Summer Reading

It’s that time of year again! The 2018 Summer Reading Program will begin on July 9th. Music is on our minds as this year’s theme is “Libraries Rock!” The Seneca Falls Library has lots of fun programs scheduled that will encourage kids to visit the library and keep reading during the summer months.

Dates and times for our rockin’ summer programs are found on page 4! Libraries Rock!

Library Tax Levy

Vote on June 28th

Residents of the Seneca Falls School District are being asked to vote on an increase in the funding for the Seneca Falls Library.

The vote will be from noon to 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 28.

A public hearing on the request will take place at 6 p.m. on June 21. Both events will be in the conference room at the library, 47 Cayuga St. in Seneca Falls.

The library’s Board of Trustees is seeking an increase from the current tax levy amount of $227,000 to $277,000, or $50,000.

The library’s taxing jurisdiction is the Seneca Falls School District. While the vote does not affect the school budget itself, money raised through taxes to benefit the library are raised from properties in the Seneca

(Continued on page 3)
**Tax Levy - Q & A**

Support your library!

**Q: How is the Seneca Falls Library Funded?**

A: The library depends on the annual property tax levy paid by Seneca Falls School District taxpayers for its support for regular operations. The rest of the library's income consists of grants and donations.

**Q: What is the library tax levy?**

A: The library tax levy, which must be approved by school district voters, is raised from properties in the school district for the benefit of the library. It is not part of the school district budget.

Unlike the school tax levy, which is voted upon each year, the amount approved for the library tax levy is raised each year until a change is approved.

This system is set by state law.

**Q: Why is the library asking for an increase in the library tax levy?**

A: Since the last tax levy increase in 2015, the library has had to deal with the loss of aid from the Town of Seneca Falls, the impact of minimum wage increases, and increasing needs for building projects.

We currently are in the second year of five years of minimum wage increases of 70 cents per hour. While the board believes library staff deserve a fair wage, the financial reality is that many library staff are paid rates just above the minimum wage, and the relatively large increases (averaging 7% per year) mandated by law have impacted the library's budget.

The library building, which opened in 2003, is a source of pride for the community. Costs to maintain the 15-year-old building are now increasing. In 2016 we completed a $188,000 HVAC renewal project. While we were able to obtain a $74,000 state grant to pay part of the cost, the rest of the cost was paid from library funds. In 2017 we converted all the library lighting to LED in order to save costs and were able to obtain a state grant for half of the cost of that work. Currently the board is looking for assistance with repairs to the parking lot. Grants available for such projects always require that the library pay a significant portion of the cost.

**Q: What has the library done to increase non-tax revenues?**

A: The library has successfully increased both its membership income and grants. Membership donations are up substantially, but they still are less than 10 percent of the library's budget.

We also have improved our success with grants. They often pay for specific programs, such as the Summer Reading program, but do not pay for the regular costs of operating the library.

**Q: What happens if the levy increase isn't approved?**

A: The levy will remain at the current amount. The library board also would be required to adjust the library's 2018 and future budgets as a result. The board has not discussed how it would accomplish those changes. Options would include cuts in the purchase of books and other library materials and reduction in hours of operation.

**Q: What will be the cost be to a tax payer?**

A: The currently approved tax levy is $227,000. The board is asking to increase that to $277,000.

The current property tax base for the Seneca Falls School District is $367.2 million, although that number probably will change before tax rates are approved in August. A $50,000 increase would raise the tax levy by about 13 cents per $1,000 of assessed value. A homeowner with a $100,000 assessment would see a tax increase of $13.62.

**Q: I don’t use the library. Why should I support it?**

A: The Seneca Falls Library is a vital service in the community:

- Encouraging literacy skills in young children through story times and other programs.
- Providing Internet and computer access to the entire community.
- Serving as meeting place for community organizations.
- Supplementing the work done in Seneca Falls Schools and acting as the main library for home-schooling families.
- A good library helps attract people to our community and enhances the quality of life in Seneca Falls.
- Providing an educational resource and recreational activities for adults.
- Programs are offered on health issues useful for everyone.

**Q: Why is the vote being held at the library?**

A: State law dictates that while the vote is conducted by the school district, it could be held at a school or at the library. The vote will take place at the library since it does not involve school funding.
Falls School District and the tax appears on school tax bills.

