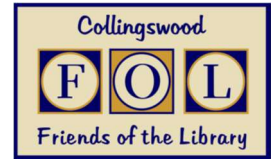


Friends Focus



The Newsletter of Collingswood Friends of the Library

Fall 2024



Once again, in May, Friends of the Library awarded scholarships to deserving seniors. We had many applicants to review and three (3) seniors received a \$1,000 scholarship. They were Madeline Forrest, Enzo DiMasi and Adrianna Varga and we wish them the best in their studies.



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October 5th saw Friends members and Library volunteers at the 22nd annual Book Festival. Thanks to the younger Loompaland volunteers who manned the book sale table and donated over \$400 to Friends of the Library.



Collingswood Reads Book Club

Funded by Friends of the Library

Adults and teens are welcome to join in a community book discussion each month for a lively discussion of recently-published books. Book Club is 7-8 pm in the Peter P. Childs Meeting Room at the Library.

November 20: *Happiness Falls* (Fiction) by Angie Kim.

December 18: *Tomorrow, Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* (Fiction) by Gabrielle Zevin

January 22: *The Fraud* (Fiction) by Zadie Smith

For each book club selection, we will have paper copies available at the Library and a digital copy available on Libby unless otherwise noted.



Membership

It's not too late to renew your Membership if **2024** is not on your mailing label! Friends of the Library advocates for the library, raises funds, sponsors programs, special events, and museum memberships. One of the ways Friends provides financial support to the library is through membership dues, and we appreciate your continued support.

If you still need to renew your membership, you may go to the Library's home page, www.collingswoodlib.org, select **About**, then **Friends of the Library** and you can download an application or renew via PayPal. Or you can click on the QR code that will take you to FOL page. Thank you for your continued support of Friends of the Library.





President's Message:

I am grateful that the Friends of the Library continues to receive support each year from the **MKM Foundation**, their unrestricted grant allows us to purchase museum memberships for the library. Currently the Library has 15 museum memberships that can be checked out. Museum memberships offer cultural and educational experiences to anyone with a library card. I am grateful that our town continues to value all the programming and services that the Library offers and that the library staff works diligently to provide Collingswood with the resources it needs. I am also grateful that each of you continue to support the Friends of the Library.

Anita

Director's Message:

Hello Friends,

I am excited to announce that, starting December 1, 2024, extended use fees will no longer accrue on most library materials – including books, CDs, and DVDs – no matter the age of the person checking out the items.

The Library ended extended use fees for Children's materials in June of 2023, finding that fees were discouraging children and their guardians from returning to the Library. This "test pilot" program has shown that patrons still return materials to the Library in a timely manner, and users appreciate the trust that the library has shown in their ability to do so. Now we are pleased to announce that Adults will receive the same benefit.

With the support of the Collingswood Friends of the Library and the Collingswood Library Board of Trustees, I am excited to follow the practice of many libraries around the country by removing this potential barrier to all the patrons using the Library. The Library will still encourage patrons to return materials on time to make them available for others. To that end, the following guidelines will apply:

- Most materials -- including books, CDs, and DVDs -- will not accrue fees as long as the materials are returned in good condition and within a reasonable time frame.
- Museum passes, Interlibrary loans, games, and craft kits will still accrue extended use fees.
- Library patrons will be charged the full cost for lost or damaged items.
- Any patron account will be suspended once an item is 21 days overdue. Though most items will not accrue fees, accounts will remain suspended until all overdue items are returned.
- Existing fees will not be waived, but only accounts with a balance over \$10 – or those with a lost or damaged item – will require payment.

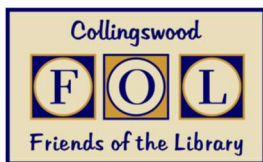
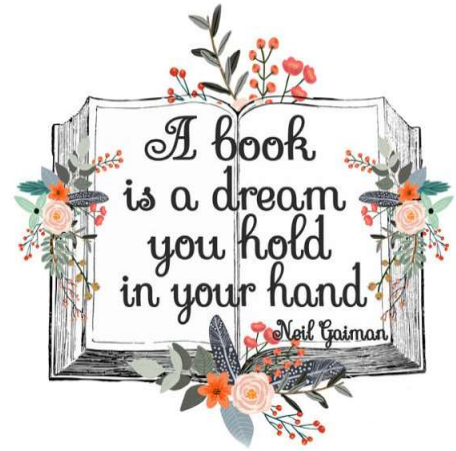
Cheers, Carissa

**This newsletter is published by
Collingswood Friends of the Library**

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Friends meet on the Second Monday of the
month at 5.30 pm in the Director's office.

All members are welcome to attend.



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