

# F R I E N D S

of the Joshua Hyde Public Library

Volume: 2020

Issue: 4

Fall Edition



## Board

### President

Donna Englander

### Vice-President

open

### Treasurer

open

### Secretary

open

## Chairs

### Publications

Bailey Applegate

### Booksales

Jane Zavistoski

Leila Glaser

### Technology

Hannah Darling

### Membership

Anne Fisher

## From Our President

Greetings Friends!

Do you ever get the feeling it's been a long time since we've all been together? The Friends' Board recently had its first meeting since March! It was wonderful getting the gang back together and having a seemingly normal, yet socially distanced and masked, get-together. We were able to see where everything stands. Like much of the rest of the world, we were hit hard. Our Membership Drive definitely suffered the effects of COVID. Our member numbers are down, which means our income is down. Luckily with the library being closed for so long, there were not many programs that we needed to fund nor supplies to order. But please keep us in mind when our 2021 Membership Drive kicks off in January. Once life gets back to normal (which we all hope comes sooner rather than later) we trust the library can get back to being the cherished resource this community has come to expect. So please remember to renew your membership for 2021!

Another big COVID change we discussed was our Annual Meeting. This year's meeting will be a virtual one with no program offered beforehand. We will be voting on the slate of officers and learning about this year's funding requests. The Friends has been operating without a Treasurer for the past year and we are hoping one of our Friends is willing to step up and sign on. Please contact us if you are interested! We also are looking for nominations for all of the Board positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary/Clerk. Our Annual Meeting this year will be on Thursday, November 12 at 6 pm. Watch your email for more information on how you can attend virtually.

See you at the library!

Donna Englander

## From Our Librarian

As we go into our 8th month of COVID-related changes here at the library, I want you to know that staff are here, in the building, and working hard to make sure that we continue to offer the services and materials that you need and depend on.

We have put more of our materials budget into online resources like eBooks and eAudios. Our newest acquisition, HelpNow, is LIVE online homework help for kids in K-college. In addition, we now offer access to JobNow for live online help for job searchers. You can find links to these new resources on our website and by entering your library card number when prompted.

While our hours and services will remain the same at least for a few more months, please continue to use what we have to offer and take advantage of our in-library browsing hours, interlibrary loan requests, public computer hours, and all of our downloadable books, audios and streaming videos.

Your Librarian,  
Becky Plimpton



### Friends Online

Find out what the Friends are doing or renew your membership online:

[slfriends.org](http://slfriends.org)  
or  
[www.SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org](http://www.SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org)

Need to ask the Friends a question?  
e-mail:

[info@sturbridgelibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@sturbridgelibraryfriends.org)

## JHPL CURBSIDE PICKUP HOURS

MONDAY-SATURDAY 10-5 PM  
WEDNESDAYS 10-8 PM



PLACE HOLDS



SCHEDULE TIME



PICK UP

## LIMITED IN-LIBRARY BROWSING & COMPUTER ROOM HOURS

MON-SAT 12-4 PM  
WEDNESDAYS 3-7 PM



# Do You Have What it Takes?

Do you consider the library a worthwhile resource? Do you enjoy the many free activities offered by the library? Are you feeling bored and disconnected from the community at large during these trying quarantine times? Do you care about the type of town in which you live and have the compassion to help others? Then the **Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library** has just the opportunity for you!

While our 2020 Membership Drive is winding down, and we wholeheartedly appreciate every single member we have, we are also very much in need of some hands-on help. The money raised from our Membership Drive, Book Sales, and other fundraisers allows us to provide all of the programs our community enjoys at the library FREE OF CHARGE, but without people to oversee those programs, there will be no more **Friends**. Just think about that: no more Summer Reading Program; no story times for the kids; no Book Discussions or Winter Movie programs for the adults; no free Museum Passes; no extra equipment to loan out to patrons; and the list goes on and on. Without the **Friends**, the library that you know will be a vastly different place.

The Board of the Friends is composed of only a handful of people, putting in a few precious hours of their time each month. Right now, **out of the four Board positions, only one is filled!** Jane Zavistoski has been the driving force behind this organization. She has been the acting Treasurer for the past few years while we have tried to find someone to fill her shoes. This job would require some knowledge of accounting or bookkeeping and experience with QuickBooks, Excel, and Word would be great also. A laptop is provided. Ideally, the candidate will also be able to attend monthly Board meetings. This job would require approximately 10 hours of time each month. If you think this position would work for you, please reach out and Jane can fill you in on the specifics of the job.

We are also in need of a **Vice President**. The Vice President backs up the other positions, helps out as needed

and stands in for the President as required. This person should also ideally be able to make the monthly Board meetings. The position would only require 3 to 5 hours of time each month.

We're happy to announce that we have a new candidate for the **Secretary/Clerk** position! Alice Kao has been a resident of Sturbridge for many years. She has been bringing her two children, Ethan and Zoey, to the library to partake of the many programs offered for years. Ethan and Zoey have enjoyed the library since before they could read and are now in 7th and 10th grades. Zoey has even started volunteering herself in the Children's Room!

