Pat Pardo and Emily Cohen recently visited the NYPL Manuscripts and Archives Division located in the Schwarzman Building on 42nd Street. There they found much material about the book drives conducted during both world wars. The purpose of the book drives was to obtain donations of books to be sent to our soldiers to raise morale. Above is a poster used in the WWII drive. Read on for more pictures of the drives in both wars and a write-up about the WWI drive as part of the lead-in to the WWII drive. Also see the review of the book “When Books Went to War” on page 10.
MORE BOOK DRIVE PUBLICITY PHOTOS
THE WAR LIBRARY BOOK DRIVE
March 19-25, 1918

More than one million books! During the last war the public of New York City responded handsomely to the appeal for books for the men in the Army, Navy and Merchant Marine.

The steps of the New York Public Library, the central collection point, looked as though the books within the building had burst through the huge Fifth Avenue doors, and overflowed down to the curb. Tables piled high with books, although emptied constantly, were piled high again and again, while a huge tower of books, at least thirty feet high, overtopped all.

The 9th Regiment co-operated with an effective display. Members of the Signal Corps stood at each end of the Balustrade, and with their little flags ceaselessly signalled: Send Books, Send Books.

John Foster Carr, well known in New York City for his Americanization work amongst foreign speaking immigrants, headed the local drive. Day after day his ruddy cheeks glowed as he hailed passers by through his megaphone: “Bring a Book!” His stentorian tones reached the passengers on the tops of the passing buses, and before long each bus was passed paid its toll in books.

From the richest to the poorest, all gave. One day, early in the drive, a limousine, driven by a liveried chauffeur and full of books fresh from a store; a splendid gift, and duly appreciated by the crowd. But next in line came an old man, with battered hat and clothes sadly in need of repair. Lovingly he took from his pocket a volume of Shakespeare, worn by much reading but still intact, and laid it on the pile. The crowd, suddenly realizing that the old man had cast in all that he had, cheered to the echo.

William DuBart Gamble, then head of the Science and Technology Division of the New York Public Library was one of the many speakers who urged people to give. Handing out short pieces of string he would cry out: Tie this round your finger! Remember to bring a book!

One lady brought in the latest copy of The Ladies Home Journal. In most serious tones, and most impressively she stated as she handed in her contribution: Some home loving boy would be glad to see it.
NYPLRA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
HOW FAR WE’VE COME ~ SOME QUICK FACTS

- Statistics as of March 2016:
  - Recorded interviews = 99
  - Written remembrances = 7
  - Additional interviews assigned to interviewers = 40
  - Those declining to be interviewed = 8
  - Final total = 150 (approximately)
  - Average recorded interview is 2 hours long; average length of edited transcript is 35 pages.
  - “Archive-ready” narratives = 20 completed files (approximately)

- All material is digitized (except for realia, if any)

- A completed file includes:
  - Recorded narrative
  - Narrator’s work history
  - Signed release
  - Verbatim transcription
  - Edited transcription
  - Names list
  - Glossary of terms
  - Photos, when available

- Interviewees include salaried staff who served in all types of positions who are members of the Retirees Association: librarians (Branch & Research); paraprofessional & clerical staff (currently mostly branch); support staff (human resources, security, maintenance, IT, etc.). One interviewee does not fit into any of these categories but grew up at the St. Agnes Branch as the daughter of the live-in custodian. Many of the histories capture the lives of working women at a time when librarianship was one of the few professions open to them; the earliest begins with memories of the first day of work in 1938.

- Potential value of the archive:
  - NYPL history
  - U.S. public library history & trends
  - Social & political history of NYC

- The Project strives to meet the highest standards of current oral history practice
  - Documentation (names of narrators, interviewers, transcribers, editors; dates; approvals; etc.)
  - File preparation and editing (written editing guidelines, extensive review process)
  - Extensive authority control for proper names (people, organizations, businesses, etc., including a master file of 12,000+ staff names)

If you have not been interviewed and would like to be, or if you would like to join our interviewing, transcription, or editing teams, be sure to contact Mary K. Conwell (mkconwell@yahoo.com).
Here I sit working at my computer, reading another wonderful Newsletter. I guarantee that you are going to be pleased with it! It is full of great items.

