

Director's Report to the Board of Agents

Silas Bronson Library

June 20, 2017

Raechel Guest, Director

Front Plaza Project

Construction of the ramp for the back entrance began on May 24 with the installation of concrete underground support posts. Construction of the wood ramp began on Friday, June 2. When it is completed, the front lawn and entrance will be fenced off and demolition (removal of sidewalks, lights, ramp, railings, etc.) will begin.

After the ramp construction began, we had a number of confused patrons attempt to come into the library through the staff/delivery entrance. We have installed a chain and directional signage across the ramp to help with this problem, as patrons typically did not stop to read the signage on the door.

We will be doing some rearranging of AIS cubicles in the basement to make room for the new fountain's mechanical system. Supplies currently stored where the mechanicals will be located need to be moved to where two AIS staff cubicles are currently located. The end result will be a more professional, clean, and well-light office for all of the AIS staff.

State Budget Cuts

Due to state budget cuts to the Connecticut State Library, there will be a significant reduction in services for patrons borrowing books from other libraries. The state's borrowIT program allows patrons to borrow books from any participating library and return books to any participating library. Patrons can also request books from another library be delivered to them at their home library. All deliveries between participating libraries have been done by the state's deliverIT program. We send and receive numerous bins full of books every day of the week—averaging between five and ten bins daily. The delivery system will be shut down between June 19 and July 17. When it resumes, there will be a limit of 3 bins picked up per day per library.

Circulation Division

May Statistical Reports: Main Library

Total Collection Size: 250,484
Total Items Added to Collection: 514
Total Items Circulated: 11,166
Total Circulation In-House: 144
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 1,139
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 339

Total Active Patrons: 12,726
Total Expired Patrons: 15,067
Total Patrons Added: 227

May Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill

Total Collection Size: 13,332
Total Items Added to Collection: 18
Total Items Circulated: 760
Total Circulation In-House: 0
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 94
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 345

Total Active Patrons: 434
Total Expired Patrons: 507
Total Patrons Added: 10

Museum Pass Usage, May 2017

American Clock & Watch Museum: 1
Barker Comic and Cartoon Museum: 0
Barnum Museum: 0
Beardsley Zoo: 5
Children's Museum/Roaring Brook Nature: 0
Connecticut Science Center: 0
Connecticut's Old State House: 0
CT State Parks & Forest Recreation: 0
EverWonder Children's Museum: 0
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center: 0
Imagine Nation: 0
Institute for American Indian Studies: 0
KidsPlay Childrens Museum: 0

Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk: 1
Mark Twain House: 0
Mattatuck Museum: 2
Mystic Aquarium: 1
Mystic Seaport: 1
New Britain Museum of American Art: 0
New England Air Museum: 0
New Haven Museum: 0
Old Sturbridge Village: 0
Peabody Museum of Natural History: 2
Wadsworth Atheneum: 3
White Memorial Conservation Center: 0

Online Presence

Facebook Followers as of 6/12/2017: 685
Facebook Reach May 15 – June 11: 4,203
Facebook Post Engagements May 15 – June 11: 4,611

Google Listing (May)

Google Search Views: 2,684 Google Map Views: 1,093 Google Phone Clicks: 130

Website Visitors Apr. 30 – May 28: 1,854
Website Pageviews Apr. 30 – May 28: 6,008

Most Visited Website Pages (Apr. 30 – May 28):

Home Page: 3,106	Museum Passes: 162	Calendar: 93
Programs: 284	About Us: 136	eBooks & Video: 83
Bunker Hill Branch: 277	How to Get a Card: 133	Computer Classes: 59
Genealogy: 232	Children's Pages: 126	Hall of Fame: 45
Ask A Librarian: 195	How to Find Books: 107	Research: 41

Friends Fundraising & Outreach Committee

The Committee is continuing to work on a number of outreach and fundraising ideas. They are also working on plans to bring back the annual Friends of the Library book sale.

Benevento Fund

The inaugural program was a hit, and the Friends have raised more than \$5,000 for the fund, bringing to total to \$17,500 before expenses. We will need to form a committee to help plan future programs, to be held quarterly.

Patron Services

I am working on having our downloadable eBooks and audiobooks integrated into our Bibliomation catalog. Currently, patrons have to navigate between three websites (Bibliomation, Overdrive, and OneClickDigital) and do three separate searches in order to find books. Once the integration is done, patrons will be able to search all three collections simultaneously in our regular Bibliomation catalog.

Maintenance

We now have a carpet extractor, and our Maintainers have been using it to deep clean all wall-to-wall carpeting at the main library and branch library. The carpet shampoo conforms to safety standards for people with severe allergies and/or asthma.

The library will be launching a new recycling program this summer, with dedicated recycling bins throughout the building for the public and the staff.