



PAOLI LIBRARY

A TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP BRANCH LIBRARY

January 2019 Branch Manager's Report

AARP Volunteer Tax Aide Program

This year we have agreed to schedule appointments for the AARP Tax Aide program. This program used to be held at the library, but was moved several years ago because our meeting room is not handicap accessible. This year the sessions will be held in the meeting room of the Paoli fire station. The Tax Aide program is intended specifically for low- to moderate-income seniors who cannot afford a tax-preparation service, but they do not turn away people who don't meet those criteria.

Ginger Murphy, Constituent Services Advisory for our new state representative, Melissa Shusterman, approached us and offered to help with the program, so Rep. Shusterman's staff will also be scheduling Tax Aide appointments. Rep. Shusterman has moved into the offices formerly occupied by Rep. Warren Kampf, in the Malvern Federal building.

Personnel

Taylor Baugher began her new PPT position January 1. She will be taking over many of Joey Ryan's responsibilities, including one-on-one tech instruction and AV collection development (shared with Stephanie).

We have hired Anna Johnston as a new weekend shelver, to cover hours that were formerly covered by Joey and by Taylor. We hope to have Anna start work before the end of January.

Facilities

We're making slow but steady progress on our renovation. New carpeting has been installed (with some complications regarding job completion). We have two new custom-built computer carrels, three new armchairs and two new rolling laptop tables. Renovations are complete on the display island and the newspaper counter. Still to come: Additional carrels, new tables, and a renovated circulation desk.

Fundraising

The response to the Annual Appeal mailing (in November 2018) has been very good. Donations to Paoli so far total \$14,315.

Programs

One of our patrons, Jennifer Mueller, gave a donation designated for purchase of one or more museum passes. Her first choices, the Barnes Foundation and Longwood Gardens, unfortunately do not offer library memberships, so she chose from among some other available passes. Based on which passes were circulating well at other libraries, Ms. Mueller decided to sponsor passes to two popular attractions: Eastern State Penitentiary and the Penn Museum.

Children's Programs

Stephanie has instituted Monday evening "Open Teen Space" to provide area teens with a place to meet and spend time together. Board games and other activities will be available, but there is no particular program or set agenda. If we can attract some regular attendees, we hope they will form the core of a Teen Advisory Board for Paoli.

On December 17 Starbucks Storytime was disrupted by an abusive and profane customer. Fortunately the store staff and management continue to be very supportive of the program.

PA Forward

Paoli Library has now achieved Silver Star status in the PA Forward Star Library program, which promotes the value of libraries for developing five important literacies: basic literacy, information literacy, civic and social literacy, health literacy, and financial literacy. Participating libraries must document their programming and activities that support the development of various literacy skills.

Children's Resources

Stephanie has introduced a new item for our young patrons, PA Forward Literacy Packs. The PA Forward initiative emphasizes five literacies deemed essential in society. There are 10 packs, two for each literacy, with a "toy" in each so parents and children can practice that literacy at home as a family.

Basic Literacy: Sight Words & Colors, Shapes, and More flash cards

Financial Literacy: Money Matching & Loose Change game

Information Literacy: Littlecodr game & Code and Go Mouse

Health Literacy: Food Sorting Magnets & Yoga Pretzels activity cards

Civic and Social Literacy: Conversation Cubes & States and Capitals flash cards

Like the new STEM Kits, the Literacy Packs are non-reservable, and must be checked out and returned at Paoli.

Beverly Michaels
Branch Manager
January 2019