



Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library
FRIENDS
www.friendsofcplibrary.org



**SEPTEMBER
2021**

BOOK FRIENDLY

THE NEW NORMAL AT THE LIBRARY ALEX GUTELIUS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Although January is the start of the calendar year, for many people September often feels like the beginning of a new year—with the close of summer and the start of school. September will bring some new changes to the Library. We are excited to announce that effective Sunday, September 12th, the Library will be back to our full pre-pandemic hours of 70 hours a week. We will be open until 9 pm Monday through Thursday and will again be open on Sundays from noon to 5 pm.



With the return to full hours, we will also be reintroducing

the collection of late fees and overdue fines on September 12. While most late fees will remain the same, we are happy to share that the \$1.00/day late fee on movies will be decreased to \$.25/day for new movies, and only \$.10/day for older movies.

Two new items we are excited to

introduce are Wi-Fi Hotspots and the addition of a museum pass to the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, MA. The hotspots were graciously provided by the CPH Library Foundation and have been wildly popular! You can stop by the Ask Desk to check for availability. We are very excited about the addition of our newest museum pass, thanks to the generosity of the Friends. This pass has been highly sought after for several years.

Over the past few months, we have been carefully re-introducing services and programming at the Library. During the summer months, the bulk of the youth programming has been done outside on the back lawn— attracting hundreds of parents and children to story times and craft programs. Adult programs have continued to be a mix of virtual and in-person.

Initial planning for fall programs assumed a return to in-person indoor programming. The rise of COVID cases, fueled by the spread of the highly contagious Delta variant may mean some changes to those plans. We continue to make adjustments based on CDC, State DOH, and County recommendations and appreciate your understanding as we continue to navigate the continually changing situation.

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*Americans read
nearly 25% more
last year during
the COVID
outbreak.*

This is our fourth newsletter documenting COVID and our library community. Check out our **Other Editions**.

STORY WALK

KARA PARNETT HOGAN

Take a relaxing stroll or make it a bigger adventure!



Story Walk is a great program for the whole family! We discovered Story Walk in the fall of last year while trying to find some local kid-friendly outdoor activities, and we loved it so much we made it our goal to visit all four locations this summer. The program enables you to walk through local nature trails, while reading through pages of a great story at your own pace.

Most recently, we visited Veteran's Memorial Park, where my 19-month-old and 3-year-old ran through the well-maintained, clear paths (perfect for little kids) excitedly yelling and pointing as we found each page of the story. We stopped and read the pages and then off we went to chase down the next page. We love that the Story Walk books are great for all ages. Our little ones enjoyed learning about bees, but older kids would really appreciate the humor in the story and understand some of the more complex facts scattered among the pages.

Another benefit of this program was discovering how many kid (and dog!) friendly parks we have right in our area. As someone who grew up in Clifton Park, I had never visited any of these beautiful spaces before. I was missing out! All of these parks feature multiple paths where you could take a relaxing stroll or make it a bigger adventure.



Nature Story Walks

Summer Fun in Clifton Park!

How does it work?

1. Visit the Clifton Park Halfmoon Public Library (CPH): pick up a 2019 Nature Story Walk Passport!
2. Travel to the Park, daytime or early evening, at your convenience!
3. Walk the Specially Marked Trail, & Read the Book with its Separate Pages Displayed and Posted along the Trail!
4. At the Story's End, Open the Wood Letterbox & Stamp Your Passport!
5. Visit all 4 Nature Story Walks, and Redeem your Passport for a Prize available at the CPH Public Library!

Come and experience being outside in a new way—a self-guided Nature Story Walk! Explore the trails at four (4) parks this summer, and read a book at the same time!

Park #1: HAYES NATURE PARK

231 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065

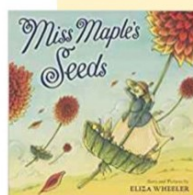
6/29 — 7/13



Park #2: MOHAWK LANDING NATURE PRESERVE

640 Riverview Rd, Rexford, NY 12148

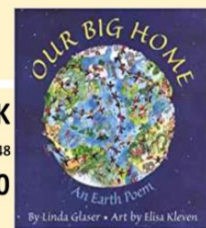
7/13—7/27



Park #3: GARNSEY PARK

1481 NYS Route 146, Rexford, NY 12148

7/27—8/10



Park #4: VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

697 MacElroy Rd (next to Elks Lodge), Ballston Lake, NY 12019

8/10 — 8/24

www.cliftonparkopenspaces.org

www.cliftonpark.org <https://cphlibrary.org/>



A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERSHIP FROM OUR QUAD LEADERSHIP TEAM

