

The Bookworm

Newsletter from Friends of the Ripley Library

Volume 10 Issue 5

May 2021

Ripley Library Board:
Earl Freling, Pres.
Bob McIntosh, VP
Karen Gunther, VP Finance
Robyn Albright, Sec.
John Hamels
Linda Lowes

Library Director:
Rhonda Thompson
Clerk: *Stephanie Feiss*

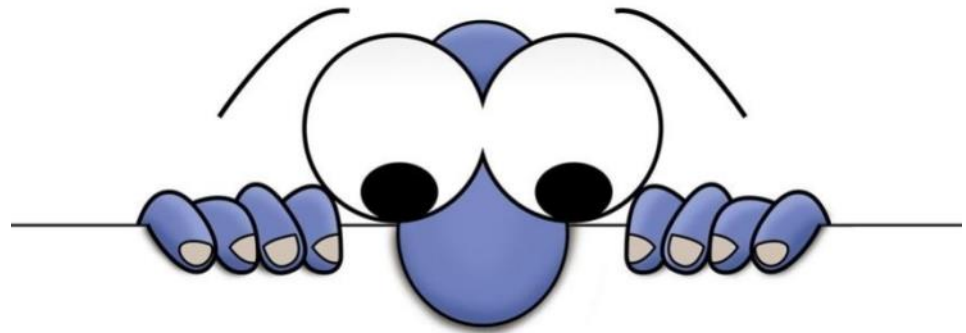
Bookworm/About Town
Editor: *Nancy McIntosh*

Friends of the Ripley
Library Welcome You

NOTE:
New Temporary
Hours of Operation

Monday Closed
Tuesday 10am-3pm
Wednesday 10am-3pm
Thursday 10am-3pm
Friday 10am-3pm

Saturday Closed
Sunday Closed



Come to a Sneak Peek **of the NEW Ripley Public Library**

Saturday, May 22

1 p.m.—4 p.m.

Come see the NEW Ripley Library before the shelving and books are returned. Construction continues, improvements still to be made, but take a look at us now! See the progress and hear about what's to come.

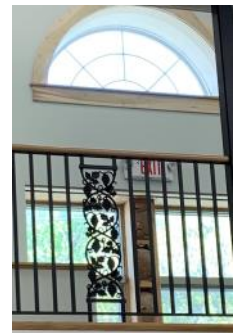
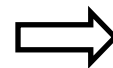
Hope to see you there!



From this



To this!



Friends of the Library Meeting:
No Scheduled Meeting

Ripley Public Library Budget Vote

- ♦ Budget Vote to be held Tuesday, June 8th, 2021, at the library.

Please Note:

There has been no increase in tax revenue for the library in 5 years.

The proposed increase amount is \$0.02 per thousand of home assessed value.

Example: \$50,000 home will pay \$1.00 in additional tax, annually, to fund the library.

No renovation costs have come from tax revenue

Maintenance of the building, including outside maintenance, DOES come from tax revenue.

- ♦ Two Library Board seats to be filled, one currently held by Linda Lowes, one currently vacant.

If you would like to be considered for the Ripley Public Library Board, please contact Rhonda Thompson at (716) 736-3913.

Proposed 2022 Ripley Public Library Budget**Revenue**

2018/19 tax levy	\$95,000
Fund Balance	\$ 1,461
CCLS	\$ 3,040
Total Revenue	\$96,461

Comments

\$10,000 increase over 2020 (2c/thousand)
 carry over from 2020
 annual allotment

Appropriations:**Personnel**

Director	\$37,440
Head Clerk	\$31,200
Part time Clerk	\$ 0
FICA 6.2%	\$ 5,000
Workmen's Comp	\$ 1,000
Medicare 1.45%	\$ 1,136
ERS (Director) 8%	\$ 2,995
Subtotal	\$78,771

