



Friends of the  
Brandywine  
Hundred Library

# NEWS

DECEMBER 2003

*We support, encourage and promote quality library services*

*Dear Friends,*

As the holidays approach, it is a time for reflection. I am very thankful for the many contributions and hard work that made it possible to open the Brandywine Hundred Library this year and look forward to what next year will bring. At our annual meeting in December we will hold elections for the Friends' board, and expect Cecilia McCormick to be elected as President. We are making the transition from a fund raising group seeking to build a new library to a service organization helping to make it work better. Cecilia has been an active member of the Friends for many years, and can remember Friends board meetings that had to be held in the Concord Pike Library manager's office because the only public meeting room was being used by another group. We've come a long way!

The library continues to develop under the capable leadership of Tom Weaver and Jean Kaufman. They are actively pursuing more programs and services at this regional library.

There are ongoing opportunities for people to be a part of this new center in our Brandywine Hundred community. If you'd like to help with library programs, making materials available, helping get the Friends newsletter out, or something completely different, we encourage you to get involved and contact the Friends or library staff.

We will be implementing new programs in the coming year. We want your suggestions for what needs to be done. Please continue to visit the Friends web page at [www.friendsbhl.org](http://www.friendsbhl.org) for current information on library programs, hours of operation, volunteer opportunities, and more!

**John Stevenson**  
**President, BHL Friends**

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Concord Pike Library will be held on Tuesday, December 9, at 7:00 pm, at the Brandywine Hundred Library. The nominees for officers and board members are as follows:

Officers: President – Cecilia McCormick  
Vice President — Jim Conrad (one-year term)  
Secretary – Joanne Hasse (incumbent)  
Treasurer — Carol Einhorn (one-year term)

Board Members:

Mary Bowler	Ruth Forman
John Stevenson	Rose Kobos
Sally Kantzes	Marcia Dillon
Kristi Moore (one-year term)	

Terms are for two years unless otherwise noted.

Members in good standing who are present at the meeting will be eligible to vote on this slate of officers and board members.

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## Getting Closer

What a thrill to join Jerry Shea in signing a \$1,100,000 check that Anne Hampton accepted for New Castle County. This momentous event occurred quietly [Jane Iobst cheered] in front of our first floor fireplace.

Thanks to ALL of the Friends and our neighbors because their participation made this possible. We will officially close the fund raising campaign on December 31, 2003.

As we indicated in an earlier newsletter, the Brick opportunity continues until we fill the walkway. Anyone wishing to make a naming donation may certainly do so. Contact us by telephone at (302) 477-1945 or e-mail [FBHL@JUNO.COM](mailto:FBHL@JUNO.COM). We can also receive faxes at the telephone number.



## From the Manager's Desk

**Thomas M. Weaver and Jean Kaufman, Library Managers**

As many of you are probably aware by now, we experienced a major melt down of our system in mid-October that resulted in the loss of several days' worth of transactions and we are still working hard to try and recover. Please be patient as we go through the process of searching thousands of items, renewing lost reserves and correcting records. Every member of the staff, including managers, is involved in helping to resolve any and all related problems. This is the largest loss of data since we automated. Steps have been taken to prevent a similar recurrence.

Once again, as we approach the Thanksgiving season, we'd like to say thanks to our many volunteers who help us in many ways to improve the services that we are able to offer. There are still opportunities to help with shelf-reading, mentoring, and other special projects. If you are interested in joining our volunteers, please give us a call at 477-3150. Let us know if there is a special area that you would prefer to help in or if you are willing to help where needed.

Our Children's and Teen's librarians have teamed up and begun recruiting for our soon to start Homework Help Program. They are recruiting in the schools, the community and have made a plea to the residents of the Foulk Manor North. If you or someone that you know are interested in helping to improve the skills of youth in the community, please give us a call to get started.

### Upcoming Adult programs:

November 20, 7-8:45 p.m. – **Writer's Workshop**  
*Registration required*

November 24, 7-8:45 p.m. – **Poetry In the Cafe**

December 15, 7-8:45 p.m. – **Holiday Crafts**  
*Registration required*

December 20, 2-4 p.m. – **Physically Challenged Adults**  
*Registration required*

January 26, 7-8:45 p.m. – **Poetry In the Cafe**

### Upcoming Teen programs:

December 16, 7-8 p.m. – **Teen Craft Program**  
*Make a last minute gift*

## From the Children's Room

**Kay Bowes, Children's Librarian**

The Children's Room is finally as accessible as it can be. The DVD's, videos, software and CD's have been moved for much easier access. Easy readers now have two sections — fiction and non-fiction. New fiction and non-fiction books are on display near the DVD's. Look and see what is new!

