

THE HUGUENOT HOTLINE

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DID YOU KNOW....

The "Old Fashioned Summer Fun" program recorded 1,996 visits by kids and 1,771 visits by adults this summer.

In September the HCL circulated 3,253 items (print, audio and video) and held 10 programs that were attended by 276 people.

ANOTHER SUMMER OF "OLD FASHIONED FUN"

It was another summer of "Old Fashioned Fun" at Huguenot Park. The popular outdoor activity program, which offered supervised activities Monday through Friday, was visited by 75 to 100 people every day this summer according to Angela Taylor, who chairs the Program Committee for the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library.



Fun in the sun! More photos on page 2.

The PHCL has operated the "Old Fashioned Summer Fun" program every summer for the last five years, thanks to a grant from an anonymous donor. The program was inspired by a similar program organized by the City's Department of Parks and Recreation more than 30 years ago. When the Huguenot branch of the library was closed in 1992 that program disappeared, along with the library. In 1997 the PHCL, having successfully renovated both the playground at Huguenot Park and the library, reopened the Huguenot branch as a children's library, the only one of its kind in Westchester and one of the few in the nation. The summer program was instituted as a way to maximize library use over the summer and give New Rochelle's children a safe, supervised place to play during school vacation.

Playground Update: Dig Begins

The transformation of the playground at Huguenot Park got underway on October 17th. New landscaping and new equipment are being provided by the non-profit Jack Robert Young Foundation, in collaboration with the PHCL and the City of New Rochelle. When completed the park will include a handicapped accessible playground, Jack's Friendship Garden. According to Robert Young, head of the JRY Foundation, the project is expected to be completed by next June.

You can support Jack's Friendship Garden by participating in the "Buy A Brick" fundraiser: Bricks are available for \$100 (four-by-eight inches),

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

When you are the parent of a young child, much of your life revolves around the school calendar, so fall is a time of beginning for us at the Huguenot Children's Library. As I look back at the last year here is what I see: Nearly 3,000 children attending programs, such as story hours and "Music and Me" ... Children using the new computers, and toddlers playing with trains and dolls while their parents read to their siblings on the bean bag chairs.... Kids creating art under the instruction of New Rochelle High School art students..... NRHS science students helping children explore the wonders of science on Saturday mornings.... A USC graduate student leading kids through the dissection of owl pellets (yes, owl pellets)..... Children meeting a New Rochelle police officer and his K-9 partner. And this summer, local mothers Angela Taylor and Yan Mui ran our "Old Fashioned Summer Fun" program, giving children the chance plant flowers, create arts and crafts projects, jump rope on the patio and play kick ball on the lawn as well as enjoy the treasures to be found on the shelves inside the library!

Thanks to your support, the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's created many of these moments for the children of our community. The PHCL relies on your contributions to fund its work. Last year the



Summer Games staffer Jalisa Salmon (L) with Manager Yan Mui.

PHCL co-hosted a successful Gala with the Jack Robert Young Memorial Foundation to bring a new special needs playground to the park, work that is beginning now. The focus of this year's Gala, set for February 11th at the Fountainhead, will be to raise money toward the renovation of the HCL basement. Talented resident artist Anne Bedrick and construction specialist Michael Handler, both PHCL Board members, have created a plan that will transform the basement into a warm and comfy space for programming, with a flat screen TV for movies, new tables for more arts and crafts space, and a new floor for story hours.

As the PHCL looks forward to the year ahead we are excited to have a programming committee working to create more new and innovative programming. Look for an International theme with Foreign Language story hours, more efforts to integrate children with special needs into our programs, and some one-day specials like "Dino Dig." To find out more about the PHCL or volunteer for its committees, come to our Open House (see back page). I hope you and your family will continue to enjoy the Huguenot Children's Library!

— *Lori Morrow*



*Some last looks at
"Old Fashioned
Summer Fun" in
Huguenot Park*



NEWS BRIEFS

The New Rochelle Public Libraries offered expanded services — without increasing costs — by staggering Sunday hours between the Huguenot Children’s Library and the main library this fall. The Huguenot Children’s Library was open on Sundays between September 11th and October 30th, with the main library resuming Sunday hours on October 16th. Both libraries resumed regular Saturday hours on September 10th. The HCL is open on Saturdays from 10 am to 12 noon and 1 pm to 5 pm.

* * * *

The family of the late Ossie Davis has approved the renaming

of the theater at the New Rochelle Public Library downtown for the late actor. An official renaming ceremony will be held in November, and will kick off a fundraising drive to raise money needed to add seats to the 148-seat auditorium and replace the sound system. Davis was 87 when he died last spring, and had lived in New Rochelle for 40 years. He was very active in the community and a passionate supporter of the city’s library system. For more information about the fundraising drive, or to make a contribution, contact the NRPL Foundation, 632-7878.

* * * *

Following the departure of children’s librarian Sandra De Carle last spring, librarians Susan Moorehead and Susan Mackey will share responsibility for the Huguenot Children’s Library. Kathy Cronin, head children’s librarian for the New Rochelle Public Library System, says the two “Miss Sues” will divide their time between the HCL and the Main branch so that each can gain broader library experience.

