From the Director

Happy “Almost Spring”! As we head further into 2021, there is a lot to look forward to. The days are getting longer, people are being vaccinated, and soon we will be enjoying some nice spring weather! Here at the Library, we are proud to announce that we have been open to the public since last July, serving the community’s needs in any way we can. I am excited to share that we have entered into a new collaboration with Easton Park & Recreation and Easton Community Center. Together, we have hosted Trivia and Bingo Nights, which drew nice crowds and helped to liven up some winter Friday evenings! We have more programs coming up, like our “Laughs for Easton” Comedy FUN-raiser on March 12. Please consider purchasing a link to this event, because we can all use a good laugh!

Lynn
Library Update

The Easton Public Library is open to the public with safety measures in place. We are following state guidelines to protect our patrons and ourselves.

Curbside pickup is still available. Patrons can call the Library at 203-261-0134 or email a request to eplnews@eastonlibrary.org. Homebound delivery is also available. Call the Library or email your request to Penelope at pjp@eastonlibrary.org.

Please be aware that any materials you return will remain on your record for at least 3 days. This will allow us to quarantine the items for 72 hours before checking them in and reshelving them. Fines will not be incurred. For more information, go to https://www.eastonlibrary.org.

We are not booking meetings or gatherings in our meeting rooms at this time. Stay tuned for updates.

A new Friends group is forming, and we would love for you to be a part of the excitement! We meet every 4th Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. There is no minimum time commitment to actively serve on the Friends. All that is needed is a desire to support the Library and its mission. If you are interested in volunteering your time and talents, please go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/eastonlibfriends2 to complete a BRIEF survey. For questions or more information, please contact Beth Cliff at friends@eastonlibrary.com.

The Library is getting its own sign! Easton resident Mike Ogrinz has generously volunteered his time to design and create a sign for the outside of the building. Stay tuned for an unveiling this spring!

Staff News

We welcome Kerry Santoro back to the Library as Circulation Assistant, taking over for Debby Holland, who left in January. Kerry had been furloughed from her position as Youth Services Programming Assistant. Kevin Krug, longtime Library staff member and Face of the Library, left in March to pursue a career in Accounting.

Caught Doing Something Good is a way for Library staff members to recognize their peers by acknowledging a job well done or an act of kindness. A monthly drawing rewards the winner with a prize.

Youth Services Librarian Kristine Oulman was featured in the February issue of Easton Neighbors.
The Voices of Diversity exhibit will be on display soon! We have been waiting for the snow to melt so we can install the signs on the lawn. There is also an online exhibit at https://www.eastonlibrary.org/voices-of-diversity.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”
- Helen Keller

“When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.”
- Malala Yousafzai

“Diversity is about all of us, and about us having to figure out how to walk through this world together.”
- Jacqueline Woodson

Read more about Debby Holland’s Book on page 13.
Easton Public Library
At A Glance | FY2020

People

21,141 library visits
2.8 visits per resident

4,039 library cardholders
(53.7% of residents)
5 Full-time staff
3 Part-time staff

Programs | Services

405 programs
4,196 in-person & virtual attendees

Resources | Use

8 public computers

Finances

$787,819 annual operating

$104.75 per resident
($0.29 per day!)

The municipality provided $102.83 per resident

67,182 items in the physical collection, including 55,069 books

8.93 items per resident

53,289 items borrowed, including 37,730 books and 6,336 electronic items

7.1 items borrowed per resident

### Resources | Use

**Expanded electronic collection**
(including books, music, magazines, movies, and more)

**27.5%** increase in e-circulation over last year

### Virtual Programs | Services

- **89** virtual programs (live or recorded)
- **1,664** views of recorded programs

We continued **public services with the building closed:**

- Reference services
- Curbside service
- Expanded online library card registration
- Homebound deliveries
- Fines waived or fine-free

### Curbside

**5/20/2020 - ongoing** ran curbside service

- **372** curbside appointments by June 30
- **217** library users accessed curbside service

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Art Exhibits

Lucy Markey Crossman
*On Gossamer Wings*
Through March 31/Conference Room
Lucy became interested in photography in her early teens. She has concentrated on documenting and photographing all the different dragonflies she can find in Easton, which number 36. Lucy is the Secretary of the Easton Volunteer Fire Company, and Deputy Fire Marshal for the Town. Her alter ego is “Firefighter Lucy,” who teaches fire safety and injury prevention lessons to Easton’s children.