The more things change, the more they stay the same. Since August of last year, the roller coaster has continued for the Friends of the Library. Proctors tickets and travel were victims of COVID mitigation practices. The Used Book Sales scheduled for January and May were cancelled, of course, as was the annual Plant Swap and Sale, and Two Towns-One Book went on hiatus. We are unsure about Proctors tickets at this time. Junior Friends of the Library went into hibernation, and we are uncertain whether we will be able to resuscitate that program - it will be up to the teens who are lovers of the Library. And, we lost access to a wonderful community resource when the *Community News* folded.

On the other hand, the Get Out the Vote push resulted in a decent turn out given the pandemic mitigation requirements, and as things began to reopen, we were able to restart donations for the Used Book Sales. We have been totally inundated with donations from a community that apparently spent the last year culling their bookshelves. We held a mini sale on the last day of July, selling only DVDs, CDs, and mystery books (both hardback and paperback). We ended up not only moving materials to make room for sorting in the book room, but also bringing in about twice the profit of any other mini sale we've had - even though we cut the prices in half from what we usually charge at our multi day sales. We have with hope in our hearts scheduled a multi-day sale in October, this time beginning on Thursday for a four-day sale on October 14 - 17.

The Museum Pass program started up again as museums reopened, and the ever popular Nature Story Walk co-sponsored with the Library happened and the Town of Clifton Park recreation department. And we plan a reinvigorated Two Towns-One Book program focusing on *Finding Dorothy* as the community read book.

And regarding our travel program, we hope to make up for lost ground by offering two extended trips in spring 2022. We are planning to depart on March 29 for a two week journey through Southern Spain and Morocco. On May 27 we are booked to depart for a nine day trip through the Colorado Rockies with a side jaunt into Utah. This trip is a reschedule from May 2020. Both trips

currently have registrations in the mid 20s and there is space to add a few more travelers. Day trips have been daunting as CDC guidelines are still shifting constantly, but there is hope for one in fall 2021 if conditions stabilize. There will be a day trip to coincide with the themes of Two Towns One Book in early May 2022.

Perhaps most hopefully, we have added four amazing new people to our Board - two joined in the spring, and two were officially welcomed at our August Joint board meeting. Reina and Tony Ciccarone are our new web managers; both are professionals in the field. We were extremely lucky that they were looking for a way to be of service to their community. Judy and Tom Corigliano will be our membership co-chairs. Tom brings administrative experience in higher education and as a member of several executive boards, and Judy brings years as a successful business education teacher, a role in which she initiated a student-run store, began a National Business Honor Society, and with the assistance of the First Teachers Credit Union, began the first student operated bank in the Capital region. All four are excellent additions to our team, and their joining our Board gives us something to help us feel good about in 2021.

COVID HAIKU

Beautiful morning -
Zero ZOOM meetings –
Relief, breathe - let it all be!

Although far for some,
Lucky to be home with three –
Three, here, dear to me

Mind full, not mindful
Racing through COVID clutter
Be still - focus, breath, connect

Pets are so confused!
Why is mommy home so much?
Need social distance!

Coronavirus
Is nothing unaffected?
Spring rain brings peepers.

MEMBERSHIP

It's hard to believe, but here we are again – going back to school, enjoying the last late days of summer, and reaching the 18-month mark of living with COVID. It hasn't been easy, but we have adapted and endured and are ready to go forward with a new determination.

The Friends are thrilled with the success of our recent mini book sale and are even more excited at the prospect of the upcoming 4 day Used Book Sale in October, where we hope to welcome back old Friends and make some new ones too. Remember, if you join or renew at the fall sale, your membership doesn't expire until January 2023!

For those of you who haven't been to the Reading Garden yet, make sure to stop by and see the bench there that was funded in part by monies raised during our 50 for 50 campaign in honor of the Library's 50th anniversary. Your outpouring of generosity during our membership drives is a testament to the strength of our community, and we appreciate each and every one of our members.

We have also been very lucky to have two members step forward to take on a greater role... Tom and Judy Corigliano have officially joined the Friends Board as dynamic co-chairs leading the Membership team! We know they have great things planned so be on the lookout for more information, and be sure and stop by to say hi to them at the Used Book Sale in October!

