



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 2018

Staff and Volunteers:

Library Assistant **Susan Telesca** and Adult Services Librarian **Dana Munsch** attended the combined Westchester Library System/Library Association of Rockland County annual conference in Rye Brook.

Adult Services Librarians **Mary Phillips** and **Karen Ostertag** attended Library Journal's Day of Dialog and Book Expo at the Jacob Javits Center.

Adult Services Librarian **Matthew Aull** attended a webinar on Net Neutrality for Digital Inclusion Practitioners. Librarian **Dana Munsch** attended a webinar entitled Social Media 101 for Nonprofits. Library Assistant **Theresa Dolch** attended an all-day workshop on Interlibrary Loan at Southeastern NY Library Resources Council in Highland.

Both Head of Adult Services **Brian Jennings** and Adult Services Librarian **Joe Barbieri** received heartfelt thanks for their research assistance to students participating in National History Day and the countywide history day sponsored by the Historical Society.

The **Clarkstown Gardening Club** once again helped the Garden Rockers Club prepare the Children's Garden for the season.

Children's Librarian I **Jennifer Embry** attended the 2018 ALA Notable Children's Book Banquet at SUNY Orange. She also attended the Day of Dialog in NYC.

Head of Children's Services **Janet Makoujy** attended a webinar entitled, "Beyond Bilingual: Making Storytime ELL-Friendly."

Children's Librarian **Amy Chesman** received her Advanced Certificate in Public Library Administration from the Palmer Institute of Long Island University.

The **director** met with Martin Cox, CCSD Superintendent, and Susan Yom, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, in the interest of building a stronger partnership with the school district.

Teen Librarian **Mary Phillips** once again was on the committee for **Scrawl: Rockland Teens Write**. This LARC-sponsored teen program honors writers

(grades 6-12) from all school districts who contribute to the annual publication, a collection of stories, essays and poems. County librarians and guest authors serve as editors and judges.

Collections:

With the assistance of a grant from the Library Association of Rockland County (LARC), we were able to send off 2,400 **historical postcards from the collection of the late Bob Knight**, town historian, to be digitized. They will eventually be accessible through the Hudson River Valley Heritage (HRVH) website. Joe Barbieri and Brian Jennings are overseeing the project.

On May 1, **checkout library lending rules** were applied throughout the system. Previously, the owning library governed the circulation period, renewal options, and fines for material they sent to other libraries via interlibrary loan.

Programs:

We have begun offering **proctoring services** for online students needing a place to take an exam under the supervision of a librarian. Students are responsible for making arrangements with their schools for delivery of the examination; librarians simply verify identification of the student, time the exam, and mail the completed test back to the school.

Teen Laser Tag seems to be waning in popularity, but Teen Librarian Mary Phillips’ teen painting parties have become the hottest ticket in town.

The screening of the civil rights documentary ***Two Schools in Hillburn*** was attended by the director Joe Allen.

Baby & Me, a new program for infants 4 weeks up to crawlers has been gaining attendance each week. It’s never too early to grow a reader!

The **Boys’ Book Club** (grades 3-6) was visited by the author Timothy Tocher to talk about baseball books and trivia.

The perennial favorite **Big Band Sound concert** for Memorial Day was moved inside due to threatening weather, and it was a full house.

The **bus trip to West Point** was a crowd-pleaser with perfect weather and wonderful tour guides.

The new **Cookbook Club** had its inaugural meeting.

Building and Facilities:

The Community Relations department has been systematically **updating signs** throughout the library in an effort to make wayfinding a little easier.

Architect-led Focus Groups were conducted with Adults, Teens, and Families with Young Children for the Master Plan project.

Technology:

The **mini-Makerspace** was launched with a “Week of Coding” theme during the week of May 7. Twenty patrons of various ages participated in programs created by Librarian Matthew Aull. Wireless access in the room has proven troublesome, and we will be investigating options to correct this.

Miscellaneous:

A **\$325 donation** was received from patron Anne Marinaccio as a Verizon matching gift.

The **New City Library Board** met with the West Nyack Library Board to discuss opportunities for collaboration and cooperation.

The Library was a polling place for **Clarkstown Central School District’s** annual budget vote on May 15 instead of the Street School, which is under renovation.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
June 11, 2018

MG/kc