

# 'Rip Squeak' creators to visit

By Abigail Ketchum  
Staff Writer

Some furry friends will journey to Elizabethtown on Saturday, Oct. 15 to share their adventures and to benefit the E'town Public Library.

Author Susan Yost-Filgate and illustrator Leonard Filgate will present their collaborative creation, "Rip Squeak and his Friends," at several central Pennsylvania locations between Oct. 10 and 14.

The newest installment in the "Rip Squeak" series, titled "The Adventure," will be read at the E'town Library and accompanied by crafts and activities from noon to 2 p.m.

The book signing and art reception will be held at Lynden Gallery, 117 S. Market St., between 10 a.m. and noon and again between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Original art will be for sale at the gallery along with prints and posters with 20 percent of the proceeds going to benefit library services.

The art will remain exhibited through the end of October.

"A wonderful range of pieces, because the artwork comes in so many forms, will be on sale," said Bethleen Bradford, program

associate for the E'town Public Library. "It's part of the books but it also stands alone."

Lynden Gallery hosted the Filgates four years ago when they launched the "Rip Squeak" project and expect a good crowd this time around.

"We had a good crowd last time and we've had a couple years to gather collectors," said L i s a Bedenbaugh, gallery director.

Art will be displayed at both the gallery and the library.

"People can go back and forth between both locations," said Bedenbaugh.

Rip Squeak is a mouse who lives in a country cottage with his sister, Jessica, and their parents. Rip and Jessica befriend a kitten, Abigail, who introduces them to a frog, Euripides. Despite the fact that they are different species, they become best friends and set out on many adventures together.

Yost-Filgate set out to create a story where the characters get

along despite differences but she also wanted to incorporate a sense of adventure.

The Filgates, a husband and wife team, met in 1977. Leonard, a professional and self-taught artist with no formal training beyond high school, grew up in San Francisco. He says his art

education comes from life experiences, his own studies of the masters and his unwavering determination and diligence to learn and succeed.

He joined the United States Merchant Marines after high school and traveled through Southeast Asia, the South Pacific and the

Mediterranean, observing in order to continue his art training. He has sold many paintings, taught art, worked on props for a television pilot and did storyboards and backdrops for commercial video and television studios. He has also had several exhibits in galleries across the country.

Yost-Filgate is a Pennsylvania

native and is a trained artist. She has worked as an art teacher, a museum docent, a graphic designer and even a paralegal. She has been very involved with her daughter's education and has started visual and performing arts programs in her elementary school.

The couple works closely on the books. Although Filgate does the illustration, his wife offers her ideas not only for the illustrations but also the design and layout of the books.

On Monday, Oct. 10, "Rip Squeak and his Friends" will be at Hershey Public Library at 11 a.m. and Ephrata Public Library at 4 p.m.; Wednesday, Oct. 12, Quarryville Public Library at 4 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 13, Rheems Elementary School from 9 a.m. to noon and East High Elementary School from 1 to 3 p.m.

The public library readings are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the E'town Public Library at 367-7467 or [information@etownpubliclibrary.org](mailto:information@etownpubliclibrary.org).

For more information regarding the art exhibit, contact Lynden Gallery at 367-9236 or visit their Web site, [www.lyndengallery.com](http://www.lyndengallery.com).

## JUST GO

### RIP SQUEAK BOOK SIGNING

Saturday, Oct. 15,  
10 a.m. - noon and  
2 - 4 p.m.,  
Lynden Gallery

**COST:** Free

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
367-9236