DIRECTOR’S REPORT FEBRUARY 2023


Buildings and Grounds
We've almost completed the shelf cut down project. In the main part of the library, almost all of the shelving units have been cut down to allow for increased sight lines, a more open feel, and a better browsing experience.

Personnel
The Personnel Committee will need to schedule a meeting.

Library Assistant PT Morgan Strand has resigned. She has taken another position at another library.

Library Clerk PT Cecilia Donnelly has resigned due to relocation.

Youth Services
The past month has been spent planning for spring. Children's programming has been evaluated for effectiveness and attendance. Staff have scheduled offerings in various age groups and at various times of the day and days of the week.

New programs include:
- Monthly Lego Building Challenge
- Chess for ages 7-12
- Art program inspired by great artists
- Saturday storytimes
- Zumbini
- Bilingual story time that partners with Literacy Solutions
- Cooking/ nutrition program tied into monthly holidays (St. Patrick's Day, Easter/Passover, Cinco de Mayo) in partnership with ShopRite of West Nyack's Nutritionist
- PRHS student Musical performance

Passive programs will continue to be offered to keep the teens engaged until a new YA librarian is hired. Including, a mini art gallery, music playlist, and blackout poetry.

February's "I love my library" passive program asks patrons what they love about PRPL. These heart-shaped messages are currently on display in the children's room. But will be presented to our local legislators at Advocacy Day later this month.

Learning Lab Adult class moves to Community Room for extra space
Adult Tech Intro to JavaScript attracted 30 registrants! Luckily, the Community Room was available for our first session. For follow up sessions we have been squeezing 20 people into the Learning Lab. This program makes use of our VidCode database subscription account and is teaching some advanced, substantial coding. One adult spent 19 hours on their homework assignment. No other library offers this kind of programming.
Tech Help is booming, in the library and at outreach events. We conducted over 20 one-on-one tech help sessions in the library this month, and also offered our usual 2 tech help outreach sessions at the senior group at Beth AmTemple.

**60th Anniversary Oral History Project Kicked Off in January**
As part of our 60th Anniversary Year (on Franklin), Librarian Jim Cassetta is running weekly Oral History Interviews, filmed by Page Izsaak Gonzalez. Patrons are eager and happy to participate. The results will be available for viewing on our website later this year and will culminate in an in-person program with selected participants. The project will also be incorporated into Jim’s 2023 local history book for Pearl River Public Library Press - A History of PRPL.

![Image of people during an interview]

**Painting Party offered something new for adults**
Our range of programming continues to grow. Here’s one example of a recent, popular addition. This program was suggested and run by librarian Ginny Halprin.

![Image of people participating in a painting party]
Learning Lab
Fine Motor FUN-damentals in the Learning Lab offers an important new program to kids adversely affected by remote learning during COVID. Like all our other Learning Lab programs, this program quickly filled and had a waiting list of kids that we had to turn away. Part-2, Handwriting Ready, begins next month and already has a waiting list.

The Literacy Solutions Volunteers program has been growing ever since the group made its new home base in the Learning Lab. This is a win/win, filling the Lab during typically quiet hours (Tuesday 9:30AM-1PM), and providing LSV with exactly what they need. Their/our patrons will also participate in our new Spring Chickens Choir in April to improve their language skills.

Compliments/Highlights/Appreciation

From: Cosmina Mandru
Date: Sat, Feb 18, 2023 at 2:40 PM
Subject: Chess Club

Hi Mrs. Alicia,
We just want to say THANK YOU! for everything you do for our kids. Paul and his friends had a blast at the chess club. He was so happy yesterday.
Have a great weekend!
Tompa Family

Sent from my iPhone

Incident Reports
1/18/23 A Patron fell in front of the Circulation desk. Police and ambulance were called. Patron broke hip and elbow.
1/22/23 A Teen patron jumped by other teen patrons outside of the library in the back corner of the lot by Franklin Ave Elementary. They chased him around the library and the teen called the police.
1/25/23 A Patron demanded to use Reference Desk phones and became belligerent when told no. The situation was deescalated by staff and security.
2/7/23 A Patron was repeatedly throwing up on the floor and rubbing it into the carpet with his foot. The patron then exited the library and another patron informed us what had happened. Nearby patrons were visibly and vocally disturbed by the incident. Custodians sanitized the area.
2/18/23 A Patron acting erratically in the adult computer area. They became agitated and combative with staff. Left the building, had a dispute with a second patron immediately outside of the building. The Second patron came into the building to file a complaint about the first patron.