



September, 2022

Dear Resident,

As the Library continues to emerge from the long siege of COVID restrictions, we are most grateful for our dedicated Library Director and staff who have reinstated many pre-pandemic procedures while keeping some of the more welcome new ones that the pandemic generated. The Library no longer has contactless pickup of books, but continues to have Take and Make Activities for all ages available. Some of the virtual programming that many patrons found so helpful last year, combined with in-person programs, offer a win-win to all.

The Friends continued funding as many additional services as possible during the pandemic, and we are delighted to be able to once again offer Museum Passes, and host monthly Book Sales down in the Book Room. Sales will continue with the pandemic-inspired browsing area at the new back entrance which helps to ensure an enjoyable and uncrowded shopping experience. In between monthly sales, please browse our ongoing Lobby Book Sale—new titles are added weekly and all are \$1.00.

For over 50 years, our Friends group has been vital to the breadth of services our Library offers. Our mission continued through the pandemic—providing much needed dollars despite the inability to raise funds. We are hoping our sales will once again become a regular source of income for all the projects the Library and its patrons have come to expect us to provide. As always, to continue our mission, we come to our community now to ask for your continued support.

Please renew your annual membership for the 2022-2023 year, but also please consider becoming more than a member this year. Become a Sponsor or Benefactor of the Friends. We need your financial help—as always—to help keep our library the gem it is!

As we look to the future, we hope that patrons and local businesses alike will become sponsors of the Friends' programs they value. Last year, The Friends were able to provide \$9,510 worth of services. We will need your support to continue to provide these services that you have come to expect as we continue to get back to normal:

- Annual Friends Graduation Award at Northern Highlands Regional High School sponsored with Allendale's Lee Memorial Library (since 2014)
- The Children's Summer Reading Program and Events
- Museum Key and Passes for Library patrons to MOMA, The American Museum of Natural History, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Storm King Art Center, New York Historical Society, The Guggenheim, New York Transit Museum, The Intrepid Air and Space Museum and Museum of the Moving Image
- Best-selling titles for the electronic reader devices for patron check-out
- Seasonal decorations for the Library and maintenance of our resident fish and fish tank
- Annual contribution to the BCCLS Scholarship Fund for upcoming librarians

Please Become a Friend and Sponsor of the USR Library today!

In addition to basic membership, The Friends offer sponsorship levels of \$250, \$500, and \$1,000. At these levels, you can select what program your donation will support, and your generous donation will be publicized with signage in the Library and on our website. We are most grateful to last year's supporters who donated at these levels, and we hope many will respond generously this year so we can continue to meet the needs of our community.

Please take a moment and fill out and return the enclosed membership card. You can also renew membership and donate online on the Friends Tab at www.uptersaddleriverlibrary.org.

We also welcome new members who have the time to join our active group. Friends meet at the Library from September through June—generally on the first Monday of the month at 10:00 am. Please check the Newsletter or the library website for exact dates. You can become as involved as you choose! Just email nona.maher@gmail.com so that we may contact you to welcome you and keep you up to date on meeting details. We are once again accepting donations of **gently used current books**, and we are hopeful you will find your next great read at our monthly Book Sales.

Join the Friends today and help us support our wonderful Library!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nona Maher and The Friends of The Upper Saddle River Library



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