

PTPL June Library Director's Report for May 2019

Library Director's Video Link <https://animoto.com/play/901UlscaD9oBAW061ktBWw>

School's almost out but you'd never know it by how busy our study rooms, study tables, and study booths have been. Despite the pounding, drilling and sawing, 580 individuals occupied our study rooms this month and we already proctored seven online exams for college students. Our 3D printers have also been humming with 96 hours of printing projects in May. We thank our patrons for their patience as we have been busy with new roof construction and our first floor bathroom renovations. The rainy weather has caused the contractors a few delays but our gutters will be added soon.



The 19th annual Giant Oaks Plant Sale and Flea Market was relocated to the patio side of our building this year and despite a few cloudbursts was a huge success! Friends and neighbors

gathered to purchase herbs, vegetables, flats of flowers, hanging baskets and many flea market finds. Thank you also to the Giant Oaks Garden Club for getting our municipal entry beds ready for summer. We can't wait to watch our flowers grow!



As a member of the PT Chamber of Commerce I attended their "State of the Township" luncheon in May where Mr. Lauer spoke of the many new building projects planned for our community. Sue

Miller and I also assisted the McMurray Rotary with set-up for their annual Rotary Gala and I took a field trip with the McMurray Rotary to the City Mission, Patriot House and Women's Shelter in Washington, PA. It is extremely rewarding to see our various community groups working together for the benefit of others.

Governor Tom Wolf declared May 23rd (the 143rd day of the year) as "1-4-3 Day," a statewide celebration of kindness in honor of Mister Rogers. We celebrated by wearing 143 buttons, passed along kindness surprises to patrons, and displayed some great books/DVDs in our

collection about this wonderful neighbor. On that same day, Kay McEvoy, one of our PT Library Board members, also refreshed our Little Free Libraries with new books along the Arrowhead Trail and in Peterswood Park.

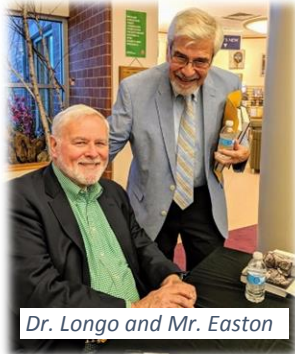


And speaking of neighbors, ten members of the Douglas Family (former owners of farm property here in the Township) returned for a family reunion and stopped by our Local History Room to share in the PTPL Douglass Collection of historic photos and memorabilia. Margaret Deitzer guided them through our Local History Room and is currently working on a grant proposal to inventory, preserve and digitize our growing Local History Collection.



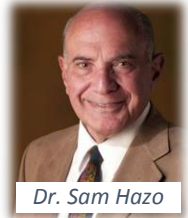
I attended an all-day workshop with Ms. Shannon at Citizens Library to learn more about logic models and planning library outcomes for next year. An outcome is a specific benefit that results from a library program or service. This event was designed to help public libraries understand and share the impact of essential library services and programs by providing simple surveys and an easy-to-use process for measuring and analyzing outcomes. Several staff also attended the Active Aggressor Training provided by Officer Stevick in the Council Chambers to review the ALICE method.

Nearly 140 guests enjoyed fascinating stories from author and Washington & Jefferson College professor, James Longo, who discussed his research and travels for his newly released book, *Hitler and the Habsburgs*. Samuel Hazo also joined us for a lovely evening of poetry with readings from his newest book, *When Not Yet is Now* in our upstairs Reading Room.



Dr. Longo and Mr. Easton

Electronic circulation has peaked with 4371 items accessed and our Self-Checkout kiosks have recorded 973 check-outs by children and adults. Choose Privacy Week, a national initiative, was held the first week of May and we emphasized through Facebook posts the importance of preserving patron privacy and protecting personal information to stay safe in our digital lives.



Dr. Sam Hazo



Our new library streets signs were installed on McMurray Road to guide travelers to their favorite library and we have a new curvy couch in the Teen Room. In Youth Services, we finished our Spring Programming schedule, held a Harry Potter Family Feud and celebrated

Star Wars Day on May 4th with 31 Jedis making light sabers from pool noodles. Youth Services also partnered with the PTMS 8th grade English classes to offer special WW2 themed events. The most popular of these was creating VR goggles to view the National WW2 Memorial and viewing the film, *Unbroken*.



Ms. Patty and friends



New Teen Room furniture

We loved having the third graders from Bower Hill Elementary School visit us this month to receive tours of our Youth Services Department highlighting what's ahead for summer learning.



Twenty preschoolers have completed their goal of reading "1000 Books Before Kindergarten" since beginning this initiative and yard signs have been popping up in neighborhoods around town.

The McMurray Art League presented their Spring Art Show in our lobby to showcase the work of local artists. A portion of the proceeds from purchases benefitted the library.



McMurray Art League

