## **Report to the State Library Board**

November 27, 2017

Kendall F. Wiggin State Librarian

This report is prepared bi-monthly in conjunction with the regular meetings of the Connecticut State Library Board. The report, which will be included in the minutes of the November 27, 2017 meeting of the Board, covers the period of September 19, 2017, through November 24, 2017.

# Noteworthy

# Van Block Storm Damage

Arriving at the Van Block facility on October 25, staff discovered a significant water leak from the heavy rains the night before around one of the roof drains in the warehouse storage area. Approximately 49.5 cubic feet of records below the drain sustained varying degrees of water damage. Some boxes were slightly wet and others were soaked and falling apart. The records within ranged from no damage to up to 2 inches of water damage on the edges in contact with the boxes. Records affected included Secretary of the State Articles of Incorporations, Voluntary Associations, 1837-1945; New Haven Superior Court Criminal Case Files, 1900-1945, and Fairfield County Coroners records, circa 1968-1977. The staff was able to treat approximately half of the records onsite by reboxing those that had sustained no damage inside the box or were slightly damp on the edges. Staff decided to call in one of the records recovery vendors on state contract, BELFOR USA, as there was neither the space nor the staff to deal with the remaining amount of materials. The following day, 25 cubic feet of records were shipped to BELFOR's freeze drying facility. Drying and reboxing will take approximately 4 weeks to complete. The landlord has taken steps to repair the leak, but protective plastic sheeting will remain over the shelving in the area as a precautionary step.

# Office of the State Librarian

# **DPLA Exchange Pilot Project**

The State Library will be one of 6 libraries nationally to pilot the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) to model for a library-owned and library-centered eBook marketplace for popular eBooks, together with free public domain and openly-licensed eBooks using the SimplyE reading app for consortia that we have developed with the New York Public Library. The DPLA Exchange will allow us to select eBooks from over a hundred thousand licensed titles and thousands more that are openly-licensed. This new program will be administered through a partnership with LYRASIS, which will provide the hosting and other technology resources. This marks a major milestone in the development of a Connecticut statewide eBook platform.

# **Professional Activities**

Measures that Matter Summit (9/19-9/20) Baltimore

• Chair of the Measures that Matter Working Group

Futures Conference (9/25-9/26) Atlantic City, NJ

• Introducer/Presenter

New England Library Association Annual Conference (10/22-10/23) Burlington, VT

Speaker

Chief Officers of State Library Agencies Fall Meeting (9/30-10/1) Nashville, TN

Immediate Past President

Association of Connecticut Library Boards

Keynote Address

Ground Breaking Q House (includes Stetson Library Branch), New Haven

Robert Kinney and I attended the groundbreaking ceremony.

# **Division of Library Development (DLD)**

# 2017 Futures Conference

As a conference partner, key DLD staff (Dawn, Steve, Gail, Maria, Linda, Eric and Grace) joined 380 librarians from around the country to engage in a conversation about what the future of our organizations will look like. How will libraries, businesses, non-profits, and community organizations be impacted by technology? How will they communicate and what tools will be available to help libraries adapt in order to best suit their patrons needs? DLD staff will be incorporating what they learned into the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) 5 year plan and ongoing Division programming, consulting, outreach and strategic partnership activities.

Sessions included:

- **Kevin Mitnick**, the world's most famous hacker gave insight on privacy, the real threat and capabilities of hackers to compromise the information of our systems, our staff and our patrons, and what can be done.
- David Pescovitz, Institute for the Future spoke about the future of technology, science, innovation and media.
- Dr. James Hughes, Dean of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, distinguished professor and a nationally-recognized academic expert on demographics, housing, and regional economics. He is also the Director of the Rutgers Regional Report, which has produced over 40 major economic, demographic, and real estate studies on New Jersey and the broader metropolitan region. Dr. Hughes provided his predictions for the demographics of the future.
- Phil Bowermaster, Acceleration Strategist, focused on the convergence of information and society that is driving disruptive and accelerating change. Phil shared his insights to help librarians understand the drivers behind business and technology change and shape strategies for leveraging these changes.
- Rakia Reynolds, Founder and CEO of Skai Blue Media, the face of DELL's current media campaign, is an influencer in the creative business industry, and shared her expertise in creative development, branding, and strategic communications.
- **Cindy Ball,** Oculus Rift enlightened the crowd on virtual reality and its increasing impact on how organizations deliver services, educate and engage communities.
- Anthony Iovino, Arcari & Iovino Architects, focused on non-profit and public sectors
  projects with a keen focus on libraries. Anthony's presentation focused on the critical
  role of architecture in the future.
- The Futures School with Nicole Baker Rosa offered hands-on training in forecasting the future with a vision for a brand new approach to Strategic Foresight. Their approach

has been years in the making and emerged from a realization that a gap exists between our increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous world and the antiquated leadership and business development approaches we have depended on for so long.