If, like Alice, you have enjoyed taking advantage of all of the great programs provided for by the **Friends**...or even just a few of the programs...and would like to give back and ensure this resource is available to others in the community, please reach out to us at [Friends@SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org](mailto:Friends@SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org)

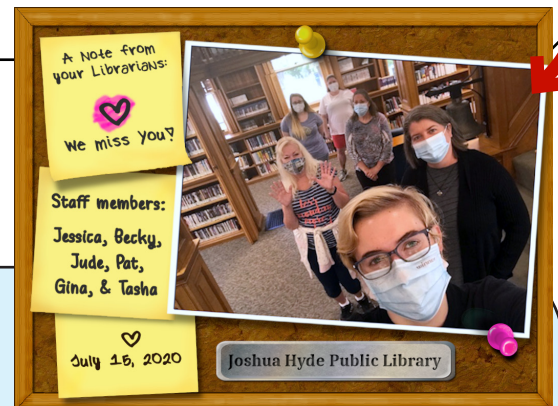
Our Annual Board Meeting will be a virtual one this year, but please let us know before **November 12** if we can add you to the Slate of Officers being voted in at the meeting!

## JIGSAW PUZZLE FUN

I hope you enjoyed the weekly on-line jigsaw puzzles this summer as much as I did. Thanks go to Hannah Darling and Tanja Pevner for creating and posting this fun activity. You could choose the number of pieces - from 8 to 1078 (good luck with over 200). I liked to play with somewhere in the 100's. With library and Friends programs as themes it was an entertaining way to keep in touch and maybe look forward to a time we can resume our activities at the library. We will be posting a few more periodically. Let us know if you enjoyed them! Do you have other ideas you would like to propose? Drop us a line at [Friends@SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org](mailto:Friends@SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org).

Stay safe and enjoy reading, and puzzles, and walking in the woods...

Jane Zavistoski



Visit the Joshua Hyde Public Library website for more information about digital books and activities!

Learn Something New!

Universal  
Class

Over  
500

Online Continuing  
Education Courses



Borrow ebooks,  
audiobooks &  
magazines



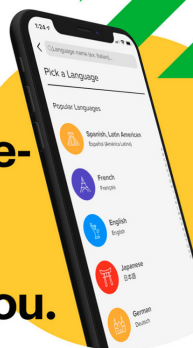
Libby.

The reading app from our  
library, built by OverDrive.



MANGO

Language-  
learning  
centered  
around you.





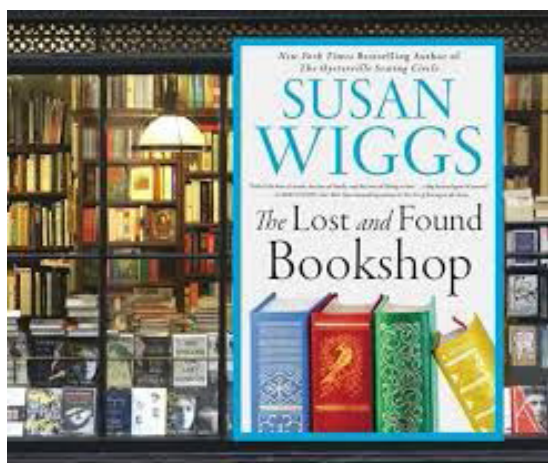
# READING as SOUL FOOD

by Ellen Duzak

**A**re you reading as hungrily as I am during these challenging times? Nothing feeds the soul like a good book. I have always known this, but it took a pandemic and quarantine to find out just how important books are in my life.

Thanks heavens for my library book sale stash when everything closed down last spring. I revisited favorite author Jan Karon and in the midst of the daily terrible news I was transported book after book to the magical town of Mitford in the hills of North Carolina and enjoyed their delightful and eccentric residents and simple lives. Pure pleasure, pure escape.

I keep a running list of books I have read, thanks to the clever suggestion of my friend Sharon, and I now see that I read every bookshop book available. *The Bookshop on the Shore* by Jenny Colgan set in Scotland, *The Little Bookshop on the Seine* by Rebecca Raisin, *The Secret, Book, and Scone Society* by Ellery Adams, *The Lost and Found Bookshop* by Susan Wiggs, and *The Printed Letter Bookshop* by Katherine Reay. Obviously, I am not the only reader who finds pleasure and comfort at a bookshop.



I moved on to the newly opened magnificent NYC Library in the early 20th century in *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis. Travelling to other places and times, especially times of historical challenge, felt fascinating and insightful. *All the Ways We Said Goodbye* by Beatriz Williams, Lauren Willig, and Karen White introduced me to the courage of 3 women dealing with WWI and WWII and yet always pivoting back to the Paris Ritz. Escapism, but also lessons in resilience.

Oh, there were the books set by the sea while I spent a landlocked summer in Sturbridge. *A Week at the Shore* by Barbara Delinsky was set in Westerly, RI, *28 Summers* by Elin Hilderbrand

and *Girls of Summer* by Nancy Thayer both set in Nantucket, *The Salt House* by Lisa Duffy set on the Maine coast, and *Tea and Treachery*, a fine cozy mystery, was set in Wellfleet and on Cape Cod.