A recent highlight for me was our April 8th Annual Luncheon, which was held at La Mirabelle French Bistro for the second time, and was marvelous. We had fifty-eight retirees and friends happy to be together—eating delicious food and talking up a storm. Thankfully, we had no real storm this year! I stuffed myself with pate, succulent Duck a la Mirabelle in yellow plum sauce, and Three-Berry Tart, which gives you an idea of the luncheon selections. It was Yummy! All had a grand time. You can see some pictures of the Luncheon on the following page.

In March, Ethelene Whitmire, Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Library and Information Studies, spoke at the Mid-Manhattan Library about the book she has written and published, Regina Anderson Andrews, Harlem Renaissance Librarian, about the first African American women to be hired by NYPL. Mrs. Andrews was librarian-in-charge at the 135th Street Library. In her time there, she also supported and co-hosted a salon to support African American writers and intellectuals of the time.

Several years ago, Ms. Whitmire spoke to our association about her book project while it was in the developmental stage, but this time she spoke in more depth, with an illustrated talk, about this fascinating woman. Ms. Whitmire also invited Mrs. Andrews’s younger relatives, who spoke of her and what they knew of her. It was a most interesting program.

Save the Date: Wednesday, May 18!
Our next NYC event for Retirees will be an exciting backstage tour of the legendary Radio City Music Hall, the most famous Art Deco showplace in the nation! We will go behind the scenes to learn the secrets of the Great Stage—and we will MEET A ROCKETTE! We will be made up of two tour groups: one at 11:00 am and the other at 11:15 am. Each tour lasts 1 hour and 15 minutes. The cost is $15 per person. If you have questions or are interested in attending, please call Estelle Friedman at 718-543-9060 or email her at efriedman14@optimum.net.

In closing, we all want to wish you a good spring & summer. Thank you again for being loyal members of your Retirees Association. Remember, keep in touch and send in your news for the next Newsletter. Everyone loves to hear from YOU!

Becky Koppelman
212-874-6199 (h)
347-325-3713 (c)

This is your newsletter! Please let me know about the goings-on in your retirement. Did you travel somewhere interesting or meet a colleague from long ago? Do you have a fond (or not-so-fond) memory from your working days? Please share your stories.
Emily Cohen
718-984-3790

FROM THE EDITOR
Some photos of the NYPLRA Annual Luncheon at La Mirabelle French Bistro on April 9th, 2016.
Sally Campbell

I am currently enjoying hobbies, travel, work, volunteering, etc. When I turned 70 years old back in October 2011, I had a birthday concert/party at which I sang some of my songs. Several friends were there and sang along and laughed a lot. I gave myself the gift of recording it, and to date I've given away over 2,000 of the CDs I call Giftsongs and Blessings. If you'd like to have a copy, just let me know. Many of the songs come out of the silence I enjoy as a Quaker.

This fall I'm turning 75, so I'm having another party/concert to which you are cordially invited. It will be on Saturday, November 19, 2016, at 8:00 p.m. at The Peoples' Voice Cafe, 40 East 35th Street, NY, NY. Suggested donation will be $20, but you may pay more if you wish, less if you can't. No one will be turned away. The venue is fully wheelchair-accessible. I'll be sharing the evening with Jay Mankita, one of my favorite singer/songwriters. Please come and bring your friends.

David Ockene

As I haven't yet reported on my post-retirement activities, I decided to do so now.

I have been on the Mount Vernon Public Library's foundation for many years. I also served as a trustee for a short time. In addition, for the last year or so I have been a substitute librarian who fills in when they are short-staffed. I missed the rewards of library work and greatly appreciate this opportunity to again be of service.

