Learning in Action at Your Library

Here, family scientists work together to use what they've learned about inclined planes to create giant ball ramps in our Science Buddies Program, *I Like to Move It*. Science Buddies is our hands-on family science program that taps into a child’s sense of wonder, and brings the adults along for the ride! The sessions start with a single science concept, springboard off a science based story, teach important science vocabulary, and engage children with station activities that encourage observation, exploration and experimentation.

Annual Report to the Community

The Pawling Library’s motto, “Come Grow with Us,” could not be more appropriate for the year 2015! This year, not only did the we continue to offer our popular and engaging programs for all ages, the Library and its patrons made an extra effort to expand its community outreach through programming and partnerships with local businesses and organizations.

Our teens formed a group that they named, “Project Do Something,” and throughout the year, this group—led by our Youth Services coordinator, Nicole Curcio—came up with many projects that gave back to our community. A few highlights include sewing handmade blankets for Project Linus, an organization that distributes blankets to local children in need, creating inspirational cards for Pawling’s Friendship Center and The Grand Rehabilitation Center, and hosting an event with the Dutchess County SPCA to raise awareness and gather supplies for homeless pets. Over the summer, our younger patrons collected critically needed personal hygiene supplies for the Pawling Resource Center and made wind chimes and sun catchers to give out to home bound community members, including hand drawn cards with their gifts. Programming for adults also reached out into our community, quite literally with our Homebound Services, a program that brings books to patrons who cannot make it into the library, and our bimonthly Job Ready Sessions as well as our annual Medicare Orientation provided valuable help to the unemployed and senior citizens in our community.

Looking forward, the Pawling Library continues to plan for the future with our expansion project. With the help of a library architect, we have developed a plan to add a second floor to our library’s main building. This expansion would keep the library in the heart of the village while allowing us to continue to grow our services and make our community stronger. The expanded building features a dedicated children’s space and an area just for teens, as well as a larger community room. Our renovated library would also continue to provide spaces to facilitate people of all ages who come to the library to work, read, learn, and pursue personal growth.

Please take a moment to read through our newsletter and catch up on all the exciting things happening at your library, including the first ever Pawling Reading Rally, a challenge where children, teens, and adults compete to see who can spend the most time reading over the summer! As you will see, The Pawling Library is growing by leaps and bounds—our programming alone grew by almost 23% in 2015! We are proud of all that’s been happening within our four walls and beyond, and look forward to continuing to improve and meet our community’s needs.

It is with deep regret that the Pawling Library acknowledges the passing of Dr. George M. Coulter, on May 15, 2016. Dr. Coulter, as President of the Library Board of Trustees in the early 1960’s, was instrumental in the library’s expansion. It was under Dr. Coulter’s dedicated leadership that the library building at its present location came to fruition, making this invaluable community asset a lasting legacy to lifelong learning. He will be greatly missed.

The Library would also like to acknowledge the passing of long-time board member and volunteer, Dr. Shirley Shufer. In addition to her responsibilities as a trustee, Dr. Shufer spent countless hours working with elementary school children and sorting donated books for the Library’s book sales. Library staff and patrons alike knew the library was dear to her heart. Dr. Shufer passed away peacefully on October 15, 2015.
2015 was a banner year for community attendance and program services at the Pawling Library! Children’s Programming was up almost 7% in 2015 with 6,606 children and caregivers participating in the many educational and creative programs offered by Ms. Karen last year. Of course, things really get hoppin’ at the Library during the summer months, when children are out of school, but based on Library Director, Casey Conlin’s research, more children and families than ever before are eager to take advantage of the wonderful programming available to them at the library year-round. With the current space limitations of our building, the library staff scrambles to find resourceful ways to accommodate the growing interest of all those eager to attend expanding programs that enhance children’s early education in areas of literacy, math, science, and technology.

But it’s not only the children’s programming that has seen increased attendance. The Young Adult (Teen) programming has experienced tremendous growth, thanks to Ms. Nicole, who has worked diligently with middle and high school students to identify their areas of interest and ways in which the library can meet those needs. The latest figures from our Library Director tell us that Ms. Nicole’s creative teen programming has sparked the interest of a record number of teens; 2015 was the busiest year ever for Young Adult attendance at the library with more than 1,200 teens participating in library programming designed just for them. This is a nearly 140% increase over 2014.

