

# Beyond the Shelves

Friends of the HPL Newsletter



Vol. 2 Issue 4

## **Spring Forward with the Friends of the Harrington Public Library**

Spring has arrived, and with it comes a renewed sense of energy, possibility, and community spirit at the Harrington Public Library. As the days grow brighter, so does the work of the **Friends of the Harrington Public Library**, whose dedication continues to nurture the programs, resources, and welcoming atmosphere our neighbors rely on.

This season is all about growth—new stories on the shelves, new families discovering the joy of library programs, and new opportunities to support the vibrant heart of our community. Whether it's helping prepare for the Annual Book Sale, cheering on children at Storytime, or lending a hand behind the scenes, our volunteers make a meaningful difference every single day.

Spring reminds us that small acts of care can blossom into something beautiful. Thank you for being part of the Friends' mission and for helping our library flourish in every season.

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# From the President's Desk

March 2026 is filled with some wonderful memories.

We had the Do More 24 fund raising experience on March 5 and 6. This year's fundraising purpose was to support afterschool snacks for those under 18 and start a modest food pantry for needy library patrons.

If you missed the 24 hours of fund raising, it is not too late to add your donation. Just drop by the library. The librarians at the circulation desk will gladly accept your donation.

On March 14, the Friends hosted a highly successful, first- time event, Teatime with Friends. This was a free community event aimed toward outreach and recruiting new members. The event was in the big conference room at the library and was attended by almost 40 people.

There was conversation and laughter aplenty. Many of us wore fancy hats decorated with flowers and ribbons. If you didn't bring your hat, you could choose from a selection of colorful feather boas. Tables were decorated with white satin cloths, pale pink runners and pink satiny napkins. Each table featured four place settings with a variety of vintage bone China teacups, an elegant tea pot, sugar bowl and creamer. Guests selected their tea flavor from over 20 varieties. We enjoyed a selection of tea sandwiches. Following the sandwiches, we had several tea party games with prize winners. After all those tea sandwiches and brain workout, we needed desserts! And so we all moved to the table where the miniature desserts were very elegantly displayed.

During the event, the audience watched a slide show with various photos of the Friends activities. Linda Spires, Vice President and Membership Committee Chair, spoke about the importance of the Friends group and our purposes: to fundraise, advocate for our library and assist the library staff when they need additional resources.

As to the original goal of the Teatime with Friends event (recruiting new members), please join me in welcoming Gary M., Laura T., Linda M., Donna S., Brenda H. and Nancy H. If I have overlooked any new member, please accept my sincere apology.

It was so much fun, we are thinking about hosting another one soon. Until then, brush up on your tea etiquette and dust off your prettiest party hat.

**Billie**



# Only Human?

By Janel “Jaycee” Miller

A dear friend of mine never understood why I was so starstruck when I shared details about the entertainers, I have been a fan of over the years. I can still see her shaking her head in bewilderment and hear her saying: "They put their pants on one leg at a time like the rest of us!" after I would share the latest news on what so-and-so was up to.

With April Fool's Day not too far back in the rear-view mirror, I thought I would share some true stories regarding jokes and witty things that some famous people throughout history have said to show that they are also human and perhaps, just perhaps, put their pants on one leg at a time.

- Former U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt often called his secretary of the treasury, then demanded that the secretary guess who FDR was sharing his bed with. After a few guesses from the exasperated secretary, FDR would answer with responses such as “a sore throat.”
- Supposedly, when Prince William and Prince Harry were younger, they would get a kick out of leaving piles of plastic poo all over Buckingham Palace and try to convince their grandmother (ahem, Queen Elizabeth) that one of her beloved corgis was responsible.
- Nancy Astor, the first female member of the British Parliament, was never a fan of Winston Churchill. The two often sparred verbally. During one dispute, she reportedly said to him, “If I were your wife, I would poison your coffee...” To which he, supposedly without skipping a beat, responded: “And if I were your husband, I would drink it.”

I will end with the best joke I was ever able to pull off on someone (or at least, the best one I can think of while I write this). While still married, there were quite a few mornings when my now ex-husband would beat me to the bathroom and not come out for a very long time.

One year, the night before April Fool's Day, after he had gone to sleep, I hid all the toilet paper in the house. How I managed to say “I don't think we have any” without cracking up when he asked me to get some toilet paper still bewilders me. (And no, I don't think that's why we're divorced.)

Now it's your turn! Go make someone smile (or even laugh) this April!

