Dear Friend,

Congratulations go out to the hundreds of participants, parents and caretakers, and, oh yeah, the staff, who made the Summer Reading program such a success. In addition to just plain reading, the Trove featured an opening party with magic, a special Lego program creating White Plains buildings, a chocolate tournament (how couldn’t that be popular?), visits from the Hudson Valley Llamas (photo left), plus pizza parties for kids who completed their summer reading (thank you Pizzeria Uno).

In the Edge, kids were learning about TV production, designing kites, making S’mores in a solar paneled oven constructed out of a pizza box (it works!), learning the basics of sewing, and creating objects with our 3D printers.

How will we top this next summer? We’re adding Summer Reading for adults.

Foundation Celebrates 20th Anniversary at Fall Gala Fundraiser
Mark your calendars now for our Annual Gala Fundraiser! Our honoree is Phil Klay, White Plains native and author of the *2014 National Book Award*-winning short-story collection, *Redeployment*. Tickets are $150 and are available online now; invitations will be mailed and available in the Library in early October. Proceeds will support free library resources for all ages, as well as The Hub, our future adult library, part of ongoing first-floor renovations.

The Hub, Our New Adult Library, to Launch Soon!

Kids have The Trove, teens have The Edge, and soon our adult library will have a new identity, The Hub, as we resume first-floor renovations this winter.

The Hub will address what our adult patrons want from their library: more formal and informal learning opportunities, excellent technology, comfortable places to read and study, easy access to the newest books and media, and a welcoming downtown destination with a Cafe. The Hub will include the Hope & John Furth Learning Commons, the Cafe & Friends' Bookstore, the George & Lucia Perkins Large Print Collection, and the Marvin & Renee Kent Tutoring Alcove.

This winter, The Hub will begin to take shape, with changes to the reception area. In place of the large checkout desk, you will see bookshelves showcasing our newest materials. Checkout will be even more convenient, with staff located right next to self-check kiosks for better customer assistance. Our reference staff will assist adult patrons with research and technology needs from a new service desk closer to our computer area.

This project is supported by the White Plains Library Foundation in
For the Love of Grey: Fifty Shades of Grey as Told by Christian

The Hub will continue to evolve as renovations continue over the next several years. The Foundation is committed to making our great Library even better--an excellent community resource that helps people of all ages move on in their lives.

Reading: It's a Group Sport

While reading can be a great pleasure, for many people the opportunity to discuss a book they just finished expands the reading experience exponentially. In sharing our responses as readers, we gain new insights into the works themselves as well as a greater understanding of how others see the world. Plus, you meet new people in your community while discovering great new authors.

So why not participate in one of the three reading groups here at the White Plains Public Library: Page Turners; Book 'Em, m, for mystery lovers; and the Short Story Discussion Series. All three are launching new reading series this fall.

Page Turners, led by Librarian Elizabeth Hughes, explores contemporary works of fiction and occasionally a classic or award-winning work of non-fiction. At their first meeting, Thursday, September 10 (2:30 to 4:00 p.m.), they'll discuss William Maxwell's classic So Long, See You Tomorrow. Upcoming books include Brian Morton's Florence Gordon, Laird Hunt's Neverhome, and An Unnecessary Woman by R. Alameddine.

Book 'Em, a book group for mystery lovers, reads some of the best reviewed crime novels of the past few years, many of which are the first in a series. We'll follow reporters, cops, and amateur detectives in settings ranging from New England to the Outer Hebrides, from rural Sweden to Havana. Led by Library Director Brian Kenney, their first meeting will be Wednesday, September 16 (2:30 to 4:00 p.m.) when they'll discuss Invisible City by Julia Dahl.

Librarian Barbara Wenglin's very popular Short Story Discussion Series will return on Thursday, October 1 (2:00 to 4:15 p.m.) The series will explore the same collection as was used last spring: The Scribner Anthology of Contemporary Short Fiction: 50 North American Stories Since 1970 (Second Edition.) On October 1, the group will discuss "Winners on the Pass Line" by Dagoberto Gilb and "Jealous Husband Returns in Form of Parrot" by Robert Olen Butler. Other dates: October 22, November 12, December 10, and January 7.
For more on these--and all our events--visit the calendar on the Library's web site (www.whiteplainslibrary.org). All are invited to attend and light refreshments will be served.

**Talk to Us! We're All Ears**

Every few years, the Library goes through a planning process to create a new Strategic Plan (our most recent one can be found [here](#)). Strategic plans are important: they’re an opportunity to think about what we could do differently and better, they help guide us, and they provide a way for us to measure how well we are doing. An up-to-date plan is also required of all public libraries in New York State.

But the best--and most important part--of creating a strategic plan is getting input from you, our patrons. We do so in a number of ways, including surveys, interviews, and focus groups. But to really get good community input, we need your help!

Are you a member of a group, like a book, sports or craft group, neighborhood association, volunteer, social or religious organization? Would your group (or just a few members) give us 30 or so minutes of their time for an informal focus group? We are interested in hearing about what the Library does well, as well as where we need improvement. We also want to talk about the programs and services we should offer in the future. What should the White Plains Library look like in 2020?

Contact Brian Kenney by email (bkenney@whiteplainslibrary.org) or telephone (914-422-1406). And if you don’t have a group we can work with, that’s fine too. Just take a few minutes and send us your thoughts. Feel free to be anonymous.

**Transforming Lives, Every Day**

Support the White Plains Library Foundation by making a [secure online donation now](#), and help us provide library resources for all ages that promote literacy, education, career development, personal enrichment, and more.

Thank you!
Have a question or comment? Drop us a line.

Sincerely,

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