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Keeping You Informed

Demystifying MEDICARE and Healthcare Coverage for Seniors

Thurs., Sept. 13, 6:30 – 9:15pm
ARDSLEY
Greenburgh Multipurpose Center,
11 Olympic Lane

Mon., Sept. 17, 6 – 9pm
PLEASANTVILLE
Mount Pleasant Public Library,
350 Bedford Rd

Sun., Nov. 4, 1 – 4pm
ARMONK
North Castle Public Library,
19 Whipoorwill Rd East

This **FREE** presentation of the library system's Westchester Seniors Out Speaking is perfect for anyone trying to navigate their way through our complicated healthcare system for older adults. It will help those who already have Medicare, as well as people soon to be 65, planning their retirement, or assisting relatives and friends with their medical decisions and paperwork.

The engaging, interactive program outlines the various parts of Medicare and lays out the costs associated with the medical and drug insurance provided by the government and private companies.

Topics include:

- Original Medicare
- Medicare Advantage Plans
- Prescription drug plans (Part D)
- Medigaps (supplemental plans)
- Various cost-saving programs (MSPs, Extra Help, EPIC, etc.)



**Walk-ins welcome, but pre-registration is requested at (914) 231-3236.
Please leave your name, telephone number and the event you wish to attend.**

Please visit <http://www.westchesterlibraries.org/westchester-seniors-out-speaking/> for additional locations and dates.

Westchester Seniors Out Speaking (WSOS), a project of the Westchester Library System, is a volunteer group specifically trained to deliver free services relating to Medicare coverage. **Members provide individual counseling each week in ten libraries across the county; you can also contact the WSOS Helpline for a counseling call-back at sbic@wlsmail.org or (914) 231-3260.** For other WSOS events, visit www.westchesterlibraries.org/westchester-seniors-out-speaking/.

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New Rochelle Foundation fundraiser to feature author Rhiannon Navin and filmmaker Kate Way

Michelle Almonte, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 1:28 p.m. ET Sept. 10, 2018



(Photo: Submitted)

New Rochelle Public Library Foundation's Cocktails & Conversation, Sept. 13

NEW ROCHELLE - The New Rochelle Public Library Foundation holds its Cocktails & Conversation series, Sept. 13. This year's event will include a discussion on "Kids, Guns and Schools," with the bestselling author of "Only Child," Rhiannon Navin, and filmmaker Kate Way, whose debut documentary "G is for Gun" recently aired on PBS. The discussion will be moderated by Prof. Amy Bass, Ph.D., director of College of New Rochelle's honors program. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. at Alvin & Friends restaurant, 14 Memorial Highway, New Rochelle. Admission is \$50 per person and includes two glasses of wine or beer and small bites. Visit [nrplfoundation.org](http://www.nrplfoundation.org) (<http://www.nrplfoundation.org/>) to make reservations and for more information. Copies of the author's book will be available for sale and signing from The Voracious Reader, 1997 Palmer Ave., Larchmont.

The New Rochelle Public Library Foundation is a volunteer fundraising and advocacy organization working to ensure the future well-being of the library.



Alexandra Dunn, former Pace faculty member nominated to lead Environmental Protection Agency's Chemical Safety Office. (Photo: Submitted)

Former Dean at Pace nominated to lead Environmental Protection Agency's Chemical Safety Office

WHITE PLAINS – Former dean of Pace Law's environmental law programs Alexandra Dunn, was recently nominated by President Donald J. Trump to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for Toxic Substances (EPA). Dunn currently serves as the regional administrator for Region 1 of the EPA. At Pace Law, she served as dean of environmental law programs from 2007-2010 and taught Environmental Justice and Human Rights and the Environment as an adjunct professor.

In addition to her former role at the Law School, Dunn previously served as executive director and general counsel for the Environmental Council of the States (ECOS). Since 2014, Dunn has assisted state governments in shaping environmental policy and enhancing economic development. Prior to joining ECOS, Dunn served as executive director and general counsel for the Association of Clean Water Administrators. In addition, she has taught at the Columbus School of Law, Catholic University of America, and, most recently, as an adjunct associate professor of law at the American University's Washington College of Law.

Dunn received a B.A. in political science from James Madison University and a J.D. from the Columbus School of Law. She is a member of the bar in Washington, DC; Maryland; and New York, as well as the United States Supreme Court.

New director of retail at Houlihan Lawrence Commercial Group

RYE BROOK - Kim Galton is the new director of retail at Houlihan Lawrence Commercial Group and will specialize in leasing, sales and development of retail properties.

Letters to the Editor

Dobbs Ferry Library to host read-out on Sept. 24, during Banned Books Week

To the Editor:

Since 1990, the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) has recorded more than 10,000 book challenges, including 323 in 2016. A challenge is a formal, written complaint requesting a book be removed from library shelves or school curriculum. About half of all challenges are to material in schools or school libraries, and one in four are to material in public libraries.

It is thanks to the commitment of librarians, teachers, parents, and students that most challenges are unsuccessful and reading materials like "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," "Slaughterhouse Five," "To Kill a Mockingbird," the Harry Potter series, and the Hunger Games series, remain available.

The most challenged and/or restricted reading materials have been books for children. However, challenges are not simply an expression of a point of view; on the contrary, they are an attempt to remove materials from public use, thereby restricting the access of others. Even if the motivation to ban or challenge a book is well intentioned, the outcome is detrimental. Censorship denies our freedom as individuals to choose and think for ourselves. For children, decisions about what books to read should be made by the people who know them best — their parents!

In support of the right to choose books freely for ourselves, the ALA and Dobbs Ferry Public Library are celebrating Banned Books Week Sept. 23-29, an annual recognition of our right to access books without censorship. Since its inception in 1982, Banned Books Week has reminded us that while not every book is intended for every reader, each of us has the right to decide for ourselves what to read, listen to, or view. The Dobbs Ferry Public Library and thousands more libraries and bookstores across the country will celebrate the freedom to read. The DFPL will be hosting the following activity: a Banned Books Read-Out on Monday, Sept. 24, from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Periodicals Reading Room. The public is invited to join us in reading a passage from your favorite banned or challenged book aloud.

American libraries are the cornerstones of our democracy. Libraries are for everyone, everywhere. Because libraries provide free access to a world of information, they bring opportunity to all people. Now, more than ever, celebrate the freedom to read at your library! Read an old favorite or a new banned book this week.

Elizabeth Hobson
Director,
Dobbs Ferry Public Library

Deadline for letters is Monday at noon

In your view

By Anne Marie Leone

What was your favorite part of the River Spirit Music Festival in Hastings on Sept. 8?



Judy Pysuck, White Plains

It's bringing people together through music, which is universal, and at a time in the world where we're so divisive. I think it's even more important to come together and celebrate each other and humanity and music and good food and local vendors. It's a win for everybody.



Timothy Newell, Hastings

Having food and music with friends.



Marie Bourdain, Hastings

I love this festival because we can come as a family. We have two kids here enjoying themselves. We pay the ticket and everything else is free... We enjoy the music. We enjoy the food. I think it's a great event.



Guy Sliker, Hastings

I think all the kids running around. They look like they're having so much fun. I also love hanging out and watching the music, seeing the musicians, and all that stuff.

Crowds Throng Harrison Public Library for Play2Learn Festival

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Published on Wednesday, 12 September 2018 17:46

Written by Dave Donelson



PREV

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The Harrison Public Library Foundation's Play2Learn Festival drew record crowds to the library on Saturday, September 8. An estimated 3,000 kids and their parents thronged Ma Riis Park and the downtown library itself in celebration of play as a learning process.

"We are very pleased by the overwhelming response to our third annual Play2Learn Festival," says Harrison Public Library Director Galina Chernykh. "It really shows how important the library is to the Harrison community."

The festival was free to the public since costs of the event were entirely covered by donations "Generous donations from individuals and local businesses make the Play2Learn Festival possible," says Dave Donelson, president of the Harrison Public Library Foundation. "The Festival is a prime example of how donors can do something tangible to enhance the quality of life in Harrison."

Library staff and a bevy of nearly 50 volunteers were key to the success of the event, according to Festival Chairperson Fran Brescia-Coniglio. "Volunteers set up the activity zones, helped attendees throughout the day, and returned the park and library to pristine condition afterward."

Eight play zones were themed for physical, music, creative, science, make believe, technology, construction, and sensory activities at the festival. They were full of games, experiments, projects, and experiences for kids of all ages. Parents were encouraged to participate, too, since one of the goals of the annual festival is to expose them to the play-to-learn concept.

The Harrison Public Library is at 2 Bruce Avenue in Harrison, NY.

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Summer Teen Financial Literacy...



Be a leader in sustainability

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The Hendrick Hudson Free Library in Montrose was the first library to join the Green Business Partnership and become certified. And, they introduced us to the New York Library Association and the 37 other libraries who have since joined our organization! So, we were really excited to spotlight their accomplishments at our most recent Leaders in Sustainability Speaker Series lunch and tour. Library Director Jill Davis and Business Manager Jenny Kolesar (literally) walked us through the incredible changes they've made, and the impact it's had on the environment and on the library's bottom line.



Highlights include:

- Solar panels that offset 80% of electric use for a savings of more than \$11k in 5 years and reduced overall usage thanks to the installation of LED lighting inside and out, daylight-harvesting lights, temperate presets, and HVAC improvements.
- A gutter system that collects all of the rainwater from the building's roof and deposits it in a beautiful water garden that can be enjoyed by visitors from inside or out.
- A commitment to recycling, green cleaning supplies, buying in bulk, eliminating disposables, and more.

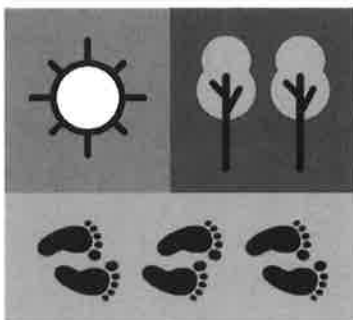
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multi-library collaborations, and to add new services (like UPS and E-ZPass) to bring in new users. This demonstrates all that a green journey should be... opportunities to save money, provide better service, expand relationships and be part of something bigger.

