

BOOK FRIENDLY

SEPTEMBER 2022



**LIBRARY BUDGET
VOTE, THURSDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15th**

TWO TOWNS-ONE BOOK 2023 CONTENDERS ANNOUNCED

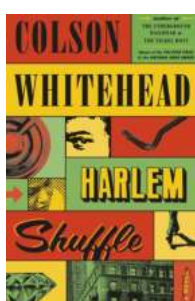
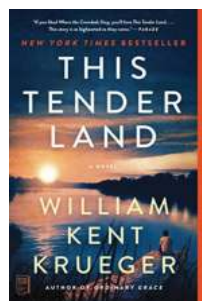
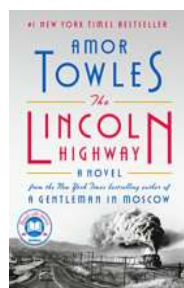
LINDA CONKLIN

Did you ever have this problem – too many good books? Well, we did. Community members submitted outstanding book nominations during the Two Towns-One Book nomination process. TTOB then developed a list of the top 24 books. Our 8 reading groups did their job and read those 24 books over the summer. This resulted in 8 recommendations that we narrowed down to 5 books. Hence, the selection of the contenders for 2023 was completed. Let me introduce the contenders:

“The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek” by Kim Michele Richardson, “Harlem Shuffle” by Colson Whitehead, “The Four Winds” by Kristin Hannah, “The Lincoln Highway” by Amor Towles and “This Tender Land” by William Kent Krueger. [Click here](#) to learn more about the 5 contenders.

Choose your favorite book or the book you would most like to read by voting online. Click here for an [online ballot](#). Your vote counts!

Paper ballots are available at the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library and the Halfmoon Farmers' Market. You may cast a ballot through September 5th. The winning book will be announced at the Library Budget Vote on September 15th. Programming will begin in January 2023.



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AN INVITATION TO AREA BOOK CLUBS TRISH MACENROE



Two Towns One Book (TTOB), a project of the **Clifton Park Halfmoon Friends of the Library** (FOL), is inviting all area book clubs to participate in this intellectually stimulating and fun filled initiative. The goal of TTOB is to bring the community together through the shared reading and discussion of a common book. The annual book selection inspires rich discussion and community activities and encourages younger readers to participate through companion books and related activities.

Book clubs may participate in TTOB in a variety of ways. They may nominate books for the upcoming year and assist with reading and narrowing down the nominations to five choices for a final community vote. Other opportunities include suggesting, planning, and participating in activities associated with the selected book. Most importantly, they can read and discuss the book at their own meetings then join the community discussions and related activities.

To stay up to date on the latest information, book clubs are asked to register with TTOB. There is no charge. In addition, you are not required to be a **Clifton Park Halfmoon Library (CPH Library) card** holder nor a member of the FOL, but are invited to do both. For more information email cphbookclubs@gmail.com.

To register your book club, download **the Book Club Registration Form**.



KIDS READ, TOO! CRAFT PROJECT & STEWART'S HOLIDAY MATCH MARY FRAN VEROSTEK



We are proud to share that through the grant writing efforts of Linda Conklin, chair of the Two Towns One Book Committee, the Friends of the Library are again recipients of a generous \$1,000.00 financial award from the Stewart's Shops Holiday Match Program. Stewart's Shops support organizations, such as ours, that have an interest in our children, their recreation and education, and they value extensive volunteer support. As a companion "Kids Read, Too!" project to our Two Towns One Book 2022 selection, "Finding Dorothy" by Elizabeth Letts, members of the committee met on several occasions in April and May to design and prepare 100 craft kits for distribution in May 2022. The theme of the craft, the creation of a "Munchkin Garden" or fairy garden, took its inspiration from the townspeople and flowers that Dorothy first encountered during her dream. Kit supplies were packaged in a large coconut basket liner filled with shredded paper grass. There was a growing kit with flower seeds (Daisy, Forget-Me-Not, or Sunflower) and growing medium, as well.

The "Munchkin Kit" included a wooden peg figure with craft supplies that included a felt hat, face and floral stickers, ribbon, double-sided tape, paint, and a brush. There was also a small bag with additional "Really Cool Stuff" (pebbles, flowers, wooden logs) to use as garden decorations, an illustrated instruction sheet, and "Kids Read, Too!" activity sheets.

The committee would like to extend a special "Thank you!" to the library staff who provided assistance during the two kit preparation "events", especially when we took over several tables in the second-floor area! Special thanks are also extended to Linda Conklin, Carol Davis, Lucille Schwartz, Mary Frances Verostek and staff librarian Emily Martin for their assistance.



COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED LAUREN MALIK AND ROHAN MISTRY MICHELE GORAB



**CONGRATULATIONS
ROHAN MISTRY AND
LAUREN MALIK
2022 COMMUNITY
SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!**

At the end of April, the Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library Scholarship Committee met to choose the two winners of the \$1,000 annual FOL Community Scholarships.

The Committee, chaired by Michele Gorab, included members Linda Conklin, Judy Corigliano, Linda Fennelly and Rhona Koretzky. After reviewing the criteria for selection, including the emphasis on the submission of a strong written essay, the committee chose two Shenendehowa seniors, Lauren Malek and Rohan Mistry.

Lauren is continuing her education in the fall at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey. While at Shen she was a member of several honor societies, including the Science National Honor Society, and the National Honor Society, as well as active in the Debate Club, Creative Dance Arts, and Robotic Team competitions. She also participated in numerous volunteer activities including the Lego Team Tournament, Robotic Demonstrations, Programming Workshops, and STEM Advocacy. She has won awards for academic achievement, robotics, and computing.

To quote from Lauren's essay, "While the Library has always been an important part of my life, the pandemic showed me the way in which it is truly a community center: it helps not only connect people to literature, but to the town and one another. And much like literature itself, the Library is a celebration of human achievement, the collective human achievement recorded from generation to generation. Given the pandemic and the hardships it has brought, the Library served as the celebration we all need."

Rohan is continuing on to Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. During his time at Shen, he was a member of numerous honor societies, including World Language, Social Studies, Science, and Math. He has also been active in the YMCA Youth and Government Program, the SFA Senate and, since the 8th grade, in the Speech and Debate Club. He has won numerous awards, including the Brandeis University Book Award, the FBLA Regional Award for Public Speaking, and NYS YAG Best Attorney.

To quote from Rohan's essay: "After experiencing its closing, I have taken the Library considerably less for granted, and have silently been grateful for its presence in our community. Working to cultivate a strong library wherever I spend my time in the future will remain a close priority to me, especially given how much this particular place has been central to my development as a leader."

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS TO LAUREN AND ROHAN!

ENJOYING SUMMERTIME AND READING: A TEENAGERS PERSPECTIVE

RAJA PATTON

Having no more schoolwork to do was probably the biggest thing that excited me this summer! I could just chill, sit down and watch television. But when I'm not watching TV, I may go for a walk, listen to music, go for a bike ride with my sisters, or read a good book.

This year, I became a big fan of mystery books, so that's all I've been reading so far. If you don't like mysteries, don't fret, the library has so many different genres that one can look through and check out. And if you aren't a strong reader, still, check out a good book anyways. You can read a chapter a day. And as long as you are reading at all, it's fine! If you get in the habit of reading every day, your reading will automatically improve.

Have a nice summer!

TEN GOOD BOOKS FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS IN 2022

1. Fear Has a Name
2. Life Skills for Teens
3. Ball Boy
4. The Outsiders
5. The Lake
6. The Book Thief
7. To Kill a Mockingbird
8. One of Us is Lying
9. Two Truths and One Liar
10. Mindfulness for Teens



10 GREAT BOOKS FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS IN 2022

1. The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings 4-Book Boxed Set
2. Harry Potter Complete Series
3. To Kill a Mockingbird (50th Anniversary Edition)
4. The Fault in Our Stars
5. Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy 5 Books Set
6. The Perks of Being a Wallflower
7. The Giver by Lois Lowry
8. Catcher in the Rye
9. Flowers for Algernon
10. Dune by Frank Herbert

ARE YOU A TECH PERSON LOOKING FOR AN ENJOYABLE VOLUNTEER JOB?

We need people with some technical skills!

- We need a Technology Coordinator. This person will be responsible for keeping our organization's desktop computer up to date with software, as well as keeping an eye on our software subscriptions used from the cloud. This job is very episodic, requiring very little time, and does not have to be a Board position, although reports to the Board on any activity are required.
- We also need a Social Media Coordinator. This person needs to have facility with Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Knowledge of or interest in learning about other social media sites is a plus. This person will also be expected to capture photographs at FOL events for posting to social media and is encouraged to form a committee to help with working those events. Social Media Coordinator does not have to be a Board position, although reports to the Board on any activity are required.

Please contact us at friendsofthecphlibrary@gmail.com

SOCIAL MEDIA ICONS



BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS! WILMA JOZWIAK

It was a busy summer for the FOL Used Book Sale crew. We continued to receive bountiful donations from our wonderful CPH community. In addition, we were the lucky recipient of MANY boxes of children's books from St. Ambrose School, as it will be merging with another school this fall and needed to find a new home for its library's contents. Fortunately, they thought of us! The books were in great shape and gave us an embarrassment of riches, due to our limits on storage space, so we decided the only thing to do was have a mini sale of children's books during the first weekend in August. Since it was summer, we threw in some beach reads for parents and grandparents while we were at it.

