



Friends of the Jonathan Bourne Public Library, Inc.

Late Winter 2019 Newsletter



A Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

We are in the thick of winter now, when the fun of the holidays and the cheer of the new year is a very distant memory, yet summer and its carefree days are still very far away. Instead, it is the perfect time to pop into the library for a warm welcome at the front desk and to enjoy a cup of coffee or cocoa while finding just the right winter read or DVD to warm up your evenings. Our library has all that you need to make the winter on Cape Cod your favorite cozy reading season.

During our last Friends Board meeting we were excitedly talking about all the events that the Adult and Children department directors will be planning for our library patrons. It was a strong reminder of how the library truly serves a multigenerational group of people. From the infant story time to our many concerts on the lawn, the library entertains and delights all ages in the town of Bourne.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the number one multigenerational activity of all during the library year, the PJ drive! All ages participate in this statewide program that provides warm pjs for kids in need throughout the Commonwealth. Please consider donating a pair or two of pjs before March 15th to be part of this big event.

As the days begin to get a little longer, you may be eager to venture out and explore the many benefits that your library card holds outside of the actual library. The most important item that the Friends of the Library group funds is the extensive list of museum and zoo passes throughout New England. Think of your valid library card as a little ATM card that is loaded up with discounts to local and out-of-state

treasures. You can explore the unsolved mystery of the stolen art at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, find out what an agouti looks like at the Roger Williams Park Zoo, or take a trip back in time at Plimoth Plantation, all with your library card. Inquire at the front desk for more information on reserving these valuable passes that are funded by your Friends membership.

We invite you to attend our next Friends meeting on March 25th at 10 a.m. (Please note the time change of our meetings.) This great group of volunteers is always looking for input on the next activity or fundraiser. If you are unable to attend the meetings, but are interested in helping or sharing your ideas, please email me at capecodbaby@comcast.net. The more the merrier!

With much thanks for your support,

Heather A.M. DiPaolo

President

Friends of the Library

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PJ Collection and Raffle

The Pjs Are Coming! The Pjs Are Coming!

Once again, we hope that the pajamas for our annual pajama drive will come in as thick as the ice on which the Boston Bruins skate! This year, in addition to gathering pjs for those children in Massachusetts who have none, we are engaged in a small “battle of the bottoms” (and tops!) with the Town of Norwood. (Ask about the connection in the Children’s Room!)

Hoping to gather even more than last year’s total of 2200, we are asking folks to bring in any pair of new pajamas, sizes newborn to 20, so that we can help the Bruins and Cradles to Crayons make every Massachusetts child’s dreams come true. There’s still time to be part of the Drive—and have fun, too! We have Pajama Madness with events as follows:

March 7 @ 6 p.m. Bedtime Stories with Big Ryan (Milk and cookies will be served!)

March 14 @ 5:30-7 p.m. Dogs in Pajamas (Read with the Companion Animal Dogs!)

March 15 @ 6 pm Pajamas + Pizza + a Movie (*Hotel Transylvania 3*!)

Admission to ANY of the above events is one pair of NEW pajamas per child. So put on your pjs and join us!



And there’s a RAFFLE!

The picture at left shows some of the raffle prizes. Each patron who brings in a pair of pjs gets a ticket for the raffle of these prizes. So be a winner in every sense of the word, and bring in those pjs!



The Bourne Centennial Quilt

For many, the large quilt which takes up an entire wall in the program room of the Jonathan Bourne Public Library is as familiar as the town itself. The thirty squares, as varied as the quiltmakers who stitched it, still have a special place in the hearts of some library staff who were around to see it take shape.

In 1983, the Bourne Centennial Quilt Committee was formed to look into making a quilt which would memorialize sites in the Town of Bourne and be hung in a prominent place where visitors and residents alike could see it. Then Homebound Librarian Leslie Morrissey had been appointed the overall Centennial Celebration Committee Chairperson. She gathered five people to help her with the idea of the Centennial Quilt. I was the cataloger at the time and volunteered to head up the sub-committee. Thank goodness, Elizabeth Henry and Shirley Ladetto took the actual seams of the quilt project and pieced together a group of 40 quilters who wished to be part of this immortalization of the split from Sandwich and the birth of Bourne in 1884.



