



BOOKMARKS

FRIENDS OF THE SCARSDALE LIBRARY

Winter 2014

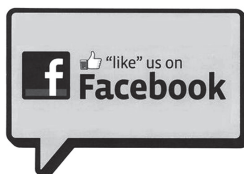
Friending the Library

For those of us who tend to be sticklers for correct grammar, it can be unsettling to see formerly incorrect usage become increasingly acceptable and finally “go mainstream.” (Insert your own pet peeve here; one of mine happens to be the ubiquitous use of **lay**, a verb formerly in need of an object such as an egg, in place of **lie** -- but I digress!) So for many of us it has taken a while to adjust to seeing the word “friend” being used as a verb. It’s always been nice to **befriend** someone, but since when did people start to **friend** each other?

Well, the answer is since 2004, when Facebook was born and our lives -- not to mention our grammar -- changed forever! As many of you know, one of the first steps upon joining Facebook is to create a home page, and then seek out the pages of others and send requests to “friend” them. In addition to friending people, you can also “like” pages on Facebook, which is another friendly gesture that indicates you are a fan of the person, place or thing that is the subject of that page. (“Likes” are indicated by a nice “thumbs-up” icon.) Pope Francis’s Facebook page has 438,411 “likes,” the United Nations’ 752,904 and Orlando’s Disney World, 13,235,426.

This brings me to my main point: did you know that the Scarsdale Public Library has a Facebook page? Well it does, and it has 296 “likes” and counting as of this writing. The page offers news of upcoming events, photos of recent events, links to interesting articles and so much more. You can also see who among the library’s fans are your own friends (Facebook or otherwise), and if you realize someone is missing from the list who really should be there, you can invite them to join you in “liking” the Scarsdale Public Library. So please, check it out (no library pun intended!), and let the library know that you really do “like” it!

Kathy Gray
President, *Friends of the Library*



From the Board of Trustees President’s Message

A Learning Emporium! That is how a friend recently described the Scarsdale Public Library. When you look at all the exciting programming that has gone on this past year, you would have to agree. Whether you are two years old or a hundred and two, there is something for you at the Library.

In the spirit of community, a lot of our programming reflects collaboration with other groups. We have co-sponsored programs with the Scarsdale & Edgemont Family Counseling Service, the Westchester Library System, Hadassah, SCORE Westchester, the Scarsdale Adult School and AARP, to name a few, and next month the Scarsdale Library will co-sponsor with the PT Council a community-wide book discussion of “Death and Life of the Great American School System.” Also, with the support of Scarsdale Historical Society, the second phase of digitizing back issues of the Scarsdale Inquirer is underway.

The children’s programs are awesome in depth and breadth, welcoming more than 12,000 to 350 children’s events during 2013. In addition to visits from well-known authors and tried and true favorites like Kiddie Kabaret and Big Truck Days, we recently introduced “Squishy Circuits” (using electric conductive dough) and Chinese Story Time for Chinese-speaking toddlers.

Our Library is everywhere. It is the traditional bricks and mortar library, blessed with a fine book collection as well as CDs and DVDs. But it is also a virtual library, with an expanded collection of downloadable books and now the recently launched Zinio, a digital magazine service that provides online access to all kinds of magazines through iPads, Kindles, Nooks, iPhones, Androids, and other smartphones.

Our thanks go to the Friends of the Scarsdale Library, the Spelling Bee Committee and our Library Director and Staff for a wonderful 2013. On behalf of my fellow Trustees, I wish you a healthy, joyful and intellectually stimulating 2014. See you at the Library!

Michelle Lichtenberg
President, *Scarsdale Library Board of Trustees*

From the Library Director

Let's take a closer look at one of the most basic of public library services: lending books and other materials. Many of us have early memories of coming to the library and leaving with a pile of books, and then returning a week or two later to exchange those for more. I recall being surprised, delighted and awed by the prospect. I thought, "All these books are for me?" I also remember my parents emphasizing the importance of sharing these precious resources and my duty to bring them back to the library. As adults, we probably take that for granted, but truly, it is amazing. Think about it: we have this building filled with hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of books (and magazines, CDs and DVDs), and we simply let folks walk in, take them home, and trust that they will be brought back. Doesn't that sound like a crazy social experiment? What continues to impress me is that it works, not just in theory, but with real humans in real communities. In Scarsdale alone, almost 460,000 items circulated in the last year! Of that number, only a tiny fraction of items did not make it back to the shelf.