The sunny summer days (punctuated with a few downpours) made for traffic that alternated between really busy and very slow. Still, we were able to sell lots of kids' books, resulting in \$1,323.92 for the children's library collection (Yes, even the pennies found on the floor made it into the total.)

Our next four-day sale will be on September 29-October 2, with the usual times and conditions:
(and don't worry, we still have lots of children's books)

FOL members only presale admission:

Thursday, September 29, 11:45 am – 12:45 pm.

General sale – everyone admitted:

Thursday, September 29, 1 pm – 5 pm

Friday, September 30, 10 am – 4 pm

Saturday, October 1, 10 am – 4 pm

Sunday, October 2, noon to 4 pm **BAG SALE!** Everything you can fit in the bag we give you for \$1, and you can buy as many bags as you wish.

As always, cash and checks are accepted for sales.



SOMETHING NEW IS COMING SOON WILMA JOZWIAK

We are happy to announce that we will soon have a new website!

Board member Reina Ciccarone, who is a talented web designer, is currently hard at work creating a site that will take advantage of the most current, best technology practices. It will be much easier (and faster!) to navigate than our current site. Two Towns-One Book will be integrated into the new site as well (typing in the existing Two Towns-One Book URL will take the user to the new site once it is launched).

We are thrilled with what we've seen so far of the work in progress, and we are waiting with bated breath to see the finished product. We will let everyone know by email and on our Facebook page as soon as the site has been launched!



NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER PROMOTION TOM AND JUDY CORIGLIANO



Winner, Kathleen Myers of Clifton Park selected *Escape!*

On June 30, the second quarter FOL membership promotion to win a New York Times best-selling book ended. From March 1 through June 30, we had thirty-six eligible new FOL membership applications or FOL membership renewals. On Monday, July 11, absent an FOL Membership Committee meeting or an FOL Board meeting, we selected the winning number from all 36 eligible memberships, and we drew a winner.

And, the winner is, Kathleen Myers of Clifton Park! We contacted Kathleen, and she selected “Escape,” by James Patterson, number 4 on the Best Seller list at the time. With the help of Jim Foster, the Library/FOL Liaison, we secured a copy of “Escape,” and on July 26th, Judy met Kathleen (pictured with her new book), to present her with the book.

The New York Times Best Seller promotion runs quarterly in the “Book Friendly Newsletter.”

The next close date for the NYT Best Seller promotion will be September 30, 2022. If you haven’t renewed your FOL membership yet, do it now! You could be our next NYT winner!

“See you at the Library!”

WIN A NY TIMES BEST SELLER!

Become a member (or renew your membership) in the Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library at the \$10 level or higher, before **September 30, 2022**, and be eligible to win a NY Times Best Selling Book of your choice!



Join or renew now and receive a coupon (see membership levels for amount), in time for the **Autumn Used Book Sale, September 29 – October 2nd**. Membership forms are available online.

[Download a Membership Form](#)



COVID has stressed us and made some cranky. Do you have ten reasons to smile? [Click here](#) and let us know what you’re thinking.

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DESK TOM AND JUDY CORIGLIANO

Wow! We waited so long for summer to get here, and suddenly, fall is on the horizon!

We hope everyone is well and enjoyed an active and fun-filled summer. And we hope that the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library was part of those summer activities!

We are happy to report that the Friends of the Library membership is closing in on 400 memberships, with over 500 individuals in all membership categories. It is difficult to draw any conclusions about these numbers, but it does appear that for most of us COVID is cautiously in the rear-view mirror, and that many of us are coming back to use the “treasure” that is the Clifton Park/Halfmoon Library!

At the end of June, we concluded the second quarter “Win a New York Times Best Seller” promotion and selected a winner from the thirty-six new and renewed memberships (see the separate article about the winner and her book!). This is a quarterly membership promotion, so if you haven’t renewed for 2023-2024 yet, do it now, and you may be our next winner!

If it isn’t already on your calendar, please note the dates for the fall Used Book Sale from Thursday, September 29 to Sunday, October 2. FOL members will have early access on Thursday, from 11:45am to 12:45pm. We will have a desk setup where you can re-new your membership or become a member then.

If you are an FOL member, we thank you again for your membership and your support! If you have time, consider volunteering to work with us. There is great satisfaction in helping the Library to provide funding for programs and events for the entire community.

If you are not yet an FOL member, join us now, it’s easy! Just go to Friends website to download the [membership application form](#).

See you at the library!



NATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY WEEK OCTOBER 16-22

National Friends of Libraries Week (NFOLW) is an annual event each October. Thanks to United for Libraries, Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends and Foundations, an affiliate of the American Library Association, Friends of Libraries groups have their very own national week of celebration. [Read more here](#).

