



# SOMERS LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

*Your Library in the Park*

NOVEMBER 2023



## Director's Corner



As we head towards Thanksgiving, I would like to publicly express my gratitude to some folks who have been instrumental in Somers Library being as successful as it is. These are the people that work tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that the Library is functioning as it should and fulfilling its mission to the residents of Somers: the Somers Library Board. The role of a Library Board Trustee is voluntary, but it comes with a lot of responsibility. As stated on the New York State Library website:

*"Library trustees play a keenly important role in shepherding the dedicated and prudent use of library resources. Always striving to provide the best service which benefits and supports the entire community, trustees must make policy, personnel and fiscal decisions crucial to a positive direction for the library. While delegating the day-to-day activities to competent staff, the library trustees must always be mindful of how their decisions impact the lives of people and the future of their community. As public officers, library trustees carry an essential and vital set of fiduciary and legal responsibilities."*

*(Continued)*

## Director's Corner (*Continued*)



This is not an easy role to play. But I can tell you from working in a number of libraries during my career and through my work with directors in other libraries, the Library Board of the Somers Library is the best that I am aware of, because they know what their role is and tirelessly work to support the staff at the Library to excel at our mission:

*"... to provide Somers residents of all ages with free informational, recreational and cultural resources and programs in a welcoming atmosphere conducive to learning and enjoyment."*

I am very grateful that the Somers Library Board has supported me, 100%, since my arrival in 2021. I would not be nearly as successful without them: Barbara Tepper, Susan Dillon, Tracy Reimann, Stephen Barankewicz, Nola Blair, Stephanie Keegan, Allison Colella, Bill Keane, and Joanne DiMase.

I hope that if you come across any of these people, you will thank them for their service, as we are all better for it.

I wish all of you a lovely and peaceful Thanksgiving.

With Kind Regards,

*Jennifer*



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

# Kindness Week 2023

Kindness Week at the Somers Library is from 11/13-11/18, but we have begun collecting donation items now!!

This year Somers Library is collecting for the less fortunate. Beginning 10/31 we will be accepting donations for several good causes. Donations boxes will be set up in the library foyer to collect:

- **Toiletries for the Homeless** - travel size shampoo & conditioner, feminine hygiene products, lip balm, hand sanitizer, sunscreen
- **Canned & Dry Goods for St. Luke's Food Pantry**- Bring a donation and enter our raffle
- **Mittens, Scarves & Hats** - new / very gently used
- **Diapers** - all sizes
- **Baby Formula** - unopened containers / packaging
- **Children's Books** (Max 5 books per family please)

## Upcoming Opportunities for You to Help and to Earn Community Hours

- **Making Necessity Bags for the Homeless** - Tues. 11/14 5:30-7:30pm & Thurs. 11/16 2:00-4:00pm
- **Beaded Earrings for a Women's Shelter** - Thurs. 11/16 4:30-6:30pm

# Adult Programs & Events

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

## Poetry Reading & Open Mic

**Saturday, November 4th, 11 AM - 1 PM**

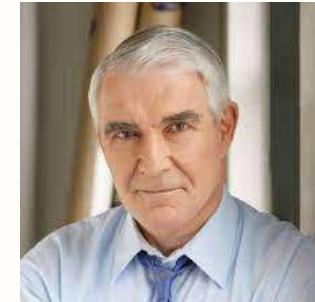
Please join us for poetry reading and open mic. All participants have varied poetic voices in their poems as well as important messages and ways of sharing their life experiences. All are welcome to listen and/or share.

Important: If you are interested in presenting, you are required to email the moderator - Kathy Burns at [mkjms27@optonline.net](mailto:mkjms27@optonline.net)



## Alan Sklar Reads: Jug of Silver by Truman Capote

**Saturday, November 4th, 2 PM - 3 PM**



Jug of Silver - An underprivileged boy is determined to guess the amount of money in and thereby win a jug of silver coins so that he can do something very special for his sister. Join us as Alan Sklar, professional narrator, corporate spokesman and actor with years of experience, reads the classic short story by Truman Capote.



## Westchester Power Information Session

**Hybrid, Monday, November 6th, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

The Town of Somers participates in a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) called Westchester Power. As the community-selected default electricity supply option, it uses the collective power of municipalities to secure competitive electricity supply contracts. The current contract for Somers ends November 30th, 2023. Join us to learn more about the new contract starting December 1st, 2023. We will be sharing the details of the new contract, including the supplier and rates, and answering any questions participants may have.

