



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February 2018

Staff and Volunteers:

Library Assistant II Theresa Dolch, Head of Children's Services Janet Makoujy, and Librarians Matthew Aull and Joseph Barbieri attended NYLA's annual **Advocacy Day** in Albany. Patron Arlene Glum attended, as well, and voiced her appreciation of public libraries to our state legislative members.

The return of Adult Services Librarian **Dana Munsch** from maternity leave at the end of the month was a bright spot in an otherwise long winter!

Local History Librarian **Joseph Barbieri** received a note of thanks from a patron for tracking down a newspaper article about his ancestor, an Erie Railroad worker who drowned in Piermont in 1871.

Collections:

Inventory and analysis of the adult nonfiction collection continues in advance of **Inventory Day**.

Programs:

African American History Month was highlighted in a *Share Listen Learn* session that featured African American stories in Rockland County. Attending the program was a Mrs. DeGroat from Hillburn; Brian Jennings plans to interview Mrs. DeGroat.

Librarian Matthew Aull continued his offerings of **genealogical research assistance** with a program on passenger arrival records.

The **Jesse Kaplan School** was thrilled with their visit to the children's room and the storytelling session conducted for them by Children's Librarian Jennifer Embry.

Our 3rd annual **Baking competition** was a last-minute success with 13 contestants from all over the county participating. Forty-five attendees voted on the entries.

A **jazz concert** by Mitch's Mellow Madness filled the meeting room to capacity with eighty in the audience.

Building and Facilities:

Four actuators on the **rooftop HVAC units** were replaced.

The new, custom **Children’s Reference Desk** was installed at the beginning of the month. Patrons are complimenting its design and the animal motifs featured on it.

A final architectural firm was interviewed for the **Master Plan project**, and a wrap-up review of all candidates by the Building & Grounds Committee on February 14 led to the selection of VMDO Architects from Charlottesville, VA. Full board approval was attained on February 15.

Technology:

The **new website** had a soft launch mid-month. Website visits remain at the same level so it appears as if we haven’t lost any part of our audience. This new edition puts programming front and center and provides better coverage of our digital offerings. Blogging on the front page has been eliminated but does appear on subpages. We expect minor tweaking as time goes on.

Miscellaneous:

John Rossi, an artist and carpenter who created the library’s collection of miniaturized replicas of significant Clarkstown buildings, is fabricating a “**free little library**” that will be installed at the Germonds Recreation Center in the spring. The little library will be filled with library discards and donations so that Clarkstown residents can enjoy reading materials with no circulation period.

The library was **closed on Wednesday, February 7**, in anticipation of significant snow and freezing rain. The library was **closed on Monday, February 19**, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher (formerly Silver), Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
March 8, 2018

MS/kc