



FORBES library

NORTHAMPTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

June 2013 to August 2013

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

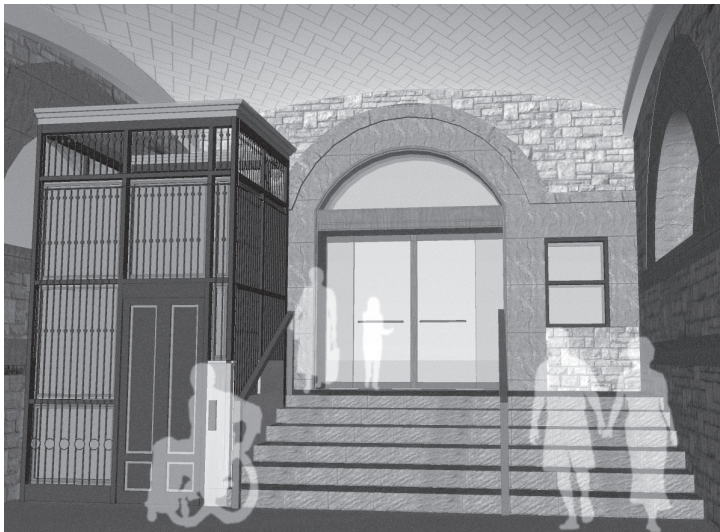
Volume 5, Issue 1

Forbes For All!

THE ELEVATOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN *Making The Library Accessible To All*

In 2012, the lift at the entrance to Forbes Library was inoperable more than half the time. Because the lift is outdated, it is very difficult to find parts to make repairs, or even to find companies who repair this kind of lift, and so it remained out of service for seven months. During this time the elderly, the injured, and the disabled were unable to access the library, and parents with children in strollers, library staff carrying loads

see FORBES FOR ALL, page 6



Friends of Forbes Library SEEKING NEW MEMBERS *Board of Directors*

On the first Wednesday evening of the month, each month except July and August, the Board of Directors of the Friends of Forbes Library, Inc. gathers in the library's community room to conduct the organization's business. It is a congenial group, drawn from many occupations and backgrounds, whose chief purpose, of course, is to raise money to benefit our wonderful

see BOARD MEMBERS, page 6



Friends of Forbes Library 20th SELF-GUIDED GARDEN TOUR *Saturday, June 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

\$15 in advance. \$20 day of the tour.
2 tickets/\$5 or 5 tickets/\$10

Tickets available at Forbes Library,
Cooper's Corner, Cornucopia Foods in Thorne's,
Bay State Perennials, Hadley Garden Center,
& State Street Fruit Store.

Raffle Prizes are on display & raffle tickets for sale at
Forbes Library through Thursday, June 6
and at garden #4 on the day of the tour.

Thank you to sponsors Craig Stevens Landscaping,
Andrew's Greenhouse, Baystate Perennials,
Carol Bright/Keller Williams Realty, Florence Savings Bank
and numerous raffle prize donors.

All proceeds fund books, equipment,
and programs for Forbes Library.

News From The Friends

Florence Savings Bank awarded the Friends of Forbes \$3,500 in March as part of their \$75,000 Community Choice Award for 2012. Thank you to all who voted for us! We received enough votes from our library supporters to put us in 4th place among 36 non-profit organizations. It's not too early to cast your vote for this year.

Red Sox tickets, a pair, are going to be up for grabs! Watch for our raffle basket in the lobby of the library along with our special children's basket on display in the Children's Room. The raffle will take place in June. Check the Friends of Forbes web page for the exact dates.

Incorporation of our organization, which will enable us to undertake a greater variety of fundraising events, is now complete. This includes the return of the Wine Tasting on September 28, 2013. Thanks to all for your patience.

Edible Books were once again a treat to behold. The annual event took place this year at the Florence Community Center on April 21st and proved once again you can have your cake and read it, too!

New Board of Directors member Scott Kennedy has jumped right in and we welcome his contributions to the mission of the Friends of Forbes. If you feel you have the time and interest to join the board, please contact us at friendsofforbeslibrary@gmail.com

Don't forget that the Friends count on your support through your membership dollars. Our single biggest revenue source comes from you, the members. Thank you for your generosity.