Those familiar with the Pawling Library know that great programming doesn’t just belong to the younger set. Donald Partelow’s library programming for families and adults is very popular in the community with well over 2,000 participants last year, which is a 7% from 2014.

In all, the Pawling Library served 9,855 community members through library programs in 2015! That’s a 22% increase over 2014. Most impressive, however, is the door count, which tells the library staff how many times people actually walk through the library doors. That number was a whopping 70,313 in 2015. That means that folks in our community found 3,217 more reasons to drop by the Pawling Library than they did the year before!

To find out more about the programs and services at the Pawling Library, log onto the library website at www.pawlinglibrary.org. There is a whole world of learning opportunities waiting for you!
Computer Coding for Kids: This winter and spring, the Pawling Elementary School and the Pawling Library teamed up to offer kids in kindergarten through fourth grade an opportunity to learn how to program computers and begin to create their own computer games. The classes, Learn the Code and Cool Creative Coding, were taught by the library’s Children’s Program Coordinator, Karen DeGennaro, and took place on Tuesdays in the Pawling Elementary School’s library.

In these computer-coding classes, students used both plugged and unplugged activities to begin to learn how to create their own games and stories. In the K-2 class, they learned how to drag & drop, program a character to move, create a logical sequence to reach a goal, and more. The older students learned how to program characters to move through mazes, move an “artist” to draw pictures, and repeat commands to write efficient directions for their computers. Both groups learned to use Blockly, a visual editor that let them write programs by snapping blocks of code together. In these classes, children developed both computational and critical thinking skills and learned how to create, not simply use, computer programs.

Over the past year, incorporating more science, technology, engineering and math into the library’s strong literacy programs for children has become a priority for DeGennaro. Many people have asked her, “Why teach computer coding to children in elementary school? Her response, “Computers are a huge part of their lives. Children pick up technology and how to make it work very quickly. We can either allow them to play computer games written by others, or we can give them the language and tools they need to make computers do what they want them to do. By starting early, we have the opportunity to lay a strong foundation for computer literacy, while at the same time teaching some valuable life skills. Computer coding teaches children about problem solving, logic, perseverance, and being creative. If they collaborate with others, they are improving their communication skills. Even if these children never decide to enter the computer field, they are walking away with some great skills.”

Partnerships & Collaboration: This was not the first time that PES and the library have collaborated on a project—Karen DeGennaro has been working with Dr. Kirkhus for the past few years on summer reading initiatives—but it is the first time that a program took place in the school. Dr. Kirkhus was “thrilled to collaborate this year with the Pawling Library and Karen DeGennaro in offering after school computer coding classes at the Pawling Elementary School. The children love Ms. Karen, and her classes filled up quickly! Students have enjoyed learning the basics of computer coding in this fun, interactive, hands-on class.”

As visitors to the Pawling Library well know, the programs developed by our staff are often full to capacity and somewhat limited by our facility. Over the past year, the Library has partnered with community organizations and local businesses, as well, to find additional space so more patrons can participate in our classes while allowing us to diversify our program offerings.

Through local partnerships, our patrons had the opportunity to cook with Chef Lucas Meuhlenweg at his restaurant, Petite. Participants honed their knife skills and learned how to make guacamole, hummus, homemade chips, and three delicious fall soups. Over the summer, John Brockway from the Pawling Historical Society hosted a walking tour into Pawling’s vibrant past and this winter, patrons attended a performance of Marian Grudko’s latest work, Claudine, at the Front Street Gallery in Patterson. The Library has also worked with The Quilt Basket and The Blue Olive to provide programming for its patrons.

The Pawling Library is grateful for its strong community partnerships as they allow the library to accommodate the high demand for programming. As the library moves forward, it will continue to look for creative solutions to meet the community’s demand for our programming and ultimately, hopes to have enough space at the library to accommodate all patrons who want to participate.

2015 Revenue and Expenditures
This summer the Pawling Library will be working hard to keep children reading. Why? Because research shows that students who do not read over the summer demonstrate significant academic loss in the fall. It’s called the “summer slide.” Even more distressing is the fact that summer reading loss is cumulative. By the end of 6th grade, children who do not read over the summer are up to two years behind other children. So now that you know these important facts, what can parents do?

Make reading a priority in your home this summer. Here at the Pawling Library, we’re trying to build excitement about summer reading in the whole community. Summer after summer our children have logged thousands of books. So we’re challenging the adults and teens in our community to “get with the program.” Starting June 24th at noon...the race is on! In the Pawling Reading Rally, the Red Hot Kid Readers bet we can out-read the Teen Green Dragons and the “Title” Wave Adult Readers this summer, and we’re going to prove it. So kids, read like never before and we’ll not only maintain our Summer Reading Champion Status, but we’ll beat the summer slide AND earn make-your-own ice cream sundaes on Saturday, Sept. 10th @ 12:00 pm.

So parents, here’s what you CAN do:

- Get out a book and read!
- Create some no TV or electronic game times each day.
- Visit the library regularly this summer for new books.
- Talk about the books you are reading.
- Model reading...send the message to your child that reading is important.
- Join the Pawling Reading Rally...you can even log your books at home for a mini-competition!
- Keep track of the weekly Reading Rally tally and cheer your readers on!
- Sign up for summer programs @ the Pawling Library...where we make reading fun and exciting!

Children’s Program Registration

Our lottery registration for all children’s summer programs will open

Friday, June 10th at 12 pm through Saturday, June 18th at 4 pm.

So pick up a lottery registration form at our circulation desk or print one out at home. Don’t miss this opportunity to keep your child reading this summer and loving every minute of it. All free and waiting for you at the Pawling Library!

Reading Practice Programs
For Students of All Abilities

Book Buddies One-on-one reading practice for new, reluctant & struggling readers entering grades 1 - 4. Thursdays, 4:00, 4:45, or 5:30 pm.

Rookie Readers
Read-aloud practice for proficient readers entering grades 3 - 5. Fridays, 4:00 or 4:30 pm.

Summer Reading e-Logs
For Students 3 Years to Entering Grade 5

Red Hot Readers Rock!
Our summer reading log will excite your readers to become all-star readers this summer! Just like in past summers, they’ll be reading to earn Red Hot Reader Points to spend in our September Store, but they’ll also be earning game credits to grow their athletes into super champions! There are challenges to help your child explore new ways to practice reading, too. Find out more about this engaging summer reading program at www.pawlinglibrary.org/readingrally.
We can help get your children ready to read with our early literacy programs that offer interactive stories, music, learning activities, & FUN!

**Olympic Wrigglers:** Birth - 18 months & a caregiver. Tuesdays, 7/12 - 8/16 at 10 am.

**Toddlers in Training:** 18 - 30 months & a caregiver. Tuesdays, 7/12 - 8/16 at 11 am.

**Little All Stars:** 2½ - 3½ years & a caregiver. Fridays, 7/15 - 8/19 at 11 am OR Saturdays, 7/16, 8/6, & 8/20 at 10 am.

**Rookie Readers:** A literacy & language skill builder for 4 - 6 year olds. Wednesdays, 7/13 - 8/17 5:00 or 5:30 pm.

Our Core Literacy Programs are designed to promote reading and a love for learning. Each week, students will have the chance to take part in stories, games, and art projects based on our summer theme “On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!” Each session includes time for a quick snack break, so families should send a small snack and drink each week. The programs run from July 11th through August 19th.

**Minor League Readers:** For children ages 3 - 5 years. Mondays, 10 - 11:30 am.

**Major League Readers** For students entering grades K - 2. Wednesdays, 10 am - 12 pm.

**Champion Readers:** For students entering grades 3 - 5. Thursdays, 10 am - 12 pm.

All of our workshops are designed to enhance students’ awareness of the summer theme “On Your Mark, Get Set...Read!” They are also designed to encourage students to come to the library in order to grow and learn. After all, the library’s motto is “Come Grow with Us.”

