

Library News



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

518-494-5384

www.chesterlibrary.org

Winter 2022

Friends Update



Afternoon Pastimes
Knud Erik Larsen -1904

While the pandemic continues to exert its hold, and masks continue to be required, the Library continues normal operations as best it can, and the Friends have continued to be active. We supported the local Rotary drive-through holiday party by providing every child with an age appropriate book. The Friends also contributed funds to assist the Board of Trustees in the purchase of a new Library sign for the outside of the Municipal Center.

We are looking forward to another year at the [Chestertown Farmers Market](#) and are making plans for the annual wine tasting fundraiser to be held in September. We are

excited to announce, "The Book Sale is Back!" (See article below for details.)

The Friends are also pleased to announce that they are supporting [Hoopla](#), a groundbreaking digital media service that allows patrons to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet or phone, and even your TV! Hoopla is similar to the Overdrive application which enables access to ebooks and audio books but with a much broader catalog.

Be sure to check out the [Library website](#) for information and instructions or ask any of the staff for assistance.

Reading online? Click the purple links throughout the newsletter to learn more!



Library Hours

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

Masks Required

Quilt Raffle Scholarship

Our long time member, Karen Pelletier, has generously donated one of her hand made quilts to be raffled this spring. At her request, the Board decided to establish an annual \$500 scholarship for a North Warren graduate interested in pursuing a career in Library Science, Literature, Information & Technology or a related major. All proceeds from the raffle will be dedicated to this fund. The quilt is on display in the Library. Tickets are available at the Library [or on-line at the Library website](#).



The Book Sale is Back!

After a long hiatus due to the pandemic, we are pleased to announce the Friends annual book sale will be held on Friday, February 25 and Saturday, February 26. Our book room is bursting at the seams due to the inability to hold a sale for the last 2 years. Book sale hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, with a bag sale from 1-2 p.m. on Saturday.

If you would like to help out, please email us folchester@gmail.com.

New Library Sign

(Right to left) Friends Treasurer Rich McCrum hands a check for the new Library sign to Library Board of Trustees President Vanessa Hutton, while Craig Leggett, [Town of Chester](#) Supervisor looks on. The sign replaces the old one hanging on the North entrance to the Municipal Center. It was placed higher on the building so it can be seen from Main Street.



Many thanks to Trustee Noelle McCrum for organizing the design and installation.



Chestertown Senior Center Book Clubs

The [Chestertown Senior Center](#) has organized two book clubs—*The Avid Readers* and *The Happy Bookers*. Members take turns suggesting books to read, and agree through voting on titles. Town of Chester Librarian, Alma Alvarez, gets about five copies of each book for members to check out. Book club members often order books on their e-readers as well.

The **Avid Book Club** meets on the second Thursday of the month at 3:00 pm. Currently there are ten members, and for now they are meeting on Zoom. Carol Stegan, the book club moderator, notes the February book selection is *This Tender Land* by W. K. Krueger. This epic follows the journey of four orphans during the Great Depression as they are forced to leave their home, and travel down the Mississippi River together.

The next Avid Book Club Zoom meeting will be held on March 10. The reading selection is a non-fiction work, *The State Boys Rebellion* by Michael D'Antonio. A brief summary states "*The State Boys*

Rebellion conveys the shocking truth about America's eugenic era through the experiences of a group of boys held at the [Fernald State School](#) in Massachusetts starting in the late 1940s."

The Happy Bookers meet on the first Thursday of the month in the Community Room of the Senior Center at 10:30. This month the group read *My Brilliant Friend* by Elena Ferrante. It is the first book of Ferrante's quartet of Neapolitan Novels. As summarized by the publisher, "The story of Elena and Lila begins in the 1950s in a poor but vibrant neighborhood on the outskirts of Naples, Italy. Through the lives of the two girls, Ferrante gives her readers the story of a neighborhood, a city, and a country undergoing momentous change."

The book club moderator is Sylvia Hausvik. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3rd.

If you are a senior and are interested in participating, please contact the [Town of Chester Senior Adult Community Center](#).

Friends Board of Directors

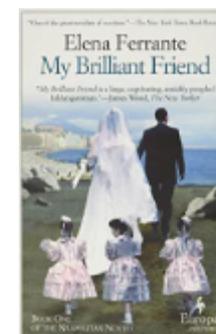
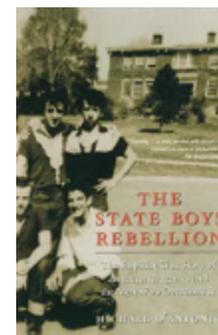
Linda Taverni – Chair
 Bob Walp – Vice Chair
 Lynne Hagmann –
 Corresponding Secretary
 Linda Thorsen –
 Recording Secretary
 Rich McCrum – Treasurer

Directors:
 Kathleen Rivers
 Liz McNamara

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

Amazon Smile
 Support the Friends of the
 Library. When you shop at
smile.amazon.com, Amazon
 donates!

amazon smile
 You shop. Amazon gives.



