

## 2016 BOOK SALES

Many Friends' members know us by our successful book sales. Please save these dates:

**May 29 – June 5**

**August 28 – September 4**

**Winter Dates - TBD**

We're always looking for willing volunteers to help us set up and staff the Sales at the Library Express, Steamtown Mall. If you're interested please call Ann Marie at 570-346-1954.

## List of Top 5 Books Checked Out During 2015

### Fiction

Hawkins, Paula, *The Girl On The Train* = 657

Baldacci, David, *Memory Man* = 339

Hannah, Kristin, *The Nightingale* = 313

Roberts, Nora, *The Liar* = 312

Grisham, John, *Gray Mountain* = 303

### Non-Fiction

Birbeck, Matt, *The Quiet Don* = 225

O'Reilly, Bill, *Killing Patton* = 162

Munley, Kathleen Purcell, *The Freach And Keen Murders* = 146

Poehler, Amy, *Yes Please* = 120

Brandt, Charles, *I Heard You Paint Houses* = 115

### Juvenile

Kinney, Jeff, *Diary Of A Wimpy Kid* = 1218

Russell, Rachel Renee, *Dork Diaries* = 844

Park, Barbara, *Junie B, First Grader* = 586

Peirce, Lincoln, *Big Nate* = 354

Holm, Jennifer L., *Babymouse* = 336

### Young Adults

Kishimoto, Masashi, *Naruto* = 570

Oda, Eiichiro, *One Piece* = 527

Kubo, Tite, *Bleach* = 301

Shinohara, Chie, *Red River* = 282

Oba, Tsugumi, *Death Note* = 277

## Our Mission

To preserve and strengthen the Scranton Public Library and create awareness and appreciation of Library services.

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Did you notice the 'dress' and 'shoes' in the window of the Library Express this past summer? Not exactly styles one might wear on a rainy day. Why? Both were created from pages of books! Read how she came up with the idea.

Kudos to Michele Polasky for her imagination and creativity in designing the outfit. Did Tommy Hilfinger get started this way?



**SAVE THE DATE – 2016 Bus Trip  
Cornell – 4/30/2016**

Details and reservation form provided inside the newsletter.

## Your 'Write' to be Heard--

We invite guest columnists to submit articles, subject to Editors' approval

## THE GREATEST PRINTER?

On the beautiful stained glass windows of the Albright Library perhaps you have noticed one depicting a dolphin wrapped around an anchor. This was the logo of Aldus Manutius, arguably the greatest, and certainly one of the most important printers of all times.

He was born in south central Italy in 1449 and received an excellent education in the Greek and Latin classics, ironically only available as handwritten manuscripts in his youth. He eventually settled in Venice and in 1494 founded the Aldine Press which specialized in small, affordable editions of the classics, an innovation at the time. He was the first to standardize punctuation, introduced the semicolon, and created clear typefaces, including italics. Perhaps most important to posterity was his work in preserving and propagating ancient Greek literature.

Venice was home to a collection of Greek manuscripts which survived the sack of Constantinople and the burning of its library in 1453. He made it a major part of his life's work to get them standardized, into print and preserved and disseminated for posterity. In 1502 he founded the New Academy which was devoted to the study of ancient literature; its most famous member was the Dutch humanist Erasmus, some of whose work Manutius published.

Despite the immense success and importance of his press, he died in relative poverty. 2015 marks the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his passing. The press was continued by his son and grandson, and today its original books are highly sort after by well to do collectors. Thanks to modern printing and public libraries all of us can enjoy the fruits of his labor.

Peter Tafuri

Past President of the Friends of the Scranton Public Library

## Over 65? Then You Should Have a Library Card

Over 65 and wondering what to do with all that free time? Get a library card. It costs absolutely nothing and entitles you to the following services.

Can't get to the library because you no longer drive? The Lackawanna County Library System Bookmobile is just the thing. It carries a wide variety of the latest materials and makes stops at housing projects and senior centers. For information on the bookmobile's schedule, call 570-207-0766.

