



# Friends of the Newark Free Library

February 2021

Editor – Patricia Rachek

## Friends Donate \$10,000 to Support Digital Collection

Carol McKelvey, FNFL Board Member

Our Friends group is always looking for ways to support the library staff and library patrons. With the COVID pandemic many patrons have turned to electronic media as a means of expanding their options. The Friends decided to invest in enlarging the available holdings of popular electronic items such as eBooks and audiobooks. A group of Friends Board members presented our check for \$10,000.00 to the Newark Free Library. This large donation will shorten waiting times for library patrons.

In addition, this year the Friends invested in “walkie-talkies” to facilitate the process of picking up books from the staff. We have purchased two (2) Zoom licenses so that many of the programs could continue virtually. Special author presentations are also possible because of contributions from the Friends.



Back Row, l to r: Banjo Oriade and Kathie Davis.

Front row, l to r: Judy Taggart, Mary Ann Gladnick and Carol McKelvey

### WEBSITES:

#### Friends of the Newark Free Library

[www.friendsofthenewarkfreelibrary.com](http://www.friendsofthenewarkfreelibrary.com)

#### Newark Free Library main page

<http://www.nccde.org/Newark>

#### New Castle County Happenings library page

<http://www.nccdecs.org> and click on libraries and then Happenings Guide

#### Friends of the Newark Free Library Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheNewarkFreeLibrary>

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## President's Letter

Judy Taggart, President

Dear Friends,

This newsletter is dedicated to Mae Carter, the last of the four "Bookends" who founded The Friends of the Newark Free Library in 1966. Mae passed in December just five months shy of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. I was fortunate to know each of these women—Carmen Nelson, Marjorie Purcell, Miriam Willis and Mae Carter. Each continued their support of the Newark Library and the Friends throughout their lifetime. When you can again visit the library, look to your left, just beyond the large meeting room and view the next room which is dedicated to these four women, named "The Bookends".

Libraries are transforming themselves and the Newark Library is no exception. Services to patrons continue to grow and expand even during these challenging times. It is not the library of our parents or even us but the library of our children and grandchildren. Books continue to be central to our library but so are many additional services to meet the needs of our entire community. Thank you to each of you for your contribution. The Friends supports the Newark Library's ability to serve everyone.

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On another note, what are your earliest memories of your library? My library was in St. Louis, MO, located in a beautiful public school. The entire neighborhood walked there to borrow books. It was a nice cozy library that my friends and I would frequently visit, sitting inside and reading, especially on a hot summer day. There was no air conditioning but the thick stone building was comfortable inside. We would love to hear your early library memory and share it on our website.

Please write us at

[info@friendsofthenewarkfreelibrary.com](mailto:info@friendsofthenewarkfreelibrary.com)

Also, please feel free to share your comments, observations, and suggestions for the Friends or the Newark Library.



## MAE RIEDY CARTER, NEWARK FRIENDS "BOOKEND"

Judy Taggart, President



Mae was one of the four "Bookends" who founded the Friends of the Newark Free Library in 1966. Along with supporting the Newark Library with her talent and time, Mae concentrated on a variety of volunteer activities.

Her volunteerism included serving as Regional Vice-President of the Delaware PTA and President, Newark Branch of AAUW, to name just a few. She never shied from accepting responsibility.

In her professional career Mae was employed in the Division of Continuing Education of the University of Delaware, counseling women returning to college. She was the first chair of the UD Commission on the Status of Women and the first Chair of the UD Women's Studies Program. She established the UD Office of Women's Affairs and retired as Assistant Provost of Women's Affairs. Mae was inducted into the State of Delaware Hall of Fame for Delaware Women and awarded the UD Medal of Distinction.

Mae and her husband, Bob, loved to travel and visited over 140 countries, many unusual places throughout the world. They collected ethnic art and masks, one of which is on permanent loan to the Friends and displayed at the Newark Library.

Mae is survived by her loving daughters and their families.

## Library Happenings....

Curbside pickup service began in early June and has increased in popularity since then. It is so popular that the NFL has averaged over 550 curbside appointments per week since early fall. Curbside pickup is a great way to get books and DVDs into your hands in a safe manner.

To use the service, you can go to the online library catalog and place holds on items yourself,

[https://dlc.lib.de.us/client/en\\_US/defaulta](https://dlc.lib.de.us/client/en_US/defaulta) or you can call the library (302-731-7550) to place your requests by phone.

