

Did You Know?



The New Rochelle Public Library is one of the busiest libraries in the region.

In 2010:

- 562, 084 materials were circulated.
- 175,946 reference questions were answered.
- 1,633 programs were enjoyed by 27,674 children, teens, adults and seniors, and were paid for by fundraising organizations and donations.

Despite these successes:

NRPL's local public support per capita is 6th lowest in Westchester County.
NRPL's local public materials support per capita is 3rd lowest in Westchester County.

Above and beyond these services, NRPL also offers:



Over the past three months alone, 2156 residents have received computer training for job readiness and one-on-one assistance in applying for a job and finding social service resources, in the library's BTOP-Public Computer Center.



A NEW local history digital collection.
www.nrpl.org/newrochellehistory



New Rochelle Public Library Homework Help Center

Homework help for elementary and middle school students.

Grades K - 5
Children's Room (first floor)
Grades 6 - 8
Young Adult Section (second floor)

**Delivery of books to homebound patrons,
a multitude of programs for every age, and much, much more.**

Just take a look inside.



Message from the **Director**

Dear Patrons,

On May 17th, residents will be given an opportunity to vote on the 2011/12 Library budget as well as filling the Board of Library Trustee vacancies.

Budget

Our proposed budget will see an increase of 3.49% in the tax levy for New Rochelle residents. This translates to increase of \$143, 036 in the overall Library budget, or an annual increase of **\$13.47 per household for the "average" taxpayer** (estimate furnished by the New Rochelle City Finance Department.)

Understanding the economic realities of our citizenry, board and library administration took unusual measures to limit tax levy.

- The number of staff positions has been decreased from 42 in 2005 to 30 in 2011.
- Operating costs have been reduced by \$161,930.

The Library will be able to continue its excellent service to the community. The Board, representing a cross-section of the community, recognizes that library services are even more critical in these difficult financial times.

Library Trustee Position

The May 17th vote will also allow for the election of two members of the Board of Trustees to serve at large for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2016, and for a two year term beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2013. The Library Board plays a pivotal role in the setting of policy as well as oversight of operational management for the organization.

The following statistics illustrates the extraordinary activity of your library:

- Circulation loans are 4th highest in Westchester County
- Reference questions answered are 2nd highest in Westchester County
- Program events are 2nd highest in Westchester County
- Hours open are 3rd highest in Westchester County

Despite our success, our tax support is modest:

- Local public support per capita is 6th lowest in Westchester County
- Local public library materials support per capita is 3rd lowest in Westchester County

I urge you to participate in the Library Budget/Bond/Trustee Vote on **Tuesday, May 17th** between the hours of **7am** and **9pm** at Board of Education polling sites scattered throughout New Rochelle.

As always, feel free to contact me at tgeoffino@nrpl.org or 632-7879 if you have any questions or suggestions.

Best regards,
Tom Geoffino
Tom Geoffino

News from The Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library Fun, Family-friendly Fund Raiser at HCL on June 18th

New Rochelle's elementary school children are invited to participate in a Funtastic Read-A-Thon, **June 18**, from **3 pm to 8 pm** at the Huguenot Children's Library. The educational and entertaining fundraiser and community event will feature special guests to cheer on young readers as they build on and show off their reading skills. Details are available at the New Rochelle Public Library and Huguenot Children's Library or at <http://www.partnershipforthehcl.org>.

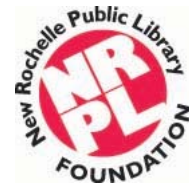
The Funtastic Read-A-Thon is presented by the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library, the nonprofit charitable organization that enhances and advocates for the exceptional children's library services at the Huguenot Children's Library and within the New Rochelle Public Library System.

New Rochelle Public Library Newsletter is published every other month.

Editor: Barbara Davis
Graphic Designer: Roxanne Mapp

New Rochelle Public Library Board of Trustees

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News from the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation

The library's beautiful new banners were celebrated at a March 23rd reception hosted by the Foundation, which sponsored the banner competition, and the New Rochelle Council on the Arts, which administered the project. The winning designs, now gracing the lobby, were submitted by artist Dale Zheutlin. The wonderful submissions of artists Theresa Beyer, Cristina Cerone, and Lisa Post have been printed on bookmarks that are available at the New Rochelle Public Library's front desk.



