

By: Timothy Baird
Dept. Adult Services
Subject: Monthly Report – January 2021
Date: February 3, 2021

Administrative

- Attended the Mayor's Youth Board monthly meeting.
- Met with Director Kenney to discuss personnel issues.
- Met with Librarian Bauman to go over and submit Probationary Evaluation. Bauman has successfully completed her one year probationary period.
- Library Strategic Planning Committee met. Had worked with Director Kenney to complete the Strategic Plan survey to be presented to the Committee.
- Attended the monthly Adult Programming meeting.
- Created circulation list for Librarian De Luca of items that have not circulated since the migration to Evergreen. This will be an ongoing weeding project to help freshen the adult collection.

Staff Activities - *Thanks to librarians Sharon Rothman, Mariel Perez, Kristen Thornton-De Stafeno, Kristy Bauman and Austin Duffy who contributed to this report.*

- Staff attended a monthly meeting to discuss upcoming program ideas. Women's History and National Poetry months were the main topic of discussion.
- Librarian De Stafeno assisted Zork on sharing Poem a Day videos. She created and published the February virtual calendar of events. With Jackson from Systems, added training/tech videos to the website. She worked with staff on creating and posting blogs to the library website. De Stafeno attended Niche Academy's eResource Marketing & Programing webinar.
- Staff including De Stafeno and myself attended the Library Strategic Planning meeting.
- Librarian Bauman hosted an Adult Services programming meeting.
- Several staff attended the WLS Adult Services check-in.
- Librarian Perez contacted local COVID-19 Testing sites to confirm the information we have posted is still accurate. Perez met with Angela Cruz, a motivational speaker, to discuss a program for Women's History Month. She also met with Alex Fabian and Librarian Bauman to work on April poetry programs. Perez met with Eric Arbogast, a professor at WCC, to discuss a possible TOEFL program at the Library in the fall.
- Librarian Duffy attended the following webinars: Westchester County Resources & Archives: What's Available & Helping Patrons Access Them; Peekskill and Primary Sources: Researching a Stop on the

Underground Railroad; Microsoft Teams - Who, What, When, Where & Why; #1Lib1Ref: Information Literacy and Wikipedia

- Librarian Rothman attended the following webinars: PRH Book Buzz; Booklist Spring Book Club Picks; Harlequin/Workman/Norton Author Panel; PRH Librarian Lunch & Learn; Booklist Be Your Best Self; ALMA Book Buzz; Booklist Author and ARCS; American Booksellers Buzz Book Panel; NYPL 8 Way to Elevate Your Job Search and Networking.
- Librarian Rothman attended meetings for the CODES committee book selection and wrote reviews. She contacted the Central Westchester Audubon Society for future programs. Arranged with CANDID for Foundation Directory Online/Grants program. She also participated in WLS Breath-Body-Mind meetings.

Customer Service:

- Please see the Community Outreach report.
- Librarian De Stafeno uploaded Youth Services content and a Battle of White Plains video to the Library's YouTube channel. She scheduled Tiny Tales videos for Facebook and IGTV. De Stafeno taught a patron how to recommend items for purchase in Overdrive.
- Librarian Duffy assisted patrons with Libby and Overdrive issues.
- Librarian Duffy responded to eight Local History questions, 7 via email.

Community Outreach:

- Please see the Community Outreach report for more details.
- Librarian Duffy received permission from the Film & Video Workshop, Inc. to convert the 1978 film "The Battle of White Plains" to digital format for uploading to the Revolutionary Westchester 250 website. White Plains Community Media converted the DVD to digital format.

Programs:

- More than 60 zoom participants gathered with Barbara Wenglin during January to explore the acclaimed autobiographical short story of F. Scott Fitzgerald, "Babylon Revisited" (1930), with a discussion the following week of the film adaptation, "The Last Time I Saw Paris" (MGM 1950). Most agreed that the film was a Hollywood showcase for the stellar cast -- including Elizabeth Taylor, Van Johnson, Walter Pidgeon, Donna Reed, Eva Gabor and others -- departing greatly from the classic story text; the comparisons provided for lively discussion. This was the last session of the fall season with a winter/spring series to resume in February using the same anthology, *100 Years of the Best American Short Stories (2015)*.
- Librarian Perez hosted English Conversation Group, Spanish for Beginners, Tarde de N [Spanish Conversation], Healthy Living For Your Brain and Body: Tips From the Latest Research.
- Digital Media Specialist Olney ran several computer programs for adults: Computer Purchasing Tips, Library Resources for Smartphones, 3D Design for All, Virtual Tech Help.

- Librarian Duffy hosted Curt's ESL Pharmacy, English Conversation Group, and the Library Board of Trustees meeting.
- Wellness programs included Lunchtime Meditation,
- Book groups included Book'em and Slow Reading,
- Common Ground topic of discussion this month was "Civility & Kindness: What's the Difference" hosted by Librarian Bauman.
- Bill Graham and the Rock & Roll Revolution presented by the NY Historical Society made possible through a collaboration with other WLS libraries. Hosted by Librarian Bauman.