Help us celebrate the contributions of the Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library by becoming a member.



When you consider the diverse audience and large number of people influenced by the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Public Library, it is truly amazing. As a Friend of the CPH Library, you will enjoy the pride that comes from knowing that you are helping spread the love of reading and the love of learning throughout our community. Our Library is enhanced because of our volunteering and fundraising efforts. The Friends need your participation as we continue to support one of our greatest community assets. We encourage and welcome any newcomers who wish to join us in support of our great Library.

TRAVELS WITH RHONA RHONA KORETZKY FORMAN

May 7, 2022 was a banner day for the FOL travel program. A group of 24 travelers embarked on our first adventure since 2019. We traveled by bus to the Erie Canal side village of Chittenango, New York to visit two fascinating small museums that have a common thread. Matilda Joslyn Gage, the mother-in-law of Wizard of Oz creator L. Frank Baum, is memorialized at the museum and foundation named in her honor. As suffragist, abolitionist, human rights advocate, and an inspiration to Baum as he wrote his stories, Gage had a profound impact on the world. After enjoying a group lunch at a local restaurant, we then turned our attention to Baum himself by touring the All Things Oz museum, an eclectic collection of memorabilia related to the books, theater, and movies sparked by the creative mind of Baum. Truly a memorable and enjoyable way to re-start our robust travel program.

At the end of May, a group of 28 travelers boarded a plane and headed to Denver to begin a spectacular 10-day tour through the Rockies focusing on National Parks in Colorado and Utah. The group returned home safely and filled with enthusiasm to continue traveling.

More photos from this fun trip may be found on [page 9](#).

Watch for future travel opportunities. We are back on the road!



Our Collette tour through the Rockies. We're back on the road again!



[The Arches National Park](#)

**WE ARE BACK! LOOK FOR MORE TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES
SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY!**

TTOB BUS TRIP TO CHITTENANGO



We enjoyed a beautiful spring day for our bus trip to Chittenango. It was good to be able to travel again. It was a wonderful day!



TTOB – WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

JO ANNE ROBBINS

What is Two Towns-One Book? This is the 11th season for Two Towns-One Book: Clifton Park & Halfmoon Read! (TTOB). It is a program of the Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. Our goal is to bring people in our community together through the shared reading and discussion of a common book. Our choices inspire rich discussion and community activities and encourage younger readers to participate through companion books and related activities – our Kids Read, Too! Program.

How is THE BOOK chosen? From February through May, everyone could nominate their favorite books to be considered for our community-wide read. A ballot box was located upstairs and downstairs at the library. Most people voted on our TTOB website – more than ever before. In fact, we encouraged our readers to nominate more than one book if they had more than one great read to recommend for our TTOB Community Read. Nominations ended and our librarians winnowed the list down to 24 books that met all of our requirements.

What are we looking for in a book that might be a contender?

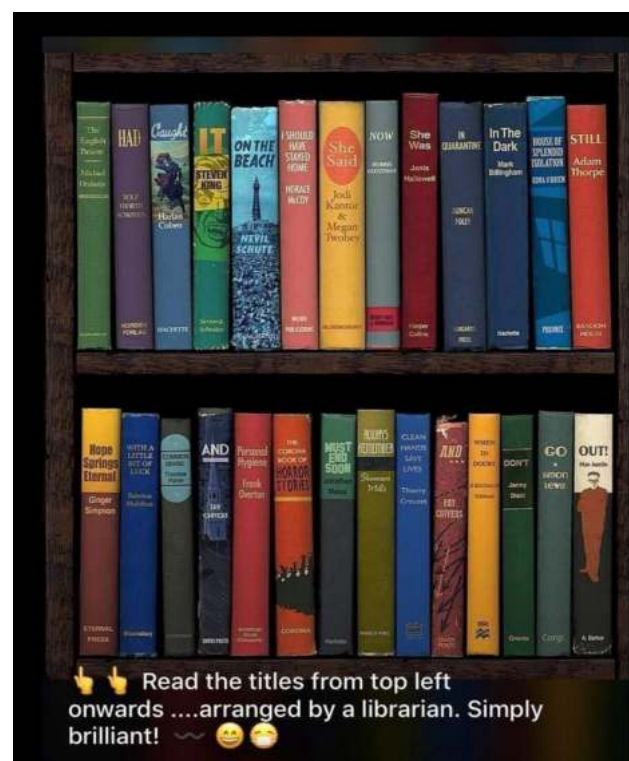
- Fiction or Nonfiction
- Addresses universal themes of life
- Sparks thoughtful discussion
- Of general interest to adults and young adults
- Available in several formats for accessibility (paperback, audio, large print)

In June, our TTOB Steering Committee met to approve the final list of 24 books for consideration. Then, the books were assigned to our volunteer summer reading groups, three or four books for each group to read, evaluate and finally decide on a recommendation for a contender. That committee met again on August 2nd to make the final decision on the 5 books recommended for the vote by community residents to choose THE BOOK. That vote began on August 2nd and will end on September 6th when the Steering Committee meets to decide on the book for our 2023 TTOB Community Read.

