

Friends

OF THE ROSENBERG LIBRARY

Friends of the Rosenberg Library

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FALL 2017

Greetings from the President

Dear Friends,

Hoping this find you and yours safe! The *Friends* Board understands the devastation of flooding, and we all wish you a speedy recovery.

We are planning and preparing to have our Annual Book Sale October 5-7. One of the perks of being a Friend is that you get to shop the Members Only Sale Thursday evening. The doors will open at 5 pm, and private shopping will continue till 8. Memberships will be available at the door.

We will have the layout printed and available for you to strategically plan your shopping. The Patron's Room will be packed with children's books and a huge selection of cookbooks. The Founders Room will be filled to the brim with Treasures and rare Texana. Just because a book is in Treasures doesn't mean it is expensive. It just means it is unique and rarer than the other offerings. This year we will be using the Book Shop to house some of our smaller categories, like holiday, retro/vintage, genealogy, humor, mythology and foreign language. Whatever your interests, there is bound to be a book at the sale you would enjoy!

Thank you for being a Friend of the Rosenberg Library. I look forward to seeing you at the Book Sale!

All the best,

Cheryl



Treasures on the fourth floor remind patrons of Friends' mission to support library.

Friends Annual Used Book Sale—What's New?

Part of the fun in attending *Friends* Used Book Sale - Vive la Difference! Come see what we have been up to this year. Here are a few innovative category twists for your shopping pleasure:

“Life Stories” – *As requested!* Please welcome this comingled collection of biographies, autobiographies and memoirs.

“All things Nautical” – Visit this collection to gratify the old salt within. Sift through selections of fiction and nonfiction, all relating to the sea.

“Esoterica” – Challenge beliefs and expand sensibilities with this mystifying collection of the occult and paranormal.

“Retro” – Be it funky, kooky, junky, or groovy - this little category aims to tease memories and make you smile.

“See the World” – Because wanderlust may never be sated, let this adventurous collection rev your desires.

Of course, you will find the usual - and bountiful - collections of Texana, Treasures (old and rare), History, Literature, Children's, Fiction and Nonfiction, Art, Science, Religion, Text books, Reference, Self-Improvement, Media (vinyl, CD, DVD, audio books), and the list just doesn't stop!

Remember – *All* the money you spend at the *Friends* Used Book Sale will buy new books for your favorite community jewel - Rosenberg Library!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mark Your Calendars!

FRIENDS ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE

**October 5 (Members only preview):
5-8 p.m.**

**October 6 (Open to public):
12-6 p.m.**

**October 7 (Open to public):
10 a.m.-4 p.m.**



Friends + Galveston's Own Farmers Market = Fun

Last spring, the generous folks who manage Galveston's Own Farmers Market, 2508 Postoffice, not only allowed *Friends* to have a pop-up book sale at their event - they provided us with tent, tables and chairs and boundless enthusiasm! We add the books, and the monthly magic continues!

Each “Second Sunday” there we are, surrounded by a bounty of eggs, bread, coffee, tea, fried pies, seasonal veggies, and other assorted delicacies. Our fresh offerings always include Cookbooks, Gardening, Texana, Children's, Nonfiction and Fiction. As well, we always have a heaping bin of free books for the kiddos!

Not only has it been a successful money maker for the library, but it has also been a valuable venue for welcoming new members and volunteers. And it's fun!

If you are interested in forming a two- to three-person crew to run the booth at Farmers Market, we will be happy to show you the ropes. It's easy – just visit the website rlfriends@rosenberg-library.org to join and/or to volunteer.

Farmers Market hours:

9 AM to Noon, June through September

9 AM to 1 PM, October through May



New Harris Gallery Exhibit Pieces from the Past: Rosenberg Library's Historic Quilt Collection

Quilts have been used in America since the 17th century, but the earliest examples were imported from India, rather than produced domestically. By the 18th century, American women were making their own quilts, but these were initially an expensive commodity, due to the limited availability and high cost of fabric. Eventually, domestic production of fabric became a reality, and a wide range of affordable textiles became available. In 1846, the first mechanized sewing machine was patented, forever changing the lives of quilt makers. Sewing machines made the process of quilt production less time consuming and able to be produced without any formal education.

