

Staff and Volunteers:

Library staff were trained during the *Quarterly Staff Meeting* on July 27 on the **Code Adam procedure** in the event of a missing child.

Karen Ostertag, *Adult Services Librarian*, received a compliment from a grateful parent for the reader's advisory to her high-school aged daughter. The girl is a voracious reader (above grade level) of fantasy and sci-fi, but she is not yet ready for "adult" reads. Karen O is our resident speculative fiction expert and guided her to suitable titles. This is a fine example of why the world still needs librarians!

The **staff intranet** is growing as a valuable in-house resource for staff schedules, forms templates, and a place to share useful information. Veronica Reynolds created it using *WordPress*.

The Director met with *NYS Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski* to thank him for his support of library funding. This annual visit happens every summer and is coordinated with the *Ramapo Catskill Library System*.

Collections:

Weeding continues assertively rather than aggressively. Over 6,000 children's and adult books were discarded since January 1. Looking at architectural schematics presented at meetings in early August, it appears there will be difficult choices ahead when it comes to meeting space vs. collection space.

A patron who is a notable book translator recommended a book display idea that *Adult Services Librarian* Karen Ostertag took and ran off with. "**Women in Translation**" produced a substantial collection of works from translated female authors.

Local History Librarian Joe Barbieri is working with an oral historian who is **collecting stories of the former residents of Dzierżoniów, Poland**. Joe will be contacting New City residents with this background to conduct interviews.

Video Launchpads were introduced to the children's collections. These electronic tablets contain collections of educational videos and are categorized by topic (Outer

Space, Dinosaurs, Nutrition, etc.). The regular Launchpads we circulate have app-based educational games.

Programs:

Interest in our Makerspace programs is building at a steady pace. **Circuitry** and **3D Design for Beginners** were two offerings presented by *Adult Services Librarian* Matthew Aull. The new router in the mini-Makerspace is doing a great job keeping up with the sizable data transfer that goes on during those programs.

Adult Services Librarian Dana Munsch continued her “Social Qs” programming with “**Why Do I Need Social Media?**” Programs in this series focus on social media apps and websites like *Facebook, Instagram, Twitter*, and more.

The passive program **I Spy** in the *Children’s Department* had kids searching for items in the room using close-up photos of them. Small prizes were awarded, and it was a huge hit.

The **children’s outdoor concerts** this summer received many compliments and great attendance.

Jews in the Civil War had the *Meeting Room* overflowing with attendees. **Memories of You**, an acapella group we’ve hosted many times before, filled the room, as well. **Hudson Valley Ruins** drew an impressive crowd for a weeknight with fifty in attendance.

Summer Reading Programs for Adults, Children, and Teens, attracted good attendance.

Building and Facilities:

All **crash bars on emergency exit doors** are being tested and repaired, if necessary, to ensure the alarms work.

Technology:

The **security camera viewing software** was installed at all the public desks. This enables staff to monitor activity in selected locations throughout the Library.

Twelve Kindles are circulating with 50 adult titles loaded on each. These electronic readers are always popular during the summer months when patrons travel.

Adult Services Librarian Karen Ostertag completed her **annual inventory of technology**. This is a necessary, but onerous, task as it must be submitted to the insurance agent for our policy renewal. Her Excel spreadsheet is the stuff of legend!

Miscellaneous:

The library was closed on Wednesday, July 4, in honor of *Independence Day*.

Patrons Ann and Peter Scheiber donated \$300 for *Local History* programs and collection.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
August 10, 2018

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