

Hunterdon County Library
Director's Report
October 2017

Stigma Free Zone Hunterdon County is partnering with local business to promote “Stigma Free Zones” throughout the county. The Stigma-Free campaign is a national effort that promotes acceptance and confronts stereotypes, so that those who struggle with mental health challenges will seek help and not suffer in silence. The campaign recognizes there is no shame in identifying the illness and asking for help and that people can and do recover and go to live successful lives. Headquarters, North County Branch, and South County Branch Libraries all have these identifying decals on the front doors. For more information: <http://co.hunterdon.nj.us/pdf/press/2017/September09-StigmaFreeCampaign.pdf>

Volunteers Julie Hrinyak, Principal Library Assistant, Headquarters Circulation has taken over several of the tasks that had previously been assigned to Linda Zdepski who retired at the end of August. Julie will be overseeing the Bookmark Café at Headquarters and has just assumed responsibility for the volunteers. She has suggested a staff Shelf Reading Blitz at the Headquarters Library as a way to reenergize and assist the volunteers in their shelving duties; the North County Branch Library has started their own Shelf Reading Blitz.

Leadership Hunterdon Jennifer Winberry is participating in the Chamber of Commerce's ten-month program Leadership Hunterdon. The group of eight participants from non-profits as well as businesses meets once a month. The sessions are facilitated by Freeholder Suzanne Lagay and Chamber president Christopher Phelan. The vision of Leadership Hunterdon is to transform people to become trustees of our communities, to become leadership resources and work for the betterment of Hunterdon County.



Knitters Unite! will be starting up their campaign to collect hand knitted hats, scarves, socks, and mittens for the Flemington Area Food Pantry on October 25th. The knitting group meets regularly on Monday mornings at 10 am on the Lower Level of the Headquarters Library.

Circulation With holidays coming soon, staffing shortages, and the heavy vacation time of the year staffing at Headquarters and North County Branch can often be tight. The staff is doing very well covering for each other and easily moves from location to location. Staff members normally assigned to Extension Services, Technical Services, and the South County Branch also fill in as needed.

Book donations are still coming in every day. The Supervising Library Assistant has found many books that can be used to replace library copies that are well worn.

The foreign films DVD shelving was getting tight and has been weeded, making it easier for patrons to browse. Books on CD at the North County Branch have also been weeded.

The Library is once again applying for the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission Grant which augments the programing budget and allows programs such as summer concerts and the winter concert series to continue without having to curtail other programs.

The North County Branch Library is off to a great start with the Fall Program Season. Highlights of the 12 programs included Molly Sumridge, dog whisperer, with her Tibetan Mastiff (pictured below), another great concert featuring Jack McDade with Rich Charwin and friends. Other programs included Monarch butterflies, art/yoga therapy, author visits, artists' reception, finance for women, business etiquette, and tai chi.



The MANHATTAN SHORT Film Festival is a global short film festival started in downtown Manhattan 20 years ago. Independent film makers from around the world submitted over 1600 entries to this year's panel of judges. From this vast number, the best 10 were chosen by Nick Mason, founder of the event. These same 10 films are being shown in theaters and other venues around the world during the same

October 2017

10-day period. After the festival has ended, the shorts will go on to be submitted for consideration by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for an Oscar.

There were five screenings of these films at the Hunterdon County Library Headquarters and North County Branch bringing in about 250 viewers. Feedback has been extremely positive. Patrons are appreciative to have such an extraordinary cultural event brought to our community.



The 2017 Hunterdon County Amateur Photography Show has over 70 entries hanging in the main gallery at the Headquarters Library. Entries were judged by award winning photographer and author Walter Choroszewski. Awards were presented at a ceremony on October 11th followed by a talk by Walter. First place awards in the following categories went to:

Student Black & White
Stephen Cheney

Student Color
Shelby Pena

Landscape
Nancy Coldreck

Wildlife
Jill Dodds

Abstract
Lycia Costa

Adult Black & White
Joan Lasota

Hunterdon Scene
Brianna Sutdam

Human Interest
Tamela Gorman-Buza

Kudos to Jim Thatch for another well-run photo show!



October is Fire Prevention month highlighted by this colorful display outside the Youth Services area at Headquarters.

Youth Services Department For the Summer Reading Clubs, the Chik-Fil-A of Flemington graciously donated promotional cards for free Kid's Meal and other Chik-Fil-A products. The cards were very popular with all ages!

North County Branch Reference Department Square Roots: The September exhibit at North County Branch was an imaginative collaboration by 3 long-time friends June, Peggy and Pegg, artistically known as the JPPeggs. Their photography celebrated their love of nature, travel and fun. The JPPeggs continued a growing North County Branch tradition of artists inviting the public to an Open House where they can meet and casually discuss the art techniques while perusing the show.



New lights have been installed in the Headquarters meeting room.



Hunterdon County's newsletter, *Hunterdon Report*, is now available. Here is the link:
<http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/HunterdonReport/PDF/Vol10-2017.pdf>

Hunterdon County Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Event is scheduled for Monday, October 23. Youth Services Supervising Librarian Adrienne Gardner has volunteered to represent the library on the committee.