Jamie Hanley (formerly membership, currently Secretary) – passing the baton to Tom & Judy, with support and encouragement!



This is local artist, Marcie Reed Slot's rendering of our Library. Her five renderings tell the building history of the Clifton Park – Halfmoon Public Library. They are located on the wall across from the point on the second floor of the library near the administrative offices.



FUNNY CORONAVIRUS JOKES

Why do they call it the novel coronavirus? It's a long story....

You know what they're saying about 2020? It went viral faster than anyone thought it would.

What's the best way to avoid touching your face? A glass of wine in each hand.

If coronavirus isn't about beer, why do I keep seeing cases of it?

What's the difference between COVID-19 and Romeo and Juliet? One's the coronavirus and the other is a Verona crisis.

TWO TOWNS - ONE BOOK'S NEXT SELECTION LINDA CONKLIN

Two Towns-One Book announces the selection for 2022. We will be reading the book entitled *Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts. This book was a finalist last time and ranked third in votes cast following *Becoming* and *Educated*. After skipping a year of activities due to COVID, programming will begin again in January 2022. The type of programming, whether in person or on zoom, will depend on the virus infection rate and library protocol. We hope to engage the author, Elizabeth Letts, for one of the programs. Others are yet to be determined.

A Description of Finding Dorothy from Amazon

Hollywood, 1938: As soon as she learns that M-G-M is adapting her late husband's masterpiece for the screen, seventy seven year-old Maud Gage Baum sets about trying to finagle her way onto the set. Nineteen years after her husband, Frank's passing, Maud is the only person who can help the producers stay true to the spirit of the book- because she's the only one left who knows its secrets.

But the moment she hears Judy Garland rehearsing the first notes of "Over the Rainbow," Maud recognizes the yearning that defined her own life story, from her youth as a suffragette's daughter to her coming of age as one of the first women in the Ivy League, from her blossoming romance with Frank, to the hardscrabble prairie years that inspired *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Judy reminds Maud of a young girl she cared for and tried to help in South Dakota, a dreamer who never got her happy ending. Now, with the young actress under pressure from the studio as well as her ambitious stage mother, Maud resolves to protect her, the way she tried so hard to protect the real Dorothy.

The author of two New York Times bestselling nonfiction books, *The Eighty-Dollar Champion* and *The Perfect Horse*, Elizabeth Letts is a master at discovering and researching a rich historical story and transforming it into a page-turner. *Finding Dorothy* is the result of Letts's journey into the amazing lives of Frank and Maud Baum. Written as fiction but based closely on the truth, Elizabeth Letts's book tells a story of love, loss, inspiration, and perseverance, set in America's heartland.

You may want to get a head start on reading the book before January. There are several copies available for



Author, Elizabeth Letts

circulation in the Library. It is also available on Kindle and Audible.

About the Author from her Website

Elizabeth Letts was born in Southern California where she spent all of her time on the back of a horse when she wasn't reading a book. She graduated from Yale with a major in history and then joined the Peace Corps. After her Peace Corps service, she studied at the Yale School of Nursing where she trained as a certified nurse-midwife. She began publishing books while working and raising four children. Her books have been Indie Next, Library Reads and Junior Library Guild selections, and a Goodreads Reader's Choice Finalist. She's been honored with the 2017 PEN USA Award for Research Non-Fiction, the Daniel P. Lenehan Award for Media Excellence from the United States Equestrian Foundation, and her books have reached #1 on the New York Times Bestseller lists. She 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, and Syracuse, NY. She has made multiple national and local TV and radio appearances, including The Today Show, and National Public Radio.

FOL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

MICHELE GORAB

The Friends of the Library Scholarship Committee, consisting of Michele Gorab, Chair, Linda Conklin, Linda Fennelly and Rhona Koretsky, met in late April to discuss the 31 applications for the Friends of the Library two \$1,000 Scholarships. Each member of the Committee chose her top five picks and the applications were evaluated based on the quality of the written essay, the students' extra-curricular activities and academic awards. We came to a consensus and chose two recipients for the FOL Scholarships, Grace Barber and Janice Indajang.