Once that book is chosen, the Steering committee meets several times to plan and schedule activities around the theme(s) of the book. Beginning in January of 2023, those events, activities and discussions take place around the theme of the chosen book to compliment the shared reading experience. You can visit the Archives for past books and events.

Two Towns-One Book Reading List for Summer 2022

Book Title	Author	Year	Pages	Genre
The Silver of Stars	Jocelyn Meyers	2019	400	Love Stories
Where the Crawdads Sing	Delia Owens	2018	370	Mystery Fiction
American Dirt	Jeanine Cummins	2020	386	Suspense Fiction
Book women of Troublesome Creek	Richardson	2019	388	Historical Fiction
The Four Winds	Kristin Hannah	2021	454	Domestic Fiction
The Lincoln Highway	Amar Tawles	2021	576	Historical Fiction
The Radium Girls	Kate Moore	2017	479	Historical Fiction
This Tender Land	William Kent Krueger	2019	459	Adventure Fiction
Hamnet	Maggie O'Farrell	2020	305	Biographical Fiction
The Lions of Fifth Avenue	Fiona Davis	2020	354	Historical Fiction
White Justice Sleeps	Stacey Abrams	2021	386	Political Fiction
The Book of Lost Names	Kristin Harmel	2020	400	Historical Fiction
Transcendent Kingdom	Yaa Gyasi	2020	281	Fiction
The Station Lady	Laura Morell	2021	465	Historical Fiction
Atlas of the Heart	Brene Brown	2021	298	Self-Help
The Reading List	Adams, Sara	2021	373	Novel
The Island of the Sea Women	Lisa See	2019	384	Historical Fiction
The Midnight Library	Matt Haig	2020	288	Science Fiction
The Sweetness of Water	Nathan Harris	2021	363	Historical Fiction
Deepon King Kong	James McBride	2020	370	Historical Fiction
The Vanishing Half	Britt Bennett	2020	343	Mystery Fiction
Beautiful Country	Qian Julie Wang	2021	305	Autobiography
Before Luck Next Time	Julia Cushman Johnson	2021	288	Historical Fiction
Heaven Shuffle	Colum Whithead	2021	318	Historical Fiction



Don't sit on the sidelines, be sure to vote for the book you would think best meets our qualifications for a great community read. Vote at the Library, at the Halfmoon Farmer's Market or on-line at: www.TwoTownsOneBook.org.

ELIZABETH LETTS AUTHOR EVENT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2022, 7:00PM CLIFTON PARK-HALFMOON PUBLIC LIBRARY

For those fortunate enough to participate in the ZOOM event last spring, Elizabeth Letts was a bright spot in a very difficult time for all of us transitioning into a new COVID reality. Fortunately, she was also willing to schedule an in person visit that's scheduled for **Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 7:00pm**, at our wonderful library!

Elizabeth was raised in Southern California, spending all of her free time on the back of a horse when she wasn't immersed in a good a book. She graduated from Yale University with a major in history. Following graduation, she joined the Peace Corps. After her Peace Corps service, she continued her studies at the Yale School of Nursing where she trained to be a certified nurse-midwife.

She began publishing books while working and raising four children. Her books have been recognized by Indie Next, Library Reads and Junior Library Guild selections, and a Goodreads Reader's Choice Finalist. She's also been honored with the 2017 PEN USA Award for Research Non-Fiction, and the Daniel P. Lenehan Award for Media Excellence from the United States Equestrian Foundation. Her books have reached #1 on the New York Times Bestseller lists, an elusive goal for many authors.

Elizabeth lives in southern California and spends her summers in Northern Michigan. She loves nothing more than a good road trip and has driven across the country, coast-to-coast more than 20 times.

Elizabeth is an engaging public speaker who is known for connecting with her audiences on a personal level. Her books have been selected for multiple One Book programs, including Pasadena, CA, Grand Rapids, MI, Syracuse, NY. She has made multiple national and local TV and radio appearances, including The Today Show, and National Public Radio.

If you would like to listen to her radio event on NPR, you'll be impressed with her knowledge and an opportunity to hear about her next book, *The Perfect Horse*.

Registration for this event will be found on the [library events calendar](#) in early September. Join us to enjoy, in person, the author of a great book!