American girls were taught sewing and needlework from a young age both at home and later at school. The first published quilt pattern in the U.S. appeared in Godey's Lady's Book in 1835; most of the earliest patterns were copied from British magazines. However, the designs and fabrics developed by the British—mosaic styles using silk—were not favored by American quilters, who preferred block styles pieced with calico. American quilts were often made with fabric scraps, as newly purchased fabrics were expensive and unavailable in many parts of the country.

Specific names for designs became important during the 19th century in order to distinguish the growing number of individual patterns. Regional patterns also developed in different parts of the nation, reflecting the traditions of various geographic areas.

Firms such as Montgomery Ward and Sears, Roebuck, & Company sold quilt frames, fabric, and batting through their mail-order departments. Patterns were available through suppliers like the Ladies Art Company, which produced catalogs featuring hundreds of designs. By the 1930s, several major newspapers featured special columns by quilting experts, some of whom designed their own original patterns for publishing. During World War II, these once-popular newspaper features began to disappear, and between 1940 and 1970, few new patterns were introduced.

By the late 1950s, the popularity of quilts had declined; these domestic textiles were considered outdated elements of home décor. However, the 1976 American Bicentennial brought about a renewed interest in American folk art, including quilts. Today, 16 million Americans enjoy quilting as a hobby and spend more than \$3 billion annually on fabric, pattern books, sewing machines, and other tools of the trade.



***Pieces from the Past* features historic quilts from Rosenberg Library's permanent museum collection. The exhibit is located in the 4th floor Harris Gallery and will be on view through December 31, 2017. Guests enjoyed the sneak preview held during Art Walk on July 15, 2017.**

Museum Book Club Fall 2017

Discuss...

The Invention of Wings

by Sue Monk Kidd

Discover...

Historical artifacts and documents related to slavery in Texas.

Join the club...

Read the book individually, with friends, or as part of an established book club. Select and register for the discussion date below and participate in a hands-on, interactive discussion about the book and select items from the library's museum and archival collections.

Wednesday, September 20

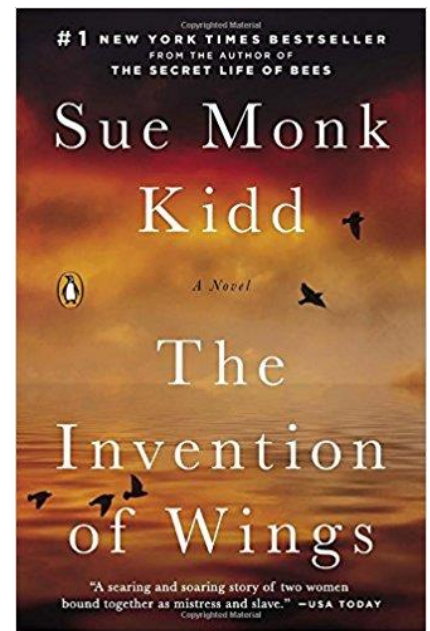
12:00-1:00 pm

Thursday, November 16

12:00-1:00 pm

McCullough Room

2nd floor

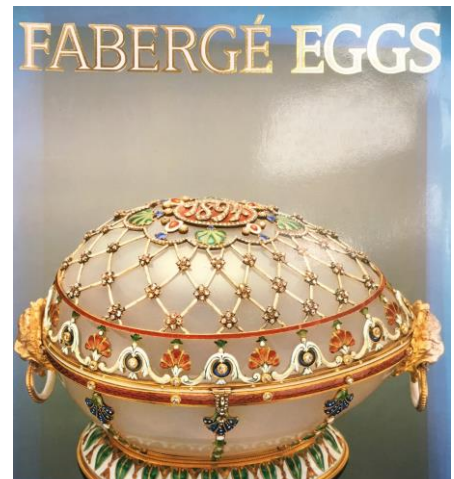


Register at 409.763.8854 x. 115, www.rosenberg-library.org, or reference@rosenberg-library.org.

Art Books Galore!

As usual our October sale will feature a wondrous variety of art-related books. These are always among our most popular sale items. Volumes filled with beautiful images of art from classical to modern, selections on art history, artists, biographies, and how-to books on how you can create art yourself. There will definitely be something for everyone.

Our donors are incredibly generous with beautiful gently-used books and many are coffee table-worthy. Be sure to come Thursday evening for the members-only preview sale, so you can have first pick of the best ones.