Grace graduated from Shen in June and will be attending Iona College in the fall to pursue biochemistry studies. While at Shen she took many AP courses, including Chemistry, U.S. History, Biology and Calculus. She has been a member of the Shen rowing team since 2015. In addition, she served as Vice President of the Red Cross Club in charge of fundraising, and President of the Environment/Leave No Trace Club. She performed community service activities for St. Mary's Church and tutored elementary and middle school students in math.

Janice also graduated from Shen in June and is going on to Cornell University's College of Human Ecology in the fall as a global and public health major. She has won academic awards all four years while at Shen, including the Green Award for Excellence in Academics and the Freeman Scholar Award. She was a semifinalist in the Albany Regional Brain Bee, an international competition in neuroscience, and on the high honor roll since 2012. She is a member of the Tri-Music Honor Society. In addition to her academic achievements, she served as judge and juror on the Clifton Park Youth Court and was President of the Junior Friends of the Library and the Shenendehowa Literary Magazine. She plays the flute and the violin.

At the June meeting of the FOL Board, there was a brief reception honoring Grace, Janice and their families (pictured below). Congratulations and much success to Janice and Grace.



THE HALFMOON LADIES AND THEIR DRESSES

Do you recall the display of gorgeous dresses from the Halfmoon Historical Society several years ago? This collection of dresses tells the story of four generations of Ginny Golden's family that takes us back to 1869 near the end of the Civil War; then back to when Annetta Terhune was to marry Albert Bogert Van Emburgh; through the end of the 19th Century during the Gold Rush frenzy; on to the drastic change in styles of the Roaring 20's during the crash of the Stock Market; into the early 1960's with the Elvis Presley craze & rock and roll; and finally to the 1970's with Woodstock and Flower Power. What a trip this has been!

Some of these gorgeous dresses are currently on display in the Halfmoon Town Hall, and on the weekend of September 25 and 26, there will be a display at the Town of Halfmoon Historical Society from 12:00-5:00 each day (located in the town complex).

For those still sticking close to home because of the ongoing pandemic, you can view the dresses on line by viewing the [Historic Dress Slide Show](#).



No, we won't try to claim that this is a picture of the lines for the 2021 Library budget vote and trustee election, but it is a reminder of one of the many ways the library serves a vital role in this community.

The library is not just a source of books, movies and music - it is truly a community center. Its facility is a beautiful and welcoming place that provides the materials, equipment and access that allow everyone to take advantage of a wealth of on-line resources. It hosts programs for children, teens and adults alike to increase their knowledge, expand their horizons and enrich their lives. It offers opportunities to learn, whether as a group or one-on-one with tutoring, reading programs and English learning initiatives. It provides a meeting place for community groups and a quiet place to work, think or read for individuals. It is a resource for those searching for employment or a family tree. And for many of us, it was the place to go for early voting during the 2020 elections.

During COVID restrictions, it rose to the challenge of continuing to provide as many of these services as possible to keep our community engaged and connected.

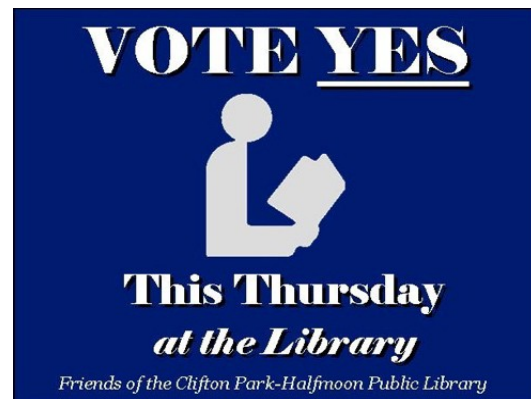
None of these things would be possible without the hard work, dedication and ingenuity of the library staff and trustees. Each and every day, they work to make the library ever more integral and pertinent to this community.

On September 23rd, the 2022 Library budget vote and trustee election will be held in the Josephine Piracci Board Room (directly inside the main doors of the library) from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. In addition to the library budget, one trustee position for the Town of Clifton Park and two trustee positions for the Town of Halfmoon are on the ballot. All registered voters

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 ANNUAL LIBRARY BUDGET VOTE LANNA LANGLOIS, GOTV CO-CHAIR

residing in Clifton Park or Halfmoon and within the Shenendehowa School district are eligible to vote. Further information regarding the vote is available on the [CPH Library website](#).

We hope you will take the time to cast your vote to support the library and its staff and volunteers. And after you vote, please stop by the library café to enjoy complimentary refreshments, courtesy of the Friends of the Library.



