

The Spotlight



The Bulletin of The Smithtown Library

Volume 30 • Spring 2023

All Together Now



Summer Reading Programs at The Smithtown Library



First Step To Reading

June 19-August 5

Read to your baby and build your baby's early literacy skills. Babies and toddlers from birth through 35 months can participate in this summer program. Stop by the Children's Department of your local library building to register and pick up a chart. As you complete 25 activities with your little one they will earn small prizes and receive a certificate upon completion.

Children's Summer Reading Program

June 19-August 5

Join in the summer fun at The Smithtown Library! All readers and pre-readers from age 3 through 5th grades are invited to participate in this year's Children's Summer Reading Program. Visit the Children's Department of your local library building to join. Participants will earn prizes for the books they read.

Young Adult Summer Reading Program

June 19-August 11

Teens entering grades 6-12 (up to age 18) are invited to join the Summer Reading Program online or in person. The more books you read and activities you complete, the more raffle tickets you will earn. Raffle tickets can be used to win one of our awesome prizes!



Adult Summer Reading Program

June 19-August 25

Summer Reading isn't just for kids! Adults are invited to sign up for this year's Summer Reading Program online or by visiting the Reference Desk at your local library building. You'll earn chances to win great prizes by reading all summer long.

SMITHTOWN UNDERGROUND'S SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER CHALLENGE

June 19-August 23

Join us as we count down the hot days of summer with the **Smithtown Underground's** Summer Blockbuster Challenge. Watch movies to complete challenges and receive raffle tickets for a chance to win prizes. Stop by the Reference Desk at your local library building to sign up and receive the list of challenges.



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

Have You Seen What's New at Your Library?

The Library is excited to announce the launch of our newly designed website and logo. After months of hard work and dedication, we are delighted to officially announce the new site and logo, which were introduced in mid-April. Our website is now faster, easier to navigate and more mobile-friendly. In addition to these benefits, many of our most popular items are now accessible from the homepage with just one click! Visit us at www.smithlib.org to experience our new website and see our new logo.



Summer Tour

This year The Smithtown Library will be participating in the **2023 Suffolk County Public Libraries Summer Tour**. Patrons of all ages are encouraged to visit libraries all across Suffolk County with their free Summer Tour Booklet, available at any Suffolk County Library. Get your booklet stamped at each library you visit while you see new sights, learn fun facts and enter into raffles. Raffle tickets will be given out for visiting 5, 10 and 15 libraries. Raffle prizes include Barnes & Noble gift cards and a Nook eReader. Visit the Reference Desk or Children's Department starting July 1 to get started!



Explore Local Attractions with Your Library Card

The Friends of The Smithtown Library have once again generously offered to fund the entire Museum Pass Program for 2023. Thanks to this great donation, the Library has purchased numerous passes for this year. Some of our passes include: American Airpower Museum, Children's Museum of the East End, The Long Island Museum and LT Michael P. Murphy Navy SEAL Museum.

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 go the Library's website.



LIBRARY OF THINGS

Borrow the Unexpected

Do you know that the Library has a special collection which lends out many unconventional items called the **Library of Things**? This collection goes far beyond books and media and will provide new, exciting experiences to patrons unlike any they have had in a traditional library. Some of the items available to Smithtown Library adult cardholders include VHS to DVD Conversion Kits, Giant 4-in-a-Row Connect Game, Giant Candy Land, Cornhole Board, Kids Party Kits, Pickleball Sets, a Bose Bluetooth Speaker and so much more.

Based on item availability, reservations may be made on our website, by phone or in-person at the Reference Desk at any of our buildings. For more information about the Library of Things, including procedure and loan period details, please see the Library of Things section of our website or speak to a Reference Librarian at any of our buildings.



A Message from the Library Director

What a wonderful start to the 2023 year at the Library. Once again, we brought in the new year with all four library buildings decorated with festive plants generously donated by **Norman Keil Nurseries**. This year, we received 118 beautiful poinsettia plants.



During February, March and April, staff were working at full force getting the Library's new logo and website prepared for its unveiling on April 18. This project was partially funded by the **Friends of The Smithtown Library**. We hope that you will find our new logo and website pleasing to the eye and easy to navigate. Also during the month of April, we partnered with the **Four Harbors Audubon Society** by accepting their donation of six Eastern Bluebird nest boxes. Each Library building installed these birdhouses in a location that will accommodate nesting.

In June, the Library's summer activities will begin. There are reading programs planned for children, teens and adults, providing fun and prizes for patrons of all ages. Please stop by your most frequently visited building to see what might interest you this summer. On June 6, at 12:15pm at our Commack Building, we will unveil a Peace Poll that has been generously donated by the **Commack-Kings Park Rotary**. The Peace Poll is an internationally-recognized symbol of hopes and dreams for the entire human family.

I'd also like to bring your attention to this year's **Long Island Room** Program Series and Exhibit, **Infamous Long Island**, which covers shocking Long Island crimes and scandals, tragic man-made disasters and controversial locations and communities. Please consider attending one or more of the six programs in this series. The Long Island Room has also assembled a collection of materials that will reveal the history behind some of Long Island's most infamous people, places and events. This exhibit will be on view through December 2023.

Infamous Long Island



Plans are well underway for the Library's **2023 Dennis Cannataro Summer Concert Series**, sponsored in part by The Friends of The Smithtown Library. These concerts take place on the front lawn of the Smithtown Building, starting Thursday, July 6 and will run every Thursday, for six weeks ending on Thursday, August 10. We are most grateful to **Legislator Robert Trotta**, who secured a grant from **Suffolk County** to help fund these concerts, which can be enjoyed by the entire community.

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 agreed to make a donation in the very near future, to partially fund a new outdoor program area at our Commack Building.

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



Robert Lusak
Robert Lusak
Library Director

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A Letter from the Friends of The Smithtown Library

We always begin the New Year with hope and expectation and this year is no different. Your Library has many programs that you can take advantage of, so please stop by and pick up a newsletter which is so informative.

Once again the Friends of the Library is fully funding the Museum Pass Program that has proved to be so beneficial to many of our patrons. This year we have donated \$10,495 for the Library to purchase museum passes. Please contact the Children's Department at the Smithtown Building for more information or to reserve the passes.

The Friends had the pleasure of awarding two scholarships for graduating seniors within the library district. For 2022, our first place winner received \$1,000 and our runner-up received \$500. It brought us joy to be able to award these deserving seniors these scholarships. Look for more information on our 2023 scholarship.

It is time to renew your membership with the Friends. Lifetime members have their names inscribed on a 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. All members who join or renew this year will receive a Friends of The Smithtown Library magnet. You will receive a postcard in the mail which you can turn in for the magnet at the Circulation Desk at any Smithtown Library building.

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 a wonderful way to serve your community. We meet about eight times a year at one of the library buildings at 7:00pm. I try to keep the meetings short, but interesting!

The Friends will continue to fund with pleasure those projects which fall outside the operating budget of the Library and look forward to 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 building.*



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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



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Nissequoque • Saint James • Smithtown • Village of The Branch