Fringe Benefits

One of the benefits of a Friends membership is access to online book collection sales. Books or DVDs in excellent condition are offered by email weekly at special bargain prices. These sales bring in \$500 per year, but the best part is the chance to purchase fabulous books.

How Many Friends?

By the end of August, Friends had a total of 281 memberships, including 252 renewed members and 29 new members for the 2017 fiscal year. These memberships have brought in a total donation amount of \$14,419. Twenty-five members are active volunteers.

All members are welcome to volunteer. We need everyone's help to maintain our many programs and projects. Anyone who hasn't renewed a membership should do so on or before October 5 in order to participate in the members only preview sale.

Build a Better World

This year's summer reading club theme could not have been more appropriate. Programming ranged from taking care of yourself to taking care of our environment to using your brain to solve problems.

All told, we presented 184 programs to 10,761 participants. The brochure, also available in Spanish, was presented to every Galveston school student. The media blitzed, Facebook posted, and website advertised to let everyone know of the library as a "continuing resource for the community, its children, and its children's children."

Wild Things Zoofari attracted a standing room only crowd, and some had to be turned away as the room reached capacity.

New fun this summer was a pirate mystery Escape Room. The Randall Room was transformed into the bottom of a pirate ship, and unsuspecting children fought their way out. The event was so popular, we're bringing it back Thanksgiving week.

The reading club exposed kids to a variety of books and to the challenge of continuing reading in the summer, so as not to lose those hard-earned critical skills gained during the school year.



Left, Ranger Lisa from Galveston State Park helps children prepare for the eclipse!

Below, a big thank you to all of the grandparents who brought kids into the library!

Upcoming Fun – It's How We Roll

*Friends has provided \$5 Book Bucks for kids who have met the SRC goal. See you at the Book Sale!

*Author Crystal Allen, visiting September 26.

*Harry Potter Wizardry World, October 25.

*Polar Express, December 9.



Children's Department

GALVESTON KIDS SCORE

1933 kids registered for the summer reading club.

378 met the goal of reading 600 minutes. Their names are posted on stars suspended from the ceiling.

5,292 people used the children's computer lab in June and July, some repeat customers.

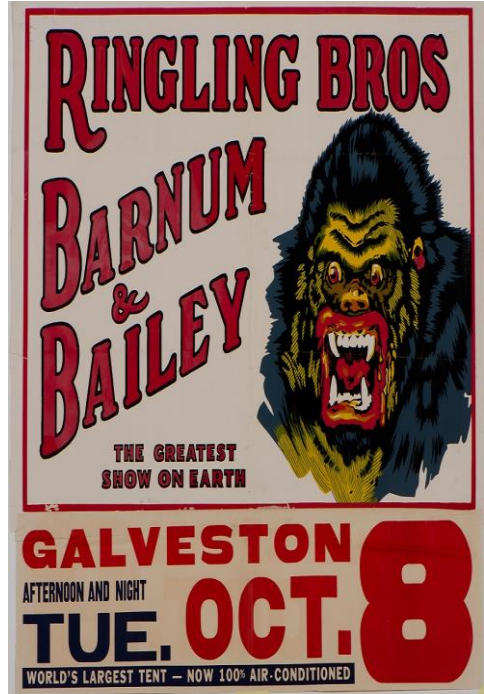
Rosenberg Library worked cooperatively with Galveston Food Bank to distribute 566 non-perishable Kidz Pacz food items.

Last Respite: 1941 Barnum & Bailey Circus

Circuses have always provided color, excitement, and spectacle. Beginning in the 1850s, circuses were occasional visitors to Galveston. The 1941 Barnum & Bailey Circus gave Galveston's citizens a last measure of enjoyment before the Pearl Harbor attack and America's entry into World War II two months later. It bore the stamp of noted industrial designer and futurist Norman Bel Geddes (1893-1958), who designed the circus posters.

During October, 1941, four trains via the Missouri Pacific Railroad arrived at Galveston bearing personnel, animals, tents, and cages. Forty-one tents were set up at 53rd Street and Avenue M ½. Attractions included fifty elephants, as well as performing wild animals, such as zebras, polar and Kodiak bears, lions, tigers, and jaguars. The gorillas, Mr. and Mrs. Gargantua, were kept in air conditioned cages. The centerpiece was a performance "Old King Cole and Mother Goose," designed by Norman Bel Geddes. Audiences thrilled to aerial gymnastics, horseback riding, and high wire, somersault, and trapeze acts.