Summer is the time to check out a museum pass and visit one of our wonderful local museums for free or reduced rates. They are available at the circulation desk. Visit the library web page for details. <http://www.forbeslibrary.org/services/passes.shtml>.

Martha McCormick, President of the Friends of Forbes

Serena Smith, Vice President of the Friends of Forbes



3RD ANNUAL WINE TASTING BENEFIT FOR FORBES LIBRARY

WINE TASTING

MUSIC BY KEN FORFIA & FRIENDS • RAFFLE • FREE PARKING

SEPTEMBER
SATURDAY, SEP. 28, 2013
FROM 6 P.M. TO 8 P.M.

TICKETS
\$25 PER PERSON
THE NUMBER OF TICKETS IS LIMITED. TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE LIBRARY, AT WWW.FORBESLIBRARY.ORG, AND AT LIQUORS 44

JOIN US FOR WINE, MUSIC, & CONVERSATION



SILENT CAL'S SILENT AUCTION

In October, the Coolidge Museum was the setting for the first Silent Cal's Silent Auction to benefit the Friends. Area artists donated pieces crafted from repurposed and recycled items to auction. Prospective bidders were treated to the music of Peter Blanchette who performed gratis and generously donated half the sales of his CD's to the library. Several tables were heaped with refreshments donated by River Valley market, and hors d'oeuvres and desserts were a treat for the eye as well as delicious.

The artwork was unique and varied, including beautiful garden sculptures, a faux-marbled table, a necklace fashioned from the inner workings of a watch, a floor cloth, a quilted wall-hanging,

see SILENT CAL'S, page 6

FRIENDS OF FORBES ANNUAL MEETING

The Connecticut River valley in Massachusetts is a beautiful area in which to live, plenty of open space, a majestic river with all its tributaries, exceptional farmland, dense forests, and a wealth of opportunities for its residents for hiking, boating, swimming, and exploring nature. We are especially fortunate to have in our midst organizations devoted to the permanent conservation and preservation of some of this beautiful land. Kestrel Land Trust has been particularly successful in such land saves, and at the Friends Annual Meeting on April 3rd, Kristin DeBoer, Executive Director of Kestrel Land Trust, was our guest speaker.

Beginning with a discussion of the two basic reasons for conservation – quality of life, and ecological integrity – Ms. DeBoer outlined some of the history of the Trust, its beginnings in Amherst in 1970, its merger in 2011 with Valley Land Fund, which had a long history of preserving land on this side of the river as well, and the accelerated pace of their work since that merger. Now serving a 19-town region surrounding Northampton and Amherst, their work is driven by three goals. First, they aim to conserve at least 1000 acres every year. The second goal is to engage the community, sponsoring monthly walks in protected areas and hosting “5K for Farmland & Farmer's Market Festival” every year in Hadley. Building stewardship is their third goal, i.e., building the capacity to monitor the properties that are conserved in perpetuity. Each piece of land

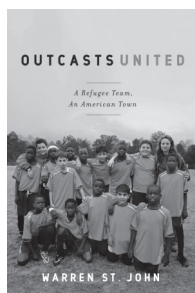
see ANNUAL MEETING, page 6



THE 2013 EDIBLE BOOK EVENT

The Friends of Forbes 2013 Edible Book Event on April 21st was quite the success, with 24 varied entries. It was the seventh annual joint fundraising effort with the Friends of Lilly Library, in which people make representations of books out of edible ingredients. This year's event was held at the Florence Community Center, a nice large space.

Some edible books were created by adults, others by children and still others by both children and adults. The sea was a common theme this year, with creations representing Virginia Woolf's *To the Lighthouse*, Jules Verne's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, (The Bobbsey Twins) *Freddie and Flossie at the Beach*, and *Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage*. There were also quite a few scary books depicted, such as *Stones and Bones of New England*, *Swamplandia*, *Volcanoes* and *Earthquakes*, and *Prehistoric Actual Size*. These last two were done by very young school children, under the guidance of their crafty teacher.



This Fall
THE HAMPTONS
Community Reading Program

The public libraries in “the Hamptons” (Easthampton, Northampton, Westhampton and Southampton) have come together to organize “All Hamptons Read”, a community reading program based on the book *Outcasts United: An American Town, A Refugee Team and One Woman’s Quest to Make a Difference*. The non-fiction work, a national bestseller by Warren St. John, tells the inspiring story of Smith Alumna Luma Mufleh (’97) and her work in a Georgia community establishing a youth soccer program for the children of war refugees.

