

Upcoming Friends Events/Activities

Peg Bothner  
Annual  
Bookmark  
Contest

Reception:  
May 6th

Read  
Between the  
Wines



September  
8

Save  
The  
Date

Friends of the Library of Olean, New York, Inc.

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14760-2583



Friends is a non-profit group and all contributions are tax-deductible.  
Friends is a member of Friends of the Library, USA.

**Friends of the Library  
of Olean, New York, Inc.**  
134 N. Second Street  
Olean, NY 14760



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 13 - 11 AM - 12 PM  
Stories & Stretches
- April 18 - 6 PM  
Budget Hearing
- April 22 - 11 AM - 12:30 PM  
Promising Young Writers Club  
Author Reception & Book Signing
- April 26 - 6 - 8 PM  
Teen D&D B-Team
- May 2 - 9 AM - 8 PM  
Budget & Library Trustee Vote
- May 6 - 11 AM - 12 PM  
Mediation for Community Well-Being
- May 23 - 7 - 9 PM  
Adult Trivia Night

For More Events visit: [oleanlibrary.org/calendar](http://oleanlibrary.org/calendar)



Follow the Friends on Facebook:

Spring 2023

Friendly Footnotes

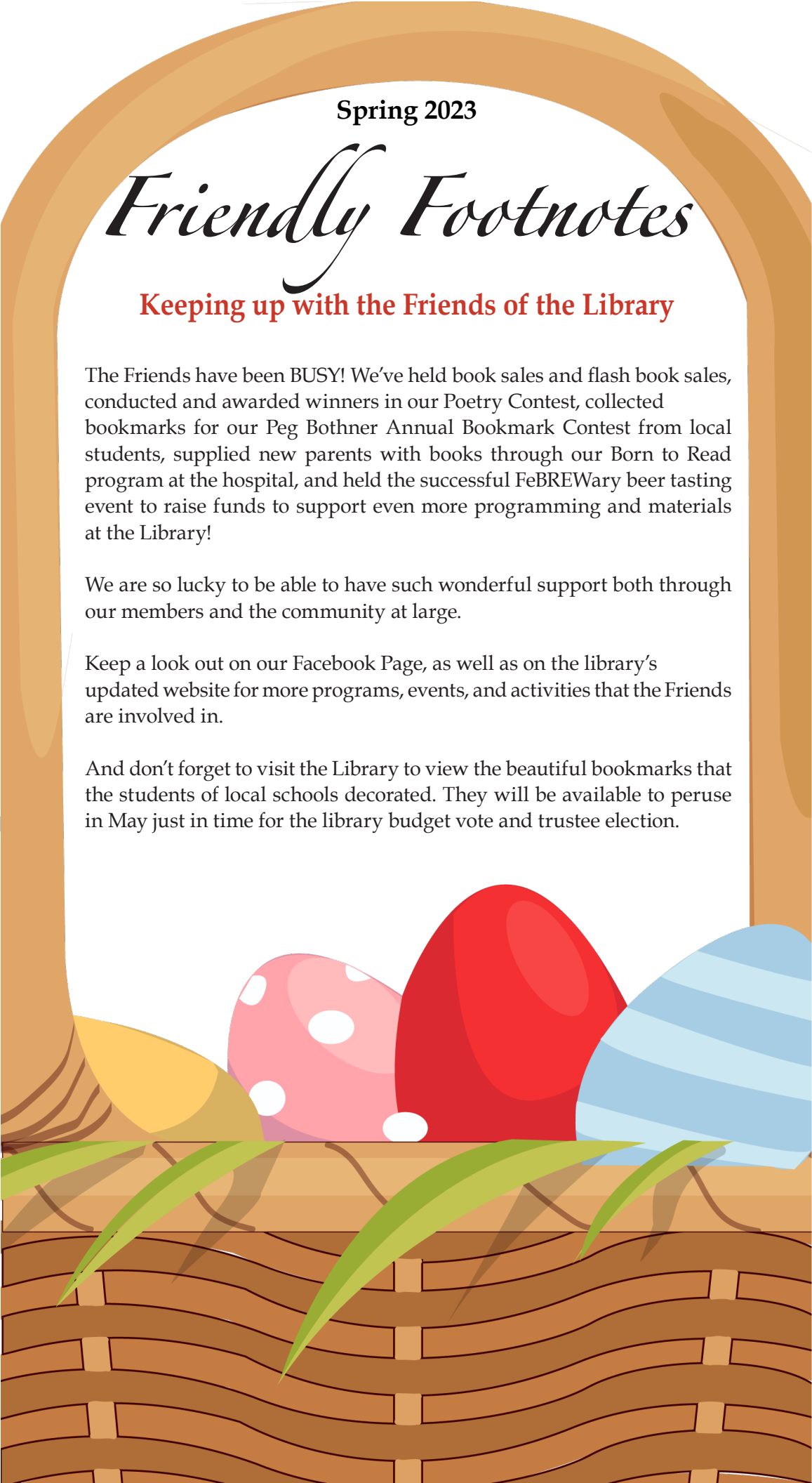
Keeping up with the Friends of the Library

The Friends have been BUSY! We've held book sales and flash book sales, conducted and awarded winners in our Poetry Contest, collected bookmarks for our Peg Bothner Annual Bookmark Contest from local students, supplied new parents with books through our Born to Read program at the hospital, and held the successful FeBREWary beer tasting event to raise funds to support even more programming and materials at the Library!

We are so lucky to be able to have such wonderful support both through our members and the community at large.