Outdoor circuses lost favor in the wake of a disastrous circus fire at Hartford, Connecticut, in July, 1944, which claimed 167 lives. On May 21, 2017, the Barnum & Bailey Circus gave its final performance, ending 146 years of operation. It was a victim of changing recreational tastes and evolving attitudes towards animal rights.



*Above: This circus poster prominently features Gargantua the Great.
Donor: Randall Jones*



Welcome, New Adult Services Manager

Jesús Moya is the new Adult Services Manager. He began his career in libraries over ten years ago at the St. Joseph County Public Library system in South Bend, Indiana, a ten-branch system with a reputation for innovation and technology. It was the first library system in the country with a web page. Jesús started in the circulation department and worked his way up to Western Library Branch Manager. He also served as Readmobile Manager, Reference Librarian, Children's Librarian, and Assistant Branch Manager.

The past two years he was the Outreach Services Manager at Indianapolis Public Library, the 14th largest library system in the U.S. It has one of the largest Summer Reading programs. Outreach served patrons who were not easily able to get to a library branch.

Jesús is not completely new to Texas. During the late 1990's, he lived in the Houston area and attended San Jacinto North and Central, where he earned an associate's degree in mass communications. In the last 20 years, he's been a frequent visitor to Galveston.

From maintaining a relevant and fresh collection, to hosting fun and innovative programs, the Adult Services department and Jesús look forward to providing the best library service possible. Jesús maintains an open door. He invites everyone to come on by and introduce themselves. The more he learns about the Galveston community, the better he can serve it.

Journey of a Package

Sometimes people donate books to Friends which have high value, but cannot be used in the library and are unlikely to sell anywhere near what they should in our book sale. So we have begun offering a few select books on Amazon. Hurricane Harvey created quite an adventure for one of our books!

On Friday August 25, before Harvey zeroed in on us, a buyer purchased a pricey book and requested expedited shipping. We packaged it quickly and carefully, purchased postage, and got it set up in plenty of time for a USPS pickup. As weather events changed for the worse, the library closed before pickup, and the package was trapped in the library! There was no way the package would arrive in time.

Executive Director, John Augelli, went by the still-closed library Saturday, retrieved the package, and took it to the post office for shipping, only to discover that the post office was closed. So he took the package home for safekeeping. On Monday when the library reopened, John attempted to mail the package. Again, the post office was closed, so he left the package at the library for safekeeping.

Between Monday night and Tuesday morning, water invaded the first floor of the library. Fortunately, the package was on a desk rather than the floor, and thus was spared a drenching. When we discovered that there was no mail or package service from Galveston by USPS or any carrier, we emailed the recipient, who graciously told us not to worry about late delivery, and said she would not request reimbursement of her extra postage. She even included kind words of encouragement regarding our weather situation.

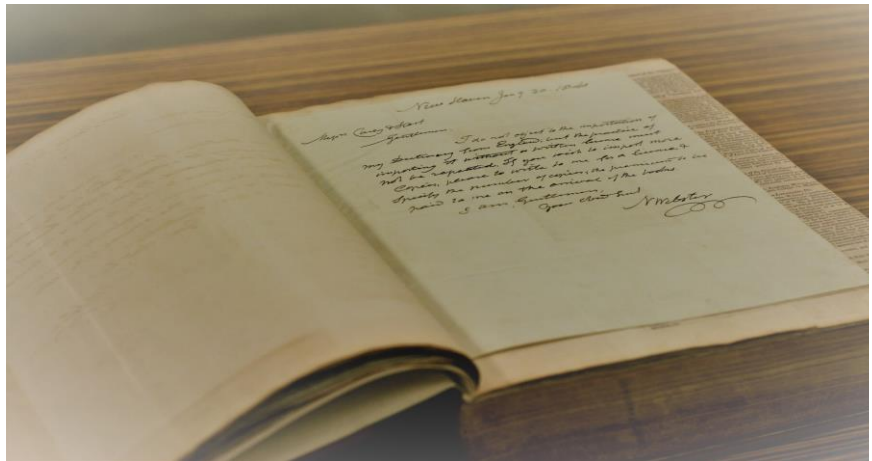
Finally, on Thursday Book Sale Chairman, Trish McDaniel, was able to get the package checked in at the post office. The office was open but nothing was leaving the island. Finally, on Friday we learned it had been picked up and was on its way. On Saturday it was delivered, two days before the original deadline. Whew! Enough excitement for one book!