If you're ready to reap these rewards at your business or nonprofit, visit www.greenbusinesspartnership.org to learn more or sign up.



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Mt. Kisco, NY - Americans value public libraries as institutions that enrich their communities. A bastion of knowledge, the Mount Kisco Public Library had been a fixture in the community for more than a century. To help the library stay abreast of modern technological advances, Senator Terrence Murphy recently secured a \$7,500 grant to help the library upgrade its electronics equipment.

The funds secured by Senator Murphy were used to renovate equipment in the library's community room, including replacing a projector, purchasing a new, electric screen and wireless microphones, and providing HDMI laptop ports.

Library Director Kathryn Feeley and Youth Services Librarian Margaret Kaczorowski greeted Senator Murphy recently when he visited the library, thanking him for his continued support. The Senator also toured the Children's Room, which has been transformed into a colorful wonderland of learning with brightly colored displays and a wide assortment of books to stimulate young minds.



"Libraries are much more than just books and banks of computers. Libraries are places children, adults and families can gather to explore, interact, and imagine," said Senator Murphy. "The Mount Kisco Public Library has a strong connection to the surrounding community. It's a pleasure to support the Library, so it can continue to provide essential services that will help Mt Kisco thrive."

Library Director Feeley commented, "This grant has helped us provide our visitors with state-of-the-art equipment that will enhance their learning experience. We're thankful for Senator Murphy's continued support and his confidence in all our local libraries."

The library hosts many events including the summer reading kick-off, meet the animal's events, movies, career fairs, story times for children, lectures, art exhibits and bi-lingual programming. Among the many community groups that have held events at the library are the Mayor's Economic Development Council, Mt. Kisco Arts Council, Mt. Kisco Day Care, and the Boys and Girls Club.

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Hamsters, turtles, dogs and kittens: Does your library have a resident pet?

Julie Moran Alterio, For The Journal News Published 1:53 p.m. ET Aug. 29, 2018 | Updated 7:15 p.m. ET Sept. 3, 2018



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(Photo: John Moore/The Journal News)

If Tina the Turtle could talk like the animals in the children's books that surround her at the Katonah Village Library, she would say "thanks" to the 100-plus patrons who have donated more than \$5,000 to buy her a bigger tank.

It's been 26 years since a baby turtle was left in a box at the library's door, and in that time Tina has grown not just in size, but in popularity. More than 500 people attended her 20th birthday party.

But Tina the turtle is not the only library pet winning over booklovers in the Lower Hudson Valley.

In Blauvelt, kitten paws will pounce amid the stacks once more this fall after library director Laura Grunberg adopts a replacement for a cat named Cozy Comforter that ran away a year ago.

In Orangeburg, a young hamster named Jasmine is entertaining patrons as she scampers in a ball at the circulation desk.

Stephanie Hartwell-Mandella, the children's librarian in Katonah, said that animals in libraries help teach kindness to young patrons and are a particular boon to shy children.

[APPLE PICKING: A list of Hudson Valley farms \(/story/life/2018/08/30/apple-picking-hudson-valley/1040198002/\)](#)

[A MOM, 9 KIDS, AND A VAN: One family's memorable summer vacation \(/story/news/local/rockland/2018/09/01/how-did-my-widowed-mom-take-9-kids-europe/1142461002/\)](#)

"It helps develop empathy and compassion for others," Hartwell-Mandella said. "When kids come in here, and may not be used to playing with other kids, or are figuring their way out in the scene, everyone can go to Tina."

Tina has generations of fans



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When a recent bout of illness revealed that Tina's tank was too small and didn't meet her need for dry time in the sunshine, library users responded with gifts ranging from \$10 to \$500, including \$250 from a Brownie troop's cookie sales and \$50 from a child who sold homemade guitar picks.

"I wouldn't expect this for a turtle, but she does have a hold on this place," said Mary Kane, library director. "She connects everyone, and people who love animals in particular. The kids go right to her. I've been downstairs when a thirtysomething man said, 'Is Tina still here? She was here when I was a child.' She brings connections through generations."

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Stephanie Hartwell-Mandella, head of youth services at the Katonah Library, holds Tina, a 26-year old River Cooter turtle that has lived at the library for almost her entire life. Turtles like Tina, photographed Aug. 10, 2018 can live for forty years. The library has begun a fundraising effort to raise money to purchase a larger tank for Tina, as well as an outdoor enclosure. (Photo: Seth Harrison/The Journal News)



Tina, a 26-year old River Cooter turtle, swims in her tank at the Katonah Library Aug. 10, 2018. Tina has lived at the library for almost her entire life. Turtles like Tina can live for forty years. The library has begun a fundraising effort to raise money to purchase a larger tank for Tina, as well as an outdoor enclosure. (Photo: Seth Harrison/The Journal News)

Katonah resident Gretchen Menzies said she donated to help Tina because of her children's history with the turtle.

"When my kids were small, Tina literally saved my life some of those long, dark, winter days," Menzies said. "The kids would get cabin fever, and I'd just have to mention going to the library to see Tina and the smiles would come. I figure for all of the days she saved me, I owe her something in return."

Menzies, who owns a bookstore and cafe in the village, directs parents to take their tots to Tina to get the wiggles out. "Having a turtle at the library is special because it's not only cool and different, but a turtle might just be the perfect reading companion," Menzies said. "Quiet, kind of chill, and one that doesn't get anyone over stimulated."

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Jasmine the hamster in her cage at the Orangeburg library on Wednesday, August 29, 2018. (Photo: John Meora/The Journal News)

Waccabuc resident Megan Vaccaro, at a recent story time with her 2-year-old son Ryder, said she donated to Tina because her children always visit the turtle. "Every time we come to the library, they say, 'We're going to go and see Tina.' Sometimes they even take her outside into the courtyard a little bit. They love Tina."

In Suffern, there's a 3-inch-long newborn Pleco fish in an aquarium dubbed Adam after the young patron who first spotted the baby fish.

While fish might be the most common pets to take up permanent residence at area libraries, there are also myriad animals that visit for events, such as the therapy dogs Mr. Pickles and Mr. Theo in Mamaroneck.

"The therapy dogs are also enjoyed by children who may be afraid of dogs, but looking from afar, they see how gentle the dogs are," said Terry Numa, head of youth services at Mamaroneck Public Library. "Parents appreciate seeing their children reading to the dogs and, of course, Mr. Pickles is an extremely attentive listener who makes no corrections when a word or two is skipped."

Animals teach kindness

Kimberly Carletta, the head of youth services at Orangeburg Library where Jasmine the hamster has been finding fans, said having a hamster teaches the children to be gentle with living things. It also promotes sharing because the kids must take turns feeding Jasmine. "She can only have two treats a day, so if there are a bunch of kids, they have to decide who gets to do it," Carletta said.

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Kim Carletta, head of youth services holds Jasmine the hamster at the Orangeburg library on Wednesday, August 29, 2018. (Photo: John Meore/The Journal News)

The hamster has sparked interest in pet care books, and a few grumbles from parents facing pleas from children who want a hamster of their own. "Kids are always interested in things smaller than them, so I think being able to feel it and touch it is something special that they can't do at other libraries," she said. "The people love it so much, and for such little work, it's worth it."

The hamster's appeal isn't limited to tots. "Everybody in their own way gets a kick out of her," Carletta said. "The kids like her, the adults like her, the senior citizens and the special needs groups are all really into the hamster."

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There's always a risk when you bring an animal into the library, said Janet Makoujy, head of children's services at the New City Library, who has worked in libraries with fish tanks, hamsters, guinea pigs, cats, birds and even orphaned squirrels.

"They are fun and the kids love them, but you do have to keep a watchful eye on the critters so that young children don't accidentally love — squeeze — them too hard or drop them," she said.

There's also the question of budgeting for the animal's housing, food, vet care, and cleaning, she noted. "You also need to take into consideration patrons who might have allergies to hair, fur, dander, etc., or children who are afraid of certain animals."

Caring for Tina is part of the job description for Hartwell-Mandella in Katonah, who said with a chuckle, "That's one thing I didn't learn about in library school."

Her closeness to the turtle enabled her to notice that it was ailing. "Her color was off. She wasn't moving as much. Her underbelly had these blotches," she said. "I see this turtle every day, and she didn't look right."

9/5/2018 Animal fans raise \$5K for Katonah Library's resident turtle Tina
A veterinarian diagnosed an infection in her shell caused by insufficient time to "dry dock" in the sunshine. After months of iodine baths, injections and medicinal cream on her belly, Tina's feeling much better, Hartwell-Mandella said.

During the ordeal, the library also learned Tina's species for the first time. A river cooter native to Texas, Tina could live another 20 years or more, though the thinking is she probably won't grow much beyond her current 12 inches.

Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining has been helping the library figure out Tina's needs for her future, including shifting her to a 150-gallon tank, up from 120 gallons, and picking out a larger ramp and platform for her to dry out. The whole setup will be upgraded, including a new filter, lighting and heating.

The goal is to have the new enclosure in place by fall when the library hopes to do a joint turtle program with Teatown.

Library Director Kane said she's also excited about creating a new outdoor habitat in the library's Serenity Garden courtyard. "I don't know turtles that well, but when we put her outside, she looks happy," Kane said. "She puts all her limbs out, and looks like she's basking."

Cats in the stacks

Cats in particular have long been associated with libraries. Greek historian Herodotus reported that Egyptians used felines to chase rodents. Monks in the Middle Ages likewise protected their volumes from predation by employing cats as mousers. That history is reflected in the giant lion sculptures outside the New York Public Library.

In Blauvelt, library director Laura Grunberg said her cat Cozy, along with an earlier cat named Moxie, who died, were mascots who appeared in public communications. "We marketed our library as 'The Library with Moxie' or 'The Cozy Library,'" she said.

