



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 2021

Staff and Volunteers:

Head of Community Relations Veronica Reynolds shared her video editing tips and tricks in an online presentation for Southeastern New York Library Resources Council (SENYLRC).

A staff appreciation breakfast was held on June 11. It was a small gesture to thank the staff for their outstanding service during the past 15 difficult months.

Collections:

All hands are on deck for the weeding of all collections. Librarians analyze usage reports and determine which items have reached the end of their useful lives, and Support Services staff deaccession them and either donate, sell, or offer them gratis to patrons.

Programs:

Local Girl Scout Troop #40518 provided kits and professional instruction for other teens to create their own herb gardens.

Summer Reading clubs for all ages began at the end of the month. Registration should easily surpass last year's which was a record low due to the pandemic conditions.

Children's programs are all being conducted outdoors: Storytimes, Romper Room, Congers Train Station Storytime, and Sensory Storytime have all been well-received by appreciative parents, grandparents, and caregivers.

The lecture on the Rolling Stones apparently gave great satisfaction to its many attendees.

Building and Facilities:

Trane came for the quarterly maintenance of the HVAC rooftop units.

On June 21, the Library ended the mask mandate for all patrons and posted signs recommending masks for unvaccinated individuals, as per NYS Health recommendations. Staff must wear masks in all public areas of the building, and masks are still mandatory for all in the children’s room.

Seating at tables was re-introduced, and as the month wore on, they begin filling fast with students for year-end studying. While the outdoor seating remains popular, higher than average temperatures sent many patrons indoors to the air conditioning.

OLA, the engineering firm selected to perform the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) design for the renovation, revisited the Library to perform more existing conditions surveying.

Technology:

On June 5, the Ramapo Catskill Library System changed IP addresses and it wreaked havoc on the Library catalog, as well as other patron-authenticating online services like the downloading and streaming content. Full service did not resume until June 9.

Miscellaneous:

June 25 was the 50th anniversary of the awarding of the Library charter. Small gift bags were distributed to the first 50 patrons.

Signing authority for the Friends of the New City Library account was transferred to the Finance Manager and Director (as co-signers). There is approximately \$1,800 in the account. The previous sole signatory on the account is no longer active with the group.

Some noteworthy patron comments:

“Thanks for an enjoyable time. It’s been a few years since I had the opportunity to do some adult coloring. We all had a good time!” – attendee of our adult coloring program series

“Thank you for sending this [email] notice. Though I am on several library mailing lists, yours is the only notice I received and I appreciated knowing why

I was unable to access my account.” – patron comment when the library system catalog went down for several days.

“I was just so thrilled to discover your wonderfully prepared presentation. At my advanced age, every good event becomes a golden one so thank you again and I hope you’ll let me know when your next presentation is.” – patron appreciative of Veronica’s Macbeth lecture

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
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MG/kc