I am a member of the Public Access Monitoring Committee of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies. We monitor proposed legislation that will affect access to genealogical records and sometimes draft statements in support of our position.

I am part of two ongoing studies of seniors at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. One is of longevity and the other of mobility.

I am also a monitor for the United States Postal Service. This involves reporting when I receive mail that is part of the project so that the USPS can track how long it takes to arrive.

I also continue to pursue my interest in genealogy and appreciate more time to read. It's good to be a retiree.

Carol Reisner

My husband and I just got back from a two-week tour of India and Nepal. It was very interesting and very intense.

Karlan Sick

Literacy for Incarcerated Teens [LIT] continues to be an important and rewarding project. Funds are raised to provide material to juvenile detention centers and to bring authors to work with the teens. A variety of literacy programs have engaged many teens. Amazon has even chosen LIT as one of its designated charities through AmazonSmile, where buyers may opt to have a small percentage of the cost of a purchase go to one of the designated organizations. For more information on LIT, visit our website: literacyforincarceratedteens.org

Pat Pardo

Carter was adopted on December 29, 2015, from the Humane Society. He is a ten-year-old, 14-pound tabby. His godmother is Emily Cohen. She was very instrumental in his adoption, sending Vesa and me his cat “mug-sheet” from the Human Society Internet site, enclosed in a glitzy, glittery card with a look-alike Carter wearing a top hat and bow tie. Thanks to Emily's clever adoption blitz, Carter now has a happy home.
Arline Wilson

I chose him from the shelter when he was just 2 months old. His name was Smokey, unimaginatively named because of his grey color. So small and cute, I just knew he would be the perfect addition to the family. PJ, my 4-year-old tabby, would be happy to have a kitten in the family. I bundled Smokey into the carrier and headed home elated that I’d found him. I was unaware that I had just adopted the cat from hell. Within days I knew that he had to be renamed. I decided on Scamp; it seemed appropriate. He was running up the screen door, hanging from the draperies, pulling all of the envelopes out of the cubbies in my roll-top desk, racing around the house manically and then suddenly falling asleep in a heap on the floor, as if a switch had been flipped. At night he slept at the foot of the bed. During those days, if I moved even a little, he would awaken and begin his manic behavior. I couldn’t move a muscle for fear of awakening him. So every night I had to lie like a dead body so that Scamp wouldn’t awaken. Something was askew here. I did not sign up for this. Surely he would grow out of this behavior. It would be cruel to return him to the shelter, wouldn’t it?

As I struggled with these thoughts, Scamp continued to grow and to expand his horizons. He learned how to open some of my kitchen cabinets and pull out the contents when he became bored. He was often bored. When engaged in some new and forbidden activity, Scamp would watch me for my reaction. If I reacted, he’d file away that knowledge and use it whenever he wanted attention. Scamp often wanted attention. I soon realized that this crazy animal was training me! Scamp is 10 years old now. He hasn’t mellowed much. He’s currently visiting my son Allen for a few months to give me some relief from his relentless shenanigans. I don’t feel the slightest bit of guilt for inflicting him on anyone for short periods of time.

So Scamp is available for visits anytime, all expenses paid by the owner—that would be me. Any takers?

Fred Giordano (Wayland, MA)

During my first incarnation as Branch Librarian at Allerton (1975), we were trying a wide range of programming events in our little auditorium, and I decided to advertise for a donated used piano so we could offer music programming—a long shot. The notice had been up on our bulletin board for a couple of weeks when “Jacob” accosted me one Friday on his way out and said: “It’s coming on Monday at 9 a.m.” Jacob, you should know, was our local middle-aged character who talked to himself and made strange noises while reading the daily newspapers and was conspicuously avoided by everyone in the building. (You all know the type!) Out of common decency, and as a hedge toward averting an incident involving Jacob, I conspicuously made a point of greeting him every morning. Despite these overtures, he had never returned the greeting. So his brief remarks to me not only scared the living daylights out of me, but I dismissed them immediately. Maybe it was God who was coming on Monday.