Our goals in doing this project are to encourage reading, promote literacy, to help foster a sense of community by bringing people together to share the experience of reading and responding to the same book, and to bring to light issues which affect our communities. As individual libraries, we have organized community reading events in the past that have been very successful. By joining together we will strengthen our community ties and the reach of our program. Our choice of the title *Outcasts United* is one that the group believes will achieve our goals in many different ways.

Outcasts United is an uplifting story of a small town in Georgia with a large and varied refugee population. A young woman originally from Jordan with a love of soccer is inspired to form youth soccer teams as a way to help the refugee children in the community. Luma Mufleh, the coach, went to Smith College, so there is a local connection and the issues the book raises about traditional communities in transition, refugees and the love of soccer are also relevant here.

A project of this scope requires extensive collaboration between not only the libraries but also the schools and community organizations. We will be partnering with high schools in our area



Watercolor by Margaret Lloyd

HOSMER GALLERY

JUNE

Watercolor Landscapes with Poems by Margaret Lloyd
Ceramic Books by Michelle Cotugno
Chinese Ink Painting and Artist Books by Jan Ruby

JULY

Oil Paintings by Susan Valentine
Travel Photography by Amy Dane

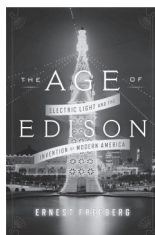
AUGUST

Route 66 by Hilltown Plein Air Painters

as well as service organizations like the Center for New Americans, the youth soccer associations, the recreation departments and Smith College. We also hope to bring in the local business community such as Popcorn Noir and area restaurants to host events. All Hamptons Read is sponsored by the Friends of Forbes Library as well as the friends groups of the other participating libraries and business sponsors including Easthampton Savings Bank.

Copies of *Outcasts United* will be available at Forbes and Lilly libraries as well as in the other participating communities. You are invited to pick up a copy and join in the events. These will feature book discussion groups, film screenings, a soccer game or demonstration, an international food tasting and a public panel discussion featuring some war refugees who have settled in our community.

GROUNDBREAKING TITLES FOR SUMMER READING



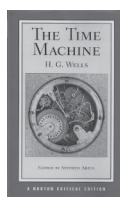
The Age of Edison: Electric Light and the Invention of Modern America by Ernest Freeber

*Many of the inventions of the nineteenth century could be considered groundbreaking but none quite as much as Edison's incandescent light bulb. Placing this invention in context, *The Age of Edison* explores urbanization, modernization, and swell of scientific and technological development during this period. (TED.4F871a)*



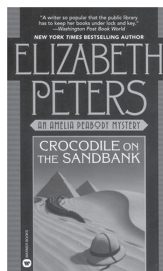
Pride and Prejudice and Zombies by Jane Austen and Seth Grahame-Smith

*Groundbreaking does not always mean innovative, cutting edge, and prolific. Sometimes the term groundbreaking refers to a hoard of zombies rising from the dead. This is the case for *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*. (YF Grahame-Smith)*



The Time Machine by H.G. Wells

*Published in 1895, *The Time Machine* was certainly groundbreaking for the science fiction genre. More than that, it was one of the first novels to explore the concept of time travel and has served as inspiration for many books, movies, comics, and television shows. (YF Wells)*



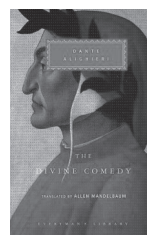
Crocodile in the Sandbank by Elizabeth Peters

The first title in the Amelia Peabody series, this fun Victorian era mystery novel features archeologists, mummies, kidnapping, and intrigue. Strong characters, detailed descriptions, and a wealth of information about Egypt and Archeology make this series a fun read. (YF Peters)



Silent Spring by Rachel Carson

*Sustainable, green, and eco-friendly may be terms we hear a lot these days but we owe much of this familiarity to the environmental movement of the 1960's and 70's. Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*, published in 1962, is well known as one of the groundbreaking texts that sparked the modern American environmental movement. (QS.C239s 2002)*