\$18/hr x 40hrs x 52 weeks, no raise in 2019
 \$15/hr x 40hrs x 52 weeks
 \$12.50 x 15hrs x 52 weeks schedule for 2022

first time contributing to director's retirement

Insurance & Utilities

Building Insurance	\$ 1,200
Heating	\$ 2,000
Electric	\$ 3,000
Trash removal	\$ 300
Water/Sewage Usage	\$ 750
Phone/Internet	\$ 960
Sewer Tax	\$ 680
Mowing	\$ 500
Snow Plowing	\$ 0
Subtotal	\$ 8,190

new construction could lower this
 new construction could lower this
 actual

Town will plow

Materials & Supplies

Office/Janitorial	\$ 2,500
Collection/Materials	\$ 5,000
Subtotal	\$ 7,500

\$1,960 local share + \$3,040 CCLS allotment

Professional Legal Fees	\$ 2,000
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Albany based attorney

Summary Appropriations

Personnel	\$78,771
Insurance/Utilities	\$ 8,190
Materials/Supplied	\$ 7,500
Professional Fees	\$ 2,000
Staff Training	\$ 0
Grand Total Appropriation	\$96,461

Grants

Hirtzel Foundation	\$ 7,500
Summer Reading	\$ 200
Special presentations	\$ 0
Movie license	\$ 500
Tech Support	\$ 1,200
Movies	\$ 300
Staff training	\$ 0
newspaper	\$ 0
Program Dir/Part Time Clerk	\$ 5,300
Total	\$ 7,500

All these items are effected by COVID-19

new position incl. benefits, as needed

Annon Grant

Collections	\$ 1,200
-------------	----------

programs, etc. as needed

Budget Draft	1/27/2020
Updated	12/19/2020
Approved before revision	12/19/2020
Update with #10k tax increase	1/26/2021

From the Director's Desk

By Rhonda Thompson

Hello to the merry month of May. I love alliteration, but I don't always like the weather during the month of May. I love the warm summery days, but we often get the rain that would normally come in April (April showers bring May Flowers. Remember that saying?) May can sometimes be rather cold and we get mad because we think the nice Spring weather should be here and we are dealing with cold and rain. That is enough of my negative talk and crankiness, now on to better things.

The library is coming along wonderfully. Of course we have hit a few snags, mostly money, but hopefully the local banks will help us out with this until more grants can be procured. There is also the need of a sprinkler system that we did not anticipate, so that adds to the financial pinch. The biggest problem we have is the materials have almost tripled in cost since the quotes were given for the grants.

Let me explain. When we apply for a State grant, we give the estimate that we are given from the contractor or architect. I then have to apply for that grant and then go to CCLS and defend my reasoning as to why we need that much money and then when it is determined

how much I will get; it takes another 16 months to get that money. By then the cost of materials has gone up. However, right now the cost of building supplies has skyrocketed and due to Covid it takes a very long time to get items that are crucial for us to bring the books back. This include things like windows, lights and doors.

As much as I stress over these things, it really is a wonderful time to be involved with the Library. I love this building and so many people have put so much of themselves into this endeavor. There will be a little part of each person who worked so hard to make this dream come true. We are at the point that we must continue as there's be no looking back now. Forward thinking and forward production.

You will soon have a chance to get in and see the building and how much work has been done and how beautiful it will be when it is finished. I cannot wait to share with everyone how wonderful this Community Centered Library is going to look and how usable it will be. There will be something for literally everyone here. Ripley is coming back and it is the people of the Town who are bringing it back.

Thank you all, and see you at the library in a couple weeks,

Rhonda

Grant Writers Needed!

The library is nearing the end of the monies available for the renovation project, but there is a lot left to do. If you have experience in writing grants, or know of grants available, we welcome you to become part of the team who are making this library/community center real.



Please contact Rhonda Thompson at (716) 736-3913 with suggestions or to volunteer. Help support your library without spending a dime!

Among Friends

Robyn Albright

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought the Friends of the Library fund-raising events to a halt for the time being, but that hasn't stopped us from brain-storming and planning new ideas! The Friends have worked closely with the librarian and board in purchasing items for the new library, such as leather chairs for the Reading Room; a large flat-screen television on which to stream Ted Talks, online classes, movies, and more; the building of a new circulation desk; and the purchase of a painting of the library as it existed as the Baptist Church in years past. We could not have done this without your support!

As things slowly return to normal, watch for new and exciting events brought to you by The Friends of the Ripley Library!

Ripley Public Library Mission Statement

The mission of the Ripley Public Library is to promote life-long learning for all community residents, providing unrestricted free access to all printed and recorded material from its own collection as well as that of the Chautauqua-Cattaraugus Library System. The Library will endeavor to create a community center that provides so much more than information for all of those who ask questions and seek answers.

