



Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library  
**FRIENDS**  
[www.friendsofcphlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofcphlibrary.org)



MARCH  
 2020

## BOOK FRIENDLY

### TWO TOWNS-ONE BOOK--UPCOMING EVENTS LINDA CONKLIN

TTOB's next program is scheduled for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM in the Library Program Rooms. Do you recall your childhood home? Where is home now? Was the transition from one home to another difficult? These topics will be addressed in the upcoming program "Home Sweet Home: A Panel Discussion". Gretchel Hathaway, Dean of Diversity and Inclusion at Union College, will moderate the panel discussion. Area residents who grew up in other cultures and countries will share their perspectives on home then and now. Panelists include Alex Gutelius, CPH Library Director, Dr. Oliver Robinson, Superintendent of Shenendehowa Schools, Andres Harnecker, FOL Board Member, and Purushothaman Srinivasan, CPH Library Trustee.

On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 PM in Library Program Rooms, the next program will take place. Storyteller, Kate Dudding will present a program on "Inspiring African- American Women". Michelle Obama has been called one

of the world's most admired women. In keeping with this, Kate will share stories about other inspiring and admired African-American women. She will tell the story of Barbara Johns, a 16 year- old junior in an all black high school in Virginia who led an all school walkout protesting the poor conditions in 1951. Kate will tell us about Fatima Knight who created an online fundraiser to help rebuild the Christian Churches burned after the shooting in Charleston in 2015 and tell stories of other brave women.

The culminating TTOB event is on May 16<sup>th</sup> when we'll take a bus trip to Seneca Falls, NY. The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Women's Suffrage Movement is being celebrated in 2020 and Seneca Falls is where it started. To honor two strong women, Michelle Obama and Tara Westover our winning authors, we have planned this trip. The bus will leave the Library parking lot at 7:30 AM and arrive in Seneca Falls by 11:00 for the first tour, The National Women's Hall of Fame. We will break for lunch on your own and spend the afternoon touring The Stanton House and The Women's Rights Historic Park. We will stop in Skaneateles for shopping and supper on the way home. There is currently a waiting list for this trip.

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*My two favorite things in  
 life are libraries and  
 bicycles. They both move  
 people forward without  
 wasting anything.*

*Peter Golkin*

## WHY VOLUNTEERING MATTERS

### WILMA JOZWIAK, QUAD PRESIDENT

Ever wonder about volunteering? If you have a minute, let me tell you why volunteering matters, not only to the organization, but also to the volunteer.

Over the years I've heard people say things like, "Oh, I can't volunteer - there's nothing I can do that would help", or "I can't volunteer, because I don't have transportation to get to anywhere," or "Why should I give my time away? Can't they hire someone to do that stuff?" "I don't have time to volunteer right now." and even "I'll never retire - I would have nothing to do and would just sit around the house." I have some sympathy for those who TRULY don't have time; there are definitely life stages that hardly allow for sleeping and eating, never mind volunteering, but for the others ... well, here's my two cents on those.

#### **Why should I give my time away? Can't they hire someone to do that stuff?**

The answer to this one is easy - no, they can't. Non-profit organizations vary, and some do have staff, but many (like the Friends of the Library) are manned by volunteers. That means that every single cent raised to help the library is raised by a volunteer in one of our fund raisers, every brownie served at an event is baked by a volunteer, every book delivered to someone unable to get to the Library is delivered by a volunteer - all of these, things that would not happen without volunteers. Some non-profits like the George Landis Arboretum have very small paid staff, but could not exist without volunteers, and some like CAPTAIN CHS have larger staffs, but still depend a lot on volunteers to spread budget dollars to serve their missions. Why give your time away? Because someone else has given their time away for your benefit, many times over.

