



Friends of the Jonathan Bourne
Public Library, Inc.
June-July 2020 Newsletter



Well, perhaps we have all had a little too much of “Home, Sweet Home” right now, as we shelter in place as much as possible during this Covid-19 pandemic. We miss our friends and families, our work, our daily activities. But there is still so much we can do to make things better, for ourselves and others.

- Check on your neighbors, if just with a simple phone call. It’s especially important if your neighbors are elderly or otherwise vulnerable.
- Make or buy a meal or a grocery gift card for a friend whose workplace is closed down and whose paycheck has disappeared.
- Offer to pick up groceries or medicines for someone who is sick and can’t get to the store; just leave them outside the front door.
- If you can, donate to a charity that is helping people in need.
- Take care of yourself, too. Find a new hobby or resurrect an old one. Read through those books on your shelf that you’ve been meaning to get to for years. Gear up for gardening season. (Yes, it will come eventually, even in Massachusetts!). And be careful! Stay healthy! We hope to see you back at the library as soon as the Library resumes in-person services.

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Welcome to an Easier Way to Support Your Library

We are happy to announce that we have added PayPal to our Friends page on the Library web-site. There are two buttons there for your use. One is for Membership Dues; the other is for Donations.

We would be delighted to have you “click away”; and send what you can to support your Library.

PayPal



Unprecedented Times Call For Your Support

Recently someone asked, "When was the last time the country went through something like this?" Images of the Great Depression and World War II come to mind, yet they are not really comparable. We face a recovered reality that may be very different from what was normal only a few months ago.

Our library was a quiet sanctuary for anyone who wanted to browse the stacks; it was a place where children could gather for reading programs; it was a place where adults could meet to discuss books and other topics. Now we have to reach out and provide services on-line. It's not the same as in person; but these unprecedented times have required us to change.

As we consider the future of the Library, it's a good time to keep in mind the words of John F. Kennedy, when he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." In this case it means, "What can you do to support your Library?"

Here are three ideas. One, if you are not a member of the Friends of the Jonathan Bourne Public Library, please join us. Your Membership Dues help fund library programs. Two, if you are a member, urge others to join. Our annual dues are very reasonable, i.e. \$20 for Seniors, \$30 for an Individual and \$50 for a Family. Three, if you are a Life Time member, please consider doing more.

Your Library needs your support. Thank you!



Deadline for Scholarships for High School Seniors Extended

Every graduating senior who is planning to attend an institution of higher education knows what it costs, and it isn't cheap! To help defray the cost of items that may not be covered by a regular scholarship (e.g. books), the Friends of the JBPL are offering two \$2500 scholarships. Applications may be downloaded from the library's website at <http://bournelibrary.org/friends.asp>. The deadline has been extended to June 1. Bourne High School will also carry a link to the scholarship application on the school website.

In keeping with the role that the library plays in a student's life, the Friends would like to know how a particular book has influenced the applicant's own life, the life of the community, or the applicant's view of the world or other people. In challenging times, books can help us all get through a crisis. We are interested in how a book may have helped a student surmount that crisis or how a book changed one's view of the world, oneself, or others.

The two scholarships will be awarded to Bourne residents no matter which school they attend. E.g., students who attend St. John Paul II High School in Hyannis and are residents of Bourne are eligible to apply. Scholarship checks will be given to the winners after they have completed one semester of school in the college/university they plan to attend.

Please contact the Friends via email if there are any questions. (JBPLFriends@gmail.com).



They're Still There!

Some folks have wondered what has been happening since March 16, not only at the library but throughout the Town Offices. The Friends cannot speak for the rest of the Town, but we DO know that our librarians and staff have been working throughout the "Lock-down." Director Patrick Marshall, Children's Librarian Terry Johnson, our new Assistant Director Irja Finn, and our Information Specialist Sara Rose spend several days a week in the library (maintaining social distancing of course).

Although the Town Administrator does not want more than two people in the library at a time, our intrepid Director has scheduled a way for the management staff to work comfortably and safely. Thanks to them, our patrons are able to enjoy new books online and new TV shows (through Hoopla!), while our library staff order new titles, check on glitches to the website, and keep us up to date with news about the pandemic.