Photo: Polina Zimmerman via Pexels.com



# ANNUAL BAG A BOOK SALE

**TWO Days of Books and Community Fun**



**PRESALE DAY**

**\$10 Bag a Book**

**FRIDAY APRIL 10**

**3:00 to 6:00 PM**

**OPENING DAY**

**\$5 Bag a Book**

**SATURDAY APRIL 11**

**9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**



**1:00 to 2:00 PM Only**

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Tables full of surprises: bestselling fiction, cozy mysteries, kids' favorites, cookbooks, history, cds/dvds, puzzles, and unique finds added throughout the sale.

**Thank you for supporting your library!**

For More Info: Call 302-398-4647 or Visit: <https://harrington.lib.de.us>

All proceeds benefit programs and events at the Harrington Public Library





# Membership From the Heart

April arrives with a burst of color, and our Friends membership is blooming right along with it. Every new face, every returning member, every spark of energy you bring helps our library grow stronger and more vibrant.

To our newest members — welcome! Your ideas and enthusiasm add fresh momentum to everything we do. And to our longtime Friends — thank you for showing up again and again with steady support and big-hearted commitment. You're the roots that keep us grounded and the sunshine that keeps us moving.

As we dive into spring programs and gear up for the Bag a Book and Bake Sale, the excitement is building. This is a fantastic moment to jump in, share your talents, and help shape what's ahead. There's a place for every voice at our table.

Thank you for being part of this lively, generous community. Your support truly powers the Friends forward.

*Linda*

FHPL VP, Chair Membership Committee





Photo by Parker Coffman on Unsplash

# Knowledge Is Power: Let's Talk Shingles

## Here's What You Need To Know About *Shingles*!

1. They are terrible and painful
2. You never want to experience them
3. You don't have to have them.

The nasty red patch or cluster of blisters that are Shingles come from a virus that you had when you got chickenpox as a child. Even though you got better the virus never died, it lay dormant along the nerves that come off your spine. It can wake up as you get older, are under a lot of stress or are immunocompromised.

The symptoms start with tingling, itching, or burning shooting pain. The rash appears about 5 days later and it is usually only on one side of your body, following the path of a nerve. The pain can last for months, or even years after the rash is healed.

Treatment consists of anti-viral medications and pain meds to manage the discomfort. And here's the best part – you can prevent Shingles by getting vaccinated with **Shingrix**, the latest and best preventative. Even if you had a previous shingles shot, CDC recommends getting re-vaccinated with the Shingrix.

Be happy, be shingles-free!

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I don't call it  
*getting old.*  
I call it  
*outliving the  
warranty.*



# Letting Go

By Janel “Jaycee” Miller

Photo: Liza Summer via Pexels.com

When I was asked to write about letting go, the very first thing that went through my mind – with a cringe, since it was so overplayed – was the song with very similar words from the movie "Frozen." (Count me among the few who still have not seen the movie.)

Assuming I have not turned you away from the rest of this article because either a) you like the song or b) think I am crazy for not having seen the movie, I've had, as I am sure many of you have, to let go of a lot of things in my life.

My emotional attachment to jobs I no longer have. My guilt over not being there for a friend in what I know now was her last Christmas. My conflicting feelings about my biological father now that he has passed. My losing the man I thought was my forever for the second half of my life when he told me in November 2024 that he no longer loved me.

Music has always been one of my best therapies, so I find some comfort in knowing there are many songs that explore the concept of letting go. The lyrics, if desired, help us through times when letting go is easier said than done. Please allow me to provide a few examples of what I mean.

Reba McEntire's 1990's "Falling Out of Love" (written by John Charles Ims) is one such example. The lyrics seem to be about a woman who, after much consideration, has left the man she loves and is moving on. At the song's end, some lyrics are repeated, suggesting to me that just when she tells herself she is over that man, he does something that takes her right back to where she was before: unable to let go.

Then there is Barbra Streisand's 2005 song titled "Letting Go" (which was written by Barry Gibb and George Bitzer) that contains the line, "And it's so hard not to cry." I still sometimes struggle with the emotions that come when I think about the heart-wrenching events I wrote about earlier, making the lyrics apt.