**Stay current with new fiction and nonfiction** titles using these four book-browsing tools. Each one is updated every month, so keep clicking back. All books are linked to the catalog for your convenience in placing holds.

### NEW FICTION

– [https://padlet.com/upcoming\\_and\\_new\\_fiction/z14hjkqu398q86dx](https://padlet.com/upcoming_and_new_fiction/z14hjkqu398q86dx)

A snapshot of 21 recently received fiction titles by debut and lesser-known authors.

### NEW NONFICTION -

– [https://padlet.com/new\\_nonfiction/c4cc88x7dsc2pft6](https://padlet.com/new_nonfiction/c4cc88x7dsc2pft6)

A look at recently received nonfiction titles in six categories: Business, Cooking, Biography, Self-Help, Crafts, History & Current Events.

### UPCOMING FICTION -

– [https://padlet.com/upcoming\\_and\\_new\\_fiction/fotroifndqsxv3zw](https://padlet.com/upcoming_and_new_fiction/fotroifndqsxv3zw)

A five-month look ahead at highly anticipated titles from popular authors.

### STAFF PICKS

– <https://www.nccde.org/374/What-Do-I-Read-Next>

A curated selection of fiction and nonfiction titles recommended by staff.

**VIRTUAL EVENTS:** The number of virtual events has grown since the summer. Events range from story time activities for toddlers, book club meetings, technology training, and much more. For example, in February an **Intro to Google Drive** class is being offered. The class teaches interested new users how to sign up for Google Drive, create documents, and store files for school, work and personal projects and is appropriate for adults and teens.

Register here:

<https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/event/7342068>

All events can be accessed via the library calendar <https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/calendar/virtuallibraryevents?cid=9904&t=m&d=2021-02&cal=9904&inc=0>

## What is a Binge Box DVD Collection?



A Binge Box DVD Collection is a themed movie collection to suit your fancy. All of the movies are packaged in one convenient DVD case! Themes include Pasta Cowboys, Stop Saving Matt Damon, The Love We Share, etc. Four to six DVDs are included in each Binge Box. Can you guess which movies are included in Never Travel with Tom Hanks?

Search the catalog and place holds using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y7je5x2h>

## Announcing the Legacy of Reading Society

Sue Peters, FNFL Board Member

Are you planning to remember the Friends of the Newark Free Library in your will? If so, the Friends would like to thank you now.

The new Legacy of Reading Society recognizes donors who are including the Friends in their estate plans. Legacy gifts can be made with a bequest or by naming the Newark Free Library as beneficiary of an IRA or life insurance policy or financial asset.

Generally, these planned gifts will be unrestricted and spent at the direction of the library director and the Friends Board on library priorities. Typically these include activities such as adding to the collection, encouraging reading, supporting cultural and educational programs such as the music program, enhancing staff education, and increasing the number of library cardholders.

Unrestricted gifts also give the library the flexibility and resources to cope with unexpected situations such as those that arose in 2020. Planned gifts may be designated for a specific purpose when found suitable by both the library and the donor.

Friends who join the Legacy of Reading Society will have their names displayed on a plaque in the library. Legacy society members will also receive the same benefits as annual members of the Friends—a newsletter subscription and invitation to the annual brunch and performance event.

The library's first bequest came from Selena Bing, who founded Bing's bakery with her husband Russell in 1946. Sixty years later, she received the Downtown Newark Partnership's first lifetime achievement award. Newark Post Publisher Jim Streit wrote, "As honcho of the DNP, I know that whenever there is a need for a donation to a worthy downtown cause, a check from Mrs. Bing quietly appears (and it's not always a small one). And until health issues slowed her down, she has been a key board member."

Mrs. Bing's bequest was unrestricted; with the library's agreement, the Friends used the funds to purchase mystery books, which Mrs. Bing's family especially enjoyed.

If the Newark Free Library has been important to you, consider making a planned gift to help the library play a meaningful role in the lives of future generations of Newark residents.

To join the Legacy of Reading Society, simply email the Friends and inform us that you have

- Named the Friends of the Newark Free Library as a beneficiary in your will, living trust or estate plan or
- Named the Friends of the Newark Free Library as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, other financial account, or insurance policy.