Fast forward to Monday morning when a Macy’s truck pulled up and the driver asked: “Where do you want it?” On the loading platform was a brand new Baldwin spinet piano, compliments of our buddy Jacob. From then on, the library enjoyed a silent film series with live piano accompaniment and a classical piano concert, among other programs. In addition, a certain moonlighting piano player had a private instrument to use during lunch hour.

P.S. Though Jacob received a formal thank you letter from the branch (his name and address were on the Macy’s receipt), a written acknowledgement in music flyers, and a sincere face-to-face thank-you from me personally, he never spoke another word to anyone on his daily visits and lapsed back into his borderline state.

P.P.S. Boy, do I miss New York!
James Huffman

My name is James Huffman, and when I think back on my most unforgettable patron, actually two separate events come to mind. They are the following:

Back in 1984, I was working in the Patents Collection, which was located in the old annex. Late one afternoon, maybe fifteen minutes before announcing closing, a tall German lady arrived. She explained she needed to do an in-depth patent search. I explained to her we would be closing shortly, and I could assist her in doing a "fast and quick” patent search. She could then return the following day to continue her search. She suddenly became very distraught, speaking in a loud German accent, explaining she simply had to complete this patent search this very afternoon. As I began to further explain why that would be impossible, she suddenly raised her hand, reached into her eye, grabbed her eyeball, and threw it across the table. Watching it as it bounced off the table, falling onto the floor, I couldn't believe my eyes. "Oh my god," I said as she simply picked up what I then realized was a glass eyeball, threw it in her purse, and proceeded to walk out. This was only my second day on the job in my new position. Needless to say, it was a beginning I never forgot.

My second event working in the Patent Collection involved a lovely old couple. They would often come into New York from Boston to check on his many patents. His wife often sat in the back as the gentleman performed his patent searches. She would constantly write notes on a yellow pad, watching me closely as I assisted the many patrons performing patent searches. This would happen for nearly a year. Often we would chat during each visit, and, on one occasion, they asked me if I would have lunch with them. I agreed to do so. Following lunch, the gentleman, point blank, asked me if I would consider being a companion for his wife on a trip to London. He explained he could not take the trip due to age and illness. He further explained he would be happy to speak with my supervisor, Richard Hill at the time, for his input. I was speechless. I had never traveled to Europe before—how exciting this would be. They explained that over the year that they watched me as I went about my duties, they were quite taken with how professional and polite I was with each library patron. To make a long story shorter, my supervisor endorsed my capabilities and recommended me highly.

I had plenty of vacation time, and what a vacation this would be: a totally free trip abroad, just the cost of my food. I made a wonderful travel companion; she referred to me as her "black grandson," and I had the opportunity to explore London and all it offered. In fact, we made a second trip a year later. A very unforgettable patron and experience.

Zahava Szász Stessel, Ph.D.

It was on one of those long Thursday winter evenings that the main library on Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street was open until 9 o’clock. As the librarian on duty, I was sitting behind the desk at the information table, of the Jewish Division.

The reading room was quiet and, as usual, I was checking the lists of resources to be better able to help the readers. Shortly, I noticed the entrance of a young priest in full attire. I was ready to guide him towards the other sections of the library that I assumed he was looking for. To my surprise, the clergyman handed me a note with a name on it. Checking the list, soon a small book, written in Hebrew, was located in the rare books section, and presented to the reader.

Assessing the book, the young man approached my desk. With shining, triumphant eyes, he proudly explained that he was a descendent of the book’s author. As I knew Hebrew, together we looked at the fragile pages. The book was a commentary on the Bible. Reading some of the passages, the Bible became a permanent tie between us. As a Holocaust-Auschwitz survivor, I was deeply moved by the mystery of fate.