What was it about bees this summer? *A Honeybee Heart Has Five Openings* by Helen Jukes was a fascinating memoir and meditation on nature in our lives. I followed up with two novels by Susan Wiggs, old favorites, *The Apple Orchard* and *The Beekeeper's Ball*.



*Luncheon of the Boating Party* by Susan Vreeland danced across the pages once again for me, Renoir and his fellow painters showing how to live with passion and purpose and creativity after the horrors of war in Paris in the mid 1800's.

I have read for delightful times in beautiful locations including *Lunch in Paris* and *Picnic in Provence* by Elizabeth Bard and Susan Branch's trilogy starting with *A Fine Romance* set in the English countryside and finishing with *Martha's Vineyard Isle of Dreams*.

I stretched with the powerful novel set in Hawaii called *The Color of Air*

by Gail Tsukiyama, set in the time of a volcanic eruption near a small island village, and looked to a powerful 1935 hurricane (historically correct) that alters the lives of many in *The Last Train to Key West* by Chanel Cleeton.

May I suggest that when all else fails in these dark times...watch the PBS series *The Durrells of Corfu* (yes all 4 seasons available on DVD via CWMars) and read the book which prompted the series *My Family and Other Animals* by Gerald Durrell. During my binge watching and reading set on this lovely Greek Isle in the years before WWII, I found that on bleak days I would simply tell my husband he could reach me only on Corfu... escapism at its best.

Oh, I have read inspirational books, *When the Heart Waits* by Sue Monk Kidd, *Following the Path* by Joan Chittister, *Radical Compassion* by Tara Brach, *Women Rowing North* by Mary Piper. All strong women who helped and guided me.

Our library is my lifeline these days and I am so thankful that the Joshua Hyde is up and running and always helpful with such a caring and friendly staff. I have stocked up for the winter ahead with the Friends library book sale books.

Our book discussions as I have known then for 28 years rest quiet at the moment after two delightful outdoor meetings where we shared our best readings of the summer past. History, inspiration, memoir and biography, challenging novels, fantasy and science fiction, current events and social action all were well represented and the time shared was a treasure.

The bandstand on the Common awaits our next in-person connection, perhaps next spring. Until then, I will read away through the winter ahead and continue to fill my soul.

“ Our library is my lifeline these days and I am so thankful that the Joshua Hyde is up and running ”



## The Friends Income and Expense Report End of fiscal year August 30, 2020

The Friends started the year with \$48,436 with \$24,904 in the Operating Fund and \$23,532 as Restricted Funds. We had income of \$9,207 with 51% from Membership, 20% Book Sales, 23% Fundraisers and donations, and 6% from Miscellaneous sources.

Our Operating expenses were \$8,825 with 51% for Library Programs, 21% Museum Passes and 28% for Administration and Miscellaneous. After a transfer of \$5,000 to the Library Renovation Restricted fund we ended with an Operating Fund balance of \$20,285.

The Restricted Funds started the year with \$23,532 with \$17,000 in the Library renovation fund, \$3,362 in the Rotary Donation Fund and \$3,170 in Mary White Memorial Fund.

The year ended with a Restricted Fund balance of \$7,298 - with \$3,005 in the Renovation fund, \$2,293 in the Rotary Fund \$2,293 and \$2,000 in the Mary White Fun.

At year end we had a total of \$27,583 in our bank account.

Jane Zavistoski, Treasurer



## Book Sale News from Jane & Leila

We hope you enjoyed our two Side Walk Sales in August and September. Thanks to the "Book Sale Crew" for all the help setting up and packing up! We had a great time seeing so many old friends and meeting new ones. Books, fresh air and sunshine, what could be better!

Many people have asked when we will resume taking book donations. At this time, the Library meeting room is still being used for public computer access. For the time being, we are unable to use the space to accept book donations. Look for an up-date in January. Until then, keep reading!



# Join THE FRIENDS

## From the Children's Room

Dear Friends,

As schools and daycares begin to open their doors for their students, the Children's Room has been there to support their curriculum. While I do not enter the schools to visit and read to the children at this time, deliveries of books to their doorsteps have begun. The educators, students, and I are pleased to have this connection once again.

With the typically pleasant weather in autumn, we've been offering outdoor story times on most Tuesdays and Fridays. With Health Department guidelines in place, we've had full registrations for most meetings. Local families have been delighted to return for personal interaction with the library, staff, and each other (COVID-safely, of course!) It has been our pleasure to be able to see so many happy families enjoying stories with us again!

We have been offering a great deal of craft activities for children to complete at home. These have been well received with families returning weekly. Our weekly October offerings of "Which Craft?" have been especially fun! We will be offering mystery crafts on Halloween, as well.

With COVID still very much a part of our everyday life, we are looking toward next summer and have begun the planning process. Next year's theme is Tales and Tails; it's sure to be a hit!

In the meantime, we seek out activities to engage children and families, encourage reading and exploration, and support them academically and personally.

Best regards,

Patricia  
Children's Librarian