# Holiday Closings

## Veterans Day

Library Closed on Friday, Nov. 10 &  
Saturday Nov. 11 for Veterans Day



**THANKSGIVING**

## Thanksgiving Holiday

Library will be closing early at 1:00 pm on Nov. 22  
Library will be closed on Nov. 23 & Nov. 24



## Adult Program Special Event



**VoiceScapes Audio Theater Presents: An Afternoon of  
Comedy and Drama**

**Sunday, November 19th, 2 PM - 3 PM**

VoiceScapes is a modern day audio theater company formed in 2012 and made up of award-winning professional sound engineers, actors, writers and producers. They perform short, plays, both comedy and drama, complete with music and recorded sound effects. Get ready to laugh out loud and be transported through their collection of very funny comedies and thought-provoking dramas. Their short plays are original and contemporary, using the acting skills of their talented company! No registration required. First come first served.

# Adult Virtual Programs

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

(Virtual) Picturing Loss: Art and Bereavement Presented by Pollock-Krasner House and Study Center

**Virtual, Wednesday, November 1st, 7 PM - 8 PM**

Joyce Raimondo leads an informal presentation about how she and famous artists express grief through painting. A discussion of Lee Krasner's painting following Jackson Pollock's untimely death is discussed along with artists Edvard Munch, Pablo Picasso, Frida Kahlo, and others.



*By Lee Krasner After Pollock's Death*

**(Virtual) Protecting Your Assets from the Cost of Long-Term Care**

**Wednesday, November 8th, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

Join Westchester elder law attorney Lauren C. Enea, Esq. as she covers effective strategies for protecting your assets from the cost of long-term care. Learn to draft a sufficiently broad power of attorney, use a revocable living trust as an effective estate planning tool, and more. *Presenter: Ms. Enea practices exclusively in the fields of elder law & trusts and estates, protecting the rights of seniors, the disabled and their families. She is a senior associate at Enea, Scanlan LLP in Somers and White Plains, NY.*



**(Virtual) The Christmas Star with Joe Rao**

**Wednesday, November 29th, 6 PM - 7 PM**

What occurred in the skies of that time as the Christmas Star? Was it a supernatural phenomenon, or was it a natural astronomical occurrence or a function of the inexorable laws of physics? Modern astronomy has an explanation – or rather, several possible explanations. Joe Rao, an Associate and guest lecturer at New York's Hayden Planetarium, explores the many fascinating possibilities.



# Ongoing Adult Programs & Events

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

Reels: Somers Library Movie Matinee presents:

“Good Will Hunting”

**Monday, November 13th, 10:15 AM - 12:45 PM**

This 1987 American psychological drama film stars Robin Williams, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Stellan Skarsgard and Minnie Driver.

Will Hunting, a janitor at M.I.T., has a gift for mathematics, but needs help from a psychologist to find direction in his life. “A touching tale of a wayward young man who struggles to find his identity, living in a world where he can solve any problem, except the one brewing deep within himself, until one day he meets his soul mate who opens his mind and his heart.” This film is on the American Film Institute’s (AFI) list of 100 Greatest American Movies of all time.

**2 Hours 6 Minutes.**

**GOOD WILL HUNTING**



Reels: Somers Library Movie Matinee presents: “Julie & Julia”

**Monday, November 27th, 10:15 AM - 12:45 PM**

This 2009 American biographical comedy-drama film stars Meryl Streep and Amy Adams with Stanley Tucci, Chris Messina and Linda Emond. The film contrasts the life of chef Julia Child in the early years of her culinary career with the life of a young New Yorker, who aspires to cook all 524 recipes in Child’s cookbook in 365 days. **2 Hours 3 Minutes.**



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

# Ongoing Adult Programs & Events

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

## 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.



## ESL Conversation Group

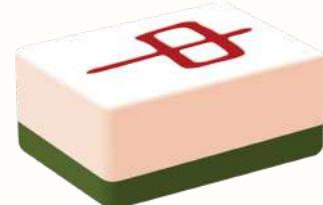
**Every other Tuesday, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

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/fluent English speakers to practice your English speaking and listening skills. No classwork! No homework! Just good conversation and pointers on pronunciation to improve your speech. New members welcome! *Meeting Dates: 11/14, 11/28, & 12/12. (Note: No meeting on 11/7).*

## 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 threads & yarn! All levels welcome, no registration needed!



# Kindness Week Events

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

**(In-Person) Kindness Week Event: Teens and Adults:**

**Create Beaded Earrings**

**Thursday, November 16th, 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM\***

**\*Can't make it at 4:30 pm?**

**Join us anytime up until 6:00 pm!**

Come to the Somers Library to make your own beaded earrings and make additional pairs to donate. For example, for every pair of earrings you make for yourself, you will also make the same amount to be donated\*\* to a local women's shelter. This free program is intended for adults, teens & tweens in 6th grade & up.



**\*\*Since this workshop benefits a women's shelter, it can be considered for community service hours.**

**(In-Person) Help Pack Necessity Kits for the Homeless\***

**Tuesday, November 14 from 5:30-7:30 pm**

**AND**

**Thursday, November 16 from 2:00-4:00 pm**



The Somers Library has been asking for donations of items that can be included in necessity kits for the homeless. Join us to pack up these kits so they are ready to be distributed to the homeless. \*Since this workshop benefits a women's shelter, it can be considered for community service hours.

**(In-Person) Kindness Week Rocks! Rock Painting for Adults & Teens**

**Thursday, November 16th, 4:30-7:30 PM**



Painting rocks is a wonderful way to de-stress, have fun and add a little kindness to someone's day. Paint a rock for yourself and paint one for a neighbor or friend who needs some cheering up. What could be more fun than secretly leaving a colorful rock on someone's porch! Rocks and art supplies provided while supplies last.

# Teen Programs and Events

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

## Aromatherapy Crafts for Teens

**Friday, November 13th, 3:45 PM - 4:45 PM**

Aromatherapy is a great way to help you relax and these two crafts will give you a chance to take those wonderful scents with you. We will be crafting a bracelet and a keychain with a choice of six different essential oils to choose as your personal aromatherapy.

Please register on our online calendar.



## Anime and All Things Japanese

**Thursdays, 3:45 PM - 5 PM**

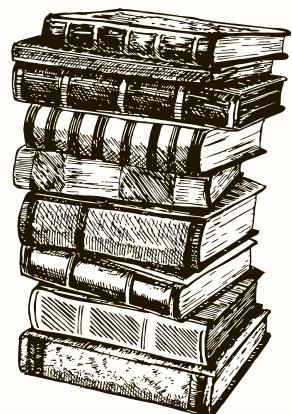
Do you love anime and manga? Would you like to travel to Japan one day? Join us for a weekly viewing of new, old and unusual anime. Once a month we will open a surprise snack box of Japanese goodies and try out Japanese games, crafts and on occasion we will invite a guest presenter to teach us something about Japanese culture. Please register on our online calendar.



## Teen Book Clubs!

**New Members Welcome!**

- Somers Middle School Book Club: 11/30 @ 3:45
  - *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen
- Somers High School Book Club: 11/20 @ 3:45
  - *Red, White and Royal Blue* by Casey McQuiston



# Children's Events & Programs

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

Children under age 10 must be accompanied in the building by an adult.

## Playdate at the Library

**Wednesdays, November 8th - December 13th, 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 needed.



## Afterschool Storytime

**Tuesdays, November 14th & 28th, 3:45 PM**

## Afterschool Storytime & Craft

**Tuesdays, November 7th & 21st, 3:45 PM**

Join the children's librarians for a themed storytime after school! No registration required. Best for ages 4 and up but little ones are welcome!



## Tot Time

**Tuesdays, November 14th & 28th, 10:30 AM**

Enjoy songs, rhymes and books with our children's librarians!

Ages 0-3 and caregivers. No registration needed.



## Drop In and Take Home Crafts

**Drop In, November 7th, Take Home, November 20th - 22nd**

Drop in the children's room any time for a quick craft or take home a craft the week of Thanksgiving! Best for ages 3 & up.

No registration needed.



## New Parents Together with Beth Villeneuve, IBCLC

**Thursdays, 11 AM**

An in-person meeting to offer guidance and support to new parents and their babies. This group will offer community, support, and solace for parents at the beginning of their journey. It is led by Beth Villeneuve International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) and licensed pediatric nurse with over 30 years experience. She is also a mother of seven. Beth holds a Bachelor's of Science in Maternal Child Health and Human Lactation. Open to all. No registration required.



# Children's Events & Programs

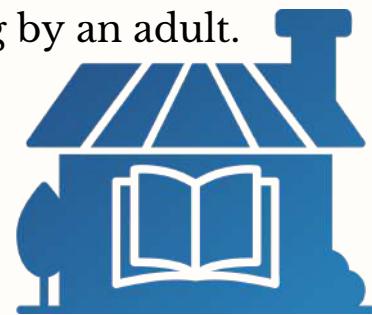
Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

Children under age 10 must be accompanied in the building by an adult.