When you see these signs appearing around our Library district this September, that will be your reminder to take a few minutes to stop by the Library and vote on the next Thursday. It will be a great way to say, "Thank you, library staff for a great job during the COVID pandemic!"



USED BOOK SALE WILMA JOZWIAK AND LANNA LANGLOIS

We just didn't know what to expect from our first used book sale since COVID shut us down.

We knew everyone was anxious to give us their books, CD's and DVD's, but we didn't know just how anxious they were. We soon found out! We started accepting donations again on July 1st, and from that day on, our volunteers worked feverishly to keep up. Not long after that, the room we use to store our inventory was packed tight. So, we decided it was time for a Mini-Sale.

Sure, people had read, watched and listened during lockdown and had lots of time to clean out their stashes of donations, but were they ready to buy more?? Had everyone gone all minimalist on us and decided less is more and they wanted to keep it that way??

Apparently not. Decluttered or not, people still love to be entertained. And love a good deal.

On July 31st, at 9:00 am, while we still were feverishly filling tables on the library porch with hardcover mysteries, people were already browsing for treasures, and the pace hardly slowed until we wrapped it up at 4:15 pm. Even as we started folding up tables and putting away what remained, a few people continued to look through the remaining boxes and pull out their wallets.

We were absolutely thrilled that customers loved the DVD, CD, and Mystery Book Mini Sale! Not only did we manage to whittle down the wealth of goodies that people had saved for us during the pandemic, we almost doubled our best-ever mini sale income.

But what thrilled us most was the excitement of our volunteers and customers. Our volunteers were wonderful – coming early, staying late, and eager to help make the sale a success. And everyone who came to the sale sported a smile. Even the weatherman smiled on us with a beautiful (dry) summer day.

And the question that kept getting asked – “When is the

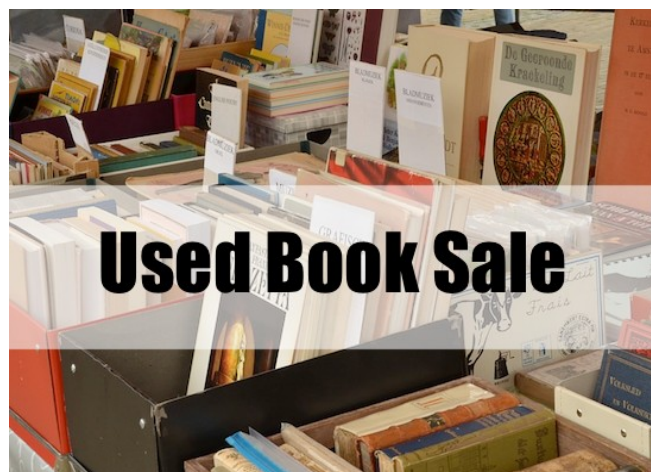
full sale?”

So, news flash! The full sale will held over **FOUR** days, beginning **Thursday, October 14th** and running through Sunday, October 17th. On Thursday, October 14th, Friends of the Library members will be admitted from noon to 12:45 pm, and the general public will be welcome from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. On Friday and Saturday, October 15th and 16th, the sale will run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. On Sunday, October 17th, we'll finish up, as always, with a bag sale - everything you can fit in a Hannaford bag - from noon to 3:00 pm.

We will be following Saratoga County Health Department guidance for COVID prevention and will keep everyone updated on our website and Facebook page and through our emails as to how that might impact the sale.

So, we're heading back to the bookroom to prepare for the next Used Book Sale. We very much hope to see you in October!

If you are interested in helping to staff the sale, either doing set up, cleanup or during the sale itself, we'd love to have you! Contact us at booksalewilma@gmail.com to be added to our volunteers' email list.



INTRODUCING TONY AND REINA CICCARONE OUR NEW FOL WEB DUO



Tony and Reina are a husband and wife duo who have a combined 35 years of experience in web development and marketing. As parents of four, they set out to teach their children how volunteering is an important value to have in life.

As members of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library community and weekly library-goers, when Jo Anne, an FOL board member, reached out for website assistance on Nextdoor.com, they were more than happy to help out.

Welcome to our FOL Board! We are so happy to have your expertise and commitment to our Library!



