

**Staff and Volunteers:**

I'm sad to report that **Dana Munsch, Librarian II** in Adult Services, submitted her resignation at the end of the month effective July 20. Dana started in 2016, and since then, has proved herself a creative and diligent social media librarian, an excellent tech instructor, and a customer-service-oriented presence at the Reference Desk.

Fourteen **teen volunteers** have signed up to manage the Summer Reading signup and reporting. A table is set up outside the Library for them to work from.

The **Staff Association** has elected Chris Ely, Library Assistant II, President. Chris has been an active member of the Association's Executive Board for several years now.

**Collections:**

Dana Munsch and Brian Jennings reviewed the **Diversity Audit** of the Overdrive (e-book) collection requested by RCLS. Several titles were subsequently added to our collection to round out our offerings and provide more representative titles.

Fifty-five adult titles were returned to our book supplier, Baker & Taylor. We are using their **leasing program** to manage the collections in our small temporary space.

**Programs:**

The **Clarkstown Troubadours**, the Clarkstown South High School choral group, gave their annual performance at the Clarkstown Learning Center in Congers on June 13. Many alumni of the group who had been unable to perform during COVID closures in recent years were invited onstage to join. Adult Librarian II Mary Phillips MC'd the show.

A Zoom lecture by Greg Huber on **Historic Dutch Barns** of the region drew an audience of 22 patrons. Local History Librarian Joe Barbieri hosted.

This year’s annual **Princess Party** was held on the lawn at the Congers Train Station and was a success. Children’s Librarian II Kathy Bachor reigned over the event.

Attendance continues to grow at our programs for developmentally-challenged adults hosted at **Jawonio**. Children’s Librarian Amy Chesman created the program and continues to conduct it.

A talk on **Bobby Darin** drew the largest in-person crowd since 2019. The most popular Zoom lecture this month was on **Winslow Homer**. Community Relations Head Veronica Reynolds continues to book entertaining and educational programming for adults both online and in-person. Even with the renovated building, she expects to continue with online offerings, especially for evening programs.

### **Building and Facilities:**

**Asbestos abatement** was performed at 220 North Main.

**Light demolition** (removal of carpet tiles, ceiling tiles, and built-ins) was performed at the beginning of the month. Full demolition went into full swing after the building permit was received on June 13.

### **Technology:**

The Director continues to attend RCLS-hosted meetings regarding the **upcoming ILS/IT split**. On June 21, the RCLS Board approved respective contracts for the ILS and IT support service; these contracts were not approved or endorsed by the 47-member Directors Association. They will still be issued to member library boards for their approval by October 1.

### **Miscellaneous:**

Our state representatives in Albany have provided us with generous grants. **Assemblyman Ken Zebrowski** called to inform us that the Library had been awarded \$30,000 in funds for programming. **Senator Reichlin-Melnick** awarded us with \$3,665 in “bullet aid,” which will go to the capital fund when received.

Some noteworthy patron comments:

*“...I just want to tell you I went to the last two movies and had a great time. I go by myself, get a popcorn and soda, and have a good afternoon.” (email from patron who enjoys our monthly Thursday film program at the New City Cinemas)*

*“As a lifetime resident of New City and patron of the library, I wanted to commend three of your exemplary reference librarians... I speak to them frequently. Brian. I believe he's the director of reference and Nancy. They're very intelligent, very knowledgeable, extremely courteous and helpful. They personify everything you want in a reference librarian... and the lady I just spoke with I believe her name is Mary at 2:30 pm today June 13th. She just devoted a generous amount of time. She explained to me, there were no other patrons but she was perseverant, she was kind, she was charming.*

*She was knowledgeable, very generous with her time and she answered my question and it was not an easy one to respond to. So I would like these two ladies and this one gentleman to get praise on the back.*

*It's always a pleasure to speak with them and their hard work is very much appreciated by me.” (transcript of voicemail left by anonymous patron on June 13).*

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Gallagher, Director  
NEW CITY LIBRARY  
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MG/kc