



Director's Report Westwood Public Library 12 July 2018

Staffing

We are currently working with Joan Courtney Murray (Head of Human Resources) to get several part-time positions posted and filled. So far we've received 45 applications for the Teen Library position, and Molly and Lizzy and I will be meeting to set up interviews later this week.

Jenny Durant has also given her notice – with one of the most delightful and lovely letters of resignation I've ever read... Jenny is just finishing her Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from Simmons College, and has accepted a full-time position as the Head of Youth Services at the North Providence Public Library. It is bittersweet announcement for both us and for Jenny. We will miss her terribly, but we are thrilled for her professionally and hope that she'll stay in touch with all of us. Her last day at the Branch will be July 26, and she will start her new job on July 30.

We will also be re-advertising the part-time weekend custodial position. We were very lucky to have had Thomas Moore working with us this summer to fill-in while he was on summer break, but he'll be returning to college in September – so we'll be working with HR to get this position re-posted and hopefully filled in the next few weeks.

Staff performance evaluations are all done and have been submitted ! YAY!

Collections and Resources

Kanopy – The Library now offers free streaming video through KANOPY. Kanopy showcases more than 30,000 of the world's best films, including award-winning documentaries, rare and hard to find titles, film festival favorites, indie and classic films, and world cinema with collections from Samuel Goldwyn, the Great Courses collections, PBS films and many more. **You can stream KANOPY on your computer, tv, or download the app on your phone, tablet or Roku device. Patrons can stream up to 12 films per month – FREE! For more information visit the Library webpage at www.westwoodlibrary.org/find/ebooks**

Building Maintenance

I would like to thank Jim McCarthy (DPW); Kevin Craven (Senior Library Custodian) and Cox Engineering (Jay) for working so diligently, and really trying everything under the sun to get our "chiller" unit operable this summer. In past years, we've only been able to go three days with hot and humid weather before the chiller would malfunction and go offline. But this year, Jay and Jim and Kevin have been very proactive about trying to really address the underlying issues – and so far we've had much fewer instances of the a/c going down when it's needed the most! So, thank you all for making this a priority and for making sure that we're at the top of Cox Engineering's list of important clients!

We are also working with the Historical Commission (Nancy Donahue) and Jim McCarthy to finish up the exterior post installation for the Colburn School interpretive exhibit. The exhibit will be dedicated on September 15th during the Library's 5th Birthday celebration.

Programming

Homebound Delivery is ongoing – and currently there are six participants. If anyone knows of a resident who might be interested in this service, or who would like to volunteer to delivery materials, please pass those names along to Karen Gallagher, Head of Circulation at 781-320-1049 – or kgallagher@minlib.net.

Summer Reading: This year's summer reading theme is "Libraries Rock" and there are nearly 1000 students already registered and participating. My favorite view on pulling into the parking lot just before the library opens is seeing the large groups of children and families with their reading logs in hand excitedly waiting to get their forms stamped by the Children's Librarians – and then filling out multiple tickets for some of the prize baskets – which include BEATS headphones for teens; and more than a dozen options for children, including a 1st Day of School Ride in a Fire Truck; Rocks and Minerals; Minecraft; Nintendo Switch; Unicorns; and a Booklover's Basket with a Kindle Paperwhite. For adults there are also reading incentives – including a basket with a Roku Ultra. I've attached copies of the Patron Picks for adult readers – and if you fill out one and bring it into the Library, you'll have an opportunity to get a ticket for a prize basket as well!

The Friends of the Library will be hosting two "big name" author events in the next few months: Elizabeth Berg (Monday, August 6th) and J. Courtney Sullivan (Tuesday, September 11th). Flyer is attached.

Save the Date: Main Library is turning 5--with a Birthday Celebration Planned for Saturday, September 15th. The celebration will include mini-golf in the Library, a photo booth with unlimited photo strips, the Colburn School Display Dedication – and lots of balloons (mylar) and cake!

