

# HYDE PARK FREE LIBRARY

SERVING HYDE PARK SINCE 1927



## A HAPPY (AND EVENTFUL) NEW YEAR!

January 3, 2018

Happy New Year to all our patrons!

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is looking forward to the new year. How 2017 flew by so fast is beyond us, but we're setting up for busy new year with lots exciting programs and events.

Of course, one factor that we always have to consider this time of year is the weather--and there certainly seems to be enough of that these past few weeks. With more to come, from what we're hearing. So while we hope you will mark your calendars for our offerings, it may be a good idea--on an "iffy" day--to call beforehand to make sure that we're still on for this or that event. (Dial [845-229-7791](tel:845-229-7791) for any updates).

One event that we are looking forward to hosting is coming up this very Saturday at 2:00 p.m. in the Library Annex. Last summer we welcomed "end-of-life dhoulas" Anthony and Elysabeth Swan who run a series of "Death Cafe" sessions throughout Dutchess County. The event was so successful that when they contacted us about the prospect a second such meeting, we were only too eager to accommodate them (albeit with some gentle ribbing about it being, uh, a "unique" way to ring in the new year).

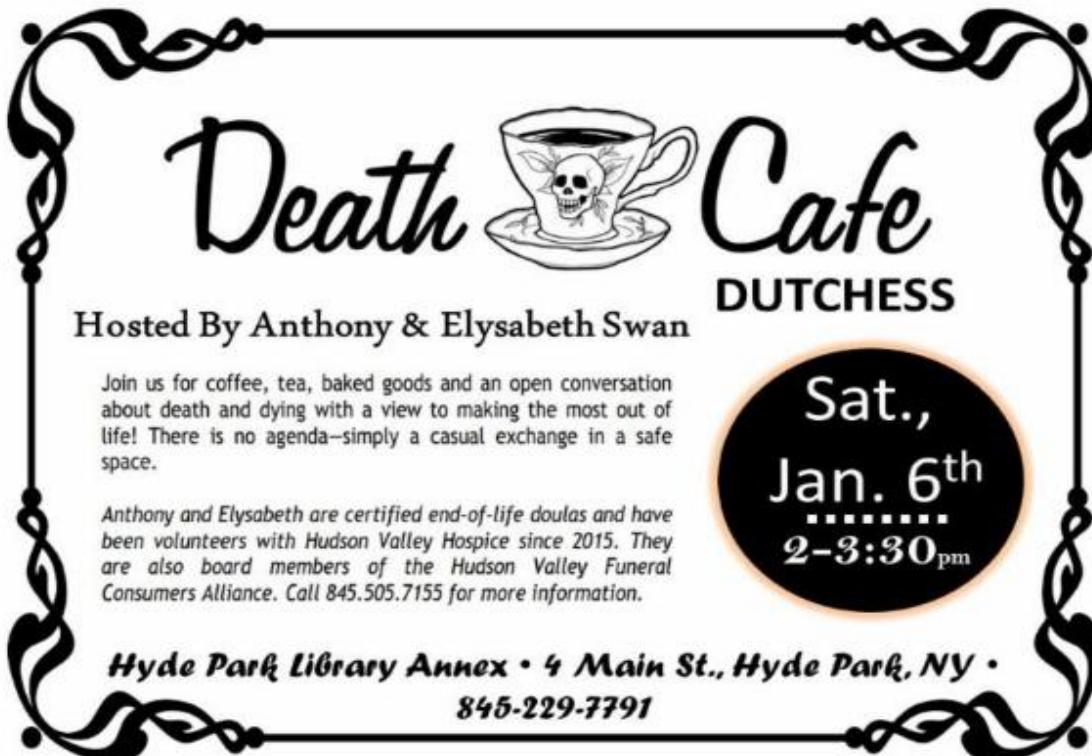
What is a "Death Cafe"? Well, per this international group's website, "At a Death Cafe people, often strangers, gather to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death. Our objective is 'to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives'.

A Death Cafe is a group directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes. It is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counselling session.