Alvin Patrick
*Black Lit Matters*
*African-American Rare Book Collection*
Through March 31/Glass Display Case
Alvin Patrick is a veteran journalist of broadcast, digital and cable network television. He is currently an Executive Producer for CBS News. His most prized possession is his first edition, rare book collection of primarily African-American literature that dates back to the early 1800’s. Mr. Patrick is happy to share some of those books in an exhibit at the Easton Public Library during Black History Month in 2021. The rare books on display feature first editions by Frederick Douglass, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, Ralph Ellison, James Baldwin, Gwendolyn Brooks, Lorraine Hansberry, Toni Morrison, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr., among others.

Frank Pagliaro
*Easton’s Graveyards*
April 1 — May 15/Glass Display Case
As the town recognizes 175 years of life in Easton, we should be aware that over the course of its 300 years of settlement, Easton has been home to a few thousand people who are now permanent residents. The town has several cemeteries where we can find the citizens who made Easton what it is today. As part of the 175th Anniversary, Frank Pagliaro, Cemetery Committee member and local history buff, presents an exhibit in the Glass Display Case about Easton’s graveyards. This exhibit describes funereal practices, monument styles, and notable people from the last three centuries. Additionally, on May 15th at 11am, Frank will lead a tour of Center Street cemetery.
Cleo Sonneborn  
*ebb & flo*  
**April 1 — May 15/Conference Room**

Cleo Rawdon Sonneborn was born and lived on the prairie that spread out from the Black Hills of South Dakota until the mid 1950s, when her family moved to Western Australia, the home of Cleo’s mom, who was a World War II war bride. From her new home near Kwinana Beach, she walked the white sand and swam in the Indian Ocean. She played with her sisters and new friends in the bush, surrounded by fragrant gum trees and the cheeky, raucous call of the kookaburra. Though after a few years her family moved back to South Dakota, the variety of terrain deeply influenced her. The vivid contrasts in the natural world stayed with Cleo and continue to influence her painting. With the flow of water and color, she creates landscapes and abstract work. Cleo has lived on the east coast since 1968, having earned a BA in Anthropology from SUNY, Purchase, and her MAT degree at Sacred Heart University. She and her husband Jonathan have raised three children in Easton, which has been her home since 1982.

Joyce Pedersen  
*A Lifetime of Painting*  
**Watercolors by Joyce Pedersen**  
**May 16 — June 30/Conference Room**

Joyce Pedersen was born in Manchester, England, and came to America in the 1950s. She started painting in the 1960s, first with oils, then with watercolors. She paints what she loves: flowers, still-life scenes, landscapes, and seascapes. A longtime Easton resident, Joyce is a member of Easton Arts Council, The Shelton Art League, and The Society of Creative Arts of Newtown (SCAN).

Keri English-Giddes  
*Art Show Fundraiser*  
**Exhibiting Now in the Community Room**

The Library is hosting an art show in the Community Room featuring the works of Keri English-Giddes and her art students. Keri is the Founder/Director of the Easton Arts Center and the Owner of LaLaPicasso, LLC. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Children’s Expansion Fund.
Great Things Happening in March!

The Easton Library, Easton Park and Recreation, and the Easton Community Center have teamed up to have fun and raise some funds for our organizations. Laughs for Easton is the 4th collaborative event so far. We look forward to more events in the future!

Join us for a night of laughs on Friday, March 12th at 7:30 p.m.! Team Green Light is donating 100% of the proceeds from the Comedy Night to benefit these three organizations.

Please purchase a link and encourage others to help support the community. This is an 18 and over virtual event. The link is $30 and can be purchased here:

https://christineolearyteamgreenlight.vipmembervault.com/products/courses/view/1070427

One Book/One Town Community Read Virtual Book Discussion Thursday, March 25 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a discussion of *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult. Registration is required to receive the Zoom ink.

Blood Drives

Easton Public Library Wednesdays, March 31 & May 12 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Give the gift of life!

Go to https://www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment.
Thank You!

