

# Bookends

## *Latest News from the Friends of the Libraries*

### **Fall Book Sale**

The annual fall book sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 16 and 17, in the community room of the main library. Hours are as follows: on Friday, 9:15am to 5pm, with a \$10 admission fee charged during the first 45 minutes, then free admission from 10am to 5pm; on Saturday, 9am to 3pm, free admission all day. This year we will have the usual "Nearly New" books, suitable for holiday gift-giving, plus non-fiction biography, history, art, political science, and gourmet cookbooks. There will also be thousands of children's books for sale, plus CDs, DVDs, puzzles, holiday books, stocking stuffers, and books in Spanish.

On Saturday, we will also hold a bake sale from 9:30am to 3pm, with lots of goodies available, produced by some super bakers of Farmington and Unionville. This sale will be held in the lobby, and we advise you to come early for the best selection. Start your holiday shopping for literate family and friends, pick up some gustatory goodies to enjoy right away, and help support the Friends as we sponsor the programming at the libraries all year long.

### **100th Anniversary of Opening of the Barney Library**

On December 13 we will note the 100th anniversary of the opening of the new Sarah Brandegee Barney Library, otherwise known for years as the Village Library, later recristened the Barney Library, and still operating in the village of Farmington as our branch. This building was constructed in 1917 and 1918, with funds furnished completely by D.Newton Barney in memory of his mother, and then given to the Farmington Village Green & Library Association for the good of our community. The architect was Stephen B. Lawrence.

On Thursday, December 12, 1918, the Farmington Valley Herald described the "Dedication of New Library" as follows: "The formal opening exercises of the new library....will be held Friday evening at 8 p.m....There will be music and the public is cordially invited." Afterwards, the paper reported, "The townspeople showed their very great appreciation of the gift by attending in large numbers. At the present time there are 10,000 volumes. The building was erected under the personal supervision of Mr. Barney and Mr. Lawrence. Outside and inside it has been described as architecturally perfect."

Participating in the opening ceremony were Admiral Cowles, Rev. Roberts, Rev. Blakeley, Judge Deming, Robert Porter Keep, Adrian Wadsworth, Robert Brandegee, Mr. Barney, and the librarian, Mrs. Timothy H. Root.

## What do we do with all of the books you give us?

We sell about 20,000 used books per year, most of which have been donated by people like you. However, we receive more than 35,000 books per year, many more than we can place into all of our book sales. So what happens to all of them? Many things!

First of all, the newest books in the best condition go to the Book Nook in the lobby for sale, so that all of you can shop there year-round by searching through a smaller select group of books on a variety of topics. We also have many smaller 'pop up' sales here, such as fiction for summer vacation reads, holiday books for gift-giving, and garden books for planning your spring garden projects.

Secondly, after handling thousands of books over the years, we have a pretty good idea of what will sell at either the fall "like-new" & children's sale or the big general spring sale. Sellable books get sorted by category and put on the shelves in the back room, awaiting enough in their category to fill a box. Very special or rare books are priced by one of our volunteers before being boxed. Once all of these books are boxed, they are put either on the fall pile or the giant spring pile.

The rest of the books are passed along to other Friends groups in the area (for example, some excess fiction goes to a town where it is more popular at their sales, and we receive books from them as well), or they are given to many charities in the Hartford area. We have given books to children in Hartford schools, to prisons, to organizations that ship books to Kenya, to churches, to Camp Courant, and to many other causes. We try very hard not to throw away books, because like you we value them. However, occasionally it becomes necessary, especially when the books are moldy, dirty or crumbling, or severely out-dated. Donation guidelines can be found on the Friends section of the library's Website: [www.farmingtonlibraries.org](http://www.farmingtonlibraries.org). Click on "about us" and look for the Friends page. At the end of the spring sale, we again offer the leftover books to charities, who come in and take exactly what they can use; the rest go to a recycler.

We are always looking for volunteers to work at our sales. If you are interested, please contact Linda Chapron at [lchapron64@gmail.com](mailto:lchapron64@gmail.com) or 860-677-2332.

### Gifts by the Friends to the Libraries this past year, funded by book sale profits & your membership contributions:

Programming	\$31,350
General budget	6,000
Museum passes	2,900
Garden expenses	250
New toys for children	300
Staff education	<u>1,265</u>
Total	\$42,065

## Garden Bench Dedicated to Justin Pagano, Jr.

On Friday, September 14, in the garden at the west end of the main library, the Pagano family and the Friends of the Farmington Libraries dedicated a memorial bench to Justin Pagano, Jr., who passed away last winter. His family designated that memorial gifts be made to the Friends, and it was our decision that the bench was a fitting addition to the garden and patio already named for his deceased mother, Alex Pagano, a beloved former member of the staff. The bench will provide a peaceful place for anyone who wishes to sit and enjoy our unique, beautiful garden. Rest in peace, Justin.

Photo at right: Justin's sister Jackie and his father Jerry inaugurate the new bench, holding a photo of Justin.



## Linda Chapron honored with state award



Barbara Leonard, FOCL Pres., & Linda Chapron

In June, Linda Chapron, the Co-Chairman of our Friends group and Chairman of the book sales, was honored by the Friends of Conn. Libraries (FOCL), the state-wide Friends organization, with an award for individual merit.

In the citation, Linda was praised for organizing a statewide committee that reviews and evaluates tactics that work in every community to maximize book sale profits, thus to increase the benefits to each community. In Farmington, Linda is not only the

Chairman of our book sales, but she has expanded the Book Nook and holds special-interest sales at various times of year, efforts that have made the Book Nook earn one-third of our annual profits. Her untiring efforts to give unsold books to various charities, especially to children in the Hartford area, have promoted literacy and goodwill for the Farmington Library in the entire region.

What most people don't know is that she and a small group of dedicated volunteers work every single week to process, sort, and box up the donated books and to stock the Book Nook. Many weeks there are 15-20 boxes of donations, and it takes 3 or 4 hours to process all of those books. This group does a service for our library and our town, and we thank them all for their hard work and dedication.

And to Linda — congratulations, you deserve it!

Friends of the Farmington Libraries  
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## Upcoming Programs of Note

Oct. 29, 2pm: “Caregivers of the Elderly and Disabled: What the Town of Farmington Can Do For You”

Oct. 30, 6pm: “Italian-American Culture: from Ellis Island to Today”, part 1;  
with Dr. Carl Antonucci & Prof. Kenneth DiMaggio

Nov. 1, 6pm: “Community Issues: Moral Injury and Healing our Veterans”

Nov. 6 (Election Day, no school): two Mystic Aquarium programs for children:  
2pm—”All Sorts of Animals” (grades 1-3)  
3pm—”Invertebrates Lab (grades 4-6)

Nov. 13, 6:30pm: “Leonard Bernstein: An American Treasure”, lecture by Jeffrey Engel

Nov. 19, 3pm: Annual Kristallnacht Lecture; with Agnes Vertes, Holocaust survivor

Nov. 24, 11:30am: Children’s Dept. International Celebration (bring a luncheon dish and its recipe, one table for each country)

Nov. 27, 6pm: “Italian-American Culture”, part 2

Nov. 29, 6:30pm: Garmany Music Series: “Jazz Standards of the American Songbook”,  
with Too Human

To register, either call 860-673-6791, or on-line at “[www.farmingtonlibraries.org](http://www.farmingtonlibraries.org)”