#### **Oh, I can't volunteer - there's nothing I can do that would help.**

This one I hear fairly often, and I understand why this notion floats around. It's because the volunteers who get the most publicity are those doing high-profile kinds of things that do require special skills. But there are lots of volunteer opportunities that just require being able to follow directions. The Mohawk Hudson Humane Society makes thousands of dollars a year by recycling bottles and cans donated to them by the community. Picking up cans and bottles isn't tough - we do it when we walk our dog, and fill up a big contractor's bag full every couple of months. Once the cans and bottles

get to the shelter, they must be washed and sorted; the shelter has "sorting parties" on a regular basis, and that, too, only requires the ability to follow directions.

#### **I can't volunteer, because I don't have transportation to get to anywhere.**

It's true that many volunteer opportunities are "on-site" - volunteering at CAPTAIN's Treasures, for instance, requires the ability to get to the store. But other volunteer tasks can be done from home. If you enjoy a bit of techie stuff, for instance, you could enter activities into online calendars for Landis Arboretum, and probably for many other organizations, if you asked them. Not tech-savvy? What about signing up to make a "telephone reassurance" call to a homebound senior for Care Links, a program of CAPTAIN CHS? When volunteer extraordinaire Francine Rodger began making calls to a lovely lady several years ago, she never dreamed the calls would grow into a warm telephone friendship kept up by Thursday morning calls.

#### **I'll never retire - I would have nothing to do and would just sit around the house.**

This is the one I really scratch my head over. There are SO MANY volunteer opportunities out there! You can probably align your skills with needs in an organization pretty quickly. Or perhaps, like me, you can spend your retirement years learning completely NEW skills that expand your horizons in ways you could never have guessed.

#### **But what about me? You said volunteering is good for the volunteer . . .**

Yes, this is the secret. Not that we WANT it to be a secret, but somehow lots of folks don't realize how good volunteering is for the volunteer. I've already mentioned learning new skills, something that can lead to job opportunities if you are younger, and can keep you mentally sharp if you are older. But more importantly, volunteering often offers a view into the lives of other people. Volunteers learn about people whose lives are different than their own, and gain empathy in a world that sadly seems to be losing empathy. Learning about other people's lives often

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## Volunteering continued from page 2

allows us to put our own lives in perspective, making some of our own problems look smaller. And volunteering can be a great place to make friends; when I hear people say they have no friends, I want to jump in and suggest they volunteer to find potential friends among those who care about the same things they do.

Have I caught your interest? If so, I've included some information on organizations near us who work with volunteers. The list is nowhere near exhaustive; don't be afraid to do your own search. Just try it, though - it's good for all of us.

### **Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public**

**Library:** Help with our Used Book Sales or Plant Swap and Sale, bake goodies for events at the Library, step into a leadership role with our Board of Directors - check it all out at [friendsofcphlibrary.org/help-we-need-now](http://friendsofcphlibrary.org/help-we-need-now).

**CAPTAIN CHS:** Opportunities here include working with kids, transporting seniors, writing news releases, and many more. [captaincares.org/how-to-help/volunteer](http://captaincares.org/how-to-help/volunteer)

**Animal Shelters:** Animal shelters are also great places to volunteer. We have three shelters all within a few miles of Clifton Park and Halfmoon. In addition to the can and bottle sorting I mentioned, shelters always need people who they will train to walk dogs, care for kitties, and of course, help raise the dollars that keep them open.

- **Mohawk Hudson Human Society**, Menands, NY (Nine and a half miles from Clifton Park). [mohawkhumane.org](http://mohawkhumane.org)

- **Animal Protective Foundation**, Maple Avenue in Glenville (Two and a half miles from Clifton Park). [animalprotective.org](http://animalprotective.org)

- **Saratoga County Animal Shelter**, County Farm Road, Ballston Spa (14 miles from Clifton Park) [saratogacountyanimalshelter.com](http://saratogacountyanimalshelter.com)

**Arboreta and Parks:** Arboreta and parks are looking for volunteers, too. We have two arboreta in the region, and lots of parks. I've included only a couple, but you can find more.

