

News of the Friends of Schenectady County Public Library

January/February 2023 | Volume LVIII No. 3



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Sylvia Curley Honored with Volunteer Service Award

Sylvia Curley was awarded the Harold and Junice Wusterbarth Volunteer Service Award at the Mohawk Valley Library System's Annual Meeting in October. The award is named after the Wusterbarths, a Schenectady couple who dedicated countless hours to the library; Junice Wusterbarth died in 2022 at the age of 101.

Sylvia taught second grade at Duanesburg Elementary School for more than two decades. After retiring in 2000, she started volunteering with the Friends of the Library. Sylvia has overseen the sorting of donated children's and young adult books for more than 20 years. It's a mammoth job that she does mostly on her own, requiring her to come in 3 to 5 times weekly, spending hours each day.

Sylvia chooses quality children's and young adult books that are sold at both stores, an integral part of the stores' success. She also selects specific children's books to sell online.

As a member of the book sale committee, Sylvia provides leadership and support in decision-making when organizing The Friends' three-day book sales. Her impeccable organization for these events makes setup for the very popular children's and young adult



Sylvia Curley, second from right, is presented with the Harold and Junice Wusterbarth Volunteer Service Award

areas run smoothly. She volunteers for all three days and assists children and adults with finding their desired books and categories.

Sylvia has seen changes and growth over the years. "I can't believe how much it's grown since I started," Sylvia said. "When I started there was really no young adult section. We usually had one table. Now it's multiple tables and carts."

Continues on page 3



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Contact Us

friendslibrary12305@gmail.com
www.friendsofscpl.org

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Holiday Greetings to All!

We are excited to participate in ILLUMINOCITY, the downtown window decorating contest, this year. Please make sure you vote for our window at Whitney Book Corner. It draws attention to our store and The Friends could win a cash prize.

Additionally, don't miss our great decorations at A Second Look. Mariah Lasher, our very talented Saturday volunteer, made them.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year!

— Charlene Roman

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEMBER MEETING

A special meeting of the Members of the Friends of the Schenectady County Public Library will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at the Central Library, 99 Clinton St, Schenectady, NY (specific meeting room to be determined).

The purpose of the meeting is to vote upon amendments to the Friends' Bylaws. The Friends' Board of Directors has voted to approve the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments can be viewed on the Friends website, <https://friendsofSCPL.org>.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person, the Board requests that you grant President Charlene Roman your proxy to vote on your behalf at the meeting, and any adjournment thereof.

Please send your proxy authorization to me by mail or email at the addresses below.

Respectfully,
Carol A. Hyde, Board Secretary
1034 Lamplighter Rd
Niskayuna, NY 12309

chyde001@nycap.rr.com

NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX

Did you know that you can receive this newsletter via e-mail? Reading all the news from the Friends of the Library can be just one click away. To change your delivery preference, send an email to friendslibrary12305@gmail.com.

ILLUMINOCITY WINDOW DISPLAY AT WHITNEY BOOK CORNER

The Friends are participating in ILLUMINOCITY, a decorating contest to light up buildings downtown for the holiday season. Participating properties partner with local not-for-profits to decorate window displays. The public and a panel of judges will select winners in a variety of categories. Cash prizes will be awarded to not-for-profits partnered with winning properties.

The committee, which consisted of Arleen Cullen, Sara Doriguzzi, Robin Eddy, Lisa Esperti, Maria Norelli, Charlene Roman, and Paul and Sharon Zalewski, brainstormed ideas and then, with a lot of help from Paul, made it happen: a winter woodland scene with the sloth reading to her bear and beaver friends around a campfire.



Photo: Indiana Nash/The Daily Gazette. Used with permission.

Vote by January 14 at

<https://dailygazette.secondstreetapp.com/IlluminoCity-2022/gallery/>

SYLVIA CURLEY HONORED (Continued from page 1)

Sylvia's interest in the community is apparent. Not only does she advocate for affordable prices for families at the bookstores and book sales, she also supplies books and curriculum materials to teachers, SICM, and library special events. She took part in donating leftover children's and young adult books from the Spring 2022 book sale to the Schenectady City School District. Donations filled eight cars with books that were eventually distributed to the Schenectady City School District teachers for their students.

Sylvia is an integral member of The Friends and its fundraising efforts. Money raised from the bookstores, online sales, and book sales enables The Friends to support the Schenectady County Public Library's programs and for librarians to address our community's literacy, technology, and cultural needs.

We are grateful for Sylvia's years of support and her time volunteering.



