

Friends News of Brooks Memorial Library

224 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont

Therese Marcy Retirement Party



THE LIBRARY was the host on December 20, for a lively Open House to celebrate the retirement of longtime library employee Therese Marcy.

Therese had been with the library for 27 years, beginning in the Children's Room and working her way to the Main Floor as Circulation Manager and Volunteer Coordinator. The Friends relied on her knowledge and help in coordinating our annual book sales.

It was a happy afternoon as patrons and friends stopped by to give Therese their best wishes for her future.

The Friends wish Therese all the best and thank her for all her help over the years. ■



Holiday Book Sale

THANKS TO EVERYBODY who made the Friends' 12th annual Holiday Book Sale so spectacular. This was the most successful sale we have ever held. We raised just under \$5,500 dollars. Think of all the help we can give the library!

As always, these sales would not be possible without the generous donations by friends and patrons of the library, as well as all the volunteers it takes to put on the sale. And most importantly, by all of you who shop at these sales and buy the books.

Just in the set up, running and break down there were over 150 volunteer hours put in to the sale. This does not include all the hours put in by our sorters and the volunteers who take care of the Amazon sales and postings. Thank you all. Your hard work and dedication truly paid off this year.

We wish to thank Bob Oeser, Bob Glennon, Robert Stack, Mark Eggert, Mary Ide, Mary Heninger, Rob Buckley, Julie Nolan, Annie Stauffer, Meridyth Sargent, Susan Jacobowicz, Carol Young, John Komar, Pat Ireton, Carol Davis, Carmen Berelson, Kate Wylie, Vicki Shepard, Wendy Houlihan, Elizabeth Tannenbaum, Joyce Marcel and Betsy Wagenknecht for help with the set up and stocking of the shelves, as well as packing up the remaining books and taking down the shelves at the end of the sale.

Our cashiers were Betsy Judson, Susan Jacobowicz, Mary Carnahan, Vicki Shepard, Mary Ide, Harriet Ives, Susan Rohde, Dianne Shapiro, Karen Duggan, Kathryn Turnas, Connie Kimball, Joyce Marcel and Betsy Wagenknecht.

Our behind-the-scenes volunteers include Elaine Murray and Bob Oeser who take care of our Amazon Sales. Amy Wickstrom, Elaine Murray, Susan Hesse, Pat Ireton and Mary Ide help sort and price the books for sale.

Special thanks go to Therese Marcy, Circulation Manager and Volunteer Coordinator, who took care of all the advance planning and recruiting of volunteers for the sale. We wish her well in her retirement, but hope we can look forward to working with her on future sales!

Thank you one and all, and our apologies if we missed anyone. ■

Winter Raffle Baskets

THIS WAS THE SECOND YEAR that the Friends have held a raffle drawing in conjunction with our Holiday Book Sale.

Once again, we have been generously rewarded by everyone who participated. We made over \$500.00 dollars. This money will be used to support programs at the library.

The following were our lucky winners:

Art Lover's Dream — Martha Widrew

Baby's First Christmas — Alyssa Todd

Beginning Library — Larry McIntosh

Cupcake Basket — Jenn Ansart

Dork Diaries — Mary McLaughlin

Kid's Fun — Mandi Martin

Lighthouse Family Book Set — Mary McLaughlin

Taste of Italy — Jenny LaPlante

Congratulations to all the winners, and thank you for your support. ■



Therese Marcy and Mary Heninger pull the winning raffle tickets.

Samirah Evans Benefit Concert

ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2018, Brattleboro's own jazz and blues star Samirah Evans performed at the library with her colleague Evelyn Harris in a concert put on by the Friends. They were excellently backed by the guitarist Joe Belmont and the bassist Wayne Roberts.

When the fluorescent lights in the main room are turned off, the place has the hushed feel of a good jazz club just before the band warms up — and that's without us serving drinks. More than 100 people were in the audience when Samirah and Evelyn started singing and set the place on fire.

Samirah is well-known in our area; she and her husband moved here after they were flooded out of New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. Her silken voice, sexy moves and gleeful stage presence make all her shows rock.

Evelyn became internationally famous as one of the singers in the African-American a capella group Sweet Honey in the Rock. At the library, her scat singing alone made the evening truly exciting.



