

THE HUGUENOT HOTLINE

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DID YOU KNOW....

This year the
"Old Fashioned
Summer Fun"
program recorded
4,373 visits.

Between January
and August, 2006
the HCL circulated
24,034 items (print,
audio and video) .

NEW PLAYGROUND OPENS

"GRAND OPENING" PARTY DRAWS HUNDREDS

The opening of **Jack's Friendship Garden**, the handicapped-accessible playground at Huguenot Park, was celebrated with two days of parties on Friday, September 8th and Saturday, September 9th.

A ribbon cutting ceremony and reception on Friday drew hundreds of people, young and old, as well as local officials including Mayor Noam Bramson, County Clerk Tim Idoni, New York State Assemblyman George Latimer, County Legislators Judy Myers and Vito Pinto, City Manager Chuck Strome, Parks and Recreation Director Bill Zimmerman, Fire Chief Raymond "Doc" Kiernan, and City Council members Michael Boyle, Barry Fertel, Roberto Lopez, and Marianne Sussman.

Bob and Donna Young hosted the ribbon cutting event, providing refreshments that included cookies, bottled water and iced tea as well as free treats for all from the ice cream trucks parked at curbside. The Youngs are Co-Presidents of the Jack Robert Young Memorial Foundation, which they created to honor the memory of their infant son. The playground is the result of a collaboration between the JRYM Foundation, the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library and the City of New Rochelle.

After remarks by the Parks and Recreation Department's Bill Zimmerman, Mayor

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"Family Fun Day" at Huguenot Park

Summer Fun Program A Success

Despite ongoing construction work in the adjacent playground, the PHCL's annual Old Fashioned Summer Fun program started on time June 26th. The free drop-in program ran Monday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm and offered supervised activities and access to games as well as arts and crafts for children accompanied by a parent or an adult caregiver.

The program coordinator for Old Fashioned Summer Fun is PHCL Board member Angela Taylor, and the on-site Director is Yan Mui. "The Old Fashioned Summer Fun" program gives children the chance to 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

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends,

Summer's over, and change is in the air. In July we bid farewell to Patricia Anderson, who retired as Library Director. The Trustees of the New Rochelle Public Library have selected a new Director, Thomas J. Geoffino, who started August 1st. Mr. Geoffino has 12 years of experience as a public library administrator and a proven track record in fundraising, long-range planning and the implementation of library programs and services. The PHCL welcomes Mr. Geoffino and looks forward to working with him.

But I want to take a moment to recognize and applaud the service of Patricia Anderson, who has served the New Rochelle Public Library for the last 20 years. Pat and her husband have moved to Florida to enjoy a well-earned retirement, but she has left her mark on New Rochelle. When Mrs. Anderson arrived in town, the main library had just two Apple computers – for staff use only – and a manual circulation system. Today the library boasts a fully computerized circulation and catalog system, computers on every floor and in every department, and services such as data base searches available from home, not to mention the existence of the only freestanding children's library in the state.

During Mrs. Anderson's tenure the Huguenot branch of the public library was closed in 1992 due to budget cuts (at that time the library was funded by the City); the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library was formed in response to that crisis, and Mrs. Anderson worked with the PHCL in its successful effort to renovate and reopen the building in 1997. She has been a tireless advocate for library services in this city, and leaves the NRPL system financially secure and in good hands with a dedicated staff and supporters who will make sure it continues to be a cultural center for the city.

On behalf of the PHCL I want to say



Lori Morrow at the ribbon cutting ceremony for Jack's Friendship Garden.

thank you, Patricia Anderson. The NRPL and the City of New Rochelle are better places because of your leadership and dedication.

Having said farewell to Pat, I want to take a moment to say my own farewell and to thank you all for your support of the HCL during the four years I have served as President.

We've had successes and we've had challenges in the last four years, but one thing has remained constant, and that is the support of the community. New Rochelle loves the Huguenot Children's Library, and supports the New Rochelle Public Library system. I like to think it's because New Rochelle recognizes how vital libraries are to healthy children and healthy communities.

I leave the Presidency confident that the PHCL's new President, Angela Taylor, and her Board will continue our mission: To inspire a life-long love of reading and learning through outstanding library services for all of the children of New Rochelle; to enhance the excellence of the Huguenot Children's Library, and to promote and advocate for exceptional children's library services within the New Rochelle Public Library system.

– Lori Morrow



Patricia Anderson with Congresswoman Nita Lowey at the HCL Opening Day celebration in November, 1997

Patricia Anderson has been a tireless advocate for library services in New Rochelle.

