

Director's Chat:

From the Desk of Elizabeth McDermott

We are coming to the end of a wonderful, event-filled year celebrating our 80th Anniversary Year.

What a whirlwind of activity! Programs, starting with Vintage Valentines in February and culminating with a Historic Holiday Celebration in December. Each month we marked our success as a Library and as a place where the community is enriched, empowered, educated and entertained.

Identified as one of our core competencies in our Strategic Plan completed in 2016, the Local History Room was reopened May 20th to much fanfare! And recent visitors to the Local History Room include Larry Eisner and Michael Eisner, both great grandsons of Sigmund Eisner, our Library's namesake.

We welcome everyone to the Eisner Memorial Red Bank Public Library – stop in and say “hello”. There is always something happening at “the most remarkable place in town”.

Fall 2017

News from the
Red Bank
Public Library



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Larry Eisner Pays Us A Visit

Larry Eisner and Emi Takahara visited the Red Bank Public Library for the first time in October. Born and raised in California, Larry had never been to Red Bank before. His grandfather, Victor Eisner, had moved West to handle Eisner business on the other coast, and sadly he passed away before the Eisner Mansion was deeded to the town as a Library.

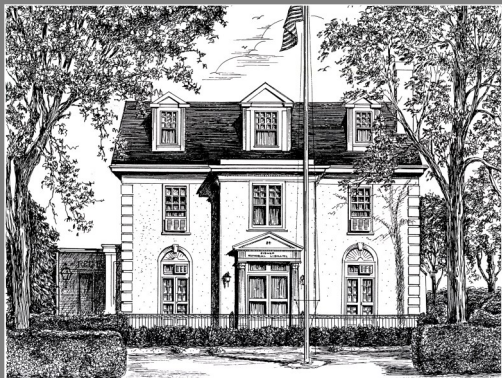
We are always happy to share our knowledge of the Eisner story and thank any and every Eisner for the generosity of their forbears. We provided a quick tour of the Local History Room and Eisner Family material then made a dash around town led by Library volunteer Liam Collins. There are so many landmarks in Red Bank with significance to the Eisner Family – and the Weis Family, too. The Temple of Fashion was the first stop on the tour. We hope to share more stories with Larry and Emi on their next trip East. When they left, they were convinced that Red Bank is a very hospitable town!

4th Annual Appeal

The mission of the Foundation for the Red Bank Public Library is to raise funds to support the long-term fiscal health of the Library. They are working hard on printing and mailing their 4th Annual Appeal.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support!

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."-- Margaret Mead



YOUR TOWN

By Terry McCue

Special Programs



December 2 at 11 a.m. HISTORIC HOLIDAY PARTY: Make vintage gift tags and holiday cards, cut snowflakes, and craft a votive candle. Treat yourself to some old-fashioned holiday goodies! We might even sing some holiday tunes... Open to all ages.



December 6 at 7 p.m. FAKE NEWS!! Find out the real story about Fake News as the Library hosts the final session of this 3-part series. This event will focus on *Teaching Our Children to Identify Valid Information*. Join professional educators and librarians to discuss this relevant and important topic.



November 8 & December 13 at 7 p.m., BASIC CIVICS FOR CITIZENS: Refresh your memory and learn something new about our Democracy. Join the remaining sessions of this 3-part course to review basic concepts of civics. Examine the roles of Federal, State and Local Governments, and the rules governing the Electoral College. Discuss how these concepts impact our lives today and engage in conversations.

Continuing Adult Programs

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

Computer Tutors are available for free one-on-one sessions by appointment. Learn computer and internet basics. Stop in and schedule time with one of our knowledgeable and patient volunteers at our Adult Reference Desk or call us at 732-842-0690x111.

English as a Second Language classes for adults 18 and over are conducted by the Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County at the Red Bank Public Library. Classes meet weekly on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. through December 7. The class will resume in January. Register at any time by contacting the Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County at 732-571-0209 or visit their website www.lvmonmouthnj.org.

