

SENYLRC Matters

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SENYLRC's Board Creates an ILL and Medical Information Task Force

By John Shaloiko

New SENYLRC Board President, Muriel Verdibello (Newburgh Free Library) recommended to the Board at its meeting on August 17 the creation of two ad hoc task forces. The Board agreed with her recommendation to create an Interlibrary Loan Task Force and a Medical Information Task Force.

Because of the changing landscape of how ILL resource sharing is accomplished by different types of libraries in the region, including several different options or methods (e.g. OCLC, direct borrowing through the academic Connect NY and within each public library system, the medical DOCLINE system, SUNY's effort to initiate some version of direct borrowing, electronic document delivery, and of course SENYLRC's VDX SEAL service, etc.), the board decided it was appropriate for a group of library managers/decision makers to take a look at this environment and recommend one or more options for facilitating resource sharing among libraries of different types in the region. This task force will include 2 people from each of the public and school library systems, 1 hospital, 1 special, 2 academic and a liaison from SENYLRC's ILL committee. John Shaloiko and Judy Fischetti will represent SENYLRC.

The second task force will recommend to the Board options to expend the annual state aid of \$43,000 SENYLRC receives through the Medical Information Services Program (MISP). This program is intended to provide patrons from all types of libraries access to clinical and consumer health information. Recently the State Library expanded the guidelines for the application of this money. In prior years, MISP money could only be applied to reimbursing the lending charges by the health science libraries in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM). Often school and public libraries could not easily place ILL requests to NNLM libraries. The expanded guidelines allows for the use of MISP money for alternative forms of access to medical information, including electronic resources. Also, how can libraries outside the NNLM environment easily tap into the resources of these health science libraries around the country? Continuing education workshops on access to medical information is also

allowed. These are the issues the task force will discuss.

This Medical Information Task Force will be comprised of librarians from 2 hospitals, 1 academic, 1 public, 1 school, 1 special and 2 SENYLRC staff (John Shaloiko and Patricia Carroll - Mathes).

Throughout this year, the task forces will provide periodic reports to the Board as they proceed with their discussions.

SENYLRC to Host Library Interest Groups

By John Shaloiko

The Board authorized the SENYLRC staff to explore the feasibility of creating one or more library interest groups. Such groups, initially open to SENYLRC member library staff, would be organized by library function and/or library position. The purpose of the interest group would be to provide a forum for staff in different libraries to discuss issues of common interest and/or to plan and present continuing education workshops on issues pertaining to the interest group. The group would exist if a sufficient number of people would like to join. It would not function as an advisory committee to the board. SENYLRC's role would be to organize and host the meetings and facilitate communications among interest group members. The number of meetings, location, agenda and focus the group will be solely the prerogative of group members. Ideally the group would create a leadership structure such as a chair, leader or even group leaders. An example of a long-standing interest group is the Government Documents Interest Group.

Possible interest groups may include a reference or public service interest group, automation or tech services interest group, an academic director's interest group or even a library (department) manager interest group.

Watch for more information. If you would like to share any comments about this endeavor, join a group or to suggest a different interest group, please contact John Shaloiko at shaloiko@senylrc.org or (845) 883-9065.

SENYLRC Committees

By John Shaloiko

Once again for the new fiscal year, SENYLRC is identifying people to join the several committees of the Council: Continuing Education (CE), Digital Advisory (DAC), Hospital Library Services Program (HLSP), Regional ILL (RIC) and the Technology Review and Advisory Committee (TRAC). (The Electronic Review and Advisory Committee has been discontinued with its database selection responsibilities rolled into TRAC's charges.) Committee membership is open to staff from governing and affiliate member libraries. However, because of the different nature of TRAC (i.e. advisory on the use of region-wide RBDB moneys), staff from all types of libraries are eligible to join. If you are interested in being considered for an appointment to a committee, contact John Shaloiko shaloiko@senylrc.org. The Board president appoints all committee members.

Committee Chairs for 2006-07 are:

CE – **Vivian Milczarski** from Mount St. Mary College

DAC – **Helen McLallen**, Columbia County Historical Society

HLSP – **Maryallison Farley**, Catskill Regional Medical Center

RIC – **Darren Lanspery**, Orange-Ulster School Library System

TRAC – **Jon Grennan**, Sullivan Community College

What's Happened to the Collections at Middletown Psychiatric Center?

By Judy McGrath

In April of 2006, Middletown Psychiatric Center ceased to exist as an inpatient facility of the Office of Mental Health. MPC had two libraries: The Medical/Professional Library and Bolles (Patients') Library. Now that the center has morphed into an outpatient services provider, things have turned out better for the libraries than I dared hope.