Cataloging Assistant Kathleen Haynes goes in periodically to check in magazines and keep the books cataloged and processed. Sara Rose has gone over and above to keep the electronic portion of the library running as well as it does. Circulation Assistants Barbara Lorentzen, Judith Santangelo, Elizabeth Poirier, and Rebecca Duncan, as well as Children's Assistant Loretta Brochu, are learning new techniques to help patrons, even as they are working from home. And we can never forget our custodian Hazel Currence, who keeps the library germ-free for the rest of the staff. Thank you to all the staff for their efforts to be working in the midst of this chaotic time.

If anyone needs help with library resources, please call the library at 508-759-0600, x 6108. Our very dedicated staff will get back to you as soon as possible!

Museum Passes: When a "Non-Essential" Becomes Necessary

At a recent Board meeting, The Friends of the Bourne Public Library discussed whether to continue to fund museum passes. We, like many non-profits, have lost a substantial amount of money in investments due to the pandemic. We asked ourselves: Can we afford to pay for subscriptions that cannot be used now?

We debated whether having the passes now is doing anyone any good, as many museums are closed for the foreseeable future. Would they open in time to use the yearly passes? Is it wasting money that we could use somewhere else? We thought of all the people who use the passes every year and what it means to the museums, not just for subscriptions, but also for sales from their stores and food courts when folks visit.

Museums, libraries, art centers, and all those "nice to have" places are suffering losses now that will be difficult to make up when the "great re-opening" happens. And so we decided to pay for all of this year's subscriptions, to help alleviate some of the losses and to show our continued support for resources some may term "non-essential," but which we believe are vital to our culture. We also noted that as the costs had been budgeted for 2020, it will not mean we have taken on an added expense.

What can you do to help keep those museums alive? Visit virtually. (See our website at www.bournelibrary.org for the list and links to all the museums.) Send a donation if you can, and share their great, digitally-delivered programs on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Drive over to Cotuit to see the beautiful outdoor exhibit by Bourne's own Alfie Glover, the artist who created our library benches. Have a Zoom meeting with the animals at the Buttonwood Zoo! Send "snail-mail" to the staff to show your support even if you can't give them anything else. Being appreciated at a time like this is one of the most wonderful gifts anyone can receive. And, then, when we can all visit again in person, use the library passes!

[Editor's Note: Buttonwood Zoo has already informed us that our passes will be extended to compensate for the time that the zoo has been closed by the pandemic.]

Building an Updated Budget

Like everyone else, the Friends of the Library are adjusting to Covid-19. Sadly, it looks like social distancing will be a fact of life for many months to come. Yet the Library is still there for you through on-line programs. For this reason it is time to update our 2020 Budget.



Here is the new reality for 2020.

- Funding for adult and children's programs will not be spent for in-person gatherings.
- Book sales in the library will not be able to happen as in the past.
- Book donations will cease (since the Library does not have the resources to decontaminate these books).
- Friends will seek to raise funds through grants, donations, dues and future activities.
- Available resources will be used to fund additional on-line services for the community and provide other resources as may be needed by the Library.

The Updated Budget for 2020

It is important to note that our Budget was adopted in October 2019 by the membership of Friends. The adopted Budget does not change. But the reality of Covid-19 has to kick in. To this end we have reduced our anticipated expenditures by over \$11,000.

The bright yellow cells show the new assumptions. This Budget shows a need for about \$16,000 to close the calendar year.

Expenses	Original 2020 Budget	Paid to Date	Revised Budget = Funds Needed
Adult Programs	\$4,000	\$450	\$0
Children Programs	\$6,000	\$2,062	\$1,000
Museum Passes	\$5,500	\$3,070	\$2,430
Scholarships	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Office & Contingency & Legal	\$15,800	\$3,053	\$7,716
Total	\$36,300	\$8,635	\$16,146
Total Revised Budget		\$24,781	

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Building an Updated Budget , cont.