**Get Creative at the PFL:** Let your creative side come out this summer!
- Grades K - 2: Tuesdays, 7/12, 7/26, & 8/9, 4 - 5 pm
- Grades 3 - 5: Tuesdays, 7/19, 8/2, & 8/16, 4 - 5 pm

**Fitness Program:** Calling all students in grades 2-5 to exercise your mind and body.
- Grades 2 - 5: Wednesdays, 7/20, 8/3, & 8/17, 4 - 5 pm.

**Movie Nights:** Come watch a movie with us! Fridays, 7/15, 7/29, & 8/12, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.

**Interacting with Literature:** Learn reading techniques as well as how to write your own story and poem.
- Grades K - 2: Fridays, 7/15, 7/29, & 8/12, 9:30 - 10:30 am
- Grades 3 - 5: Fridays, 7/22, 8/5, & 8/19, 9:30 - 10:30 am

**Inside Out Nights:** Explore your brain, emotions, & influences in your life. Fridays, 7/22, 8/5, & 8/19, 6:30 - 7:30 pm.

Join us on Sunday, August 21 for our Shake, Rattle, & Roll End of Summer Carnival! Our teen volunteers have worked hard to prepare games test your skills, challenge your brain, and most of all have fun.

Don’t miss out on this afternoon of fun for everyone!
GET IN THE GAME! Join the Green Dragons teen team as we read our way to victory over the rest of the Pawling community. The teens are teaming up to see if they can read more than the adults and children in this year's summer reading challenge, The Pawling Reading Rally. Get signed up and start logging your reading minutes on June 24th. When the teens compete...they win! While you’re at the library, join in some of the other great games, activities, clubs, and classes happening this summer!

Registration for all Teen Programs will be available online this year! Registration forms will also be available at the library or as a downloadable PDF.

For more info, contact Ms. Nicole at teen@pawlinglibrary.org.

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**Community Service and Volunteering**

**Project Do Something:** Hang with friends while working on community service projects. Small projects every week that make a big impact! Come gain 2 hours of community service for every session you attend. **Mondays, 6:30-8:30.**

**Library Legions:** Internships at the library are a great start to your resume. Use the hours toward community service, and use the experience toward your future jobs. Applications required. **June 25th - August 27th.**

**Carnival Carnies:** Create, build, and run your own carnival game at our Shake, Rattle, & Roll End of Summer Carnival! **Mondays, 5:30-6:30.**

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**Summer Fun**

**The Dragons Summer Club:** Teens get together to game, make movies, hang out, snack, build, and enjoy the summer, making this club the place to be. **Thursdays 2 - 5.**

**Teen Cooks Cooking Show:** Work as a group to put on a cooking show! Your show will be recorded and put on YouTube! **Wednesdays, 1 - 3.**

**Teen Technology Lab:** Build small contraptions and devices at this hands-on technology lab. Students will be working with a range of materials and tools to complete each project. **Fridays, 4-6.**

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**Battle of the Books**

**Middle School Battle of the Books:** In Battle Club, teens entering grades 6-9 team up to compete in trivia games based on a selection of 8 Battle Books.

During the summer our team will meet, party, and have practice battles to prepare for the final Battle of the Books, where we'll compete against other libraries from across the Hudson Valley. **Mondays, 4:00-5:00pm.**

More info at pawlinglibrary.org/BOB

**High School Battle of the Books**

High school students are invited to read the 5 chosen battle books over the summer while attending weekly team meetings. On August 19th, they’ll battle it out with the other Hudson Valley libraries. **Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30.**

**Mini Book Battles**

The Pawling Middle School Battle of the Books team members and all team members from participating libraries are invited to join us for some friendly competition and practice at these mini book battles where members battle individually on trivia from a specific book. **Fridays, 1:00-3:00.**
Here at the Pawling Library, we make every effort to bring programming to our community that is meaningful, worthwhile and engaging. Recently, a young couple who attended our Spring Qigong Workshop with Nadia Nottingham thanked us for this program and also expressed how helpful we are at the Pawling Library. That meant a lot to us, because besides our library staff, we have many volunteers contributing to our library family by helping, teaching, and bringing joy to lives within our community every year. Meghan Heady-Amara has been assisting people with finding employment for over three years now with our Job Ready Sessions that meet twice a month. Author and former headmaster of the Trinity School, Robin Lester, aids seniors in capturing their life on the page in his bittersweet monthly program From Memory to Family Memoir. We are pleased that our friends from the Blue Olive will return to us as summer begins for another cooking demonstration, where participants will be able to prepare and taste an array of delicious foods. In July, Health Coach, Nancy Osborn, a kind and engaging speaker, will enlighten us about how to lead and maintain a healthier lifestyle. We thank all these gifted contributors for sharing their time and skills with the community. We are grateful to them and to all those who attend their classes and programs.