The time was now close to closing, and the young clergyman thanked me sincerely for helping him to discover the strength and greatness of his European ancestors. He planned to return to photograph the delicate pages of the time-worn book, as Xerox was not an option.

Looking at my reader leaving, I understood, as a survivor even better, his search of family and history. The young priest’s delight and pride of discovery remained a lasting memory of one of my unforgettable patrons.
Kaye Coke Walker

Mr. Duffy was "my most unforgettable patron." In the June 20, 1991, issue of Bronx Times Reporter, Tommy Acosta wrote an article entitled "Where Is Mister Duffy?" It was illustrated with a photo of the seat in the Throgs Neck branch library where Mr. Duffy had sat for the last 11 years. Mr. Eugene Duffy was a fixture in the community, an apparently homeless man of about age 57, who languished in the Throgs Neck Library. As branch librarian, I had been quoted as saying, “I've been working at this library for over ten years, and in that time Mr. Duffy was here every single day. He became a fixture here, sitting at his favorite chair, sleeping, and reading the newspapers and magazines. We find ourselves missing him. It's almost as if we're not complete without him here.” Mister Duffy had been missing for over four weeks, an unusual amount of time considering his past record. He had been waiting outside the library at opening time each day, no matter what the schedule was for the day. As soon as the library opened, he had always gone directly to his favorite chair. Mister Duffy had always been clean and was a very neat dresser. He did not communicate much and guarded his privacy. He seemed to be a man of mystery.

At the library, people had heard that he had suffered a heart attack and died. However, it was uncertain whether the dead man in the Bronx Times Reporter article was Mr. Duffy. The article ended by asking for anyone with information to contact the newspaper. This article was shortly followed by another one entitled "Goodbye, Mr. Duffy." It had been confirmed that the man who died on a park bench near I.S. 192 was indeed Mr. Duffy. Facts emerged about his past life. He had graduated from college with a degree in engineering and worked as an engineer for the Department of Water Works for New York City. When he left his job, he spent his days in the library or on the park bench or in McDonald's. Community response to the disappearance of Mr. Duffy was strong. He had been well liked by all and was missed.

During WWII, the largest book drive in American history took place. Donations were solicited from all over the country. Both publishing companies and the public were donors. The effort was the Victory Book Campaign, and our servicemen were the recipients of the books.

One of the grandest displays of publicity was on the steps of the NYPL main library. It featured famous people such as Chico Marx and Benny Goodman.

Sorting centers rejected some of the books as unsuitable. The books accepted gave the men something worthwhile to occupy their minds and to keep their minds on something constructive. Morale was improved in the training camp, on the Battlefield, and during recovering periods.

The President declared April 17, 1942 as Victory Book Day. He released a statement on how books played an essential role in the fight for freedom.

BOOK REVIEWS

Most library history is written from the perspective of librarians, but this history explores what American library users felt about their public libraries from colonial America to the year 2000. Wiegand makes extensive use of both archival records (including the branch annual reports in the NYPL Archives) and digitized Internet sources. Much of his story concerns conflicts between librarians and users over the proper place of fiction in library collections. Wiegand’s conclusion, however, is that there was an “eloquent silence”—users rarely complained about their libraries—and this “silence” conveys how appreciative Americans have been of their libraries and their librarians throughout American history.

NYPL retirees will appreciate not only his use of the branch annual reports but also Wiegand’s mentioning of outreach programs developed by Dean Sheehan for AIDS patients at St Luke’s Hospital (page 239-240).

[Editors’ note: At the end of Bob Sink’s talk to the Retirees Association in October of 2011, he introduced Weigand, who asked the assembled retirees for anything they could contribute to the research he was conducting for this book.]

