

# Friends News

## of Brooks Memorial Library

224 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont

### New Library Website



## BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**HOORAY!** We have a new website! Why? The old site was becoming obsolete, and overburdened.

The new website can bring you much more information and updated graphics.

It is also easier for us to upgrade and add new content.

And now, more staff can edit and be involved. It is already being put to use!

Everyone got involved in Winter Carnival festivities and recorded 27 story times, featured on the website.

And, we hope to have content and photos submitted by community members.

For now, we have freshened up the logo, too.

The new design-in-progress has a more modern feel.

The new logo also works to capture the geography of the area: the green mountains, the dark blue river and the light blue sky. As Starr says "When you have access to the library, the sky's the limit."

We are so glad there has been positive feedback on the new website.

Starr said you can liken the process to building a house. The frame is up, now it is just a matter of furnishing it.

If you have any glitches or technical problems, please let the staff know so they can work to fix it.

Hope you enjoy the site! ■

### Better, Easier Communication

**THIS IS** the last newsletter the Friends will be sending to you by mail.

From now on we will be producing Friends news monthly! You will find it under our logo in the Library newsletter the week before our monthly board meetings, which are the third Wednesday of every month. Naturally, this year we have been doing the meetings digitally; the public is always welcome.

Please be sure we have your e-mail address! Send it to us at: [friendsofbrookslibraryvt@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbrookslibraryvt@gmail.com)

News will also be posted on the Friends website.

Please let us know how you like the new system, and if you have ideas for future newsletters. ■

### Appreciation

#### WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL

for your response to the Annual Appeal drive this year.

To date we have received over \$15,000 dollars.

Thank you to everyone who has responded to our Appeal.

If you have not yet contributed, there is always time. Anytime!

Thank you for your continued support.

## A Memorial to a Friend



**IT IS** with sadness that we report the passing of longtime Friends Board member Kate Wylie.

Kate joined the Board in the spring of 2015 and was active until a recent move to Keene. She then rejoined the Board the early Fall of 2020.

Though Kate was a quiet presence on the Board, she always brought an insightful point of view.

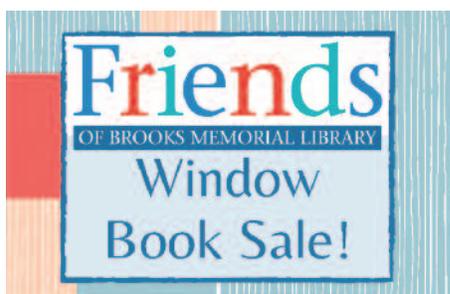
Kate was the point person for publicity for the board, and was always quick to lend a hand.

Donations in Kate's memory may be made to the Innocence Project.

We extend our deep sympathies to her friends and family.

She will be sorely missed. ■

## Window Shop Book Sale



**HAVING BEEN UNABLE TO HOLD** either of our Book sales last year, and with boxes of books left unsold, let's have a Window Shopping Book Sale!

Browse the window and then tell the staff which books you would like. Envelopes are provided for payment. Books are \$3 each.

We are hoping as Covid restrictions are eased and people receive their vaccinations that we will be able to hold an in person sale again.

We will keep you posted.

In the meantime, buy some books! ■

## Enthusiastic New Voice

**THE FRIENDS** are very happy to welcome Amity DeAngelis as the newest member of the Board. Amity's perspective as a parent of a young child brings a new voice and perspective.

Lina first visited the library when she was only three weeks old! Since then, she and her mother have enjoyed many Children's Room programs including: Rhyme Time, summer reading programs, puppet shows, gingerbread house making and author visits.



Amity and her daughter Lina

Display cases by the children's room sparked a new interest and Lina began attending the Mineralogical Society meetings as well!

For Amity and Lina, the library is like a second home and the staff is their extended family. They say that they are both grateful for what the library gives them, and are happy to help in return.

Amity is a former librarian and currently works as a paraeducator at the Green Street School. She has also previously served on the Board of Trustees for the library. ■

## Brattleboro Outing Club

**WITH COVID RESTRICTIONS** still in place this winter, the Friends purchased a Family XC Ski and Snowshoe Trail Pass that allowed a family of up to 4(1-2 adults and 2-3 children in the same family) to use the trails located on the grounds of the Brattleboro Country Club.

In addition to the pass the Friends purchased, the Outing Club generously donated a second pass with all the same conditions. We are extremely grateful for their generosity. ■

## A Blizzard of Happy Activity: 2021 Winter Carnival

**SNOW FLURRIES** accompanied a flurry of library activity during this year's Winter Carnival. The library teamed up with Recreation and Parks for a Winter Carnival "COVID style."

Our Children's Room staff worked hard to prepare over 100 take-home activity bags with 3 crafts, activities and even cocoa. In addition they filmed, edited and posted 27 story times featuring library staff from all departments, reading their favorite picture books with great flair.

We had Book BINGO cards for children and adults with prizes for participation, and people of all ages cut paper snowflakes to contribute to our "book blizzard" in the front window. (Though we do hope Spring is here.)

COVID care bags were also distributed. These packages were funded by a grant from United Way and were coordinated by a coalition of 10 other community organizations. They contained such items as Badger Balm hand salve, a digital thermometer, a snazzy handmade mask and a basic cotton mask. Some contained soup seasoning from Susu Healing Collective, others local chai from Chai Walla. Families with children also received a brand new book! They were happily received.

Overall, it was a delightful event. Thank you to all who attended, helped, read, filmed, and made this happen.

Looking forward to seeing you all, soon. ■

## First Wednesdays Lecture Series Continue Online

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

**Please note:** due to the Covid-19 crisis, the 2021 First Wednesdays talks will only be offered online, via Zoom. **Advance registration is required for these events.**



### APRIL 7 ■ JOSIE LEAVITT **Eating While Fat**

Comic Josie Leavitt shares her hilarious attempts at exercising and dieting, addresses fat shaming, and describes her struggle for body acceptance in a society that could do more to welcome different bodies.

Underwriter: The Samara Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation



### MAY 5 ■ CELIA GAPSOCHKIN **This is Not That:**

#### **A Brief Introduction to the Black Death**

The Black Death hit the Eurasian world in the fourteenth century and left long-term consequences. Dartmouth History professor Celia Gapschkin presents an overview of the outbreak of the bubonic plague, and briefly compares it to the current Covid-19 pandemic.

Underwriter: Chroma Technology Corp.



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802-254-5290

Save the Date



**The Annual Meeting**  
of the  
**Friends of**  
**Brooks Memorial Library**  
will be held digitally on  
May 19, 2021 ■ 4:30PM