Samirah Evans and Wayne Roberts



Samirah Evans and Evelyn Harris

"I was delighted that I was asked to bring Evelyn, being that I love collaboration," said Samirah. "That's one of the

things I did a lot in New Orleans, particularly with female singers. I was so happy to be doing this in collaboration with another singer I admire — one of my favorites in the region. I love the fire that she has. And also how expressive she is."

Each artist did a solo set; they then did one together. The audience was still raving about the show as they left the library. The comment heard most often was, "Why don't you do more of these concerts?"

The Friends were gratified by the response and want to thank Samirah and Evelyn one last time. ■



Evelyn Harris



Samirah Evans

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF RANDOLPH HOLHUT.

Kanopy: Video Streaming Service

kanopy

WOW! This program has been so wildly successful that the money we had allocated for the year was gone at about the six-month mark.

We have approved another \$1500.00. Hopefully this will last for the next six months. We will then evaluate changes and adjustments.

The Friends are so pleased that this has been such a hit with library patrons. We could not offer these programs without your support. If you are not currently a Friend, please consider becoming one and help us continue to offer these services to the community. Thank you. ■

Upcoming Event

A LITTLE TEASER to whet your appetite! We will once again be holding a **Dessert Night** fundraiser in April. Details are being worked out now. Look for more information on our website soon. ■



Parking for evening Library events

IF YOU PLAN to attend an evening event at the Library, the Municipal Parking Lot behind the Library is available for free parking after 6:00PM. It is a short walk to the rear entrance of the Library, and there is an elevator to the first floor. There is one handicap parking spot nearest to the walkway to the Library.



Book Donations

OUR NEXT BOOK SALE will be held during the Strolling of the Heifers weekend in early June. If you have any donations, **please hold off on bringing them to the library until April 1st.**

Therese Marcy was the Friends contact person for the running of these sales. Following her retirement, we are currently waiting for her position to be filled. Once it is, we will need to coordinate our responsibilities with her replacement.

We thank you for your patience. ■

Library Return Drop Box

THE LIBRARY has recently placed a book return drop box in the Municipal Parking lot behind the Library. The drop box is on the left just past the entrance to the lot.

Now if you only have a return to make, you don't have to fight the traffic, or hunt for a parking space on Main Street to do it! ■



Municipal Lot Parking

IN ADDITION to the designated handicapped spot in the Municipal Lot behind the Library, the library has been granted the use of 3 additional spots designated for Library use only. These are available all day with a 2 hour time limit each. ■



First Wednesdays Lecture Series Continue



THE VERMONT HUMANITIES COUNCIL First Wednesdays Lecture Series continue on the first Wednesday of each month. The talks are held on the Main Floor of the Library, beginning at 7PM.

To see the full 2019 schedule of lectures held across the state, visit vermonthumanities.org/first-Wednesdays.

The 2019 series at Brooks Memorial Library is made possible by the generous support of Against the Grain, Brattleboro Auto Body & Detailing, Brattleboro Food Co-op, Brattleboro Savings & Loan and Park Place Financial Advisors, Friends of Brooks Memorial Library, New Chapter, The Richards Group and Windham World Affairs Council. ■

MARCH 6 ■ HUCK GUTMAN **Wordsworth: Plain and Simple**

William Wordsworth was a strange yet pathbreaking poet who resisted writing poems that preened in being poems. UVM professor emeritus Huck Gutman discusses how someone so “plain” and “simple” became the most revolutionary, and probably most influential, poet of the past 250 years.

Underwriter: Chroma Technology

APRIL 3 ■ REEVE LINDBERGH **Two Lives**

Reeve Lindbergh, daughter of aviator-authors Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, discusses the intersection of fame and privacy as the spokesperson for one of the most famous families of the 20th century.

Underwriter: Carole and Geof Gaddis

APRIL 30 (NOTE DATE: TUESDAY) ■ HAROLD HOLZER **Lincoln Memorial Sculptor Daniel Chester French: The Making of an Icon**

Biographer Harold Holzer tells the story of one of the great sculptors of the 19th century — creator of the Lincoln Memorial, “The Minute Man” of Concord, Massachusetts, and the “Spirit of Life,” which was created for Brattleboro’s park, stolen, and recovered.

Underwriter: Crosby-Gannett Fund



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