#### Professional Activities and Outreach:

#### Dawn La Valle

- As CSL partner representative for the Futures Conference, assisted in all aspects of conference organization including introducing Rakia Reynolds session.
- Coordinated the initial cohort recruitment activities for the EXCITE Transformation for Libraries IMLS grant project.
- Attended Council for State Libraries in the Northeast (COSLINE) Library Development conclave in Vermont focusing on STEM Programming for elementary students; Diversity in Children's Picture Books; and Opioid Issues in Public Libraries.
- Attended Association of American Publisher's Fall Adult Book Preview at Penguin Random House, networked with Tri-State librarians focusing on adult reader's advisory.
- Co-chaired Access to Justice (ATJ) Working Group on Public Libraries meeting.
- Coordinating, "Best Practices in Connecticut Libraries Evaluation and Assessment" pilot with Best Practices Committee for implementation to commence winter 2018.

#### Tom Newman

Construction Grants

Reviewed and made recommendations for 2017 grants (Board Document SLB DOC 17-17).

Annual Report, State Aid, and Statistics

The Annual Report survey form for public libraries has been made available to download. As was done last year, the report is an easy-to-use Excel file which will be sent in when completed. There are a few changes in the questions asked this year, but we will be using some new edit checking tools to help identify problems.

### Gail Hurley

- Attended the National Digital Newspaper Program award conference in Washington D.C.
   September 11-13, as required under the National Endowment newspaper grant.
- Participated in the CT Saves partners call on September 30, to plan financial literacy activities for the coming year.

#### Maria Bernier

- Began round 2018-2 of grants-in-aid for fiber connections. Met with CT Education Network (CEN) staff to assess progress on fiber project and make plans for Year 3.
   Attended meeting of CEN Conference 2018 planning committee in Hartford, August 23.
- Began conversation with Internet2 representatives about piloting their IMLS-funded toolkit in CT libraries. Conducted site visits with Internet2 project team at Booth & Dimock Library and Babcock Library to learn about using their new broadband toolkit, September 18-19.
- Attended One Book One Region reception (Southeast CT libraries), Sept. 27.
- Planned and attended the Connecticut Library Association (CLA) ADA Committee fall program, October 3, Welles-Turner Memorial Library, Glastonbury.

### Steve Cauffman

- Began rolling out requestIT CT statewide. Beginning on September 12, offered 6 handson training workshops at 3 locations (Middletown, Groton, and Ellington). Have trained
  staff members from 40 libraries so that a total of 64 libraries now participate in requestIT.
  Nine more requestIT training workshops are scheduled at 5 locations (Winsted, Wilton,
  Southbury, Danielson, and Middletown) during October and November.
- Continue to add relevant, free webinars, Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC)
  Roundtable meetings, and DLD offerings, to the Continuing Education (CE) calendar.
  Announce DLD classes on Conntech and the CT Association of School Librarians
  (CASL) e-mail lists. The Supercharged Storytimes class is full, so we'll run that again soon. The Hands-On Legal Reference for Public Librarians taking place at Hall Memorial Library in Ellington has 6 people registered so far. Will be scheduling a session on grant writing with Ira Revels soon.
- Asked libraries to send their deliverIT volume statistics for July, August, and September so that a report can be compiled later for November.

### Eric Hansen

- Assisted State Librarian in negotiations with database vendors and libraries to manage effects of Executive Order Resource Allocation Plan. Updated library FTE figures for negotiations.
- Updated ProQuest links on WP and Libguide pages to reflect addition of Chicago
  Tribune, replacement of researchIT CT Newsstand with U.S. Major Dailies, and
  replacement of Hoover's Company Capsules and Profiles with Business Market
  Research Collection.
- Created web buttons for Hartford Courant Historical, Heritage Quest Online, and Business Market Research Collection to match other ProQuest buttons, uploaded to WP and Libguides sites.