Publication Order of Standalone Novels

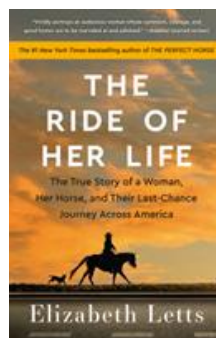
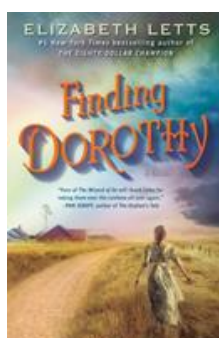
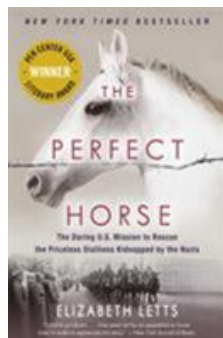
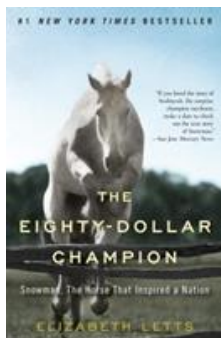
Quality of Care (2005) Hardcover Paperback Kindle
Family Planning (2006) Hardcover Paperback Kindle
Finding Dorothy (2019) Hardcover Paperback Kindle

Publication Order of Picture Books

The Butter Man (2008) Hardcover Paperback Kindle
My Blue-Ribbon Horse (2022) Hardcover Paperback Kindle

Publication Order of Non-Fiction Books

The Eighty-Dollar Champion: Snowman, the Horse That Inspired a Nation (2011) Hardcover Paperback Kindle
The Perfect Horse: the Daring U.S. Mission to Rescue the Priceless Stallions Kidnapped by the Nazis (2016) Hardcover Paperback Kindle
The Ride of Her Life: The True Story of a Woman, Her Horse, and Their Last-Chance Journey Across America (2021) Hardcover Paperback Kindle



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH ANNUAL LIBRARY BUDGET VOTE

The next Clifton Park – Halfmoon Library Budget Vote and Trustee Election is scheduled for Thursday, September 15 from 7:00am to 9:00pm. Registered voters (including homeowners and those who rent their homes) residing in Clifton Park or Halfmoon, who have resided in the library district for 30 days or more prior to the vote are eligible. The Library District consists of all of the Town of Clifton Park and the areas in the Town of Halfmoon that are not served by the Mechanicville or Waterford-Halfmoon School Districts. The Library District does not follow the Shenendehowa School District boundaries.

Our Annual Budget Vote is a critical day when the Library proposes the next year's budget to the voters. The tax dollars voted on annually provide over 90% of the Library's operating funds. Making voting a priority is every member's privilege and the best way to let our wonderful Library staff and Board of Trustees know that you appreciate the job they do each and every day.

Please mark the date on your calendar today! If you will not be in town that day, you will be able to arrange for an absentee ballot. Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Circulation Desk or by clicking [absentee ballot](#). The deadline for requesting the form be mailed to you is Tuesday, September 6th

With your continued support, our Library will continue to provide the resources, services, and programs we all enjoy and appreciate for another year.

**MANY THANKS TO OUR
VOLUNTEER SIGN PLANTERS!**



**Support our Library!
Vote YES**

Clifton Park / Halfmoon Public Library District

**2023 Budget
&
TRUSTEE ELECTION**

7 am to 9 pm - September 15th

**Come and VOTE in the Josephine Piracci Board Room
(to the right as you enter the library's main doors)**

Stop by the Friends' TWO TOWNS - ONE BOOK exhibit in the glass display case located on the Main Floor under the stairs. Explore our TTOB history and keep up-to-date regarding our community reading activities!

Enjoy refreshments in the Library cafe compliments of the Friends of the Library.

Are You Eligible?

Voters who are registered in New York State and who live within the Library District boundaries 30 days prior to the vote are eligible to vote. Absentee ballot applications are available at the Circulation Desk for those who will be outside of Saratoga County on the day of the Library's Budget Vote and Trustee Election.

Check the Library website for additional information - www.cphlibrary.org

BUDGET VOTE ROAD SIGNS

We know you depend on your library! When you see the white or blue lawn signs below, it's a reminder to get to the library the following Thursday and vote.

If you love your library, please make the effort to drive to the library on Thursday, September 15th. The polls are open from 7:00am until 9:00pm. Refreshments will be available in the library café. The Friends urge you to support your community center for lifelong learning!



AFTER THE FALL

BY JANINE DE TILLIO CAMMARATA

After the fall, her life went downhill. When she fell into that holly bush, she rolled away from her independence. Rosalyn didn't mean to fall. Somehow her foot caught, and she took a tumble.

Rosalyn imagined her grown children saying, "She can't live on her own." "What if she breaks a hip?" "Why won't she use her cane?"

They had no idea. How could they know that old age was like a boxed room slowly squeezing in on itself? The more you let go, the closer the walls became. Then one day you were in the smallest box of all—Rosalyn shuddered at the idea of her own death.