Patrons loved Cozy. "I would often find children and adults cradling Cozy in their arms — talk about therapeutic. Having a cat in the building makes it feel like home," she said.

Grunberg said Cozy was a gentle breed called a Ragdoll that tolerated the physical affection of the library's young visitors. "I once came upon six kids encircling Cozy who was lying on the floor — each of the kids had a hand on a different part of Cozy's body," she said.

She hopes to find another Ragdoll cat this fall, and already has a new slogan picked out for the name Mosey: "Mosey on over to the Blauvelt Free Library."

Not all library cat tales end as happily.

The story of how the Putnam Valley Library lost \$80,000 in bequests after a trustee evicted the library cat because of her allergies made news across the United States and as far as Australia and Germany.

Back in 1989, Muffin had been living in the library for seven years before she was forced to leave. The expulsion so incensed a 93-year-old widow named Marjorie Horton that she cut the library out of her will to the tune of \$30,000. Another local resident followed up by withdrawing a promise to give \$50,000 for a children's audiovisual room.

Read or Share this story: <https://www.lohud.com/story/life/2018/08/29/animal-fans-raise-5-k-katonah-librarys-resident-turtle-tina/949387002/>

Boredom Banished by Harrison Library Play2Learn Festival

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Published on Thursday, 23 August 2018 10:26

Written by Dave Donelson



Kids and parents will experience more than forty play activities during the third annual Play2Learn Festival slated for September 8 at the Harrison Public Library and Riis Park. They will learn to make fun stuff like finger puppets and pinwheels, write computer code, plant a garden, and even build a working rocket! The entire award-winning festival is devoted to showing how children's play can be a learning process based on fun.

"We want to banish boredom," says Harrison Public Library Director Galina Chernykh. "The Play2Learn Festival is a wonderful demonstration of how our Library brings wholesome excitement into children's lives."

The Play2Learn Festival is set for Saturday, September 8, 11 AM to 3 PM at Riis Park in front of the Halperin Memorial Library in downtown Harrison. It's free to the public and offers entertainment, refreshments, and prizes as well as an endless selection of hands-on activities, according to Festival organizers.

New to Play2Learn this year is the NatureStation, the Rye Nature Center's new mobile workshop that features over a dozen ways for people to learn about the natural world. Also new are Cooking Crew, where kids will make a delicious, healthy snack, and Bruce Chung Tae Kwan Do, where they can experience the martial arts firsthand.

"We are excited to have so many new activities this year," says Play2Learn Chairperson Fran Brescia-Coniglio. "We're also delighted to showcase the volunteers who've supported us in the past like Nora's Oven Works, Aw Yeah Comics, Fenom Fitness, and Mac Inspires."

Eight play zones are themed for physical, music, creative, science, make believe, technology, construction, and sensory activities at the Festival. There are games, experiments, projects, and experiences for kids of all ages. Parents are encouraged to participate, too, since one of the goals of the festival is to expose them to the play-to-learn concept.

Admission is free, although families are asked to register in advance at www.harrisonpl.org/play2learn so the HPL Foundation can better plan for the event.

More than fifty sponsors and donors make the Play2Learn Festival possible, according to HPL Foundation President Dave Donelson. "The financial support from local merchants and individual donors is augmented by a huge corps of volunteers," he says. "The Play2Learn Festival is a true expression of how much this community values its Library."

The Harrison Public Library is at 2 Bruce Avenue in Harrison, NY. For more information, visit <http://www.harrisonpl.org/play2learn>.

For more information, contact Dave Donelson, 914-949-7483 or harrisonlibraryfoundation@gmail.com

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Libraries discard reference books for extra space, annoying some

Ernie Garcia, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 1:07 p.m. ET Aug. 20, 2018



(Photo: Mark Vergari/The Journal News)

YONKERS - Changing patron demands at the Yonkers Public Library have led to a downsizing of printed reference materials to create more meeting and study space.

The Grinton I. Will Branch at 1500 Central Park Ave. recently completed a renovation of its facade and windows and many reference books removed during the construction did not return because library officials turned some of the former reference shelves into additional study areas.

The expanded study areas are in part a response to a survey of nearly 3,000 Yonkers library patrons and staffers. One of the leading topics in the 2015 survey was a desire for additional small- and medium-sized

rooms.

Not everybody is happy about the weeding of old reference works at Will branch.

"Those books, no matter what they say, are not duplicated online," said Kevin Feighery, who thought the reference books would return after the Will branch completed the renovation. "They had a unique collection."

[FUTURE: Yonkers library unveils 2017-21 strategic plan](https://www.ionua.com/story/news/education/2017/01/24/yonkers-public-library/96969342/) ([/story/news/education/2017/01/24/yonkers-public-library/96969342/](https://www.ionua.com/story/news/education/2017/01/24/yonkers-public-library/96969342/))

[CHANGING NEEDS: Libraries changing offerings in response to public demands](https://www.ionua.com/story/news/education/2017/08/15/libraries-changing/529251001/) ([/story/news/education/2017/08/15/libraries-changing/529251001/](https://www.ionua.com/story/news/education/2017/08/15/libraries-changing/529251001/))

Feighery said the eliminated reference books included old encyclopedias, atlases and guides to literature and poetry.

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Edward Falcone, the Yonkers Public Library's director, wrote in an email that his library was lagging behind most other large libraries in reassessing its reference services.

"The items in questions might have looked impressive and useful, but they had long outlasted their usefulness," Falcone wrote on Friday, adding that similar reassessment of reference works is beginning at the Riverfront branch. "Anything of popular interest was added to the circulating collection, the remainder was shipped to a service we use. They find homes for the weeded items when they can."

Purging print

Libraries throughout the Lower Hudson Valley are weeding old reference books.

"Yonkers is dealing with this issue like most public libraries are. We're sort of in the middle of that," said Tom Geoffino, the director of the New Rochelle Public Library, whose library has also moved some popular, but old, reference works into the circulation stacks. "You have to be careful about weeding. Dr. Spock's baby book is out of date, but people still read it."

Like Yonkers, New Rochelle has also added more meeting and study space. Last year a periodicals room was converted into a conference room and the library is in the process of creating two new study rooms in an area where bookshelves once stood overlooking the green space adjacent to the library.

Some libraries in Rockland County are also weeding reference books, said Robert Hubsher, executive director of the Ramapo Catskill Library System, which serves 47 public libraries in Orange, Rockland, Sullivan and southern Ulster counties.

"There will always be people who want to use print materials, but I think there's a growing group of people who use digital materials online because it's more convenient," said Hubsher.

Geoffino acknowledged that not all patrons find online research more convenient, so the New Rochelle Public Library still has the latest printed version of the Encyclopedia Britannica. Geoffino said some information in old reference works is harder to find online.

"The beauty of an encyclopedia when print was king was that you could go to an encyclopedia that you knew was good and you could find (information) readily," he said.

Ditching printed reference books for meeting or study space isn't the only way local libraries are changing. Many libraries have added 3D printing rooms and audio/visual labs with sound and video editing gear.

The White Plains Public Library has added a cafe and the Yonkers Public Library now lends American Girl dolls and musical instruments. Other libraries offer non-traditional classes like Zumba, cooking and yoga.

The non-traditional offerings mean that there is less space for bookshelves. Geoffino said that local libraries can't stock every reference book, so the Westchester Library System is designed to allow sharing among the county's 38 member libraries.

"White Plains may not have something, but Peekskill might," said Geoffino. "Resource sharing is a major tool that the libraries use because we can't own everything. It's not a viable business model."

Staff writer Isabel Keane contributed to this report.

Twitter: @ErnieJourno (<https://twitter.com/ErnieJourno>)

[More Yonkers news \(/story/entertainment/2017/11/22/black-friday-shopping-new-century-21-yonkers/821730001/\)](#)

[WHEN CAN I MOVE IN?: Update on 10 Hudson River housing developments \(/story/money/business-in-the-burbs/2018/08/08/hudson-river-housing-update/826970002/\)](#)

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[JUMPER: Meet the woman who helped rescue the Yonkers bridge jumper \(/story/news/local/westchester/yonkers/2018/08/15/mystery-hero-boy-jumped-overpass/939845002/\)](#)

[SHOPPING: Grab & Go variety store opens in Yonkers \(/story/news/local/westchester/yonkers/2018/08/14/grab-go-opens-yonkers/978244002/\)](#)

[JOBS: Yonkers construction pre-apprenticeship program launches \(/videos/news/local/westchester/yonkers/2018/08/14/video-pre-apprenticeship-class-yonkers/957579002/\)](#)

[ARREST: Yonkers teen's shooter arrested in car theft case \(/story/news/crime/2018/08/15/childrens-village-teens-arrested-dobbs-ferry-car-thefts/995756002/\)](#)

[KIDS: Luckey Climber coming to Yonkers Cross County Shopping Center \(/story/news/local/westchester/yonkers/2018/08/14/luckey-climber-coming-yonkers-cross-county-shopping-center/986246002/\)](#)

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Reading nook dedicated to Gabrielle White at Huguenot Children's Library

Nicholas Tantillo, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 6:00 a.m. ET Aug. 20, 2018 | Updated 7:00 a.m. ET Aug. 20, 2018



(Photo: New Rochelle Public Library)

NEW ROCHELLE - A reading corner at the Huguenot Children's Library was dedicated Thursday to Gabrielle White, a 7-year-old who was smothered to death by her father in 2017 in their New Rochelle home.

A \$10,000 donation from White's family was used to add a cushioned window seat, desk and bookshelves to the library's first floor, the library said in a release. Funds were also used to buy 160 books with themes about inclusion and diversity.

"Books are an important way for children of all different races, religions, family backgrounds and physical abilities to see reflections of themselves and understand how little our differences actually separate us," said

White's mother, Michelle Hord-White.

