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May - June 2017
Privately Funded

Hours:
Mon. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sat. - Sun. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
(Open Sat. & Sun. all year)

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Derby Neck Library
A Regional Library

Currents

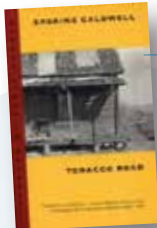
Over a century of service
to the Valley Community

Derby Neck Library Celebrates 120 Years!

With all our new technologies and recent renovations, it may not be apparent, but we are a rather "old" library. In fact, at the end of June, we will celebrate our 120th anniversary. We began with a meeting of neighbors at which Maj. Wilbur F. Osborne, wire manufacturer, dairy farmer, and Civil War veteran, led the discussion to formally establish a library for the "Derby Neck" section of town. No city library existed in Derby at that time. This gathering was held on June 21, 1897 at the Hawthorne School. Also instrumental on the founding committee was Miss Dorcas C. Browning, an energetic teacher in the school who was a friend to the Major and a woman with a progressive outlook on life and learning. Most of the other neighbors involved resided all along Hawthorne Avenue. The wood-frame school's second floor initially held our collection of books until a separate building was erected in 1906 with a one-time grant from industrialist Andrew Carnegie. That building is currently our Reading Room.

As we end spring 2017 and progress into summer, the library will host activities and events to honor turning 120. Included will be a PowerPoint presentation researched and narrated by Pat Sweeney on the lives of our founders and the library's unique history. This celebratory program will take place on Wednesday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. Included in this PowerPoint will be a "walk" through the library as it appeared in 1999 just prior to our closing for the building of the new addition (1999-2002). See how we looked and operated as the 20th century came to a close!

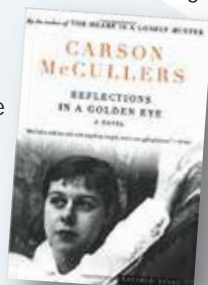
Please watch for additional anniversary plans on our web-site and on the bulletin boards in the library.



Literary Club Events

Women's Forum, a discussion group that meets on the third Monday of each month at lunchtime, focuses on short stories and local history. On Monday, May 15 at 12:30 p.m., we will be discussing

two short stories by the award-winning author, Carson McCullers — "A Domestic Dilemma" and "Madame Zilensky and the King of Finland." Copies of the stories are available at our front desk. On Monday, June 19 at 12:30 p.m., Pat Sweeney will present a powerpoint on the history of Derby Neck Library. Attendees are reminded to bring a light lunch if they wish. We serve free coffee and tea.



The **Evening Book Club** meets in our Reading Room, by the fireplace, on the last Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. We read novellas (fiction) by authors of note, and occasionally a memoir. All books selected are available at the library approximately one month before the meeting. On Monday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. we discuss "Reflections in a Golden Eye" by Carson McCullers and on Monday, June 26 at 6:30 p.m. our novella is "Tobacco Road" by Erskine Caldwell. Both are award-winning American authors. Join us for an informative and lively session.

See Our New Circulation Desk



The library was closed to the public from April 22 until the first week of May. What were we up to during this time? Aside from replacing the carpet throughout the entire first floor, we were installing our brand new, custom-built circulation desk! The library's staff and board of directors worked with architect Jay Willerup of Jacunski Humes Architects, LLC to design a unique desk from the ground up that blends a modern look with the classic aesthetics of the original library. At the same time, this new desk expands available workspace for staff and a proper book drop for patron returns.

The first thing you will surely notice about the new desk is its most unique feature: the floating windows. On the desk's front, there are backlit, floating windows that mimic the library's windows in the Reading Room. You may also notice the pillars on the front of the desk also mimic the library's pillars on the front of the Reading Room's exterior. We took special care and consideration to ensure these features were prominently displayed with the new desk.

There is so much to appreciate with the new desk as there are lots of little details. We hope you will love and appreciate it as much as we do.

Summer Reading Kicks Off In June!



Summer Reading is back and officially begins in June. For teens, tweens, and young adults, the summer festivities kick off on June 19 with the Readathon and Photo Scavenger Hunt. For babies, toddlers, and children, summer programming will start on June 26. As usual, there will be special events, challenges, and prizes all summer long, so check in the library or on our website for flyers and brochures detailing all the Derby Neck Library has to offer this year!

