



## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 2018

### Staff and Volunteers:

**Matthew Aull**, Adult Services Librarian, attended a two-part Maker series at Westchester Library System called Getting Started with Circuits and Arduino. Matthew will be using this experience to develop more 3D printing and coding programs.

**Joe Barbieri**, Adult Services and Local History Librarian, attended two oral history workshops at Columbia University.

Six **teen volunteers** helped out at the Children's Chess Club.

Children's Librarians **Amy Chesman**, **Jennifer Embry**, and **Janet Makoujy** participated in the annual RCLS Mock Newbery and Caldecott Program. The program follows the process of these ALA Award Committees; participants read the nominated titles, discuss their merits, and choose their own award winners. Programs like these are a great opportunity for librarians to keep current with children's literature.

**Janet Makoujy**, Head of Children's Services, attended a Rockland 21C board meeting as the Library Association of Rockland County (LARC) representative. Rockland 21C is a countywide organization that focuses on providing children with optimal development opportunities through collaboration of family, schools, and community.

**Veronica Reynolds** is once again chairing the Book of the Year committee for LARC. The Book of the Year program honors a Rockland resident who has published work in the past three years. Submissions were given last June through August, giving the panel of county librarian judges time to read and evaluate in order to select a winner in June 2018.

There was a **Quarterly All-Staff Meeting** on Friday, January 19. Award pins were given to many staffers celebrating their years of service. Anne Davies and Sue Telesca, Library Assistants, spoke about their training in the administration of naloxone, the antidote for opioid overdose.

## Collections:

Eleven **purchase requests** were received this month. Patrons can suggest materials online or in-person; librarian staff reviews and decides if these requests would make suitable additions to the library collections. Most requests are honored and patrons are pleased to have this opportunity.

Library Assistant Matt Ciuccio continues a manual **inventory of the print non-fiction** collection in anticipation of an inventory day in March. It’s a Sisyphean but necessary task to clean up the database and the shelves and make materials easier to find.

The library is employing a **new marketing concept** with small, plastic sign displays on the shelves that highlight recommended titles.

## Programs:

Librarian Matthew Aull led two records research workshops utilizing his prior expertise as an archivist at the National Archives: **Accessing Federal Records** (lecture-style) and **Locating Naturalization Records** (drop-in class) were well-attended.

Children’s Librarian Jennifer Embry started a new class for infants called, “**Baby & Me**” on Thursdays at 11:30am. It provides the opportunity for new parents to meet other Clarkstown parents and learn beginning songs, rhymes, and reading techniques.

**Nintendo Switch**, our newest videogame formats, has had a surge in demand.

The **Swedish Meatballs** played Scandinavian/American music to a full house on January 21. A drop-in craft and coffee program series, **Fika**, invited patrons to take a break and stop by to mingle with friends old and new while participating in simple craft activities.

## Building and Facilities:

De-cluttering and re-organization of the **circulation office** continues. It’s a much safer and more comfortable space for staff to work in now.

**Two architectural firms** were interviewed in January for the Master Plan.

**Technology:**

Nothing to report.

**Miscellaneous:**

The library was **closed Thursday, January 4**, due to heavy snowfall. Staff were asked to report at 10:30 a.m. the following day in time for our regular 11 a.m. Friday opening.

The **Friends of the New City Library** held a meeting on January 11 to discuss their next community tag sale in May.

The library had a **delayed opening of 11 a.m. due to snow** and later **closed early** at 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday, January 17, due to a power outage. Power was restored later in the evening.

The **New York State Insurance Fund** visited the business office to conduct their annual audit for our Worker’s Compensation policy.

Shibu Abraham and the director attended the **RCLS Annual Report Workshop** at Middletown Thrall library on January 26.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Silver, Director  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
February 8, 2018

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