Read Bob Sinks’s blog about early librarians at http://nypl-librarians.blogspot.com/

On one of the coldest mornings of the year, a cold and disheveled kitten was found in the book drop of the Spencer, Iowa, library. He became the beloved mascot of the library. To give an idea, a birthday cake was once made for him shaped like a mouse and made of cat food!

Staffers and public alike loved the handsome cat who was given the name Dewey Readmore Books. He had just the right temperament for a library cat, and an article about him in the local paper was headline “Purr-fect Addition Made to Spencer Library.”
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING TOUR

On a lovely Friday morning in November 2015, twenty-nine retirees and a few spouses took an informative and entertaining tour of the Good Housekeeping Laboratories on the 29th floor of Hearst Tower located on 8th Avenue and 57th Street.

Standing outside Hearst Tower and just looking up at the monstrous glass and steel skyscraper, designed by the noted British architect Norman Foster, was a heady experience. Once inside, other experiences awaited us. While waiting for our tour to begin, we watched as business personnel and employees hurried past, up into the building, taking the magnificent main escalator high into the tower.

Then it was our turn to be taken up to the 3rd floor on this monstrous escalator, which glides past an expansive metal and glass cascading waterfall. The waterfall is recycled rainwater, which is used throughout the building. Staff immediately directed us to elevators to the 29th floor, where we were graciously met by a Good Housekeeping representative who turned us over to qualified chemists, scientists, or engineers in charge of the following laboratories.

In the Cosmetics Lab, they demonstrated how they judge the safety and quality of the different cosmetics and other products, such as hair coloring items, sent from companies wanting the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval. In the Food Lab, we were told about different food items and recipes that are constantly tasted and tested. There was even a chef with toque cooking and testing a recipe for stew. It smelled delicious.

The Household Lab contained all types of utensils and appliances that were being tested for reliability and durability. We learned, for example, that vacuum cleaners with bags do a better job than those without bags and that some advertisers tend to overstate a product’s reliability. Then on to the Toy Lab where they test the durability and safety of children’s toys. Toys of all kinds were all over the place. Children are actually invited in periodically—to their delight—to deliberately try to destroy these toys. They had managed to do quite a successful job.

Several times a year a sale is held, usually limited to employees in the building, in order to get rid of all the products that have accumulated during this period. Piled up pots, pans, dishes, stoves, dish washers, washers, dryers—all are on sale or are dispersed.

When our tour ended, we had great admiration for those who constantly test these products so that consumers can feel assured that they are getting quality goods. And as a parting gift, each of us received the latest issue of their magazine, Good Housekeeping. They also suggested we use their website: <www.goodhousekeeping.com>. There you can find the latest product reports, home decorating ideas, recipes, etc. all online. Try it out; it is almost as good as a tour.
Some photos from the Good Housekeeping Tour
In Memoriam: John V. Ganly (1936-2016)  
By Ruth A. Carr

The son of Irish immigrants, John Vincent Ganly was born in Manhattan and spent his entire life there. From his father, John absorbed an interest in politics and social progress, and from his mother, a love of music and literature. As a child he frequented his local library, the Fort Washington Branch on West 179th Street, where he read his way through the children’s books and into the adult collections. He had a particular interest in science. Beginning at age thirteen, he would take the subway to avail himself of the circulating collections then located at 42nd Street.

John received a BA in Business Administration from Baruch College. After graduation, he became a Purchasing Agent at North American Phillips, a subsidiary of the major Dutch corporation. His job required him to purchase raw materials and finished products for its medical division. Sometimes he had to visit corporate headquarters in The Netherlands, which perhaps whetted his lifelong love of travel. In the course of doing this job for ten years, John realized that what he most enjoyed was the time he spent doing research. He decided to become a librarian and enrolled in the library school of Pratt Institute where he received his MLIS.

His first librarian job was at NYPL where in 1970 he was interviewed and hired by Edward Di Roma, Chief of the Economics and Public Affairs Division (EPA) of The Research Libraries. John felt very privileged to be working with a number of knowledgeable senior colleagues who themselves had worked with staff who had been with the Library in 1911 when the building opened.