PREVIOUS: [New Rochelle dad suffocated daughter to spare her from divorce \(/story/news/2017/08/14/new-rochelle-dad-neil-white-statement-suffocated-daughter-spare-her-divorce/565390001/\)](#)

NEW ROCHELLE: ['Save our library' petition gains traction \(/story/news/local/westchester/new-rochelle/2018/04/05/save-our-library-petition-new-rochelle/484905002/\)](#)

Hord-White said she hopes the reading nook, dubbed "Gabrielle's Corner," will nurture and inspire the children who visit it.

ADVERTISEMENT

In the wake of the 7-year-old's death, a fund called "Gabrielle's Wings" was created within the Hord Foundation, which was founded by White's maternal grandparents. The fund has given to the local Girl Scouts, provided college scholarships and held backpack drives in Westchester.

Roughly a year ago, White's father, Neil, admitted to smothering his daughter to death with a pillow. He said he didn't want the girl to grow up in a single-parent home after his divorce. Michelle Hord-White filed for divorce in April, according to Westchester County records.

The Huguenot Children's Library is located at 794 North Ave, New Rochelle.

Read or Share this story: <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/2018/08/20/library-nook-dedicated-gabrielle-white/1022077002/>

▶ ×

Otis Legislation to Protect Children from Fraudulent Child Care Credentials Signed Into Law

Lulu and Leo's Law criminalizes the misrepresentation of a caregiver's experiences and qualifications

One of my priorities for the 2018 Legislative Session was to win passage of legislation to better protect children and provide greater assurance to parents seeking at-home child care. The bill, known as Lulu and Leo's Law, establishes the crime of misrepresentation by or on behalf of a caregiver. The legislation (A.11125-A/53018-A), was signed into law by the Governor in August.

Without this change, there was no legal duty for people to be accurate when presenting credentials or references to be hired as an at-home caregiver. This was a serious gap in the law, given the fact that New York law already prohibited making misrepresentations of an applicant's credentials as an employee or volunteer at a child-care facility a crime, but not for in-home care.

The legislation was named for Lulu and Leo Krim who were murdered in 2012 in the hands of their caregiver who had no previous experience caring for children. The case highlighted the need for greater assurance of accuracy regarding persons applying for caregiver positions in the home. Lulu and Leo's caregiver was hired following a fabricated reference claiming previous work as a nanny when she had never held such a position. Although the individual providing the reference did not have children at the time, she claimed that she did. At the trial this spring, the caregiver was convicted and sentenced to life without parole.

This law defines a "caregiver" as someone hired to provide at least fifteen hours of in-home care per week, with the exception

of those entities licensed under the social services law. Misrepresentations would constitute a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to six months imprisonment.

I worked closely with Kevin Krim, the father of Lulu and Leo, in the writing and strategy for passing this legislation. Mr. Krim and his wife, Marina, have selflessly sought this change in law to protect other families from the horrible tragedy they experienced.

This legislation would help give parents and guardians a greater level of comfort when using personal references and testimonials of experience in the hiring of caregivers and prevent future tragedies. I also worked with Senator Andrew Lanza of Staten Island who sponsored the proposal in the State Senate.

Twenty years ago, when I served as Counsel and Chief of Staff to State Senator Suzi Oppenheimer, I worked on a law adopted that year that gave parents the ability to obtain criminal background checks of prospective caregivers for children in the home. This law followed another tragedy, the murder of an infant in Rye.

Not every crime highlights ways state law can be changed to make children safer. However when changes are needed, the real heroes are the family members who have suffered great loss but remain determined to help others through their advocacy.



Assemblyman Crisp joined elected officials and LMCTV supporters to celebrate the ribbon-cutting at LMCTV's new studio production and editing space at the Marzavook Town Center. LMCTV's all-volunteer board of directors and staff produce extensive community programming for the Town and Village of Marzavook and the Village of Larchmont. LMCTV was founded in 1983 and is a good example of a successful shared service being provided on the Sound Shore.

Increased State Aid to School Districts and Library Funding

As a member of both the Assembly Committees on Education and Libraries, I help these institutions receive additional state assistance to address long-term issues they face in providing services to our communities.

The 2018-19 State Budget included over \$26 billion in state funding to school districts, an almost one billion dollar increase. Foundation Aid, a key component of the education aid formula, went up \$619 million. Every school district on the Sound Shore received an increase in the budget enacted by the Legislature and the Governor, almost double what was proposed in January.

In my annual discussions with local school officials, teachers and parents, I learn about their particular needs and concerns in the state budget and make recommendations to address those issues. This year was no different. Through my efforts, and with your input, Westchester schools received \$41.6 million in additional state aid. I will continue to work to reduce the over-reliance on state tests, which reduce classroom time and are seen as less valu-

able than local measures by teachers, parents and administrators.

Public libraries play a vital role in each of our communities. This year we had a significant \$10 million increase in the library construction grant program bringing the state-wide total to \$44 million. This is a key program utilized by many Westchester libraries to help fund construction or renovation projects.

I am happy to report that the New Rochelle Public Library will be receiving \$276,363 from the 2017 round of construction grants. The grant will be used to expand the library's entry way to include an ADA compliant circulation desk, self-checkout kiosks, and an updated security system to make the library more accessible and welcoming.

We also increased library operating aid by \$1 million. These increases followed hearings held by the Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology, which I have served on since joining the Assembly.

BOOKS

You Won't Believe What Kids Can Find On 'Transgender' At The Public Library

All but one of the hundreds of transgender books in my public library promote a movement derived from queer theory and built on a psychiatric condition.

Determined to be relevant, my town library is ripping out its excessively gendered women's and men's rooms to make way for four gender-neutral bathrooms. The renovation concretizes the American Library Association's endorsement of gender ideology. Measured by the ALA's Office for Diversity, Literacy and Outreach Services, *relevant* means assisting "traditionally underserved" communities.

Among those neglected, the ALA cites "GLBT populations," an improbable capitulation to identity politics. The ALA has decided that a sexually fungible—also militant, well-funded, and politically savvy—fragment of the public needs more material about itself. In accord with a service model, selections must be supportive, even flattering. They should convey no hint of skepticism toward customized genders, and admit no reluctance to grant legal prerogatives to a mental health predicament.

The word *transgender* typed into the online search box of my town library catalog, part of the Westchester Library System, yields 177 titles of books and DVDs on the subject. The actual amount of circulating material, however, is significantly higher since many titles, particularly for young readers, exist in multiple copies throughout the county. All can be delivered to your home library.

All but one promote public assent to the assumptions of a movement derived from queer theory and built on a psychiatric condition. Ryan Anderson's lucid, fact-based "When Harry Became Sally" is the sole exception. (Only a single copy exists in the system.) Otherwise absent are any sober assessments of transgenderism's considerable complexities and consequences. Advocacy becomes a lens through which library items are chosen for purchase.

Let's Take a Tour of the Transgender Stacks

A brief tour of representative holdings conveys the tone of material and the politics it serves. Entries below are followed by comment from the library's or publisher's blurb. Pop culture is a prime disseminator of the gender identity theme. Consequently, the normalization of transgenderism, particularly as packaged for young people, arrives by way of entertainment, story-telling, and the touching memoir. Trans-friendly fiction for teens—and younger—is conspicuous. Take a glance.

- “The Danish Girl” (DVD). Greta and Einar’s marriage evolves as Einar becomes Lilli, a groundbreaking transgender. (67 copies)
- “3 Generations” (DVD). A PG-13 movie about a teenage boy who decides to transition from male to female. (17 copies)
- “If I Was Your Girl.” When she falls for Grant, Amanda finds herself yearning to share with him her previous life as Andrew. (19 copies; Juvenile Fiction)
- “Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family.” A family rises to the challenge when their son insists he is a girl. (25 copies; Biography /Young Adult nonfiction)
- “The Art of Being Normal.” Teenaged David wants to be a girl. For grades 9 and up. (12 copies; fiction)
- “Rethinking Normal: a Memoir in Transition.” A small boy realizes very young that a serious mistake had been made: he was a girl who had been born in the body of a boy. (11 copies; Young Adult)
- “Some Assembly Required: the Not-So-Secret Life of a Transgender Teen.” Described as a “winning teen memoir.” (16 copies)
- “Trans-bodies, Trans-Selves: a Resource for the Transgender Community.” Each chapter is written by “transgender or genderqueer” authors. (9 copies)
- “Growing Up Trans” (DVD). Through moving, personal stories, this installment of Frontline examines new medical interventions increasingly being offered at younger ages. (7 copies)
- “Dreadnought.” If superhero Danny “can’t sort through the confusion of coming out as transgender, master her powers, and stop Utopia in time, humanity faces extinction.” (6 copies; Young Adult)
- “Trans Like Me.” An activist/academic tells how “whether we live as he, she, or they, we can strive for authenticity in a world that forces limiting labels.” (5 copies)
- “10,000 Dresses.” A biological boy “longs to wear the beautiful dresses of her dreams but is ridiculed by her unsympathetic family which rejects her true perception of

herself." (7 copies; Juvenile Fiction)

Parenting advice cautions against interpreting a child's gender confusions as a signal of disorder. Books on raising a child suffering gender dysphoria encourage parents to champion a child's disassociation from biological reality. The tone of "Transgender Children and Youth: Cultivating Pride and Joy with Families in Transition" is typical. It offers "life-affirming practices for adults in the lives of trans kids" (16 copies).

"Raising Ryland: Our Story of Parenting a Transgender Child With No Strings Attached" offers an "emotional and moving" account of a parental journey alongside Ryland, their "exceptional child" (8 copies). Publicity for Ryland began at five when his parents posted videos of his transition on YouTube. In a culture of celebrity, ordinary parents can transcend their anonymity by cultivating a cross-gender identity in children even below the age of consent.

Celebrating and Celebritizing Dysphoria

Common to the literature of affirmation is a conviction that youngsters who declare themselves transgender are fascinating individuals, more like musical prodigies than unhappy or disturbed children. Titles tell much: "The Gender Creative Child: Pathways for Raising and Supporting Children Who Live Outside Gender Boxes" or "The Trans Generation: How Trans Kids (and Their Parents) Are Creating a Gender Revolution." Buoyant admiration is the keynote.