Archival Adventures

The library's archive is as old as the library itself. Both opened thirty years before the National Archives and just three years after the Alabama Department of Archives and History, the first publicly funded state archives in the United States. Earlier organizations, such as the Texas Historical Society of Galveston, maintained many of the library's oldest collections decades before the library's opening. Members stored collections in places ranging from Masonic lodges to Ball High School before donating them to the newly built library.

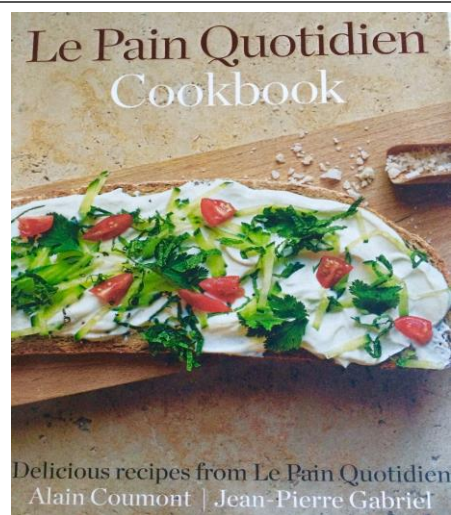
These historic collections, received from multiple sources over many decades, provide researchers and archivists with surprises. One never knows what will appear inside a document box or on a bookshelf. Perusing the collections can be an adventure. Archivist Sean McConnell recently engaged in one such adventure. Last year, a patron wanted to view a letter he recalled having seen from Zebulon Lewis White to Daniel Webster. White worked as a *Galveston Daily News* correspondent in the 1870s. The archive has housed his papers since the 1920s. An unhappy



White asked Webster why he did not include the word “demijohn” in *Webster's Dictionary*. Sean found letters from Senator Daniel Webster in the vault, but none dealt with definitions. Noah Webster was the Webster responsible for the dictionary. Did White get a letter from Noah Webster and file it with his own papers? Sean searched the collection, but Noah Webster's name wasn't in the archive's manuscript index either. Later, Sean found a reproduction of a letter sent from Noah Webster to a Mr. Ingraham regarding “demijohn.” It was unclear who owned the original letter or if Mr. Ingraham had any connection to Galveston. Sean assumed the patron saw the reproduction, and the item was one of many things unrelated to Galveston that often come with donations.

The adventure did not end there, however. Sean recently looked at a manuscript listing from 1929. Flipping through the pages, he saw “Z.L. White” and “Noah Webster” on the same page. Sean quickly backtracked. A “letter from Noah Webster, New Haven, Conn. To Messrs. Carey & Hart, Philadelphia regarding the importation of his Dictionary” was listed. The original letter from 1840, itself a manuscript, was apparently tipped into a copy of *Webster's Dictionary*. Furthermore, Z.L. White donated the dictionary to the library. Many things have changed since 1929. Did the library still have this special publication? Sean guessed the book would have been placed in the Rare Book Room. Checking the index to the rare books, he found the same listing, this time with a call number. He then located the dictionary in the vault, on a shelf with other rare books. Sean opened the book and found not only Webster's letter to Messieurs Carey and Hart but also his letter to Mr. Ingraham. Webster gave a somewhat lengthy response that expressed a direct point: if you don't like how a dictionary is written, write one yourself. The letters are in great condition and bear Noah Webster's signature. Mr. Ingraham's letter is included as well. These and similar discoveries provide much pleasure. You never know what you may find.