The FOL Board was sad to hear that Lori Bennett, a member of our board for 22+ years, was resigning. In recent years, Lori coordinated our successful Proctor's ticket sales. She is currently engaged in a Master's program in Library Science. We wish her well in this endeavor and sincerely thank her for many years of service and commitment to the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library



INTRODUCING JUDY AND TOM CORIGLIANO, OUR NEW FOL MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIRS

Tom and Judy are retired educators - Judy as a high school business and marketing teacher, and Tom as a SUNY administrator and union leader. Between them, they have more than 75 years of service to students and members, many years of program development, and lots of past and current volunteer experience.

Judy and Tom have been FOL members for many years and regular library users, and they look forward to working with the membership committee to develop new incentives to build an active library membership.

JOIN OUR FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY HOSPITALITY TEAM!

Hurray, the wait is over, the Hospitality Committee is back in business!

We will be staffing the Get Out the Vote event in the library cafe on September 23, 2021. We will need volunteers from 9am to 7pm, in two-hour shifts to help serve refreshments.

If you are interested, please contact Pat at pmitch41@msn.com or Judy at Judyam8@gmail.com.

Thank you,
Hospitality Co-chairs
Pat Mitchell
Judy Marotta

LEAVING OUR FINGERPRINTS: SHARING YOUR COVID STORY WITH FUTURE GENERATIONS

You can help make history by sharing your story of the COVID-19 pandemic. Just as we relied on information about the Spanish Flu epidemic in 1917-1918 to inform our response to COVID-19, future generations may benefit from understanding what we experienced. By collecting our stories, we become witnesses-to-history, providing insight into daily life during this global pandemic and adding to the historic record.

This is what the Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS) is doing with partners in Hamilton, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington counties. Partners are asking their respective communities to create a people's history of COVID-19. People of all ages and walks of life can share their experience of living through a global health pandemic. Note the changes to everyday life; what has stayed the same; what have you been looking forward to after it's totally over; what are your hopes and concerns for the future; and any other details you have experienced. You can also share photos or artwork, too!

"We want to give people agency to tell their stories, and save them for generations to come," says Erica Freudenberger, SALS's Outreach and Marketing Consultant. "By preserving our experiences, we can provide an unfiltered snapshot of what life was like during COVID-19 in real time."

All information collected will be anonymous. It will be collected onto a website for the public to enjoy and shared with area historians. People can choose to answer all or some questions.

How can you get involved? Please take some time to take this survey

Take The Survey

Also, feel free to share this opportunity with your friends, family members, and neighbors — the more people participate, the better understanding we'll have of the impact of COVID-19.



The Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library have documented COVID in our library community through the production of our *Book Friendly* newsletter. You can help document the story of COVID in library communities across New York State. Read the article and get involved.

Engraved Pavers



Paver installation season is here! Join the eleven people who have already placed their orders.

This is a good way to commemorate important events and people in your life as well as family and friends who have left us.

Choose the paver size, location and the sentiment to express your feelings!

For more information on our pavers and pricing, please visit our [Paver Web Page](#).

TRAVELS WITH RHONA RHONA KORETZKY FORMAN

Ever hopeful, we are making plans to resume the robust FOL travel program. Please keep an eye on the FOL Facebook page and your constant contact emails for the latest information on day trips. We will resume, under strict Covid protocols including vaccine completion and masks if necessary, as soon as we can safely do so. You might want to pencil in October 23 and wait for an announcement of a surprise destination.

As for our extended travel program, we have two trips on our schedule for the first half of 2022, with almost a full complement of travelers already booked. A few spaces remain on each trip. Please contact Rhona at rkoretzky@yahoo.com or 518-505-1303 for more information.

On March 29 we will depart for Madrid, Southern Spain and Morocco. On May 27 we have our long-awaited trip to the Colorado Rockies, rescheduled from 2020. Full itinerary and pricing details can be obtained by contacting Rhona. There is mandatory insurance, which allows cancellation for any reason. There is a full cash refund (except for the insurance) and all COVID measures including vaccine completion and masks, if necessary, will be followed.

Watch for details about a September 20 meeting to discuss both trips. It will be held in the library if possible.

Otherwise, a ZOOM invitation will be sent to anyone who is interested.

As our world gradually reopens, safe travels wherever you go!



Opening travel will depend on winning the COVID war.

COVID AND LIVING DANGEROUSLY

November 17, 2019 - the anniversary of the discovery of the first known case of what was originally thought to be a type of pneumonia.