Eligible school district voters can vote. Voting will be by paper ballot.

Absentee ballots are available. Anyone who needs to vote by absentee must apply to the School District Clerk at least seven days in advance if the ballot is to be mailed, or the day before the vote if it is to be personally delivered. Absentee ballots must be received by the School District Clerk or designee no later than 5 p.m. on the day of the vote.

The Seneca Falls Library’s tax levy increase requests are made by the Board of Trustees based on the needs of the library. The previous increase was in 2015. Before that, voters approved increases in 2012 and 2008.

I have found the most valuable thing in my wallet is my library card.

~ Laura Bush

Thank you to the Friends of the Seneca Falls Library for your dedication and all of your hard work at the Spring Book Sale! $1832.00 was raised during the event. All proceeds directly benefit the Seneca Falls Library!

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the Seneca Falls Library, feel free to drop by during one of their monthly meetings (see page 4).

The Cupcake War fundraiser was held on Saturday, May 19th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Judges Sandy Good, Tanya Lent and Vince Sinicropi found it challenging to decide who should win from among the twenty-three contest entries. First, second and third place prizes were given in three categories: Taste, Creativity and Presentation. Nine prizes in all were donated by local businesses and awarded to the winners. Cupcakes were put on sale after the judging was concluded.

We appreciate the time and effort that the cupcake bakers put into creating these beautiful sweets! Thank you too to our judges, sponsors and volunteers, without whom this event would not have been possible!
Mark Your Calendar

**Adult / Family Programs**

**Geek Squad**  
Every Thursday, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
One-on-One technology help

**Family Game Day**  
Saturday, June 2, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Board games and cards

**Knit Club**  
Every Tuesday, 10:00 AM  
Bring your current project

**Red Tent Book Club**  
Tuesday, June 5, 7:00 PM  
Tuesday, July 10, 7:00 PM  
Tuesday, August 7, 7:00 PM  
Read and discuss popular fiction

**Family Movie Night**  
Friday, June 15, 6:30 PM  
Movie and Popcorn

**Genealogy**  
Thursday, June 21, 11:00 AM  
Thursday, August 16, 11:00 AM  
Research family history

**Friends of the SF Library meeting**  
Thursday, June 21, 7:00 PM  
Thursday, July 19, 7:00 PM  
Thursday, August 16, 7:00 PM

**Simple Wills Demystified**  
Thursday, June 28, 6:30 PM  
Learn about wills without trusts

**Camp NaNoWriMo**  
(Grades 3 - Adult)  
Fridays in July  
Creative writing group.

**Movie on the Lawn**  
Location: Seneca Falls Library lawn  
Friday, July 13, 8:30 PM  
Friday, August 24, 8:30 PM

**Coffee and Coloring**  
Tuesday, July 17, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Tuesday, July 24, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Tuesday, July 31, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Tuesday, August 7, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Adult coloring

**Rocks for Reagan**  
Thursday, July 26, 7:00 PM  
Rock Painting (All ages)

**Family Karaoke**  
Friday, August 3, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Sing your favorite songs

**Kindness Rocks!**  
Monday, August 6, 10:30 AM  
Rock Painting

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**Kid Programs**

**Stories in the Park**  
Location: Kid’s Territory  
Fridays in June, 10:00 AM  
Stories and play

**Bedtime Stories**  
Friday, June 1, 6:00 PM  
Kids story time in pajamas

**Reading with Miss Martha**  
Tuesday, June 5, 3:30 PM  
Tuesday, June 19, 3:30 PM  
Every Tuesday in July, 10:30 AM  
Tuesday, August 7, 10:30 AM  
Tuesday, August 14, 10:30 AM  
Read to a friendly dog

**Preschool Story Time**  
Every Wednesday, 10:00 AM  
(No Story Time on August 15)  
Stories for little ones

**Literary Legos**  
Monday, June 12, 3:30 PM  
Wednesday, July 25, 12:30 PM  
Wednesday, August 8, 12:30 PM  
Build a Lego creation based on a story

**Crafternoon**  
Monday, June 18, 3:30 PM  
Creative crafting fun

**Brown Bag Storytellers**  
Thursdays in July & August, 12:30 PM  
Lunch and a story with local teachers

**Epic Training Babysitting Course**  
Saturday, July 7, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM  
Babysitting skills course.

