



# PAOLI LIBRARY

A TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP BRANCH LIBRARY

## October 2018 Branch Manager's Report

### Personnel

After more than ten years as a part-time employee, Joey Ryan has resigned to accept a full-time position at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. For many Paoli patrons, Joey was the face of the library, and some would literally turn around and leave if they came in at a time when he was not working. It is not just a platitude to say that no one can ever take his place, in terms of skills or personality. In his resignation letter Joey expressed frustration that his service, however outstanding, could not be rewarded by increased wages or hours, and there were no opportunities for advancement.

Stephanie Bragg attended the Pennsylvania Library Association Conference in Harrisburg October 12-17. On October 17 she took part in Legislative Day, which included a breakfast with speakers from the PA assembly and visits with state senators and representatives.

### Facilities

The recent repairs to the roof and surrounding parapet seem finally to have fixed the problem of water coming in around the library windows. Over the past couple of years these leaks had forced us to move part of the library's collection and postpone renovation work. Several previous attempts to address the problem failed because they misconstrued where the water was coming from. But in September the property manager reported that water testing found "Caulk failing at headstone cap and joints and coping metal around perimeter." A contractor was dispatched to reseal those areas and recently conducted a successful test of the completed work.

Now that we can move forward, we will be installing new carpeting in November, with new computer carrels and other furniture to follow.

### Volunteers

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Brunch took place Monday, October 22 at 10:00 am. Attendance was smaller than usual for the event, but the conversation was a lively one, thanks to the presence of Foundation Board President James Kim. The Library Board was well represented, with current members C. T. Alexander and Tim Ross, and past Trustees Yolanda Van de Krol and Betsy Allinson attending.

### PA Forward

Paoli Library has earned a Bronze Star rating in the PA Forward Program, a statewide initiative under the PA Library Association (PaLA) that works to strengthen the state's libraries through education, advocacy and leadership. The program recognizes libraries' leadership in five areas of literacy: basic literacy, information literacy, civic and social literacy, health literacy, and financial literacy.

### Children's Programs

Our STEM-oriented programs for school-aged children this month included DIY Stress Balls and Paper STEM Challenges. Participants in the paper challenges attempted to cut an index card so it would fit around their body, experimented with paper shapes to see which was the strongest, and competed to make the longest possible paper chain with one piece of paper. Up next is Spooky Science, with three Halloween-related science experiments.

Beverly Michaels  
Branch Manager  
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