

## 2021 FOHL Used Book Sale Cancelled

Alas, the 2021 Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL) Annual Used Book Sale is another casualty of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The FOHL Board has voted to cancel the January 2021 sale due to many factors, including the possibility that, at the time of the sale, a gathering of that size might not even be allowed. Even if the sale could be held, it would be very difficult to get volunteers. Many of our longtime volunteers are particularly vulnerable and do not want to be exposed to large crowds at a time when an effective vaccine is not yet available. The participation of the Boy Scouts and our DOC unloading crew could also not be guaranteed.

Attendance was another consideration. With attendance close to normal, we could not enforce social distancing, especially at our Thursday night members sale. With attendance significantly less, the sale might not have much of a profit or even meet expenses. Alternate dates were considered, but those few times available from Hockessin Memorial Hall were either at a bad time (Easter weekend) or during prime rental season at a much higher rate.

Because we will now be collecting books over a two-year span instead of one year, changes will be made in our book drop-off schedule. We can display about 60,000 books in the hall, so it does not make sense to collect, sort and pay to store books that would not even make it onto the sale floor. We will most likely cancel some drop off dates, particularly during the winter. Please check our Facebook page or our website, [www.friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org), for up-to-date information. If we are able to hold our Holiday Used Book Sale at the Library this year, that will also be announced on Facebook and our website.

One way you can help our volunteers is to refrain from donating items we cannot use. Due to COVID-19 we have fewer people available to sort the donated books. We have also lost our local recycling site in Lantana Square. If we don't have to deal with unwanted materials, we will have fewer books to sort and less recycling to haul away. Please refer to our donation guidelines in this issue.

The purpose of the FOHL Annual Used Book Sale is to raise money to support the Hockessin Library. Due to the success of our past sales, we do have funds in reserve. Be assured that despite the cancellation of the 2021 sale, the Hockessin Library will continue to receive our full support.

~ Linda Lauria, FOHL Used Book Sale Chair

## Book Donation Guidelines

The Friends of the Hockessin Library thanks you for your book donations. These donations stock our Annual Used Book Sale, and the profits from the sale help fund programs at the Hockessin Library. Because we are not having a sale in January 2021 and will need to store the books until the next sale, we are asking you to be more selective in your donations.

We need books in good condition, and current fiction is always a big seller! What we do not need (and ultimately dispose of because they cannot be sold) are the following items:

- magazines and newspapers
- encyclopedias
- old textbooks
- technical manuals and books
- books with torn covers, broken bindings, stains, or mildew
- underlined or highlighted books
- older health or self-help books
- annual issues of cookbooks or holiday books, such as *Southern Living* and *Cooks Illustrated* compilations
- travel guides more than three years old and AAA guides
- reader's digest condensed books
- VHS videos and cassette tapes
- Time/Life book sets.

Because of a shortage of sorting volunteers due to the pandemic and the closure of the Lantana Square Recycling Center, we are asking for your help in reducing the number of unsaleable books. Thank you for making our job easier!



## Among Friends

The past six months have demonstrated the resilience of our community during a very difficult and sometimes heartbreaking time. People lit up community news groups on the Internet organizing mask makers, pantries, food delivery services, support to first responders, and even entire volunteer supply chains to respond to needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Community members filled the gaps while government agencies and other organizations geared up to meet demands. Creative solutions emerged everywhere. And suddenly much of our lives had moved online. The Friends Board moved online, too.

When the Library closed, the Board funded a Zoom license for the Library so that staff members could plan services in the new environment while working from home and keeping their distance. The Board also has been able to schedule time to use the license for business meetings. Videoconferencing keeps us in touch to move our agenda forward. Board meetings continue on schedule. We have recruited a new Board member, elected a new treasurer, and funded library needs and initiatives. Committees have kept their activities on track. Volunteers produced a new logo (it's at the top of the front page of this newsletter). They also produced a new membership brochure. Other volunteers stayed in touch to keep the used book collection process moving within the constraints imposed by the virus.

The one thing that technology has not done for us is to make us clairvoyant. Although we have been able to make some lemonade from the lemons currently rolling around us, we have had to make some preemptive decisions that are a disappointment to us and to you. Since we have no expectation that indoor environments will be safe enough for a large book sale, we will not be holding one in January 2021. There is more about that in this issue. We'd like to think that alternatives will be feasible later in the year and would welcome your ideas. Send them to the [info@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org](mailto:info@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org)

As you know, the book sale generates about \$30,000 for the Library annually, which we are not going to be able to raise in 2021. But even though there will be no book sale in January, we hope that you will continue to support the Friends and the Library by renewing your membership. Please check the mailing label on the back of this issue to see when your renewal is due. If you would like to receive our newly updated membership brochure, we can send that to you! Send your request for a copy to [membership@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org](mailto:membership@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org). We also ask, if you are able, that you make a donation to the Friends to help us make up for the book sale revenue loss. You can renew your membership, join, and donate at our website, or by sending your membership dues and donations to Friends of the Hockessin Library, P.O. Box 55, Hockessin, DE 19707.