<https://www.ripleylibrary.org>

Don't forget to check out the Ripley Public Library website for up-to-date news and photos, as well as a complete list of books available during construction. Even though the library has limited hours for now, thousands of books are still available from our library. Books from the Chautauqua—Cattaraugus Library System (CCLS) can be ordered and picked up at the Ripley Library as well.

Show Your SUPPORT

Would you like to show your support for the Ripley Public Library in a tangible way? For ONLY \$5 a month donation you can post a personal message or business card in The Bookworm, letting people know you are helping to make our library great!

You can scan a business card or write a message and send it to: thebookworm14775@gmail.com and checks can be made out to Ripley Library, mailed to P. O. Box 808, Ripley, NY 14775 or call the library at 716-736-3913 to arrange a time to drop off the information and donation. Thank you for being there for your Ripley Library!

Moving Day Coming Soon!!!!

Projected opening date for the library is mid to late May. Volunteers are needed to move all the shelving and books back into the library. The old men with bad backs have done their part. We need some young*, healthy, strong people to help with this move! Call 716-736-3913 to volunteer!



Most of the books are currently in Richard Eimers' building on Main Street next to the post office. These boxes need to be loaded onto a truck and moved back to the library.

Shelves, both metal and wooden, were torn down as much as possible and need to be reconstructed, then placed where needed.



* Young is a relative term. If you're healthy and can lift, we need you!

Whaddya Want?!

Ripley Public Library will be re-opening soon. By popular demand we plan for the return of our sewing/quilting group, knitting classes and book club, but we will also

offer many new opportunities for

learning and personal growth. We

will look into offering Ted Talks,

Painting Classes, Exercises for

Seniors and Zoom Workshops. Yo-

ga classes and perhaps a new mys-

tery to solve every month club could be added to our pro-

gramming. And this is just the tip of the iceberg. Are you

there to check out the newest books,

help your children discover the wonderful world of reading

by choosing their own books, or catch up on your reading?

Maybe you stop by to use the in-

ternet or trace your family's his-

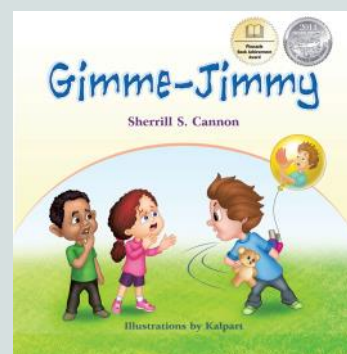
tory. There are so many ave-

nues to explore. Music, movies

and local histories are all availa-

ble at the library as well as all

those books!



We would like to get some feedback from you. What changes or additions would you like at your library? What topics interest you? Self defense? Exercise class? Gaming? What would bring YOU into the Ripley library?

Send an email to thebookworm14775@gmail.com and let us know what you would like to see and do at your NEW Ripley Public Library.



The Dewey Decimal System

Every time I hear “Dewey Decimal System,” the Statler Brothers song “Do You Remember These” comes to mind. “Knock knock jokes...Dewey... Dewey who? Dewey Remember These...” Sorry, couldn’t resist.

The Dewey decimal system was developed by Melvin Dewey and has been used in libraries around the world to categorize the tremendous volumes of non-fiction books. The numbers assigned to non-fiction books range from 000 to 999. Following the three digit number there is a decimal point followed by more numbers that help narrow down and clarify the subject matter.

The Ripley Library non-fiction collection will be located on the east mezzanine, and while you can locate books from our library by accessing the library’s website at any of the computers located throughout the library, you can also browse the collection yourself.

Looking for a good recipe? Click on the catalog of books and type in “cookbooks.” Scroll down until you find the cookbook that speaks to you, locate the Dewey decimal number, and then go to the shelves and pull out tonight’s supper recipe!

There are ten main groups that fall into the numerical breakdown. They are:

000 Computer Science, information and general works

100 Philosophy and psychology

200 Religion

300 Social Sciences

400 Language

500 Natural Sciences and Mathematics

600 Technology

700 Art and Recreation

800 Literature and Rhetoric

900 History, Biography and Geography

Problems negotiating the system? Ask! The staff is always willing to help.

