Do you remember?........Fountain Blue (Fontainebleau)

The saga of Fountain Blue can be traced from the early photographs taken in 1932 and 1933 at the time of the tax dispute with the Hackensack Water Company.

In 1932/33, the building at 382-384 Kinderkamack Road consisted of a Grand Union and the Wortendyke Garage.

Sometime between 1933 and 1945, the garage was converted to a Rexall Drug store as seen below. The Karanfilians bought the Rexall Drug store in 1945, changed its name to Oradell Pharmacy, and operated it until 1961 when they built a new store just up the street.

While the family operated the drug store, they were living at 374 Kinderkamack Road two houses to the right. This house was torn down around 1960 after the family had moved to their home on Church Street. In its place was the new Oradell Pharmacy, which stands to this day. In 2021, it houses Master Lee’s Tai Kwan Do studio.

When the Rexall Drug was in operation, there was a five or six stool soda fountain. The rest of the store was devoted to drugs and gifts.

After the Karanfilians moved out in 1961, Fountain Blue came in and added tables in addition to the soda fountain bar. It became a popular hang-out for kids of high school age. Children from Oradell would congregate there, and sometimes teens from other towns would come by, sometimes resulting in trouble. Fountain Blue only lasted a couple of years before being sold.

During the time that the Karanfilians owned the original Oradell Pharmacy, the Grand Union moved up Kinderkamack Road to the northwest corner of Park Avenue and Kinderkamack Road. Following the Grand Union was the Rite-Aid Drug store, which was bought out by Walgreens Drug store.

The Karanfilians were drug store operators for 60 years in Oradell, starting in 1945 and closing their own store in 2005. They operated their store at 374 Kinderkamack Road for 44 years.

Paul Karanfilian, son of the original owner, reported that they bought the house at 374 Kinderkamack for $11,000.

Do you remember Fountain Blue? If you do, please contact me through the Oradell Public Library (201) 262-2613 so that I can add your memories to the local store of knowledge about the history of our town.

George M. Carter
Borough Historian / Archivist
Oradell Public Library Wants to Serve You

Yes, now that autumn 2021 is here and students and teachers have returned to school, the Library is fully open to its original pre-pandemic shutdown hours, and we continue to serve the great community of Oradell and environs with the latest most exciting materials in physical and electronic forms.

We all must still follow the procedures and precautions in visiting the Library as outlined on the Library website’s homepage and in the Information Services Librarian’s section of this newsletter, but the public computers, comfortable seating areas, reading rooms, study carrels, and other amenities in the Library are available for enjoyment.

We continue to offer a mix of virtual and in-person programming, including some behind the Library building, some on other Borough grounds, and some at the Senior Veterans Building thanks to the support of the Borough of Oradell.

Our two book clubs, the Morning Book Club and the Evening Book Club, and the Cookbook Club remain popular and familiar, but did you know that the Library hosts a film discussion group? Modelled on our successful book discussion groups, the IFC Film Club meets on fourth Mondays of the month. IFC stands for “Independent * Foreign * Classic”. If interested, please email me, the Director: trause@oradell.bccls.org.

On exhibition in the large and small display cases in October 2021, during Domestic Violence Awareness Month, is the display “Baring Our Soles”. This exhibit showcases ornately designed footwear created by clients in the Center for Hope & Safety (formerly known as Shelter our Sisters) Art-Therapy program. The footwear is an expression of the journey that survivors take as they work through their trauma toward a more optimistic future. The Center for Hope & Safety is an advocacy group devoted to assisting women and children who are the victims of domestic violence.

Everything you need to know about the Library and all that it offers can be found on the Library’s website: https://oradell.bccls.org/. See you there!

John J. Trause
Oradell Public Library Director
Helping our children and young adults get back to everyday routines is paramount in the Junior Room at the Oradell Library. We are following the CDC and Borough guidelines. Everyone is wearing masks and keeping socially distant. After school, we are limiting the age of children to 4th grade through middle/high school without parents; however, all younger children are invited to join us with a parent or guardian. So far, it has been very successful, and the children are doing their homework and reading! Computers are available for students to do research or complete assignments. We have eliminated computer games as that encourages congregating. Parents may register or find the OPL application on the OPS website. There is no tutoring at the library as there are not enough seats to accommodate our patrons and students with tutors.