Sylvia organizes young adult fiction during the fall book sale

UPCOMING FRIENDS TRIPS

February 26–March 4: Southern Charm

The Friends' Southern trip is approaching quickly! Reservations may be available directly from Collette, the tour company. The itinerary includes Charleston, Savannah, and Jekyll Island.

Visit <https://www.friendsofscpl.org/southern-charm> for more information.

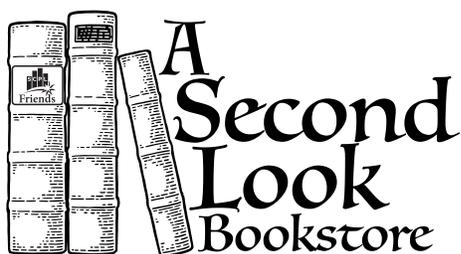
September 15–26: Discovering Poland

We are looking forward to a 12-day trip to Poland that will include Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw, Czestochowa, and Krakow. Poland is a land of amazing castles, poignant history, and a welcoming culture. Enjoy traditional Polish foods, learn to make pierogi, visit a 700-year-old castle, an amazing Medieval salt mine, take a guided tour of Auschwitz, and more.

Visit <https://friendsofscpl.org/travel-with-us/> to view the complete itinerary, a recorded presentation about this trip, and registration link.

We hope to travel with you soon!

— Gail Denisoff & Sue Crawford



WINTER CLEARANCE SALE

ALL books 50% off January 3 through 14

Stock up on novels and non-fiction for winter reading, plan new garden projects for spring, and more! Call or check our Facebook page for hours.

WINTER BOOK SALE

The Winter Book Sale is scheduled for Feb 4 and Feb 5 at the Central Library. The sale will include fiction, a wide range of non-fiction, children's books, DVDs and audio books.

Visit our web site for updates and watch your email for more information and volunteer sign up! Volunteers will be needed for setup, working during the sale, and cleanup when the sale ends.



Young Musicians Forum concerts will return in March, 2:00 pm in the McChesney Room at the Central Library.

March 5: Principal Players from Empire State Youth Orchestra

March 26: Filene Competition Winners from Skidmore College

For more than 20 years, the Young Musicians Forum has presented free concerts by noteworthy young musicians preparing for careers in classical music. Graduate students and alumni from the Mannes School of Music in New York City have traditionally performed in these concerts; for the last three years, Young Musicians Forum has also begun to showcase talented, local musicians.

Membership News

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

Benefactor — \$200+

- Sanjay Correa
- Robert & Susanne Doyle
- Walter & Wendy Berninger
- Ted Heisler

Patron — \$50+

- Sally & Charles Bauer
- Naomi Bristol
- Wonja & Jeff Brucker
- Heather & Eric Buskirk
- Edith B. Cumini
- Gedia Demaria
- Gail Denisoff
- Doreen Ditoro
- Bob & Lisa Esperti
- Charles & Jenny Frank
- Donald Gavin & Joan Ham
- Anita Paul & David Gerhan
- Patricia & David Gosda
- Paula Granger
- John & Lucy Halstead
- Analine Hicks
- Judy & Larry Hoff
- Lois Isles
- Bernice Izzo
- Claudia & Stanley Jakubowski
- Paul Kenny
- Leah & Peter Kucera
- Ronald & Donna Lagasse
- Stephanie Long
- Sharon & Charles Maneri

- Suzanne & Mike Mason
- Rita Moore
- Joy Nyman
- Michelle Ostreich & Harold Schlossberg
- Donna Pace
- Meme & William Pittman
- Linda Post
- Sylvia Raushi
- Anita Rollins Lay
- Charlene & Anthony Roman
- Joseph & Karen Schell
- Claudia & Peter Sisario
- Norrine & Ted Thompson
- Benjamin & Susan Whitaker
- Irene & Robert Wickham
- Brian & Liz Yanoff

Supporting — \$35+

- Carol M. Cascio
- Dr. David & Stacy Cohen
- Bea & Gerald Hahn
- Jane Kessler
- Leah LaFera
- Mary Lauria
- Patricia D. Mackenzie
- Deborah & Paul O'Brien
- Gerri & Ron Pinkerton
- Cynthia Shultz
- Nancy Stopera
- Aili & James Truelove

DONATIONS

In Memory of Phil Adams

- Eleanor & Gene Rowland

In Memory of Marilyn Leach

- Eleanor & Gene Rowland

In Memory of Fred Thompson

- Ted & Heather Raymond



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

For longtime volunteer Joan Molloy, Friends of the Library has been a family affair: volunteers Leah Leonard and Pat Whitney were her sisters-in-law, sisters of her late husband.

