

Staff:

- Custodian II Andres Abreu submitted his letter of intent to retire on October 25. Andres started here in 2007 and has been a valuable staff member since. It will be a great loss not to have his historical building knowledge available any longer!
- Two library students have approached us in the interest of gaining experience in a library. We are working on creating opportunities for them to help out.
- We will be hosting an adult and her caregiver who wants to volunteer to clean the toys after some children's classes beginning in October.
- Head of Community Relations Veronica Reynolds, Facilities and Finance Manager Shibu Abraham, and the Library Director attended the RCLS Annual Meeting in Goshen. Library Trustees Bob Axelrod and James Ferguson joined them. Veronica created a slide presentation of our recent renovation to display.
- Veronica Reynolds worked at the annual Senior Fair at Rockland Community College on September 12 as a representative of the Library Association of Rockland County (LARC) and the New City Library.

Patrons:

- Fifteen teens attended the volunteer meeting on September 16. They have been especially helpful at our popular painting programs.

Collections:

- Librarian staff met with Ingram book distributors to compare ordering processes, pricing, and delivery to our current vendor, Baker & Taylor.

Programs:

- Twelve people attended the annual "Getting Ready for College" program on September 25.
- Former Head of Children's Services Susan Schuler hosted a hybrid (online and in-person) "collateral genealogy" program from her home in Florida. Ten people attended.
- We resumed bus trip programs by hosting a visit to the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers and Phillipsburg Manor. The bus wasn't filled to capacity, as is the normal scenario, but this was the first trip since COVID so perhaps some time is needed to rebuild that interest.

- A Thursday morning “open game” time was instituted in order to accommodate the overwhelming number of groups who are using our café for weekly mah jongg, canasta, and other card games. Interest is currently minimal but we’ll continue and, perhaps, attract some regulars.
- The Big Band Sound performed jazzy hits outdoors on a beautiful autumn day to the delight of many patrons.

Building and Facilities:

- A flow switch was replaced on Boiler #1.
- Danny Clapp Landscaping was selected as the contractor to perform the drainage project. Two areas will be addressed: the lower-level entrance to the Receiving Room and the west wall that runs parallel to Main Street. The Library obtained 40% of the funding for the project through the NYS Division of Library Development Construction Aid program.

Technology:

- Our time and reservation management system for the public PCs and public printing (Envisionware and LPTOne) is going cloud-based.
- The Library will be receiving an Assistive Translation Device via a grant from the Ramapo Catskill Library System. This will reside at the public service desk and, hopefully, aid us with any non-English speakers.
- Staff attended a Zoom training on an Acquisitions Module for our new ILS, Koha. It was determined that more development is needed before the Library uses it to purchase books and automate cataloging record entries.

Miscellaneous:

- The Library was closed on Monday, September 3, for Labor Day. Regular hours resumed that week.

Respectfully submitted,
Marianne Gallagher, Director
NEW CITY LIBRARY
October 10, 2024

MG/kc