The Holidays are approaching. All of us on the Board wish you a happy, hopeful and comforting season. Stay safe and stay well.  
~ **Susan Foster, Board President**

## From the Director's Desk

We continue to work our way through these unprecedented times. Each day brings a new challenge in both our personal and our professional lives, and working in public service has become an exciting array of reworking tried and true practices to better serve you. As I write this in early October, library buildings continue to be

temporarily closed and offering remote services. We are working hard to refit our buildings for safety and social distancing during this pandemic. We are implementing new safety procedures and looking forward to the day we can once again welcome you back into the Hockessin Library.

In the meantime, we continue to offer our online services and collections. <https://nccde.org/387/Online-Services>

We also offer access to our physical collections and free printing through curbside pickup.  
<https://nccde.org/2055/Curbside-Pickup>  
<https://nccde.org/DocumentCenter/View/39299/Wireless-Printing-Flyer-v3>

Because we cannot yet open our stacks, we are offering book bundle services for all ages. Fill out one of the online forms linked on our home page, <https://nccde.org/hockessin> and our expert librarians will do the book shopping for you! In fact, they might even find something new that you've never considered reading before.

I wish you all a safe and healthy fall and winter season.  
~ **Beth Borene, Hockessin Library Manager**

## With Gratitude

The Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL) Board would like to publicly express its deep appreciation to Sirena Manista, who has been the FOHL treasurer for 9 years and has passed the treasurer torch to Arthur Au.

Being the treasurer involves far more than picking up mail, handling routine banking, paying invoices and preparing monthly financial reports. Sirena has worked with accountants, banking personnel, insurance and incorporation agents, and the FOHL Investment Committee to ensure that the FOHL fulfills all of the requirements to operate as a non-profit organization in the state of Delaware, and she protects the assets of the organization. In addition, as treasurer of the FOHL Annual Used Book Sale, Sirena has been responsible for overseeing all the financial operations of the sale, including the unenviable task of obtaining reliable credit card machines from a not-always cooperative supplier.

The FOHL Board is most grateful for Sirena's diligence, expertise and considerable time commitment. Fortunately, she is not riding her yellow beach bicycle off into the Rehoboth sunset but will remain on the Board where her guidance, knowledge and good humor are invaluable.

## Another New Board Member

In May 2020, Arthur Au was elected to the Board of the Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL). Arthur has been a regular volunteer at the FOHL Annual Used Book Sale where his fellow volunteers convinced him to consider joining the Board. We are very glad that he liked what he saw. Arthur is a tax accountant at a national law firm based in Philadelphia, PA. He brings a wealth of financial expertise (which we have already tapped) to the FOHL. Arthur is working with Treasurer Sirena Manista to take over that position. We are looking forward to Arthur's contributions in this role.  
**WELCOME ARTHUR!**

## Book Recommendations

Unsure what to read next? Hockessin Library's reference staff offers these suggestions, all available with your Library card! Whether it's cooking, birding, or just a next great read, your Library staff recommends these books.

### Books on Birding

**(Recommended by Shelley Stein, Adult Services librarian)**

During these past months, one of the big headlines has been "Bird-watching soars amid COVID-19." With coronavirus restrictions dragging on, interest in bird-watching has soared as bored Americans notice a fascinating world just outside their windows. Here are some new books that the budding birder might find useful and fun to read, all available from Hockessin Library and ready to place on hold:

- *American Birds: A Literary Companion* by Andrew Rubinfeld
- *The Bird Way: A New Look At How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent, and Think* by Jennifer Ackerman
- *Birder on Berry Lane: Three Acres, Twelve Months, Thousands Of Birds* by Robert Tougias
- *Owls of the Eastern Ice: A Quest to Find and Save The World's Largest Owl* by Jonathan C. Slaght
- *Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America* by Roger Tory Peterson
- *What It's Like to Be a Bird: What Birds Are Doing, and Why—From Flying to Nesting, Eating to Singing* by David Sibley.

### Vegan Cooking Books

**(Recommended by Cheryl Clem, Library specialist)**

Vegan cooking doesn't have to be limiting. These books incorporate vegan substitutes into everyday recipes, making them even better for you than the originals:

- *Forks Over Knives: Flavor! Delicious, Whole-Food, Plant-Based Recipes to Cook Every Day* by Darshana Thacker
- *Chef Del's Better Than Vegan* by Del Sroufe
- *The Make Ahead Vegan Cookbook* by Ginny Key Mcmeans
- *The Homemade Vegan Pantry: The Art of Making Your Own Staples* by Miyoko Schinner.

***The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett and *Long Bright River* by Liz Moore**

**(Recommended by Louise Glenn, Library specialist)**

I can honestly admit that my desire to pick up a book to read during the past six months has been totally absent, but the knowledge that Tom Hanks was the reader of the audio version of *The Dutch House* peaked my interest, and I was not disappointed. Obsession doesn't even begin to describe the relationship between the Conroy family members, particularly Danny and Maeve, and

the architectural monstrosity that was *The Dutch House* in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania.

