



# SOMERS LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023



## Director's Corner

*Libraries: The medicine chest of the soul.*

—Library at Thebes, inscription over the door

The tragedy that took place in this community a few weeks ago has affected every single person in this community and many outside of this community. The staff at Somers Library has been working on programs and events that are necessary moving forward.

- We are partnering with Embrace the MOMent, a newly formed grass roots organization in Somers to support mothers in the many ways they need it. We are hosting a meeting for them on Thursday, September 14, from 6:30-8pm.
- There will be a community postvention support meeting facilitated by the staff of Westchester County's Department of Community Mental Health. Healing, education and available resources will be discussed. *(Continued)*

## Director's Corner *(Continued)*

- The Children's Room will be starting a new parent group in October on Thursdays. This program will be moderated by a nurse who has done this program in another local library.
- In September, The Children's Room will be starting a Playdate Meetup on Wednesday mornings. We'll have some arts and crafts (self-guided), books & music for children to enjoy while parents/caregivers get a chance to meet and mingle.

Services like these will continue to evolve and grow as time moves forward. We are committed to serving all members of the Somers community in whatever way we possibly can.

*Jennifer*



### **September is Library Card Sign Up Month!**

During the month of September, come to the library and sign up for a new library card and your name will be entered into a **raffle** for a special gift basket!

*Our programs are supported by Friends of Somers Library through our patrons' generous contributions.*

# Labor Day Weekend Hours 2023



The Somers Library will be closing early at 1 PM on Saturday, September 2nd, and will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observance of Labor Day.

The library will open on Tuesday, September 5th with our regular hours of 10 AM - 8 PM.

*We wish all our patrons a happy and safe holiday weekend!*

## Adult Programs & Events

[Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.](#)

**Bedford Audubon Members' Photo Exhibit:** *Celebrating the Beauty & Diversity of Birds in our Region*

On display September 1st - October 31st.  
Opening Reception on September 7th,  
6:30 PM - 8 PM



Later that week come to our **Workshop, Tips & Tricks to Make Your Birding Photos Stand Out In Person, Saturday, September 9th, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**. You've been out on a bird walk or had a great bird in your backyard. You got the image but it is just not perfect. What can you do to make it into a picture you want to frame? Join Bedford Audubon member and photo enthusiast John Hannan for his workshop: **Tips & Tricks to Make Your Photos Stand Out**. John will lead you through the steps to pick the right image, tweak light, color, sharpness, and noise options so the image pops and then crop and size for best subject placement. Whether you use a Mac or Windows machine, free or paid software, this workshop will give you the tools to start making your best images "picture perfect" and turn those frustrating "almost perfect" shots into great photographic memories.



# Adult Programs & Events

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

## Dmitri Kolesnik Jazz Trio

**In Person, Sunday, September 17th, 2 PM**

The Friends of the Somers Library fall performance series opens by welcoming once again the fabulous Dmitri Kolesnik Jazz Trio.

*“Russian-born bassist Kolesnik feels right from the first note. Hipster shuffles, bop burners and dreamy ballads are all performed with urbane aplomb by a dynamite band... Everything clicks.”* - Jazz Times Magazine

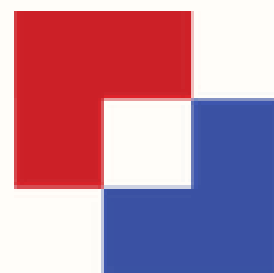
No registration - first come, first served.



## Bridge the Partisan Divide with Braver Angels

**In Person, Thursday, September 28th, 6 PM - 8:45 PM**

We are a national movement to bridge the partisan divide in an effort to strengthen our democratic republic. We are also a grassroots movement with an alliance that has formed in Westchester County.



Braver Angels brings liberals, conservatives and others together at the grassroots level—not to find centrist compromise, but to find one another as citizens. Through workshops, debates, campus engagement, and more, Braver Angels helps Americans understand each other beyond stereotypes, form community alliances, and reduce the vitriol that poisons our civic culture. Please join us to view a documentary about Braver Angels featuring our first Braver Angels Workshop that took place in Lebanon, Ohio. We will have a discussion, after the documentary, about what Braver Angels is doing now and answering any of your questions.

# Important Community Meetings at the Library

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

## Embrace the MOMent Community Meeting

Thursday, September 14 from 6:30 - 8 pm.

Join us for the second community meeting with Embrace the MOMent.

Please come with all your amazing ideas!