Children destined to be exceptional in less colorful ways—e.g. Downs Syndrome, spina bifida, Tay-Sachs—are disposable in utero. Yet the child who develops a disfigured imagination is storied, the deformity protected and hypothesized into something of value. Why?

One partial answer is that no glamour attaches to the sorrows and struggles of tending a disabled child. "The Transgender Child: A Handbook for Families and Professionals," written by two celebrants of gender chaos, suggests as much: "It is a very exciting time to be raising gender-variant and transgender children. . . . Congratulations. You are helping to change the world."

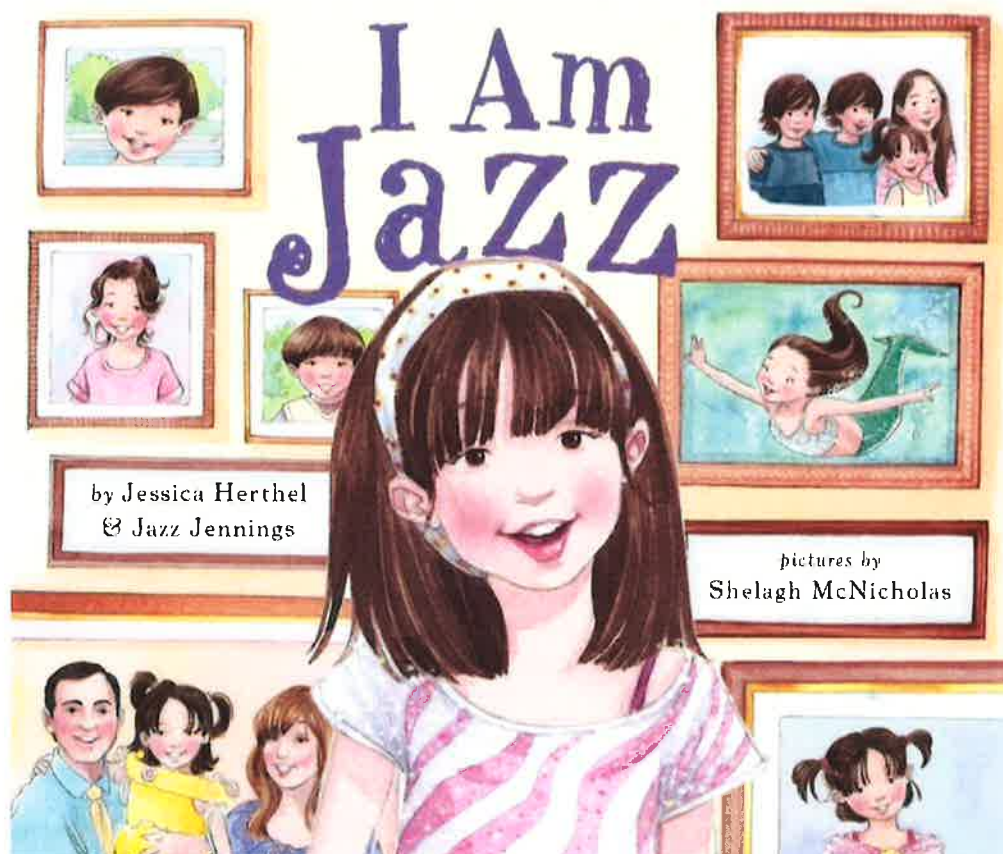
Predictably, celebrity tell-alls are on tap. Caitlyn Jenner's "The Secret of My Life" leads with 28 copies, six audio books, plus a large-print edition. Chastity Bono, daughter of

Sonny and Cher, describes her conversion in "Transition: The Story of How I Became a Man" (4 copies), also available on DVD as "Becoming Chaz."

Typical of the genre, the DVD presents Bono's changeover in terms that allege the existence of a true identity hidden within a false biological one: "Chaz was a male trapped in a female shell for as long as he can remember. . . . The film reveals the humanity and courage it takes to ultimately embrace his true self."

There is no substantial scientific evidence that there exists an innate, natural transgender self concealed by anatomy at birth. Nevertheless, every confession listed in the library's catalog adheres to the fable.

A popular confession aimed at the very young is by the pseudonymous Jazz Jennings, a TV personality since age six, and spokesman for trans kids far and wide. Born male, Jazz supposedly believed he had a girl's brain at age two. ("I have a girl brain in a boy's body. I was born this way.") Enabled by parents, he transitioned at five and grew to tell about it. "I Am Jazz" is the transgender movement's most popular children's book (15 copies in English; 4 in Spanish. Juvenile Literature). It is also the title of his **reality cable show** that premiered in the same month as Jenner's "I Am Cait."



The world's first transgender doll, modeled on Jazz, appeared last year, together with a second book, "Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen." The library trills: "Teen activist and trailblazer Jazz Jennings—named one of 'The 25 most influential teens' of the year by *Time*—shares her very public transgender journey, as she inspires people to accept the differences in others while they embrace their own truths" (27 copies).

But if one's own truth is imaginary, what then? Jazz's "girl brain" is as mythical as the two-headed amphivena of medieval bestiaries. Each of his neurons—some 100 billion of them—carries a Y chromosome, as does every other cell in his body. To promote denial of that fact among young readers is poisonous. But Jazz is a hot ticket. And popularity drives circulation at the library, no matter the cost to discernment.

All the Propaganda Your Kids Need, Right Here

Psychology is a social science, hardly an exact one. Yet its inexactitudes and shifting surmises are taken as verities and elevated to public policy positions. "Tomorrow Will be Different: Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality" (14 copies) chronicles the successes of transgenderism as a civil rights issue, promising more to come. And it will. "GLBTQ: the Survival Guide for Queer and Questioning Teens" is a "frank, sensitive book" written for young people includes among its readers those "who are ready to work for GLBTQ rights" (7 copies).

The mantle of science lends credibility to faulty arguments, contrived authority, and special interests. "Raising the Transgender Child: A Complete Guide for Parents, Families, and Friends of People Who are Transgender and Gender Expansive" (3 copies) was written by Dr. Michele Angello, "a leading therapist and go-to expert in the field of transgender parenting, and Ali Bowman, bestselling writer and parent advocate." But Dr. Angello is not a physician. Variousy described as a "pre-licensed" professional with a PhD, a clinical sexologist, and a gender specialist, she calls herself "a queer woman" with transgender friends.

A true self hidden within appearances and waiting to be released is a familiar trope in fairy tales. Chaz, Jazz, Caitlyn, and growing numbers of troubled others are real-life counterparts to Hans Christian Andersen's legendary creations: the mermaid who longed to become human; the prince imprisoned in the body of a wild swan; the discontented fir tree pining for something brilliant to happen to it.

Transgender identity is the degraded enchantment of a disintegrating civilization. The medieval changeling legend—a superstition used to explain baffling disabilities and disorders—has been reborn for a postmodern, post-truth age.



The marvelous medieval amphivena.

Today's reincarnation, regrettably, is enshrined in public policy and militantly enforced. Like the toilers in "Gulliver's Travels" who try to turn cucumbers into sunbeams, libraries bend to the "science" of prophets of gender who assert that gender—a linguistic concept misapplied to human physiology—has nothing to do with the design of our natural anatomy. In its rage against normalcy, the madness of a few would make madmen of all of us.

*Maureen Mullarkey is an artist who writes on art and culture. She keeps the weblog **Studio Matters**. Follow her on Twitter, @mmletters.*

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David Buchwald
Assembly District 93



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Assemblyman Buchwald & Senator Mayer Announce Grants to Improve Harrison and North Castle Libraries

August 8, 2018

State Assemblyman David Buchwald and Senator Shelley Mayer announced that New York State library construction grants are being awarded for building improvements that will support innovative new programs at libraries in the Towns of Harrison and North Castle.

The North Castle Public Library in Armonk will receive over \$135,000 to create new and expanded areas for children and adults while also creating space for an art gallery.

The Harrison Public Library will receive nearly \$37,000 to support the construction of an outdoor reading and children's activities space.

"These grants support library programs that equip children and young adults with lifelong learning and literacy skills," said **Assemblyman David Buchwald (D-Westchester)**. "I'm pleased our libraries continue to develop new facilities and programs that enrich our communities."

Since Assemblyman Buchwald's election to the State Assembly, libraries in the 93rd Assembly district have received over \$1M for building renovations and upgrades.

"I am thrilled that we were able to obtain these additional funds for the Harrison Public Library and the North Castle Public Library allowing them to expand the critical services they provide for the community," said **State Senator Shelley Mayer (D-Westchester)**. "Before my election to the Assembly, I served as a Trustee on the Board of the Yonkers Public Library. Public libraries are centerpieces of our communities in Westchester and throughout the state providing programming for children, seniors, and families. I will continue to advocate for more funding and resources for our libraries."

"The North Castle Public Library is thrilled to receive this library construction grant which enables us to renovate spaces dedicated to support our library's programs for children, young adults and adults," said **North Castle Public Library Board President Sean Ryan**. "The new adult space will also serve as an art gallery and has been dedicated to the Friends of the North Castle Public Library. We appreciate the support of David Buchwald and Shelley Mayer in making this grant possible and for their hard work in growing the Library Construction Grant Program. Their support allows libraries to transform to meet current and future needs of our patrons."

LoAn Austin, President of the Harrison Public Library Board of Trustees said, "This grant will make possible the creation of a new outdoor Reading Garden, which will invite readers and learners of all ages to read, reflect, and gather in a lovely natural setting. The planned space will include an outdoor classroom area, reading benches, picnic tables, sensory area, and walking path. Diverse plantings will provide beauty, shade, and educational opportunities. We thank New York State Assemblyman David Buchwald and State Senator Shelley Mayer for their generous support of the Harrison Public Library and the community we serve."

These construction grants are from \$24 million in capital funds for public library construction and broadband infrastructure projects provided in the 2017-2018 state budget.