Dewey Decimal Classification			The 100 Divisions	
000	Generalities	500	Pure Sciences	
010	Bibliography	510	Mathematics	
020	Library & information sciences	520	Astronomy & allied sciences	
030	General encyclopedic works	530	Physics	
040		540	Chemistry & allied sciences	
050	General serial publications	550	Sciences of earth & other worlds	
060	General organizations & museology	560	Paleontology, Paleozoology	
070	Journalism, publishing, newspapers	570	Life sciences	
080	General collections	580	Botanical sciences	
090	Manuscripts & book rarities	590	Zoological sciences	
100	Philosophy	600	Technology (Applied Sciences)	
110	Metaphysics	610	Medical sciences, Medicine	
120	Epistemology, causation, humankind	620	Engineering & allied operations	
130	Paranormal phenomena & arts	630	Agriculture & related technologies	
140	Specific philosophical viewpoints	640	Home economics & family living	
150	Psychology	650	Management & auxiliary services	
160	Logic	660	Chemical & related technologies	
170	Ethics (Moral philosophy)	670	Manufacturers	
180	Ancient, medieval, Oriental	680	Manufacture for specific uses	
190	Modern Western philosophy	690	Buildings	
200	Religion	700	The Arts	
210	Natural religion	710	Civic & landscape art	
220	Bible	720	Architecture	
230	Christian theology	730	Plastic arts, Sculpture	
240	Christian moral & devotional	740	Drawing, decorative & minor arts	
250	Local church & religious orders	750	Painting & paintings	
260	Social & ecclesiastical theology	760	Graphic arts, Prints	
270	History & geography of church	770	Photography & photographs	
280	Christian denominations & sects	780	Music	
290	Other & comparative religions	790	Recreational & performing arts	
300	Social Sciences	800	Literature	
310	Statistics	810	American literature in English	
320	Political science	820	English & Anglo-Saxon literatures	
330	Economics	830	Literatures of Germanic languages	
340	Law	840	Literatures of Romance languages	
350	Public administration	850	Italian, Romanian, Rhaeto-Romantic	
360	Social problems & services	860	Spanish & Portuguese literatures	
370	Education	870	Italic literatures, Latin	
380	Commerce (Trade)	880	Hellenic literatures, Greek	
390	Customs, etiquette, folklore	890	Literatures of other languages	
400	Language	900	Geography and History	
410	Linguistics	910	General geography, Travel	
420	English & Anglo-Saxon languages	920	General biography genealogy	
430	Germanic languages, German	930	General history of ancient world	
440	Romance languages, French	940	General history of Europe	
450	Italian, Romanian, Rhaeto-Romantic	950	General history of Asia	
460	Spanish & Portuguese languages	960	General history of Africa	
470	Italic languages, Latin	970	General history of North America	
480	Hellenic, Classical Greek	980	General history of South America	
490	Other languages	990	General history of other areas	

Adventures in Politics Land

By Mary Ellen Humphrey,
former State House and Senate Member

Conspiracy Theory – Part II

In the last few years, conspiracy theories have sprouted like weeds. One of my former representative colleagues met me for lunch one day and told me wild stories about the then current occupants of the White House. I thought he was joking. Who would believe such nonsense? It was beyond partisan, up there with being abducted by space aliens. But he was dead serious.

I had not heard of Alex Jones or QAnon. Prior to this, my exposure was limited to UFO stories and late-night radio hosts interviewing abductees. It seemed entertaining rather than sinister.

What I observed from my friend was that the more outrageous the conspiracy theory, the more people believed them. Such theories are nothing new. When President Kennedy was assassinated, theories abounded. It was the Cubans, it was the Mafia, it was, well, anyone who had a secret motive to eliminate the President. The last thing that people wanted to believe was that a lone, deranged individual who, for his own dark reasons, chose to murder the president. To this day people espouse one or another conspiracy theory about that event. We will never hear the last of the grassy knoll and the unknown woman with a camera.