The Divine Comedy by Dante Alighieri

*“What was considered a groundbreaking read in 14th century Italy? Dante Alighieri's epic poem, *The Divine Comedy*. So groundbreaking in fact, that it helped standardize the Italian language. (Y36.DFE.M312 1995)*



Starter Vegetable Gardens by Barbara Pleasant

*What is more literally groundbreaking than gardening? If you are breaking ground for the first time, award winning author Barbara Pleasant's *Starter Vegetable Gardens* will give you a nice introduction to growing your own food. (RIA.P71s 2010)*

TEEN & ADULT
SUMMER READING CLUB
June 24 to August 30 / Prizes!
www.forbeslibrary.org/summer

from FORBES FOR ALL, page 1

of books or heavy equipment, and anyone carrying awkward or heavy items could not use the lift. On any given day, 1000 people visit the library and borrow books, visit the Coolidge Museum, use computers or the free wireless, visit the Hosmer Gallery, attend programs, listen to music, peruse magazines, do homework, and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere, so the impact of an unreliable and often inoperable lift is significant.

A capital campaign called "Forbes For All" has been launched to raise \$200,000 to replace the lift with a reliable elevator. Over \$100,000 has already been raised through donations, including a \$25,000 donation from the Friends of Forbes Library and a \$20,000 donation from Smith College. Donations can be made by sending a check made payable to Forbes Library to Forbes Library, 20 West Street, Northampton, MA, 01060. There will be a commemorative plaque on the wall of the elevator, and the names of individual donors, companies or organizations who donate \$500.00 or more will be listed.

Award-winning architect Thomas Douglas of Tom Douglas Architects, Northampton, has designed the new elevator. He is the recipient of the Massachusetts Historic Commission Preservation and the Northampton Historic Commission awards. His design features a state-of-the-art, glass elevator which is clad with decorative iron filagree reminiscent of the birdcage elevators of the late 1800s. The elevator will feature decorative details comparable to what is in the library already, and will be historically appropriate. The plans can be viewed on the Forbes Library website. Work on the new elevator can begin as soon as the \$200,000.00 is raised. The front entrance will remain open for most of the construction.

from BOARD MEMBERS, page 1

library. Divided into various committees, board members supervise membership in the organization, monitor our finances, and organize fundraising ventures. The director of the library attends all our meetings, as does a member from the library's Board of Trustees.

The Friends have a great deal to be proud of in the help they have given the library over the past 33 years. That assistance runs the gamut from budgetary boosts for books and media to financing library programming, to helping fund building repair and renovation. The board is currently looking for a few new

from ANNUAL MEETING, page 3

must be appraised initially and then checked on periodically to make sure it remains unchanged. An advisory council in each of the 19 towns will, when developed, be important in securing adequate stewardship.

During the latter part of Ms. DeBoer's talk she outlined with photos and charts the different types of land Kestrel works with: large blocks of forest, which we have in abundance in our valley; rich farmland, our share of that comprising 1/3 of the state's farmland; and the land and wildlife along the Connecticut River and its tributaries. Large blocks of dense forest can be more resilient in climate warming, she said, with more capacity to adapt. In giving examples of some of the Trust's recent and more spectacular land saves, she also spoke of how the organization works, how it finds pieces of land, and then how it puts together sources of funding from various private and public sources to buy the land. It was an inspiring talk, and the Friends of Forbes are very pleased and grateful to have heard Ms. DeBoer.

from SILENT CALS, page 3

sculptures, handbags, and other works of art both large and small, all created from something old made new again. Many of the artists were present, and for some it was their first chance to exhibit their work. Artists and guests had a chance to mingle and converse over a glass of wine. Guests left delighted with their acquisitions, and some were seen to leave with several items in hand.

Many thanks to the artists who donated their work, to Peter Blanchette for the perfect musical accompaniment, and to River Valley Market for their fabulous refreshments. Proceeds from this and other events allow the Friends of Forbes to continue the level of support it gives to the library.

members. We work hard, but we have fun too, and it is very gratifying and encouraging to see the difference the organization makes to Forbes. If you are perhaps interested in becoming a board member, please write to Martha McCormick, President of the Friends, in care of Forbes Library, or email us at friendsofforbeslibrary@gmail.com. Thank you!