Judith Weber, President of New Rochelle Council on the Arts (middle) with artists Theresa Beyer, Lisa Post, Cristina Cerone and Dale Zheutlin.



Banner competition judges Judith Weber, Billie Tucker, Theresa Kump Leghorn, NRPL Trustee Haina Just-Michael, Katrina Rhein, and library director Tom Geoffino, with Foundation board member and past-president Lynn Green and Foundation co-president Leslie Demus.

SPOTLIGHT on STAFF



Kira Aiello
Job Title:
 Reference Librarian
Date of Hire:
 March 1, 2001

Q: What was your last job?

A: Working for the New York Public Library at the Stewart Park branch. I'm much happier at the New Rochelle Public Library (I've been here ten years now), because this library is concerned about making our library relevant to the community.

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: In Jamaica, Queens, my whole life. I married a Queens guy, we are the real Queens - we have Mets tickets, my son was even Mr. Mets for Halloween with a paper mache Mr. Mets head.

Q: What sights would you tell a tourist to not miss in the area?

A: I would recommend walking over the Brooklyn Bridge, seeing a game at Yankee stadium, and visiting the Unisphere in Flushing Meadows Park in Queens.

Q: Any special hobbies or interests?

A: Whatever my children are into is what I am currently doing. I took up paper mache for that Halloween Mr. Mets head!

Q: Best books you've read this year?

A: I really enjoyed *Just Kids*, the Patti Smith and Robert Mapplethorpe bio. I listen to a lot of books on tapes - I really like Alexander McCall Smith.

Q: Favorite pizza topping?

A: My family and I like a veggie pizza so we can fool ourselves that we're eating something healthy.

Q: Between librarian work, working with volunteers, and union president, you have your hands full. What are some highlights?

A: The library is very fortunate to work with a lot of community organizations that refer volunteers to us. I'm always amazed by the dedication of the volunteers, they're always looking for work to do, they're on time, they leave me messages if they're going to miss a day. I've got some really nice kids I'm working with. I've only just become union president - it's a learning experience for me. As for being a Reference Librarian, I enjoy working with the public, this is a great job. Seeing the former middle schoolers graduating college...a fun 10 years here for me. And the patrons have seen me over the last 10 years...get married, have two children, buy a house... and they ask me about my life, it's very nice.

Q: Where would you travel for a dream vacation?

A: I'd like to go back to Italy - the history and the FOOD! The history - you're in a bustling urban city and you turn a corner and there's the coliseum, just amazing.

Q: People would be surprised to know that you...?

A: In my late teens I went camping off-season with friends. Two of the guys went for a walk and came back saying they had heard heavy breathing behind them and the sound of someone walking, crunching on the leaves, and when they stopped, the sounds stopped. When they started walking again, the sounds started again. We teased them calling them "city boys", making fun. The next day we are over at the old Y camp and the camp coordinator tells us to stop - and we see two bear cubs playing in the dumpster. He tells us not to make any sudden moves because if there are cubs then the mother bear is around - and we realize (as we ease away) what our friends had heard following them!

New Rochelle Public Libraries

New Rochelle Public Library
 One Library Plaza, New Rochelle,
 New York 10801

Huguenot Children's Library Branch
 794 North Avenue,
 New Rochelle, New York 10801

Phone Numbers

Main Library 632-7878

Important Extensions:dial 2 first:

Registration/Circulation	ext:1700 & ext:1400
Children's Room	ext:1800
Reference Desk	ext:2000 & ext:2100
Community Relations/Programs	ext:3300 & ext:3400
Administration	ext:1500

Huguenot Children's Library 632-8954

Hours of Operation

Main Library

Monday	9am - 8pm
Tuesday	9am - 8pm
Wednesday	10am - 6pm
Thursday	9am - 8pm
Friday	9am - 5pm
Saturday	9am - 5pm
Sunday	1pm - 5pm

HCL

Monday	10am - 6pm
Tuesday	10am - 5pm
Wednesday	10am - 8pm
Thursday	10am - 6pm
Friday	10am - 5pm
Saturday	10am - 5pm
Sunday	1pm - 5pm

Library Resources For All Ages

Free Help with Benefits for Seniors Now Available

Do you need help finding out which benefits you, as a senior citizen, or an older family member may be entitled to receive? Have questions about Medicare health and prescription or food stamps, HEAP, EPIC, weatherization, minor home repair, tax relief programs and other benefits? NRPL's new Senior Benefits Information Center is for you! Every Friday, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm in the second floor conference room, trained volunteers will be available to provide one-on-one counseling a print access to print and on-line materials. No appointment is necessary. Just drop-in!

