Behind the Desk

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF NEWSLETTER

Editor: Carol Pavlik

March 30-April 12, 2018

The Library is Closed
Sunday, April 1

Staff News

Sharon Karpiel retires on June 22 as Head of the Kids’ Library. At that time, Gloria Walsh-Rock will become the new Head of Kids’.

As of April 9, Laura Butler adjusts her schedule. She continues as the Circulation Supervisor in charge of Kids’ Pages, only with reduced hours. She will work Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Chris Paulini becomes Lead Circulation Clerk. In addition to her duties as Desk Clerk, Card Class facilitator and Makery worker, Chris takes on some Supervisory duties within the department.

Dina Jijina
Desk Clerk

“We live up to our name in the Circulation Department—we circulate,” remarks Dina. You can find her at any number of places including the Checkout Desk helping patrons check out materials and register for cards; Drive-up Window; Circulation office; and co-leading Creative Card Making classes with Chris Paulini. She likes that every day is different, and that sometimes people stop at the desk when they just want to say hello. “Some of them give really good ideas for books to read,” she says.

April is Autism Awareness Month

Language helps shape our outlook on the world around us. We can lead the charge by using people-first language in our library and beyond.

The Arc organization says: “People-First Language is an objective way of acknowledging, communicating, and reporting on disabilities. It eliminates generalizations and stereotypes, by focusing on the person rather than the disability.” While someone’s disability can impact the way they navigate the world, we are best able to interact with them when their personhood remains the focus.

Follow this useful guide (right) from the Accessibility Coordinator at the Museum of Science and Industry. We all can use a reminder to use our words to empower and not limit others!

Library of Extraordinary Staff

To prepare for card making classes, Dina and Chris ask attendees for their preferences of card themes and then come up with ideas; once they create their plans for the cards, they cut out the pieces with die cutting machines and patrons are then able to enjoy two hours of assembling cards. All card designs are different each year, but Halloween themes are Dina’s favorites. In addition to their work for classes, Dina and Chris also create birthday cards for everyone in their department.

Dina started working in libraries at the age of 15 in New York, and began her work at EPL in the Wilder Mansion 17 years ago. She recounts that when EPL opened at this site, one or two patrons arrived at the Drive-up Window and tried to order donuts and coffee from our coffee shop, and they weren’t joking. These days, she says patrons sometimes ask, “Can I have fries with that?” Dina enjoys her coworkers, and notes that it really is like having family here. She enjoys their artistic abilities, and learning from them. She also loves coffee (“My blood type is Coffee”), walking, cooking, Doctor Who, and Star Trek.

—A.S.

User Story:
Culinary Cupboard Rescues Garden

If you’re planning your summer garden, take a tip from Martha, who rescued her leftover produce at the end of the season last year with the help of the Culinary Cupboard. “We keep a large garden over the summer. This year we had loads of extra lemon basil and no ideas left on how to use it at the end of the season. Then I had a brilliant idea to make lemon basil sorbet and thought I would check out the ice cream maker from the Library. The week we had it we made mint chocolate chip ice cream and used up the lemon basil to make a ton of sorbet we are still enjoying months later. Thanks for making this kind of equipment available!”

Send story ideas to Anne S.: anne.swanson@elmhurst.org, call her at ext. 364, or fill out the form at elmlib.org/userstories

EPL: a great place to work!
Congratulations to Rachael Mason on her new role as Desk Clerk in CIRC.

Welcome to our new employee:
Andrew Demonbreun ADS Tech Specialist
New in the Makery: AccuQuilt GO! Fabric Cutter

The AccuQuilt is a fabric cutter system that uses die cut blocks to cut fabric the perfect size, every time. Reduce fabric waste, ensure accuracy, and get to sewing faster! Bring your fabric to the Makery and create a handmade quilt in no time.

Bookmark Page Gets New Look

An updated version of the Bookmark page takes effect on Monday, April 2.

The Bookmark page will still contain useful links for departments and all staff info like the Wall of Fame, Weekly Calendar of Events, and announcements about staff celebrations or Staff Enrichment Sessions.

elmlib.org/bookmark

Staff Enrichment Class: Make a Potholder with AccuQuilt GO!

Wednesday, April 18 in the Makery
11 a.m. or 5 p.m.

Use the brand new AccuQuilt GO! Fabric Cutter machine to make a potholder.

The GO! is a die cut machine that cuts your fabric for quilting quickly and easily.

Sign up with Rita A. by email or phone (ext. 303) if you’d like to attend. (Get approval from your supervisor.) You will be compensated for your time if you are scheduled to work.

Marketing Calendar: April

Each month, the Library highlights a handful of the many amazing things the Library offers. The following are featured on the website, social media, posters in the building, and in our weekly e-newsletter:

Autism Series
Caregivers Corner
Outreach
Business Center/Databases

Spread the word by telling patrons about all that EPL has to offer!

Spring Cleaning Craft Swap

Are you looking to freshen up your crafting stash? Drop off your new or gently used crafting supplies during one of our drop-off times (below) and receive a ticket to the Craft Swap. For ticket holders, doors open at 1 p.m. on April 14. For the general public, the craft swap doors open at 2:30 p.m.

Drop-Off Times (at Welcome Desk):

* Monday, April 2 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.
* Wednesday, April 11 • 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
* Saturday, April 14 • 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Swap Time: Saturday, April 14 • Large Meeting Room

* Ticket holder admission: 1-4 p.m.
* General public: 2:30-4 p.m.

Wanted: Monopoly Tickets

Patti Palmer, Teen Librarian, is collecting Jewel’s Monopoly tickets for Elmhurst Yorkfield Food Pantry. If you’d like to contribute, drop your pieces off in ADS by Monday, April 16.

Young readers are feeling comfortable in the new Learning Garden! Thanks to Nuala Maloney-Murphy for capturing this sweet moment in KL.