A different obsession, drug addiction, exists in *Long Bright River* by Liz Moore. Set in the Kensington section of Philadelphia, Police Officer Mickey is obsessed with keeping her sister Kasey sober and alive, while trying desperately to maintain a normal life for her four-year-old son Thomas. Complicating matters is a corrupt police department and a string of murders targeting the young female addicts who frequent the area.

***The Weekend Baker* by Abigail Johnson Dodge**

**(Recommended by Jennifer Atwood, Library specialist)**

This is one of my favorite cookbooks to check out of the library. I picked it up years ago, thinking it might be filled with long, challenging weekend projects. Instead, I was pleasantly surprised to find accessible, easy to make, and, most importantly, consistently delicious recipes.

**Two New Releases by Local Delaware Authors**

**(Recommended by Terri Jones, Youth Services librarian)**

These are set in and around Delaware. Newbery Award-winning author Erin Entrada Kelly has just released *We Dream of Space*. Three siblings, living in Delaware, dreaming of change come together around the launch of the Challenger spaceship and find everything is different after that fateful day. Take a vacation to the Jersey Shore while reading *Saltwater Secrets* by Edgar Allan Poe Award-winning author Cindy Callaghan. Can these two sisters who seem to be growing apart rediscover their bond and save their precious boardwalk this summer?

### Beach Fiction

**(Recommended by Beth Borene, Library manager)**

Ask anyone who knows me, and they know my place of Zen is the beach. Everything about beach towns and the ocean—it's where I truly relax. Whether I'm by the shore on vacation or planning my next trip back there, it's my escape. Here's a list of a novels taking place in coastal towns that I have read in the last couple years and enjoyed:

- *Beach Town* by Mary Kay Andrews (Florida, Gulf coast)
- *Summer at Hideaway Key* by Barbara Davis (Florida, Gulf coast)
- *The Summer House* by Jenny Hale (North Carolina, Outer Banks)
- *Beach Read* by Emily Hale (thematically a little heavier, on the shores of Lake Michigan).

## Sign Me Up!

Just clip this coupon and mail it to:  
Friends of Hockessin Library, PO Box  
55, Hockessin, DE 19707 (or drop it  
by the Library) with your payment.

Yes, I'd like to join the Friends or renew my membership! Enclosed is a check made payable to "Friends of the Hockessin Library, Inc." for:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 Individual Member (1 yr.) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20.00 Family (1 yr.)       | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Lifetime    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00 Member/Family (5 yr.)     | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 Sponsor/Organization | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Other (Gift) |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a special area in which you would like to volunteer?

- |                                    |   |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board     | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Garden Maintenance |                                       |



## A Memorial Masterpiece

In May of 2018, the Friends of the Hockessin Library (FOHL) formed a memorial committee to seek out ways in which to honor long time, dedicated board member Barbara A. Roberts Miller.

By autumn of that year a collection of ideas had been discussed, including a memorial bench to be located at the main entrance of the library. The FOHL Board accepted the proposal of a memorial bench with a unanimous vote.

In October 2019, after a long and detailed search, the memorial committee presented the works of sculptor Cary Shafer to the FOHL Board for consideration, after which the board agreed to offer him the commission.

American sculptor Cary Shafer is one of the few classically trained stone carvers living in the United States. His breadth of work includes major architectural projects, private installations, and freestanding sculpture.

Early in Shafer's career, Italian master-carver Vincent Palumbo chose him to apprentice at the Washington National Cathedral. Among his many carvings during his four-year apprenticeship, Shafer carved the final gargoyles (Minotaur 62) and placed it on the cathedral.

From studios across the United States and in Europe, Shafer's work continues to evolve as he explores the boundaries of his art on both the personal and large scale. He led significant stone restoration work on The White House; served as Artist-in-Residence at Crazy

Horse Mountain, South Dakota; and at present, Cary Shafer is named as one-of-six Stone Carver Candidates for the long awaited National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial in Washington D.C.

With Shafer's one-of-a-kind limestone Memorial Masterpiece (1500 lb.) bench now complete, we must pause due to COVID-19 and look ahead to spring/summer of 2021 for the installation, dedication and celebration when it arrives at its permanent home, the Hockessin Library.

~ Crystal Langstaff, Project Manager, Memorial Bench



Friends Focus is published by the Friends of the Hockessin Library, Inc.

Please send comments or questions to:  
P.O. Box 55, Hockessin, DE 19707,  
Or to [info@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org](mailto:info@friendsofthehockessinlibrary.org)  
Main Library Phone: 302.239.5160

### Officers:

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Linda Lauria ..... Secretary

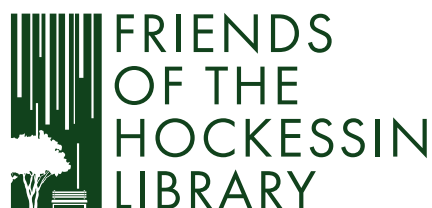
## Library Hours of Operation

At the date of publication of the Focus, library buildings continue to be closed but are offering remote services. Please check the Hockessin Library's website at <https://nccde.org/329/Hockessin-Library> for the many services being offered there.

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