Are you permanently homebound and not able to use the bookmobile? The "Books By Mail" program will provide you with books, CDs and DVDs. Materials will be mailed to you in a nylon bag along with return postage. Simply return the bag to your local mail carrier or any U.S. Post Office. For more information, call 570-348-3000, extension 3016.

Would you like to use a computer but don't want to invest in one? Never used a computer before but would like to learn? The Scranton Public Library has computers you can use and can teach you how to use them. For more information, call 570-348-3000, extension 3038.

The Scranton Public Library is here for you and it's all free with your Lackawanna County Library Card!



## Where Have I Seen This Before?

Our feature designed to test your powers of observation at the Scranton Public Library and/or other facilities. See if you can identify **what** the photo represents and **where** the photo was taken.

Submit your answers by March 21, 2016 to be eligible to receive a coupon for a free book at our next book sale.

See the 'Family Fun' pages for details on the mailing address.



Drop us an e-mail with ideas for 'The Avid Reader'

[friendsofscrantonpubliclibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofscrantonpubliclibrary@yahoo.com)

**Meet Jack Finnerty,  
Executive Director of the  
Scranton Public Library**

BY JILL CADDEN

*How did you become involved  
with the library?*

“Well, there’s a story to be told. In October ’62, on a Friday afternoon, I was in Guidance Class across the street, when the teacher announced that the library was looking to hire a student to work in the Reference Department re-filing magazines. The position would involve working two hours after school each day and all day on Saturday for the princely sum of 55 cents an hour. Three of us interviewed and I got the job.

One day shortly after I started, Mrs. Hopkins, Head of Reference, asked to speak with me. She said: “Jack you misfiled a magazine. Now Jack, that’s a mistake...and you only get one.” Needless to say, I didn’t make any more!

Wow, what a great job. I loved the building and its history – even more after exploring its nooks and crannies, as well as learning about John Albright and how the library came to be; I loved being around books and magazines; and I loved how the Library was there for anyone to use, free of charge. And I really loved having money that I actually earned.

In the summer I worked 40-45 hours a week as I continued to take on more responsibilities. Actually, working at the library paid for my education. I went to the University of Scranton and earned a degree in Secondary Education. After graduating, I was offered a teaching job so I had a tough decision to make – pursue a teaching career or stay at the Library. Ultimately I decided I would delay the teaching career until I had a few more years under my belt. And the Library said they would allow me to work full-time hours and they would work around my class schedule, if I pursued a library degree. Marywood College offered this program. I decided to go to Marywood. I’d get back to teaching one day... and here I am. “

*It seems that a lot of work has been going on. Tell me about it.*

“In the past few years the Library has experienced some exciting changes. The elevator was installed 3 years ago, the exterior has undergone a major facelift and now the landscaping for the garden and the installation of the flagpole are nearing completion. With the help of the Sewer Authority, we were able to reroute rain water that had been feeding into the sewer system. Our downspouts now feed rain barrels located beneath the lawn. And a big “Thank You” to the Friends of the Library for donating the flagpole and surrounding plantings! But there’s always more to do. In 2016 we’ll focus on the interior: the Library needs new carpeting, painting, new restrooms and an updated phone system. “

*OK, so that’s what’s new with the building. What about current programs?*

“Libraries can take you from the cradle to the grave.” We offer special programs for



every demographic: toddlers, teens, adults and seniors. We offer Ma Goose Lap Rap for ages 0-23 months; Pre-K Story Time, and Tales for Tots, for our toddlers; LEGO Robotics and Minecraft Mania for ages 8-18, the Young Adult Club, and Drop-by-Crafts for all ages. Our Computer Lab offers classes in Microsoft software, as well as classes for people who have never used a computer before. We offer instruction on desktops, laptops, ipads, kindles, etc. All free of course. We provide access to some great databases such as Ancestry.com, Morningstar investment services, POWER Library, MANGO Languages, Learn A Test, and many more. Students in all grades can login to Tutor.com for homework help in any subject. These are just some of our online offerings. And patrons who don't have a personal computer can use one of our public computers here at the Albright."