* * * *

Policy for the New Rochelle Public Library system is set by the Library Trustees. This group of seven elected officials, each of whom

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The auditorium at the Main Library will be named in honor of actor and local activist Ossie Davis

THE BIG DIG BEGINS, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

\$500(eight-by-eight inches) or \$1,000 (twelve-by-twelve inches). The engraved bricks will be set into the sidewalk leading to the new playground. For more information about the Buy A Brick campaign visit the Jack Robert Young Memorial website at www.jrymemorialfound.org or contact Mickie Fosina at 235-4565 or Donna Young at 576-9265.



ABOUT THE PHCL : BE PART OF THE PARTNERSHIP

*The Partnership for the
Huguenot Children's
Library is a grass-roots
non-profit organization
created by concerned
citizens of New
Rochelle*

The PHCL is a private, non-profit organization that was formed in 1993 to revitalize the playground at Huguenot Park and renovate the abandoned brick house on North Avenue to create Westchester's first and only freestanding children's library. The Huguenot Children's Library was opened in 1997 and became fully funded as part of the New Rochelle Public Library system in 2003.

Today the PHCL continues to raise money that supports **all programming at the Hugue-**

not Children's Library.

In the past 18 months, the PHCL has purchased new computers for the Huguenot Children's Library and has renovated the space by painting, purchasing new furniture and toys, soliciting the donation of a new custom desk area and custom bookshelves, purchasing new fixtures and creating a parenting resource area. Currently the PHCL is hosting Pre-School Pajama Nights to introduce new parents to the library. And once again this summer the PHCL

ran "Old Fashioned Summer Fun", an outdoor activity program.

All this is accomplished by volunteers and funded by donations to the PHCL, which is a 501 c)3 charitable organization. As you make your annual giving decisions this year, please consider making a contribution to support the work of the PHCL. All contributions are tax-deductible. To make a donation, send your check payable to PHCL to P.O. Box 0072, New Rochelle, NY 10804, or use the form below.

Please add my name to the PHCL mailing list:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

Enclosed is my contribution to the PHCL in the amount of \$ _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

Please mail this form to the PHCL, Box 0072, New Rochelle, NY 10804.

FALL PROGRAMS AT THE HCL

The PHCL Program Committee has put together an exciting fall season of special programs.

The popular "Pre-K Pajama Time Story Hour" is back, with individual pre-schools being invited to visit the library "after hours" for a special story time, arts and crafts project and snack. PHCL volunteer Judy Fraioli has organized the Story Hours again this year. "The idea is to introduce young children and their parents to the library and encourage them to make the library part of their lives.

Story Hours will be held on Wednesday evenings from October 19th to December 2nd. Look for fliers about these events at local nursery schools.

The Program Committee will introduce a new

series of International Days on Saturday, November 12th and Saturday, November 19th. Volunteer Catherine Rogers is organizing these events. Each of the International Days will celebrate a specific language — the first two will be French and Spanish — with a story time featuring the same book



read in English and the featured language, plus crafts and a snack that celebrate the cultures associated with the featured language.

For more information about the Program Committee contact **Angela Taylor** at 632-4114.

SAVE THE DATE! *WINTER GALA* *FEBRUARY 11TH*

Get set for another smashing Winter Gala: The PHCL will once again host the "party of the year" on Saturday night, February 11th, this time at the Fountainhead in New Rochelle. Once again the Winter Gala will feature live music for dancing and a select Silent Auction.

Last year's Winter Gala drew more than 330 guests and raised \$100,000 for Jack's Friendship Garden. The focus of this year's Gala will be raising money to renovate the basement community room at the Huguenot Children's Library. "The community room has seen a lot of wear and tear since we opened in 1997," explains PHCL President Lori Morrow. "The PHCL has a Renovation Committee that has come up with some great ideas for updating the space, and we hope to raise enough money to make those changes this year."

Each year the PHCL calls on community members to support the Gala by donating auction items and buying ads in the commemorative journal as well as attending the event. Organizing these efforts is the Gala Committee, which is looking for volunteers. The Gala committee will meet on Wednesday, November 9th and again on Wednesday, December 7th at 7:30 PM at the Huguenot Children's Library. If you are interested in being part of the Gala Committee please come to the meeting or contact PHCL President Lori Morrow at 576-0567.

Mark Your Calendar!

PHCL Gala Committee Meetings at the HCL
Wednesday, November 9th and December 7th at 7:30 PM

PHCL Winter Gala Saturday, February 11th, 2006

**The Partnership
for the Huguenot
Children's
Library**

P.O. Box 0072
New Rochelle, NY 10804

PHCL Phone: 576-0586
Library Phone: 632-8954

Library Hours:
Monday-Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM
(Closed for Lunch Noon to 1

*The Partnership for
the Huguenot
Children's Library*

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NEWS BRIEFS

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serves a five-year term, meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Main Branch downtown, and their meetings are open to the public.

In addition to setting policies, the job of the Trustees is to set the annual budget for the New Rochelle Public Library system. The budget is presented to the public for a vote every year on the same day as the school budget; this year's vote is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16th, 2006.



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Year to date statistics for the Huguenot Children's Library (as of September 2005) show that usage continues to increase. Since January, 31,660 items (print, audio and video) have been circulated and 11,276 reference questions have been answered.