Director’s Corner

“The most important asset of any library goes home at night – the library staff”.  
–Timothy Healy (Former President of the New York Public Library).

It has been an exciting summer here at the library and I owe much of that to our amazing library staff! If it wasn’t for them, we wouldn’t be able to offer the amazing services we have at this marvelous library. The library staff plans programming for all ages, purchases and curates exceptional materials, tends to the Friends book sale shelves daily, gives tech help and much, much more. Every single library staff member has something extraordinary to offer and I am so proud to be working alongside them. This month I’d like to share just a few of many examples of just that: exemplary services and programs from our staff.

First, I’d like to highlight our brand-new “Senior Mondays” put together by our teen and adult reference librarian, Terre. She saw the need for more programming for the senior community and acted fast to put her ideas into motion. Each Monday has been a different program for our senior community to enjoy. Starting with trivia, crafts and a concert performed by an extremely talented teen volunteer. Coming up in September is historian Martin Levinson with Brooklyn Boomer: Growing Up in the Fifties a virtual program. The programs have been widely attended and a big hit so far. Many thanks to Terre for planning a great summer line-up. Check out her teen programming as well!

(Continued)
My next highlight is our Head of Tech Services, Anne. We have a lovely couple that have been patrons of the Somers Library for many years. A few years ago, due to personal reasons, they could not get to the library to pick up books. Anne offered to bring items to them about once a month until they could come back in to visit. Since then, the temporary turned into a regular monthly homebound visit to bring their books and to sit and catch up. Anne visits on her own time and truly enjoys bringing them their items from the library. This is a heartfelt example of our library staff going above and beyond to support the community that so kindly supports the library daily.

One more highlight is our homebound program. Diana, adult reference librarian, runs our homebound service here at the library. Homebound Service is a very special service of the Somers Library that brings personalized books and other items directly to those unable to physically get to the Library. This service is part of the Library’s mission to serve all residents of our community. Diana visited one of our long-time homebound patrons and interviewed her about the homebound program. See below:

Eleanor Reich, who turns 100 years old next January, has been a homebound service user since 2017. Now permanently confined to a wheelchair at home, she still uses this service happily. Diana interviewed Eleanor with her daughter, Debbie, and caregiver “Z.” There is no better testimony to the quality of a service than the personal thoughts of a user. “The Library is such a friendly place, with kind and helpful people who do their best to get any book needed” says Eleanor. Eleanor’s love of reading is lifelong, beginning as a child, exposed at an early age by her mother and older sister. Later becoming a second-grade teacher, sharing her love of reading with others. “When my children were young we made trips to the library and I modeled my love of reading. I took them all to story hour and every summer signed them up for library activities, including reading contests, musical workshops and shows for kids.” She continues: "The Homebound Service has made my life so much more pleasant. Since I have been confined to a wheelchair, I get monthly delivery of handpicked books for my interests by wonderful staff and volunteers. They have shown tremendous interest in choosing books that align with my interest and author choice. And it is a wonderful motivator to stay in touch with ideas, staff and fresh books.”
If you or someone you know that would benefit from this service please contact the Library staff for more information. Here is a link to the program application form: **HOMEBOUND DELIVERY**

To be eligible for this service you must be a Somers resident unable to come to the library due to a permanent condition. The service is free of charge, and staff and a library volunteer selects and delivers Somers books monthly, generally on the third Tuesday.

Elenor Reich and her daughter; thank you for being a lifelong library patron!

To see more programs and services that we offer, head over to our website **www.somerslibrary.org**.

Many thanks to the library staff for all that you do!

*With Kind Regards,*

*Jessica Veissy, Library Director*

---

Our programs are supported by the Friends of the Somers Library through our patrons' generous contributions.
Summer Reading at the Somers Library

Community Summer Art Project!!
What’s Your Summer Adventure?
Now through August 31st

We are calling all ages to come to the library and tell us what your summer adventure is going to be? Deepest, darkest Peru? Summer in Provence? Going under a Tuscan sun? Or a staycation in lovely Somers? Drop by the library and fill out/color one of our adventure cut-outs that will represent destinations, transport and more. You are welcome to color them or just write about your holiday plans. We will decorate the library with your adventures!!! If it is more convenient, you can download the images here, work on them at home, then return them to the library.

Adult Summer Reading!
Somers Library Adult Book Bingo 2024.
Through Fri., August 30. For every completed bingo card the library receives (that is eligible for the raffle) a generous donor will contribute $1 to the Library Foundation! Please fill out the registration form.

Teen Summer Reading - Grades 6-12 (Rising)
We have changed up our summer reading format this year so that each badge will earn you a prize or an extra raffle entry. You can still log on to the website to keep track of your reading which means you can read at home, on vacation or at camp! Visit our website for Teen Summer Reading details.

Children’s Summer Reading
Please go to the Children’s Summer Reading details on our website!
SENIOR MONDAYS!
We have programs aimed at seniors **every Monday** here at the library. Programs can range between live piano performances, trivia games, crafts and even a comedy show! There is even a AAA program later this summer so keep an eye out for that!

