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MATCHING GIFT CAMPAIGN WRAPS UP IN THREE WEEKS

Press Release 6/29/20

(Kent, Connecticut) – Because of the generosity of Kent Memorial Library’s loyal friends, in less than three weeks, the Matching Gift Campaign reached its goal of $60,000. With the additional match of $60,000, the Library has raised $120,000 and made up for the summer event revenue lost because of the risks of COVID-19.

At the end of May, the Kent Memorial Library Board of Directors had concluded that it must cancel its three longstanding summer fundraisers—the annual benefit, outdoor book sale and car raffle, resulting in lost net revenue of $120,000. Library Board Member Betty Ruddy and Investment Committee Chair Ned Babbitt announced that they were responding to this significant financial challenge by offering to match, dollar for dollar, any gift for operating expenses made between now and September 1, 2020, up to a total of $60,000. Thus began the Matching Gift Campaign.

“We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many lovers of the Kent Memorial Library who stepped forward so quickly. Your donations of $60,000, together with the matching funds, enabled us to replace that lost income and keep the Library’s virtual and now actual doors open. As we approach the Library’s 100th anniversary in 2022, we are so gratified that the friends of this institution want to see it continue another long while. Thanks to everyone who pitched in,” raved Betty Ruddy.

The Kent Memorial Library’s mission is to enrich the lives of individuals and the community by providing materials, programs, and services to encourage reading, learning and imagination. All Children’s programming for 2020 is sponsored by a generous gift in honor of Allan Priaulx. The Kent Memorial Library is located at 32 North Main Street, Kent, Connecticut, 860-927-3761. Visit kentmemoriallibrary.org for more information.

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