



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 2019

Staff and Volunteers:

Library Assistant IIs Susan Telesca and Darcey Green, and Librarian IIs Matthew Aull, Nancy Moskowitz, Dana Munsch, and Karen Ostertag attended the biennial Library Association of Rockland County (LARC) Conference at the Crestview Conference Center in West Nyack. Head of Adult Services Brian Jennings attended, as well. Children's Librarian IIs Kathy Bachor and Amy Chesman presented a talk on successful collaboration in youth services. Other program offerings included sustainability initiatives, welcoming diverse populations, using data analysis to better serve, and disaster planning.

Brian Jennings and Nancy Moskowitz presented our "shelf-talker" initiative to the RCLS Reference Users Group (RUG) on April 9 at Suffern Library.

New York State-mandated Sexual Harassment Prevention Training was presented to attending staff at the quarterly all-staff meeting on April 26. The training was conducted by Veronica Reynolds, Head of Community Relations.

A new BOCES intern from its workplace readiness program was interviewed to start working in May.

Collections:

The digital scanning of the Bob Knight historical postcard collection has been completed. These will be made available online in the future.

The librarians continue to weed the collections at a vigorous pace. The entire collection has been winnowed down to approximately 144,000 items, down 9% from last year at this time.

Programs:

One hundred Eastern Red Cedar saplings were given away this month to celebrate Arbor Day.

The new children’s program, “Tesla Tots,” is well received. This program, developed for 4-8-year-olds, explores basic science concepts in fun and imaginative ways.

Homework Help in the Children’s Room has added additional tutors. The tutors are teen volunteers from Clarkstown High Schools.

A Knit-in Sit-in was held this month with 15 attendees. This program drew attention to our yarn-bombing project set to commence in June. Participants will be knitting and crocheting small patches that will be joined together to cover the concrete bollards outside. Children will have the opportunity to participate, as well, using simple woven squares.

The month’s art display in the Meeting Room showcased the work of twelve local artists. Forty people attended the reception.

A physician from Good Samaritan Hospital discussed hearth health to an audience of 25 as part of their outreach initiative.

Building and Facilities:

There will be a rearrangement of office space in the basement where Technical Services is located. Literacy Solutions will take the small office of Mark Gervino, Head of Support Services, who will join his team in the larger, shared office space.

Technology:

We are exploring ways of adding storage to the server to accommodate the large files of local history images and oral histories that are accumulating. Adding new blades to the server or purchasing an NAS (network attached storage) are two options. RCLS consultants are investigating to find the best solution.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
May 10, 2019

MG/kc