



# TRACINGS

The Newsletter of  
The Friends of Tracy Memorial Library

Summer Issue

2017

## 35 Years of Service

*The year 2017 marks Timmie Poh's 35<sup>th</sup> year at Tracy Memorial Library. Such an incredible milestone warranted a Proclamation by the Board of Trustees to honor Timmie. We are pleased to reprint it here to share with the community. Congratulations, Timmie!*

### *PROCLAMATION DECLARING*

### *TIMMIE POH DAY*

### *UPON ACHIEVING THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE*

**WHEREAS**, Timmie Poh began working at Tracy Memorial Library in 1982 as Head Children's Librarian and served in the Children's Department for twenty-four years; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Timmie Poh continues to serve at Tracy Memorial Library as Circulation Desk Assistant and provides the very best in Reader's Advisory; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Timmie Poh also continues to serve at Tracy Memorial Library as Processing Manager, providing detail-oriented attention to all library materials, and supervising a multitude of volunteers; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Timmie Poh has always been pleasant and helpful to everyone entering Tracy Memorial Library, demonstrating compassion and engagement with patrons of all ages; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Timmie Poh knows Tracy Memorial Library and the New London community better than anyone else and shares this knowledge freely; *and*

**WHEREAS**, Timmie Poh is appreciated and respected for her commitment and contributions to Tracy Memorial Library and the New London community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED,  
BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
TRACY MEMORIAL LIBRARY,**  
that this Board, for and on behalf of  
the New London community,  
does hereby declare April 20, 2017  
to be "Timmie Poh Day" at Tracy Memorial Library.



# Summer Reading at Tracy Memorial Library – Youth, Teens, and Adults

This summer, Tracy Memorial Library joined with libraries all over the United States in the collaborative summer reading theme: “Build a Better World.” The youth department has been buzzing with activity and book circulation! We have welcomed wonderful summer visitors from near and far, including 32 students from Chongqing, China! As part of the theme, we added bricks to our “Build a Better World” castle. All were invited to add a brick by reading and other activities to help build and support our community and world. Here is what a few of the bricks say: “Read 31 books,” “I helped my sister,” “I danced,” “Helped at Food Pantry,” “Created some art,” and “Started tennis lessons.” Thank you to the Friends of Tracy Memorial Library for sponsoring the programs and materials that make youth summer reading so great!



This year’s Teen Summer Reading Program, for students in grades 6 through 12, featured special weekly prize drawings and a Teens@TML Activity Night, all fitting with the Surf’s Up theme. For every 50 pages they read, participants received one ticket to the weekly drawing which awarded cash gift cards. The Teens@TML evening event took place on July 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm when the teens had the library all to themselves for a movie, games, snacks, and a grand prize drawing for a ukulele.

There’s nothing like free ice cream on a hot summer day to make you feel like a kid again, and this year’s summer reading program for adults, *Build A Better World Bingo*, did just that. Between June 21<sup>st</sup> and August 11<sup>th</sup>, participants crossed off squares on their bingo cards by completing both reading and non-reading tasks. With a wide range of tasks to choose from, finding ways to get bingo was fun and easy. Upon completing five squares in a row, participants received not only a coupon for a free ice cream from Pizza Chef, but also an entry into the end of summer prize drawing for assorted gift cards to local businesses.

## *Traveling through Life’s Transitions One Step at a Time*

In so many ways, a public library reflects the soul of its community. One Monday evening in April, that connection was clear when The Friends of Tracy Memorial Library hosted a talk and slide show by Pam Sanborn on her recent trek along the length of The Camino de Santiago, more than 500 miles from the border of France to the coast of Spain. Her inspiring presentation was titled *Traveling through Life’s Transitions One Step at a Time*.

Pam began by sharing with the standing room only audience recent and profound changes in her life that conspired to lead her to a quest, specifically to the grand adventure of hiking the Camino. Her quest was both physical and spiritual, a combination of blisters, journaling, and deep spiritual exploration. Pam accompanied her discussion with music and a slide show worthy of a professional photographer.

The evening was made even more enjoyable by a feast of tapas (Spanish style hors d’oeuvres) prepared and donated by K.C. and Barry Wright.



## NEW CIRCULATION/CATALOG SYSTEM

Tracy Library has migrated to Koha, an open-source library catalog and circulation management system. Fun fact: Koha was first developed for a library system in New Zealand and the term "koha" is a New Zealand Māori term for a gift. By moving to Koha we are able to provide new, more up-to-date features such as:

- ~ the ability for patrons to receive email advanced notice that checked out items will be due soon (a frequent patron request!)
- ~ simultaneous searching of our local catalog and the NH Downloadable consortium ebook and audiobook catalog
- ~ the ability for patrons to easily make purchase suggestions (for items not found in the catalog) when logged in to their online library account

On the catalog home page, newly purchased items can be seen in the book carousel and in the new items links on the right side of the page. Check it out at <https://catalog.tracylibrary.org/>



### *FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK*



What are the hottest items according to our patrons this summer? For fiction it is *Camino Island* by John Grisham; for nonfiction it is *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. The top movie is *Lion*, about a boy who gets lost on the streets of Calcutta. Top summer audiobooks are *Vicious Circle* by C.J. Box (fiction) and *Rivals unto Death: Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr* by Rick Beyer (nonfiction).

Did you know that we have over 200 travel books located in the Reading Room? This special section includes local, national and international guides from Fodor's, Frommer's, Moon, Lonely Planet, National Geographic and Rough Guides. Check out our collection and tell us if there is a destination we don't have covered!

The staff and I are excited to announce an upcoming renovation to the large room housing our patron-access computers and audio-visual materials. Slated for completion in late August, the project includes custom-made furniture, paint and carpet. The renovation is funded by a bequest to the Friends from the estate of Charmian Byers-Jones, who was an avid reader and user of the Library.

We recently completed our capital reserve project to install new perimeter drainage around the building. Given the Library's location atop clay and ledge, there is always the possibility of water incursion. The Library Trustees have been diligent and proactive in taking steps to safeguard the building and the investment made by taxpayers over the years.

Best wishes for a safe and happy remainder of the busy season!

~ Sandra Licks, Director

## ASK A MUSLIM ANYTHING

In June we had a program called "Ask a Muslim Anything." This program was presented by Robert Azzi, a photojournalist, public speaker, and Arab American Muslim. Mr. Azzi invited audience members to ask him anything about Islam, being Muslim, and current related political and societal issues. Questions ranged from passages in the Quran to his conversion to Islam, from the differences and conflicts between Muslim groups and communities to the treatment of women. Audience members later commented on how much they enjoyed hearing the program.

Mr. Azzi, a NH resident, lived for a time in various cities in the Middle East before returning to NH. Mr. Azzi now travels throughout New England speaking to libraries and church and community groups to share his knowledge and experience, and aims to promote tolerance and understanding.





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as an outstanding library  
for our community!**

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Please make checks payable to "Friends of Tracy Memorial Library"  
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The Friends of Tracy Memorial Library is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization.

Your donation is tax deductible!

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