

A decorative border with a repeating floral and leaf pattern in white and black surrounds the entire page content.

LIBRARY EXTRAORDINARY

I would like to share with the members of Darien's community my thoughts with regard to a most wonderful resource in your midst. While residing in bucolic Darien for nearly the past eight years, and having recently relocated to Florida, I believe and fear that many people in Darien may take their most prized possession for granted. The Darien Library, though small physically, is an organization with a staff of giants in kindness, intelligence and willingness to go beyond the call of ordinary duty to aide a patron. I was able to learn all I know today about computers and programs through the generosity of the library and instructors in the 'tech room'. The library's loan of a digital camera, Photoshop and other free classes were the beginning of my 'reinvention' of myself in the world of Photography, which I am pleausrably engrossed in today and will be the rest of my life. The encouragement by certain staff members gave me the impetus to enter my photos in contests and eventually become published and win minor awards. I will always be thankful for their positive reinforcement and friendship. Everyone on staff, from people at book check –out to the incredible group of reference librarians, to Friday night film coordinators and tech personnel were ever ready to help in any way possible. No one ever said 'no', or 'I can't do it now', or 'you will have to wait until some other time'. The extensive collection of DVDs, videos, books, and reference materials in the Periodical Room comprise an enviable amount of entertainment and information for everyone to enjoy at their leisure, at no charge. The children's library and programs add a dimension to the fabric of young families that is immeasurable. Artists may

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enjoy the largess of the library in the main room as a venue for their work that affords all patrons a personal gallery. I always looked forward to the continuing education in the tech area, as the instructors were professionals and presented challenging programs and often many laughs! I hope to return to Darien in the future to be able to walk into the new library, yet be greeted by the same warm and friendly faces I left at the current one. Darien's tax dollars can never be spent on any entity in the town more important than the Darien Library, as evidenced by the continuing awards it wins nationwide... but most importantly for the pure pleasure it affords every citizen on a constant basis. The Library changed my life forever and for that I will always be eternally grateful.

Sincerely and with great affection, Judith Dunn