The Westchester Library System has spear-headed the Centers, working in collaboration with the Medicare Rights Center (MRC) and the Department of Seniors Programs to recruit and train volunteers to provide counseling in four Westchester libraries, including NRPL. Volunteers include retired professionals such as nurses, teachers, social workers, and other professionals. Training on the different benefit programs, including the use of www.mybenefits.ny.gov, is coordinated by staff from MRC.

We Heard You!

Need to scan documents and photographs? NRPL now has a public scanner. Please inquire at the second floor desk.

New Links to the Past: NRPL's Local History Digital Collection

NRPL has been fortunate in amassing the most extensive repository of archival materials and resources related to the community's history, (largely due to generous donations from collectors such as Dominic Bruzzese, Karen S. Allen, and other local residents,) and to having it available for use in the E. L. Doctorow Local History Room. We're now able to take the collection to the next level – that is, the Internet. Under the direction of librarian/archivist Larry Sheldon, library staff and volunteers have been hard at work, digitally scanning and organizing much of the collection so that it may be accessed with the click of a mouse. We will continually upload more images from our collections for your viewing, but right now you can see New Rochelle's illustrious past in post cards, photographs, manuscripts and a special scrapbook of the Coutant Cemetery Centennial. A second on-line collection, a sampling of the Davids Island/Fort Slocum Cultural Resources Digital Repository that was recently transferred to NRPL, will be continually expanded as well. Check them out at www.nrpl.org/newrochellehistory

“STEPS TO SUCCESS” Tutoring for Elementary and Middle School Students

Thanks to a new partnership between the library, the City of New Rochelle Youth Bureau, Monroe College and Westchester Library System, the “Steps to Success” initiative is now providing one-on-one homework help and tutoring for elementary and middle school students, Mondays - Thursdays, from 3:00 pm until library closing.

Volunteers from the Youth Bureau and Monroe College have received thorough training and are readily awaiting students needing extra help in completing homework assignments and in mastering challenging subjects. Elementary school students will be assisted in the children's room on the first floor and middle school students will meet with the tutors in the YA area on the second floor. We are delighted to offer this program, which is designed to encourage learning and academic confidence in the safe and friendly environment of the library.

Homebound Service Continues

Our free Homebound Service is open to any person showing proof of residing within the New Rochelle School district but is unable to come to the library because of limited mobility, illness or handicap. Upon applying for homebound status, a potential patron will participate in a phone interview with a librarian, during which the librarian will fill out the Homebound Service Questionnaire. Patrons may request specific titles, or the librarian may select title for them based on responses given in questionnaire. Homebound patrons, who may check up to four items at a time, have access to all library materials except music CDs, DVDs, and Videotapes. Items are delivered in person by library staff to patrons' home every two weeks when old materials are picked up. Call the Registration Desk for more information 632-7878 ext. 4500

May and June 2011 Programs for Adult & Teens

Exhibits

Our Children, Our Artists (Elementary School Students), **May 2 – May 12**
Our Children, Our Artists (Secondary School Students), **May 18– May 26**
Lumen Winter Gallery, New Rochelle Public Library, during regular library hours.

The New Rochelle Art Association presents the 27th annual Jules Bauer Award Show, in the Lumen Winter Gallery of the New Rochelle Public Library from **May 28th to June 18th**. The show is open to all exhibiting members of the Association, with a cash prize in Jules Bauer's name to be awarded for best watercolor. NRAA Jurying-In of New Members on **Saturday, June 4th, 10:00 am – 11:30 am**.

The Garden Club of New Rochelle celebrates its 100th year with a special show and exhibit in the Library's Lumen Winter Gallery, **June 27 and 28**.