You'll notice that the large carrel-table has been moved closer to the children's collection. This is to provide space for one-on-one mentoring in the Homework Help Center. We need YOU to be a mentor for a child and help with their homework needs. We plan to have the Homework Help Center up and running after the New Year, two hours a day, four days a week (afternoon and evening). All we need are those committed individuals who would enjoy helping a child (grades 2-12) with homework problems. Talk to either **Melissa Rabey**, the Teen Librarian, or myself about how you can be a part of this exciting new service to our community's children!

The Internet has come to the Children's Room! Three Internet stations and one Word Processing computer are now available in the Children's Room. You must either be a child, teen, or a parent with your child to use these computers. We, of course, still have three on-line catalogs for your convenience.

We have some great programs coming up for children and families. **Terry Colonna** will present her magical "**Terrytales**" especially for preschoolers on Friday, November 21 at 10:30 a.m.

**Continued on page 3**



### **From the Children's Room . . . continued**

December will bring **Peg Broadwater** with her balloon stories on December 12 at 10:30 a.m. Don't miss the **Itinerant Dancers** on December 14, at 2:00 p.m., presenting a "Family Fun" program!

Storytimes have been lots of fun this fall! The new "**Babytime Lapsit**" has been received warmly by the littlest library users. Seeing thirty babies and moms singing, bouncing, and tickling is much fun!

Be on the lookout for lots of new activities after the New Year. There will be an "**Alice in Wonderland**" party to celebrate the birthday of Lewis Carroll in January. And learning how to use the library has never been as much fun as "**Doing the Dew**" at the Brandywine Hundred Library!

There's always something happening in the Children's Room! Puzzles are a big draw for the little ones. If you have any wooden puzzles still in good shape that you would like to donate, please bring them in to us and we'll put them to good use!

Hope to see you at the library soon!

## **Final Brick Planting for 2003**

We ordered 382 more bricks, which should be shipped in December. We hope to get them installed in their special spots by the end of the year. So 2,282 from 4,000 leaves plenty of room for you to include your loved ones or a special message. The next planting will be in the Fall of 2004 — or whenever we receive the next 400 orders. Here's your chance to qualify for the "Brandywine Shuffle." Plan on watching New Castle Brick Laying Experts at work "@ the library" in December, 2003.

**Don't forget . . .  
you need to renew your Friends  
membership annually!  
Questions? Call 302-477-1945**

## **Someone Special**

Someone special leaves the Friends Board after many years of outstanding membership. While she has helped keep our finances straight, more importantly she has been a continuous source of ideas and inspiration. Jane always brings a balancing perspective — a wise and practical approach to all matters. Beyond those wonderful characteristics she not only gives verbally, she gets things done. Never wanting to be president, but always making that task easier because she was there in support and counsel. **Jane Iobst**, thank you for your marvelous help and important leadership in making the Friends able to gain this great new library.

## **So Now What?**

Here we are with this marvelous facility that includes increased staff and the community seems pleased. What do we do with all of this to really take best advantage of it all? It's rather like the dog who was forever chasing cars — until he caught one. Now what?

The Friends need to organize more efficiently and involve more people beyond the current Friends board members. Our last newsletter asked specifically for YOUR input but we've had little response. We DO want your input. We need some "shaking up" to get out of the fund raising mode and into making this facility into a really active center for the whole community but we know we cannot do this without your help. Give us a call and talk to us about your ideas. **302-477-1945**

## **The Office in Action**

The BHL Friends have their own office at the far-r-r-r end of the second floor of Brandywine Hundred Library. We operate a phone line (477-1945), fax, answering machine, computer (FBHL@JUNO.COM), and can print out messages; filing cabinets will get loaded in November. Seems like Jackie Harris is taking a special interest in this operation, as she has been seen stopping by to check on requests and messages.

Note that the Friends telephone number has changed. We do operate a website at friendsbhl.org. John Stevenson will be responsible for maintaining it, so plan on giving him worthwhile items.



# Friends of the Brandywine Hundred Library Membership Renewal Form

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:     New Member     Renewal

Membership Categories:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500 (or more) Benefactor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Good Neighbor
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Patron	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Sponsor, Organization, Business
	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12 Regular Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ (write-in) Senior Citizen or Student

***Contributions are tax deductible. Dues are renewable annually. If your company matches funds, please consider the Friends of Brandywine Hundred Library. Please make checks payable to: Friends of BHL.***

***Mail to: Friends of BHL, 87 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720***

If you are interested in working with the Friends, please indicate below:

<input type="checkbox"/> newsletter mailings	<input type="checkbox"/> shelf reading	<input type="checkbox"/> check AV equipment (for damage)
<input type="checkbox"/> public speaking	<input type="checkbox"/> artwork/posters	<input type="checkbox"/> library guide/greeter



NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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WILMINGTON, DE  
Permit No. 231

**87 Reads Way  
New Castle, De 19720**

**Return Service Requested**

*Mailing label shows membership expiration date*