

The Spotlight



The Bulletin of The Smithtown Library

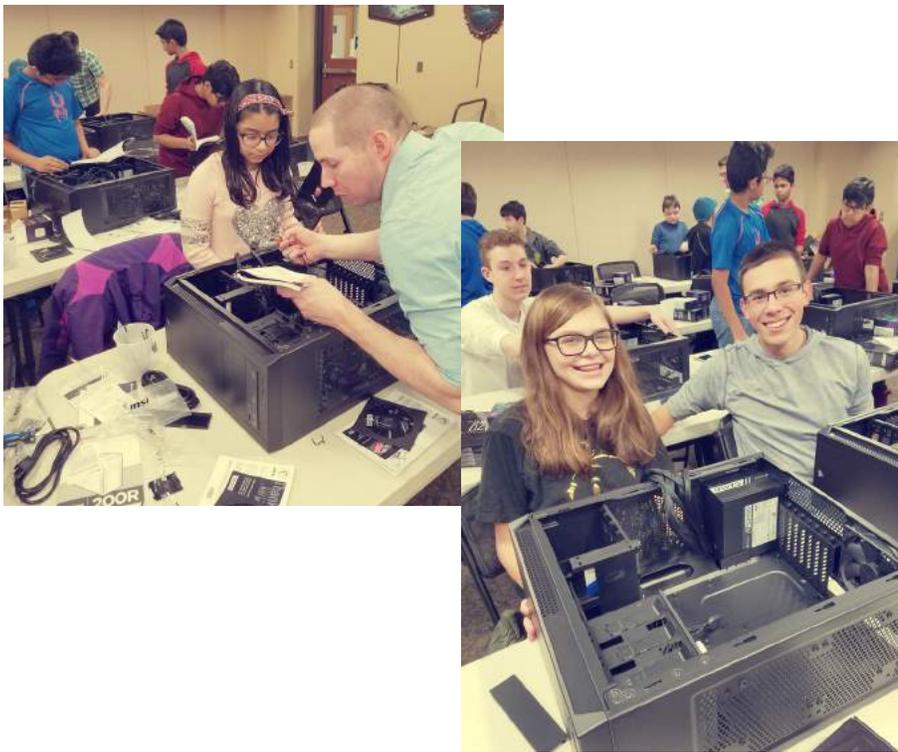
Volume 22 • Spring 2019

Discover Where Your Library Card Can Take You

Computer Build-A-Thon

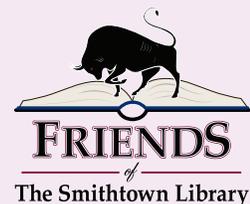
Have you ever wondered how computers are made? During last year's Computer Build-A-Thon program, teens were able to learn first-hand how the different components of a computer work together to create a functioning machine - all while giving back to their Library. Two sessions were held at our Smithtown Building with 26 teen volunteers assisting the Computer Services Department with building 26 new computers for Library staff.

Interested in participating this year? The Library is looking for teen volunteers in grades 6-12 to help build additional staff computers. This year we will have two sessions of the Computer Build-A-Thon program, **Wednesday, April 3** and **Wednesday, April 17** from **6:00-8:00pm**. Contact the Reference Desk at any library building to register for one of the upcoming sessions.



2019 Friends of The Smithtown Library Scholarship

The Friends of The Smithtown Library recognizes the role and contribution of libraries in the lives of young people. For this reason, the Friends wish to offer scholarships to graduating high school students from the Smithtown area so they may continue to access informational material as they pursue a degree from an institution of higher learning. Winners will be selected by the Friends of The Smithtown Library and all decisions will be final. A \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to the candidate whose application and essay best exemplify a desire to maintain a lifetime relationship with libraries. A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to the first runner-up. Applications are available at the Reference Desk at all four library buildings or under the Friends section of the Library's website (www.smithlib.org). The deadline for applications is the close of business on Wednesday, May 1. For more information regarding the scholarship, contact Mr. Salas at (631) 360-2480 x128.



LONG ISLAND'S LARGEST LIBRARY - SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF SMITHTOWN:
Commack • Fort Salonga • Hauppauge • Head of the Harbor • Kings Park • Nesconset
Nissequogue • Saint James • Smithtown • Village of The Branch

Advanced Battle of the Books

Our Smithtown Library team **What Happened to Dan the Dinosaur** competed in the 14th Annual Advanced Battle of the Books which was held on Friday, November 30, 2018 at Connetquot High School. Thirteen teams competed and Smithtown answered 35 out of 60 questions correctly. We are very proud of our teens who worked incredibly hard this year.



