At the printing of this newsletter we are living in uncertain times. COVID-19 has reshaped our schedule and programs. Changes may be made to operations if deemed necessary. It is best to call the library prior to visiting for updates about our services. We will continue to provide updates on our Facebook page & website.

We wish all our patrons, and ALL PEOPLE EVERYWHERE good health and fortitude during these uncertain times.

**President’s Message**

It seemed that COVID spring was eternal and yet, COVID summer was over in a blink. Old Forge was busy, busy as people came to escape and enjoy the beauty (and safety?) that is life in the ADKS.

Social distancing, masks and sanitizing stations quickly became the norm. As we all acclimated to this, so too has the library been busy reimagining it’s role during a pandemic.

Live book readings and music events outdoors in the gazebo were a boon to many this summer. The library reopened its doors in August but had been busy providing services ‘remotely’ the months previous. A big thank you to our director, Linda for making these happen safely. As the leaves change, and temperatures drop, look for more outdoor events and social distanced activities here at the library.

Even in these difficult times, the library continues to be a central hub of our community. Please stop by to say hello, safely!

*Kirsten Down, President*

“Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all.” Emily Dickinson

**Message from Linda & the Staff**

A giant thank you to all of our friends who have helped to make our re-opening to the public as safe and smooth as possible.

On August 4, we ended our three month isolation and welcomed friends, new and old, into our first floor areas. Thank you all for your cooperation with our new procedures. Everyone has worn their mask, signed-in, and observed distancing and sanitation protocols willingly and graciously. Because of restrictions on what we can safely do inside the building, we cannot currently offer all of the services we used to – meeting spaces and receptions. We miss the groups and talks and programs and parties. But we remember that we take these measures for your safety and ours. Because we want us all to be there and celebrate the end of the pandemic, together. In the meantime, please consider joining us for outside and online programming, and please drop by to pick out books, movies, and more to borrow.

**Reed Proper – The Handy Man:**

There are only a few things you can count on in life. At the library one of those things is Reed Proper. With his wife Barbara (we got a two-fer!), Reed is a fixture of the library. With a toolbox and a lifetime of knowledge Reed fixes all that is broken and diligently cares for our building, grounds, and all that dwells here. His diligence, work ethic, skill, and his care for our library and community are what set him apart! Reed has announced his retirement this fall, and we wish him and Barbara well as they devote more time to travel and family. We are so grateful.

Thank you, Reed (and Barbara)!
Events, Programs, Series & Workshops
Programs are free and open to the public.

Virtual Craft Time
We'll Make Something Together (Sort of)!
Craft supplies provided. Patrons can pick up a grab n' go craft kit to make a craft at home. Then join your neighbors from your own home on Zoom to make a craft together. Be sure to register ahead. Pick-up craft materials on Tuesday or Wednesday Zoom Crafting Party, Wednesday at 5 pm

October 21
Book Folding – Pumpkin
Fold the inner pages of book to form a pumpkin design. Activity is appropriate for all ages and ability levels. Materials: book, markers (optional), patience!

October 28
Velvet Acorns:
Made from natural acorn caps, a cotton ball and some velvet, with some basic sewing and a little hot glue involved.

November 4
Pinecone Turkey Family:
A pinecone, some felt, googly eyes and hot glue, and you can make a charming edition to the holiday table or a cute gift to show someone that you are thankful!

November 18
Paper Book Page Wreath: Roll book pages around a pencil or other rod, and then attach them to a circle backing to make an upcycled wreath. We'll provide a book or use one of your favorites!

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Meditation With Trees
Outdoor Workshop – Dress for the weather!
Wednesday, October 14, 2 pm
Led by Doug Davis, participants will learn about the wonderful healing benefits of quietly being and connecting with trees and mother earth. Doug relocated to the area from Ohio in 2017. He always knew he'd eventually live in the Adirondacks and was drawn here, in part, because of the abundance of nature (and trees)!

Local “Ghost” Stories
Outdoor Storytelling – Dress for the weather!
Friday, October 23, 5 pm
In conjunction with the CAA's Hallowed Forge Pumpkin Party.
Distancing around a fire pit and spooky and funny stories about our favorite local ghosts in time for the Halloween season. Anyone with a story to tell is encouraged to do so!

Outdoor Kids Pumpkin Sports
Saturday, October 24, 11 am – 1:30 pm
In conjunction with the CAA’s Hallowed Forge Pumpkin Party.
Pumpkin bowling, pumpkin ring toss, and more...get the kids outside and play on our lawn.
Strict distancing measures enforced for safety.

Grab n' Go Halloween Party
Friday, October 30, 3 - 4 pm
Our Halloween Party is going home with you. Meet us outside the library to collect a bag of spooky goodies and Halloween fun. We’ll be outside and see you there!