## Homeschool Presentations

**2nd Friday of the month, 1 PM**

Join other homeschoolers to present and share on various monthly topics! Homeschool presentation is a great way for homeschoolers to practice their oral reporting/presentation skills, research and writing skills as well as art and design. We have presenters that range in age from 4-15 years with younger siblings welcome to observe. Children love that we have a monthly unit study/project to work on followed by “show and tell” to other homeschoolers! Some children prepare a poster with photos, some use props, some just talk, and some prepare a written essay that they read aloud. Sometimes parents come up with younger participants/non-readers to help or encourage them. All methods are welcome! At the end of each child’s presentation, the floor is opened to questions. You must be a current homeschooler with school aged children to attend. This is not a drop off event. Limited to 16 children, please email Aubry to RSVP and find out about this month’s topic!



## Homeschool Games

**Fridays, 1 PM, Starts November 3rd**

Join other homeschoolers to play board and card games. Best for children ages 5-15 years, younger and older siblings welcome. We have children in all age groups that come consistently to participate in this program to have fun! You must be a current homeschooler with school aged children to attend. This is not a drop off event. Limited to 20 children. Please bring a game (or two!) to play! To register, please email Aubry and Melissa, local homeschool parents.



## Important:

*\*\*If you or your child are not feeling well, exhibiting any cold symptoms, have been exposed to COVID, or have tested positive within the past 10 days, please do not attend. We have immunocompromised members that cannot get sick. Thanks for being considerate!\*\**

*Contact: Aubry Backer & Melissa Chiotis*

*Email: rambleonrose914@gmail.com or melissa.chiotis@gmail.com*

# Children's Events & Programs

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

Children under age 10 must be accompanied in the building by an adult.

## Day of Play with Ms. Kristi!

**Thursday, November 9th, 3:45 PM**

Join us each month for a fun make and play! We will be making fun stuff such as playdoh, cloud dough and more then playing with our creations! Please register on our online calendar. Ages 4-11.



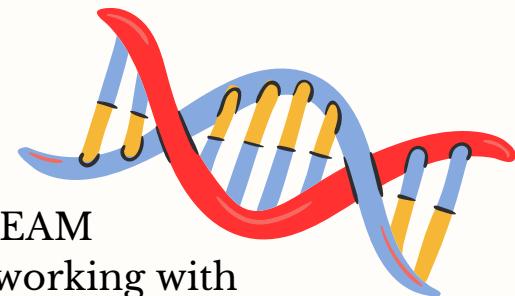
## Thanksgiving Fun: Make Your Own Butter!

**Monday, November 20th, 3:45 PM**

Just in time for thanksgiving! Bring your dancing shoes because we're shaking it up and making our very own homemade butter. All materials are provided and children will be able to take home butter and their jar and can share their butter with family and friends for the holiday. Ages 4 & up.



\*Limited Space\* Please register on our online calendar.



## Lil' Atoms STEM Club - Copper Tape Circuits

**Thursday, November 30th, 3:45 PM**

Calling all Lil' Atoms! Join us each month for STEM/STEAM based experiments and projects. For November we are working with Copper Tape to make electrical circuits! Bring your imaginations. Grades 3 to 5. Please register on our online calendar.

## Read with a Therapy Dog!

**Read with Sunny Boy, Thursdays, November 2nd & 30th, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM**

**Read with Harper, Saturday, November 18th, 11 AM - 12 PM**

Reading with a therapy dog is back! We are welcoming Sunny Boy from Therapy Dogs International and Harper from Paws for a Cause to the Somers Library! We have four time slots available per day. Each child will get to read with a special friend for 15 minute increments. Sign-ups must be done in person or by calling the children's desk. Registration opens 7 days prior to each date.



Thursday time slots with Sunny Boy: 5:30 PM, 5:45 PM, 6:00 PM, 6:15 PM

Saturday time Slots with Harper: 11:00 AM, 11:15 AM, 11:30 AM, 11:45 AM

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Registration opens seven days prior to each date.

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- Saturday time Slots with Harper: 11:00 AM, 11:15 AM, 11:30 AM, 11:45 AM

Note: Children under age 10 must be accompanied by an adult.



**HUDSON VALLEY  
PAWS FOR A CAUSE**  
THERAPY DOGS

# Art Exhibit: Jean Morely, Artist & Creative Professional On display the entire month of November and December.

My art journey began at birth, as the daughter of two artists. Following suit, my educational studies included fine arts and graphics. However, in 2018, I was diagnosed with late-stage cancer and given only months to live. Overnight, this ended a 30+ year career heading up a Creative Department for a renowned global publisher, and life as I had always known it to be. Pursuing my painting, now full time, has provided me a way of expressing and processing the kaleidoscope of emotions that come with this kind of diagnosis - many fears of course, but also, I've become keenly aware of the many miracles and blessings I continue to receive, such as unexpected synchronicities and genuine heartfelt happiness. Living in the joy of art has become a pillar of life force and a testament to the wonders and miracles of creative expression.