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Abinanti Announces \$160K in State Grants to Local Libraries

ASSEMBLYMAN TOM ABINANTI · TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2018

TARRYTOWN- New York State Assemblyman Tom Abinanti (D-Greenburgh/Mt. Pleasant) announced that the New York State Library and New York State Education Department has awarded construction grants to three public libraries in his 92nd Assembly District.

The grants, which are supported by the \$24 million capital fund appropriation in the 2017 state budget for the construction and renovation of public libraries and public library systems in New York State, are being awarded to the Greenburgh, Warner (Tarrytown/Sleepy Hollow), and Hastings-On-Hudson public libraries.

“I am pleased that these libraries were recognized and selected to receive these much-needed grants,” Abinanti said. “Local libraries are critical to our communities in so many ways and I will continue to be an advocate for more state investments to the library system.”

The **Greenburgh Public Library** will receive \$141,152 to construct an enclosed extension to their lobby for an “eating room”/café with tables for dining- to accommodate daytime patrons who eat their lunch in the library. The room will have ADA compliant (handicap accessible) electronic sliding doors to provide patron access to the adjacent unused patio.

The **Warner Public Library** will receive \$12,667 to replace its old and warped wooden step at the library entrance with a new limestone front step engraved with the words “truth” and “harmony”.

The **Hastings-on-Hudson Public Library** will receive \$8,000 to replace all of its existing fluorescent lighting with energy efficient, long lasting LED lighting.

Abinanti is the former Chair of the Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology.

“Not only do libraries serve as a place for learning, they are the center of our communities – a place for children and adults to meet, a place for those without internet to find it and even a place of refuge in an emergency,” said the Westchester Assemblyman.



This outdoor space will soon become an enclosed “eating room” / café for Greenburgh Public Library thanks to a \$143K grant from the State of New York and funding from private donors.



Warner Library's new limestone front step.

###

Happenings Around the County

Oscar Davis, Jr. Takes Oath of Office at Mount Vernon Public Library

MOUNT VERNON, NY -- A filled Community Room greeted the Mount Vernon Public Library's Board of Trustees as they held their annual re-organizational meeting on July 18, 2018. In addition to the agenda which included the swearing in of new trustees and the election of officers for the 2018-2019 year, the Board presented awards and congratulatory remarks to several individuals.

As a result of the election held this past May, three trustees – Oscar Davis Jr., Judy Williams- Davis (no relation) and Malcolm I. Clark were sworn in by Mount Vernon City Court Judge Nichelle Johnson.

Following the swearing in, the Board held election of officers for the coming year.

Trustee Oscar Davis Jr. was re-elected to a third term as president of the Board; Trustee Cathlin Gleason-Boncardo is vice president, and Trustee Judy Williams-Davis is secretary.

Trustee Oscar Davis Jr., a Mount Vernon native who was first elected in 2014 by an overwhelming majority, has previously served as the Board president for two terms. Currently employed by the Mount Vernon City School District, he is the Chief Engineer in the Technology Department. During his previous tenure, he built a relationship with ArtsWestchester and spearheaded the new artwork in front of the library's Second Avenue entrance, worked with the US Postal Service to facilitate passport processing at the library, instituted new technology to help change the way the library does business, improved the physical appearance of the library facility and increased li-



OSCAR DAVIS, JR.

brary card enrollment by partnering with the Mount Vernon City School District. Because of his efforts, the Mount Vernon Public Library has once again been named the Central Library of Westchester County by the Westchester Library System.

Trustee Judy Williams-Davis has participated in community service work in the City of Mount Vernon for more than thirty years. She has worked with youth, seniors and business owners. In a how-to program, "How to Do Business with the City", small business owners, minority and disadvantaged individuals learned the process of being qualified to receive government

contracts. Trustee Williams-Davis has also worked diligently in Mount Vernon city government spearheading the Arts on Third Festival, a legendary happening for many years. She is a trustee at Wartburg, president of Mount Vernon Arts & Culture Inc. and an adjunct professor.

Trustee Malcolm I. Clark, a Mount Vernon native, was raised in Levister Towers. He attended Mount Vernon schools and in his senior year started a career in government working for County Legislator Lyndon Williams. After graduating from John Jay College with a bachelor's degree in political science, Trustee Clark joined former Federal Re-

serve Chairman Paul Volcker at the Volcker Alliance. He has also served under former City Comptroller Maureen Walker in the Department of Finance. In 2016, Trustee Clark joined the current city administration where he led several key initiatives. In his spare time, Clark helps organize community events, works on the My Brother's Keep Initiative and volunteers on clean-up projects.

Special homage was paid to those former trustees who were the first elected trustees of the Mount Vernon Public Library. A presentation was made to Oscar Davis Jr., Brian Johnson, Esq. and Rev. Dr. Darren Morton thanking them for their service. A posthumous award was presented to the mother of a former trustee, the late Linda Bryant.

An evening of accolades and presentations continued as Ms. Joanne Mongelli, Deputy Director, Program and Policy ArtsWestchester was called to the podium. Ms. Mongelli was applauded for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Mount Vernon Public Library and her guidance and foresight in making dreams come true. The wonderful art installation outside the Second Avenue side of the library is but one of the results of her efforts on the library's behalf.

Certificates of achievement were presented to Mount Vernon Public Library staff who are 2018 graduates from high school or college. Recipients included: Kojo Gordor - SUNY Purchase, Doris Hackett - Clarion University, Jade Hackett - SUNY Purchase, Ja-zhyoun Laing - Lehman College, Bre'Anna McQueen - Mount Vernon High School, Dezhau Morgan - Thornton High School and Justin Scott - Mount Vernon High School.

SAVE THE DATE!!! Friday, October 12, 2018
90th Anniversary of the Westchester County Press

Local News

TIME CAPSULES AT THE LIBRARY



Brianna Torres, 11, decorates her personal time capsule. As part of the library's 125th anniversary year, children and adults were invited to make time capsules to take home with them. In August, the library will create a community time capsule that will be buried for future generations.

PHOTOS BY SEFH HARRISON/THE JOURNAL NEWS



Ayun Roh, 6, colors in a tracing of her hand Saturday during a workshop to create personal time capsules at the Ossining Public Library. Participants were filling their time capsules with tracings of their hands, letters and with things such as lists of current prices of food.

Suit: Walmart punished pregnant workers

Maeghan M. McDermott
Rochester Democrat and Chronicle
USA TODAY NETWORK

Your baby or your job?
That's the choice two Orleans County women allege they faced back in 2012 when they were

during any rolling six-month period were at risk of being fired, according to the court documents.

Although Klipp and fiancé Jakob Kenward hadn't been trying, it was a happy surprise when they learned she was pregnant in late December 2016.

"It was scary because it wasn't planned, but we were

quest a health care provider's note to verify the existence of the pregnancy-related condition.

Examples of reasonable accommodations include: bathroom, food or drink breaks, allowing an employee to carry a water bottle, dress code flexibility, limits on lifting requirements, transfer to a less-strenuous shift.

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From behind the walls: Inmates' art goes on display in Ossining

Michael P. McKinney, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 6:30 p.m. ET July 12, 2018



(Photo: Submitted by Rehabilitation Through the Arts)

OSSINING - More than 60 artworks by inmates from five prisons, including the Sing Sing and Bedford Hills correctional facilities, are on display at Ossining Public Library's gallery this month.

"Images from Behind Prison Walls" features works by men and women from medium- and maximum-security prisons.

A public reception, with artists who have served prison time, will be held in the library's gallery on Saturday, from 3 to 5 p.m., with refreshments.



"Magical Garden," by Hector Rodriguez. (Photo: Submitted by Rehabilitation Through the Arts)

Rehabilitation Through The Arts, which uses theater, dance, visual art, creative writing, and music in efforts to rehabilitate prisoners, serves more than 200 inmates.

"The artwork is amazing, from the simple to the sublime," said Katherine Vockins, the group's founder.

Studies have shown that art curriculums can have a positive effect on prisoners. The national rate of those who've served time returning to prison is more than 50 percent, according to the nonprofit, which says that for those who participate in its curriculum, recidivism is less than 7 percent.



"All Color Matter #1," by George Tucker. (Photo: Submitted by Rehabilitation for the Arts)

SING SING: Prison museum targets 2025 opening. (<https://www.lohud.com/get-access/?return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lohud.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwestchester%2Fossining%2F2017%2F12%2F01%2Fsing-sing-prison-museum%2F904497001%2F>)

return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lohud.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwestchester%2Fossining%2F2017%2F12%2F01%2Fsing-sing-prison-museum%2F904497001%2F)

OSSINING: Village may provide gender-neutral bathrooms at municipal buildings. (<https://www.lohud.com/get-access/?return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lohud.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwestchester%2Fossining%2F2018%2F07%2F11%2Fossining-may-offer-gender-neutral-bathrooms-municipal-buildings%2F771917002%2F>)

return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lohud.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwestchester%2Fossining%2F2018%2F07%2F11%2Fossining-may-offer-gender-neutral-bathrooms-municipal-buildings%2F771917002%2F)

VESSELS: Will historic sailboats and other craft one day visit Ossining? (<https://www.lohud.com/get-access/?return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lohud.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwestchester%2Fossining%2F2018%2F04%2F18%2Fhistoric-sailing-vessels-and-other-boats-able-visit-ossining%2F527456002%2F>)

return=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.lohud.com%2Fstory%2Fnews%2Flocal%2Fwestchester%2Fossining%2F2018%2F04%2F18%2Fhistoric-sailing-vessels-and-other-boats-able-visit-ossining%2F527456002%2F)

Jeffrey Clemente, who served seven years at Sing Sing, said in the news release: "When I got involved with RTA it expanded my imaginative mind about art and took me to another creative space. It was like I was able to express myself in this creative environment without any judgment...art is really the platform that allowed me to express myself."