- **Landis Arboretum:** Help with plant sales, keep the grounds neat with your horticultural skills, help with activities, post events to online calendars, there's lots to do at Landis. 174 Lape Road, Esperance, NY (25 miles and forty-five minutes from Clifton Park) [landisarboretum.org/volunteer](http://landisarboretum.org/volunteer)

- **Pine Hollow Arboretum:** Grounds-keeping, gardening, special projects, fundraising, and more! 34 Pine Hollow Road, Slingerlands, NY (16 miles and 24 minutes from Clifton Park).

<https://www.pinehollowarboretum.org/support-us/volunteer/>

- **Friends of Grafton Lakes:** Be a park docent. Help build gardens, do trail work and help at events! [www.friendsofgraftonlakes.org](http://www.friendsofgraftonlakes.org)

- **Saratoga National Historical Park/Saratoga Battlefield, Schuylerville NY:** • **Saratoga National Historical Park/Saratoga Battlefield, Schuylerville NY: (Twenty-two miles and 28 minutes from Clifton Park)** The Park needs Visitor Center Greeters (basic site orientation), Schuyler House Guides (informal and formal interpretation), and Neilson House Interpreters (giving historic background on the Neilson family and the American Army's use of their house).

[www.nps.gov/sara/getinvolved/volunteer.htm](http://www.nps.gov/sara/getinvolved/volunteer.htm)

**Create the Good:** This service of AARP offers both in-person and at-home links to volunteer opportunities.

[createthegood.aarp.org/volunteer](http://createthegood.aarp.org/volunteer)

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## TTOB Upcoming Events continued from page 1

Nominations are being sought for next season's community read. Nominations may be submitted by paper ballot at the Library, Clifton Park Town Hall, Clifton Park Senior Community Center, Halfmoon Town Hall, and Halfmoon Senior Center. Online ballots can be cast at [www.twotownsonebook.org](http://www.twotownsonebook.org). Nominations will close on **April 30<sup>th</sup>**.





## THE LITERARY HUB

### JO ANNE ROBBINS

Are you familiar with the Literary Hub? It is an on-line resource for book lovers that provides a daily source for the “news, ideas and richness of contemporary literary life”.

There is so much information available about books – what’s hot and what is being reviewed, scattered over many different websites. With the help of its editorial partners (literally hundreds from publishing houses to news organizations to magazines to book reviewers), the Literary Hub is becoming a site readers can rely on for interesting and informative writing about “all things books”. Each day, the Literary Hub showcases an editorial feature from one of its many partners - publishers big and small, journals, bookstores, non-profits and more.

Want to know the list of most reviewed books, the best books of the decade, and a myriad of information about books. I find their website very useful and a goldmine of information.

Their website at [lithub.com/](http://lithub.com/) offers information about the craft of writing, criticism, fiction and poetry news, culture, Literary Hub radio, reading lists, book marks, crime reads – you name it, they cover it. It is simply a fun place to read about what’s going on in the world of books and literature.

## ORDER YOUR PAVER TODAY

### JANICE JASKOLKA GOLDEN

It’s time to order that paver you have been thinking about. Last year 12 people had pavers installed and already this year we have orders for 8 pavers.

Celebrate the happy times in your life: marriages, anniversaries, births, birthdays, retirements and other memorable events or accomplishments.

Reflect as well on those we loved and lost - spouses, children, siblings, and friends. Honor them with a paver. You will remember their love, kindness and all the joy they brought into your life every time you look at their pavers.

Pavers are available in various sizes, prices and locations. Order forms are available at the library or on line. Get your order in!

To find out more about paver sizes and other important details, go to our [FOL Website](#).



## FOL ANNUAL MEETING

### MARCH 25TH

Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library

# ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING


Wednesday, March 25, 2020 6:30 – 7:00 pm  
Followed by our Regular Monthly Meeting  
Piracci Board Room 7:00 – 8:30 pm

## EVERYONE WELCOME!

Program includes:

- ☐ Written Annual Report
- ☐ Financial Audit Report
- ☐ Review of Annual Goals

Visit our website:  
[www.friendsofcplibrary.org](http://www.friendsofcplibrary.org)



You can read our Annual Report and review our Annual Goals on-line by clicking on the links below.