My work portrays human emotions - light/dark, soft/hard, calm/chaos, but always a flow. My heart's emotions pour out the ethereal beauty of the unknown world around us. To me, contemporary abstract art delivers an emotional impact stronger than traditional figurative or subjective paintings. My intention is to express, see, and share these emotions.

My medium is primarily ink, oftentimes mixed with other multi-media pigments. The ink's fluidity and vibrancy produce an ever-changing, ever-evolving image, until finally, the expressive emotion is complete.

The works project the unknown, often the worlds we cannot see, hear, or touch, yet we are somehow able to feel. Through these new perspectives, it is hoped that the viewer can begin to see and feel the world around them in a new and inspiring way.



# Friends of the Somers Library

## November 2023



Please join us for these wonderful November programs:

**Race Amity of Northern Westchester and Putnam** invites you to its November program on **Sunday, November 5**, for a hybrid session (in person and on Zoom). We are delighted that Joy Thaler of Cocoa Compassion will be joining us. Please read the attached notes with information about our session. If you can watch the videos beforehand, that would be very helpful. Because this meeting involves **chocolate**, please **RSVP** by this Wednesday, **November 1** if you plan to attend in person or even if you'll be joining us on Zoom.

Please RSVP. We will meet **in person** at the library at **2:00** for a social half hour, with refreshments. We will meet on **Zoom** at **2:30 pm**.

**On Sunday, November 19th at 2:00 PM in the Program Room join us for VoiceScapes!!** VoiceScapes is a modern day audio theater company formed in 2012 and made up of award-winning professional sound engineers, actors, writers and producers. They perform short plays, both comedy and drama, complete with music and recorded sound effects. Get ready to laugh out loud and be transported through their collection of very funny comedies and thought-provoking dramas. Their short plays are original and contemporary, using the acting skills of their talented company! For more information, please check out their website! No registration required. First come first served.

*(Continued)*



# Friends of the Somers Library (*Continued*)

## The Friends of the Somers Library Annual Membership Drive

The Friends of the Somers Library is dedicated to supporting and enriching the Somers Library. Over the years, the library has played an essential role in the Town of Somers by providing access to knowledge, fostering literacy, and serving as a gathering place for residents of all ages. Our organization has been working to fund the library's resources and programs. We have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that the library has on our community, and we are committed to ensuring its continued success. To date, generous donations have enabled us to:

- Enhance Educational Programs: Through your support, we've been able to offer engaging and educational programs for children, teens, and adults (e.g. author talks, workshops, and live events).
- Improve Facilities: Your contributions have helped us make vital improvements to the library ensuring a comfortable and welcoming environment for all visitors.
- Promote Involvement: Your donations have enabled us to launch initiatives aimed at community involvement in our town, (e.g. summer reading programs for all, educational programs for adults).

We kindly ask for your continued financial support. You can make an online donation [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=BC3Z6H7EGM9DA](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=BC3Z6H7EGM9DA). Or, to donate in person,

there are membership flyers available at the library. If you received one of our mailings, you can send a check in the envelope provided. Donating to the Friends of the Somers Library is an investment in the future of our town.

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

# Somers Library Foundation

## November 2023



## **Somers Library Foundation 5K Trail Run & 1 Mile Family Fun Run**

The Foundation's 11th annual 5K Trail Run & 1 Mile Family Fun Run was held on October 15, 2023. The weather was clear, but the already challenging course was even more difficult this year due to muddy conditions caused by the unrelenting rains from the day before. Nevertheless, a good time was had by all who attended.

Congratulations to those who completed the race, especially top three finishers Michael Lacko, Leonid Novichenko and Kaya Duzynski.

The Somers Library Foundation wishes to thank all of its generous sponsors for again supporting the event. The Library Trail Run has been the major source of funding for SLF over the years due to the generous support of the Somers community. Race sponsors and participants have helped fund significant Somers Library facility improvements for more than a decade.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who helped on race day, including in particular the Somers Cross Country boys' and girls' teams. Their assistance helps make it possible for the Foundation and the Somers Library to continue to spark imagination, inform inquisitive minds and create lifelong learners.

There are many ways to help the Foundation spread the word about all the Somers Library has to offer. Consider giving some of your time, energy and talents to the Foundation for the benefit of the Library. Please check out the [Somers Library Foundation website](#) to learn more about who we are and how you can volunteer and support our mission to beautify, modernize and enrich the offerings and capabilities of the Somers Library, our community's intellectual and cultural center.

