

**Staff:**

- Veronica Reynolds, Brian Jennings, and the Director are enrolled in a series of RCLS-sponsored webinars on Civic Engagement and Education. There are five sessions in the series; the first, on January 15, focused on Election Security and Integrity.
- Volunteer Diane MacPherson continues to work with Joe Barbieri on the Polhemus collection in the Rockland Room.
- Staff attended a Driving in Adverse Conditions webinar to learn tactics for driving in winter weather.
- The annual Staff and Board Meeting was held on Friday, January 23, here at the Library.

**Patrons:**

- The Rockland Room had a busy month with patrons looking for assistance in research on the Parrot-Lackland Estate (St. Francis Rectory), the war memorial in front of the county courthouse, and the REDI maps.
- The old Genealogical Society of Rockland County correspondence file came in handy for a patron looking for a burial in Nanuet.
- Staff lent Knickerbocker Ice Festival organizer Tim Englert a hand with scanning some materials for the festival.
- “Thank you for bringing interesting presentations both in person and on Zoom as part of the New City Library” – patron email

**Collections:**

- We have added All Access to our New York Times Web Edition. This allows patrons 72-hour access to all NYT content like Cooking, The Athletic, Games, and more. The link can be found on our eLibrary tab on the website homepage.

**Programs:**

- Mary Phillips attended an RCLS Battle of the Books organizational program on January 5. Preparation for this popular autumnal program starts early, and we're determined to retain our first place standing.
- Thirteen patrons took advantage of our open Digital Drop-In Friday programs to seek one-on-one help with their devices.

- The puzzle competition once more filled ten tables with happy puzzlers. The winning team broke the Library record, coming in at 35 minutes for a 500-piece puzzle.
- Despite freezing temperatures this month, program attendance remained steady and many people came out to watch a Zoom on the artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec on one of the chilliest of days.
- A pass to the Mid-Hudson Discovery Museum in Poughkeepsie was added to our roster of lendable museum passes.

**Building and Facilities:**

- January was brutally cold. Some sections of the Library (particularly the study rooms) struggled to stay warm. The humidity levels in the building seem low. We are waiting for more temperate weather so that Trane can flush RTU-1, which serves that area, as it requires shutting off the unit.
- We received many compliments on the seasonal room decorations in the Children’s Room.

**Technology:**

- We’re moving forward with contracting with Envisionware to provide cloud-based printing for patrons. The new system will allow credit card payments through smartphones, removing Library staff as intermediaries for processing those transactions.

**Miscellaneous:**

- The new website development team consisting of Veronica Reynolds, Brian Jennings, Karen Ostertag, and Matt Ciuccio, met with Library Market for a kickoff meeting on January 16. Lindsay McNeill of LM quickly established a schedule of meetings and assigned tasks for surveying current use of the website and creating a wish list of features for the new one.
- Both Assemblyman Pat Carroll and Senator Bill Weber presented ceremonial checks for \$248,700 from the NYS Construction Aid Program. These funds are for the electric switch panel replacement and generator project.
- The Library closed at 4 p.m. on Saturday, January 17, due to snow.
- The Library was closed on Sunday, January 18, due to 4” snowfall.

- The Library was closed on Monday, January 19, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- The Library was closed on Sunday, January 25, and Monday, January 26, due to a total amount of 17.5” of snowfall in New City.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Gallagher, Director  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
February 12, 2026

MG/kc