

BOOKMARKS
FRIENDS OF THE SCARSDALE LIBRARY
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WHAT SCARSDALE IS READING

FICTION

The Burning Room – Michael Connelly
Gray Mountain – John Grisham
The Escape – David Baldacci
All the Light We Cannot See – Anthony Doerr
Leaving Time – Jodi Picoult

NON-FICTION

Yes, Please – Amy Poehler
Killing Patton – Bill O'Reilly
The Innovators – Walter Isaacson
Being Mortal – Atul Gawande

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

House of Cards: the Complete Second Season
Jersey Boys
Sex Tape
Begin Again
The Hundred-Foot Journey

WHAT SCARSDALE IS DOWNLOADING

The Children Act – Ian McEwan
So, Anyway – John Cleese
Flesh and Blood: a Scarpetta Novel – Patricia Cornwell
Leaving Time – Jodi Picoult
Station Eleven: A Novel – Emily St. John Mandel

Bookmarks

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Regular Library Hours

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

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

DON'T FORGET: 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.

All email addresses supplied to the library and/or to the Friends are for the sole use of the library and/or the Friends. All contact information, including email addresses, is kept strictly confidential. We do not share this information with, or sell it to, any person or entity.



BOOKMARKS

FRIENDS OF THE SCARSDALE LIBRARY

Winter 2015

The Library in Winter

A few *Bookmarks* columns back, I wrote about the joys of spending summer days at the library. Now that winter is upon us, I'm thinking about how my appreciation of the library changes with the seasons. I actually have a strong childhood winter association with the library: where I grew up in Ohio, our local branch was at about the half-way point on my 15 minute walk home from school, and there were many cold, snowy days when having that warm refuge to break up the journey was a lifesaver! Of course, whenever I actually went all the way inside and got wrapped up in the hunt for good books, it was hard to leave the welcoming warmth and enticing environment to continue my trek home, but I was seldom able to resist the pull of the library on those miserable days.

While my own children never had to walk 15 minutes through cold and snow to get home from Greenacres, they too benefitted from having the library as a refuge on long, monotonous winter afternoons when it got too cold and dark to head to the playground or run around the back yard. Thanks to the Scarsdale library, many a dreaded "witching hour" -- that time in the late afternoon when young children are too hungry to be reasonable, but dinner isn't ready yet -- was made bearable by either a quick trip to the library for a much-needed change of scenery, or the enjoyment at home of fresh books or videos borrowed earlier in the day.

This winter, don't forget that you too can find refuge from miserable weather and monotonous days at the library. Stop in for a book or a movie, or to relax with a cup of coffee in the lobby. And don't forget to check the website for upcoming programs or to reserve a pass to a local museum.

Stay warm, and see you at the library,

Kathy Gray
President, *Friends of the Library*

From the Board of Trustees

Your Story @ Your Library: Scarsdale Library launches its own Story Project

Last month, we launched our first Scarsdale Library Story Project, an initiative to engage the community through storytelling. What better place to tell, hear and collect stories than your local library!

Inspired by the national oral history project StoryCorps, The Scarsdale Library Story Project explores the role the library plays in our lives as individuals and in our community. Our library is more than just a building filled with fabulous books. It contributes in meaningful ways to the quality of life in our community.

Here are just a few quotes from members of the community telling how they benefit from the library.

"The library has been good to me. It has always been about more than just getting books. It is a place of great comfort." – Harriet Sobol

"I find that the librarians here go above and beyond to be helpful in finding books my children love to read."
– Sushma Shadaksharappa

"I've seen my children and now my grandchildren grow in the great environment of kids to be nurtured. It's a goldmine." – Dennis Meehan

"I find that the library programs have grown over the years and I see our library as a cultural center of the community." – Bernard Mackler

The first 30 Stories will be on exhibit in the Scott Room beginning mid-January and also on display during the Scarsdale Friends of Library Spelling Bee, January 23rd at the High School. Come and enjoy!

Next year, we invite you to tell **your** story. It's one thing to have a great library experience. It's another thing to tell others about it. Believe it or not, there are some out there who think libraries have become irrelevant! We see every day that our community does not agree. Help spread the word about this magnificent, multi-faceted jewel that thrives at the heart of our community.

On behalf of the entire Library Board, I wish you all the best in 2015.

Michelle Lichtenberg
President, *Scarsdale Library Board of Trustees*

From the Library Director

Long before I considered becoming a librarian, my mother told me, "Don't judge a book by its cover." I try to adhere to this advice in book-related and non-book-related situations, but I am human and it is difficult. Most of us are susceptible to visual cues, and what we see does have an effect on us.

The first time I walked into the lobby of the Scarsdale Library, I was a bit taken aback. The outside of the building was lovely: a stone structure, with a slate roof, in a park-like setting. However, the lobby was dark, drab and not very inviting. In fact, upon entering, I was met with a stone wall. In the course of a few minutes, against the advice of my dear mother, I had judged the library twice and the judgments contradicted each other.

Ever since then, I have wanted to do something about the library lobby. What kind of first impression are we making? The library should be welcoming and friendly, but this is not the message the lobby sends to our visitors. I am happy to report that, thanks to the Friends of the Scarsdale Library, the proceeds from last year's Spelling Bee are being used for a little facelift. Knowing that we are planning large-scale renovations, we wanted to make sure the changes were minor, and new purchases can be used even after the "real" construction.

The first step was to install a flat-screen monitor to highlight our programs and services, and to add some liveliness to the space. We will still have the bulletin board for folks who prefer paper, plus new flier racks. The lighting will be replaced with LED lamps, which are much brighter and energy efficient. We finished out a closet in the corner for a coatroom. We are in the process of moving the Keurig® coffee machine to the lobby, with a vending machine for the K-Cup® so it can be self-serve, as well as available when programs in the Scott Room run later than our operating hours. Best of all, there will be seating for folks to read, enjoy their coffee, work on their laptops, make phone calls or wait for a ride. These are all small changes on the way to much bigger changes, and will make a visit to the library all the more pleasant.