Our email address is [info@friendsofthenewarkfreelibrary.com](mailto:info@friendsofthenewarkfreelibrary.com)

The attorney drafting your bequest may find the following information helpful.

Our full legal name is: Friends of the Newark Free Library.

Our legal address is: 750 Library Avenue, Newark, DE 19711.

Our Federal Tax Identification Number (TIN) is 23-7098836.

Be a friend to the end! Join the Legacy of Reading Society today.





## Thank You and Farewell!

Judy Taggart, FNFL President

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! to retiring board members Jo Anne Deshon and Doug Tong. Both completed their last term April 2020. We were not able to recognize their service at the spring 2020 Annual Meeting because it was cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions. However, this year, at the ZOOM 2021 Friends Annual Meeting, Tuesday, April 6, 7:00 p.m. we will formally thank both for their eight plus years of service.

Jo Anne either coordinated or assisted in almost every activity the Friends sponsored. Her dedication, time and charm were always present whether serving refreshments at events, serving on the board, volunteering at the Friends Newark Community Day booth or recruiting new members, to name just a few, of her many activities in support of the Friends and the Newark Library.



Doug, in addition to serving on the board, wrote many, many book reviews for the Friends newsletter while employed full time. His warm, friendly personality was always appreciated. Even with his busy schedule, he supported the library as time allowed. When Doug had health challenges, his wife, Lee assisted him so he could continue volunteering. He volunteered at Newark Community Day and regularly attended board meetings.

We will miss both of these individuals who contributed so much to the Friends and the Newark Library. Their support of the Friends will continue and we are deeply indebted to them.



 <p>Support the <b>Friends of the Newark Free Library</b> using <b>amazon.com<sup>®</sup></b> Smile</p> <p>Amazon.com will donate to the <b>Friends of the Newark Free Library</b> to bring you NEW BOOKS, programs, and much more. Scan the QR code to get started! <small>...or visit <a href="https://smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a></small></p> 	<p>Thanks to your generosity, the Friends has received \$662 from amazon.com Smile. These funds have been used to support library programs.</p> <p>Next time you use Amazon, please consider designating Friends of the Newark Free Library as your donation choice.</p>
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**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE FRIENDS OF THE NEWARK FREE LIBRARY**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2021, 7 P.M. VIA ZOOM**

Email Mary Ann Gladnick, Vice President and Annual Meeting Chair at

[magladnick@gmail.com](mailto:magladnick@gmail.com) for meeting number and password

**Welcome and Introductions** - Judy Taggart, President

**Treasurer's Report** - Noreen Campbell, Treasurer

**Nominating Committee Report** - Katy Ferrero, Chair

**Proposed Slate:**

Barbara Jo German, Vice President, 2021-2023

Deb Morehead, Recording Secretary, 2021-2023

Katy Ferrero, Corresponding Secretary, 2021-2023

Kathie Davis, Board Member, 2021-2022

Mary Ann Gladnick, Board Member, 2021-2023

Roy Lopata, Board Member, 2021-2023

**Election of Proposed Slate** - Judy Taggart

**Membership Report** - Roy Lopata

**Recognition of Retired Board Members**

Jo Anne Deshon and Doug Tong

**"Legacy of Reading Society"** - Sue Peters, Chair

**Friends Annual Report of Activities, 2020** - Judy Taggart

**Newark Library Managers Report, 2020** - Pat Birchenall, Newark Library Manag

## Virtual Music Programs at the Library

Pam Nelson, Library Staff

An **Evening of Jazz** was presented by the **Daniel Bennett Group** on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Koko Bermejo, drums and Daniel Bennett, flute/clarinet/sax/oboe designed a special program just for the Newark Library. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Newark Free Library, we were able to offer this program to our patrons. The Group has performed live as a part of our concert series a number of times, and we were fortunate to be able to enjoy their virtual program. The program was and still is available on the NFL Facebook Page and through the Library's YouTube channel – check the NFL homepage: [www.nccde.org/Newark](http://www.nccde.org/Newark).

Another virtual program promoted through the Library was the **First State Ringers' 2020** Holiday concert. It was recorded at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Wilmington and is still available through the ensemble's homepage, [www.firststateringers.org](http://www.firststateringers.org). What a pleasure it was to hear the holiday music that for so many years was heard live here at the Library during one of their concerts.