She may be on the other side of retirement, but Rosalyn wasn't dead yet. She phoned her friend, Millie, whose daughter worked in a travel agency. "Millie, it's Rosalyn."

"Dahling. How are you feeling?"

Rosalyn rolled her eyes, tired of that question. "I'm perfectly fine." She didn't say how the thorns on the holly bush poked holes in her seamless skin or her carefully groomed confidence. "I want to take a trip. Can your daughter book a slot on a flight for me to Miami?"

"Miami? Why would you want to go there?"

Rosalyn looked at the picture of Miami Beach from her childhood. There she stood in her pink polka dot bikini, dark, curly hair tight against her head, her tiny hand tucked into her father's. He was born in Cuba and married her mother in Miami. They had moved to New York in the 1940's and had only gone back a couple times.

"I need to experiment, get some sun, drink some mojitos! I'm tired of this weather." Rosalyn peeked outside the window of her townhouse and shivered at the billowing snow falling to the ground. At least the snowfall was graceful.

The incessant calling of her name reminded Rosalyn that Millie was still on the phone. "What?" Rosalyn asked.

"I said I'll come with you. I've been looking to get away." At five foot nothing, Millie had a shock of red hair

that she often piled on top of her head. Her skin was always bronzed from the tanning beds at the gym.

Rosalyn couldn't think of a better sidekick for fun. "Alright. Let's do it."

One week later, they flew into Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Rosalyn rented a red 1960 Ford Thunderbird convertible. It was very similar to the one her late husband had bought for his 60th birthday. Millie squealed. "We are going to have so much fun!"

They piled their suitcases in the trunk along with their makeup bags. Rosalyn tied her red scarf over her loose highlighted curls while Millie tucked her fiery red hair under a leopard scarf. They turned on the radio and the song *Born to be Wild* set the tone for their trip.

Rosalyn shifted the Thunderbird into first gear. As she peeled out down the highway toward Miami Beach, she felt the years slip away. This was the kind of slipping she wanted to do.

They arrived at The New Yorker on Collins Avenue. "Can't get away from New York, can you," Millie said.

"Your daughter booked it."

A valet opened her door and held out a hand. Rosalyn smiled at the young man with dark cocoa eyes and black hair slicked back from his high forehead.

"Welcome to The New Yorker. Your wish is my command," he said.

Rosalyn's insides swirled. He was very handsome, but she needed a more seasoned man. As Rosalyn entered the hotel, she knew this trip to Miami Beach would be perfect for her recovery. Her children were not happy when she told them this morning that she was leaving for Miami.

Rosalyn forgot about life back home when strong tan arms wrapped around her waist to stop her from falling over a small suitcase. She hadn't seen the gentleman, and she definitely wasn't looking down like she was supposed to do. Her attention was poised above her as she gazed at the intricate details of the timeless hotel.

This time her stomach dropped when she stared into

Continued on page 14

After the Fall continued from page 12

sparkling green eyes. “Do you wish to tango, mi amor,” the man whispered seductively in her ear. Tango may not have been the first thing on her mind, but they could certainly start with that.

Rosalyn giggled like a schoolgirl. “Not on our first date.”

He raised an eyebrow, stepped back, and kissed her hand. “Then I will see you tonight at the dance for our second date. 8 o’clock.” With that he walked out of the hotel.

“Va va voom,” Millie crooned. “Add a little lime and mint and you have your own personal passion drink.”

Rosalyn answered, “I can’t dance anymore.”

Millie’s hazel eyes closed to slits. “What do you mean you can’t dance? You and Charles used to dance up a storm.”

Rosalyn shook her head. “That was then.”

She and Charles had taken ballroom dance lessons and were the highlight of most galas. They would take to the floor and flow gracefully through every dance. The tango was their favorite. Oh, to move her hips like that again. She shook them tentatively and sighed. Maybe if she took a couple extra pain pills, she could get through a dance.

§

Rosalyn stepped into the ballroom illuminated with crystal chandeliers. The sleeveless, black-beaded bodice of her dress fit like a glove. Years of exercise kept Rosalyn firm in all the right places. It was her balance that sagged. The red skirt flowed smoothly down her long legs. She opted for low heels that gave her stability, but didn’t take away from the sensuality of her dress.

He walked toward her from across the room. She caught his gaze and felt as though they had danced a thousand tangos molded as one. His silver hair fell over one eye when he bowed to her, holding out his hand. She took it and admired his *Cubavera* shirt and dark slacks.

Her handsome gentleman walked her onto the dance floor. As the music began, he pulled her into his arms. She felt an unforeseen joy. Time stood still. Her body flowed with his. As they spun in the dance meant for lovers, she couldn’t think of a better way to live life, after the fall.