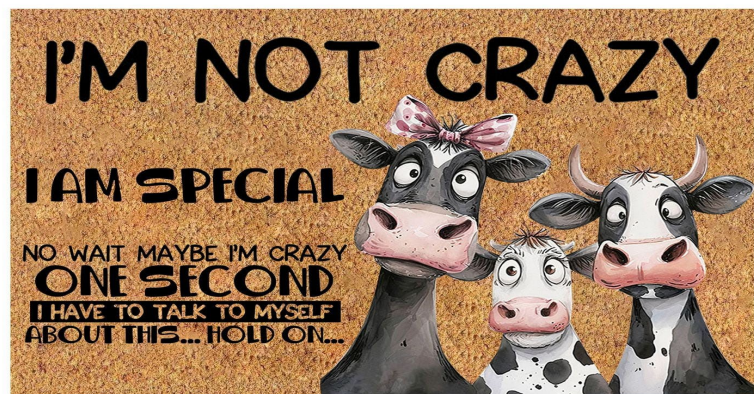
My point? It's OK, in my opinion, to have good days and bad days when you're struggling to let something go. And it's OK to have a substantial weeping about it from time to time. Luckily, I have a few people in my life who – even though for some of them, it's probably reluctantly – stick by me through the gamut of emotions. My sincere wish is that you do too.

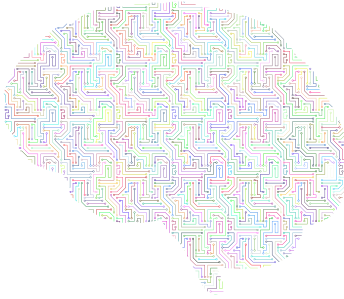
# LOL Corner

## This hit home for me!

When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, you don't throw it away, you change the batteries. When a person messes up and finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not, you help them change their batteries! Some need AA.. attention and affection and acceptance; some need C.. compassion; some need D.. direction. And if they still don't seem to shine.. simply sit with them quietly and share your light.

A woman, cranky because her husband was late coming home again, decided to leave a note, saying, "I've had enough and have left you. Don't bother coming after me." Then she hid under the bed to see his reaction. After a short while, the husband comes home and she could hear him in the kitchen before he comes into the bedroom. She could see him walk towards the dresser and pick up the note. After a few minutes, he wrote something on it before picking up the phone and calling someone. "She's finally gone...yeah I know, about bloody time, I'm coming to see you, put on that hot French nightie. I love you...can't wait to see you...we'll do all the naughty things you like. "He hung up, grabbed his keys and left. She heard the car drive off as she came out from under the bed. Seething with rage and with tears in her eyes she grabbed the note to see what he wrote... "I can see your feet We're outta bread: be back in five minutes.





# Brain Teasers

FLIRT- All the words are hidden vertically, horizontally or diagonally.

G	A	I	H	C	C	N	W	O	D	T	E	L	O	R
N	D	N	E	I	N	G	R	T	E	N	S	I	O	N
I	T	T	A	O	Y	O	R	L	D	S	E	S	E	C
T	A	I	R	R	M	R	L	E	I	C	H	F	O	G
E	L	M	T	A	I	E	E	K	R	T	I	N	L	N
E	G	A	N	H	W	N	Y	V	N	E	Q	A	I	S
L	A	T	E	E	G	E	N	C	O	U	N	T	E	R
F	I	E	R	G	O	I	O	D	E	C	R	E	M	E
C	D	A	U	E	D	Y	L	S	E	F	S	O	R	J
S	F	I	T	L	I	S	T	E	N	T	R	I	E	E
B	L	I	N	K	S	J	V	B	L	U	S	H	D	C
S	A	N	E	E	T	O	U	C	H	D	D	I	T	T
P	G	I	V	V	L	K	L	A	T	E	N	S	M	I
O	O	S	D	K	H	E	A	L	T	H	Y	A	T	O
S	M	E	A	N	E	S	N	S	M	I	L	E	C	N
A	H	N	M	I	G	N	I	M	R	A	H	C	D	W
O	M	Y	E	R	N	A	F	F	E	C	T	I	O	N
A	K	I	A	D	M	I	R	A	T	I	O	N	C	K

ADMIRATION  
ADVENTURE  
AFFECTION  
BLINK  
BLUSH  
CANDLE  
LIGHT  
CHARMING  
CONQUEST  
DINE  
DISCOVERY  
DRINK  
ENCOUNTER  
ENVY  
FAREWELL  
FLEETING  
GLANCE  
TOUCH

HEALTHY  
HEART  
INTIMATE  
JOKES  
KISS  
LETDOWN  
LISTEN  
LOVE  
NEED  
POEM  
REJECTION  
ROMANTIC  
SHY  
SMILE  
TALK  
TENSION

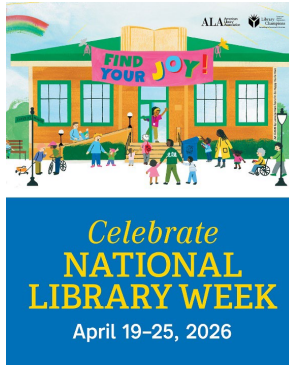
Can you make at least 50 words from the following letters: R, A, W, N, B, O, I:

**ANSWERS ON PAGE 15**



# Director's Corner

By Marleena Scott, HPL



Happy April everyone! April brings in another National Library week starting Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year is **Find Your Joy at the library** and there are so many things to be joyful about at the Harrington Public Library!