Veterans Day Flag Pole Dedication
Wednesday, November 11, 2 pm
We want to honor the flag and the men and women who have fought to defend it. We’ll gather around the library’s new flag pole, donated by George Merrill, for a short dedication ceremony, and some hot beverages.

Outdoor Winter Solstice Celebration – Dress for the weather!
Monday, December 21, 4 pm
Cultures around the world have long held feasts and celebrated holidays around the winter solstice. Fire and light are traditional symbols of celebrations held on the darkest day of the year. Celebrate together with us, and with lights and cheer!

Glue guns are now available to check out from the library, so feel free to borrow one of our crafts or one of your own.
Sexual Harassment Prevention Training
Wednesday, September 30, 5 pm
Thursday, October 8, 9 am
All employers, employees and non-profit board members across New York State need to fulfill a sexual harassment prevention training requirement annually. The library is offering this service to the public free of charge. At completion, the library will offer a certificate to those who complete the training, verifying their attendance. Depending on the size of the group, training takes approximately one hour.
Because it is a PowerPoint presentation, participants cannot join via phone, and will need to attend via video to verify their participation.

Kindle HD
Borrow one of the library’s three Kindle e-readers! Use it for e-books, audiobooks or more!

New Fiction:

New Non-Fiction:
American Crusade, by Pete Hegseth  ● Countdown 1945, by Chris Wallace  ● The Dalai Lama: An Extraordinary Life, by Alexander Norman  ● Fallout, by Lesley M.M. Blume  ● How to be an Antiracist, by Ibrahim X. Kendi  ● Little Weirds, by Jenny Slate  ● My Vanishing Country: A Memoir, by Bakari Sellers  ● Rage, by Bob Woodward  ● The Room Where It Happened, by John Bolton  ● Too Much and Never Enough, by Mary L. Trump, Ph.D., and more…

New DVDs:
Movies: Brave  ● Dark Waters  ● Frozen: Sing-a-long Edition  ● Frozen 2  ● The Good Liar  ● The High Note  ● Just Mercy  ● Richard Jewell
Series: Tom Clancy’s Jack Ryan: Seasons 1 & 2  ● Outlander: Seasons 4 & 5  ● Vikings: Seasons 1, 2 & 3

Monday Evening Book Group
Every last Monday of the month at 6:30 pm
New members are always welcome to join the book groups. Call the library for the current book selection.
The Book Group has been meeting virtually via Zoom for the last few months! Call or email for meeting information. October 26 & November 30

That’s what friends are for…
Message from the Friends of the Old Forge Library
Pivot – that’s the word of the year for 2020. Students pivoted to distance learning. We all joined video conference meetings, and the Friends of the Old Forge Library moved to weekly Book Marts at the outdoor concerts. We saw many summer friends, had a rain out, a reschedule and managed to put hundreds of good books into your hands. We hope you enjoy the books and thank you for those generous donations. And thank you to those who replenished our inventory by bringing in books.

Have you seen the bear-proof trashcan near the parking lot? It’s a sturdy thing, having two sides, one for trash and the other for recycling. The Friends figured this would be a useful addition to the library grounds and are pleased when we can help with this sort of investment. It came in handy for folks using the Wi-Fi outside the library, or enjoying some of the outdoor activities this summer.

For right now, we will continue to meet virtually. If you’d like to join us, please email Linda at the library (lweal@midyork.org) and she’ll set you up. The Friends are always looking for new members. You can make as large or small investment of time as suits you, and you might just make some new friends.

Friends of the Old Forge Library Officers
Jeanne Candee, President; Donna Zuckert, Vice President; Butch Hartsig, Recording Secretary; Kate Bartlet, Treasurer; Judy Foley & Beverly Meeker, Directors

More Used Books
Since the “Used Book Room” upstairs is currently off limits, the library will be making a selection of used books available to patrons downstairs, until we can open the second floor to the public.
New Materials to Support Distance Leaners and Homeschoolers

We have just enhanced our collection of books to support children and families who are homeschooling and distance learning. With 12 new titles we have something for every age group, and lots of books full of educational activities for families to explore.

Check our website: www.oldforgelibrary.org
for a current calendar of library programs.

or call 315-369-6008

Library programming is made possible by the generous support of library donors and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the NY State Legislature.

Donate

There are many ways to donate to the library. All gifts can be customized to honor or memorialize those dear to you. When you give to the library in honor of a loved one, they are notified.

There are many ways to show support. For ideas or to discuss how to design your own gift, contact Director, Linda Weal, at 315-369-6008 or lweal@gmail.com.