I have no scientific explanation, but from my observations, it seems that a morality developed related to public libraries. It has become part of a community value system. People have a sense of civic duty, an ethical tie to using the library that makes them want to do the right thing, return their books on time, keep the materials in good condition and stay in good standing. It is just so civilized and simple, in a way. Of course, making it work requires trained, hardworking staff behind the scenes, and humans are not perfect, so there are security gates and overdue fines, but what really makes a public library successful is the large majority of library users who believe in the system and adhere to some rather simple rules. With all the complications of modern life and negative news stories, I find it reassuring to know that my neighbors share this common decency. So, the next time you check out a book or a DVD from the library, remember that you are part of something wonderful that connects you to the entire community.

Elizabeth Bermel
Director, Scarsdale Library

Maker Movement for Children

Do it yourself! That's the idea behind the Maker Movement. According to *Make* magazine, the movement is a "tech-influenced DIY community." Robotics, Arduino, Raspberry Pi, oh my! We're not in Kansas anymore, Dorothy.

The Maker Movement has inspired us to create new programming for children. It's more than crafts. Last summer we used conductive dough, batteries, wiring and LED lights to make circuits. This fall we began a "Tape It to Make It" program using duct tape to create just about anything. It's a natural instinct to want to make things with your hands, to mold, to shape, to create something that only you can see in your mind and make come to life.

"What matters most about learning to me is not the product but the process. What I love about the Maker Movement is that makers rarely work in isolation. Making is a social activity. The Maker Movement embraces failure and believes that everyone can make," wrote Dr. Gary A. Carnow (GC), Chief Propeller, head of Prolific Thinkers and the former CTO of Pasadena Unified School District. He is also the co-author of multiple education/technology books.

It is in this spirit that we are opening the doors to maker-inspired programming. It is not always technical or computer based, but it will always be fun; you can count on that.

Karen Zielinski, *Children's Services Manager*

Scarsdale Inquirer Digitization Update

The digitization of the *Scarsdale Inquirer* is continuing thanks to a second grant of \$25,000 from the Scarsdale Historical Society. The goal for this second phase is to encompass the 1930's and 1940's. The war years are of particular interest to researchers as many Scarsdaliens were enlisted and active participants in the war. All issues have been re-filmed, so the digitized material should be of excellent quality. Statistics show that there is a great interest in past issues of the *Inquirer*. This past year, more than 13,000 unique visitors to the site have viewed the first 1,200 or so issues. The digitized editions can be found via the link from the E-Library on the library's website, scarsdalelibrary.org. Go to Local History in the drop-down menu and click on the link Scarsdale Inquirer Digitized Collection.

Ann-Marie Cutul, *Reference Librarian*

Devices and Downloading

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends, we have recently acquired three new digital devices: a Kindle Paperwhite e-reader, an iPad Mini IOS tablet and a Google Nexus 7 Android tablet. They will help familiarize our staff with some of the latest technologies so that they can answer questions from patrons about using these and similar devices. Having them available will be especially useful as patrons set up digital accounts for borrowing e-books and e-audiobooks, or if they just want to try them out before making a buying or gift-giving decision.

Our digital collections continue to grow and the many ways to enjoy them continue to become easier and more user-friendly. Our OverDrive collection in particular has new titles added frequently, largely in response to the requests of our Scarsdale patrons. The OneClickDigital collection, which emphasizes audiobooks, is also growing.

In addition to our e-book and e-audiobook collections, we have recently added a product for Scarsdale patrons called Zinio, a digital newsstand. Zinio offers a wide variety of free magazines that can be downloaded to Internet-enabled devices and read at a leisurely pace since they do not expire.

We are here to help everyone get the most out of their digital reading or listening experiences. Please call the reference desk at 722-1302 if you have questions or to learn more.

Jennifer Friedman, *Reference Services Manager*

Nancy's Book Group

"Reading is the sole measure by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another's skin, voice and soul." – Joyce Carol Oates

Nancy Zachary, trained with The Great Books Foundation and a recognized local advisor for book discussion groups, has been leading the Library's reading groups for more than two decades and continues this coming Spring with the following selections: *Life After Life*, Kate Atkinson (February 26), *Hologram for the King*, Dave Eggers (March 26), *Burgess Boys*, Elizabeth Strout (April 23), and *Faith*, Jennifer Haigh (May 28). The group meets once a month, on a Wednesday (from 1PM to 2:30PM and from 7:30PM to 9PM). Registration is required. (Evening sessions will not meet in February or March.)