*About Embrace the MOMent: This group was formed to spread information and create a safe space for socializing, connecting, and supporting moms of Somers. MOMent encourages the Somers community to share information about resources, events, get togethers, and support.*

Please register. Volunteer teen childcare will be available. *Supervision of children aged 4 and up will be provided by teen volunteers and supervised by library staff. However, per the Library Code of Conduct, children under 10 are not allowed to be left in the library without a parent or guardian on premises.*



## Meeting with the Westchester County

Department of Community Mental Health

Thursday, September 21 from 6:30-8 pm

Join us for this important 'post-vention' and community support meeting surrounding the recent tragedy in the Somers community. Healing, education and available resources will be discussed. This is your opportunity to hear from and speak to representatives from the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health. Registration is strongly recommended.

# Adult Virtual Programs

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

## NYC Walking Tour:

### Immigration & the Lower East Side

Virtual, Thursday, September 14th,

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM



At the turn of the 20th century, the Lower East Side was the most densely populated area of New York City; some historians believe it was the most densely populated place on earth ever. Most new immigrants in the late 19th century were Jews who came from Eastern Europe and Russia. They mingled (and sometimes didn't mingle) with earlier German, Irish, Italian, and Central European, and Chinese immigrants who spread across the area from the former Five Points to what we now call the East Village.

This tour will look at the architectural, cultural, religious, and gastronomic cross-pollination that took place. 1901 was the year more stringent tenement house laws were passed, so we'll also look at how improving the lives of these New Yorkers perhaps also brought about the end of the neighborhood.



## (Virtual) Art and Monuments: Honoring Memory and Service by Smithsonian American Art Museum

Friday, September 15 from 11-12:30

During this interactive program, representatives of the American Battle Monuments Commission and the



Smithsonian American Art Museum contextualize the history of overseas WWI and WWII memorials, monuments, and art in their collections. Explore how the design of sculpture, architecture, war memorials, and 2-D artworks convey the themes of honor, service, and sacrifice through symbolism and allegory.

# NEW Ongoing Adult Programs & Events

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

## Creative Writing Class

In Person, Tuesdays, September 19th -  
December 12th, 10:30 AM - 12 PM

Want to exercise your brain and have fun doing it? Join our Creative Writing Group where each week you will be challenged with new and creative ideas to write about. Feedback from other writers in the class and editing of your pieces will help you to develop your own writing style. The class will be led by Jo Ann Francella, a columnist for The Somers Record. Class size is limited



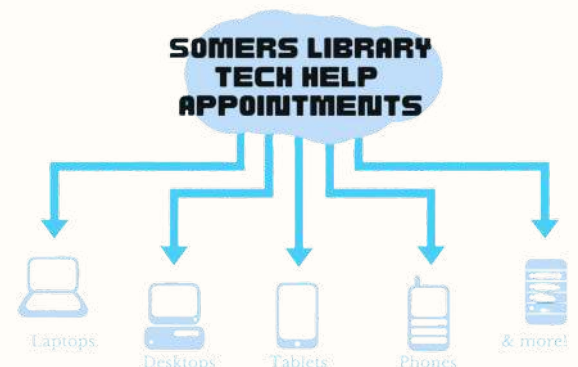
## Spice and Herb of the Month Kit - Cinnamon!

Keep an eye out for the sign up email for registration! Pick up starts September 11th at the Reference Desk. Every month the Somers Library will showcase a different spice or herb for patrons to try. Each kit contains three recipes and enough spice or herb to try all three recipes. This month our spice of choice is cinnamon, just in time for apple season!



## Tech Help at the Somers Library

Staff member Juan Carlos provides Tech Help for those seeking advice in operating their electronics and other e-services offered by Somers Library. Call for available times and to schedule your appointment in-person or virtually.





# Ongoing Adult Programs & Events

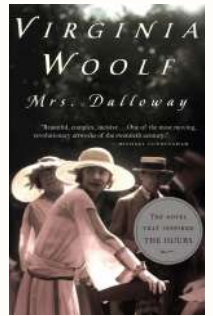
Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

**Somers Library Classic Book Group meets to discuss “Mrs. Dalloway” by Virginia Woolf**

**Hybrid, Monday, September 11th, 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM**

Mrs. Dalloway is the portrait of one day in June, 1923, showing how the First World War continued to affect those who had lived through it five years later.

The group meets on Monday nights, bimonthly.

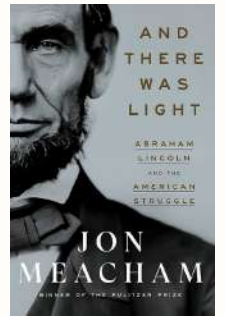


**Somers Library Book Group to discuss “And There Was Light: Abraham Lincoln & the American Struggle” by Jon Meacham**

**Hybrid, Friday, September 29, 1:30 PM - 3PM**

The Somers Library Book Group meets both in person and virtually via Zoom.

Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer Jon Meacham chronicles the life and moral evolution of Abraham Lincoln.



**Somers Library Movie Matinee September:**

**Reels: West Side Story - Thurs., September 7th, 10:15 am-1 am**

Somers Library Movie Matinee series meets in person to view: “West Side Story,” the original 1961 classic inspired by Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet.



**Reels: The Natural - Thurs., September 21st, 10:15 am-1 pm**

Celebrating September and baseball as America’s sport, Somers Library Movie Matinee series meets in person to view: “The Natural.” This 1984 film recounts the experiences of Roy Hobb, an individual with fabulous “natural baseball talent.” It is considered one of the best baseball movies.

Movies selected are based on monthly themes, quality and ratings, with length approximately two hours. Join us!





# Ongoing Adult Programs & Events

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

## ESL Conversation Group

In Person, every other Tuesday,

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM,

Meeting Dates; 9/12 & 9/26

Are you a non-native

English speaker looking to brush up  
on your English conversation skills?

Come join us for a low key meeting with like minded individuals  
and native English speakers to work on better English verbal  
communication. No classwork! No homework! Just good  
conversation and pointers on pronunciation.

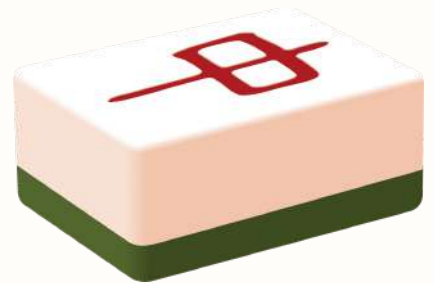


## Friday Drop-In MahJong Club

Fridays from 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Drop in to play MahJong with your

neighbors. This is for anyone who loves the game, wants to meet  
new people, and have some fun. All are welcome, but enough  
knowledge to play unassisted is best. The library has a very  
limited number of MahJong sets, so please try to bring your own.



## Threads & Yarn Club

Fridays, 10:30 AM - 12 PM

Join us on Friday mornings with your  
knitting, crochet work, or anything that  
uses thread or yarn! All levels are welcome!  
No registration needed.

# Teen Programs and Events

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

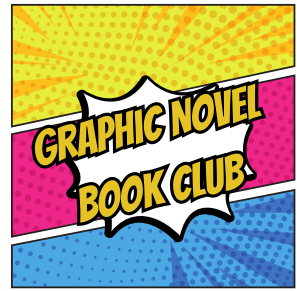
## Graphic Novel Book Club

In Person, 2nd Wednesday of each month,  
3:45 PM - 4:45 PM, Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13,  
Jan 10, Feb 14, Mar 13, Apr 10

For Grades 6th - 10th. Did you know that

“a growing body of research, focused on how the brain processes the combination of images and text, indicates that graphic novels are also excellent resources for advanced

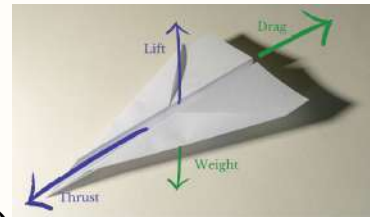
learners?”(Northwestern University, 2017) Graphic novels have become a popular format in classrooms, partly due to their appeal to reluctant readers. Apart from the adults, the teens love them and they cover many topics and forms. We will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. A school bus is available from both the middle and high school.



## STEM Grades 4-7 Aerodynamics & Paperplanes

In Person, Tuesday, September 19th,  
3:45 PM - 5:15 PM (Thursday, Sept. 21st Rain Date)

This program takes a fun look at how to build a paper plane, and how changing the design can help or hinder flight. We will start small and work our way up to big paper airplanes, finishing off with a competition to see which plane flies the farthest, fastest and highest. Registration is necessary.



## CREATIVE COLLAGE FOR TEENS

In Person, Wednesday, September 27th,  
4 PM - 5 PM

For Grades 6-12. Teens will learn about collages by three modern masters, followed by a chance to create their own masterpieces. The program starts with a quick virtual tour of Jackson Pollock's studio on Long Island where he and Lee Krasner worked on experimental abstract collages. Joyce Raimondo from the Pollock-Krasner House will then demonstrate collage techniques as participants work alongside each other. Supplies will be provided to create your own collage.



# Children's Events & Programs

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

## Tot Time

Tuesdays, September 12th & 26th, 10:30 AM

Enjoy songs, rhymes and books.