Please check our calendar online for all available programming at pawlinglibrary.org/calendar. Check in often as programs are added throughout the year.

… And as for our young Qigong couple mentioned earlier…they were married on the 21st of May, and all of us here at the library hope they had a beautiful day!

**Weekly Programs**

**Monday Matinee:** An afternoon movie for an adult audience, popcorn provided. *Mondays at 2 pm.*

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes:** 15 weeks of English from May 20 - August 26. *Tuesdays: 9 am - 12 pm, Fridays: 11 am - 2 pm.* *(Program fee: $25.00)*

**Intermediate Hatha Yoga:** Improve your flexibility & strength while relieving stress. *Tuesdays at 1 pm.*

**Evening Hatha Yoga:** Hatha Yoga for the beginner. *Thursdays at 6:30 pm.*

**Monthly Programs**

**From Memory to Family Memoir:** Learn to write your family and personal history. *Wednesdays, 6/1, 7/6, & 8/3 at 6:30 pm.*

**Job Ready Sessions:** Get one-on-one help in your job search from writing a resume to improving interview skills. *2nd Wednesday, 11 am - 2 pm & 4th Monday, 2 - 5 pm each month.*

**Yin Yoga / Meditation:** A relaxing session of Yin Yoga followed by meditation. *Wednesday, 6/15, 7/20, & 8/17 at 6:30 pm.*

**Tuesday Afternoon Book Club:** Share your passion for reading, & discuss your favorite books. *Tuesdays 6/28, 7/26, & 8/23 at 4 pm.*

**The Evening Book Club:** Wednesdays 6/8, 7/13, & 8/10 at 6:30 pm.

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**Special Workshops and Events**

**Psychic Message Circle with Kimberly Taylor of Crystal Visions:** *(Program fee: $10.00) Wednesday, 6/8 at 7 pm.*

**An Olive Oil and Vinegar Tasting Seminar:** *The Blue Olive of Pawling will offer a tasting seminar to introduce you to the ease and benefits of working with olive oil to enhance your cooking.*

*Tuesday, 6/28 at 7 pm.* *(Material fee: $10.00)*

**Dinosaurs: Sculpting Workshop:** Ages 7 & up.* Two Sessions: *Friday, 7/8 at 6:30 pm: Sculpting, & Friday, 7/22 at 6:30 pm: Painting.* *(Program fee: $5.00)*

**Vietnam War Vignettes:** A memoir of the early days of the War by a Navy Intel Officer serving in-country and off the coast. *Tuesday, 7/12 at 7 pm.*

**Your Gut: The Gateway to Good Health:** Join Health Coach Nancy Osborn as she educates us on gut health. *Tuesday, 7/19 at 7 pm.*

**Healthy Gut, Healthy You:** Health Coach, Nancy Osborn, tells you how to heal your gut, and keep it healthy. *Tuesday, 7/26 at 7 pm.*

**Fantastic Beasts: Sculpting Workshop:** Make magical creatures! Ages: 7 & up.* Two Sessions: *Friday, 8/12 at 6:30 pm: Sculpting, & Friday, 8/26 at 6:30 pm: Painting.* *(Program fee: $5.00)*

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**To register or for more info on any adult programs, contact Donald, our Adult Programming Coordinator, at adult@pawlinglibrary.org**
The Pawling Library now offers free delivery of materials to patrons who are physically unable to visit the library, including the elderly, the disabled, and those who are temporarily incapacitated by illness or accident.

For more information about this program contact Evelina Simoes at 845-855-3444 or email her at circ@pawlinglibrary.org.