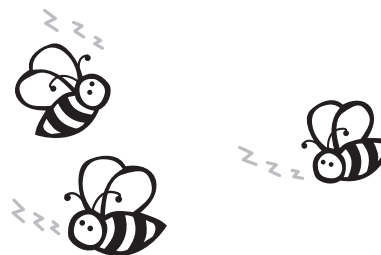
B-E-E Spells Fun

The fourth annual Friends of the Scarsdale Library Spelling Bee will take place on Friday, January 31, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the Scarsdale High School auditorium (snow date February 28). Ed Coleman, the voice of the New York Mets, will emcee the competition between twenty teams of adults and teens. Between rounds, audience members of all ages will be entertained by interactive trivia quizzes.

The fun will begin as hundreds of residents of all ages swarm into the High School when the doors open at 7:00PM. Admission to the Spelling Bee is \$5, and refreshments will be available for purchase. Notable silent auction items include an eight-week TestTakers SAT prep class worth \$1995, a 64GB iPad Air with Verizon cellular capability worth \$890, and a Skin TheraP package worth \$674. Raffle prizes include SoulCycle, Yoga Station and Fly Gym classes, baskets of children's games, a Tiffany's glass box and more.

Proceeds from the 2014 Spelling Bee will enable the Library's lobby and entryway to go from vintage to au courant. The upgrade, which will include a flat screen for digital signage and new display cases as well as additional indoor and outdoor furniture, will help move the Library into the 21st century.

Please support the generous sponsors of the Spelling Bee. Sponsors to date include Diamond Sponsors Mercedes-Benz of White Plains, Paul Hastings LLP, and Sara and Rick Werder; Gold Sponsors Houlihan Lawrence, Julia B. Fee Sotheby's International Realty, Drs. Renu and Anil Lalwani, and Margaret and Larry Smith; and Silver Sponsors AG Williams Painting Company, Christine and John Bensch, Buzz Potential, Coldwell Banker, Frank's Home Improvements, Dr. Lopa Gupta, and Vintology. Those interested in sponsoring the Bee by making a donation of \$250 or more should contact Renu Lalwani at (914) 472-4310. In addition, anyone can become a "Friend of the Bee" by making a donation of any amount. A donation form is available at the Friends of the Library website.



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WHAT SCARSDALE IS READING

FICTION

- *The Goldfinch* – Donna Tartt
- *Sycamore Row* – John Grisham
- *The Valley of Amazement* – Amy Tan
- *We are Water* – Wally Lamb
- *Tatiana: An Arkady Renko Novel* – Martin Cruz Smith

NON-FICTION

- *My Promised Land* – Ari Shavit
- *David and Goliath* – Malcolm Gladwell
- *The Bully Pulpit* – Doris Kearns Goodwin
- *Things That Matter* – Charles Krauthammer
- *Double Down: Game Change 2012* – Mark Halperin

The Friends of the Scarsdale Library is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that supports the Scarsdale Library through volunteer service and cultural and educational activities. The Friends gives financial assistance to fund the continuing improvement of library facilities, collections and programs, and serves as a conduit through which gifts and memorials go directly to the library.

Find out more about the Friends of the Scarsdale Library at www.scarsdalelibrary.org/friends.

WHAT SCARSDALE IS WATCHING

- *Homeland: The Complete Second Season*
- *Breaking Bad: The Complete First Season*
- *White House Down*
- *We're the Millers*
- *Before Midnight*

WHAT SCARSDALE IS DOWNLOADING

- *The Lowland* – Jhumpa Lahiri
- *The Book Thief* – Markus Zusak
- *The Goldfinch* – Donna Tartt
- *The Husband's Secret* – Liane Moriarty
- *The Valley of Amazement* – Amy Tan

Bookmarks

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Kathy Gray, President
Christine Benschke, Vice President
Betsy Bohrer, Treasurer
Ann Lewis, Secretary
Ottillie Jarmel, Bookmarks Editor

Regular Library Hours

Mon - Wed: 9 - 9
Thurs: 9 - 6
Fri - Sat: 9 - 5
Sun: 12 - 5

Library Information: 914-722-1300
Automated Renewal: 914-674-4169
www.scarsdalelibrary.org

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

One priority of the library and the Friends is to obtain the email addresses of everyone in our community. We are beginning to send reminder notices of speaker events, children's programs, jazz performances, Book Sale information, and other library happenings by email. We also send email notices of holds and overdues, and advance notices of due dates. To be included on our email mailing list, please leave your email address with the Circulation Desk or email scadirector@wlsmail.org.

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