



From the Director's Desk

Elizabeth McDermott



It's hard to believe we are approaching the end of 2015! For the Red Bank Public Library it has been a really busy and wonderful year. Just a few of the things we have managed to achieve: we created some cutting edge programs, we increased our Spanish language programs, we introduced hundreds of children to the joy of reading and hearing a story, we expanded our online presence, and we expanded our hours to 38 per week. This is a huge achievement since we have accomplished all this with a reduced number of staff.

We also started a major Strategic Planning effort. In September we asked for input from the community in the form of a survey. We received over 400 responses. Thank you very much to all who helped by taking the time to fill out the survey – we are very grateful. There were some wonderful comments and suggestions which we are in the process of compiling so we can share the results.

We want to open more hours as much as people want us to extend our hours. But we will do it carefully, so we can maintain consistent hours for the future. We also want to offer more programs – authors, health, retirement, local history. We want to provide more technology classes and encourage use of our online music, movies, magazines and classes – available to everyone who has a library card! (See p. 2 - Online Offerings)

The second Annual Appeal was sent out by the Foundation in November. We hope you will consider donating to the sustainability of our wonderful library. Please help us help you – a donation to the Red Bank Public Library means we can do more – more programming, more books, more computers, more hours. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The Foundation's 2nd Annual Appeal

“We are so grateful for the community’s support and engagement,” said Beth Hanratty, President of the Foundation, “This is our second annual appeal and our primary means of raising funds. Last year, we were very encouraged by the positive response.” Proceeds from the appeal will benefit the Foundation for the Red Bank Public Library. “Donations to the 2015 Annual Appeal will enable the Library to act on the recommendations of the strategic planning committee,” added Beth. Next year’s goals include further increasing the hours that the Library is open, sponsoring more cultural events, better publicizing all that the Library has to offer and introducing additional relevant programs for teens and the Library’s Spanish-speaking patrons.

For the text of the appeal letter mailed to homes, please visit www.redbanklibrary.org. Donations can be made online at www.redbanklibrary.org or by mailing a check payable to “The Foundation for the Red Bank Public Library” to the Foundation for the Red Bank Public Library at 84 W. Front St., Red Bank, N.J. 07701. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

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News from the
Red Bank
Public Library



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Adult Programs

January 16th from 9:00 a.m.— noon: In commemoration of Martin Luther King, The Pilgrim Baptist Church will present a “**Community Conversation On Race and Social Justice**” in the Meeting Room at the RBPL

Artists' Workshop meets the first Thursday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Devote time monthly to your art with the guidance of Joe Bergholm, Artist-in-Residence. All media except oils, please.

The River Read Poetry Reading Series meets on the second Saturday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. These popular sessions include featured readers and Open-Mic time. The public is invited to these free programs. Come listen...come share. No registration is required.

Readin' on the River adult book discussion group meets the third Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Library. For more information about the book of the month and to register, call us at 732-842-0690 x110.

Yoga for Adults meets every Friday from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. Please bring your own yoga mat. First come, first served. Limit of 20 people age 18 and over.

Computer Tutors are available for one hour, one-on-one sessions by appointment. To learn computer and internet basics, please schedule some time with one of our knowledgeable and patient volunteers. Visit or call the Adult Reference Desk to register.

The **Jersey Inchkins** is a club made up of adults who do "very little work." Club members build houses, rooms, scenes, and vignettes in miniature, usually on a scale of one inch to one foot. They meet at the library on the third Wednesday of each month from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. The group welcomes new members 18 and older interested in developing their skills in this creative field.

COMING SOON:

- ◆ Screening of the movie *Innocente*.
- ◆ “Let’s Talk About Race” Series to continue.
- ◆ Author Talks
- ◆ March Quilting Workshop
- ◆ March Bagpipe Program: Local resident Jim Whyte, an 18-year member of the Pipes and Drums of the Atlantic Watch will present a special family oriented program that will feature the music of the bagpipe.

ONLINE OFFERINGS: Download ebooks for Free!

No one would dispute that one of the most appealing aspects of the Red Bank Public Library is its river views. And while many patrons enjoy spending time here, our website provides access to music, film, magazines, online courses, electronic databases, and ebooks without having to actually visit the Library. All you need is your library card number and your PIN.



There are even SAT and SparkNotes study guides for test preparation. Each icon is a link to a book description.

Freading ebook service is compatible with many popular devices. Any Windows or MAC computer or laptop with Internet Explorer,

Safari, Firefox or Chrome browsers will download Adobe Digital Edition software. Free Apps are available for Apple and most Android tablets or phones. Instructions are on the **Freading** website. After logging on with your library card number and your PIN, you may select ebooks to download. Lending is limited to two weeks with an option to renew. Give it a try and see how you like it!

Visit www.redbanklibrary.org and click on *Virtual Branch* to take advantage of **Freading**, an online service that allows cardholders to download ebooks for free. By clicking on the **Freading** icon in the *Virtual Branch*, hundreds of titles appear that include Lonely Planet Destination Guides, popular fiction, cookbooks, self-help books and much more.

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Freading ♦ **Freegal Music, Movies & TV** ♦ **Rocket Languages** ♦ **Universal Class** ♦ **Zinio online magazines** ♦ **Indieflix**

*A different online offering will be featured in each upcoming newsletter.