December 9, 2019 - scientists and doctors realize it was a new disease.
January 7, 2020, the new disease was identified as coronavirus 2019-nCoV.

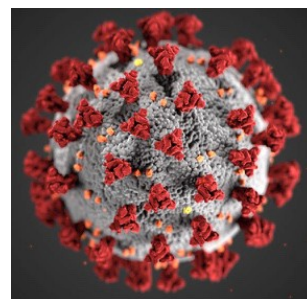
August 15, 2021 - authorities in 221 countries and territories have reported nearly 207.1 million cases and over 4.4 million people worldwide have succumbed to the pandemic.

This plague continues, rages on day by day as people grow weary of quarantine, restrictions – impatient, taking risks in large gatherings, unmasked.

Likened to a horror story or a sci-fi film, with strange plot twists and ugly politics, despite three highly effective vaccines.

Will sharing and science restore trust, save the day, end the suffering, or will stubborn minds create an endless cycle of illness and death?

So much uncertainty. I hope not.



Let's end 2019-nCoV!

FOL MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM OFFERS THE CLARK JO ANNE ROBBINS

The Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library offers a Museum Pass Program, one of our Library's most successful and loved programs. Funded by the Friends of the Library, most of these programs were not available during the worst months of the COVID pandemic. Thankfully, most museums have reopened, many with some COVID restrictions. It is recommended that you phone the museum before you plan to visit to find out what restrictions are in place. Many require masks and have limited food offerings.

The Friends are happy to announce that the Library has obtained a museum pass to The Clark Institute located in nearby Williamstown, Massachusetts. The Clark's collection features masterpieces of European and American painting, sculpture, works on paper, and decorative arts from the Renaissance to the early twentieth century.

Currently, the Clark is offering an exhibit that celebrates the innovative Norwegian painter and print-maker, **Nikolai Astrup**. *Visions of Norway* is the first retrospective of this artist's work in North America. The exhibition examines Astrup's extraordinary life, the development of his unique style, and his focused interest in the landscape and folk traditions of western Norway. I recently visited The Clark and was mesmerized by Astrup's paintings and prints. It was definitely worth the trip.

The Clark Museum Pass entitles admission to one adult and unlimited children. The museum is open Tuesday–Sunday, 10 am–5 pm, September–June and daily July–August. It is also open on some holidays including Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day Independence Day, Labor Day, Indigenous Peoples' Day and Veterans Day. It is closed Patriots' Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

The Friends of the Library offer the Museum Pass Program due to the success of its many fundraising activities. Our membership fee donations, gifts from generous donors, revenue from the used book sales and the sale of engraved pavers, book totes, and backpacks allow the FOL to offer this unique service to our library

12 patrons who live in the CPH Library District.



The photos of these Astrup paintings were taken with the iPhone Pro Max and cropped to meet space requirements.

LETTING GO

JANINE CAMMARATA, LOCAL
AUTHOR AND JOURNALING COACH

*when we
truly begin to let go,
happiness will no longer
just be our friend,
it will become our home*

yung pueblo

Yung Pueblo is the author of *Inward* as well as his latest book--*Clarity & Connection*. Find out more at <https://yungpueblo.com/>

Letting go is realizing and accepting that change is inevitable in every moment of our lives and then being in each moment fully since it will never be the same again. Take breath. Each breath is different. We trust that it gives us what we need and then we let it go by exhaling. We can't live only taking breath in. We have to let it out.

There are so many spaces in our lives where we hold on and forget to release.

Home, work, relationships, self-care, routines, beliefs/stances, and the image of ourselves are a few. To think about going through and releasing what doesn't serve us anymore in each area would be overwhelming. This is a work in progress and will be done many times throughout our lives. Journaling builds awareness and that is the first step for all of us.

Take your home as an example and answer the following questions. Then see what actions you can take. As you go through each area of your life, you'll see that it's easier to recognize what no longer serves you and that letting go opens space for amazing opportunities and happiness.

What lifts you up and sustains you? Brings you joy?

What is toxic and no longer serves you, but you've held on longer than is healthy or necessary for your benefit?