Our Death Cafes are always offered:

- On a not for profit basis
- In an accessible, respectful and confidential space
- With no intention of leading people to any conclusion, product or course of action
- Alongside refreshing drinks and nourishing food - and cake!"

Come with an open mind. This kind of event can go a long way to take the "sting" out of death. And to enhance our appreciation of life! And it just may be a good way to start off the year after all.



Hosted By Anthony & Elysabeth Swan

Join us for coffee, tea, baked goods and an open conversation about death and dying with a view to making the most out of life! There is no agenda—simply a casual exchange in a safe space.

*Anthony and Elysabeth are certified end-of-life doulas and have been volunteers with Hudson Valley Hospice since 2015. They are also board members of the Hudson Valley Funeral Consumers Alliance. Call 845.505.7155 for more information.*

Sat.,  
Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>  
2-3:30 pm

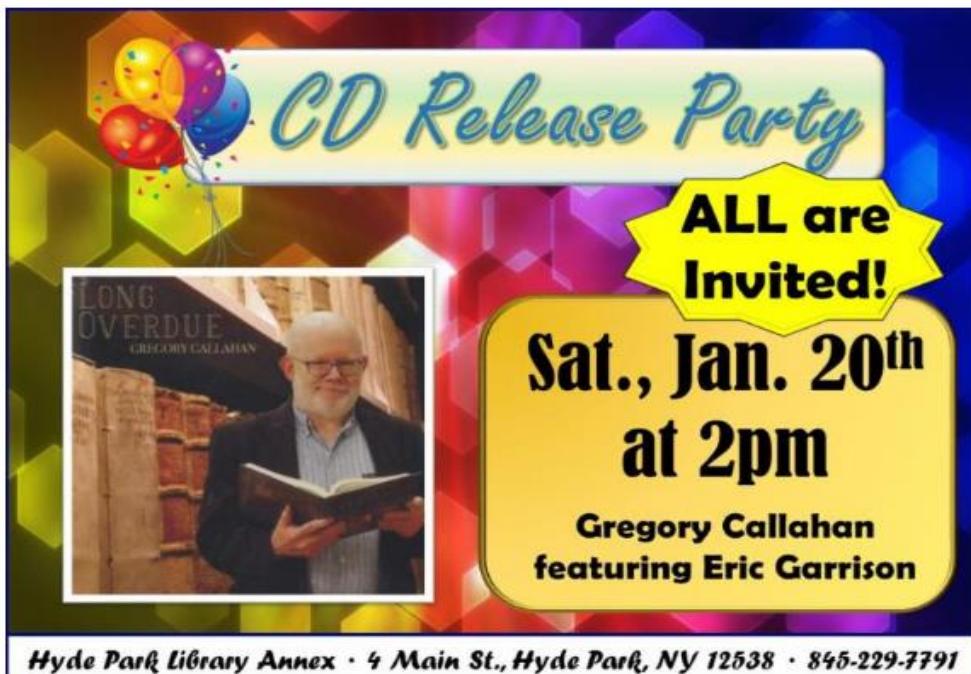
Hyde Park Library Annex • 4 Main St., Hyde Park, NY •

845-229-7791

## CD RELEASE PARTY: GREG CALLAHAN'S "LONG OVERDUE"

We'll be celebrating the recent release of Gregory Callahan's CD *Long Overdue* in grand style on Saturday, January 20th at 2:00 p.m. in the Hyde Park Library Annex. The CD was arranged and produced here in Hyde Park by Eric Garrison, an acclaimed singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. The recording features songs by Bob Dylan, Lou Reed, Tracy Nelson, Burt Bacharach, John Prine and such regional songwriters as Don Lowe, Bob Fischer and Eric Garrison himself. Eric will be accompanying Greg in performance on the 20th.

A portion of any sales will be donated to the library.



Hyde Park Library Annex • 4 Main St., Hyde Park, NY 12538 • 845-229-7791

## Open Mic at the Annex...And More

Our next Open Mic will take place on Sunday, January 28th at 2:00 p.m. We're especially excited to announce that our featured act will be one of the Mid-Hudson Valley's most gifted singer-songwriters, Kurt Henry, who will be accompanied by Cheryl Lambert. Kurt often appears helming the entire Kurt Henry Band, but for our cozy, warm-sounding "living room," he and Cheryl have opted to do a sparser set, which is just fine with us. We love the entire band, but there's always something special about a more streamlined, intimate set, especially with as fine a songwriter as Kurt Henry.