Janine De Tillio Cammarata is an award-winning author who lives in Clifton Park. She teaches journaling, creative writing, and memoir.

Janine has provided a [journal prompt](#) on page 16. Give it a try!

For more information, visit

www.janinedetilliocammarata.com or

<http://www.cphlibrary.org/> for monthly journaling workshops.



ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF THE CLIFTON PARK-HALFMOON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Friends of the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Public Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit membership organization. We exist to help the Library do more for the community. Members raise funds through activities like our Used Book Sales, trips, and membership donations, and volunteer for Library and Friends events. Through it all, we have a good time helping our wonderful Library.

IT WAS A BUSY SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY

ALEX GUTELIUS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

It was a busy summer at the Library! Our Summer Reading program saw over 1,000 participants and our Back Lawn was filled with hundreds of kids and families attending story time, live theater performances, or visiting with sea creatures. This year's Summer Reading theme, Oceans of Possibilities, gave our staff endless ideas for presenting fun activities and displays for our patrons—from a giant yellow submarine under our stairs, to a living fish tank in the Children's Library, to ocean-themed crafts and contests. We were pleased to see the Library bustling with patrons--whether they were attending programs, checking out stacks of books, or enjoying our displays and activities. This fall, we will continue to plan in-person programs whenever possible and, in some cases, will continue to offer hybrid programs—allowing patrons to attend in-person or virtually from home.

In September, we are looking forward to once again kicking off the Town of Clifton Park's Farm Fest. Families are invited to begin their day here at the Library with songs and dancing with Grama Tippy-Toes. Story Time will resume and will be offered twice a week for all ages. Our very popular kids' book club will also pick up once again, this time focusing on famous bears in literature! And, of course, we will offer activities that are fun for the whole family, like PJ Story Time and Family Lego Build.

We have exciting news for teens - the Teen Place is now designated for teens only on school days after 3 pm, and all day on weekends. Teens now have their own space to unwind after school, study with friends, or simply sit quietly and do homework or read a book.

We are pleased to announce the return of our computer instruction classes. We recently welcomed a new technology librarian who will be leading the programs and offering one-on-one tech help sessions by appointment. Look for our September brochure for a full list of classes being offered.

As a reminder, the Local History Room is open to the public for browsing or doing research. Here, we house the Town of Clifton Park's history collection including photos, letters, and diaries, as well as books on the history of Clifton Park, Halfmoon, and Saratoga County. You can drop in for a visit on Mondays from 1-4 pm, Thursdays from 5-7 pm, or by calling to schedule an appointment with our local history librarian.

There's a lot happening at the Library this fall. We hope you will stop by to pick up a book, attend a program, or just to say hello. We look forward to seeing you!



"We have exciting news for teens - the **Teen Place** is now designated for teens only on school days after 3 pm, and all day on weekends."



ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS

The Library Budget Vote & Trustee Election will be held at the Library on Thursday, September 15 from 7 am to 9 pm. Any eligible voter who is unable to come to the Library on the day of the vote may request an Absentee Ballot.

[Access Now](#)

A JOURNAL PROMPT

JANINE CAMMARATA

When I lead with love, I always know what to say. It comes from my heart center. If I'm still for long enough, I can feel it shimmering and glowing like an eternal flame. I can be in the discomfort of uncertainty because I'm loved. I'm loved by my family, my friends, my community.

Most importantly, I love myself.

What emotion do you want to lead your day with? This is like setting an intention of how you want to show up.

Journal about the fears, uncertainties, doubts, or discomfort that come up for you before starting your day or during it.

Where do you feel that emotion in your body? Describe it.

What are the sources of those feelings?

If writing about it brings back the feeling, sit with the discomfort. Breathe in love, joy, the freshness of life. Breathe out any fear, toxins, hate, negative emotions.

Does acknowledging those feelings help you feel complete, or do you need to take action to work through them? This can be talking to a person connected to those feelings, doing something for yourself, asking for help.

What kindness can you share today for yourself and for others?

No matter what, we can follow our hearts, create change through kindness, and Lead with Love.



CREATIVEBUG – IT'S AVAILABLE FOR FREE ON OUR LIBRARY WEBSITE

Creativebug is a free service available to patrons of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library. It can be accessed with your library card number. If you like to create and want some instruction or some ideas for a particular craft or art project, simply go to www.cphlibrary.org. On the home page, look under Digital Content. Under Digital Magazines and Crafts, you'll find Creativebug. Click on that and you will be absolutely amazed at the options available to you with unlimited access to everything this site has to offer.

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cliftonparkjosie@gmail.com. Deadline for submission for the next Book Friendly is December 15th.

We prefer Microsoft Word format. Please include a statement granting Book Friendly permission to use your work.

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Want to check out the Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library website. Click the graphic below.



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