In 1972-73, John attended the New School where he received an MA in Political Science. There many of the faculty were from the generation of exiles from Nazism, and again he was aware of a great sense of history.

Upon the retirement of Edward Di Roma, John succeeded him as Chief of EPA in 1984, a position he held until 1996 when he was named an Assistant Director of the new Science, Industry, and Business Library (SIBL), a position he retained until his retirement in 2010. For several years he concurrently served as Acting Chief of the NYPL Conservation Division.

Over the course of his Library career, John served on many committees and was Chair of the Research Libraries Council for several terms. He curated exhibitions based on SIBL collections, including “The Subway at 100.”

Those who worked with John recall fondly a supportive and mentoring colleague. But John’s influence extended well beyond NYPL. For 25 years, beginning in 1984, he taught the Business Information Course at Rutgers School of Communication and Information. He taught a similar course at Columbia School of Library Service for five years. John’s expertise in his field led to several publications including Data Sources for Business and Market Analysis (4th ed. 1994) and Serials for Libraries (1985).

John was also active in professional organizations. He was one of the founders of ALA BRASS (Business Reference and Services Section), helped organize the Academic Business Librarians group with colleagues at Columbia and NYU, and was active in the Special Libraries Association.

His awards and honors include the Gale Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship, the Special Libraries Association President’s Award, and, for his
fund raising efforts, the SLA New York Chapter honor in 2008.

Upon retirement, John enjoyed traveling, theater, and music. He was a great film buff and a frequent attendee at the Museum of Modern Art film programs. He also discovered a desire to write fiction and, in 2014, published his first novel, *Celtic Crossings*, which evolved from his great interest in his Irish heritage.

He will be sorely missed by his many friends and colleagues.

(Ruth’s April 24, 2015, interview with John is a part of the NYPL Retirees Association Oral History Project.)

**IN MEMORY OF NYPL RETIREEs, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS**

John Ganly
Calvin Hamilton
Barbara Long
Anne Moy
Berlena Robinson

**NEW MEMBER**

Sally Campbell

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The following information comes from Jennifer Levesque, Director of Total Rewards, and Sean Soun, Benefits Specialist:

**Important contacts:**

**Health Advocate** - Retirees can contact Health Advocate by telephone at 866.695.8622 or via email at answers@healthadvocate.com for support regarding their healthcare concerns and insurance related issues.

**One Exchange for Non-Union Retirees** - Questions regarding One Exchange can be directed to 1.855.323.6769.

**NYPL Human Resources Service Center** - If retirees need to update their address with NYPL, they can contact our HR Service Center at 212.621.0500, option 4.

**Medicare B Reimbursement:**
A decision regarding Medicare B Reimbursement for year 2015 has not been finalized yet. Letters will be going out soon regarding the reimbursement process.

**Retiree Spring Reunion:**
The Spring Reunion will be held on Wednesday, June 22nd, from 3pm - 5pm. Invitations will go out shortly.

**Healthcare changes and enrollments:**
Three months before you or your covered dependent turns 65, the Human Resources Service Center will send a letter to those of you in health plans regarding how to enroll in a plan option that coordinates with Medicare. We may request a copy of your Medicare A and B card at that time. Please contact the HR Service Center if you are not contacted within a few months of the date.

For retirees who were in Union covered titles, additional information will be sent from DC37 regarding your supplemental benefit transition, including a new prescription plan through United, depending on the health plan you participate in. Please contact DC37 directly with those questions at 212-815-1234.
IN THE MEDIA

To keep up with library news in our city, visit our website, www.nylpra.org.

On the Library Advocacy page, you can find links to active organizations, Citizens Defending Libraries and others.

The In The Media page will direct you to articles in newspapers, blogs, and magazines.

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