Fellow artist Amaury Bonilla, who served 10 years at Sing Sing, also offered his perspective in the release: "Society only looks at people convicted of a crime as criminals and that's all they know, when it's not reality — prisoners are still human beings who have different talents and skills, and through this exhibit, visitors will gain awareness that we're not just a number; we're human beings able to express ourselves in numerous ways,"

Rehabilitation Through the Arts last did a public exhibition of prisoners' art in 2015 — the works were solely by Sing Sing inmates — as part of Ossining's bicentennial commemorations.

Vockins said proceeds from art that is sold will be used to purchase materials and supplies for the prison-arts program.

The gallery is open during the library's hours: until 9 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; until 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday; and until 5 p.m. on Saturday.

Read or Share this story: <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/ossining/2018/07/12/behind-walls-inmates-art-goes-display-ossining/778103002/>

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7 great things to do, July-September: Kansas band to perform; Chris Isaak sings, more

Michelle Almonte, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 1:20 p.m. ET July 12, 2018



(Photo: Provided)

Kansas stops by Tarrytown

We can't promise you'll be able to get those haunting lyrics from "Dust in the Wind" out of your head, but we can guarantee you'll have a rockin' good time when Kansas stops by Tarrytown Music Hall on Aug. 17. The band will perform fan favorites from the radio including songs heard on Don Kirshner's Rock Concert, and Classic MTV since 1974. Expect to hear some classic B-sides, and material off the band's latest studio album, "The Prelude Implicit," as well. \$59-\$105. Tarrytown Music Hall, 13 Main St., tarrytownmusichall.org

(<http://tarrytownmusichall.org/>)

'Andy Warhol: Subject and Seriality'

One of the most recognizable pop artists of the last decades is the subject of Neuberger Museum of Arts' latest exhibit, "Andy Warhol: Subject and Seriality." The iconic artist's name is synonymous with the pop culture art movement with his instantly recognizable works including soup cans, Marilyn Monroe and Coke bottle art. The exhibit, which opens July 22, examines the artist's method of repeating images of his subjects in various ways across diverse media. This is the last of a collaborative project known as "Warhol x 5" in which five museums (the University Art Museum, University at Albany, SUNY, the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, SUNY New Paltz, the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College), each examined unique aspects of the artist's iconic approach to his subject matter. Works will be on view through Dec. 23. 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, www.neuberger.org (<https://www.neuberger.org/>).

Lighted Boat Parade

Head to New Rochelle Harbor for a parade like no other. Boats from marinas near and far, decked out with string lights galore (think Christmas light displays, only on the water), will light up the night as they parade through the city's harbor from Hudson Harbor to Neptune Park. Take photos or just enjoy the sights. 8:30-10 p.m. Aug. 4. Rain date: Aug. 5. Hudson Park and Beach.

Buy Photo



The annual Lighted Boat Parade is back in New Rochelle on Aug. 4 (Photo: Rich Unda for the Journal News)

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

Theater lovers don't need to travel to NYC for Shakespeare in the Park. Stay local and enjoy professional performances during the Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival. This year's productions include: "Richard II," "The Taming of the Shrew," "The Heart of Robin Hood," "The Sea-Maid's Music," and "Rip Van Winkle." The shows are the festival's main attraction, but there are plenty of other activities taking place (as part of the festival) on Boscobel's majestic grounds including family-friendly workshops, themed events, post-show discussions, trivia nights, and parties including the closing lawn party which ends this season's performances on Aug. 25. For a complete lineup of plays, including times, dates, locations and tickets visit hvshakespeare.org (<http://hvshakespeare.org>).



Hudson Valley Shakespeare returns to Boscobel starting June 7. (Photo: Photograph © T Charles Erickson)

Chris Isaak to appear at Paramount

If you're one of Chris Isaak's many fans, then Paramount Hudson Valley is the place to be Sept. 1. The two-time Grammy winner returns to Westchester for a one-night only performance of new material from his latest album, 'First Comes the Night.' Tickets (including special VIP packages) , are on sale now but will sell out fast. General ticket \$50-\$95. 1008 Brown St., Peekskill, paramounthudsonvalley.com (<http://paramounthudsonvalley.com/>)



Chris Isaak performs at Paramount Hudson Valley on Sept. 1 (Photo: Submitted)

Sunset Yoga in the Parks

If you've always wanted to learn the lotus pose, here's your chance. De-stress and get fit for free during Sunset Yoga in the Parks. The summer series of yoga classes, held in Westchester County parks, is open to all levels, including beginners. Sessions are taught by professional instructors; just bring a mat or towel. Classes held 6:45 p.m. July 18 and Aug. 15 at Playland Beach, 1 Playland Parkway, Rye; and 5:45 p.m. Sept. 5 at Kensico Dam Plaza, 1 Bronx River Parkway, Valhalla. To register and for more information, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-sunset-yoga-in-the-park-kensico-523-tickets-44550939058> (<http://https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-sunset-yoga-in-the-park-kensico-523-tickets-44550939058>)

Best of Hudson Valley at exposition

This annual expo has a world's fair feel but on a smaller, community-centered scale. At this fair you'll find the best the Hudson Valley has to offer and meet representatives from area businesses. Got kids? Bring them, there will be plenty of arts, crafts, games and entertainment to keep them busy. Aug. 4. Suggested donation: \$10 for ages 18 and older. Riverfront Green Park, Peekskill. www.hvexposition.com (<http://www.hvexposition.com/>).

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Drag Queen Story Hour brings message of acceptance and diversity to Westchester

Julie Moran Alterio, For The Journal News

Published 10:39 a.m. ET July 13, 2018 | Updated 11:50 a.m. ET July 13, 2018



(Photo: Submitted photo)

LEWISBORO — The leafy hamlet of South Salem will join San Francisco and Brooklyn as a trendsetting community Saturday morning as the first Drag Queen Story Hour in Westchester County comes to [Lewisboro Library](http://www.lewisborolibrary.org/children.htm) (<http://www.lewisborolibrary.org/children.htm>).

Just as they do three times a week, preschool and elementary age children will gather at the library to hear a picture book read aloud, move their bodies, sing a song and create a craft. But this time, the program will be led by Yonkers resident Angel Velasquez, who performs in drag as [Angel Elektra](https://www.instagram.com/angel_elektra/?hl=en) (https://www.instagram.com/angel_elektra/?hl=en).

And while there have been a few complaints about the appropriateness, the response for the event has been so positive that the story hour quickly reached capacity.

"It's not that removed from a regular story hour, just extra fabulous," said children's librarian Anna Lillian Moser. "I was joking that it's like story time, but with better eye makeup."

The event's goal is to encourage the children to accept people different from themselves.

"I believe strongly in inclusion, and I believe strongly in diversity, and that includes in gender and the gender spectrum," Moser said. "Say you have a child who is going through some kind of gender identity issue. That could be a very lonely feeling. For a child who doesn't feel differently, they are being exposed to this so that when they go out in the great wide world, they are open minded and respectful and kind."

[LONELINESS: Why Gen Z are the loneliest people and how to help](#) ([/story/news/health/2018/07/12/generation-z-loneliest-generation-reasons-help/733715002/](#))

[BACK TO SCHOOL: How parents can stay informed: A Guide](#) ([/story/news/education/2018/07/12/summer-series-back-school/775629002/](#))

[ZOLTAR REVISITED: 30th anniversary of the movie 'Big'](#) ([/story/news/local/westchester/2018/07/13/movie-big-and-its-connection-playland-turns-30/769459002/](#))



Bella da Ball reads to children and parents at the Palm Springs Library's second Drag Queen Story Hour on Wednesday, June 6, 2018. (Photo: Richard Lui/The Desert Sun)

[Drag Queen Story Hour](https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/) (<https://www.dragqueenstoryhour.org/>) was created in San Francisco in 2015 by author Michelle Tea and the literary arts nonprofit Radar Productions. Rachel Aimee, director of the New York chapter, brought the first East Coast event to Greenlight Bookstore in Brooklyn in August 2016. That event drew librarians from the Brooklyn Public Library, who have mentored the organization, training drag queens in the art of reading stories to young children and [creating book lists](https://borrow.bklynlibrary.org/booklist/vjXMD) (<https://borrow.bklynlibrary.org/booklist/vjXMD>) that explore gender diversity and difference geared to preschoolers and [school-age kids](https://borrow.bklynlibrary.org/booklist/vW41z) (<https://borrow.bklynlibrary.org/booklist/vW41z>).

Aimee said that from the beginning, there has been huge demand. The nonprofit hosts two to three events a week in the New York area with about 15 drag queens. There are also events at cities around the country.

"Kids love to dress up and create made-up characters and explore different gender roles," Aimee said. "That's why the idea of drag queens and kids coming together makes sense."

This month marks Velasquez's one-year anniversary working with the nonprofit group, an experience he said has been personally rewarding.

"When I was growing up, I had no role models. I had nothing to look up to when I was questioning my sexuality," he said. "Drag Queen Story Hour is about helping the kids accept the differences in the world, and it's an opportunity for me to be accepted by them."

The 37-year-old has a day job at West Village soup restaurant and caterer Good Stock and also performs a more traditional drag show called "Dining with Divas" every Tuesday at Yonkers restaurant Guapo Cocina Mexicana.

This Saturday, as Angel Elektra — a persona inspired by love for the celebrity Carmen Electra — Velasquez will sport a handmade costume, oversized wig and colorful makeup to greet the children.

"I get a great reaction. A lot of them just stare in awe since I wear big hair and big lashes," Velasquez said.

Among the books Angel Elektra plans to read is "[Neither](https://www.lbyr.com/titles/airlie-anderson/neither/9780316547680/)" (<https://www.lbyr.com/titles/airlie-anderson/neither/9780316547680/>) by Airlie Anderson, which tells the story of a green bird-bunny hybrid born in a land where everyone else is either a blue bunny or a yellow bird.

"I'm so excited to bring this to Westchester," Velasquez said. "When Rachel reached out to me and said there is someone who wants to do Drag Queen Story Hour in Westchester, I said: 'Put me on it.' It's home."