#### Linda Williams

- Attended the COSLINE Conference in Burlington, VT October 2-4.
- Attended the CLA Children's Section Annual Meeting on October 13. Gave an update on State Library projects relevant to them including EXCITE.
- As a member of the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) Social Media Team (making regular posts to the CSLP Facebook and Pinterest pages), attended a CSLP virtual meeting about social media policy, practice for the Collaborative on August 14.
- Attended a virtual meeting of state library Youth Services Consultants. STEM/STEAM/STREAM was the discussion topic.
- Attended the School Library Journal Teen Conference Online on August 9.
- Met with the new children's librarian at the Waterford Public Library at the Middletown Library Service Center (MLSC) for a tour and info about resources the State Library provides for youth services librarians.
- Set up a READSquared online reading management software demo in anticipation of a possible switch away from Evanced Wandoo for the next contract.

#### **Access Services**

We have started to reinstate access to some of the database subscriptions that had been postponed due to the reduced allocation for library materials under the Executive Order Resource Allocation plan. Priority is being given to the databases that patrons have asked

about. We are viewing this interruption in service as an opportunity to examine our current subscriptions and compare them to different resources.

Staff has been very cooperative and flexible with the upcoming staff furlough days. Each union has a different approach to these days. 231 Capitol Ave will be open on the three days the A&R union set aside for furlough days. Volunteers have stepped forward for those days.

Judicial security staff had several retirements through this time period. This caused the south entrance to be closed several times during regular hours. Judicial has hired Murphy Security to assist in staffing the two entrances. Their role is limited. They can call an officer if we need one during the week. Most Saturdays there will not be an officer on duty. If there is a Saturday emergency we will have to call 911.

Kevin Johnson has done several of his presentations for state agency diversity programs. His presentations have usually been done for school or community groups. He requested that the reference units aid him in developing lists of materials from our collection that agencies could use in other diversity programs.

Steve Mirsky has seen some progress in getting digital transcripts and testimony from the committees at the Connecticut General Assembly. He and the Judiciary Committee clerk will be working on a pilot project to see how smoothly materials can be transferred or communicated.

We have been receiving inquiries about internship and volunteer programs on a more frequent bases then in the past. Some departments, Archives and LBPH, do have some interns or volunteers. We will be looking into the need or desirability of similar programs for the rest of the agency. Robert Kinney will be the point person for inquiries regarding internships and volunteer opportunities. He will also be coordinating the development of policies and procedures for volunteers and interns.

History and Genealogy hosted students from the Franklin Academy. This is the second time this year that the school has visitied. The Franklin Academy is an alternative high school located in East Haddam. (https://fa-ct.org) Their questions ranged from 18<sup>th</sup> century Connecticut to 20<sup>th</sup> century Armenia.

### Professional Activities and Outreach:

Kevin Johnson presented William Webb to the:

- Military Civil Support team 114th Co. in Windsor Locks, for diversity training.
- Department of Banking for diversity training. Discussions were about the Civil War, brutality of slavery and current race relations.
- Office of the Comptroller for diversity training.
- University of Hartford.

He presented Jordan Freeman at the Bristol Public Library for the local DAR.

Mel Smith gave a tour to the New England Association of Professional Genealogists. He gave a presentation and ran an exhibitor table at the Connecticut Society of Genealogists Annual Conference.

Members of the newly formed Connecticut Map Society came to the State Library to view and learn more about the Library's map collection. Carolyn Picciano gave a presentation and tour.

Maria Paxi represented the State Library as an exhibitor at the 2017 Polish Genealogy Conference put on by the Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast. This was held at CCSU's Institute of Technology, Business and Development.

Kris Abery attended the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) 2017 Virtual Conference.

Debra Pond, Kandace Yuen, Lindsay Young, Steve Rice and Nancy Lieffort attended parts of the CT Digital Government Summit.

#### **Collection Services**

From July to November 2017, the State Library postponed the renewal of many print and online subscriptions while the State of Connecticut had not yet adopted a budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017. Reference and Collection Services librarians worked closely together during this four month period to identify the most critical services to renew using the extremely limited resources available. Collection Services communicated with vendors to postpone and renegotiate contracts.