Keep a look out on our Facebook Page, as well as on the library's updated website for more programs, events, and activities that the Friends are involved in.

And don't forget to visit the Library to view the beautiful bookmarks that the students of local schools decorated. They will be available to peruse in May just in time for the library budget vote and trustee election.





# Friends of the Library Poetry Contest



## Colorful Skies and Starry Nights

As nighttime rolls around  
The sun starts to sink  
The streets make less sound  
As skies turn orange, purple, and pink

The sun starts to sink  
The stars start to shine  
As skies turn orange, purple, and pink  
The constellations get in line

The stars start to shine  
As you lay your head to rest  
The constellations get in line  
While the sun sets west

As you lay your head to rest  
The streets make less sound  
While the sun sets west  
And nighttime rolls around

*Scarlett Turner*  
10th grade



Thank you to the talented students at Olean High School for participating in our Poetry contest! Pictured above are our winners. L-R: Scarlett Turner, Tyler Camp, Alex Vogel, David Ruszkowski and Shay Johnson-Graves.

## The Day the World Shut Down

March 2020

An innocent schoolboy sits in class  
Naive to the circumstances around him  
Millions dying in a far away land  
A microscopic beast overtaking all  
Racing to find a new host  
It enters a new shore  
Full of new victims to invade  
Dreadful rumors travel like wildfire  
The innocent schoolboy feels helpless  
The joy is fading from his spirits  
Like water being poured out of a bottle  
Unsure if his life will ever be the same

*Tyler Camp*  
11th Grade



Blue eyed girl  
Her eyes blue as the sea  
we can both agree  
that only she  
can fill the void in me  
If I handed her the key  
would she break into my heart  
into three  
draining it and leaving it empty  
telling me lies  
with those beautiful eyes  
blue as the sea  
for only he  
the creator of all, can see  
that she was very well made  
for me



*Shay Johnson-Graves*  
9th grade

## Ottokar II of Bohemia\*

The exquisite trophy comes from you, son  
Our beating heart, our calm sense, our bold fight  
Always avenge us, from Zadar to Brunn  
Finally, death awaits me, overnight  
The frigid autumnal winds will cascade  
From the Carpathians; into my soul  
Unify, by olive branch or knife blade  
Live with prosperity; burn like charred coal  
Retain yourself at peace, my dearest child  
As our people seek bravery and skill  
Hold military trainings in the wild  
You still have many longings to fulfill



That dark night, the Bohemian king died  
His son lay, weeping at his father's side

\*Ottokar was a Bohemian king who lived from 1233 to 1278. He was a noble warrior who died in battle and was succeeded by his eight-year-old son in 1278.

*Alexander Vogel*  
Grade 12

*David Ruszkowski*  
11th Grade

Old, New,.....

The day of realizations,  
Old Roof,  
New Roof,  
The jagged wooden floorboards beneath my feet felt almost smooth,  
Old Wood,  
New Wood,  
The once squeaky chair supporting my weight silently,  
Old Chair,  
New Chair,  
The messy homework on the old desk with the broken drawer,  
Old Desk,  
New Desk,  
The stench filled the dimly lit room that made way to a small window,  
Old Room,  
New Room,  
The bright sun unable to reach its single pained mirror of glass reflecting,  
Old Glass,  
New Glass,  
Sunny yet dim was the day,  
Old Light,  
New Light,  
Alone at a desk in an empty yet full room,  
Old Air,  
New Air,  
The rough old and broken pencil in my hands,  
Old Pencil,  
New Pencil,  
The fractured tip of graphite in need of a sharpening,  
Old Stone,  
New Stone,  
The idea pierced far into the brain as a knife in a scull,  
Old Knife,  
New Knife,  
The question left unanswered by the paper, the pencil, and the mirror,  
Old Thought,  
New Thought,  
My rough ripped sneakers, old shorts, and stained hold filled t-shirt a reminder of a past,  
Old World,  
New World,  
The small fan sitting peacefully in the window loud but soft, soothing but deafening,  
Old Sound,  
New Sound,  
Connections between questions and answers found there,  
Old Quest,  
New Quest,  
A speechless child wishing to be more realizing,  
Old You,  
New You,  
The intelligent, successful, and achieving high in their castles,  
Old Heights,  
New Heights,  
The thousands left below in the deepest darkest caverns,  
Old Light,  
New Light,  
Millions of ideas, Trillions of brains, Quadrillions of concepts, Quintillions of solutions left,  
Old Problem,  
New Problem  
Trailing thoughts far from the full yet blank paper on the desk,  
Old Paper,  
New Paper,  
A narrow trail never trekked or mapped on a great edge of a tall cliff left untouched,  
Old Dark,  
New Dark,  
A flying lifeboat fit for two or three needing to fit thousands,  
Old life,  
New life,  
The unanswered questions lost to answers,  
Old Answer,  
New Answer,  
A never-ending puzzle of time and thought ending,  
Old end,  
New end,  
A shell left on the bend of the great trail of the unknown,  
Old us,  
New us,  
A war against an undefeated and unbeatable universe,  
Old Generation,  
New Generation,  
A quiet shout in the shouts of the universe,  
Old Shouts,  
New Shouts,  
Unheard, unanswered, but never truly gone,  
Old Humanity,  
New Humanity.



FeBREWary gave us something to cheers about! Guests enjoyed offerings from 13 breweries, raffle baskets from generous community members/businesses, music from Alex Cole, and snacks

provided by the Friends of the Olean Public Library. For a complete album of photos, visit our Facebook page!