After a couple of month's hiatus, **Virtual Open Mic** resumed in October; it is sponsored by both the Newark and Claymont Libraries. The sessions



are scheduled on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 6 – 8pm. Performers and listeners as well are welcome to join. Sessions in the new year are

scheduled for January 20, February 17 and March 17. Participants sing, play an instrument or read poetry or prose. Registration is available through a link on the Library's homepage or directly through the Calendar of Virtual Library Events: [delawarelibraries.libcal.com/event/7306106](http://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/event/7306106).

## I've Been Reading...

### The Reluctant King: The Life & Reign of George VI, 1895-1952

By Sarah Bradford

St. Martins Press, 1989; 506 pp.



Reviewed by Roy H. Lopata

If you are a fan of the multipart television series, *The Crown*; the award winning motion picture, *The King's Speech*; or enjoyed the recent television broadcast histories of the House of Windsor, then you may want to read Sarah Bradford's biography of Britain's King George VI. I say "may," because this tome of almost five hundred relatively tiny printed pages is packed with voluminous details of the late King's life that might only appeal to those with a very strong interest in recent British history and the life of the Royal family.

Bradford explores Albert's (his given name) unhappy childhood with a distant and cold father; his struggle with stuttering; his difficulties at school and in the Royal Navy; his poor self-esteem, especially when compared to his older brother, Edward (the heir to the throne), who seemed to be more charming and popular.

Bradford also details the Abdication Crisis that led to Albert's sudden and totally unanticipated rise to the throne, as well as, his heroic leadership alongside Prime Minister Winston Churchill as the British, partnering with United States and the Soviet Union, won the Second World War. As Bradford notes, to paraphrase Churchill, the latter was the King's "finest hour." Bradford also

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describes George VI's personal happiness due to his warm, intimate marriage to Queen Elizabeth (the future Queen Mother).

The central event in Bradford's biography is the British establishment's insistence that Edward VIII abdicate in favor of King George VI if he wanted to marry Wallis Simpson, "the woman he loved," because a British king or queen as head of the Church of England could not marry a divorcee. I suppose the contemporary reader might find this all very hard to fully understand after living through the drama and tragedies of the lives of the current heir to the throne, Prince Charles and his late wife, Princess Diana, not to mention the sagas of Prince Edward and Sarah Ferguson. Of course, the irony here, which Bradford touches on, is that as a result of the abdication, Britain was spared the agony of an appeasement-loving and Nazi-sympathizing King who would have sat on the throne as the Germans blitzed England. In other words, this tale had a happy and unexpected conclusion that more than likely saved the British monarchy from an ignoble end.



**Save the Date  
for a Virtual  
Author Talk  
With NYT  
Besting Selling  
Author  
Bryan Reardon**

**When: March 7<sup>th</sup> Time TBA  
later in February**

## Keep up to date with Library Happenings

Stay current with Newark Free Library PROGRAMS and SERVICES by signing up for our email NEWSLETTER here:


<https://tinyurl.com/yceh4ax7>


Here is an excerpt from a recent NFL Newsletter:



**Just for Fun:**  
watch the latest original video  
from Newark Free Library,  
*"The Adventures of Curbside Man  
& Due Date."*

The video is available on the library's  
YouTube channel and also  
our Facebook page





Print from your email.

Limited to 10 free black  
and white pages per day.



**Dolly Parton's  
Imagination Library**

Dolly Parton's Imagination  
Library provides FREE books by  
mail for children ages birth up to  
5, statewide!

[click here to get started](#)

**African American Authors  
Book Club**

**2nd Tuesday @ 7**



# WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A LIBRARIAN IN THE GALÁPAGOS

Reprinted with permission

By Lindsey Simon on October 19, 2020



*Librarians work all over the world, from big cities and suburbs to the furthest reaches of the planet. Case in point: Edgardo Civallero is a librarian stationed in the Galápagos, an archipelago off the coast of Ecuador known for influencing Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.*

*Civallero is part of [the Charles Darwin Foundation](#) (CDF), a scientific organization dedicated to preserving the islands' biodiversity. The foundation's research station features a library and archive that Civallero is tasked with coordinating. He recently spoke with I Love Libraries about the joys, challenges, and surprises of working in such a unique library setting.*

## **What does your job with the Charles Darwin Foundation entail?**

The Charles Darwin Research Station is where an international team of scientists and conservationists work, researching the unique species that populate the island—like the giant tortoise, the marine iguana, or the flightless cormorant. Therefore, the library I coordinate is aimed at providing them all the material they need, which turns the library into a specialized one. However, being the biggest, oldest, and practically the only library in Galápagos, it also serves the local community.

