

Library Director's report

Prepared by Director Susan Getty

May 2, 2017

Monthly statistics: please see attached statistical summaries for the month of April.

Financial/donations:

- Donations from G Ovington and B Hoag: \$50 each. Thank you note was sent.
- We have been notified that we'll be receiving the Ezra Jack Keats mini-grant, we believe in the amount of \$500. This grant was written to offer a "Harry Potter camp" program this summer.
- Additionally, we have received notice that we did not receive the NASA @ My Library grant.

News/issues:

- We now have a new newsletter format, using MailChimp. I had a very large number of problems last month getting the newsletter out, and this was the alternative I chose. Hopefully, it will go smoothly from here on out.
- Using funding available through our library system (Libraries Mean Business grant, the goal being to help libraries be more useful to small businesses in the community), I am enrolled in an online Notary Public exam prep course. This is a SUNY Adirondack offering. The library system will reimburse me for the cost of the course, once I complete it (which has to be by May 5th). I can also be reimbursed for the cost of the exam and the NY state certification fee, if I have it all completed and receipts submitted by May 30th.
- Karen has been working on the project of preparing new story time bags (Stewarts Holiday Match grant will be funding this).
- We've been working on weeding out books in the children's area.

Programs:

- April break programs went well, but attendance was rather low. It seems that many people were either away or out enjoying the spring weather!
- I've been working on coordinating some educational programs for our adult patrons. The Alzheimer's Association will be presenting a series of three workshops starting in late May and going into June. Washington County Public Health will be offering a workshop around wellness visions and goal setting, and possibly further classes based on what participants are interested in. We also have a class coming up on June 21, presented by Sarah McFadden from CCE, about how to choose devices (smartphones, e-readers, tablets, laptops).
- Staff are currently planning programs for kids for the summer. These plans include a Coding Club (computer coding), the Harry Potter camp, and a teen book club. We will

also be coordinating efforts with the Lunch, Learn, & Play program. We will be meeting with Herb Perkins and other L, L, & P staff prior to the start of that program.

- The library will be partnering with Merck Forest on June 24th during the Salem Area Faery Fest events. Merck does need to charge a \$5 fee/participant for the supplies. They are actually putting a fair amount of work and expense into what they are planning. They will be bringing all of the material, plus a very nifty base for people to start with. (It's a log screwed onto a base of some sort...Chris Hubbard has promised me photos and some samples to display in the library.) These fairy houses will be able to go home with the participants. One of Merck Forest's apprentices will be a storyteller for our event. I plan to put on our flyers that there will be "scholarships" available if anyone is unable to afford the \$5 materials fee. (I'm hoping the Friends can cover this, if necessary.) I feel this is a great opportunity to partner with Merck, and be part of a community-wide event.