Readin' on the River, our adult book discussion group, meets the third Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Contact the Reference Desk for information.

The **River Read Poetry Reading Series** meets on the second Saturday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sessions include featured readers and open-mic time. The public is invited and the programs are free. Come listen...come share. No registration required.

Yoga for Adults meets every Friday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. The class is appropriate for all levels of yoga experience. Please bring your own yoga mat. This program is free and no registration is required. First come, first served. Limit of 20 people age 18 and over.

Let's Talk About Race is a discussion series that takes place on the last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to participate and explore issues of race, gender, class, and culture in the context of literary works and social history. Multimedia presentations, guest speakers, and panels support the themes of our discussions. These have included Women in the Workforce, The Challenges of Being Muslim in America, and Race in Education, to name a few. Enlightening and informative exchanges are to be expected!

Investors Foundation Funds Digitization of Yearbooks & Newspapers



Thanks to a generous donation of \$1500 from Investors Foundation, the Local History Room has digitized several **Red Bank Catholic H.S. yearbooks** to add to our substantial collection of Red Bank H.S. yearbooks which are accessible online. The RBC yearbooks from 1945-47, '58, '66, and '68-'71, '73-'75 are now available through our website. Anyone willing to help build this collection by lending us their yearbook(s) for digitization or by donating them to our physical collection is asked to contact the Library at 732-842-0690. Monetary donations to cover the cost of digitizing the books would also be most welcome (\$80 per book).

With the funding from Investors Foundation, the Library has also digitized **The Echo and The Mail & Express**, two local African American-owned newspapers from 1904-1937. This material was not accessible except on microfilm in the building until this time, so it is a unique contribution to local history to make it available online. Visit the Local History page of our website at www.redbanklibrary.org to access these wonderful resources.

Pictured (L-R): Barbara Pickell, Librarian, Christopher Curcia, AVP, Investors Bank, Elizabeth McDermott, Library Director and Claire Tyluki McIntosh

Remembering Tim Clark - Patron & Volunteer



The Library staff was very saddened to hear of the sudden passing of our patron, Mr. Tim Clark. While he was not a resident of Red Bank, he visited the Library regularly and was also a dedicated volunteer. Working just a few steps away in the Hovnanian Building, Tim stopped by the Library frequently during his lunch hour and faithfully attended our monthly program called *Let's Talk About Race*. Over the years, he became more and more involved, eventually joining the planning committee for the Race program. With his help, the program continued to grow. Fittingly, it had one of its largest audiences when he

moderated a discussion following a screening of the James Baldwin documentary "I Am Not Your Negro" just this past September. Tim was so well prepared for his role and did an excellent job offering insights and guiding the group discussion. The November 2017 program is also largely attributed to Tim since it is his friend who will lead the conversation on "Racism Without Racists."

Tim Clark was tall, dapper and a true gentleman—always quick with a kind word and a ready smile. According to Linda Hewitt, our Circulation Supervisor / Outreach & Program Coordinator, "Tim Clark was indeed a great gentleman and a man who truly helped to bring people together. He will be missed by so many whose lives he touched throughout his journey here."

PumpkinFest 2017



The Friends of the Red Bank Public Library sponsored our 1st Annual PumpkinFest which was held on a glorious Fall Saturday in October. The event included a cooking contest with entries from adults and children which were judged by local professionals. Meanwhile, the Children's Room offered pumpkin painting and other crafts to entertain the kids. It was a great community event and we are already looking forward to next year!



Online Art Auction Reaches Its Goal!

For many years, local artists have met at the Red Bank Public Library once a month for an evening workshop led by renowned artist Joe Bergholm. One of these talented artists, Terry McCue, passed away a few years ago, and the rest of this group decided to memorialize their friendship and honor Terry with a bench outside the Library. To raise the funds for the bench, the class decided to hold an online auction. Each artist contributed at least one piece of their own work for sale. In addition, the auction included art from well-known local artists Mike Quon, Lewis Lanza Rudolph and Joe Bergholm. Happily, the art auction was a great success thanks, in part, to generous support from the McCue Family! It ended on October 28 at 5:00 p.m., and \$2,200 was raised through bids and donations. Christening of the bench will occur at a future date – stay tuned!



