Director’s Report to the Board of Agents

Silas Bronson Library

March 18, 2019
Raechel Guest, Director

U.S. Census 2020

Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz held a press conference here this morning to announce the 2020 Census in Waterbury. This is the first time that the census survey will be available online. Public libraries are expected to play a role in the completion of the census by providing access to public computers and assisting patrons with questions about how to fill it out. The American Library Association is advocating for public libraries to assist their communities in achieving a fair, accurate, and inclusive count.

East Wing/Teen Zone Renovation

We are waiting for a set of electrical boxes to arrive, hopefully next week. We had previously installed six boxes in the floor, but have since discovered that additional boxes are needed. If they arrive on time, the City Electrician can run the final wiring on Saturday, April 6. After this is done, we can have the carpeting, glass walls, and furniture installed.

Cash Handling Procedures

I am continuing to work with the City’s Audit Department to develop and implement new cash handling procedures and forms.

Bequest from Anne Lattanzio

We have received a check for $20,046 from the Estate of Anne Lattanzio. We are waiting for more information from the estate attorney regarding any possible restrictions on the bequest.

From her obituary:
Mrs. Anne (Walsh) Lattanzio, age 94, passed away on Friday, February 5, 2016 at her home. She was the wife of the late Gaetano J. Lattanzio. Mrs. Lattanzio was born on December 9, 1921, born to Irish immigrants the late Edmund and Nora (Flaherty) Walsh. She was a woman ahead of her time and a trailblazer for all women. Anne was a proud U.S. Navy WAVES veteran. She joined the Navy so that she could attend college and with determination rose through the ranks and made anchors. After her time in the service, she returned home and received her bachelor’s degree from New Haven State Teacher’s College. She went on to teach in the Waterbury Department of Education at Driggs School and Gilmartin School. She was acting vice-principal of Gilmartin School and was offered the principal position after she made the decision to retire after 36 years. She was passionate about teaching and loved her students. She organized class trips so that her students could travel and experience new things. Anne volunteered for the Literacy Volunteers teaching English as a second language for many years. A lady of infinite wisdom, Anne delighted in reading and debating current events, politics, and religion. She traveled extensively with her group of friends, called “The Moles”, enjoyed her trips to the casino and adored her cat.

In-Kind Donations
The Connecticut State Library, working with an anonymous donor, has given us 108 brass and stainless steel Hohner Special 20 C harmonicas (with 30-day free online lessons) for distribution to children. We handed out a number of harmonicas at our Sound-Speriments music program on March 14 and will distribute the rest on May 30, when the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra performs Peter and the Wolf in the Children’s Room.

Friends’ Book Sale
The Friends of the Library had been planning to hold a large book sale at an off-site location, but those plans have fallen through. They are now hoping to hold the sale in our Main Reading Room during the week of May 6-11. Volunteers are needed to assist with setup and during the sale.
Circulation Division

February Statistical Reports: Main Library
Total Collection Size: 266,547
Total Items Added to Collection: 718
Total Items Circulated: 10,446
Total Circulation In-House: 193
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 855
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 292
Total Active Patrons: 11,090
Total Expired Patrons: 13,483
Total Patrons Added: 323

February Statistical Reports: Bunker Hill
Total Collection Size: 15,399
Total Items Added to Collection: 44
Total Items Circulated: 475
Total Circulation In-House: 0
Total Circulated at Other Libraries: 45
Total Circulated from Other Libraries: 187
Total Active Patrons: 394
Total Expired Patrons: 455
Total Patrons Added: 1

Museum Pass Usage, February 2019

American Clock & Watch Museum: 0
Barker Comic and Cartoon Museum: 0
Barnum Museum: 0
Beardsley Zoo: 0
Children’s Museum/Roaring Brook Nature: 0
Connecticut Science Center: 0
Connecticut’s Old State House: 0
EverWonder Children’s Museum: 1
Harriet Beecher Stowe Center: 0
Imagine Nation: 3
Institute for American Indian Studies: 1
KidsPlay Childrens Museum: 2

Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk: 0
Mark Twain House: 0
Mattatuck Museum: 5
Mystic Aquarium: 1
Mystic Seaport: 0
New Britain Museum of American Art: 0
New England Air Museum: 
New Haven Museum: 0
Old Sturbridge Village: 0
Peabody Museum of Natural History: 3
Wadsworth Atheneum: 1
White Memorial Conservation Center: 0

3
Online Presence

Facebook Followers as of 3/15/2019: 1,327
Facebook Reach Feb. 18 – Mar. 17: 9,706
Facebook Post Engagements Feb. 18 – Mar. 17: 3,224

Instagram Followers as of 3/15/2019: 386
Bronson Teens Instagram Followers as of 3/15/2019: 157
Twitter Followers as of 3/15/2019: 341

Website Visitors February 1 – February 28: 1,964
Website Sessions February 1 – February 28: 3,257
Website Pageviews February 1 – February 28: 6,403

Most Visited Website Pages (February 1 – February 28):

- Home Page: 3,292
- About Us: 126
- Board of Agents: 31
- Programs: 320
- How to Get a Card: 96
- Library History: 30
- Genealogy/Local Hist.: 305
- eBooks: 95
- New Movies: 27
- How to Find Books: 190
- City Directories: 78
- Teen/YA: 24
- Museum Passes: 176
- Borrowing Questions: 64
- Friends: 22
- Calendar: 176
- Hall of Fame: 61
- Directions: 13
- Ask A Librarian: 167
- News: 61
- Suggest a Purchase: 13
- Research: 157
- Computer Classes: 42
- Email Signup: 13
- Bunker Hill Branch: 145
- Book Sale: 34
- Children’s Division: 138
- Newsletters: 32