Cathy Boyd - Friends Legacy



Our dear friend, long-term patron and one of the founding members of the Friends of the Red Bank Public Library died on November 22, 2015. She was diagnosed 16 years ago with Stage 4 breast cancer and at that time was given 6 months to live. Cathy was a strong woman and fought an unbelievable fight. During

those years, in addition to taking care of her elderly mother, and enduring ongoing treatments, she continued to read, complete the NY Times crossword puzzle in record time, and volunteer at all the Friends events, big or small, right up to our recent "What's In Your Attic?" event in October. Her fresh floral arrangements were legendary!

On December 8th, a celebration of her life was held at the Red Bank Public Library for her family and friends. It was a special time of remembrance. She was a friend to the Library in so very many ways, and she will be missed.

Donations to the Friends of the Red Bank Public Library that are made in Cathy's honor will be placed in a scholarship fund for high school English students.



Volunteers Welcome!

Find your fit as a volunteer at the RBPL. Stop by or call 732-842-0690, ext 112 and ask for Linda.



Catch Up With The Friends

On October 17, 2015, the Friends of the Red Bank Public Library found out the answer to the question "What's in Your Attic?" when hundreds of people showed up to have items evaluated by local antique dealers from Riverbank Antiques & Interiors. While folks waited for their turn, they were treated to live music from a fabulous bluegrass band, autumnal desserts, apples, cold and hot cider, mini lectures on historical subjects such as the T Thomas Fortune House.

The Friends are always looking for ways to introduce people to the Library. "What's in Your Attic?" was planned as a community event, and we were thrilled that the response was so great.

The Friends of the Red Bank Public Library were recognized by the Libraries of Middlesex (LMXAC) as the outstanding Friends organization of 2015. On December 1, they were honored at an awards banquet. Director, Elizabeth Mc Dermott, wrote this about the Friends in her letter of nomination..."How do you thank a dedicated group of volunteers that work tirelessly behind the scenes 52 weeks a year, planning events, large and small, to support and publicize the Library? As the Director of the Red Bank Public Library, I would like to publicly shower accolades on the Friends of the Red Bank Public Library and thank them for all they have done for the Library and the community. From children's programming to local history to cultural programs inside the library and out, there is no part of the Library's mission that hasn't been embraced and enhanced by the Friends. Thank you from the staff and trustees of the Red Bank Public Library." And congratulations to the Friends for receiving this honor.

The Friends of the Red Bank Public Library are in need of energetic, enthusiastic library lovers to join us! Please come to one of our meetings every second Thursday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

Local History Room Update

Our yearbook digitization project continues! We had a great response to the many yearbooks we put online last spring. We are pleased to announce we have digitized 10 additional yearbooks which increases our total collection to 51. We also digitized a 9th Grade class photo from 1949. Contributions from RBRHS Reunion classes helped fund this effort. Access them through our website www.redbanklibrary.org and catch a blast from the past!



More yearbooks on line means more great finds like this portrait of Mayor Menna, class of '72!



Don't toss your old Prown's calendar! Donate it to the New Jersey History Room (notes & all!)



EISNER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

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MISSION STATEMENT:
The Red Bank Public Library provides materials, information, technology and cultural opportunities to enrich, empower, educate and entertain people of all ages and backgrounds.

Library Hours

Monday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wednesday 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Thursday 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Upcoming Closings:

New Year's: Fri 1/1 & Sat 1/2
Martin Luther King Day:
Mon 1/18
President's Day: Monday, 2/15



We are pleased to announce a new member of our Board of Trustees:
Mr. Jim White



Bag Sales

Every first Tuesday and Wednesday of the month fill a bag for \$5. The Library will provide the bag(s); you fit as many books, DVDs, and CDs as you can in it! Or buy a Friends of the Red Bank Public Library canvas tote bag for \$10 and fill it for free. Inquire at the Circulation Desk for more information.



Log on to our website at www.redbanklibrary.org and view the Children's Room calendar for more information about our amazing programs. Visit the Children's Room or call to register.

ONGOING PROGRAMS:

STORY TIMES Drop in and join Miss Sira for fun stories, songs and a related craft. Open to young children with a caregiver. **TUESDAYS** at 10:30 a.m. and **THURSDAYS** at 1:30 p.m.

BILINGUAL STORY TIME: Join Miss Maria for stories in both Spanish & English as well as a simple craft. For children 3-8 yrs. Saturday, **January 9** at 11:00 a.m.

MOVIE TIME: Hang out with friends and watch this funny, family film. Snack, too!
DATE: Thursday, January 28 at 6:00 p.m.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:

SATURDAY = GAME DAY: Drop in every Saturday any time between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. for board games, coloring sheets, and a special craft!

ARTSY SMARTSY Subject: Piet Mondrian. Make your own modern masterpiece!
DATE: Saturday, January 23 at 11:00 a.m.

For more information about our programs and how to register, contact the Children's Room at 732-842-0690 x115.

CHILDREN'S ROOM ETIQUETTE

- Talk quietly.
- Walk softly. No running!
- Snack outside the stacks & away from computers.
- Treat all library materials with respect.
- Return your items on time.
- Share toys & games with others.
- Clean up before you leave.

The Smartest Card
GET IT. USE IT.

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Celebrate Library Card Sign-up Month in September

If you *live, work or go to school* in Red Bank, bring a photo ID and proof of address or employment to register for a free card.



Fun Facts about Libraries

- Benjamin Franklin formed the first public lending library in America.
- Two out of three Americans own library cards and use them.
- Libraries have more locations than McDonald's and more cardholders than Visa.
- The largest library in the world is the Library of Congress with 745 miles of bookshelves in the historic building!
- What book holds the record for being the book most often stolen from the Public Library? Guinness Book of Records, of course!