



The Bookworm

Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library

757-787-3400 www.friendsespl.org

Your 2020-2021 membership is now due.

Please return the attached membership form. Thank you.

President	Sharyn McQuaid
Vice President	Janet Rochester
Secretary	Carol Callander
Treasurer	Liz Bochicchio
<u>Board Members</u>	
Judy Malarkey	Ann Scott
Barbara Laden	Betsy Reich
Becky Rootes	Sue Bjornberg
Carol O'Toole	Barbara Reiger
Cathy Salamone	

From the President.

Happy thought: If you are a Friend of the Eastern Shore Public Library, it is now 2021. Our fiscal year begins July 1 and the year is identified by the year in which it ends. There...doesn't that make you feel better! I hope this letter finds you well, and your loved ones safe and healthy. The past 5 months have challenged all of us in so many ways. We are grateful to everyone who have continued to support the Friends.

Friends Board and library program support

We are pleased to announce returning and new Board members. Barbara Reiger has returned to our Board. Many of you know Barbara as she worked for many years in library. Our new members are Sue Bjornberg, Carol O'Toole and Cathy Salamone. They are all coming up with great ideas and will add new life to our Board. Thanks for joining us!

When the quarantine began in mid-March, I think many of us thought it would be short term—maybe only the three weeks initially contemplated. We hunkered down for a short-term inconvenience. The Friends canceled their March meeting. I, for one, did not imagine how long we would be on hiatus. We finally were able to convene a meeting of those of us who were comfortable with a socially distanced small gathering in June. It allowed us to get back to some of our normal business—most importantly to follow-through on our obligations on your behalf to meet the \$5000 pledge for FY 2020 toward completion of the Parksley facility.

We were able to meet again in July and, at that meeting, we authorized to continue our support of “Freanding”, one of the two eBook lending sources used by the library. Use of eBooks during the closure of the brick and mortar facility has shown an encouraging increase. We hope our support will allow that to continue. While you can access Freanding through the library website by clicking on the e-resources tab,

we are hoping to help more patrons become comfortable with using this method for borrowing from the ESPL System. As soon as we can work out the logistics, we plan to work with library staff to do very small group training sessions. One of the joys of eBooks is that the size of the print can be adapted to large print users. Another asset of eBooks is that they don't take up limited shelf space, they cannot be misfiled, and with "Freeding", a book is never "checked out".

Donations and book sales

Things surely have not been going according to plan for any of us. At this point in past years, we would have put our feet up to relax and congratulate ourselves on another fantastic Firecracker Sale supported by our many wonderful donors and buyers. It has been painful for us to turn away your donations. We hope you are finding folks who can make use of the books you want passed along. Don't forget the Little Free Libraries scattered around the Shore. We also hope that you will welcome us back when we can again handle your donations.

During the long period of inaccessibility, the Library staff has been pulling the books from the collection that are least used. Once the process of retiring them from the library shelves is complete, these "Discards" are made available to you on the Friends tables at the front of the Library. There is no charge for the discards, but we appreciate any you can take away.

If you have been in the Library, you have noticed that signs on our tables tell you that the books there have not been sanitized. To the extent that the books have been handled in the prior 4 days (the time that best available information suggests is necessary for natural safety from viruses to be achieved), some COVID-19 contamination is possible. It is not likely that there is contamination since staff and volunteers are advised to self-quarantine if they are not feeling well. Library patrons are similarly asked to stay home if they are not well. But, after you browse our tables and bag your selections, either from the free discards or the low-cost sale books, be sure to wash or sanitize your hands.

Census 2020

Want to get more local, state, and federal money to support our local libraries? Go to 2020Census.gov or call 844-330-2020. This will affect our counties for the next 10 years. Tell everyone you know.

Virtual Santa?!

While we are easing back into some of life as we knew it, things are not back to normal. We are coming to realize that Santa is not going to be able to visit this year. We are discussing ways to deal with that. Over the last twelve years, Santa has visited with increasing numbers of our youngest library patrons and given them a "keeper" brand new book. In 2019, we gave over 100 books to children from birth to age 12. If you have ideas for how we can continue that experience safely, please share your thoughts. Meanwhile, we will be looking to restore that project when we can.

Membership 2020-2021 renewals now due

Some of you may be experiencing some changes in your financial situation. We hope that is very short-term and we hope you know that we value your friendship even if you cannot give us any financial support at this time. If your personal budget allows you to, we hope that you can support the Friends with a donation for FY 2021, which began July 1, 2020 and will end on June 30, 2021. The last page on this Bookworm is a form for making your donation of time, talent or treasure and gives you mailing information. Please keep up your Friendship however you are able.

Your membership will help fund the programs outlined in this Bookworm and other programs and equipment that may need our help as the year proceeds and as we get closer to having a new library.

New library in Parksley

Building continues on schedule for the new library. You can see progress via LiveCam brought to you by Bullfeathers. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LiWtMCfps5k&feature=youtu.be>

A generous donation from Buchanan Subaru Pocomoke towards construction of the new Eastern Shore Public Library in Parksley demonstrates its Love for Learning.

Rendering of building (below)



Walking in from Bennett Street



Library hours

July 31, 2020 – Eastern Shore Public Library in Accomac will be open one hour less each day to allow for increased cleaning of the facility. The library in Accomac will now be open Monday to Friday from **11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Northampton Free Library will remain open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. Both libraries also will now be providing curbside pickup of materials during each location's hours of operation. Patrons should call Chincoteague and Cape Charles libraries directly for public service information as each library's management is making decisions that best respond to their locality's situation. Masks are required. Sanitizers are available throughout the library.

Use of computers in the library is by appointment only during open hours.

Free outdoor public Wi-Fi has just expanded! Eastern Shore Public Libraries in Accomac and Nassawadox now have improved Wi-Fi signals in the library parking lots. Public library Wi-Fi is free and open to the public.

To learn more about Eastern Shore Public Library's online resources or to register for a library card online, go to espl.org or call the library at 757-787-3400.