

Friends of the Agawam Public Library



**Winter, 2020
Volume 16, Number 2**

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MEMBER MEETINGS

Meetings begin at 11:00 A.M. at the library the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August.

The Annual Board Meeting immediately follows February's monthly meeting.

BE IN TOUCH

Participate:

At a monthly meeting or
at any of our events.

Send us an Email:

friendsapl@yahoo.com

Visit our web page:

[www.agawamlibrary.org/
about/friends](http://www.agawamlibrary.org/about/friends)

Drop us a note:

Friends of
the Agawam Public Library
P. O. Box 478
Feeding Hills, MA 01030

MAINTAIN MEMBERSHIP

The membership form is available at the Friends' Information Stand in the Library. Gallery and online at our web page, above.



A Word from the Editor:

Well, what is there to say? We are all suffering either from illness, grief, or just plain COVID fatigue. Hanging on by a thread, we are extremely grateful that the thread is made stronger by the presence of the library in our lives. Along with everyone else, I am in awe of what the library's staff has done to make this time more bearable. Events, activities, streaming services, computers, ebooks and let's not forget the books-the staff have all worked hard to ensure that we have had access to these services to help allay the boredom and loneliness associated with quarantining. Particularly impressive to me is the huge amount of materials the Children's Room has provided for kids and their parents. I'm sure they're all very grateful for the help with homeschooling and fun activities to entertain.

We are anxious to see the response to our first virtual photography show. If you would like to enter, you have until January 1 and can find all the information in the Friends section of the library's website. The show will be available online, assuming we get enough entries, after February 1, 2021.

Like all nonprofits, our fundraising has basically come to a halt. This is a concern, and we will continue to look for creative, profitable ways to help support our beloved library. We will be looking forward to your continued enthusiastic support in the coming year. Wishing everyone a COVID-free 2021!

Mary Alice McQuade

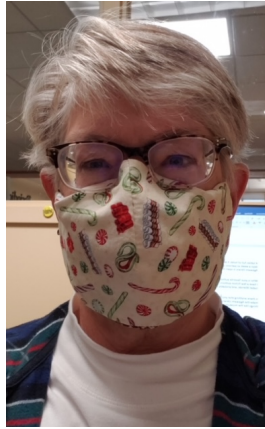
The Friends Thank Our Generous Supporters

Agawam Cultural Council
Budget Cabinet Sales
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home
Dave's Soda & Pet City
Parthenon Restaurant
U.B.U. Hair Design

John's Trucking of Agawam
Main Street Deli
Mary Ann Studio of Dance
Geissler's Supermarkets
GFWC Agawam Junior
Women's Club

Thank you!

Meet Laura Paul



Laura is the Information and Adult Services Associate at the Library. She is a graduate of Smith College and a library was one of her top choices of places to work. As she put it "Who wouldn't want to work in a library?". Originally, she was the library's liaison to the town's preschools and daycares during story hours. Later she started working at the circulation desk and went from part time to full time.

Currently Laura works at the Information Desk and wherever else she might be needed. Like all the rest of the Library's staff, Laura's responsibilities are many, and diversified. She made the flyer and bookmarks that are distributed, she orders eBooks and eAudio books, and helps patrons download these to their devices. She also manages the Library's Twitter page. Laura is one of the people who will be working to create and organize some new groups for library patrons.

Laura's favorite part of her job is seeing all the new books, music, DVDs, magazines, etc. that come in to the library. (I think we've heard this before-it seems to be part of the passion that fuels our very exceptional library staff!)

Laura is clearly proud of the library's response to the pandemic. She noted that they started early on to provide curbside pickup, which involves setting up four tables full of holds on three days of the week. Additionally, they have been putting out craft packages for kids and adults, including a virtual Festival of Trees. The library is open for browsing and computer use for three days a week-more than any of the other libraries in the area.

On a more personal note, some of Laura's favorite authors include Neil Gaiman, Joshilyn Jackson, Fredrik Backman, Isabel Allende and Elizabeth Strout. She is clearly devoted to her work and passionate about the Agawam Library and all it provides. She thanked the Friends for their support, and we give her a huge thanks for all she does for the library, and for giving us this interview! She is one more gem in the crown that is the Agawam Public Library.



SAVE THE DATES

June 14, 2021

Eat at EB's and support the library

February 1, 2021

First Annual Open Juried Virtual Photography Show will be displayed online.

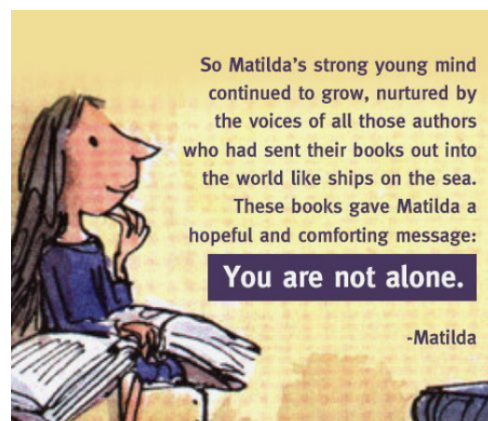
April 17-May 15, 2021

Spring Basket Raffle online and at the library

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR:

Lifetime memberships

Gift certificates for memberships



Did you know?

According to a Yale study, reading thirty minutes a day adds two years to your life span!
“Reading improves your vocabulary, reasoning, concentration, empathy, social perception and emotional intelligence.” To say nothing of the pleasure it gives us.

Become a Friend of the Agawam Public Library

If you like what the Friends do for the library, find your category, below, and join us!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

(Membership is for a calendar year. Please check one.)

___ Individual \$15 ___ Senior Citizen (65 & over) \$10 ___ Senior Citizen Couple \$15
___ Family \$20 ___ Organization/Business \$50 ___ Patron \$75
___ I enclose an additional contribution of \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

E-Mail Address* _____ Tel. # _____

☐ New Member ☐ Renewing Member * For newsletters & occasional communications distributed electronically among the Friends.

I am interested in volunteer opportunities. Please call ___ or email me ___ (check one)
May we acknowledge you as a Friend by including your name in our newsletter? Yes__No__.

Please send your completed application and check to:

**FRIENDS of the AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY
PO Box 478
Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0478**

Membership fees and contributions are tax-deductible, subject to IRS limits. The Friends of the Agawam Public Library is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Friends of the Agawam Public Library
P.O. Box 478
Feeding Hills MA 01030-0478

TO:



Remember a loved one. Honor a special friend. Give a gift that will last forever. Consider a memorial donation in someone's name to the Friends of the Agawam Public Library.

Email: friendsapl@yahoo.com

Website: <http://www.agawamlibrary.org>