In order to cover these costs, the income forecast is also updated. The pale blue cells show the revised Budget Funds. We will continue to plan to withdraw \$15,000 from our Brokerage account. We will reach out and seek to raise \$10,100 through fund raising activities. **Your help will be needed to hit this goal of \$10,100.**

Income	Original 2020 Budget	Raised To Date	Revised Budget Funds		Funds To Be Raised
Dues	\$3,000	\$1,775	\$600	}	\$10,100
Donations	\$9,000	\$214	\$4,000		
Fund Raising	\$10,000	\$483	\$5,500		
Brokerage Act.	\$15,000	\$0	\$15,000		
Total	\$37,000	\$2,472	\$25,100		

Your Friends of the Library Board at Work (Remotely)



Top Row: President Heather DiPaolo, Treasurer Pat Nemeth, Fundraising Chair Kathy Fox Alfano
 Second row: Secretary Nancy Selchan, Vice President Anne Elliott, Membership Chair Tina Prodouz
 Bottom Row: Communications Co-Chairs Eileen Mattingly and Diana Ranney



What is Beanstack? And why is it coming to the Jonathan Bourne Library?

Children's librarian Terry Johnson is very enthusiastic about this new program, particularly given the sheltering-in-place that most people are observing these days. Beanstack is an app that organizes and facilitates reading challenges, and Terry hopes to use it for our summer reading program. Right now, it is used by over 800 libraries to run over 2000 distinct reading programs, including some on Cape Cod.

Beanstack is very user-friendly. You simply snap a photo of the bar code on the book you are reading and submit it to Beanstack. You can set a timer to log how long you read. You can select reading challenges from the library to participate in. You can write book reviews to record your reaction to the book and tell your friends about it. Be sure to watch the library website for news of this exciting new program!

"Where's My Basket? And Who Won?"

Our April-May issue carried a story about the Jonathan Bourne Library pajama drive. Patrons donated a remarkable 3,519 pairs, more than the number that won 1st place for



Bourne in 2019. A look around our almost-deserted Library now shows that all the PJ Drive raffle baskets from the spring are still on top of the bookcases. There are still boxes of PJs to give, and the organizers of the Massachusetts drive don't think they will even be able to declare a winner until September.

Terry Johnson explained: The coronavirus upended the pajama drive, like so many other routines and events. Both pick-ups and deliveries stopped. When interlibrary delivery resumes, the pajamas will get to the children who need them. The raffle baskets will be awarded when it is safe to do so, with the exception of the Bruins tickets which will have to wait until the top collectors of the PJ Drive are officially announced.



**Find us on:
facebook®**

Friends of the Library Announces New Facebook Page

We can now communicate with you thru Facebook. Please "like" us at <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-the-Jonathan-Bourne-Public-Library-108446344177914/> or just type "Friends of the Jonathan Bourne Library" into the search bar on Facebook. Joining us will add any new content to your Facebook News Feed. You will then find out what's going on with the Friends, including new online programs and events. We will soon be adding a Donate button as well.

Put Amazon to work for the Bourne Public Library.

Each purchase you make can benefit the library.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/04-2580285>

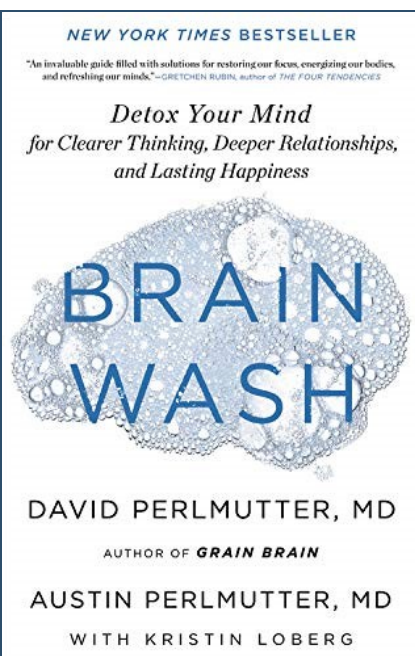
2019-2020 Board

Heather DiPaolo, President
Anne Elliott, Vice President
Nancy Selchan, Secretary
Pat Nemeth, Treasurer
Kathy Fox Alfano, Fundraising
Chris Crane, Book Sales
Tina Prodouz, Membership
Diane Ranney, Communications
Eileen Mattingly, Communications

Book Bytes

This month we are incorporating a new feature in our newsletter, a book review. Because so many are reading online now, we have decided to call it "Book Bytes"—the term used in computer language to indicate a binary code. Individually, a byte is a term for one unit of storage; when strung together, the bytes make up the units which hold information. So this month, it is both ironic and appropriate that our first book review is about how to get away from the digital age to be happier and healthier!