Music

Pianist Levi Barcourt in Concert: The American Songbook
Sunday, May 15, 2011 3:00 pm

Just back from his national tour with the multi-Grammy Award winners and world famous song writing team of Ashford & Simpson, acclaimed pianist Levi Barcourt returns to the stage of the Ossie Davis Theater for another extraordinary concert! Barcourt will perform favorites from the American song book, including those from artists such as Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, Fats Waller, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra & Harold Arlen – all performed with Barcourt's fabulous arrangements for solo piano. This concert is made possible by the Lillian Robbins Memorial Fund. Suggested donation: \$2.00



Concert: "Six Degrees of Separation" by Cantemus
Sunday, May 22 3:00 pm

The fabulous choral group returns to the library for "Six Degrees of Separation" - a musical slant on the theory that individuals around the world are all connected, with only six persons separating one from another. Cantemus explores the theory with a fun narration and its usual rainbow of classics, pop tunes, opera and Broadway melodies – including such hum-along pieces as *How Deep is the Ocean*, *When I'm Sixty-four*, *Button Up Your Overcoat*, some gorgeous Chopin and part of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Laughter, harmony and sumptuous voices will lift every heart! This concert is made possible by the Friends of the New Rochelle Public Library. Suggested donation: \$2.00

Lunchtime Yoga Express

Mondays, through June 27th, 2011, 12:15 – 12:45 pm (no session on May 30)
Wednesdays, through June 22nd, 2011 1:15 pm - 2:00 pm

Conquer stress and fatigue, return to work with renewed energy and focus, with a gentle yet invigorating 30- or 45-minute session of yoga with Nora LeMorin. No need to change clothing! Traditional and adapted poses will be practiced either standing or seated in chairs to balance, stretch and strengthen the body while calming the mind. In the Ossie Davis Theater. Drop-in. Free.

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In the Ossie Davis Theater. Drop-in. Free.

Science & Sustainability



Science Café: Vertical Farming: Feeding the World in the 21st Century

Tuesday, May 10, 7:00 pm at Rangoli Indian Cuisine, 615 Main Street, New Rochelle

Dickson D. Despommier, a professor emeritus at Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health and a Sustainability Subject Matter Expert, established "The Vertical Farm" to look at the possibility of agricultural sustainability within cities. Despommier believes that with enough input from multiple disciplines (e.g., industrial and soil microbiology, engineering, public health, policy making, urban planning, architecture, agronomy, plant genetics, economics), vertical farming could become a reality and thus replace most of what now passes for agriculture in many parts of the developed and under-developed world. If this were to come about, large tracts of land could then be returned to nature restoring ecosystem services. Following the presentation, copies of Dr. Despommier's book, ***The Vertical Farm: Feeding the World in the 21st Century***, will be available for purchase (\$26.00) and signing. Complimentary "tastings". and, beverages and meals available for purchase.

Call 632-8254 for reservations.



Smart Saturday: Composting 101

Saturday, May 14 11:30 – 12:30 pm

Master Gardener Jennifer Carpenter-Jensen provides an easy-to-follow overview of composting for suburban gardeners. Learn about how you can turn your food scraps in valuable, rich soil!

Whether you are a homeowner or apartment dweller, you can save money, time and resources with simple methods and bins described by composting guru Carpenter-Jensen.

Ossie Davis Theater. Free.

Films

Romeo and Juliet Film Festival Finale

Thursday, May 12 7:00 pm

Our Shakespeare series concludes with the 1996 adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*. Directed by Australian Baz Luhrmann and starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes, this 1996 film is the more unconventional adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*, moving the setting from its Elizabethan origins to the futuristic urban backdrop of Verona Beach. The interpretive discussion will be led by Prof. Amy Stackhouse.
Ossie Davis Theater. Free



International Film: Shame

Thursday, May 19 7:00 pm

On a remote island far removed from a raging civil war, Jan (Max Von Sydow) and Eva (Liv Ullmann) retreat to their apolitical fortress: a small vegetable farm. But their serene existence is shattered when soldiers violently invade their home. Now caught in the crosshairs of a brutal and inhuman conflict, Jan and Eva become survivors with only one concern – to endure. The 1968 film, directed by Ingmar Bergman, was called “a flawless work” by *The New Yorker* and “A masterpiece – frightening, fascinating, moving,” by the *Los Angeles Times*. The movie is in Swedish with English subtitles.
Ossie Davis Theater. Free



