801 Boston Post Road (203) 245-7365 scrantonlibrary.org



Focus on Fundraising Volume 4, Issue 10 March/April 2025

WHY DO WE FUNDRAISE?

By Allison Murphy, Library Director

You may have seen a group of volunteers selling raffle tickets downtown for the library's Heart of Madison raffle. Or maybe you received one of our appeal letters that asked you to donate to the library. Perhaps you're a new Madison resident and have read the letter we sent to the 500 families that recently moved to town.

Why do we ask you to donate to the library? It's not a well-known fact, but every year, the library receives about 60% of our operating income from the Town of Madison and must fundraise the remaining 40%. In this particular fiscal year, we must raise \$462,000. We fundraise in many different ways because there are many ways to give to the library. In the forward-facing mode, we fundraise by selling raffle tickets during our Heart of Madison raffle. We also host the Beachside Bash at the Surf Club in June, which features delicious food from Taco Pacifico, music, and more. Behind the scenes, we mail out three appeal letters yearly and ask for your donation, with corporate matching, if possible.

One way to provide long-term, sustainable help to the library is to join the **Leadership Alliance**. The Leadership Alliance is comprised of dedicated library donors who want to ensure the financial viability of the library's annual operations for years to come. By pledging to donate as much as they did last year (or more) for each of the next five years, Alliance members will become a stable core of library funding. As an Alliance member, you will be invited to exclusive member-only events.

However you decide to give, please know that your donation matters. It helps us to purchase the books you love to read, the programs you enjoy attending, and so much more. Please click the DONATE button on our website to learn more: https://www.scrantonlibrary.org/support-the-library/.

DEVELOPMENT TEAM IN ACTION

The library's small but mighty Development Team recently sold raffle tickets at Madison's annual Souper Bowl. They braved the cold to greet the crowds and

dished out over 8 gallons of beef and barley soup. Thank you to What's Cookin' for generously providing the delicious soup!



SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 28 BEACH BASH TO BENEFIT THE LIBRARY

We had a sold-out event at last year's party and plan



on just as much fun on June 28! Food and beverages will be provided by Taco Pacifico. There will be music, prizes, and much more. This is a great chance to mix and mingle with friends and neighbors! Stay tuned for more information about how to sign up.

TRAVELING MUSEUM EXHIBIT IN THE CHILDREN'S ROOM



Have you visited the Children's Room to see the museum exhibit? We are thrilled to host Nature Cat: Backyard and Beyond, which is based on the popular PBS children's program. Children will enter a magical world in the Children's Room where they can crawl into a cave, climb inside a tree, slide down a waterfall, and play in a garden. This exhibit will be here through May and is generously funded by a grant from the Schumann Foundation. The exhibit is created by Kohl's Children's Museum in partnership with WTTW Chicago, Spiffy Pictures, with the support of the Hamill Family Foundation.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE BORROWING DEPT?

By Tim Kellogg, Head of Public Services

The Borrowing Department has seen its first staffing transitions over the course of the past several months. In the fall, we lost our longtime teammate, Chris Penders, who is missed by staff and patrons alike. This winter, we promoted the impeccable Laura Kelly to Library Technical Assistant 3, enabling her to serve our Madison patrons even more. Laura joined the Scranton team a few years ago, and her commitment to customer service and willingness to take on new challenges have made her an invaluable member of the Borrowing Team!

The Borrowing Department welcomes new team member Suzie Beamguard, who will be helping us with borrowing operations and customer service. Suzy will also be developing new technology assistance opportunities for our patrons.

In other news, over a year ago, we introduced the Scranton Library mobile app and we have well over 600 active users. You can easily manage your account, store your library card, search for items, access digital resources, and check out items!

Since January, we've circulated almost 21,000 items, with children's books leading the way with nearly 8,300 of those 21,000 items. Books for adults came in a close second with over 8,100 borrows.

Welcome to your new role Laura!



create a better future it's easier than you think

You can make a bequest to E.C. Scranton Memorial Library by including language in your will or living trust or by designating the library as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy.

Update your retirement plan beneficiary designation to include E.C. Scranton Memorial Library, EIN# 06-0726490. It takes minutes to contact your plan administrator or complete the change of beneficiary form online.

> E.C. Scranton Memorial Library 801 Boston Post Road Madison, CT 06443 203-245-7365 supportscranton@scrantonlibrary.org Federal Tax ID#: 06-0726490

www.scrantonlibrary.org/support-the-library/bequests

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 8pm

Friday & Saturday 9:30am - 5pm

SCRANTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

Book donations:

We will begin collecting books again on March 24, and we have a new location!. Please bring your donations to the cabinet at the back of the library, near the Book Drop. Please place all book donations in the cabinets.

Book sale:

Our next book sale will be May 15, 16, and 17!