Museum Pass Program

The Friends of The Smithtown Library have once again generously agreed to fund the entire Museum Pass Program for 2019. Thanks to their generous donation the Library has purchased numerous passes for this year. Included are: Maritime Explorium in Port Jefferson, Museum of Modern Art, Old Westbury Gardens, Vanderbilt Museum and Planetarium, Long Island Children's Museum, Intrepid Museum, Cradle of Aviation Musuem, Guggenheim Museum and Empire Passes.

Passes are available for checkout to Smithtown Library adult cardholders in good standing. Based on pass availability, reservations may be made online by following the Museum Pass links on the Library's website (www.smithlib.org), by calling (631) 360-2480 ext.140 or in-person at the Smithtown Building's Children's Reference Desk. For complete guidelines and more information about the passes and availability, contact the Children's Department at the Smithtown Building or visit the Library's website.

The Friends of The Smithtown Library, along with The Smithtown Library, hope you are able to take advantage of this valuable service.



projectprom

Every year, thousands of girls and guys struggle to afford the expenses of prom, so a collective of Suffolk County libraries is stepping up to help. Girls and guys who are attending their junior or senior prom are invited to come to the Suffolk Cooperative Library System to check out free prom dresses, suits, shoes and accessories that were donated by our community. Browse the racks and take one home. Everyone deserves to go to prom in a dress or suit that makes her or him feel amazing. The event will take place on Saturday, May 11 from 11:00am to 3:00pm at Suffolk Cooperative Library System, 627 Sunrise Highway, Bellport, New York. If you would like to donate, please drop off dresses, suits, ties, shoes, bags and accessories from March 18-April 19. Donations will be accepted in the Nesconset and Smithtown Buildings.

A Message from the Library Director

2019 is off to a great start. We wish to thank Senator John Flanagan and Assemblyman Michael Fitzpatrick for securing grants to help fund some special projects at our buildings- a new parking lot at the Commack Building as well as generators at the Kings Park and Nesconset Buildings. Fourteen new parking spaces have been added at our Commack Building which will be used by staff, allowing all of the original parking to be utilized by Library patrons. Generators at the Kings Park and Nesconset Buildings have also been installed; once hooked up to the power supply, they will allow for the buildings to stay open during power outages. The Library is continually looking for ways to enhance and maintain our facilities and is grateful for the opportunity to make these important changes to our buildings.

While you are at the Smithtown Building, please take time to visit the newly installed interactive sensory garden on the Caleb Smith property, adjacent to the Library Building. This garden is the creation of Life Scout Adam Hartmann, who built the garden as his Eagle Scout Service Project. Adam is from Boy Scout Troop 7 of St. James. The garden includes a wind chime, a tactical board with different surfaces to touch and a balance beam. While you're there, make sure to read the plaque on the large rock that was uncovered when Adam removed an overgrown holly bush. Adam completed his project with the addition of a new holly bush and the beautification of the flag pole. Thank you Adam on a great job!



Each year the Library offers unique programs for patrons of all ages. This year's Long Island Room Program Series and exhibit focuses on some of the ways in which Long Island's past was driven and shaped by the innovative ideas of those who lived and worked here. Special thanks to the Tesla Science Center at Wardencllyffe in Shoreham for lending materials to this exhibit. See the Library website for more information on the Long Island's program Series. You may have also read about the new Teen Book Reviewer Program in recent newsletters. Teens in grades 6 through 12 can write a book review that may be posted on the Library's Teen Scene webpage and used to advertise books on the Library's social media platforms. Teens will earn community service hours for reviews that meet the necessary requirements. In addition to these programs, the Library also offers many creative programs to children from birth to grade 5. From music and crafts to science, there is something for every child to enjoy. View our monthly Newsletter online or pick up a copy at your favorite Library building to find out more about all of the programs and exhibits the Library has to offer.