I also coordinate the archive, where the entire social and scientific memory of CDF (and a part of Galápagos' history) is preserved. And right now, I'm creating a new space: a museum, in order to  
*Continued on page 10*

display and take care of a handful of archaeological and historical pieces related to Galápagos' past.

Even if I am the only professional librarian in the islands, I am the head of a small, amazing team of staff who are learning the profession by putting it into practice.

Galápagos is a very special place in many ways. Besides being a sort of paradise in the middle of the eastern Pacific Ocean and a living laboratory for evolution, it is also a very isolated place, despite being a tourist destination with heavy visits all year long. Internet service is weak, there are no cultural activities or bookshops, and movements are strongly limited to a very small land surface. Since the Galápagos are a National Park, a Biosphere Reserve, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the islands are quite protected, and a lot of "normal" activities are not allowed there.

Isolation makes life a bit hard for the permanent population of the islands. Food and most other supplies arrive from the continent by boat, which means that sometimes there are shortages in the archipelago and prices are really high. Water supply is also a problem, creating a number of health issues. Massive tourism is another topic that should be discussed, but nobody seems to be willing to tackle it. As with many other things in our world, every light has its shadow, and Galápagos is no exception.

### **How did you come to work in such a unique setting?**

I applied to an international call for librarians to fill the position. Since I studied oceanography and biology before becoming a librarian, and I speak several languages fluently, I considered I had a chance. And I did: I was selected among 60 candidates from all over the world. Of course, I had to move to Galápagos and start a new life in the islands—which was probably the biggest challenge of all.

### **What do you like most about your job?**

The environment, of course. I work yards away from the sea, and the marine iguanas usually walk in front of the library's door. I can hear the waves (and the Darwin's finches) from my desk. Of course, half of the year we have what we call *garua* weather: cloudy, cold, and with a never-ending drizzle wetting everything. But that's also lovely, at least for me.

Also, I love being in charge of the biggest and oldest library in my territory. That is absolutely challenging, especially considering that I don't have a lot of resources and I have to use all my knowledge to improvise solutions. Taking care of the archive and the future museum is wonderful, too, because I have in my hands the social and scientific memory of this place.

*Continued on page 11*

## Is there anything that has surprised you about working as a librarian in the Galápagos?

Almost everything I found here since I arrived surprised me. I came to Galápagos with no expectations, and I found so many things along the way that amazed me. But to choose one thing, I'd go for the tameness of local fauna. I had read about it before travelling, but witnessing it here, in the field, is absolutely surprising. Giant tortoises, sea lions, finches, iguanas, lizards, sea birds, and even the butterflies seem not to fear the human presence: they live their lives just two yards away from my eyes. That closeness to the local natural world is something that I hadn't experienced anywhere else.

## Is there anything else you'd like to share?

I invite all my colleagues in the library profession to consider supporting the work I do here. Right now I'm developing an outreach project to bring libraries to all the inhabited islands by means of a mobile library service. One island, Floreana, has never had a library (our mobile library is the first one to arrive there), and others haven't had a library for at least a decade.

Also, I'm trying to expand the collection of the library in order to provide better services to the local community, since the current collection is mainly focused on science and scientific endeavors. Finally, we're putting a lot of effort into preservation and conservation tasks. Local weather and the proximity of sea is our number one enemy in a building that was never intended to be a library or archive. Dealing with humidity and sunlight is an absolute nightmare, and a lot of material is needed. Those interested in supporting the CDF's Library & Archive can [contact me](#) for further information.

*Subscribe to the [I Love Libraries newsletter](#) for more amazing stories about libraries and librarians.  
Photos courtesy of Edgardo Civallero.*

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## eBook and Audiobook Services

Library patrons have access to two services for eBooks and audiobooks: Hoopla and Libby/Overdrive.

**Hoopla** offers both e-Books and e-Audiobooks, in addition to streaming video with a monthly limit of four checkouts. Items in Hoopla are available to any number of patrons at once – with no hold, no waiting.



**Overdrive/Libby** –There is a selection of titles and authors for eBooks and e-Audiobooks, but there may be a holds list for recent popular items.