Technology hugely increased the flow of information. The assassination of President Kennedy, and the subsequent videos of Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby being killed were the first immediate bombardment of such disturbing events we all witnessed on our televisions. Over and over these videos were broadcast with no warnings. Children weren't protected from these horrific news stories. During the sixties and seventies, visual information continued through coverage of riots, the Vietnam war and the daily return of flag-draped coffins witnessed by Americans on a regular basis. It was the evolution of the news from the sage newspapers reports carefully researched and written with professional integrity and reputation, and subject to scrutiny, to something more visual and immediate. Still, for many years the country was secure, trusting our news sources. Who could not trust Walter Cronkite? He told us how it was, every day.

That all started to change with internet technology. Almost immediately the world wide web became a wild west of information. As an accountant I used this new technology as soon as it was available. My first PC was an IBM purchased in 1981 with a single sided floppy disk, 64K, and a dot matrix printer that used a typewriter ribbon. I formatted and saved information in DOS. Anyone remember?

Email became an essential tool. Almost immediately strange messages appeared in my inbox, often forwarded from well-meaning friends thinking it was humorous. Curious that they had a political undertone. Even then I wondered about the source and suspected there was more to them than a joke. Over the years these memes and fake news stories have evolved from entertainment to something more.

Add to technological developments the rapid economic shift the whole world is undergoing, and you have a recipe for the spread of conspiracy theories. Conspiracy theories can be very seductive especially in an uncertain world. Things are changing, we are moving from an industrial economy to a technological one. Great insecurity occurs whenever such huge shifts happen. People feel anxious, insecure, fearful. They crave answers.

Imagine more than a century ago, when the economy shifted from an agricultural to an industrial one. Some people prospered; others were left behind when they couldn't adapt their skills to fit the new world view. When I hear older people lament that their children won't have the same opportunities they did, I wonder if they understand that there will be different opportunities. It is a huge change, that's true, but that has both positives and negatives. It's hard to believe that when we can't see the other side, yet.

It boils down to FEAR. When I hear people espousing the wild conspiracy theories, I remind myself that they are trying to cope and make sense of a confusing and changing world. It is a human reaction to a situation yet to be understood.

Part 3, we will explore techniques for discovering fake news and logical fallacies.

My Choice

By Sharon McIntosh

Everything She Didn't Say

by Jane Kirkpatrick

When Carrie Adell Green married Robert Strahorn in September of 1877, she was aware they were setting out on a western adventure, traveling from Marengo, Illinois to Cheyenne, Wyoming aboard the Union Pacific Railway.

She was aware that Robert, whom she called Pard, saying they were partners in this journey, was a newspaper reporter for the railway system being proposed to link the east with the west.

She soon became aware that his plan was to leave her at a boarding house in Cheyenne while he travelled into remote areas to map out and set up towns to encourage railroads to be built to service these new and growing towns.

Dell, as she was called, determined this was not how she wanted to start a marriage and told Pard to convince his boss that she had to go where her husband went.

The story is taken from Dell's journal, "Fifteen Thousand Miles by Stage". It describes the abject deprivation of all conveniences and comforts, the freezing cold and the sweltering heat of the unpopulated west. It describes her hopes, her fears, her joys and sorrows. It gives a cross-section of the manual labor, the hardships, the politics, the high monetary toll as well as the satisfaction in hearing the train whistle coming into a new town on the newly laid tracks.

Based on historical events, it's an informative as well as an enjoyable read.



Coming Soon...

Quilt Shows

Month of the Arts

Summer Reading

Painting Classes

Movies

Game Competitions

Self Improvement Classes

Cooking

Music

Research

Reading

ALL coming to your Ripley Public Library



Join a Board Meeting

If you are interested in virtually joining a Ripley Public Library Board meeting, please contact the director, Rhonda Thompson, 716-736-3913 with your email address and you can be sent a link to the meeting. Or you can email her at director@ripleylibrary.org Leave a message. We will return your call.

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club will meet at the library on Thursday, May 6th at 11 a.m. to discuss ***Memoirs of a Geisha*** by Arthur Golden.

May's book is ***Tripwire*** by Lee Child.