Which Adirondacks is YOUR Adirondacks

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

Part II

Part I opened with our library's copy of Walt Whitman staring at me as I sat by The Book Arts Collection. On that very day another book took to the act of staring in the library. Director Alma Alvarez, like me, has long admired *The Last of the Mohicans* (1826) so she had proudly displayed her brand new colorful copy atop the shelf that borders the children's section. Though not exactly a children's book, it seemed rather comfortable and comforting in its welcome to readers of all ages.

Cooper's masterpiece also resides outside of our library. It is everywhere! Twenty miles west of Albany, a Thruway sign announces, "You are entering Leatherstocking Country." Glens Falls hosts *Cooper's Cave*. Lake George Village houses the majestic *Fort William Henry* (Been there yet? Every fall the fort sports free admission days for Warren County residents—what a deal!). How about Gore trails Hawkeye and Uncas?

And then there is yet another *Leatherstocking Tale*—the one inside each of us, the one that claims and proclaims one's own Self—that rugged and unique individual that Cooper invented and Whitman developed and extended outward. Which brings us back to the question posed in Part I: which Adirondacks is YOUR Adirondacks?

Our library can help us there. Right next to the west-facing windows overlooking the soccer field stand two double-sided bookcases labeled "Local History Collection"/"Adirondack Collection." Our library holds 392 book titles for these sections—history books, 13 or more trail guides, flora and fauna references, memoirs and fiction. Examples: *Archeology of the Adirondacks*, *Adirondack Trails With Tales*, *Blacks in the Adirondacks*, *PEAK Experiences*, *The Last Real People*, *Adirondack Canoe Waters*, and on and on! Something to tickle and tackle the Adirondacker in each of us. Find YOURS there!

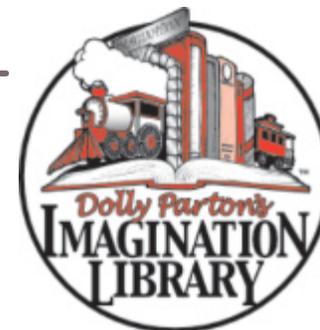
ps: A confession: Contemporary readers might not love the writing style of the novel. Like me, many might prefer the movie. Nine versions have existed since the 1920's, but it is the 1992 version that rightly claims the category of masterpiece.

Imagination Library

A reminder that all area preschool children are eligible for this program which provides free picture books mailed directly to them monthly. Each picture book is a high-quality piece of children's literature and is the family's to keep as part of a collection of children's books in each preschooler's home.

All preschoolers receive *The Little Engine That Could* when they first register. After that, a range of age-appropriate picture books are sent monthly until a child "graduates" from the program upon turning five. To date, area children have received beautiful picture books by well-known children's authors and illustrators, such as Eric Carle and Ezra Jack Keats. Books from popular children's picture book series, such as the *Llama, Llama* series and the *Corduroy* series, are also frequent selections.

More information about the Imagination Library, along with the registration form, is on our website or you can email trudyreads@chestercreekpress.com or call 518-494-3627.

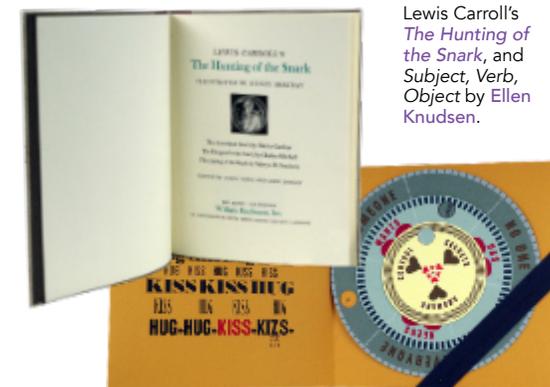


Made possible by a grant from the . . .

**Glenn & Carol Pearsall
Adirondack Foundation**

Book Arts Collection: New Books

Recently the Friends acquired two gorgeous new books for our rare, handmade book collection. The **Book Arts Collection** features some fine examples of contemporary book design as well as some older limited edition books of historic interest to our area. Come to the Library to see the collection. Curator and book artist Robert Walp, will be happy to meet during regular Library hours to guide you through the collection.



Lewis Carroll's
*The Hunting of
the Snark*, and
*Subject, Verb,
Object* by Ellen
Knudsen.

Join the Friends of the Library Annual Membership—July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

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 done so already, please be sure to renew your membership. If you are interested in becoming more active, such as working in the book room or on sales, please indicate that on the form. You can mail in the attached slip 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.

We are very grateful for the overwhelming community support for the Friends and the Library during these difficult times.

Submit your membership online at <http://www.chesterlibrary.org>

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

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

Thank You!



Annual Membership Form –July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

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 _____