Sign-up is at 1:30 p.m. Open mic performances begin at 2:00. And our featured act, Kurt and Cheryl will take the stage at 3:30 pm.



## Book Club News

As we noted in our last newsletter, If one of your New Year's resolutions was to read more, then joining a book club can provide you just the right incentive to do so. Our book club is over 25 members strong, but we're always glad to welcome new members.

Our selections for 2018 (all voted on by the current membership) have been tallied and are posted below. If you'd care to attend any or all of our meetings, we'd be happy to order a copy of the current month's selection for you.

We offer both an afternoon session (usually the third Friday of the month at noon) and an evening one as well (usually the third Monday at 6:30 pm). Exceptions can occur due to holidays or quirks in the calendar, but these are usually announced well in advance (with the exception of the occasional snow day).

## 2018 HYDE PARK BOOK CLUB SELECTIONS

|          |                                   |                      |
|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| January  | The Light Between Oceans          | M.L. Stedman         |
| February | The Underground Railroad          | Colson Whitehead     |
| March    | The Story of a New Name           | Elena Ferrante       |
| April    | Hidden Figures                    | Margot Lee Shetterly |
| May      | Madame Bovary                     | Gustave Flaubert     |
| June     | Arthur and George                 | Julian Barnes        |
| July     | Our Town                          | Thornton Wilder      |
| August   | News of the World                 | Paulette Jiles       |
| Sept.    | Daughters of Mars                 | Thomas Keneally      |
| October  | Everything I Never Told You       | Celeste Ng           |
| November | Before the Fall                   | Noah Hawley          |
| Dec.     | Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend | Katarina Bivold      |

### More Library News: Movies, Writers' Group, Great Decisions Discussion Group

During this rather bitter winter, we will be doing most of our film programming during daylight hours. As a special Martin Luther King weekend event, we'll be screening *Selma*, the acclaimed historical drama directed by Ava DuVernay and based on the 1965 voting rights marches led by Martin Luther King, Jr. and other leaders of the Civil Rights Movement.

The film will be screened on Sunday, January 14th at 2:00 p.m. The film was nominated for Best Picture Academy Award, as well as for several Golden Globes. The film holds an aggregate approval rating of 99% on the review website Rotten Tomatoes and made numerous critics' best of list for the 2014/15 years.

A week later on Sunday, January 21st, also at 2:00 p.m., we will screen the film version of this month's book club selection, *The Light Between Oceans*. The film will therefore be of special interest to current book club member, but of course, all are welcome. A brief discussion will follow the screening of the film.

The film stars Michael Fassbender and Alicia Vikander.

The Hyde Park Library Writers Group meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. Our first meeting for 2018 will take place on January 9th at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome.

Our Great Discussions group resumes meeting on Monday, January 8th at 6:30 p.m. Discussion guides will be available for purchase or for loan at the library circulation desk. This month's topic is: "The Waning of *Pax Americana*?"

For information on any and all of these groups, call Greg at 229-7791 ext.205.

## Other Library News

We thank all our patrons for their patience in the month of December when the library was temporarily closed to install new lighting--as well as for other maintenance.

We hope all our patrons will agree that the new lighting is quite attractive and very much in keeping with the historical nature of our building.

As luck would have it, we also had to close for some heating and other issues right around the same time. We thank you for your understanding in these matters. But we seem to be starting out the year in great shape and are looking forward to providing all our patrons with great service in the new year.

In closing we'd like to extend our thanks to all those who were able to make a donation to Year End Appeal. This fund drive is an opportunity for all patrons and supporters of the Hyde Park Free Library to help the library meet its overall financial objectives before we close out our books for the year and we were gratified by the generous donations of our patrons. Your contributions were deeply meaningful and greatly appreciated.

Hyde Park Free Library | [\(845\) 229-7791](tel:(845)229-7791) | [director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org](mailto:director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org) |