



Artist Leonard Filgate's body of work includes this piece from the children's book "Rip Squeak and His Friends." Filgate's illustrations for children's books will be featured in an exhibition at Lancaster Galleries West in Elizabethtown through Oct. 27. The exhibit opens on Friday, Oct. 19. A special children's activity day is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 19.

Rip and Friends to visit fans in Elizabethtown

Author and illustrator of children's story will visit gallery in borough

"Rip Squeak and His Friends," a children's adventure story by Susan Yost-Filgate, illustrated by Leonard Filgate, is coming to town! Lancaster Galleries and Lancaster Galleries West will host the author and illustrator Friday and Saturday, Oct. 19-20 at the Elizabethtown location. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the library system of Lancaster. Both events are open to the public and free of charge.

The Friday opening from 5-8 p.m. will feature original illustrations and paintings by Leonard Filgate, from the book "Rip Squeak and His Friends." A limited edition print of "The Reader," can be ordered and personalized by the artist. Framing packages are available.

The Children's Event on Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. will offer opportunities for children to interact with the author Susan Yost-Filgate and the illustrator. Book

readings and activities for children ages four through eight are scheduled for 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. Children will have the opportunity to have books and prints signed and personalized.

Rip Squeak is a wonderful, young mouse whose adventures begin with his sister Jesse and an abandoned cat named Abbey who they've befriended. Along the way a brilliant and unique frog, Euripedes, joins the fun. This odd grouping of friends manages to get along quite well, despite their obvious differences, and promotes a message of "harmony, understanding, tolerance and warmth without violence" – qualities often elusive in today's world.

"Leonard has created characters that are compellingly irresistible in their realism," says friend and agent for Rip Squeak, Inc., Beda Schmidthues. His original book illustrations have been reproduced in a series of limited edition prints which will be available along with a select group of original paintings and illustrations.

The art and books of Rip Squeak will be available through Lancaster Galleries in downtown Lancaster and Lancaster Galleries West in Elizabethtown. The exhibit continues in Elizabethtown through Oct. 27.

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