Joan started working the book sales with Leah in 1998 and started sorting incoming donations when she retired in 2001. Joan currently sorts the many fiction and poetry books and substitutes at both bookstores. She is also on the Board of Directors for The Friends. Joan says that by volunteering, she “is carrying on Pat Whitney’s legacy and love of books.”

Joan is active outside of The Friends as well: she is secretary of the Vestry at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, president of her golf league, and active in the Red Hat Society. Joan has 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren, including a 2-year-old that she babysits weekly.



Joan in costume during Harry Potter Day in October 2022.

January/February Adult Programs & Events

Register for these programs and more on the [Events & Class Registration](http://www.scipl.org) page at www.scipl.org

ADULT COLORING

Tuesdays, Jan 10 and Feb 14
6:00 pm
Central Library

Adult coloring nights are the perfect opportunity to unwind by yourself or with friends over a cup of coffee and colored pencils. Bring your own coloring books or use our fun stash of books, pens, markers, and colored pencils. Ages 14+



YOGA CLASSES WITH YOGA BLISS

Wear comfortable clothing and bring water and a yoga mat if you have one. Registration required.

BREATH SPACE YOGA FLOW

Thursday, Jan 19, 6:00-7:00 pm
Central Library

Come explore the power of your breath in a yoga flow! While moving through basic postures, learn how the breath animates us, soothes us, connects us with the heart, strengthens the body, and gives us a voice.

Suitable for beginners on up!

SLOW FLOW VINYASA

Thursday, Feb 16, 6:00-7:00 pm
Central Library

Join us to soak up a little sweetness in this relaxing and rejuvenating yoga class. This class will focus on building strength and flexibility, improving balance and range of motion, dissolving tension, and creating a deep sense of well-being that will stay with you long after you leave the mat.

This is a mixed-levels class from beginners on up.

BOOKS ON TAP

Tuesday, Feb 21, 7:00 pm
Manhattan Exchange
607 Union St

Great food, great drink, even better company. Join an awesome group of people to discuss "All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and many other awards.

Registration required; ages 21+

*21+ REGISTER ON SCPL.ORG

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BOOKS ON TAP

GREAT FOOD - GREAT DRINK - EVEN BETTER COMPANY

MANHATTAN EXCHANGE
607 UNION STREET

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
FEB 21 @ 7:00PM-8:30PM

January/February Adult Programs & Events

Register for these programs and more on the Events & Class Registration page at www.scipl.org

“BEAT THE SNOW” CONCERT SERIES ANNOUNCED

Sundays, 2:00 pm
McChesney Room
Central Library

At a time when there is so much division in our world, simple times together count for good. Come listen to these free concerts with your neighbors and your friends; it is good for our souls to share the arts together. These concerts showcase just a little bit of our local musical talent. They love to see the support a full room represents from their community.

Jan 8 Carmen & “Life’s Guilty Pleasures” with Joe Carrick
Jazz and Pop

Jan 15 Musicians of Ma’alwyck
(Violin and Guitar) Classical

Jan 22 Rosanne Hargrave & Michael Clement
“Over the Rainbow”
A Tribute to Harold Arlen

Jan 29 Mark Tommasone: Guitar and Mandolin
American music

Feb 12 Donald Hyman
“Romance for Valentine’s Day”
Popular music

Feb 19 The Musicats Duo featuring Azzaam
Hameed & Bill Hoeprich
Jazz

Feb 26 Schenectady Light Opera Company
Musical Theater



BUILD A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNALING PRACTICE

Thursdays, Feb 9, 16, 23,
Mar 2
6:00-7:30 pm
Central Library

Join Janine De Tillio Cammarata, an award-winning author of seven books ranging from middle grade and young adult fantasy to non-fiction for this four-part writing workshop.

Whether in a notebook, blog or sketchpad, journaling can help you lead a whole and fulfilling life. In this four-part workshop you will be provided the space to build a journaling practice including prompts to record life events, family history, self-care, set intentions, record dreams, overcome obstacles, and process emotions.

Each workshop covers different techniques and themes. No experience is needed. Bring a journal and pen.

Registration required; ages 18+. **Must be able to attend all four classes.**

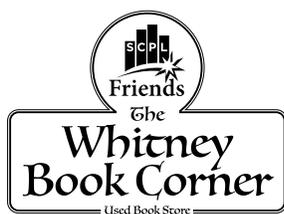


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