How can you release it? What action can you take? What



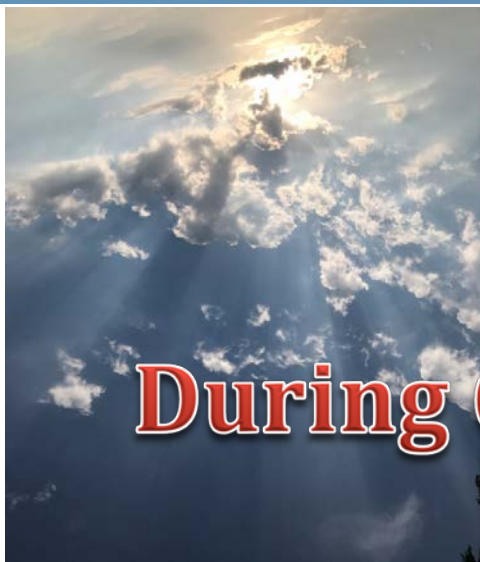
Yung Pueblo's new book is *Clarity & Connection*.

words can you speak to yourself or someone else? Spend time with each and in whatever time period works for you, remove what's toxic and see what opens up.

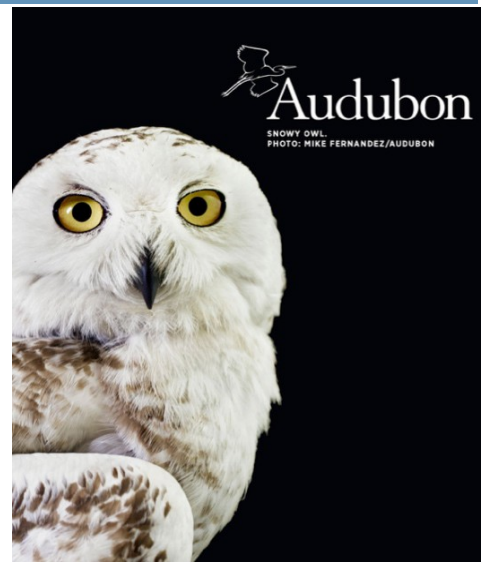
I'd love to hear about it. You can reach me on all social media and through my website at <http://www.janindetilliocammarata.com>



Diego Perez is the writer behind the pen name yung pueblo. The name yung pueblo means "young people."



During COVID . . .

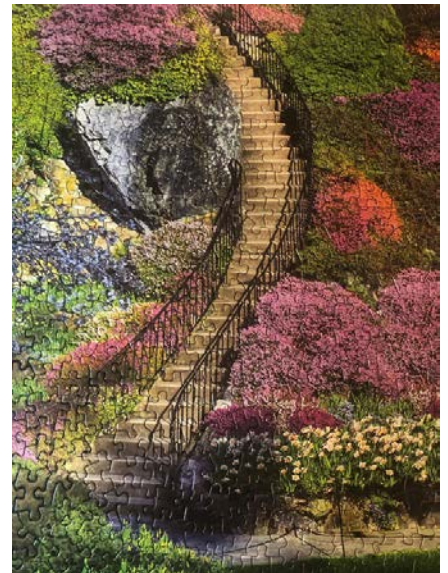


Wilma and John took photos on walks with pet Martha and spent happy hours gardening.

Audubon helped Jo Anne turn her backyard into a bird friendly garden.



Rhona baked bread - the recipe from the NY Times. Easy peezy.



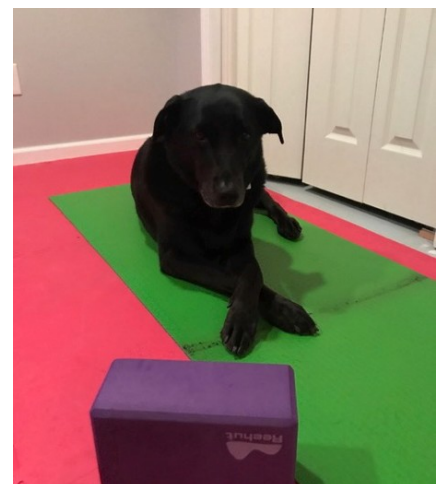
Kathy did lots of colorful puzzles.

Lanna tackled refinishing projects that had been put on hold for years.

*When I think of COVID and what I did to keep busy and active, I think in technicolor. I take photos and use them to create slideshows, post them on Facebook, share them with my family, or to document my story. Members of our board and contributors to this newsletter shared the photos on this page. If you have photos to share, about your COVID life, email them to **Jo Anne Robbins** with a short description.*



Linda and grandkids enjoyed Alpaca yoga on Martha's Vineyard.



Janine did yoga with her dog, Dakota. He has his own mat.

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