It made sense for Nathan Kline Institute (NKI) to have first choice on the books, especially as Stuart Moss provides library services to Rockland Psychiatric Center (RPC), of which MDRPC (Middletown Division of Rockland Psychiatric Center) is now a division! Stuart spent two days carefully selecting materials that include many classic psychiatric texts. Eventually about 35 cartons of books found their way to NKI. Stuart was able to accommodate some of the library's

psychiatric periodicals collection as well. (Through MPC's years of interlibrary loan activity, library staff were busy suppliers of articles on psychiatric topics.) Additional books were used to set up small reference collections around MDRPC.

Materials were selected from the archival/historical collection to supplement the MPC components of the collections at Middletown Thrall Library Local History Room and the Historical Society of Middletown & Wallkill Precinct. Each of them now has a complete run of MPC annual reports from 1874 through 1968 plus articles, newsletters, and information on the nursing school. The annual reports have proved helpful to researchers because of the anecdotal information they hold, in addition to, for example, extremely detailed inventories of supplies, statistics on the patient population, and the annual yields of the farm.

Thanks to the assistance of Craig Williams of the NYS Museum, most of the archival/historical collection has found its way to the NYS Archives, where it will be preserved, and cataloged in fine detail. In 2000 NYS Archives literally rescued a number of historical records from a basement at MPC that had flooded. Catalog entries for the items they saved can be viewed at www.archives.nysed.gov/aindex.shtml. Search under Middletown psychiatric, or just Middletown for more variety.

I always saw Bolles Memorial Library as a small public library with surprising range. We tried to keep it a place where people could go for a change of scenery and find something of interest. The reference section and some other items have been made available to outpatients through the Pathways to Progress program, which serves a large number of clients daily. Also, reading areas have been supplied with books and magazines.

Recently volunteer staff from Friends of Thrall Library selected about 500 used books for their used book store where they will raise money to help Thrall Library expand its collections and serve its patrons. This will directly and indirectly benefit MDRPC clients and staff, who, naturally, make up part of the Thrall Library community.

And the librarian?

When I "got out of" nursing and became a librarian it never occurred to me that I'd end up working in a hospital. A cosmic joke, I thought. I was wrong. Working at MPC was a *gift* as well as a challenge. And I'm still nearby, working part-time reference at Middletown Thrall Library and continuing to feel connected to the extended MPC family.

Project Management Workshop Rescheduled

By Judy Fischetti

Getting it Done: Project Management for Library Staff workshop is rescheduled for Friday, November 17, 2006. Does your library have a new building or renovation project, a new service to implement or changes to current library operations ahead of you? Are you aware of projects that were begun but never finished because of a lack of time, staff or money? Planning the project, whether it is large or small, with consideration of essential elements such as scope, time, staff and costs and then managing these elements will result in successful completion of the new service or building project. For additional information and online registration, go to <http://www.senylrc.org/ce/>.

Avon Products, Inc.

By Judy Fischetti

As of July 1, 2006 Avon Products, Inc is no longer a member of Southeastern. Located in Suffern, they have been a member since 1967 and have discontinued membership due to changes in operation and their need for services.

News from Dutchess Community College

By Barbara Liesenbein

On June 19th, Beverly Crowell assumed the position of Assistant Librarian, Head of Access Services at Dutchess Community College. Prior to coming to Dutchess, Beverly served as Public Services Librarian at the Scholes Library of Ceramics, New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. She has extensive experience in public, academic, and law libraries and earned an M.S. in Library Science from the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Kathleen Montross, part-time Library Clerk at Dutchess Community College since 2002 has resigned in order to pursue other opportunities. Hayley Denning will be assuming that position prior to the start of our Fall semester.



The Rock Arrives

By Judy Fischetti

The next time you visit, check out the new home for our dedication plaque next to SENYLRC's front door. The boulder for the plaque was delivered on Friday, July 14, 2006 and the dedication plaque was mounted for all to see. The building dedication took place last year during Southeastern's annual meeting on June 3, 2005.





SENYLRC “Hires” Temporary Staff!

By Pamela Wolven

On Friday, July 14, 2006 Southeastern not only had a boulder delivery, but we also had a very special visitor. When Kathy Horodyski arrived to open the office, an adorable, young black and white mother cat followed her to the door and wanted to come in and visit. She was very hungry and once fed she wanted to go back outside. We followed her and she proceeded to lead us to her three kittens. We discovered that the kittens were about ten weeks old and were born under a neighbor’s porch. The mother cat knew her kittens needed food and shelter and decided Southeastern was the place to be. This was just in time because the following days our area was hit with the extreme heat wave.

We are happy to report that staff member, Jennifer Palmentiero, adopted one kitten and the other two were adopted by a person in John Shaloiko’s wife’s office. That left us finding a home for the one year old and very loving mother cat. The staff had her spayed and inoculated so she would be ready for a good home. The cat has found a special home with a person working at the Middletown Thrall Library. Staff members miss having her visit all our work areas each day and spending her afternoons relaxing on someone’s desk or in the sunny spots of the office. We now have added one more service to our long list of services – finding great homes for walk-in strays.