Brain Wash: Detox Your Mind for Clearer Thinking, Deeper Relationships and Lasting Happiness, by David Perlmutter, M.D., and Austin Perlmutter, M.D., with Kristin Loberg is a simple formula for how to detach from the constant drain of our brains from screen time, inadequate and unhealthy eating, and being indoors



24/7. The two authors, father and son, are both distinguished doctors with long careers who decided that the world is slowly becoming less able to cope with real life as we are constantly bombarded with digital images, workstyles and stress brought on by lack of exercise and unhealthy foods, and access to whatever we want delivered to our doorsteps immediately after we order it.

They state that our brains are slowly being manipulated into "caveman" reactions, leaving us lonely, anxious, and uncaring. We are using less and less of our prefrontal cortex and more of our amygdala (or "dinosaur") brain, with the result that we make snap/reflexive decisions that drive us to repetitive, unhealthy behaviors.

Their premise is valid, back up by countless studies and research--and it probably couldn't have come at a worse time for those of us who would love to change our habits. In the midst of a pandemic, which is forcing humanity to stay away from the "real" world, the Drs. Perlmutter are asking us to give up the connections which are keeping us on an even keel (albeit, a somewhat shaky one!). Of course, they had no way of knowing that their book would make its debut when the world turned upside down. In a very interesting twist, it is a wake up call just as the forced time away from work, school and the usual things that make up our lives now is, also.

Overall, the science behind the premise is solid, the language may be a bit over the average person's understanding at times, but the book is well worth reading and considering. A routine and lifestyle that encourages empathy, kindness and critical thinking skills is definitely what we need right now. Setting a future course for human beings so that we might use our brains for good, rather than deaden them with instant gratification and sugar-coated quick fixes in my opinion (and theirs!) seems a much better option than what we have been doing so far. When the library is open to the public again, grab this one or try now for its electronic version if you can. I am sure that the Perlmutter's will have no problem if you must digitally access this title!

—Diane Ranney

Have you been reading some interesting books during our shelter-in-place spring? Would you like to recommend a good read to others in the Friends group? Send your review to Eileen Mattingly at eileenmattingly@yahoo.com or Diane Ranney at windsong2093@gmail.com.

Membership Renewal: We Need Your Support!

Dear Friends,

We hope that you and your families are staying well in these difficult days of the pandemic.

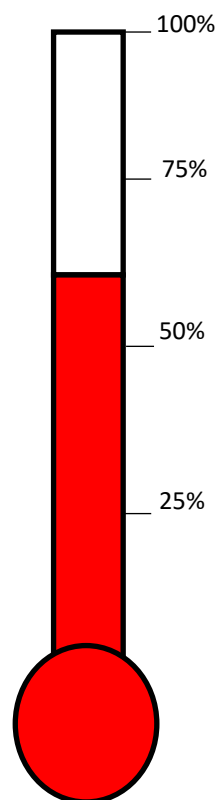
The Jonathan Bourne Public Library is experiencing a uniquely challenging time. Although the building is closed, the staff is working hard and is at the ready to answer your questions, institute new online learning programs and prepare our library for the “new normal”.

The Friends of the Library are reaching out to our renewing members whose membership expired in February of this year. Our renewal rate as of this newsletter is 60.5%. Now more than ever, we ask that you lend your support to the Friends by renewing your annual membership. These important funds provide for future adult and children’s programs and new eLearning tools.

Please submit your 2020 dues to the Friends in one of the following amounts.

Senior	\$20.00	Individual	\$30.00
Household	\$50.00	Lifetime	\$500.00 (one-time payment)

Membership renewals to date



Pay dues by using the PayPal button on our website or sending your dues to:

**Friends of the Jonathan Bourne Public Library
19 Sandwich Road
Bourne, Massachusetts 02532**

Help us reach our goal of 100%! Thank you for your continued support.

Tina Prodouz
Membership Chair
Friends of the Jonathan Bourne Public Library