**Stuffed Animal Sleepover**  
Monday, July 9, 6:30 PM  
Bedtime story and stuffed friends sleep at library

**Un-Stress Out**  
Hosted by Safe Harbors  
Thursday, July 12  
10:30 AM (K-2nd graders)  
12:30 PM (3rd - 5th graders)

**Bremen Town Musicians**  
Presented by the Merry-Go-Round Theatre  
Friday, July 13, 10:00 AM  
Outside children’s concert. Weather permitting

**Pirate Stories with Captain Jack**  
Saturday, July 14, 11:00 AM  
Captain Jack Sparrow tells stories

Please register for starred * programs.  
All programs are subject to change.

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**Calendar of Events**

**Tune Up Your Snack**  
*  
Mondays, July 16 - July 30  
1:00 - 2:00 PM (kids)  
2:30 - 3:30 PM (teens)  
Learn cooking skills

**Rockin’ & Readin’**  
*  
Mondays from July 16 - August 6, 7:00 PM  
Book club for kids entering grades 3-5

**Friends Rock**  
*  
Hosted by Safe Harbors  
Tuesday, July 19, 12:30 PM (K - 2nd)  
1:30 PM (3rd - 5th)  
Learning to make friends

**Stories & Songs with Topher**  
Wednesday, July 18, 10:00 AM  
Interactive fun

**Rockin’ Record Crafts**  
*  
Wednesday, July 18, 12:30 PM (Teens)  
Wednesday, August 1, 12:30 PM (Teens)  
Fridays, July 27 - Aug. 10 @ 10:30 (Kids)  
Craft project using records

**Club 11~17**  
*  
Thursdays from July 19 - Aug. 9, 4:00 PM  
Teen book club

**Stories in the National Park**  
Location: Women’s Rights NHP, 136 Falls Street  
Friday, July 20, 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
Saturday, July 21, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM  
Stories and crafts with Miss Martha

**Didgeridoo Down Under**  
Tuesday, July 24, 2:00 PM  
Australia-themed show

**The Science of Sound with Dirtmeister**  
Friday, July 27, 7:00 PM  
Science fun

**Can You Hear Me Now?**  
Hosted by Seth Kennedy  
Saturday, July 28, 10:00 AM  
Fun, interactive program on sound

**Charlie & Checkers Magical Adventure**  
Saturday, August 4, 10:00 AM  
Comedy, magic and music

**Family Fort Night**  
Thursday, August 9, 6:30 PM  
Blanket forts, stories and snack

**Operation Cooperation**  
Hosted by Safe Harbors  
Wednesday, August 22, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
Kids learn life skills

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**315.568.8265   www.senecafallslibrary.org   Seneca Falls Library   Summer 2018 Newsletter**
New Books

Keep a lookout for these new titles that are coming soon!

June

**Children**

**To the Moon! True Story . . . Apollo 8**
by Jeffrey Kluger

**Not-So-Boring Letters of Private Nobody**
by Matthew Landis

**The Problem Children**
by Natalie Lloyd

**A Most Unusual Day**
by Sydra Mallery

**The Beloved Wild**
by Melissa Ostrom

**Princess**
by James Patterson

**Shelter in Place**
by Nora Roberts

**The Cast**
by Danielle Steel

**June**

**To the Moon! True Story . . . Apollo 8**
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**The Cast**
by Danielle Steel

