



# The Lisa Libraries

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## Donate Online

You can now donate online to the Lisa Libraries. Please visit our website, and with just a few clicks you can make a secure financial contribution. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

[www.LisaLibraries.org](http://www.LisaLibraries.org)

## WISH LIST

### Books

We would appreciate donations of new hardcover and paperback books for children ages 6 months to 18 years.

Areas of special need are Spanish language and bilingual books, classics, picture books, EZ Readers, and board books.

### Volunteers

The Lisa Libraries needs you! Specifically, we are in great need of a volunteer to help with grant writing, a job that can be done remotely. Please contact us for more information.

### Amazon Smile

Amazon donates .5% of the price of eligible purchases to The Lisa Libraries. Start shopping at [Smile.amazon.com](http://Smile.amazon.com). Enter "The Lisa Novak Community Libraries," as your charitable organization and shop as usual. Start future Amazon visits at [Smile.amazon.com](http://Smile.amazon.com), and you will continue to support the Lisa Libraries.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

[LisaLibraries@gmail.com](mailto:LisaLibraries@gmail.com)

[www.LisaLibraries.org](http://www.LisaLibraries.org)

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## Dear Friends,

Not to get all mushy, but even in trying and disappointing times, there are many things for which I feel gratitude every single day—my family, my friends, my editors, the Catskill Mountains, the wildlife in my yard, and the many, many people who make the work we do at the Lisa Libraries possible. Those people include our volunteers, like Angela DiBella (see below); our wonderful new director, Ellen Luksberg; and everyone who supports us, either financially or by donating books. Some of our supporters have been with us from 1990 when we were just getting

off the ground and were operating out of a spare room in my apartment. Some are brand new, having just heard about us. We welcome support of all kinds. If you are new to the Lisa Libraries, please look us up online or find us on Facebook to see what we've been up to lately. New or old, please know how thankful I am for you and for your support.

Gratefully,

*Ann Martin*

## Volunteer Corner

In 2014, when Angela DiBella walked through the doors of the Lisa Libraries for the first time, we had no idea we'd just met one of our steadiest and most dedicated volunteers. Angela was born here in Kingston, NY, but her family moved to Florida when she was very young, and Angela grew up there. She graduated from Nova High School in Davie, Florida, but soon the pull of her extended family in New York State—and the attraction of four distinct seasons—drew Angela back to Kingston.

Considering Angela's wide range of interests, we're lucky she can make time for the Lisa Libraries. She loves to travel and has visited 47 states (CA is among her favorites), Italy, Mexico, and the Bahamas. An avid bowler, she was a member of several Kingston leagues until a knee injury sidelined her. She loves music, trying new restaurants, and attending Broadway plays.

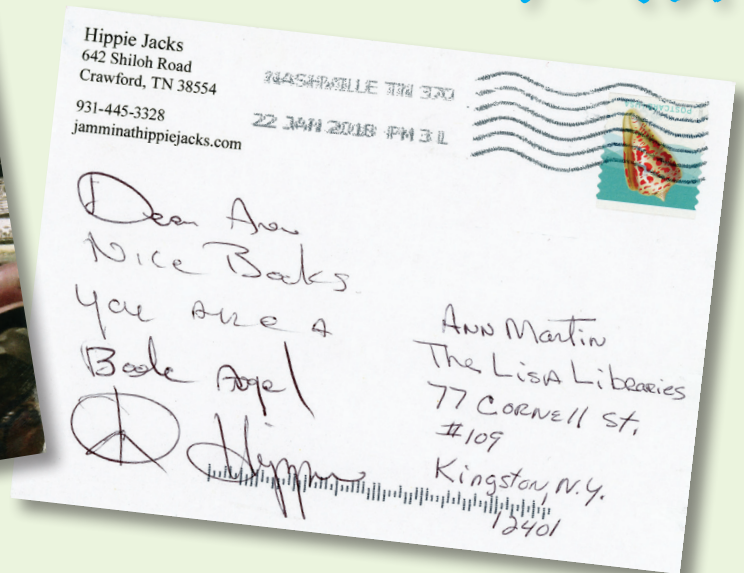
Fortunately for us, she also likes computers, and every Wednesday



Angela spends several hours entering new books into our inventory or removing them from the system as they begin their journey to the hands of needy kids. She works fast and accurately, and we're pretty sure she holds the record for never having made a mistake.

Thank you, Angela, for your steady presence, and your cheerful and thoughtful spirit. You brighten our days!