Ages 0-3 and caregivers.



## Playdate at the Library

Wednesdays, September 13th - October 18th,  
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

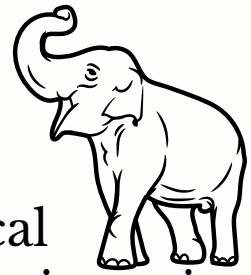
Join us at the library for a play date. We'll have some arts and crafts (self-guided), books & music for children to enjoy while parents/guardians get a chance to meet and mingle. No registration necessary.



## Model Magic: Elephant Appreciation

Wednesday, September 20th, 3:45 PM

For ages 4-11, registration is required. Join local art teacher Wendy Podell for a fun model magic project.



## Lil' Atoms STEM Club

Tuesday, September 26th, 3:45 PM

Grades 3 to 5. Calling all Lil' Atoms! Join us each month for STEM/STEAM based experiments and projects.



## STEM for Grades 4-7 Aerodynamics & Paperplanes

In Person, Tuesday, September 19th,

3:45 PM - 5:15 PM (Thursday, Sept. 21st Rain Date)

This program takes a fun look at how to build a paper plane, and how changing the design can help or hinder flight. We will start small and work our way up to big paper airplanes, finishing off with a competition to see which plane flies the farthest, fastest and highest. Registration is necessary.





# Somers Library Foundation

## September 2023

*The only thing you absolutely have to know is  
the location of the library.*

*— Albert Einstein*



Somers Library  
Foundation

Somers Library is located in beautiful Reis Park. Our library has books, magazines, activities, programs, clubs, plays, concerts and all the things that it takes to help build a community. It is a cherished part of our community that is free for everyone.

To make the services that the library provides takes support from the community. The library gets donations from many sources, including from the Friends and the Foundation. We receive requests from the Library and do our best to raise the funds necessary to meet those requests. Our most recent project was the purchase and installation of the meeting pod and signs for the teen area and meeting pod.

**Eleventh Annual  
5K Trail Run  
& 1-Mile Family  
Fun Run**

**Sunday, October 15th 2023**  
5K Trail Run 9:00 am  
1 Mile Fun Run 10:00 am

Race Day Check-in opens at 8:00 am  
Cross Country Trails starting in Reis Park  
Register: [www.SomersLibraryFoundation.org](http://www.SomersLibraryFoundation.org)

Run  
Jog  
or Walk  
for the  
Somers  
Library

*(Continued)*

# Somers Library Foundation



The Foundation's annual 5K Trail Run and 1-mile Family Fun Run is our major fundraising activity for these projects.

The race will be on Sunday, October 15th. We are still looking for sponsors, volunteers, and runners. Watch for our flyers and brochures around the community. Please sign up, donate, register, or come out to spend a lovely fall morning in the park cheering on our runners. This is a fun community event that helps us make projects like the planned Teen Area possible.

You can be part of our important efforts to raise awareness, plan fundraising events, and engage with our donors and sponsors. If you are interested, please let us know – call 914-361-9979, visit our volunteer [page](#) or join an upcoming Foundation meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm. You can get details on the Foundation [website](#)

Please check out the Amazon Wish List that the Foundation is hosting for the Library. This is a great way to have an immediate impact on the capabilities and services of the library - you can purchase an item on the wish list and have it delivered directly to the library. The Amazon wish list is available [here](#).

*Somers Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that raises funds to support projects that beautify, modernize and enrich the offerings and capabilities of the Somers Library, our community's intellectual and cultural center -- Working for YOU to improve our Library.*

# Friends of the Somers Library September 2023



**We are eager to begin our fall programming!**

Back by Popular Demand: The Friends of the Somers Library opens its fall programming with the very popular **Dmitri Kolesnik Jazz Trio** on Sunday, **September 17** at 2:00 PM. Please join us for this afternoon of upbeat music. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, please see: <https://dmitrikolesnik.webs.com>



**Race Amity of Northern Westchester and Putnam** will not be meeting at the library in September. On our usual meeting date, 9/10, we will be at the 10th anniversary celebration/fundraiser of **New Era Creative Space** at the **Paramount Theater in Peekskill** from **3:00-6:00 pm**. Please check out the [NECS website](#) for program information for this incredible non-profit which offers exceptional educational and arts based programs for children and youth.

**Happy Back to School!!** Now that it's back to school time, check-out the wonderful after school programs for children of all ages on the library's events page.



*The Friends of the Somers Library is a nonprofit organization chartered by the Regents of the University of the State of New York.*