August highlights include:

**Senior Craft Bookmarks**  
**Monday, August 5 at 1 PM – 2 PM**  
Paint or decoupage a wooden bookmark! This week we will be taking a wooden bookmark and painting or decoupaging it anyway you like. This is an easy craft for beginners to experts.

**Senior Trivia!**  
**Monday, August 19 at 12:30 PM – 2 PM**  
Join us for a Trivia program for Seniors (55+)! You can come with a group of four participants or we will add you to a group...after all, four heads are better than one.

Each participant must sign up individually. Questions will cover sports, politics, entertainment and history and follow a traditional trivia format.

Coming up in September!
**Brooklyn Boomer: Growing Up in the Fifties**  
**Monday, September 9 at 1 PM – 2 PM**  
Available to attend In Person or Virtually via Zoom!

The recollections of the presenter’s middle-class childhood in Brooklyn during the 1950s detailing seminal cultural events of that era including the advent of television, fast-food restaurants, big cars with fins; desegregation and the white flight to the suburbs; rock and roll, beatniks, hula hoops, The Kinsey Reports, the Cold War, McCarthyism, Playboy, and much more. Part memoir, part social history, Brooklyn Boomer offers a captivating portrait of Brooklyn and America in the mid-twentieth century.

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.
Adult Programs & Events

Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

Otaku Club - Last Sunday of the Month, 3 PM – 5 PM - Next meeting, August 25th
If you are interested in anime, manga, comics, video games, and all things “otaku,” come hang out with like-minded people!

Your Tech Coach: One-on-One Assistance
Schedule your 30-minute appointment on our online calendar. Whatever piece of technology is giving you difficulties, feel free to come into the library to better understand the growing world of electronics with staff member Juan Carlos. Make your appointment on our online calendar or with the reference desk.

Threads & Yarns - Fridays, 10:30 AM - 12 PM
Join us on Friday mornings with your fiber art handiwork of any kind - knitting, crochet work, embroidery, cross-stitch, quilting or anything that uses thread or yarn! No registration needed.

Somers Library Classic Book Group meets to discuss “Bleak House,” by Charles Dickens
Hybrid, Monday, August 19 at 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM
Available to attend either in person or virtually via Zoom, First published in 1852, “Bleak House” is the complex story of a notorious law-suit in which love and inheritance are set against the classic urban background of 19th century London, where fog on the river, seeping into the very bones of the characters, symbolizes the corruption of the legal system and the society that supports it. Dickens brought all his passion, brilliance and narrative verve to this huge novel of the lives entangled in a multi-generational lawsuit—and through it he achieved, at age 41, “a stature almost Shakespearean.” This book is widely hailed as “Dickens greatest work.”

Somers Library Book Group meets to discuss “Tom Lake,” by Ann Patchett
Hybrid, Friday, August 23 at 2:30 PM – 4 PM
Available to attend either in person or virtually via Zoom. This is a beautiful, moving story about family, love, and growing up. In the spring of 2020, Lara’s three daughters return to the family’s cherry orchard in Northern Michigan, and beg their mother to tell them the story of Peter Duke, a famous actor and an old romance before they were born. Tom Lake is a “meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives parents have led before their children were born. It explores what it means to be happy, even in a world that appears to be falling apart” (COVID).
Teen Programs & Events
Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance.

Teen Drop In Craft
Wednesday, August 14 at 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Bored? Need something to do? Come in and create using our big selection of arts and craft supplies. You can paint, use our beads, make mini charms, paint glow-in-the-dark rocks or whatever you can think of and we have the supplies!

STEM Desserts – Ice Cream Social
Tuesday, August 20 at 4 PM – 5 PM
For Grades 4 - 7. We will be making ice cream in Ziploc bags! Get a chemistry lesson while making a delicious frozen treat! We will be providing the materials for this program.

Library Scavenger Hunt
August TBD 5 PM - 7 PM
Our Teen Advisory Board has put together a scavenger hunt with clues connected to the library and Somers. You can sign up as a team (max. 4) but there must be one adult in attendance if the team has children under 12. Solve all the clues and the fastest time wins a prize. We will also have a photo opportunity and small take home prizes.
A battle of the minds! 5th Grade to Adult
Children's Events & Programs
Please register on our calendar or call the library for assistance. Children under age 10 must be accompanied in the building by an adult.

Adventure Series: Binoculars
Thursday, August 1 at 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Join us for our Adventure Series Craft! Each craft session you will make an item that you can take along on a hike or any adventure as a tool! This week’s craft is: Make your own Binoculars. Best for ages 4 & up.

Fruits of the Beehive
Tuesday, August 6 at 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
For ages 7-11. Learn about the biology and behavior of honeybees while sampling varieties of honey and making lip balm from beeswax.