Food for Fines: Once again, we will celebrate the season of giving by allowing you to pay off your overdue fines with food donations for St. Anthony's Food Pantry. \$1 will be credited for each donated item. From November 20 to December 29.



Interested in volunteering at the Library? We need assistance with many tasks and projects behind the scenes. Stop by the Circulation Desk or call 732-842-0690 for more information.

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. - 5 p.m.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

CLOSED: Nov. 10
CLOSED: Nov. 11
Early Closing: Nov. 22 1-5 pm
CLOSED: Nov. 23 & 24
CLOSED: Dec. 25

Special Programs

Historic Holiday Party:
Join us for this fun family program on Saturday, December 2 at 11:00 a.m. in our historic Eisner Room. Make special holiday crafts and enjoy delicious seasonal treats. For all ages.

Holiday Movie Party:
Thursday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. Watch a special holiday program, make crafts and enjoy holiday goodies. Ages 5 and up.

A Surprise Visitor: Acclaimed Illustrator Nadine Westcott



Nadine Westcott with her book *Miss Mary Mack*

Nadine Bernard Westcott has illustrated over 100 books, including *I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*, *Peanut Butter and Jelly*, *Going on a Book Hunt* and *Miss Mary Mack* — a Story Time favorite and one of the books on display at the Riverside Gardens Story Walk this summer.

Ms. Westcott grew up locally and was in town for her high school reunion at Rumson Fair Haven High School. Word of our popular Story Walk came to her attention, she paid a visit and saw her own book on display and she stopped by the Library to tell us how much she enjoyed it. We were thrilled to meet her, and she was happy to visit the Children’s Room where she spent many hours during her childhood. Today, Ms. Westcott lives in Nantucket, MA and divides her time between illustrating books and designing her own line of fabrics. A short time after her visit, a wonderful package full of autographed books arrived to thank us for supporting her work! We promised to add them to the collection to share with our young patrons along with her story of a local girl with a great talent who became a big success!



Kids enjoying our outdoor space.

**Reaching Kids:
Here, There & Everywhere!**

A quick survey of young Library patrons recently revealed some reasons why they like the Children’s Room: *books, games, books, anime, story time, books, games, coloring, toys, computers, books, river views, super helpful librarians, and more books!* These enthusiastic answers may explain why our Children’s Room was identified as one of the Library’s strengths in a professional survey conducted for our 2016 Strategic Plan. Creating an environment that is comfortable and welcoming to children and young families is a priority for our staff. To foster a love of reading we offer books and other materials in multiple languages that appeal to boys and girls of all ages and backgrounds and with many different interests. “Beyond that,” says Sira Williams, our

Children’s Services Librarian, “we want kids to know that the Library is so much more than books! We have DVDs and audio books; free Wi-Fi, public computers and printers; games, puzzles and toys, and lots of fun programs, too!”

Working with community partners and venturing outside of the Library helps us to reach kids and let them know we’re here. This summer, campers from the YMCA, the Red Bank Rec, and the Red Bank Charter School Summer Institute visited the Library on a regular basis for tours, stories, crafts and free time. Our Story Walks at Riverside Gardens and the Library encouraged the community to walk and read outdoors. And through story times at Monmouth Day Care Center, RBCS and back to school nights, residents encountered us outside of our walls. As a results of these efforts, our library card registrations have increased and more families are enjoying our services. We are committed to finding even more ways to offer outdoor activities - both at the library and out in the community.

Says Ms. Sira, “We want to take every opportunity to remind local families that we are here, that we are *their* Library, that we are an excellent resource for their children, and that we are a free, fun, welcoming place for everyone.”