The library has two new 3-D printers, craft classes, storytime, movies, an outdoor play area, and of course books! Wherever you find your joy, the library has it in stock. Every day of National library week we have some way for you to find your joy at the library or suggestions from the American Library Association, ALA, about how you can spend your day.

**Monday, April 20 is Right to Read Day**, a day for readers, advocates, and library lovers to take action to protect, defend, and celebrate the right to read. **At the Library:** At the City of Harrington Council meeting at 6:00 pm, Mayor Frank Tolson will be reading a proclamation for National Library Week, and I will be giving a report on everything the library has achieved this year.

**Tuesday, April 21: National Library Workers Day**, a day for library staff, users, administrators, and Friends groups to recognize the valuable contributions made by all library workers. **At the Library:** Prime Time Family Ready Program with free dinner at 5:00 pm and Adult Craft Nigh starting at 5:30 pm.

**Wednesday, April 22: National Library Outreach Day** (formerly National Bookmobile Day), a day to celebrate library outreach and the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are. **At the Library:** Special Storytime with Lake Forest Superintendent Dr. Lucas at 10:45 am.

**Thursday, April 23: Take Action for Libraries Day**, a day to rally advocates to support libraries. For example, write your local legislative representative about increasing state funding for public libraries in Delaware. **At the Library:** Teen 3-D Print Club at 3:00 pm-6:00 pm and Adult Book Club at 5:00 pm.

**Friday, April 24: ALA ran out of days, so I hereby declare it Library Creativity Day**, a day that celebrates all the creativity that goes into creating all the books and movies we have at the library as well as all the creative programs and decorations put together by your local library and Friends' group. **At the Library:** Creative Hands program from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Bring whatever craft you are working on or create something new.

**Saturday, April 25th: ALA is still leaving me hanging, so I hereby declare it Messy Library Day**, a day that celebrates all the crazy programs and activities that the library offers. We've had magicians, reptiles, animals, and projects that explode, and that's just to name of few of the program offerings we have had over the years. **At the Library:** Galactic Slime craft at 11:00 am for the kids, see what I mean about Messy Library.

However you find your joy, I hope you will come visit us National Library week and any other time. The library is not only a place for everyone, but also a place for everyone to find everything that they are looking for, and I hope this April you find whatever that may be.

FHPL  
2025-2026 Sponsor





Donations of gently used books accepted *Fridays at the HPL from 9-5.*

## **i.g. Burton** Auto Group

Proud to Support the Harrington Library...

*"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."  
– Dr. Seuss*



**GMC**

CHRYSLER

DODGE

**Jeep**

**RAM**



SUBARU



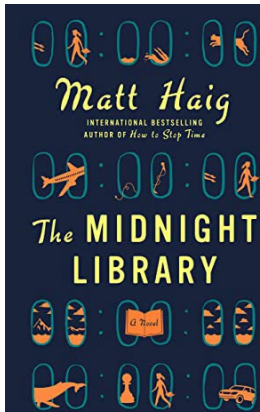
Milford • Lewes • Seaford • Newark • [igburton.com](http://igburton.com) • Smyrna • Dover • Berlin • Glen Burnie

# Book Club Read of the Month: The Midnight Library

When Nora Seed finds herself in the Midnight Library, she has a chance to make things right. Up until now, her life has been full of misery and regret. She feels she has let everyone down, including herself. But things are about to change.

The books in the Midnight Library enable Nora to live as if she had done things differently. With the help of an old friend, she can now undo every one of her regrets as she tries to work out her perfect life. But things aren't always what she imagined they'd be, and soon her choices place the library and herself in extreme danger.

Before time runs out, she must answer the ultimate question: what is the best way to live?