Miss Stacy’s Song & Dance
Tuesdays, August 6 & 13 at 10:30 AM – 11 AM
Join us for some tot time! For ages 0 - 5 and their caregivers. Come and enjoy songs, rhymes and books with Miss Stacy. No registration required.

Drop-In Craft
Tuesdays, August 6 & 20, All Day
Drop into the library this summer and make a craft in the Children’s Room! Once, done you may also take your new craft home. All materials will be provided, while supplies last, join us. No registration required.

Pre-Concert Craft
Wednesday, August 7 at 4 PM – 5 PM
In collaboration with Parks and Recreation, come to the library before the August 7th concert for a fun craft. Make a concert sign by decorating recycled CDs! Kids of all ages are welcome.

Playdates at the Library
Wednesdays, August 7 & 21 at 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Join us at the library for a playdate. We’ll have toys, arts and crafts (self-guided), books & music for children to enjoy while parents/guardians get a chance to meet and mingle.

Read to Sunny Boy the Therapy Dog at Somers Library!
Saturday, August 10th at 11 AM – 12 PM
We are welcoming Sunny Boy from Therapy Dogs International to the Somers Library! Each child will get to read with our special friend for 15-minutes. Best for beginning readers (age 5 & up). We have multiple time slots available to register with our online calendar.

Read to Hank the Therapy Dog at Somers Library!
Saturday, August 17th at 11 AM – 12 PM
We are welcoming Hank from Paws for a Cause to the Somers Library! Each child will get to read with our special friend for 15-minutes. Best for beginning readers (age 5 & up). We have multiple time slots available to register with our online calendar.

STEM Desserts – Ice Cream Social
Tuesday, August 20 at 4 PM – 5 PM
For Grades 4 - 7. We will be making ice cream in Ziploc bags! Get a chemistry lesson while making a delicious frozen treat! We will be providing the materials for this program.
Patricia Leinani Stanton is a painter, multimedia artist, with abstract and realistic styles. Pat attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and took courses in Fashion Design, Printmaking and Photography. She later attended the School of Textile and Surface Design, where she received a certificate in Berkeley, CA. She also received an A.A.S degree of Textile & Surface Design, from the Fashion Institute of Technology, in New York. She currently resides in Yonkers, New York. Pat has also worked in the textile design field, having created a line of silicone placemats, for Bed, Bath & Beyond. Pat is currently a member of the Blue Door Art Center, an art gallery in Yonkers NY. She also is a member of the New Rochelle Art Association, where she serves on the membership committee. Pat has won a few awards since she began exhibiting her artwork.

ARTIST STATEMENT:
I am inspired by flowers, nature and the patterns that I see in everyday life.

My influences are mid-century modern art, motifs, furniture, architecture, all things Japanese. Pat’s work, whether it is representational or abstract, is created by my interpretation of what I observe and how I reveal it in paint, color, collage and textures.
Here’s hoping you’re able to enjoy lots of reading this summer, and while you’re reading, play along with us by filling in your Adult Reading Bingo Card. For every completed Bingo card, a generous donor will contribute $1.00 to the Somers Library Foundation – up to $1500! - to fund library improvements. If you haven’t registered for the Bingo game yet, see the reference librarian for your card. The more you read, the more you support our wonderful library! Bingo cards must be turned in by August 30th.

The Somers Library Foundation is very pleased to welcome our two newest Board members, Sasha Greenspan and Susan Marotta. We thank them for their commitment to the Somers Library and willingness to give their time, energy and talent to work on fundraising projects that will benefit the Library. We also want to thank Diane Karsch, a volunteer, and librarian Terre Thomas, who are updating the SLF website. If you are interested in learning more about our projects, volunteering, or joining the Board, please send an email to the Foundation at SLF@somerslibrary.org or contact us through the website contact form, somerslibraryfoundation.org.

Unfortunately, the Somers Library Foundation 5K Trail Run will not be held this Fall. The Foundation appreciates the many volunteers who have helped the Foundation host this event for more than a decade. We also thank our past sponsors for their previous support. Over the years, this event generated more than $100,000 in donations, demonstrating our community’s tremendous interest in and support for the Somers Library. These contributions made a dramatic positive impact on the Library and the services it provides. The need for Library enhancements remains, so the Foundation is exploring alternate events that can be hosted in the near future. If you would like to support these efforts, please contact us.

Somers Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that raises funds to support projects that beautify, modernize and enrich the offerings and capabilities of the Somers Library, our community’s intellectual and cultural center -- Working for YOU to improve our Library.
The Friends of the Library want to remind you to check out our sale shelves for books to take with you on vacation. People sometimes leave books they’ve finished reading at resort, cruise or hotel venues at the end of their stay, to pass along to the next reader. It’s a fun way to ‘pay it forward’.

Libraries offer great resources to help you plan and enjoy vacations. Check out travel guides, beach-read books on the summer loan program, stories to listen to on road trips, and movies to watch on long summer nights.

Have a safe and happy summer.