[Annual Report](#)

[Annual Goals](#)



## Spring

## PLANT SWAP AND SALE

### PENNY SALEMME

According to the groundhog, spring will be early this year, so it's probably a good time to mention our FOL Plant Swap and Sale. I know it's too early to start digging, but thinking about gardening will make them rest of winter fly by. Maybe??

This year, our Plant Swap and Sale will be held Saturday, June 6th from 10:00 to 12:00 under the Library portico. In the past we've sold out quickly so get there early for the best selections.

We will be taking donated plants on Friday, June 5th from 1:30 until 5:00 in the Boardroom. Plants can also be donated on the day of the sale starting at 9:30 but no later than 11:00 am. We will give a \$1.00 credit for each plant up to \$5.00.

Plants must be bare root with soil washed off and in a plastic bag with a little water or a damp paper towel. For more information on how to prepare a bare root plant, [check our link](#).

It's always good to have the plant requirements so we have plant labels available to download [at this link](#). There will also be labels for pick up on the FOL display in the library vestibule after May 15th. Please label your plants if possible.

We are not taking gardening books because there's always a great selection at our used book sales. However, we will take GARDENING magazines that swappers can take for free.

We will not be able to accept any pots or any gardening supplies.

For your gardening concerns we will have a Master Gardener available for answers to your questions.

Interested in helping? Someone once said, "Many hands make light work." Turns out they were absolutely right. Our big organizational meeting will be held Wednesday, May 6th from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Josephine Piracci Boardroom. This meeting is for any volunteers willing to help with the plant sale - no knowledge of gardening required.

Hope to see you there.

For additional information, contact: Penny Salemme or Joan Fox.

[pennysalemme@gmail.com](mailto:pennysalemme@gmail.com)  
[foxden023@gmail.com](mailto:foxden023@gmail.com)

#### Planting Bare Root Plants

When planting bare-root plants, don't just dig a small hole and jam the roots into it. Thorough preparation at planting time is a guaranteed timesaver. Make the hole large enough so you can carefully spread the roots out in all directions. You may need to place a pyramid of soil at the bottom of the hole, under the center of the plant, to have it at the right depth, with the roots spread down and around the mound. Then fill in the hole carefully, getting rid of all air pockets, which can cause the death of roots. Saturate the top 6 inches of soil around the plant with water.

## RED CROSS COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> - 1-6 pm



Nearly every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Help boost the regional blood supply by donating here at the Library from 1 pm to 6 pm.

Call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or register online at [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org).



**The FOL is seeking volunteers to help with social media. If interested, please contact: [pattyruff@gmail.com](mailto:pattyruff@gmail.com).**

## AN EVENING WITH HEATHER MORRIS SHENENDEHOWA WEST AUDITORIUM MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>, 7:00PM

Join us as we visit with Tattooist of Auschwitz author Heather Morris.

Heather Morris is the author of bestselling historical fiction novel *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*, and her newest book *Cilka's Journey*.

Ms. Morris will be speaking about both novels and talking about her research and the story behind them. Q & A and book signing to follow.

Copies of both books will be available for purchase at the event from The Open Door Bookstore.

This event will be held on the Shenendehowa School Campus in the High School West Auditorium. Registration is required; [click here](#) to register.



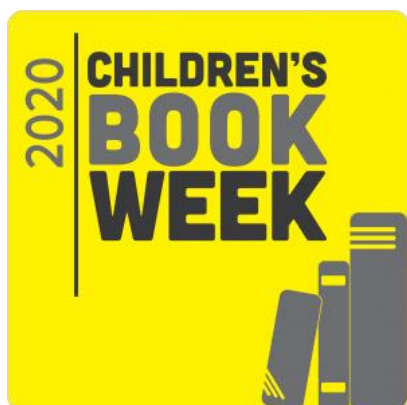
Visit [Heather's Facebook page](#) for additional information.