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Harrington

**MOOSE**

Lodge 534

# And the Answer Is...

G	A	I	H	C	C	N	W	O	D	T	E	L	O	R
N	D	N	E	I	N	G	R	T	E	N	S	I	O	N
I	T	T	A	O	Y	O	R	L	D	S	E	S	E	C
T	A	I	R	R	M	R	L	E	I	C	H	F	O	G
E	L	M	T	A	I	E	E	K	R	T	I	N	L	N
E	G	A	N	H	W	N	Y	V	N	E	Q	A	I	S
L	A	T	E	E	G	E	N	C	O	U	N	T	E	R
F	I	E	R	G	O	I	O	D	E	C	R	E	M	E
C	D	A	U	E	D	Y	L	S	E	F	S	O	R	J
S	F	I	T	L	I	S	T	E	N	T	R	I	E	E
B	L	I	N	K	S	J	V	B	L	U	S	H	D	C
S	A	N	E	E	T	O	U	C	H	D	D	I	T	T
P	G	I	V	V	L	K	L	A	T	E	N	S	M	I
O	O	S	D	K	H	E	A	L	T	H	Y	A	T	O
S	M	E	A	N	E	S	N	S	M	I	L	E	C	N
A	H	N	M	I	G	N	I	M	R	A	H	C	D	W
O	M	Y	E	R	N	A	F	F	E	C	T	I	O	N
A	K	I	A	D	M	I	R	A	T	I	O	N	C	K

While the following list does not include all possible words, here are a few.

7 letters- rainbow

5 letters- bairn, baron, brain, brawn, brown, robin, rowan

4 letters- barn, boar, born, bran, brow, brow, iron, noir, rain, roan, wair, warn, wino, worn

3 letters- air, awn, ban, bar, bin, bio, boa, bow, bra, bro, ion, nib, now, oar, own, ran, raw, rib, war, win

2 letters- ab, an, aw, ba, bi, bo, in, no, on, or, ow, wo

# April



## UPCOMING EVENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> 5:00

Dungeons & Dragons

7<sup>th</sup> 2:00

Kids Tea Party

7<sup>th</sup> 5:30

\*\*Adult 3D Printer Class

8<sup>th</sup> 2:30-4:30

Teen After School Hangout

9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> 3:00-6:00

Teen 3D Printer Club

9<sup>th</sup> 1:00

Delaware Biotechnology Institute:

Paper Microscopes

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>

Bag-A-Book Sale

14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> 5:00

\*Prime Time Family Literacy Program

17<sup>th</sup> 10:00

Homeschool Horizons

21<sup>st</sup> 5:30

\*Adult Craft Night

23<sup>rd</sup> 5:00

Adult Book Club

28<sup>th</sup> 2:30-4:30

Teen Craft

## WEEKLY

DAILY: FREE SNACKS

under 18!

MONDAY: TeleServices

Specialist

WEDNESDAY: 10:45

Storytime



April 19th-23rd

Activities Daily

## HOURS

Monday: 9:00-4:45

Tuesday: 11:00-6:45

Wednesday: 9:00-4:45

Thursday: 11:00-6:45

Friday: 9:00-4:45

Saturday: 10:00-1:45

HPL will be closed 4/3-4/5  
for Easter.



2026 teatime party with The Friends

**Upcoming events with The Friends of the Harrington Public Library**  
**April 10-11- Annual Bag-a-Book Sale**  
**May 9, 2026- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Craft Fair** to be held at the Library  
**September 26, 2026- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Book Fest**

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH: Teatime with Friends Cucumber Sandwiches

Submitted by Billie H.

### INGREDIENTS:

- 8 oz. cream cheese, room temp
- 3 tbs Duke's mayonnaise
- 2 tsp chopped fresh dill
- 1 tsp chopped fresh chives
- ¼ tsp garlic powder
- 1 thinly sliced English cucumber
- 1 loaf thinly sliced Pepperidge Farm White bread

Makes 14 full-sized sandwiches.

### DIRECTIONS:

With hand mixer, combine cream cheese and mayonnaise in a small bowl until smooth. Stir in the herbs, garlic powder, salt & pepper. Spread cream cheese mixture onto one side of each slice of white bread. On one slice of bread, arrange the thinly sliced cucumber on top of the cream cheese mixture. Lightly sprinkle some of the herbs atop the cucumbers. Top with another slice of bread, cream cheese sides together. Remove the crusts on the 4 sides. Cut each sandwich into small, attractive pieces. Serve immediately, or store and cover up to 24 hours.

Lemon zest may be added with the herbs.

Friends of the Harrington Public Library  
101 Little Mastens Corner Road  
Harrington, DE 19952