



## *Showtime!!*

### **LBI Library Readies For Busy Summer**

Long Beach Island is noted for its beaches, amusements, and dining. Now both residents and vacationers are finding the Long Beach Island library as a go-to locale for educational and entertainment opportunities and an enriching summer.

Foot traffic nearly quadruples to more than 400 visitors a day during the summer months, reported Toni Smirniw, Branch Librarian. To handle increased business, the library, part of the Ocean County Library System, hires extra staff. This year, these include three desk librarians, one "shelver," and a coordinator for the library's SAIL program for teenage volunteers.

Reader engagement is highlighted in this year's theme, A Universe of Stories. By registering for the contest and reading five books, adults will get a chance to win one of five baskets of prizes. Each set of five books you read entitles the reader to another chance in the drawing. There will also be an OCL system-wide drawing for an electronic tablet.



"Fifty years ago, the moon landing highlighted the value of exploring, and this summer, there will be instructional programs for those who wish to explore subjects from soups to sculpting, and birding to bees and honey," Smirniw noted. Interspersed will be more traditional subjects, such as a talk of the Growing Economic Crisis, the Life of Ulysses S. Grant, and, in September, Ken Konchan's annual presentations on the Holocaust and Ireland. Also featured will be a return visit by Rafael Morillo, who will talk on All About Bread.

Infants to young adults will also be well served by the library's offerings this summer, Kristen Crepezzi, Children and Teen Services Librarian, said. From Wiggles and Walkers programs to off-site Story Walks visits to Bayview Park to space-related events such as Galactic Beats, Life in Space with the Franklin Institute, and Astronaut Training (for toddlers), learning experiences for younger library patrons seem endless. The children's program also includes a possible life-saver—a session on ocean hazards, including rip tides. This will be held on Friday, July 19 at 11 a.m.

In addition, youngsters will be able to celebrate the birthday of a space explorer who came to prominence after John Glenn and Scott Carpenter. He's Harry Potter, and a Wizarding Birthday Party will take place on July 31.

### **Friends Award Scholarships**

Christine Mecca was named the 2019 recipient of the \$1,000 Eleanor Smith Scholarship from the Friends of the Island Library. Mecca, a graduate of William Paterson College, is currently a Senior Library Assistant and Mobile Library Coordinator at Ocean County Library's Manchester branch. She expects to complete her MLS degree from Clarion State University by January 2020; Mecca has earned 15 credits and has maintained a 3.8 GPA at Clarion.

Rubid Ramales, a graduate of Southern Regional High School, is the 2019 recipient of the \$1,000 Kay Jones Scholarship from the Friends of the Island Library. Rubid is an Athletic Field Hockey Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, and Latin Honor Society and accrued 58 volunteer hours at the library in a three-year period. Ramales plans to attend Ocean County College as a Liberal Arts major.



*Friends' President Bernadette Callanan (left) with Christine Mecca*

## Friends Mark Key Library Dates

In May, the Long Beach Island branch of the Ocean County Library System marked two important anniversaries: The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Friends of the Island Library and the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the LBI Library at its present location on Central Ave. in Surf City.

Appropriately, the Friends marked the occasion with refreshments, including a sheet cake donated by Baked on the Beach. Former Branch Librarian and current Program Chair of the Friends Linda Feaster, and co-author of *Best of Friends*, a history of the LBI library, took guests on PowerPoint tour of events in which the Friends played a crucial role. Library service began with shelf space at a local business, then moved to a bookmobile. In the mid-1950s, the library moved to a single room in Long Beach Township's municipal office building. By 1958, that space was needed by the Township. The need was pressing. In 1959, the newly-formed Friends of the Island Library met that need by funding the construction of a library in Ship Bottom on land donated by the Cox family.

The Friends also played a key role in the 1989 move to Surf City, necessitated by increased patron use. Through skillful maneuvering, the Friends gained the financial and moral support of five individual towns on the project and negotiated with them and Ocean County on building a new library, Feaster explained.

