sales _____ Farmers Market _____ Programs _____ Fund Raising _____