<u>Contact us:</u> friends@scrantonlibrary.org

WAYS TO DONATE:

 Donate online: <u>scrantonlibrary.org/support-the-library</u>

- Send a check: 801 Boston Post Road, Madison, CT 06443
- Make a gift via PayPal: <u>bit.ly/scrantonpaypal</u> or Venmo @scrantonmemoriallibraryct
- Scan this QR code to donate online:







This is just a small sampling of the free events offered by the Scranton Library each month. We

average two programs every single day - so go to our website to see more, read the full details, and register now!

www.scrantonlibrary.org/events

FRIDAY MOVIE MATINEES

Adult Programming Librarian Jesse runs two free movie matinees each month.

Check out what we're showing this month. Popcorn and cold drinks are provided!

• Moving On (rated PG): Friday, March 7 at 2:00

• Conclave (rated PG), Friday, March 21 at 2:00

BUILD YOUR OWN CARDBOARD CITY

Saturday, March 15 at 10:30am

Use cardboard, masking tape, and markers to make a city for your cars and trucks. For ages 5 and up.

Registration required.

TEEN CRAFTERNOON

Every Tuesday at 4:00pm

Stop by the Teen Room Tuesdays after school to decompress from the day with some arts & crafts! Different craft supplies will be available (like our button maker), as will our video games. Open to grades 7-12

No registration required.



MAKE YOUR OWN CANNOLI

Wednesday, March 26th at 4:30pm

Let Mr. Matt show you how to make this delicious dessert from start to finish (non air fried options available!). For kids ages 5-10; kids under 8 must be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the program.

<u>Registration required</u>.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

Monday, March 17 at 4:00pm

Everyone from lads to lasses can celebrate St. Patty's Day with some awesome friendship bracelets just in time for the holiday! Open to grades 7-12

No registration required.

HISTORY OF SCRANTON LIBRARY

Thursday, March 20th at 6:30pm

Town Historian Henry Griggs will trace the history of local libraries in an illustrated talk that covers the period from 1792 to the present. There will be a special focus on the places that housed the libraries, which Henry Ward Beecher called "one of the necessities of life." <u>Registration required.</u>

VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALK WATCH PARTY: JENNIFER WEINER

Wednesday, March 26th at 7:00pm

Join us as we stream this live virtual author talk with NY Times bestselling author Jennifer Weiner. Enjoy snacks and mocktails while we enjoy a glimmering conversation with the author of *The Breakaway* and many more books.

Registration preferred.



APRIL FEATURED EVENTS

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CAN'T MISS PROGRAMMING FOR ADULTS

In addition to the special events featured here, we also host a variety of regularly scheduled weekly and monthly programming. Check out our online Events Calendar for full details. We have something for everyone!

FREE MONTHLY OR WEEKLY PROGRAMS: Acoustics Club, Ukulele and Guitar Clubs, Fiber Arts Club, Craft of the Month, Saturday Sleuth's Book Club, Scranton Writer's Group, Friday Movie Matinee, Open Mic Night, and Mindfulness Meditation. Thank you to the staff and volunteers who make these free programs possible!

STORYTIME SPROUTS

Friday, April 11 and 18th at 10:00am

Bring your budding bookworm to our sprout-tacular storytime! There will be stories, songs, rhymes, and movement activities! This storytime is best for kids who are 1 to 4 years old.

Registration recommended.

TAKE HOME KIDS CRAFTS

Monday - Friday every week April - May

Sign up for a craft bag - you can pick it up anytime Monday-Friday. In April, you can try an April Showers Cloud Craft, make your own Hatching Chick, Dried Flower Pinch Pots, and more!

<u>Registration required</u>.

TEEN GAME CLUB

Every Thursday at 3:00pm

Hang out with your friends and get to play against other teens at Teen Game Club! Everything from our card games (Uno, Sushi Go!, etc.) to our video games (Switch, PS4 & Xbox One) will be available to play. Feel free to also bring your own games! Open to grades 7-12.

No registration required.

A TURKISH COFFEE TASTING

Saturday, April 26th at 2:00pm

Attendees will learn all about the cultural significance of Turkish coffee while enjoying samples of this delicious beverage, along with Turkish tea and a variety of Turkish refreshments.

Registration required.

AFTER HOURS TEEN NIGHT

Friday, April 25th at 6:00pm

After Hours Teen Night will return and take over the Library! There will be food, games, crafts, and lots of fun. Open to grades 6-12.

Registration encouraged.

JAY DANIELS CONCERT: MY HEART WANTS TO SING

Wednesday, April 30th at 6:30pm

"The Hills Are Alive" as pianist and vocalist Jay Daniels offers an enchanting concert celebrating the timeless works of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II.

<u>Registration required.</u>