International Film: Small Change

Thursday, May 26 7:00 pm

Directed by François Truffaut, this 1976 film is set in the quaint French town of Thiers, where the streets abound with the sound of children laughing and playing. While most of them deal with such simple issues as puppy love and attending school for the first time, some don't find life quite so easy. The hungry ones play upon the heartstrings of neighbors for supper and the lonely ones cause trouble for attention. But when the truth behind one little boy's petty thievery is revealed, a shockwave is sent through this picturesque town that helps everyone finally see the children for who they truly are.
Ossie Davis Theater. Free.



International Film: Dinner for Adele

Thursday, June 2 7:00 pm

American private eye Nick Carter (Michal Docolomanský) travels to Prague in order to find a countess' missing Great Dane, and instead runs afoul of a mad scientist and his man-eating plant Adele. Wonderful stop motion effects and camera tricks, along with a wry sense of humor, make this rarely-screened Czech mystery spoof an offbeat winner. The 1978 film was directed by Oldrich Lipský and has English subtitles.
Ossie Davis Theater. Free.

International Film: My Young Auntie (1981)

Thursday, June 16 7:00 pm

Young and beautiful Cheng Tai-nun (Kara Hui) marries an elderly landowner in order to help him keep his estate from falling into the greedy and unscrupulous hands of his brother. Great slapstick comedy and dazzling kung fu choreography helped make this 1981 film one of the most popular and influential Hong Kong movies of its time. Directed by Lau Kar Leung and in Cantonese & Mandarin with English subtitles.
Ossie Davis Theater. Free.



Programs for Teens

Cool Culture Wednesdays: "Gamer's Garrison" is gaming galore: we'll bring the PS3 and Wii, you bring the games; plus table space for card and RP gamers. "LibrAnime" is the library's anime and manga club, featuring anime screenings, manga swap, and lots of Japanese snacks! The clubs meet on alternate Wednesdays at 4:00 PM in the library's first floor meeting room. For more info speak to Ken Petrilli, Teen Services Librarian 813-3735. nrlpteens@wlsmail.org

Gamer's Garrison: May 11, May 25, June 8, and June 22.

LibrAnime: May 4, May 18, June 1, June 15

Programs for Children

At the Main Library and Huguenot Children's Library

BID Family Days

May & June 2011

Free

Presented by the New Rochelle Downtown Business Improvement District with the Public Library, the City School District and the Department of Parks & Recreation

Musical Adventure: "Casey at Bat" and Other Great Baseball Stories
Saturday, May 21 12:30 pm

Concordia Conservancy returns to the stage of the Ossie Davis Theater with a lively, interactive Musical Adventure celebrating Baseball Season. The popular book, Casey at Bat, by Ernest Lawrence Thayer, and other exciting baseball tales will come alive with music and sound effects, by teaching artists Matt Van Brink, accordionist, and Renee Redmond, storyteller.

Summer Reading Kick-off Party
Saturday, June 25 1:00 pm

The popular children's performer, Louie! will get things moving and shaking out on Library Green (or Ossie Davis Theater, if rain) and the Green and Library will be humming with cool crafts and awesome activities for elementary school children. Be sure to sign up for the 2011 Summer Reading Game: "Discover Creatures Great & Small @ Your Library" and start earning points towards prizes! This year the "Born Learning" team will be joining in on the fun – with activities and information for preschoolers as well. Library Lobby & Library Green.



On the Horizon: Free Summer Programs for Children and Families

Children of all ages can pick from a great menu of free activities being offered at the Main Library and the Huguenot Children's Library, from **July 5 through August 12th**. "Have a Ball with Creatures Great & Small" is the theme for our 2011 Summer Reading Game, and the children's librarians have a bunch of great prizes to sweeten reading adventures. International Music and Dance performances for the whole family returns on Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm, beginning July 5th. This summer, the whole family can also enjoy Disney Classic Films on **Mondays at 6 pm**, also in the library's air-conditioned Ossie Davis Theater.