A Few Hot/Cool Cook Books Available at Friends Annual Book Sale October 5-7

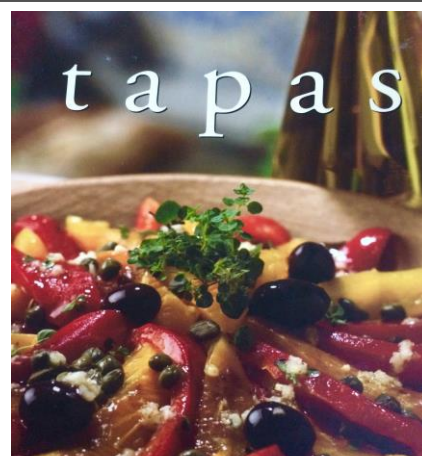
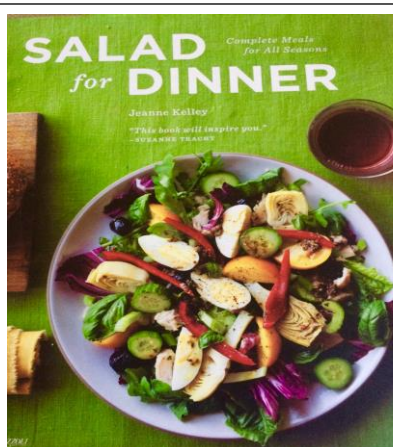


Clockwise: 1) Two fun regional cookbooks. Cajun's Joy is signed and from Galliano, La. Jean Lafitte had a base on Grand Terre in 1814. Fun Galveston connection. Please Don't Feed the Alligators is from Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Full of tasty recipes.

2) Le Pain Quotidien is a beautiful book with delicious recipes. Section on tartines... bread with toppings. Including one for a hummus and curried cauliflower terrine. One on the cover is labneh, herb and cucumber tartine.

3) Who doesn't love Tapas? BNC has just opened in Houston. BNC is the airport code for Barcelona. Restaurant menu is based on tapas.

4) Salad for Dinner brings a fresh look to recipes traditionally thought of as side dishes. Quote on cover: "This book will inspire you." Wonderful salad recipes for all seasons.



From the Executive Director

Dear Friends:

It has been an eventful summer at the Rosenberg Library. Our Children's Department deserves accolades for organizing and presenting another great summer reading club series featuring 184 programs with a total attendance of 10,761. In conjunction with summer reading club activities, the Rosenberg Library also partnered with the Galveston County Food Bank to distribute non-perishable food packets to children in need. On average, the library's Circulation Department distributed 65 "Kidz Pacz" per week in June, July and the first part of August. This summer, we also upgraded the Internet service at the library from 200 Mbps to 500 Mbps. If all goes according to plan, we hope to further enhance this service by increasing Internet speeds to 1 Gbps within the next year. In related news, our Computer Services department has commenced work on a project to virtualize all public access computers on the third floor of the library. The virtualization project, which should be completed before September 30th, will enable our staff to update and reconfigure all the computers in the lab from a single network terminal. This initiative is expected to boost the functionality of the 3rd floor public access computers and free up staff time to further improve technology services in other areas of the library. Within the next three weeks, we are also expecting delivery of a new laser cutter for the maker space area on the third floor of the library. The new equipment, which is designed to make precision cuts and etchings to a variety of materials, will be available for both staff and patron use.

In August, we welcomed Jesús Moya as our new Adult Services Manager. Jesús was formerly Outreach Services Manager at Indianapolis Public Library.

This summer, the library's Administration Department has been busy drafting grant proposals to raise the remaining money for the Phase VII building improvement project. The scope of the proposed Phase VII improvements will address three main issues on the 4th floor, including a complete redesign and expansion of the museum exhibit spaces in the Rosenberg Wing, restoration of the gorgeous historical architecture which was covered up in previous renovations, and a set of improvements which are designed to make the 4th floor and museum spaces more accessible to visitors with disabilities. As of August 24, we have already secured a bit more than 60% of the \$2.3M needed to finish restoring and upgrading the museum spaces on the 4th floor.

On a much sadder note, this summer the Rosenberg Library lost two revered Trustees, Jan Coggeshall and Frank Carmona. Jan was instrumental in starting the Friends annual used book sale in 1971, and as President of the Board from 2003-2015, she guided our institution through a series of major capital building improvements and the Hurricane Ike recovery. Frank Carmona served as a Trustee of the Rosenberg Library from 1999-2017 and demonstrated his commitment to our institution through regular attendance at meetings and through his generous financial support. Both of these Trustees will be sorely missed.

Thank you for being a Friend of the Rosenberg Library.

John Augelli
Executive Director