**July**

**The Moscow Offensive**
by Dale Brown

**The Hawaiian Discovery**
by Wanda E. Brunstetter

**The President is Missing**
by Bill Clinton and James Patterson

**Before and Again**
by Barbara Delinsky

**Liar, Liar**
by Lisa Jackson

**Island of the Mad**
by Laurie R. King

**Night-Gaunts and Other Tales of Suspense**
by Joyce Carol Oates

**Murder in Paradise**
by James Patterson

**The Pharaoh Key**
by Douglas Preston

**The Moscow Deception**
by Karen Robards

**Between You and Me**
by Susan Wiggs

**Turbulence**
by Stuart Woods

**Adults**

**Probable Claws**
by Rita Mae Brown

**The Gray Ghost**
by Clive Cussler

**My Kind of Christmas**
by Janet Dailey

**By Invitation Only**
by Dorothea Benton Frank

**The Outsider**
by Stephen King

**To the Moon and Back**
by Karen Kingsbury

**Brave Jane Austen**
by Lisa Pliscou

**The Burning Maze**
*(Trials of Apollo, book 3)*
by Rick Riordan

**Luciana: Out of This World**
by Erin Teagan

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by Karen Robards

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by Susan Wiggs

**Turbulence**
by Stuart Woods

**August**

**Aunt Dimity and the King’s Ransom**
by Nancy Atherton

**On the Mountain of the Lord**
by Ray Bentley

**The House at Saltwater Point**
by Colleen Coble

**Paradox**
by Catherine Coulter

**Her Fear**
by Shelley Shepard Gray

**Double Blind**
by Iris & Roy Johansen

A Measure of Darkness
by Jonathan and Jesse Kellerman

**Marry Me by Sundown**
by Johanna Lindsey

**Cottage by the Sea**
by Debbie Macomber

**The Quiet Side of Passion**
by Alexander McCall Smith

**The Other Woman**
by Daniel Silva

**The Good Fight**
by Danielle Steel

**Clock Dance**
by Anne Tyler

This is just a sampling! Many more NEW BOOKS are waiting for you. Stop by the Seneca Falls Library today!
The annual Children’s Book Festival took place on Saturday, April 21st. Over 300 people were in attendance to meet author Nancy Rose, writer and photographer of the *The Secret Life of Squirrels* book series, and to enjoy the fun activities that the event offered!

Props used in the books were on display. Author Nancy Rose photographs squirrels interacting with the props.

Students from local elementary schools received a book and certificate as most-improved readers.

The Cao family enjoys creating acorns out of thumb prints.

Nancy Rose signed books during the event.

Children were greeted by Seth Kennedy and his puppet, Mr. Peanuts.

The event drew fans of Nancy Rose’s books from as far as Syracuse.

Each child in attendance received two free books to take home and keep.

Nancy Rose described how she creates her books.

Paul and Travis Behm enjoy making a squirrel-themed snack!

Deb Driscoll helps children to create a paper squirrel craft.

Children were given the chance to win one of 17 themed baskets.
Goodbye, Meghan

Library Director, Meghan Molloy, is turning a new page in her career. Meghan recently accepted a position at the Tompkins County Public Library in Ithaca, NY as the Adult Services Librarian.

Meghan has led Seneca Falls Library since 2015. She left her position as director on May 5th after three years of serving our community.

Meghan is excited for this new opportunity. She says that this is a dream come true as she always wanted to work as an adult services librarian.

We’re appreciative to Meghan for her leadership. We wish her the best of luck in this new endeavor!

I have always imagined that paradise would be a kind of library.

~ Jorge Luis Borges

Children’s Librarian Desk

Come and visit Miss Tara at her new desk! Tara Montoney, the Children’s Librarian, has a new desk from which to create programs and recommend books for our youngest patrons. Drop by when you see Tara there and say “hi”!

Security System

You may have noticed the new security monitor screen by the circulation desk. Recent upgrades to our systems were made to ensure the continued safety of patrons and staff.

We appreciate the support of the Seneca Falls Police department who serve our community so well and have provided recommendations in improving security! Thank you to our Members whose financial support help make necessary projects like this possible!
Staff
Tara Montoney, Children’s Librarian
Suzanne Mathewson, Assistant Librarian
Lori Stoudt, Administrative Assistant

Library Hours
Monday through Friday
10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Saturday
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Contact Us
(315) 568-8265

x1 Hours of Operation
x2 Circulation Desk
x3 Library Director
x4 Administrative Assistant

Writers Group
Do you enjoy writing? Have you been looking for like-minded people to bounce ideas off of or to discuss your latest project? Or have you thought about writing but don’t quite know where to begin? This is the group for you!

A new group called, “Pen to Paper: Creative Writing for Adults” has started. The group will meet each month. The next meeting will be held on June 20th at 6:30PM at the library. Writers of every skill level, from beginners to advanced skills, are welcome. Ann Ricci will lead discussion.

There is no need to register for this program - just drop in. For more details about the group, contact the library circulation desk at (315) 568-8265 x2.