# Mail

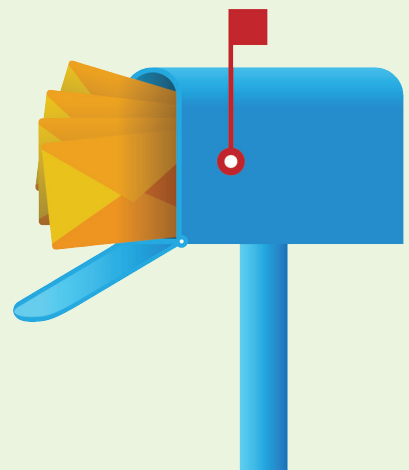


It's hard for us not to love an organization started by someone who calls himself Hippy Jack. Many years ago, Hippy Jack, a "socially conscientious, long-haired hippie," decided to make it his mission to give help and hope to the people of Appalachia. He hosts music festivals on his farm in Tennessee in order to collect food and clothing, which he delivers in his "rainbow colored Hippy Bus" to the neediest people of the Cumberland Plateau. Recently, we reached out to them with a donation of new books, which were delivered to children in the area along with food and winter coats.

"I am writing to thank you for your kind donation of books to the Children's Center in Monroe County. Every child that comes to our Center leaves with a book to take home. The children will get to enjoy the books you have given us, and please know you have put a smile on some faces."

— Eileen Whitney, Director,  
Children's Center

The Children's Center at the Monroe County Family Court in Rochester, NY, serves children from birth to 18 years of age while their parents are in court. These children, often experiencing issues ranging from domestic violence to substance abuse, find a physical and emotional haven during a difficult and frightening time.





# Bag

These care kits, given to children by the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families during a time of upheaval and uncertainty in their lives, also include books donated by the Lisa Libraries.

"For children entering foster care, you're making it possible for the Wonderfund to provide them with care kits that may include clothing and toiletries and also an age-appropriate item of comfort, like a teddy bear."

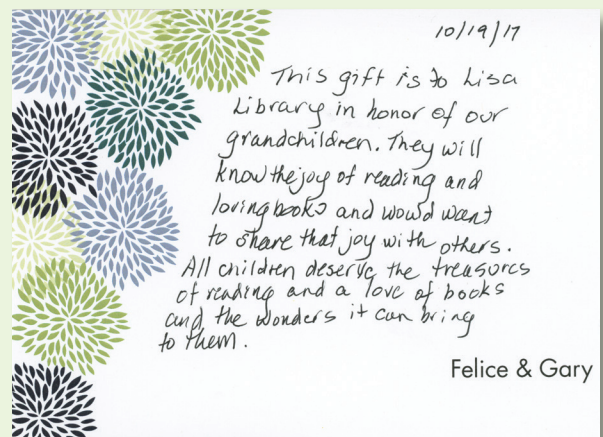
—Jennifer Kitchenham,  
Executive Director,  
Wonderfund

"Our agency is committed to saving children's lives and building healthy families throughout New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, and your generous gifts not only provide our children with tangible items they need, but instill confidence, gratitude, and hope in their hearts."

—Donna C. Pressma, LCSW,  
President and CEO

For nearly 125 years, The Children's Home Society of New Jersey has helped at-risk children through family outreach, after-school, and Head Start programs, to name just a few. In 2017 the Lisa Libraries gave them 400 books for the 300 children and pregnant women served through the Head Start programs. Some of the books are used to supplement on-site book collections, and others are given to families to take home and keep.

And finally, we received this note from friends of the Lisa Libraries who made a donation to us in order to honor their grandchildren—and to give them the knowledge that they are passing on their own love of reading to children who may never have owned a book.



# Author Friends

The books—thousands of them each year—that are donated to the Lisa Libraries come from many sources: publishers, reviewers, editors, and literary agents. But a number of our books come directly from authors. Thank you so much to the authors who have recently made donations of their own books to us:

Amy Axelrod  
Maribeth Boelts  
Bob Brody  
Bruce Coville  
Heather Vogel Frederick  
Alison Hart

Deb Heiligman  
Peter Lerangis  
Gail Levine  
Melissa Roske  
Melissa Walker

## Throwback Corner:

When the Lisa Libraries was in its infancy my father, cartoonist and illustrator Henry Martin, created art for our earliest newsletters:



Thank you, Dad! You have been a wonderful friend to the Lisa Libraries.



*Here I am with my sister Jane and my dad, Christmas 2015.*

*Thank you* to some of our largest book donors



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