## THE LIBRARY CELEBRATES CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

The Library invites Library District parents or grandparents of a newborn (up to six months old) to join in celebrating National Children's Book Week with "Books for Babies."

If you are a Library District parent or grandparent of a newborn, please stop at the Circulation Desk of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library at 475 Moe Road, Clifton Park during the week May 4 ~ May 10, 2020, to receive a special free gift packet compliments of the Friends. The gift packet contains among other materials, a children's board book, library card application, nutritional information and tips on reading.



## FOL COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE MARCH 16

The Friends Community Scholarship program assists deserving graduating high school seniors in realizing their educational dreams.

Two scholarships of \$1,000 each will be awarded to students who will attend an accredited two-year or four-year college or university.

Scholarship recipients must be Shenendehowa High School students and/or residents of the Library Tax District. For additional information, please [visit our website](#).

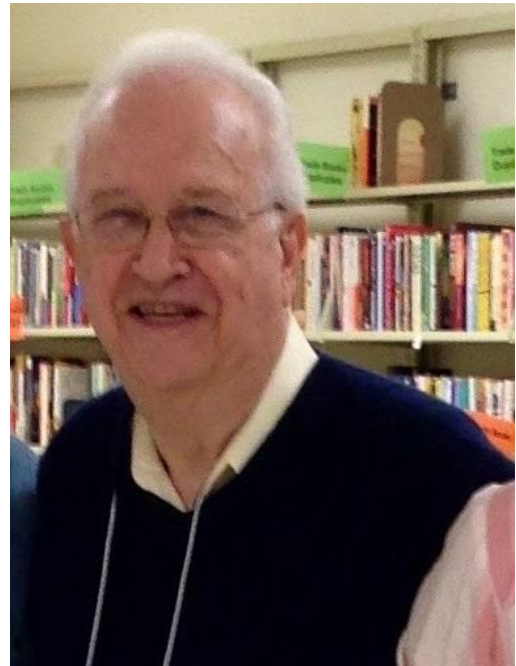


## FRIENDS MOURN LONGTIME VOLUNTEER SANDY ROTH WILMA JOZWIAK

In early January, the Friends, and the community at large, lost a wonderful volunteer. Sanford "Sandy" Roth, a fixture doing crowd control at FOL Members Only Used Book Sales, passed away in January. Sandy was always there offering bottle water to parched volunteers, helping customers with large purchases get organized for check out, and just being the friendly helpful person he was.

After retirement from Bellevue's Women's Hospital, Sandy dived into volunteering with a passion. Sandy served as a town councilman for Clifton Park and on various boards and committees and as an EMT for the Ballston Lake Emergency Squad, among many other services to the community. He received the Key to the Town of Clifton Park for his service in 2009.

We will remember Sandy best, though, as a kind and charming man who graced us with his presence and will be sorely missed.



Sandy volunteered at the library and in our community with a passion.



## THE FRIENDS MOURN BOARD MEMBER, CORINNE ACKER WILMA JOZWIAK

If you attended a large Friends or Library activity over the past few years, you probably were served refreshments by a lovely petite gray-haired lady with a beaming smile. Or, if you checked out your purchases during the Members Only portions on a Friday of our Used a Book Sales, it's likely Corinne took your money. Corinne, who passed away in late December, was a big part of the Friends' public face.

Corinne spent her life in service to others, both in her career as an educator and in her subsequent years of volunteering. When Corinne moved to the Capital Region to enjoy being near her son and his family, she brought with her a great love of people and a fierce desire to be of use to others. In addition to her volunteer efforts with the Friends as Chair of the Hospitality Committee and Book Sale volunteer, Corinne spent countless volunteering with Care Links, now part of CAPTAIN CHS. Whatever she did, Corinne did it with a smile. We still expect to see her behind the refreshments table, and we shall miss her terribly.



A life in service to others: Corinne exemplified kindness and caring.