Parenting Workshop Series at HCL

An informative series on life enhancing skills conducted by Caroline G. Kern, LCSW.

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:30 am

May 4th: The Ups and Downs of Being a New Parent

As magical as the journey of parenthood is, there is a tremendous learning curve. In this workshop we will explore issues ranging from feeling overwhelmed, to managing your new life, and re-defining your role in a way that can satisfy body, mind and spirit.

May 11th: How to Communicate Effectively with your Partner (and Family)

Are you wondering why you are not being heard or getting what you need? Stop the wondering and start the talking. This workshop focuses on effective communication for the entire family.

May 18th: STRESS: It's All Around Me, What Can I Do About It?

One way or another, we have all been exposed to stress. This workshop will help explain what stress is, understand its effects, and enable you to recognize your stressors and identify effective strategies to deal with them.

Caroline G. Kern, LCSW, completed her graduate work at Columbia University and has over a decade of experience working with adults and couples in different settings and across a range of issues, including: relationship dynamics; depression; anxiety; stress management; and bereavement. She currently runs a private practice in New Rochelle. (www.carolinegkern.com)

Due to limited space, pre-registration is necessary. Please call the library at 632-8954 to reserve a spot. Registrants are welcome to any or all workshops. Infants welcome to join their caregiver.

Summer Fun on the Patio Huguenot Children's Library

Mondays through **Fridays, June 30 - August 19, 10:00 am to 4:30 pm**
(except July 4). *Made possible by the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library*
A free drop-in program at the Huguenot Children's Library provides good old fashioned summertime fun – ping pong, arts and crafts, jump rope, games, kickball, and many more outside activities that are supervised by experienced, enthusiastic adults and teens.

Children must be accompanied by a parent or adult caregiver.
Summer Fun does not take place in rainy weather.



Homework Help

Struggling with a homework assignment? Need help with a book report?
Help is here at the main library every **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**
from **3:30 – 6:00 pm!** Homework Help college students and volunteers are on hand
to assist elementary school students and younger middle school students in
organizing homework needs, locating appropriate resources, and strengthening
reading skills. The free Homework Help service continues through May, except
during school vacation weeks.

Free Programs for Infants, Toddlers and Pre-School Children

At the Main Library and Huguenot Children's Library (HCL)

Yoga Tots

Ages 18 months – 35 months

Toddlers will have fun "playing yoga" during Yoga Tots. Using puppets, props and songs, toddlers will take a yoga adventure, play yoga games, go upside down and end each class with a yoga relaxation. Taught by Certified Kids Yoga Instructor, Susan Fried.

Adult participation encouraged!

Saturdays: April 23 - May 28, 2011

Main Library: 10:00 – 10:30 am

HCL: 11:00 - 11:30 am

Music and Movement with Nora Maher

Ages 12 months – 35 months

A fun-filled introduction to songs, finger plays, and movement, led by a professional musician/educator.

Wednesdays through May 25, 2011

HCL: 9:45 - 10:15 am

Main Library: 10:45 – 11:15 am or 11:30 - 12 noon

Nursery Rhyme Time

Age 12 months - 24 months

A joyful blend of stories, songs and finger plays for children and their parent or caregiver.

Main Library: Fridays, through May 27

9:30 – 9:50 am

HCL: Mondays, Through May 23

10:30 - 10:50 am

Toddler Time

Age 2 years

Lively sessions engage 2-year old children and their parent or caregiver in music and games.

Main Library: Fridays, through May 27

10:30 – 11:00 am

HCL: Every Tuesday, Through May 24

10:30 - 11:00 am

Preschool Story Time & Craft

Ages 3 – 5 yrs

Seasonal and picture book themes inspire fun stories, songs, and a take-home craft.

Main Library: Mondays: Through May 23

10:00 – 10:45 am and

Tuesdays: Through May 24

2:00 – 2:45 pm

HCL: Every Thursday: Through May 26

10:30 - 11:15 am OR 1:30 - 2:15 pm

Open to New Rochelle residents only.

All sessions will be held on a first-come, first-served basis. These programs are made possible by the Friends of the New Rochelle Public Library and the Partnership for the Huguenot Children's Library.