Lynn Erazmus
Carole Smith
Elizabeth Nelson Cliff
Lauren Hauser
Mary Russell
Robbie Peyser
Mousumi Bose Godbole
Vivian Hardison
Lori Longo
Monica Black
Caithlin DeMarrais
Paige Gillies
Anonymous Donor

Tara, Patrick, & Mary O’Connell
Holly & Hazel Mazzeo
Catherine Lindstrom
Daniele & Elizabeth Fanzo
Joanne Kant
Leslie Bouchard
Ellie & Joseph Sussmeyer
Carol Hamilton
Rita & Richard Seclow
Silvia & Miles Gerety
Ann Denton & George Hajek
Patricia Hayman
The Easton Senior Center
Look What’s New!

Local Author Display
We have materials from Easton residents Dan Slater, Elise Broach, James Prosek, Adam Dunsby, Patricia Hubbell, David Childs, Margit S. Buonicore, Alisha Berger Gorder, Keri English-Giddes, and more!

New Strategic Plan
The Easton Library Board of Trustees has approved a new five-year Strategic Plan for the Library. The plan was written by Library Director Lynn Zaffino, with assistance from Assistant Director Mary Beth Rassulo and input from the rest of the staff. To read the new strategic plan, go to https://www.eastonlibrary.org/strategic-plan

In the Kitchen With EPL
Video Series for Grade 6 and Up
These fun and easy food prep videos will show you how to make some simple, healthy, and delicious snacks. The videos will be posted on our YouTube channel, website, and social media.

Kanopy
Thanks to The Easton Senior Center and Easton resident Paige Gillies, we’ve got Kanopy! Kanopy is an on-demand streaming video platform that offers films and documentaries for free with your library card. Check it out at https://www.eastonlibrary.org/digital-library
April Highlights

Library Giving Day
Wednesday, April 7
An opportunity to support your Library.
More details to come.

Nursery Rhyme Sing-a-Long (Ages 3-5)
Monday, April 12, 10:30 a.m.

Climate Activism: Toward a Greener Community
and a Greener World
Sunday, April 18, 2:00 p.m.

Post-Divorce Financial Planning
Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.

Super Spelling Smackdown!
With ECC and Park & Rec
Grades K-Adult
Friday, April 23, 7:00 p.m.

And coming in May...

Author Talk with Madeleine Henry
Thursday, May 13, 7:00 p.m.
Upcoming Spring Events

All programs are virtual. Registration is required. Registrants will receive a Zoom link the day of the program. To register, go to https://www.eastonlibrary.org/calendar-list.

Art Show Fundraiser (Keri English-Giddes)

Easton Yarnsmiths, Wednesdays, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Seuss Birthday Story Time Read-A-Thon (Gr. K-5), 3/2, 4:30 p.m.

Review Crew (Gr. 4-5), 3/1, 4/5, 4:30 p.m.

Conversations: Truth, Myth & Democracy w/Mark Twain Library, 3/4, 7:30 p.m.

Library Squad (Gr.6-8), 3/5, 4/2, 5/7, 3:30 p.m.

St. Patrick’s Day Grab & Go Craft (Gr. PreK-K), video available on 3/10

Year of Wonders Book Discussion, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13, 10:30 a.m.

Graphic Novel Fan Club (Gr. 6-12), 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, 3:30 p.m.

Laughs for Easton FUN-Raiser, w/ECC and Easton Park & Rec, 3/12, 7:30 p.m.

Book Brigade (Gr. 2-3), 3/15, 4/19, 4:30 p.m.

Best Lives Book Discussion Group, 3/15, 7:00 p.m.

Beyond Reading Book Discussion, 3/18, 4/15, 5/20, 7:00 p.m.

Teen Library Council (Gr. 9-12), 3/19, 4/16, 5/21, 3:30 p.m.

Spring Kahoot! (Gr. K-5), 3/22, 4:30 p.m.

One Book/One Town Community Read Book Discussion, 3/25, 7:30 p.m.

Bookworm Crafters (Gr. K-1), 3/29, 4/26, 4:30 p.m.

Red Cross Blood Drives, 3/31, 5/12, 11:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m.

Library Giving Day, 4/7

Climate Activism, 4/18, 2:00 p.m.

Post-Divorce Financial Planning, 4/22, 7:00 p.m.

Super Spelling Smackdown!, 4/23, 7:00 p.m.

Nursery Rhyme Sing-a-Long (Ages 3-5), 4/12, 5/17, 10:30 a.m.

Zoom Show and Tell, 5/13, 4:30 p.m.

Cinco de Mayo Story Time (Ages 0-5), in place of Be-Bop, 5/5, 10:30 a.m.

Author Talk: Madeleine Henry, 5/13, 7:00 p.m.