*Does this mean the book is dead?*

"Not at all. We are still very much in the print business. We add thousands of new books every year. Not to mention cd's, dvd's, blu rays, recorded books and magazines. Whether you prefer digital materials or actual "I want to hold it in my hand" materials – we've got them.

And of course, the patron is not limited to what we have here at the Albright. The Lackawanna County Library System which includes 9 libraries plus the bookmobile is available to everyone. But library connectivity and resource sharing goes way beyond Lackawanna County. The LCLS library card is recognized at more than 600 libraries throughout the Commonwealth. If you want a book not owned by your local library, you can request that title from any other library that does have it. When it arrives at your local library, you will be notified either by phone or email that it is available for you to borrow. You can also use your Library Card at the University of Scranton, Marywood University, and the Library Express located in the Steamtown Mall. Truly, your library card is a very powerful tool."

*How important is the Friends of Scranton Public Library in helping the Library serve the public?*

"We would not be the library we are today were it not for the support provided by our *Friends*. In fact we might not even exist. Now that may sound wildly exaggerated but let me explain. In the early 1980's the Library was in danger of losing funding provided by the City and County. The Library took its case to the voters by way of a referendum placed on the ballot in November 1982. Had we lost (and thankfully we did not) the Library, if it existed at all would be but a shadow of itself. During the months leading up to that fateful day, it was the Friends of the Library who came forward and provided all the necessary funds to make the case for a "YES" vote to thousands of Lackawanna County residents. I have no doubt that this crucial support by the Friends, made all the difference. Simply put, the services we offer today, possibly even the Library itself, would not exist but for the Friends who were there when we needed them most. "

*What are your concerns for the future?*

"The Library opened its doors to the public on June 1, 1893 and on June 1, 2018 the library will celebrate 125 years of enhancing the lives of individuals in our community by offering free access to materials and programs designed to meet informational, recreational and educational needs. And while the mission of the Library remains essentially unchanged, the world in which we struggle to accomplish the mission changes both rapidly and dramatically. In order to remain relevant, we need to be flexible, responsive and visionary. We must continue to demonstrate that we can deliver essential services – services of potential value to all citizens, in an effective manner. Providing public library service is, after all, a value proposition. And that is something that John J. Albright understood."

*Thank you for taking the time to talk with me.*

"My pleasure."



# On Track With The



-A library and a bookstore-  
Located on the Second Floor  
The Mall at Steamtown  
570-558-1670 / www.library-express.com

## Hours:

Closed on Monday  
Tuesday – Thursday: 10AM - 8PM  
Friday & Saturday: 10AM – 5PM (Extended Hours for First Friday)  
Sunday: 11AM – 6PM

## A variety of options:

- Access to computers
- Rent books, DVD's, Blue Ray, Talking Books
- Books-by-Mail
- Purchase new titles, library-related merchandise, etc.
- Authors' Events
- "Seasoned Citizens" Movie Matinees (see schedule below for March & April)
- First Friday Activities (see schedule listed)

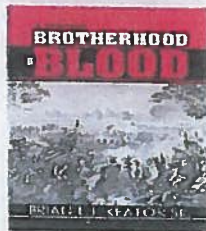
**Seasoned Citizens  
Movie Matinee**  
Join us for monthly movie showings  
at Library Express!

**MARCH 9TH AT 2PM**  
**IRVING BERLIN'S  
EASTER  
PARADE**

**APRIL 13TH AT 2PM**  
**DEATH  
BECOMES  
HER**

Library Express Proudly Presents

## First Friday Author Event



featuring  
**Brian L.J. Keator Sr.**  
author of  
*A Strong Brotherhood in Blood*

Brian Keator is an education specialist with a bachelor's degree with honors from Binghamton University with a specialization in eighteenth and nineteenth century military history and warfare, including a premiere emphasis upon the American Civil War. His extensive and unrelenting research of more than thirty years consists of not only the campaigns, events, politics, and personalities of the era, but the social history, etiquette, and social composition of armies, as well as a deliberate understanding of the strategy and tactics throughout the linear age.