## LEARNING THE HARD WAY

### DAN RILEY

We'd been underway only a few hours out of Chesapeake Bay en route to the Panama Canal. We were already listing 40-45 degrees and our flat-bottomed bow crashing the waves, driving some of our novice crew to the rail to relieve themselves over the side. The daunting thought of capsizing in this questionable craft was unnerving, but I hung on for dear life until we arrived at Coco Solo. The following day at an outdoor beer garden, my shipmates and I were quaffing copious amounts of the stuff, and I was getting the feeling that I was now "one of the guys," heading toward the coveted designation of "Old Salt."

I'd come aboard the LSM 256 a few days ago, fresh out of the brig where I feasted on three pieces of white bread and all the water I could drink a day for five days. As I stepped off the gangplank, I was picked off quickly by the two signalmen, desperate for another man to share the watch responsibility. The only man on the ship without a job, I was instantly promoted to signalman striker. This had to be some kind of record, I thought. The ship's complement was for three signalmen, but it was not uncommon for LSMs to embark for the Pacific needing additional crew.

I went to work the next morning and learned the job quickly – Morse code, semaphore, the international signal flags, and the phonetic alphabet. I immediately began standing watches on the conn, accompanied by one the other signalman until I was confident that I could do my job in the presence of the officer of the deck and the quartermaster, who was about 35, married with kids, and a draftee unhappily enduring his conscription into the *Alligator* Navy. The four officers rotated OOD duty and ranged from barely neighborly to perpetually surly.

The next day we transited the canal, and on the long choppy trip north, we stayed within sight of the Mexican coastline; somehow it felt safer there. Eventually pulling into Oakland where we had a few liberties in San Francisco while workmen welded seven Browning 50-caliber machine guns to our superstructure deck. Little did I know that I'd be manning one of those whenever we heard our squawker announce GQ: "Now hear this, all men man your battle stations."

"California state law was 21 to be able drink in bars. Many of us "youngsters" altered our ID cards, magically becoming three years older. (This state-mandated requirement outraged us, for we were headed for the Pacific war zone and our return was not guaranteed.) I was in trouble again when a shore patrol checked my ID card and was not entirely pleased with my artwork.

After the last welder disembarked, we secured for sea and got underway quickly, and an hour later passed under the Golden Gate Bridge and set sail for Pearl Harbor. I was on duty on the **conn** and kept busy answering shore stations queries, "Where are you bound?" I flashed back, Pearl Harbor; the captain joined in with an unprintable epithet. On the trip west we practiced antiaircraft gunnery skills firing away at a one hundred ft. long cloth sleeve pulled by a plane about 1,000 ft. from our side.

At Pearl, we took on additional supplies, had liberty in Honolulu, and got underway again, but not before a quick visit to a tattoo parlor. From Pearl we hit Eniwetok, Guam and Okinawa where our squaw box was busy every day and night summoning us to battle stations. We were credited with 2 kills – a Zero and a Hamp.

After the Japanese surrendered, we spent time in lighterage work in the Marianas, Subic Bay, Manila, and Lingayen, then made two choppy trips from Cebu Island in the Philippines to Yokohama, delivering Americal Division occupation troops. (They told us they preferred battle conditions to having to endure another day on an LSM.)

One of my fondest remembrances was the night we pulled onto the beach in Laoag in northern Luzon. I filched a decrepit Japanese flag off a half-submerged trawler down the beach from us, and had the good fortune to meet up with Raymundo Baylon, a young Filipino who invited me and a shipmate to dinner at his house situated on stilts where we met his parents and siblings and sampled some base, a rice wine (very powerful). The following day I was in trouble again when Raymundo showed up at our ship with a full bottle of base for me. Continued on the next page

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creating a large hole in our starboard bow. A new skipper was on the conn, and I had to tell him that there might be a reason why we were listing to starboard and our fantail was riding so high. Disappointedly that meant a return to Tokyo Bay and a week in dry dock. After repairs were made, we were ordered to Guam to load creosoted telephone poles and head for Shanghai where it turned out more adventures awaited us in “The City of Blazing Night.”

