

## Westwood Public Library

### Director's Report

7 September 2017



#### Programs and Collections

##### Summer Reading

- Summer Reading Programs will be drawing to a conclusion on Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. There were more than 1000 children registered – which kept the staff in the Children's Room very busy! As of Wednesday (9/6) over 230 "Summer Reading Champion Lives Here" signs were earned! Participation in the Teen and Adult Summer Reading Programs also saw an increase as well this summer – the "Patron Picks" displays created by Karen Gallagher and the Circulation Staff were very popular with adult readers (based on the frequent replenishment of the titles on display!)
- Winning raffles for Children and Adults on will be pulled on Monday September. When the winners come in to receive their prizes we will take pictures of them for the Facebook and newspaper.
- We had over 235 Summer Reading champions who won signs!

##### Teens and 'Tweens

- There has been a lot of interest in the new VolunTeen program which Lizzy is coordinating. The program begins on October 4<sup>th</sup> and she has had several completed applications turned in already.
- The Teen Mentor program will re-start on September 19<sup>th</sup> -- with an orientation for the students who have volunteered to be teen mentors. I do not know yet how many applicants we will have – but we are collaborating with Youth and Family Services and hope to have lots of interested students participate.
- 6th Grade visits from Thurston Middle School  
Lizzy has finalized dates with Cathy Bolger for 6th grade visits: they take place at the library on Oct 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-10:30am.

##### Book Clubs

- YA for Adults Book Club: Lizzy has had a lot of interest from parents and other adults about this group. The first book is *One of Us is Lying*. Discussions will be held once a month at Chiara.
- Karen Gallagher has been doing a lot of community outreach. She is working with several local book groups and book clubs to coordinate obtaining advance copies of the titles they select. In addition, she has also taken on a leading role in facilitating a new book group which meets once a month at the Highland Glens.

### **Solar Eclipse Community Event**

- The “Great American Solar Eclipse” event was very successful – thank you to so many town departments who collaborated to make this event happen, including the COA, Rec Department, DPW (Harry Mikitarian was a huge help) and Fire and Police personnel. More than 500 showed up for the community viewing (with lots of sharing of eclipse glasses all around!)

### **Fall Programming and upcoming events**

- see attached flyers some highlights of upcoming programs.

### **Islington Branch Update**

- Legos, Knitting, Storytimes, BookGroups, BookShares and Terrariums are just some of the programs that will be underway soon at the Branch. Jenny will be taking 3 courses at Simmons this fall – and Patti and Leslie will be filling her hours Tuesday 9-3. Very busy at the Branch this week!
- Over the summer, branch staff worked with Claire on weeding specific areas of the collection and this will continue as an ongoing effort as we move into the fall.

### **WiFi On the Go!**

- The WiFi hotspots have proved extremely popular with patrons! We originally purchased 5 WiFi Hotspots for circulation at the beginning of the summer. They have circulated 32 times since then – which means that they are basically always either on hold for someone or checked out. In order to improve patron access to these devices, we have now added 5 additional hotspots– and they should be available by the end of this week.

### **Staffing and Personnel:**

- Molly Riportella – Head of Adult Services is due to return from maternity leave on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>

### **Volunteer Reception**

- The annual Volunteer Reception will take place on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 11 – 1. All Trustees are invited to join us if available.

### **Westwood Day**

- Westwood Day will be Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Library will have a tent for the event –and if you have a chance and can stop by for a while – that would be great. I think that some of the Friends will be there as well. Hopefully it will be a great day weatherwise!