JOIN US FOR A BOOK SIGNING AND LECTURE!  
**Friday, April 1st from 6PM-8PM**

# THE AVID READER

## FAMILY FUN

This is a fun opportunity to win free book coupons. For every correct answer, you will receive coupon which entitles you to a free book at our next book sale. Send your answers to:

The Avid Reader Family Fun: The Friends of the Scranton Public Library, 500 Vine Street, Scranton, PA 18509

### What is it?

OMG, What is he?



Scary, Isn't he?

Who is he?



### Did you know?

The king of hearts is the only king without a mustache.



### Trivia Quiz

- A) On the Muppet Show what kind of animal was Sam?
- B) What is the most common trick that pet dogs perform?
- C) 33% of the world's population can't do what with their fingers?
- D) In Ohio, by law, all pets have to carry what at night?

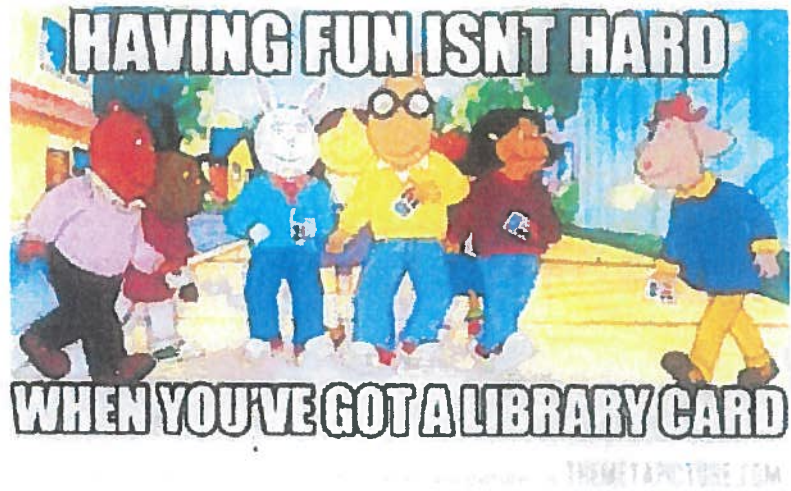
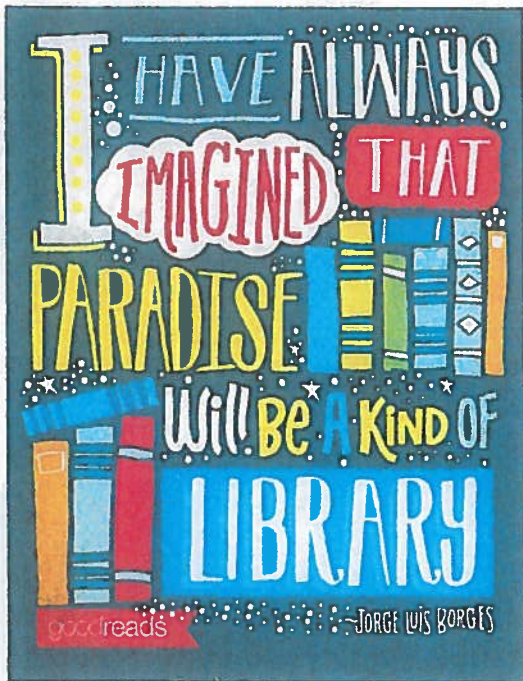


## STAWS (Sentence to a word skill)

Instructions: Rearrange the letters in the following sentences to form one, two or three words (you must use only the letters in the sentences). For example, THEY SEE. When you rearrange the letters you produce THE EYES.

1. ALAS! NO MORE Z'S.
2. LET'S RECOUNT
3. HERE COME DOTS
4. HE BUGS GORE

## TODAY'S QUOTES



## LIBRARY HUMOR







**THE  
FRIENDS OF THE SCRANTON PUBLIC  
LIBRARY CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO AN  
UNFORGETTABLE BUS TRIP TO:**

1. **TOUR** CORNELL UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
2. **SHOP** IN DOWNTOWN ITHACA COMMONS
3. **SEE** 4000 ACRE GARDENS PLANTATIONS
4. **EAT** DAIRY BAR HOMEMADE ICE CREAM
5. **EXPLORE** JOHNSON MUSEUM OF ART
6. **VISIT** RARE BOOK Collection - Uris Library

**SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2016**



Bus departs from Scranton Library (500 Vine St.) at 8:00 A.M. Bus departs from Ithaca Commons at 7:00 P.M.  
Cost: \$35.00 for Friends \$40.00 for Guests

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
**Information:** Jill Cadden: 961-3087, cell: 947-6571. Dr. Maria Augelli-Grudeski: 346-9643, cell: 947-0437  
**Checks:** FSPL 500 Vine St. Scranton, PA 18509 Att: Tina. Deadline; April 14, 2016. # of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_  
**Amount Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Guests Names** \_\_\_\_\_



# Meet Tina Thomas, Circulation Manager of the Scranton Public Library

BY JILL CADDEN

Tina has served as the Circulation Manager of the Scranton Public Library 13 years. She is “the face” of the Friends of the Public Library. Tina is always ready to assist the Friends with bus trip reservations, and their memberships, and correspondences.

She resides with her husband, Scott and son, Ethan. She is an avid reader. She enjoys scrap booking, knitting, and crocheting. She also edits videos for YouTube tutorials on paper crafting.

Tina’s love of crafting has led her to share her talents with others through teaching classes at the Scranton Public Library. She can be found teaching young adults on how to create Mash Books, a memory journal. She has also taught classes on card making and making a wreath out of a recycled book.

When asked what she was currently reading, Tina responded with a laugh, *A Hysterical, Ridiculous Book about Crippling Depression and Anxiety*. One might ask: “What could be so funny about crippling depression?” Tina’s explanation follows: “It’s about a woman who suffers from depression and makes a decision to take back her life! She suffers from a sleep disorder and sends herself text messages in an attempt to record her thoughts while waiting for her sleep medications to kick in.

The author states, “Take for example the well-known song: *We Wish You A Merry Christmas*. It starts out with a happy sentiment ... wishing everyone a Merry Christmas. A second later, there’s an angry mob of people on your porch demanding Figgy Pudding! And they won’t go away until they get some! And they are insisting it be brought to them, NOW! It really should say, Bring us some Gin and Tonic and let’s have a beer. Then, I’d invite them in!”

This definitely does sound like a funny read.

*Enjoy your reading, Tina, and save the book for me.*



**Scranton Public Library Membership year** is from January to December.

Membership received in the last quarter of the year are credited to the following year’s membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  New Membership  Renewal

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Categories

- Individual \$10.00
- Family \$15.00
- Business \$30.00
- Senior \$5.00
- Student \$5.00
- Other \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Life \$75.00

Checks payable to the **Friends of the Scranton Public Library** and place in envelope provided. Contributions deductible as allowed by law.

## Calling All Friends!



Annual Membership  
Renewal Bonus!

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

It's time to renew your Friends' annual membership for 2016.

Your annual membership helps sustain Friends' activities to support the Library.

**\*\* For your convenience please note that the Annual Membership Application is an insert in the newsletter which can be completed and returned per the instructions. \*\***

### Praise Our Patrons



The vacant Disney Store at the Steamtown Mall served as our location for 2 successful book sales!

We welcome feedback and input from our readers.



- Let us know if you have any suggestions on how we can improve our newsletter
- Tell us about your positive experiences while at the Library

**\* Submit your suggestions / input by 3/21/16 and if chosen you'll receive:**

- A FREE Friends' membership for 1 year
- Your byline name printed in the next *Avid Reader*

• E-mail to [www.friendsofscrantonpubliclibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:www.friendsofscrantonpubliclibrary@yahoo.com)