### Shipments to the Library of Congress

In addition to regular state depository shipments to the Library of Congress, we shipped 31 boxes of state documents such as extra copies of the Connecticut State Register and Manuals, Adjutant General Reports and documents from the Connecticut Office of Program Review and Investigations which closed its office on January 6, 2017. Thanks go to Elizabeth Esquilin and Eric Paiva for packing documents. Thanks also go to Nancy Lieffort for reviewing and organizing the Program Review and Investigations Reports.

### State Library Digital Collections

From September to November 6<sup>th</sup>, we preserved 426 volumes (36,643 master digital files, 438 GB) in the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA). This includes 28 new and 398 previously scanned volumes, chiefly state publications. Work is ongoing to move all our master digital files to CTDA where they will be preserved for the future. The new volumes are also put in our online public access site, CONTENTdm.

#### New online:

 Norwich, Connecticut: its importance as a business and manufacturing center and as a place of residence. A brief review of its past and present. CSL Call no.: F104 .N93 N8 1888. <a href="http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p4005coll11/id/941">http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p4005coll11/id/941</a>

- Joint Standing Committee hearings, Veterans' Affairs. 2008 pt.1: <a href="http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p15019coll3/id/198440">http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p15019coll3/id/198440</a>. pt. 2: <a href="http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p15019coll3/id/198694">http://cslib.cdmhost.com/cdm/ref/collection/p15019coll3/id/198694</a>.
- Report of the Comptroller to the Governor for the fiscal year ended 1902-1904, 1906-1909, 1911-1921, 1923-1929 online. CSL Call no.: ConnDoc C736 r. <a href="http://cdmresolver.worldcat.org/oclc/12561730/viewonline">http://cdmresolver.worldcat.org/oclc/12561730/viewonline</a>

# Connecticut Digital Newspaper Project (CDNP)

We now have all but one small batch of newspapers online in Chronicling America, including the New Haven Journal and Courier (1880-1909), the Waterbury Democrat (1887-1908), and the Newtown Bee (1877-1906 with 1907-1909 coming soon). The Norwich Bulletin and Bridgeport Evening Farmer/Bridgeport Times (both 1909-1922) are already online.

http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/?state=Connecticut&ethnicity=&language=

The Advisory Board met Sept. 29 to begin considering what titles and time periods we might include in our third round. We are now able to consider titles that were published from 1755 to 1963. However, the later years pose an extra challenge because the newspapers or some part of the content might still be covered by copyright. Even if the newspaper itself isn't covered by copyright, third party content such as comic strips, serialized fiction and syndicated columns might be. We are investigating whether we can select any CT titles without violating the rights of a copyright holder.

We continue to post monthly blogs at <a href="http://ctdigitalnewspaperproject.org/blogs/">http://ctdigitalnewspaperproject.org/blogs/</a>, and on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/CTStateLibrary/">https://www.facebook.com/CTStateLibrary/</a>.

# Professional Activities and Outreach:

- National Digital Newspaper Program Annual Awardees Meeting in Washington, D.C.: attended by Jane Cullinane and Gail Hurley, Project Co-Directors and Chris Gauvreau, Project Coordinator for CDNP. Jane spoke about the ways we are promoting Chronicling America by writing articles and blogs and giving presentations on the World War One content in our newspapers.
- Jane Cullinane and Glenn Sherman met with UCONN and Discovery Gardens staff about what the developers at Discovery Gardens can do for CTDA.
- Christine Gauvreau, gave a presentation called "The War at Home: World War I Era Stories from Connecticut Newspapers" to the Lyme Public Hall Association.
- Carol Trinchitella attended the virtual 2017 Federal Depository Library Conference.
- Carol Trinchitella attended a webinar, Disappearing Government Information and the Effort to Preserve It. This webinar was offered by the Government Publications Librarians of New England.
- Christine Gauvreau spoke to teachers about fake news in historic newspapers at the 2017 Conference of the CT Assoc. of School Librarians/CT Educators Computer Assoc.

# Office of the Public Records Administrator (OPRA)

Enterprise Content Management Implementation Project

The State Library and the Department of Administrative Services, Bureau of Enterprise Systems & Technology (DAS/BEST) are continuing to collaborate on a project to enhance the Enterprise Content Management (ECM) environment to manage the State of Connecticut's information assets. The ECM system will allow State agencies to more effectively and efficiently store and manage electronic records to ensure compliance and support Agency requirements.