After countless months pouring over archived pictures, reading postcards, and looking in old books to see what might be the most important events and places in the history of the town, thirty items were

chosen from an original list of 50+. It was a difficult decision, but we think we managed finally to use pictures of events and items which represented all the interesting (and sometimes forgotten) aspects of Bourne, from the cranberry harvest to The Flying Dutchman; from Pocasset to the Town Seal. Once we had finished arguing (no, discussing!) what we would use, the art teachers at the high school were asked to create their idea of the scenes we mentioned—some of which had very few pictures to go by. Kenneth Carson and Charles Billard, Jr. spent many a night trying to get it “just right” so that not only were the depictions accurate, but they would also be fairly easy to quilt, as some of our volunteers, despite their enthusiasm for the project, had only a rudimentary idea of how to do pictorial applique.



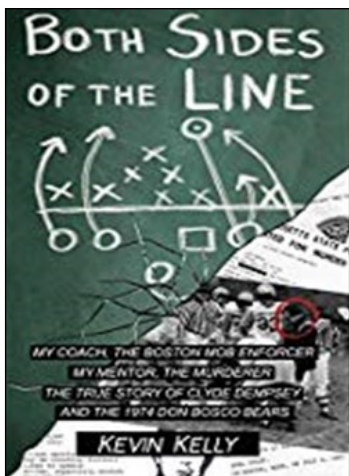
Thank goodness, Liz and Shirley were on hand for many coaching sessions. We met for the initial distribution of the pictures (which were later gathered into a printed “coloring book” which was sold to help with fund-raising for the Centennial Celebration); we met when folks needed some help with placement of colors; we met to construct the entire quilt after we had met to decide on the border and the actual quilting. Through it all, Liz and Shirley kept their sanity and ours! They were responsible for the beautiful quilting and piecing the cranberry border which runs around the entire quilt. Finally, it was finished and given to the town as a birthday present.

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The Bourne Centennial Quilt, cont.

The only problem was that it was too large to hang anywhere in the town offices. The other problem was how to keep it from fading and becoming threads of its former self in all the years we hoped it would remain a symbol of community involvement and pride. Again, library personnel (or their husbands!) to the rescue. After several years of the quilt being kept carefully in a box for want of a good home, a solution appeared. To the rescue--then-Chairwoman of the Library Trustees, Penny Cartier, whose husband Ray was a carpenter. He spent a goodly amount of time looking at frames, imagining frames, and pardon my saying so, cussing frames until he finally figured out how to encase the quilt so that it could hang, be seen, and be preserved for the next 100 years as well. Having built the case, there still remained the issue of where to hang it. Someone finally said—why not the “new” library? We had just moved into our new home on Sandwich Road in April 1987 and the program room walls were blank. It was the perfect spot for the town’s community quilt and so it remains today—a symbol of spirited women and men who wanted to make sure Bourne would always be seen as the varied and beautiful place that it is.

—Diane Ranney, Assistant Director,
JBPL, and creator of a block)



Upcoming program!

March 12 from 7-8 p.m.: *Both Sides of the Line* (Author, Kevin Kelly)

Jack "Clyde" Dempsey was a coach, a mentor and...a mobster. Kevin Kelly brings his story to life, as he reads from his new book, *Both Sides of the Line*, and shares Dempsey's receipt for success and failure in life.

The program is free. However if you wish to donate a pair of new pajamas to the PJ Drive, we would be thrilled! Kevin's books will be available for sale and signing. The library copy may or may not be available!

Our Christmas Tree Auction

Thank you to everyone who made the Friends Annual Christmas Silent Auction, "A Caring/Sharing Wonderland," a great success! A record 68 items were generously donated by very creative individuals.

The total amount raised was \$3,949 and 26 charities benefited from the donations. The decorated trees, bird houses and baskets all provided a warm holiday decor in the library for the Christmas in Bourne Village event on December 7th that was hosted by the Friends of the Library.



FRIENDS NEWSLETTER



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