

Staff and Volunteers:

Local History Librarian **Joe Barbieri** uploaded a new video to YouTube about the Camp Bluefields Rifle Range in Blauvelt. Using original research and images from the Bob Knight postcard collection, Joe creates a vivid picture of the New York Guard military experience in the early 1900s.

Having fulfilled the requirements for promotion, **Dana Munsch** of Adult Services became a Librarian II. In addition to working the reference desk, Dana handles all of our social media content, provides instructional programs on all things digital, and develops sections of both print and digital collections.

Administrative Assistant **Kelly Corrado** continues her resolute review and refinement of administration files in the basement. She occasionally unearths an interesting tidbit of Library nostalgia or history which we share with the staff and Board.

A **quarterly all-staff meeting** was held on July 23. Breakfast was provided as a show of appreciation for the staff's performance during the pandemic, and an update of the renovation project was provided.

Collections:

Weeding continues apace in preparation for the moving and storing of collections during the construction.

Programs:

Mr. Kurt is back! His outdoor concerts for kids and their families are a welcome return to group programs.

The **Congers Train Station Storytime** continues its popular run outdoors on the grounds. A "Learn to Juggle" class was well-received.

The **Summer Reading Club** attracted 264 participants this year, up from 35 participants last year.

Social media stats are up: Facebook followers climbed to 745, Instagram has 1024 followers, and Twitter has 181 followers.

Online lectures on the Panama Canal and artist Alice Neel were well-attended. The outdoor **Tai Chi Chih** program on the lawn was popular.

Building and Facilities:

The **Quiet Study Room** was reopened on July 9 to provide additional work space for patrons. We have had many patrons coming in solo to work at study tables.

The **Library was closed** on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day.

The Library’s renovation fundraising account with the **Rockland Community Fund** was opened on July 13. Links to it are advertised in email blasts, the newsletter, and handouts at the public desks.

State Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski and aide Chris Bresnan visited the Library on July 20 for an update on the renovation project and a tour of the current facilities.

Technology:

Nothing to report.

Miscellaneous:

We have begun selling **canvas bags** to patrons for \$5 each. They are on display in the lobby.

Literacy Solutions, for the second year in a row, has won a literacy outreach grant from RCLS in the amount of \$1,112.30. RCLS distributes these mini-grants through libraries who provide new programs or services to target populations in New York State. These populations include the blind or physically disabled, aged, developmentally or learning disabled, institutionalized, members of ethnic/minority groups in need of special services, educationally disadvantaged, unemployed/underemployed or geographically isolated. Literacy Solutions used the grant funds to provide subscriptions to Easy English News for their ESL students and tutors.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
August 19, 2021

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