NEW PLAYGROUND OPENS (con't. from p. 1)

Bramson, and Lori Morrow, President of the PHCL, both Donna and Bob Young took turns at the podium thanking the community for its support. Noting that the playground was created to mark the brief life of their infant son, Bob Young called the ribbon-cutting a "perfect day and a perfect way to make a sad event in our lives into a perfect memory." Then the Youngs and their children, Connor and Lily, cut the ribbon strung across the park's entrance, accompanied by two bagpipers, Ryan Casey and Brian Johnson from the Iona College Pipe Band.

Saturday was clear and sunny, a perfect end-of-summer day, and the Jack Robert Young Memorial Foundation treated sev-

eral hundred neighbors to free food and entertainment for "Family Fun Day". Chef Brian MacMenamin (of MacMenamin's Grill & Chef Works) not only donated the hot dogs (600) and hamburgers (400), he was there in person behind the grill - along with Bob Young - serving up lunch. Chicken Joe's restaurant also donated 50 pounds of chicken nuggets and 30 pounds of french fries, and Longford's Own-Made Ice Cream sent over 400 cups of ice cream.

The playground project included extensive relandscaping and the addition of improved drainage as well as new equipment. The park now features one of only two handicapped accessible playgrounds in Westchester County.



Top, Donna and Bob Young; middle, let the fun begin!; bottom, Chef Brian MacMenamin and Bob Young at the grill.



OLD FASHIONED SUMMER FUN, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

to be found on the shelves inside the library!" says Lori Morrow, President of the PHCL. "We are very grateful for the continuing support of the anonymous donor who underwrites this program every year."

Special weekly programs included Music & Me with Margaret Poggioli every Tuesday, Mandy's Music with Mandy Jensen every Wednesday and Nature

Study with Christina Pasquale every Friday morning in August. In addition visiting artists and performers included Mary Yuen, who taught Chinese Dance, storyteller Linda Hume who shared African tales, Sanga of the Valley, who presented "I am the Drum", African dance teacher Naeemah Brown, and Saragail Benjamin who presented the Joyful Noise Sing-A-Long and Percussion Program.



Above, Sanga of the Valley presents "I am the Drum." At right, crafts on the patio is also part of "Old Fashioned Summer Fun."



ROSE BALL RAISES \$40,000

As the blizzard of '06 arrived, bringing record amounts of snow, more than 200 people packed the Fountainhead in New Rochelle for the Rose Ball, a benefit for the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library. Despite the heavy weather, the Valentine-themed evening – which featured cocktails, dinner, dancing to the music of the Michael Hart Band and a benefit auction – raised over \$40,000 for the Huguenot Children's Library.

Westchester County Clerk Tim Itoni was the evening's auctioneer; among the exciting Live Auction items were six tickets to see Billy Joel at Madison Square Garden, a week in a house on Martha's Vineyard, and a "pajama party" at the Huguenot Children's Library.

The tables were decorated with bouquets of red roses and scattered with rose petals; each guest received a handmade Valentine, specially created for the evening by Dawn Alfaro.

Lori Morrow, President of the PHCL, chaired the Rose Ball; Invitation Chair was Lisa Bonalle; Auction Co-Chairs were Theresa Kump Leghorn and Lori Morrow; Journal Chair was Linda Fosina; Dinner Chair was Angela Taylor; and the Decorating Chairs were Anne Bedrick and Anna Bruno with help from Fenizia Maffucci, Liz Steger and Judy Fraioli.



Photo Captions:

- 1) *The Gala committee created a romantic mood with bouquets of red roses and soft lighting.*
- 2) *PHCL Board member Anne Bedrick and her husband, Scott, at the check-in table.*
- 3) *PHCL President Lori Morrow jokingly brandished a snow shovel during her speech.*
- 4) *Martin and Julia Ungewitter.*
- 5) *PHCL President Lori Morrow with Patty Barajas and PHCL Board member Linda Fosina.*
- 6) *Dr. Leonard Maffucci dances with his wife, Fenizia, a member of the Gala committee.*



PHOTOS FROM THE ROSE BALL

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Photo Captions:

- 1) Michael and Linda Fosina with Yan Mei and PHCL Vice President Lisa Bonalle.
- 2) Rick Williams and Poppy Gaskin with PHCL Board member Annie Felder-Williams.
- 3) Gala committee member Catherine Rogers and her husband, Roland.
- 4) PHCL Board member Kate Gordon Ronan with Beth Ford.
- 5) Eileen McCarthy, Greg Varian, Alisa Kesten and Emery Schweig.
- 6) New York State Senator Jeff Klein, County Clerk Tim Itoni and the Hon. Noam Bramson, Mayor of New Rochelle.
- 7) Superintendent of Schools Linda Kelly dancing with her husband, Dr. Peter Fauci.
- 8) Library Director Patricia Anderson dances with her husband, Dick.
- 9) Mayor Noam Bramson, PHCL President Lori Morrow and her husband, Bob.

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