May Book List 2021

ADULT FICTION

- Benjamin/The Children's Blizzard
- Breslin/Far Side of the Sea
- Brown/The Perfect Dress
- Coben/Win
- Gardner/Before She Disappeared
- Hawkins/The Wife Upstairs
- Hazelgrove/Tobacco Sticks
- Kay/Ysabel
- McMahon/The Invited
- O'Farrell/Hamnet
- Patterson/Deadly Cross
- Quinn/The Rose Code
- Riley/The Lavender Garden
- Rix/The Secret Letter
- Spinrad/The People's Police
- Sten/The Lost Village
- Strawser/A Million Reasons Why
- Walker/An Unfinished Story

ADULT NONFICTION

- Kuka/Mumlife
- Plymale/American Daughter
- Poulos/The Art of Being Free
- Saunders/A Swim in a Pond in the Rain
- Weiner/The Geography of Genius

LARGE PRINT

- Andrews/Isaiah's Daughter
- Gray/Her Fear
- Hanson/They Come in All Colors
- Donewald/Dancing for the Devil

YOUNG ADULT

- Forest/Now That I've Found You
- Mills/Foolish Hearts
- Schneider/You Don't Live Here
- Thomas/Concrete Rose

PAPERBACKS

- Grisham/The Broker
- Hamilton/Much Ado About Muffin
- Sanders/Bait and Witch
- Woods/The Summer Garden

JUNIOR BOOKS

- Christopher/Peyton and Eli Manning
- George/My Side of the Mountain
- Meddaugh/Shelter Dog Blues
- Moore/The Daring Escape of Ellen Craft

EASY READERS

- Kirk/Ten Thank-You Letters
- London/Froggy Plays Soccer
- Roman/Captain No Beard: Book 1, 2 and 3

At the dawn of the 21st century, where knowledge is literally power, where it unlocks the gates of opportunity and success, we all have responsibilities as parents, as librarians, as educators, as politicians, and as citizens to instill in our children a love of reading so that we can give them a chance to fulfill their dreams. —Barack Obama

Join Friends of the Library Now!

The Friends of the Ripley Library have made a huge difference in not only the library, but in the town as well. We need YOU to join us in doing something worthwhile that benefits our entire community. Membership is as simple as filling out your name, address and phone number and contributing a \$5 per year membership fee. No experience necessary, all ages are welcome. WE NEED YOU! Residency in Ripley is NOT required to be a member.

Thank you so much for your past support. We hope you will become a member and contribute to another great year.



Friends of the Ripley Library Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town/ZIP: _____

Phone Number: (Home) _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

Dues are \$5 annually in January

Print this portion and return it to the library, or pick up a form at the library desk.

FRIENDS OF THE RIPLEY LIBRARY

Friends of the Ripley Library
P. O. Box 808
Ripley, NY 14775

Phone: 716-736-3913
Fax: 716-736-3923
<https://www.ripleylibrary.org>
Email: thebookworm14775@gmail.com

Library Calendar of Events

Email Newsletter

We rely on email to get our newsletter out. We would like to increase our list of recipients but we need your help to do so. Please tell your friends, relatives and neighbors about The Bookworm and the fun things we're doing at the library. Each month you will also receive the email, About Town. For a monthly copy, send your email address to:

thebookworm14775@gmail.com

If you would like to opt out of our mailing, please let us know at
thebookworm14775@gmail.com

***Also now available—The Bookworm and About Town on the library website <https://www.ripleylibrary.org>**

All groups and activities have been suspended until further notice. COVID-19 guidelines are in effect. **The library is now open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10a.m. until 3p.m.** We hope to see you soon!



Please note: all letters and/or emails to the Library and staff **MUST** be signed. Those without a signature will not be recognized. Names will be omitted, to protect privacy, if published.

Notes & Things

The list of book and movie titles available is now on the library website <https://www.ripleylibrary.org>. The library has over 1,000 titles to choose from, with more added each month. Books can be ordered by email (clerk@ripleylibrary.org) or a phone call (716-736-3913) OR you can come browse in person, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, Friday 10a.m. til 3p.m. We appreciate your continued patronage!

The library is looking for two gaming chairs for the new teen room. Do you have chairs you no longer want or use that you could donate?



A BIG Thank You, to the businesses and individuals on these last two pages who have made a donation to show their support of Ripley Public Library. Please let them know you saw their card in The Bookworm!

For a \$5 per month donation, you can show your support as well!

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**Best Wishes to the Ripley Library
For a Great New Year in 2021!**



Pat Burdick Locke & Bill Locke



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