I hope you enjoy the updated lobby, and let's all try to follow my mom's advice, at least when it comes to actual books. I am going to try reading a book with an awful cover—I may find it to be the best book I've read in a long time!

Elizabeth Bermel
Director, Scarsdale Library

Reluctant Readers

"I hate to read!" Every time that phrase is uttered, a librarian somewhere drops a book. Librarians are often asked, "how do I get my child interested in reading?" We are here to help. Is the child having difficulties reading or just not that into books? A struggling reader is different from a disinterested reader. Struggling readers need extra help from teachers and tutors, and lots of patience. Reluctant readers need guidance, and lots and lots of patience.

James Patterson said: "There's no such thing as a kid who hates reading. There are kids who love reading, and kids who are reading the wrong books." Disinterested readers need to find a story or a subject that they can relate to. Librarians and teachers can make suggestions, and offer different genres. Sometimes, nonfiction is the way to go. The road to reading is often paved with discarded books. There will be many books that a child will not like, making it important to take out many different books so that when one fails to impress there is another book on deck.

It's also helpful to know what their friends are reading. Impromptu book discussions can pop up on the playground, school bus, or just about anywhere.

How do children pick out books? Do they judge a book by its cover? You bet your sweet library card they do! That's why publishers re-issue books with new covers every so often. Books with flashy, glittery covers go out more often than their subdued counterparts.

I've seen this scenario play out in the library where a child picks a book and the parent says, "I don't want you reading that junk." The child pleads, "But it's fun and I like it." Assuming that it's not for a school project or book report, parents may want to rethink their reluctance to allow their child to read it even if it is fluff. If a child is enjoying a book, fluff or not, it's a triumph. Sometimes when we squelch a child's desire to read something they enjoy, they can become discouraged. Dr. Marie Carbo, founder and executive director of National Reading Styles Institute, says, "Children's emotions about reading have a huge impact on whether or not they'll become lifelong readers." Adults, when they read, read for their enjoyment. Children are no different.

Karen Zielinski
Children's Services Manager

Spelling Bee Sets Library Abuzz

A swarm of devoted library volunteers has been working diligently behind the scenes to bring us the fifth annual Scarsdale Library Adult and Teen Spelling Bee. A highlight of the Library's annual fundraising events, the Bee will take place on Friday, January 23, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Scarsdale High School Auditorium (snow date Friday, February 27). Proceeds from the 2015 Spelling Bee will be used to fund a high-level speaker series, bringing quality programming to Scarsdale and making the library the intellectual hub of the community.

This year, the Spelling Bee teams will vie to win the grand prize of Bose TrueSound headphones. Ed Coleman, the voice of the New York Mets, will once again play emcee. Audience members will be regaled not only by the mental gymnastics displayed onstage, but also by games and trivia served up during intermission.

The fun starts when the doors open at 7 p.m. for the silent auction and raffles to be conducted throughout the evening. Some of the notable auction items this year include an eight-week SAT prep class offered by TestTakers, valued at \$1995, and a house painter for a day, provided by A.G. Williams Painting Company, Inc. and valued at \$600. Raffle prizes include passes for exercise classes, spa and beauty treatments, baskets of children's toys and games, and much more.

Businesses and individuals who are interested in sponsoring the Bee by making a donation of \$250 or more should contact Renu Lalwani at 917-584-8834, or Carolyn Mehta at 914-584-5903. In addition, anyone can become a "Friend of the Bee" by making a donation of any amount. A printable donation form is available at the Friends of the Library website.

Admission to the Spelling Bee is \$5, and refreshments will be available for purchase.



Local History Digitization

Over the summer the Scarsdale Library began the process of digitizing its local history collection. Thanks to a donation from the Scarsdale Historical Society we were able to hire three interns over the summer (all Scarsdale High School students) who worked on scanning and describing a collection of 35mm slides. These slides were collected by local photographer

Harold Haliday Costain, an award-winning commercial photographer. Costain owned a photography studio in Scarsdale from the early 1920's until 1975. The slides in his collection document the architecture, people, and places of Scarsdale and range in date from the mid-19th century through the 1970s. While the process of digitizing these slides is not yet complete, you can watch the collection grow at <http://www.hrvh.org/>. Click on Collections and scroll down to Scarsdale Public Library.

Dan Glauber
Reference Librarian

From the Reference Desk

Wireless Printing

We are delighted that the library now offers wireless printing. Patrons no longer have to be at one of our computers in the Reference room to print, but can print from their laptop, tablet or smartphone from anywhere then come in to the library to print.

Brainfuse

We now offer Brainfuse, a terrific new service for Scarsdale cardholders, which replaces Tutor.com. Brainfuse provides students with live one-on-one homework help. In addition to individual help with classroom subjects, Brainfuse offers writing labs, test prep, resume writing and job interview coaching.

CQ Researcher

Also, for Scarsdale cardholders, we now offer the digital CQ Researcher database, which can be accessed from the library or from home. CQ Researcher provides in-depth coverage of the most important issues of the day written by journalists, footnoted and fact-checked. An in-depth source for information on vital issues dating back to 1923, it is great for students and anyone else seeking detailed background and multiple perspectives on everything from education, health and bullying to foreign and public policy, international affairs, the environment, technology and the U.S. economy. CQ Researcher also offers bibliographies of key sources and links to resources for further information.

For further information on any of these new services please visit our website or call the Reference Desk.

Jennifer Friedman
Reference Services Manager