## OUR STORYTELLER'S GLOSSARY

In case you began to wish you had a dictionary handy, here is a brief glossary to help you read Dan Riley's interesting article.

## GLOSSARY:

Alligator Navy – Crew of an amphibious landing ship

Americal – Army division

GQ – General Quarters – The order to man battle stations.

Hamp – Japanese dive-bomber

Lighterage – Loading, unloading and transporting supplies to the beach

LSM- Landing Ship Medium – Flat bottom amphibious ship, capable of beaching on Pacific islands.

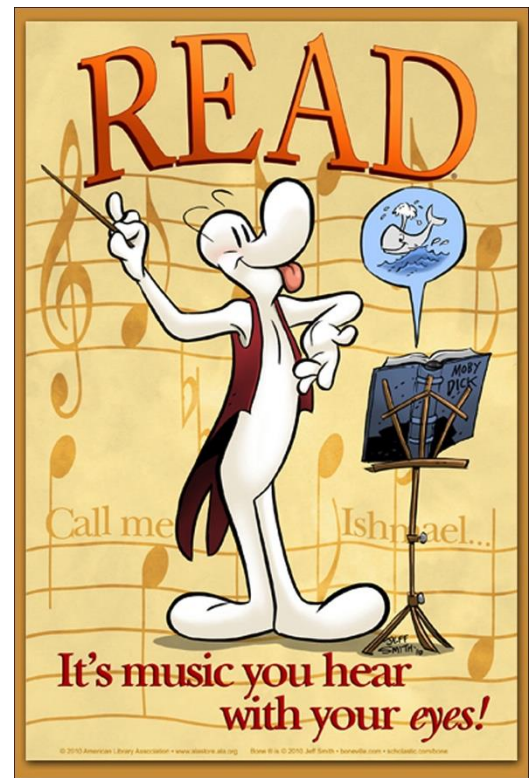
## Zero – Japanese Kamikaze



Okinawa Invasion, USS LSM off Okinawa, during the landings there circa 1 April. For information on the LSM or other ships that carried troops during WWII, visit this link:

<https://uboa.net/allies/warships/ship/12855.html>

## LIBRARY HUMOR



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO  
JOIN THE FOL!

It's not too late to become a member of the Friends of the Library. Your membership dollars go directly to support library programs. As a member, you are eligible for early admission to our Used Book Sales. You'll also receive our quarterly newsletter and other communications that will keep you in the loop regarding FOL events and activities. For additional information, visit our [FOL website](#).

**The Next FOL Book Sale is  
scheduled for May 8 – 10**

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020

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### ABOUT BOOK FRIENDLY

- Book Friendly is published quarterly.
- Authors' writings do not reflect the views of the Friends of the Clifton Park - Halfmoon Public Library.
- Authors retain rights to all their own work.
- Works and photos are used with permission of authors.

Book Friendly is online!

Writers - Book Friendly is always seeking original writing. We accept: book reviews, poetry, articles, memoirs, and short stories.

Email submissions to editor, Jo Anne Robbins:  
[cliftonparkjosie@gmail.com](mailto:cliftonparkjosie@gmail.com).



Friends of the  
Clifton Park-Halfmoon  
Public Library

## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEES 2020

### Junior Friends of the Library

Michele Gorab, JFOL Chair  
Madison Crowley and Janice Indajang, JFOL Co-Presidents; Snigdha Garud, Secretary; and Quinn Kelly, Treasurer

### Janice Jaskolka Golden, Pavers

Susan Cromer, **Plant Swap** Co-Chair

Joan Fox, **Plant Swap** Co-Chair

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Linda Mahr

Wilma Jozwiak

John Jozwiak

Michele Gorab

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Lynda Bryan (Town of Halfmoon)

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Mary Fran Verostek, Graphic Artist

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Jane Herbert

Marie Miller

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