We are reaching out to the tweens and teens in grades 6 through high school to join the TAB/CREW. They are naturally an essential part of our community. Meeting their needs is continually part of the Junior Room’s mission. Our first meeting will be to reconnect with the youth of Oradell. Our Pizza Party will allow them to get to know each other and build community. They have been isolated for the past 17 months, and hopefully, the Crew will help them reconnect. The mission of the TAB/Crew is to have fun and support a variety of activities in the library. This opportunity to volunteer helps build confidence and gain experience working with others, setting an example as a role model, developing project management skills, and thinking outside the box.

The TAB/Crew helps the staff by providing extra hands-for programs and allowing the younger kids to have more one-on-one attention and a relatable mentor. Our teen volunteers will also assist with behind-the-scenes tasks, such as preparing materials for “The Grab & Go Crafts, will develop parts of our collection that require a youthful perspective and keep us current. We invite all Oradell students in Grades 6 through 12 to attend one of our TAB/CREW meetings, always held on the second Tuesday of the month. Volunteerism is a great way to share talent and time with others!

We are in the process of developing a Reading Buddy Program. If your child could use a buddy or would like to be a buddy, please see Carol Blakeslee to apply for the program.

As always, we continue to provide Grab ‘n Go Crafts for the kids. We can’t wait until we return to in-house crafts and programs. Our Wee Folks have been attending Story Time on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Call or email Carol Blakeslee to join our mailing list for Story Time and other events!

On October 23rd, we will install another Story Walk at OPS featuring the book Thank you, Neighbor! By Ruth Chan. Be sure to stop by to play some games, guess the number of Candy Corns, and win some prizes! Looking forward to seeing you all in the Junior Room!

Carol Blakeslee, Youth Services Librarian

Oradell Library welcomes you back with restored pre-pandemic hours. Our restored hours are:

Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m,  
(Junior Room 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Friday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sunday 1 pm – 5 p.m.

To ensure the health and safety of the public and our staff, we ask anyone entering the library to follow the following policies and procedures:

- wear a mask for the protection of the unvaccinated, especially children;
- take your body temperature with the non-contact temperature scanner device;
- use hand sanitizer provided upon entering;
- practice social distancing and maintain six feet apart;
- congregating and tutoring are not permitted.

The library’s community jigsaw puzzle has also returned. Help us complete the puzzle which is located on the main floor below the wall bulletin board. In addition, the Library has a variety of types and sizes of jigsaw puzzles for all ages to check out.

As the fall and winter holidays approach, don’t forget to check out a bake pan or two from the library’s variety of bake pans, cookie cutters, chocolate candy molds, and more. For a complete list, see: https://oradell.bccls.org/uploads/2/5/8/7/25874739/bakeware_list_2020.pdf.

If you have any questions, concerns or need assistance in finding or using any library resource or service, please do not hesitate to call, email or visit the library. I am here to help and I look forward to assisting you.

Linda Pabian, Information Services Librarian
The Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library Profile: Shasta Clinch

My name is Shasta Clinch, and I am the new membership secretary for the Friends of the Oradell Library, a role I began in January. I have loved books and reading my entire life, and I have always been drawn to libraries, a magnetism I have passed on to my children. We spend a lot of time at the Oradell Public Library, so much that we’ve gotten to know most of the amazing staff there. Two years ago, I inquired as to how I could contribute to the library, and a few months later, I got a phone call from the wonderful George Carter, who was looking to step down as membership secretary.

With the exception of a short period of time when I dreamed of becoming a doctor (I was even a candy striper in high school!), I knew that I wanted to immerse myself in words somehow. After college, I was lucky to find a job at a major publishing house, where I worked for ten years. I took a brief hiatus after the birth of my first child, but then jumped back into publishing again a year later, this time as a freelance copyeditor and proofreader. I have been doing that since. I would never say books are only a career for me, they are my passion, and reading has always been a fun and fundamental part of my life. I read for pleasure every single day, and I am fortunate enough to be part of a family that shares my love of books.

Now that my oldest is attending OPS, I volunteered to help run the first grade Caldecott Book Club. I am also a newly published author; my book, Kamala Is Speaking, came out in September 2021. It is Step Into Reading title, which hopefully will inspire and help children on their own reading journeys.

“The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”
— attributed to Albert Einstein

Library Meetings

Board of Trustees, Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom
Friends of the Library, First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom