

Staff and Volunteers:

Lulu Paolini, Library Assistant II in Support Services, retired at the end of the month after 20 years of service. Her bright personality and ready smile will be missed.

Head of Support Services Mark Gervino and Adult Services Librarian Karen Ostertag attended **Opioid Overdose Response Training** at Finkelstein Library. There are now five staff members trained. Each has their own nasal Naloxone kit to administer the antidote.

The Director met a representative of the knitters' group to discuss a **yarn-bombing project** that will be announced in the fall quarterly newsletter. This collaborative public art project will offer patrons and staff the opportunity to contribute crocheted and knitted blocks that will be temporarily affixed to the concrete bollards outside.

The Director attended an **"Ed Panel" at CCSD district** offices on June 7. The panel comprises parent representatives from every school in the district. Library programs and services were highlighted, and parents had the opportunity to ask questions and offer suggestions about how the library and schools can better connect and serve Clarkstown students.

Collections:

We received some excellent **glass-plate negatives** from a patron of the **Haverstraw landslide** that occurred in 1906 and killed 22 people. Excavation of the clay used in the town's brickmaking industry was the cause. Local History Librarian Joe Barbieri is scanning the negatives to upload to our Hudson River Valley Heritage (hrvh.org) collection.

Our **Little Free Library at Germonds Park** was installed and is enjoying good usage. Brian Jennings manages this collection and stocks it with library discards and patron donations.

A local college student requested our assistance in providing any discards suitable for **libraries in rural India** she is helping to found. Several boxes from the nonfiction collection were donated.

Downloadable magazines have finally returned to the Overdrive collection. The Library ended its subscription to Zinio at the beginning of December 2017 in anticipation of this delayed offering.

The days of the hardcover **World Book Encyclopedia** may be numbered due to low usage. There is an electronic database version that the Library may subscribe to after more investigation.

The annual migration of selected Children’s titles for the **Summer Reading** collection occurred. This reorganization of materials makes the search easier for both parents and children looking for the CCSD-recommended books.

Programs:

Demand for our **proctoring service** continues to grow as more students go online for coursework.

Where’s Waldo? was the **passive program for children** this month. Three hundred and thirty-three children participated. Librarian Amy Chesman hid figures of characters and items from the popular series throughout the room for a scavenger hunt activity.

The Library Association of Rockland County (**LARC**) held its **annual meeting** here on June 15. The second **Annual Book of the Year award ceremony** was held directly after. This program offers local authors the chance for recognition and cash reward. Our own Veronica Reynolds chairs the committee.

The **Jewish Harlem program** packed the house on a Wednesday afternoon. Return presenter Marty Schneit talked about how the area was the third-largest Jewish settlement in the world before the Great Migration from the South.

Raconteur Radio performed **War of the Worlds Live!** to a rapt audience on June 17. This adaptation of the classic H.G. Wells novel included period costumes, theatrical lighting, vintage commercials, Golden Age radio equipment, fog and extensive sound effects.

The **Bubble Bus** kicked off the Children’s Summer Reading program and transformed the lower parking lot into a sea of airborne suds.

The first feast of the **Cookbook Club** occurred on June 13. There are currently 14 members and interest is strong. The larger Meeting Room is not available on a regular basis until December; until then, we will be quite cozy in the Conference Room.

Building and Facilities:

The custodians completed painting of the faded **parking lot directional signs**. The outdoor Book Drop boxes were given a fresh coat of paint and new labels to replace the ones that were peeling.

Two 10’ market umbrellas were installed in the **Children’s Garden** to offer shade during this extra-warm early summer. The sundial in the center of the garden, donated by the Sindlinger family in honor of Walter Sindlinger, was moved to a new location in the garden bed to provide more space for play in the sandbox or to sit and read. It had been damaged long ago, but can still serve as lovely ornamentation in this favorite place.

Technology:

We continue to bolster the **wifi connectivity** in the building; the ubiquity of personal digital devices demands more bandwidth. The Optimum cable upload speed was increased from 100Mbps to 450Mbps. A wifi hotpoint was hard-wired in the mini Makerspace to ensure wifi connections for the laptops used there for instruction. Another hotpoint will be added at the far-end of the building, by the Rockland Room, to strengthen the weak signal there.

Miscellaneous:

Brian Jennings participated in the **memorial service held for town historian Bob Knight** on June 8 at the Traphagen property in West Nyack. Audio clips of Brian’s interview with Bob were played. An additional one thousand postcards were collected from Bob’s home in Congers; they will be scanned and uploaded to our HRVH collection. This effort will be partially funded by the Library Association of Rockland County.

The Friends of the Library held their **second tag sale** on the rain date of Sunday, June 3. Although several vendors did not show, there was plenty of good shopping and most shoppers were quite pleased with the offerings. Unfortunately, the Friends group will be in abeyance until further notice.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
July 6, 2018

MG/kc