



## DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JANUARY 2016

### Staff and Volunteers:

Volunteer **Chuck Klatzko** is helping us scan old newspaper clippings that are kept in filing cabinets in the Rockland Room. Digitizing this collection will enable us to free up some much-needed space in that room.

A local high school student is designing a mural for the stairwell that leads to Technical Services and the lower level. The mural will be used for the **1000 Books Before Kindergarten** program.

At the quarterly full-staff meeting on January 15, the **Critical Incident Response Team** from the Clarkstown Police Department gave a presentation on active shooters and how to respond in these types of crises.

Shibu Abraham and the Director attended the **RCLS Annual Report Workshop** in Middletown on January 29.

### Programs:

A genealogy program featured a viewing of an episode of the popular genealogy series, **Who Do You Think You Are?** This episode had been partially filmed at the New City Library years ago, and the celebrity whose roots were being discovered was Susan Sarandon. The film star did appear here in the library for the taping—it was a brush with fame for some excited staff members!

Our **Digital Drop-In** sessions, held monthly, are becoming a welcome resource to patrons needing assistance with downloading our offering of electronic materials to their various devices.

Janet Makoujy performed for the **Clarkstown Pre-School** at Street School with puppets, books, guitar, and Velcro board.

A **Tai Chi** program drew rave reviews and will be offered again in the summer. The **All Season Chamber Players** lived up to their name and drew a large crowd despite the appearance of snow Storm Jonas the day before. A teen **Top Chef Challenge** drew ten attendees.

### **Building and Facilities:**

The area around the **repaired brick pillar** remains cordoned off. The completion of concrete work and a curb cut for handicapped access awaits warmer weather. Although it may appear unsightly, it is a necessary precaution to keep people out of the gravelly, uneven surface.

A **cart made specifically for 3D printers** was purchased with the funds received from the Kurz grant. This will give our portable makerspace a more polished look and will keep all the accoutrements in an organized fashion.

### **Technology:**

On January 5, a traffic incident on Route 303 in Orangeburg took down the library's **fiberoptic access**. In such occurrences, all of our internet traffic is routed through cable. Internet connectivity was very slow and intermittent because of the large geographic area affected. Our connection finally was restored at 3 p.m.

John Schneider, Network Administrator from RCLS, visited to discuss the clean-up of the "**spaghetti**" cables emanating from the switch panels in the LAN room. Plans to enhance our **wifi** access and replacement of two aging **switches** were discussed as well.

### **Miscellaneous:**

The Library was closed on Monday, January 18, in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The library closed for the day on Saturday, January 23, for a winter storm that dropped over a foot of snow in the region.

### **Meetings Attended by Director:**

- 01/06/16: -RCLS Directors' Association—teleconferenced at Haverstraw Kings Daughters Library
- 01/12/16: -Personnel & Finance Committee
- 01/20/16: -Agin Antony—tour of the Library for new board member
- 01/21/16: -Robert Axelrod—tour of the Library for new board member

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Silver, Director  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
February 9, 2016

MS/kc