Throughout the year, Library staff make personal donations to a wide range of organizations. On March 14 we hosted a St. Baldrick's Day event where staff members shaved their heads to raise money for childhood cancer research. On April 2, staff will recognize Autism Awareness Day by making a donation to Autism Speaks. On these special days, staff are permitted to wear jeans, which unifies us as a group and is a visual reminder of the meaning of the day.

The Friends of The Smithtown Library are truly just that, great friends. They continually support the Library in so many ways. Most recently, the Friends donated sleek signs for the book sale areas at our Nesconset, Commack and Kings Park Buildings. We expect these signs to be installed by the end of April. In addition to these signs, the Friends are currently coordinating the purchase of water bottle filling stations for each of our buildings. We hope to have these in place and ready to use before the warm weather arrives.

We appreciate your comments and suggestions on the services and resources you like and use as well as those that you'd like the Library to look into obtaining. While we may not be able to accommodate every request, your feedback is a wonderful way for us to plan for the future.

Robert Lusak
Library Director

*****ECRWSS*****
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 34
St. James, NY 11780

A Letter from the Friends of The Smithtown Library

Many of us start the New Year off with a list of resolutions of which many fall by the wayside. However there is one resolution that is just waiting for you... that is making a visit to your local library building and taking advantage of its many offerings at no cost. The Friends of The Smithtown Library support projects and programs that fall outside the operating budget of the Library. The beautiful library signs that you see outside all of the buildings, the Museum Pass program, the 3D printers and the green screens are just some of the items purchased by the Friends. This year the Friends also purchased a new bench for outside the Kings Park Building.

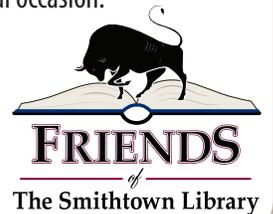
This past year the entire Museum Pass Program was funded by the Friends and will continue in 2019. There are many museums to choose from. Please contact the Children's Department at the Smithtown Building for more information and to reserve passes.

It is now time to renew your membership with the Friends. We are always looking for new Friends, so if you have time to volunteer on a part-time or regular basis please consider our organization as an excellent way to serve your community. We meet about 8 times a year at one of the library buildings at 6:30pm and I try to keep the meetings short but interesting! A "Patron" donation is acknowledged by the presentation of a plaque which is placed in the building of your choice. Lifetime members receive a gold plate which is added to the recognition board in the Smithtown Building. This is a wonderful way to memorialize someone or to mark a special occasion.

Thank you for your continued support.

Anthony Monteleone

President, Friends of The Smithtown Library



Everybody needs Friends...Especially the Library!

Make your tax deductible checks payable to the Friends of The Smithtown Library

Membership is January 1 - December 31

Annual Dues:

- Individual \$15.00
- Senior (65 and over) \$10.00
- Family (same household) \$20.00
- Lifetime \$200.00 (Inscribed plate is added to the main plaque)
- Patron \$500.00 (Lifetime membership plus a plaque at the building of your choice)

Please check your interests:

- Book Sales Year-round book sale preparation
- Friends Board Programs & Special Projects

Name _____
Address _____

Telephone _____
Email _____

*Please mail to Friends of The Smithtown Library
148 Smithtown Blvd. Nesconset, New York 11767
or drop off at any Smithtown Library location.*



Library Board of Trustees

- Anita Dowd-Neufeld • **President**
- Joseph A. Vallone • **Vice President**
- Brianna Baker-Stines • **Trustee**
- Gerard J. Cairns • **Trustee**
- Annette Galarza • **Trustee**
- Theresa M. Stabile • **Trustee**
- William Zimmerman • **Trustee**
- Robert Lusak • **Director**
- Patricia Thomson • **Assistant Director**

Smithtown Building

Long Island Room,
Patent and Trademark
Resource Center & Passport
Acceptance Facility
1 North Country Road
Smithtown, NY 11787

Commack Building

3 Indian Head Road
Commack, NY 11725

Kings Park Building

1 Church Street
Kings Park, NY 11754

**Nesconset Building &
Administration /
Business Office**

148 Smithtown Boulevard
Nesconset, NY 11767



www.smithlib.org
(631) 360-2480

**LONG ISLAND'S LARGEST LIBRARY - SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF SMITHTOWN:
Commack • Fort Salonga • Hauppauge • Head of the Harbor • Kings Park • Nesconset
Nissequoque • Saint James • Smithtown • Village of The Branch**