"The story of the library is a reflection of the spirit in our community. It's more than a place to borrow things – it's where we come to share, learn and grow," she said. "In the nearly 20 years that I worked for OCL, I saw many ways that the library serves a function that no other public or private entity does."

"Today, we are celebrating a place where we can do a lot of good things," Feaster concluded.



*Library Director Susan Quinn, LBI author Margaret Buchholz, Friends President Bernadette Callanan, and Program Chairman Linda Feaster mark the anniversaries.*

## Follow Recycle Regs to Reduce Landfill \$\$



Recycling regulations have stiffened considerably in recent years, as manufacturers are becoming more quality-conscious about the raw materials they use. Angela Andersen, Sustainability Coordinator of Long Beach Township, helped library patrons sort through the complex do's and don'ts of household materials recovery. The Friends of the Island Library sponsored the program.

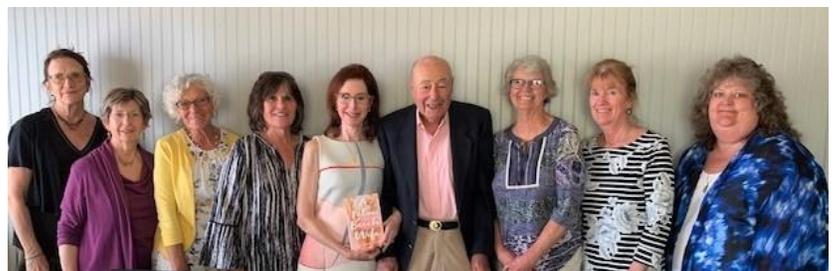
For several decades after mandatory recycling laws were enacted in many states (New Jersey in 1987), the focus was often on volume of recyclables, not necessarily on quality. That has changed, Andersen said. "What we're up against is that China is cracking down on contaminated materials coming into their country, and other countries are backing away as well." If a shipment is rejected, it enters the waste stream, which goes to landfill (at \$72 a ton), instead of the recycle stream.

"In Ocean County we have 15 to 17 years of landfill left," Andersen said, "The more we recycle, the longer the landfill will last." With end-user concerns over quality increasing, it doesn't make sense to put questionable products in the recycled stream.

Friends Luncheon Proves a Big Hit. "What a great author luncheon!" reported Linda Feaster, Program Chair of the Friends of the Island Library, on the Friends-sponsored event held in May at Bisque in Ship Bottom. Sixty-six people came to hear Susan Shapiro Barash, who writes fiction under the pen name of Susannah Marren. An author of 15 nonfiction books about marriage and mother-daughter relationships, Barash spoke about her latest fiction work, the just-released *A Palm Beach Wife*, a story that investigates spousal loyalty, female rivalry and a complicated mother-daughter bond.

"It was a great afternoon and a delicious lunch," Feaster said. "Susan's talk was very interesting, and inspired a lot of people to read her nonfiction books. Everybody pitched in and did their thing to make the event successful and the fundraiser for the Friends a profitable one.

"We want to thank those individuals and businesses that provided items for our auction, which proved significant funding for future Friends' programs," she added.



*Susan Shapiro Barash, fifth from left, and her father, noted LBI developer Herb Shapiro, are flanked by Friends members, from left, Ann Barkey, Linda Feaster, Judy Bouton, Mary Alexander, Carol Dunn, Kathy McCaffrey, and Branch Librarian Toni Smirniw.*

## Business Members Support Friends

Ann Barkey, Friends' Membership Chair, reports that the following businesses and groups support the Friends of the Island Library: Anchor Wine & Spirits, Baked on the Beach, Island Audio Video, Kubel's, L.B.I. Chiropractic Center, LBI Foundation of the Arts & Sciences, LBI Rotary, Loveladies Property Owners Assn., Smooth Travels LLC, The Cheese Shoppe, The Haymarket, and the Sandbox Café.

For more information about becoming a Business Member, e-mail Ann Barkey at [annbarkey@icloud.com](mailto:annbarkey@icloud.com)