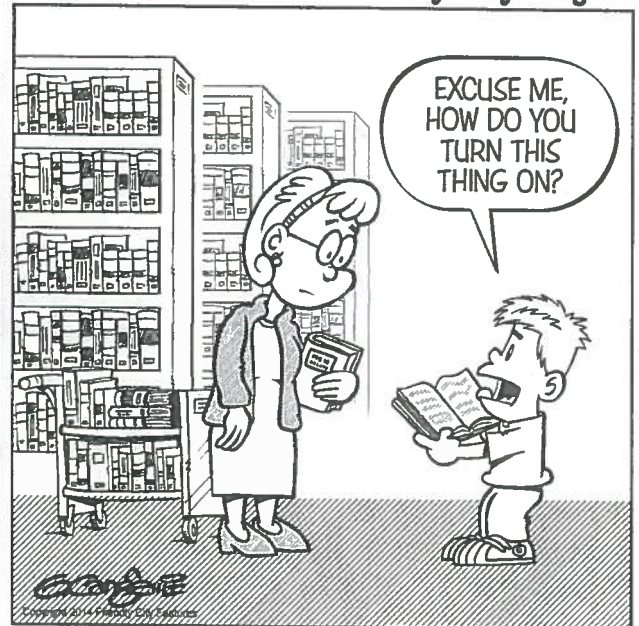
or

- Mail to *The Avid Reader*, Scranton Public Library, Att: Tina Thomas, 500 Vine St., Scranton, PA 18509
- Submissions should include your Name, Address, Phone # or E-mail address

Special thanks to Gary Cangemi for providing a chuckle!

## Lila Brarian

by Gary Cangemi





## 'Clothes' Make the .....

The Friends were curious how Michele Polasky came up with the idea for her window display at the Library Express (cover photo). Here's her response:

"I always wanted to make a dress but obviously the library doesn't have a mannequin hanging around so I went trolling all over the Mall to see who would let me borrow one and thankfully EP Fashions gave me one. I used old books that would have been recycled because of poor condition but good enough that the pages were intact. I couldn't say exactly how many books were used because I used several with different size pages depending on if I were making the flowers or part of the dress. It took me several weeks taping pages every time I had to go in the back room for something or before the store opened .. rolling pages and putting pieces together. We usually do have a theme to our window displays and this time it was for spring and summer weddings and formal occasions that take place at that time of year. The shoes were last minute because the feet turned out to be more of a challenge than I thought, so I had an old pair of shoes I didn't wear at home and I just glued the pages to them. All in all, a lot of tape and a lot of book pages and crumpled paper holding up the skirt produced a project I won't soon duplicate again . . well maybe."



### Second Chance - Where Have I Seen This Before?

Our feature designed to test your powers of observation at the Scranton Public Library and/or other facilities. See if you can identify **what** the photo represents and **where** the photo was taken. Submit your answers by March 21, 2016 to be eligible to receive a coupon for a free book at our next book sale. See the '*Family Fun*' pages for details on the mailing address.



### Meet the Friends' Board

Jill Caden – President  
Barbara Murphy – Vice President  
Barb McGee – Secretary  
Gail E. Rees - Treasurer

Dr. Maria Augelli-Grudeski  
Patricia Bisignani  
Terry Brennan  
Diane Coolbaugh  
Cindy Cramer  
Ann Marie Freeman  
Bill Graziano  
Jayne Green  
Joan Hodowanitz  
Ann Marie McCool  
Susan McKay

Claire Morrow  
Barbara D.Noto  
Michele Polasky  
Ann Robinson  
Stephanie Silvestri  
Peter Tafuri  
Marilyn Vitali

Dr. Dan Ginsberg, Advisor

# Friends of the Scranton Public Library

500 Vine Street Scranton, PA 18509

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Scranton, PA  
Permit No 81

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS– Renew your FSPL membership, submit your answers to “Where Have I Seen This Before” and “Family Fun” questions, and we welcome your feedback.**

**“The library is like a candy store where everything is free.”**

**Jamie Ford,  
*Songs of Willow Frost***

## **Who Said That?**

*I didn't expect the book to sell in the first place.*

Harper Lee (re: “To Kill A Mockingbird”)

**“CLASSIC”...a book which people praise and don't read.**

Mark Twain

*A love story always keeps the pot boiling.*

James Patterson

## **Where Did I Read That?**

*“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.”*

“A Tale of Two Cities” (Charles Dickens)

*“Conceit spoils the finest genius.”*

“Little Women” (Louisa May Alcott)

*“After all...tomorrow is another day.”*

“Gone With The Wind” (Margaret Mitchell)