Your help is needed to fund important Library programs and improvements.

So many of our popular fundraisers were unable to take place this year. Please consider making a donation to help us offset this loss.

By making a tax-deductible contribution to the Friends — you support our fundraising efforts on behalf of the Rutherford Public Library, which in turn benefits the whole community.

By Check: Mail this form and your tax-deductible contribution, made payable to the Friends of the Rutherford Library to 150 Park Avenue, Rutherford, NJ 07070

PayPal: paypal.me/FOLRutherford

Corporate Matching Gifts Programs: Will your employer match your donation? A Corporate Match greatly increases your contribution value.

Purchase a print of the Jim Hands Map of Rutherford History

$200 Full Color - 47" x 36" unframed

Makes a great gift or for any lover of Rutherford History. Please contact the Library for more details.

BCB Bank sponsors the Pay It Forward program to help non-profits earn donations based on the number of supporters who signed up for the program. BCB will make monthly contributions to The Friends. There is no cost to the account holder.

Those with a Blue Foundry savings or checking account can designate The Friends as their CAP charity. You designate us as your charity of choice. The Amazon SMILE program will donate a portion of your purchase to The Friends if you designate us as your charity of choice.

I’d like to make a tax-deductible contribution, made payable to the Friends of the Rutherford Library in the amount of: [please check one]:

___ $10 ___ $25 ___ $50 ______ $ other amount

Name ____________________________________________

Phone ________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail (Please Print): ________________________________________________________________________

My Employer will provide a Corporate Matching Gift (Enclose a form if possible.)

Please use the enclosed return envelope and include this paper when mailing your check. Thank you!

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The Rutherford Public Library

From March 13th through October 5th, our building was closed, but our Library remained open!

When the Rutherford Public Library closed its doors on March 13, no one could have predicted how long it would be before we could safely welcome the Rutherford community back inside. But the team at the Library never stopped working. We started by being available to our community online: our email inboxes never went untouched or ignored. We stayed in touch through our website, Facebook page, and newsletter.

We missed seeing our patrons face to face, so we started The Librarian Is In!, a program that ran Monday-Friday for several months, where patrons could meet with librarians on Zoom for all their library-related questions and receive real-time assistance on Zoom, via Facebook message, or through email. We also launched our Library @ Home blog, where we covered a different topic each day of the week, aiming to help everyone adjust to our “new normal.”

When it looked like summer reading wouldn’t happen in the traditional way, Miss Jane and the Children’s Department worked hard to create the Virtual Summer Reading Club, allowing our young readers to pick up their lists and their prizes in a contactless way, so everyone could safely enjoy one of our favorite programs.

We miss our community programs, but we adapted them to virtual: over the summer, we had 51 programs on Facebook Live and Zoom, and had 1,093 participants and 2,286 video views. We continue to add programming to our schedule each month, including adult yoga on Facebook Live, crafts for adults on Zoom, and children’s programming featuring magic shows, Miss Fran and Mr. Chris, and other great performances. We even held our annual pumpkin painting virtually!

When it was safe to offer doorside pickup, we launched our Grab & Go program, in which patrons could order items they wanted and pick them up from our door. We even tried to simulate the experience of browsing by allowing patrons to fill out a form with their reading preferences and having team members do some “personal shopping” to pick new titles. Over the summer, we checked out 20,205 items to our patrons just via Grab & Go alone!

And finally, we took steps to make the building safer for our community to return indoors. We installed plexiglass shields at our Info Desk, spread out our computer stations, set up a MeeScan self-checkout station, and added more hand sanitizer pumps throughout the building. The building re-opened in October with added safety measures and guidelines to ensure that everyone could browse and use the computer in the safest way possible. We are so happy to see the familiar faces of our community inside again, and we thank everyone for their cooperation.

All of this has been possible because of the support of the Friends of the Library of Rutherford and the Rutherford Public Library Foundation. We thank both groups for their fundraising, which helps us bring services to our public, in whatever format we can!