LeAnn Power, Lizette Pelletier, Allen Ramsey and consultant Bob Williams are working with BEST to configure the system to meet the needs of the state and as a pilot agency using the Enterprise Management to manage Agency and Municipal Retention Schedules. The Atlas application has recently been installed in the Staging environment and testing/training will be completed in November with a go live target of December 22, 2017. The electronic repository for retention schedules is online and will be a pilot for testing the integration of the ECM application.

## Historic Documents Preservation Program

The Historic Documents Preservation Program supports municipal records preservation and management projects throughout the state. For FY 2018, the State Library is awarding grants in the amounts of \$4,000, \$5,000 and \$7,500 for small, medium and large towns respectively.

The program has received applications from 31 municipalities for Cycle 2, bringing the total to 153 applications from municipalities for FY 2018. Kathy Makover has been processing Cycle 2 applications, Cycle 1 grant contracts and FY 2017 final reports.

## Training, Outreach & Site Inspections

Staff continue to work with municipal and state agency personnel on issues related to records retention, management, storage and records vaults. This work includes assisting state agencies that are going through reorganization, consolidation, relocation, closure of facilities and staffing changes. Currently several agencies are relocating employees to new facilities, resulting in the need to expedite retention schedule updates and disposal request authorizations.

LeAnn Power and Kathy Makover attended the Fall Conference of the Town Clerks Association in Westbrook on September 28th, staffing an information table and speaking with town clerks and records vendors to address questions related to the grant program and agency policies and procedures.

Approval of the vault construction plans for the Town of East Haddam was issued on October 25th, in accordance with CGS Sec. 7-27. Staff held a number of meetings and conference calls to review and modify the plans prior to approval. East Haddam is constructing a new records vault as part of a larger Town Hall renovation project.

# State Records Center

The State Records Center provides off-site inactive records storage for state agencies free of charge. During this reporting period, Doug Yaeger and Mike Soltesz accessioned 976 cubic feet of agency records; deaccessioned 450 cubic feet of agency records; processed 880 reference requests; and processed 354 re-files and inter-files.

#### Professional Activities and Outreach:

Kathy Makover attended the 2017 Annual Conference of the International Foundation for Cultural Property Protection [IFCPP] at Yale University in New Haven. Conference sessions addressed fire protection and security topics specific to archival records and other special library collections.

LeAnn Power attended State Manager's Day at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. The session was on "Serving with Pride and Purpose." Speakers included City of New Haven Chief of Police Anthony Campbell, Wendy Chambers, Director Consumer and Customer Insights at Pepperidge Farm and Lisa Mehta, Shipman and Goodwin, LLP.

LeAnn Power and Kathy Makover attended a webinar, "Creating a Big Bucket Retention Schedule: A Case Study of the University of California," offered through the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators [NAGARA].

#### **State Archives**

# Accessions:

RG 062:103, Town of Norwalk tax abstracts, 1812-1814, 1 cubic foot

RG 161:001, Connecticut State Police investigation files, 1991-1995, 107 cubic feet The records consist of case investigation records that involve death. Including, but not limited to fatal accidents (motor vehicle, airplane, boating, and all other accidents), capital felonies, homicides, unsolved missing persons, suicides and unidentified bodies.

## New Finding Aids Online:

Dorence Atwater Papers, 1863-1913 (RG 069:177)

#### Van Block Storm Damage

see Noteworthy on page 1

#### Professional Activities and Outreach:

Lizette and Allen met with Pamela Longwood, Deputy Chief Clerk, Litchfield Superior Court at the new court house in Torrington to appraise historical court records for possible transfer.

Lizette, Allen, and Damon attended the Best Practices Exchange [BPE] unconference in Boston. Allen presented in a breakout session about the State Library's implementation of Connecticut Digital Archive [CTDA] services along with Greg Colati who presented on the CTDA. Allen also presented in a session about "The Digitization Dash: The Push to Digitize Government Records and How You Can Help Now" with Sarah J. Grimm from the Wisconsin Historical Society.

### Council of State Archivists [CoSA] Webinar:

Lizette co-presented and Allen moderated the monthly member webinar on *Managing the Unexpected* concerning grant projects and *Shop Talk: What's Going on at Family Search.* 

Allen, Damon, and Kathy Makover attended the International Foundation for Cultural Property Protection [IFCPP] Conference Security for Special Collections Librarians track in New Haven...

Lizette continues to work for the recovery of five New London County Overseer documents related to the Pequot tribe that were sold at auction on eBay last April.

Lizette, Allen, and Christine Pittsley continued their work on the Connecticut Radio Information System's [CRIS] National Historical Publications and Records Commission [NHPRC] grant to make historic records more accessible to individuals with visual impairments and learning disabilities.

Lizette continued her work on the State Historical Records Advisory Board's [CT SHRAB] programming grant from the NHPRC. This grant ended in September and the final reports are being prepared for submission. The CT SHRAB is waiting for notification of acceptance of its application to the NHRPC for funding of the next phase of the project beginning in February 2018.

Lizette participated in meetings of: the Council of State Archivists [CoSA] Development Committee meetings; CoSA Board of Directors; and the CoSA National Historical Publications and Records Commission [NHPRC] Taskforce. The Task Force submitted its report to the Archivist of the United States, David Ferriero, on October 30.

Allen participated in meetings of the CoSA State Electronic Records Initiative [SERI] Steering Committee; Tools and Resources Subcommittee meeting; and the CoSA Education and Training Committee.

Lizette chaired a meeting of the State Historical Records Advisory Board [SHRAB] on October 27, at the new UConn Hartford Campus. Allen attended as a member of the board. Damon also attended.

Lizette attended a meeting of the Hartford History Center Advisory Committee at the Hartford Public Library. She distributed State Archives and History and Genealogy brochures in response to other committee members request for information on the State Archives collections and how to access records.

### Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH)

The Consortium of User Libraries (CUL) held its annual user group meeting by teleconference on Nov. 8, 2017. Of the six regional libraries in CUL, four are presently withdrawing or have indicated their intent to withdraw from CUL. CUL is unable to make the conversion to a web-based platform which is the future structure of the LBPH program and has become obsolete. Additionally, there is a much less costly LBPH software program available from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS). Consequently, CUL is expected to be dissolved in 2 - 3 years. Connecticut has already submitted its notice to withdraw from CUL.

The Connecticut LBPH has received the approved Standardization Transaction from DAS/BEST and the contract to install WebREADS is being developed by the DAS business office. The estimated migration completion date is the end of December. Aside from the initial implementation cost of \$23,500 there is no license fee or any other costs thereafter, thus an annual savings of \$30,300 to the State Library.

<u>The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped</u> (NLS) is developing a wifi book delivery service where a book will be downloaded directly to a patron's playback machine. This is an example of future automation by NLS that CUL cannot develop.

<u>Connecticut Volunteer Services for the Blind and Handicapped (CVSBH)</u> has a backlog of 70 newly recorded digital books that need final production editing and quality control processing in

order to meet NLS distribution standards. This processing is new and complex and CVSBH has only a couple of volunteers able to do this. Accordingly, Kathy Hotchkiss and CVSBH has arranged with Potomac Talking Book Services to process the 70 newly recorded digital books at a cost of \$75/book. The State Library has made a contribution of \$2,000 to this effort in order to put these books into national circulation as soon as possible.

<u>The LBPH Friends group</u> met on Oct 17 and enjoyed an excellent presentation about circadian rhythm disorder and non-24 by Karen Orband of Vanda Pharmaceuticals and also a discussion on genetic testing for inherited eye diseases led by David McCullough of Spark Therapeutics.

<u>The LBPH Advisory Committee</u> met on Oct 13. Beginning in January 2018, the Advisory Committee will meet on the third Friday of January, April, July, and October.

<u>Braille book donations overseas</u> continues to be on hold because NLS has no braille book boxes in stock and don't expect to replenish their supply until sometime in 2018. To mitigate such a delay, the LBPH will purchase 2400 boxes in order to resume shipments until the NLS boxes become available.

<u>Outreach</u> included displays at senior fairs and a presentation at the National Federation of the Blind state convention on Nov. 4.

<u>Annual Lend-a-Paw day</u> of volunteering by Rocky Hill High School students occurred on Oct 5. Seven students and a teacher spent 5 hours here during the school day performing a variety of important tasks.

#### **Museum of Connecticut History**

- Recent school outreach program visits have included Waterford, Windsor and Thompson.
- Adult programs have been presented to groups in West Hartford, Glastonbury and Stafford.
- An 8 week session of programs presented to a large Home School co-op in Manchester
  is winding up in November. The programs were about Connecticut's role in events in the
  United States and the World and used items from the Museum's collection as well as
  documents and images from the Library. Topics included industrialism, exploration,
  women's rights and art and literature.