The Lewisboro event came after a local parent messaged the library via Facebook to suggest the program and offered to cover the \$250 fee. "She and a group of moms said they would pay for it, so that was an added bonus," Moser said. "No taxpayer money was used for this."

South Salem resident Jennifer Bayley said she's excited to attend with her almost 6-year-old daughter and 4-year-old son.

"The idea of bringing a message of inclusion paired with literacy is terrific," Bayley said. "My kids are in that sweet spot where they are very curious. What I hope they get out of it is a sense that you can be different, and it's still celebrated."

Lewisboro resident Tina Le is hoping Angel Elektra will provide a role model for her 9-year-old, who is gender nonconforming and uses the pronoun "they."

"Gender stereotypes would say my child should not wear dresses," Le said. "They are very excited. We've been telling all of our friends about it. I think it's really a great program where kids are able to see people who defy gender restrictions, and it can open a dialogue about seeing past gender stereotypes."



Kennedy Gerber, 4, enjoys story time at Drag Queen Story Hour at the Palm Springs Library hosted by Bella da Ball on Wednesday, June 6, 2018. (Photo: Richard Lui/The Desert Sun)

Drag queens have become more prominent in American culture in recent years. The VH1 TV show "[RuPaul's Drag Race](http://www.vh1.com/shows/rupauls-drag-race)," (<http://www.vh1.com/shows/rupauls-drag-race>) on the heels of its season 10 finale, just this week was nominated for 12 Emmy Awards, including outstanding host for a reality program for drag queen RuPaul.

Even so, reaction has been mixed in Lewisboro, with some residents posting on local Facebook groups to question why the small town is taking a page from big cities such as San Francisco.

Moser said that while she's heard about the Facebook posts, and had one phone call with a parent who expressed disapproval, the community overall seems welcoming. "We had to stop taking registrations because it's so full. We have 35 kids signed up for this," Moser said. "I've closed events before, but never a story time."

Anne Wetzel, a stay-at-home mom who has lived in Lewisboro since she was a teen and is raising her family in the town, said the parents in her cohort are looking forward to Drag Queen Story Hour. She plans to bring her three boys, ages 4, 2 and 7 months.

"The younger families seem to be more in support of it," Wetzel said. "It's a testament to our acceptance level nowadays. People are able to be open and honest about their identity. I grew up in the '90s, and I'm 31 years old, and I'm certainly accepting of it. This is our normal."

Read or Share this story: <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/2018/07/13/drag-queen-story-hour-lewisboro-library/782074002/>



New Rochelle: Pop-up libraries coming to the city

Nicholas Tantillo, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 10:19 a.m. ET Aug. 2, 2018



(Photo: Nicholas Tantillo)

NEW ROCHELLE - Soon, birdhouse-like kiosks filled with books and fitted with plexiglass doors and quaint metal roofs will be installed at the city's Metro-North train station and public parks.

It's a project by the New Rochelle Council on the Arts, My Brother's Keeper (MBK) and the public library to inject more art into the city, while getting books into residents' hands.

When complete, seven pop-up libraries designed by local artists will be installed across the city, the city said in a press release. Barbara Davis, the city's historian, will work with the Department of Parks and Recreation to pick locations.

Theresa Kump Leghorn, the art council's president, said a goal of the project is to support reading.

GREENBURGH: Town gets donated ofo bikes ([/story/news/local/westchester/greenburgh/2018/08/01/greenburgh-receives-more-than-100-donated-ofo-bike-share-bikes/878191002/](https://story/news/local/westchester/greenburgh/2018/08/01/greenburgh-receives-more-than-100-donated-ofo-bike-share-bikes/878191002/))

JAIL: Litigious Westchester inmate now suing Gatorade ([/story/news/local/westchester/2018/08/01/litigious-inmate-sues-gatorade/875577002/](https://story/news/local/westchester/2018/08/01/litigious-inmate-sues-gatorade/875577002/))

"I hope that they will make people excited about books — talking about books and sharing books," she said.

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Colleen Gardephe, MBK's managing director, said she hopes the project will boost local families' access to books and encourage parents to read with their kids.

The kiosks will be initially stocked with books from the Council on the Arts and MBK. Organizers would like to see the project become "self-perpetuating," Kump Leghorn said, with residents trading the pop-up libraries' books with their own.

In July, the groups behind the project asked Westchester artists to submit designs for the little libraries. One criteria is the design's relevance to reading themes.

A panel of members from the groups will choose six artists, who will receive a "Little Free Library" (<https://littlefreelibrary.org/>) kit, which includes an unfinished, wooden kiosk. Artists will also receive a \$300 stipend to cover the costs of materials.

Three-dimensional pop artist [Charles Fazzino](https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/new-rochelle/2018/07/20/new-rochelle-unveils-new-sculptures/796972002/) (<https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/new-rochelle/2018/07/20/new-rochelle-unveils-new-sculptures/796972002/>) will design the train station's kiosk.

Funding for the project comes from a \$2,000 grant from ArtsWestchester, \$2,000 from the city's MBK chapter and \$1,000 from the city's Council on the Arts.

Deadline for artist submissions is Aug. 3.

Gardephe said she expects the kiosks to be installed by September.

On Wednesday, Aline Halle, 35, of New Rochelle was glancing at a shelf of DVDs in the New Rochelle Public Library. A mother of two young kids, Halle said she is in the library at least twice a week for children programs.

"My children love to come to the library," she said. Halle said she thinks the project will do well in the city.

"Kids love to read. Even with all the technology, they still love to read," she said.

The pop-ups are just one of several initiatives by MBK to support reading.

In 2016, they placed books for children in over 60 New Rochelle barbershops and nail salons. A year later, they gave 250 books to each of the city's schools and another 2,500 to partners, such as the library, YMCA and the Hugh Doyle Senior Center.

The pop-up libraries help in three MBK milestones, such as preparing children for school, helping children read at their grade level by the third grade and helping them graduate high school on time.

Little Free Library is a nonprofit that aims to foster a love of reading and build community.

Read or Share this story: <https://www.lohud.com/story/news/local/westchester/new-rochelle/2018/08/02/new-rochelle-popup-libraries/873704002/>



Kids

Soccer Program

Armonk Indoor Sports Center

Armonk; www.armonkindoor.com

While schlepping all over the tristate area with a travel team is bound to happen, your kids can also get great soccer experience and instruction close to home at this two-domed indoor facility. The 46,000 sq. ft. space, open from September through May, offers soccer classes, clinics, team practices, leagues, and tournaments (tennis, lacrosse, football, golf, baseball, and field hockey, too) for all ages and skill levels.

Kids' Room Upgrade

String Lights at The Fairy Lights Factory

www.fairylightsfactory.com

The name says it all: These whimsical string lights transform any space, whether it's a bedroom or a reading nook, into something magical. Parents love that the little lanterns, which come in every color, are super chic, inspired by the ones "mompreneur" Carine Le Garrec discovered in Thailand and Paris.

Young Naturalist Program

Animal Guardian Program at Westmoreland Sanctuary

Mount Kisco
www.westmorelandsanctuary.org

Give your junior animal lovers an educational experience that allows them to help care for the sanctuary's animals. Three levels of guardianship are available (\$25 for 3 months; \$50 for 6 months; \$100 for one year), offering kids (and people of all ages) private sessions with the animal of their choice — perhaps a snake named Ms. Piggy or Buster the Bunny — and instruction from a Westmoreland naturalist.



Dance Class

Beyond Ballroom at Dance Cavise Studios

Mamaroneck; www.dancecavise.com

Want your children to master dances like the merengue, cha-cha, tango, and fox trot while learning the finer points of proper social behavior? That's precisely the aim at Beyond Ballroom, which studio owner Joseph Anthony Cavise launched in 2006. The four-week program is taught at Cavise's Mamaroneck studio and recently became part of the curriculum at five elementary schools in White Plains.

Almost Empty-Nester Website

Grown and Flown

www.growndandflown.com

Everything from college-app angst to dating drama is discussed within this fresh, smart, and supportive community of parents and experts. The brainchild of Westchester moms Mary Dell Harrington and Lisa (Endlich) Heffernan, two of *People* mag's 2017 "25 Women Changing the World," it's become the go-to source for "not yet flown" parenting.

Shopping Break with Kids

PLAY at The Westchester

White Plains
www.simon.com/mall/the-westchester

Shopping with kids isn't always the most,

shall we say, enjoyable experience. That's why PLAY, the play space at The Westchester, is great: Parents get a break (there are phone chargers and comfy chairs), while kids get to try all the STEAM-inspired activities — from magnetic blocks to interactive-art stations.

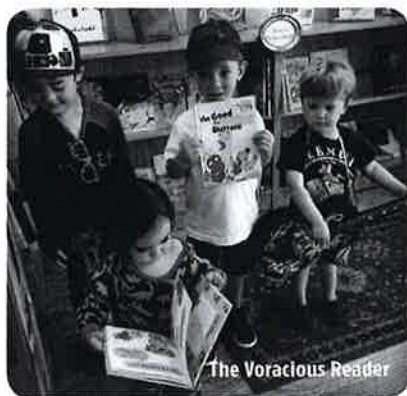
Kids Haircuts

Magic Cuts for Kids

New Rochelle

Squirring will be kept to a minimum at this New Rochelle salon, thanks to the movies, video games, toys, and other kid-friendly distractions (like car-shaped chairs and post-cut lollipops). Stylists do haircuts, blow dries, and special-occasion-styles for kids of all ages and hair types.

Readers' Picks: Kids



After-School Program

The Play Group Theatre
White Plains; www.playgroup.org

Baby Clothes

Lil Chameleon
Tuckahoe; www.lilchameleon.com

Baby Gifts

hip-kid
Chappaqua
www.hip-kid.com

Bicycle Shop

Danny's Cycles
Scarsdale (plus 5 other county locations); www.dannyscycles.com

Bookstore

The Voracious Reader
Larchmont
www.thevoraciousreader.com

Boys' Clothes

Lil Chameleon
Tuckahoe
www.lilchameleon.com

Children's Library
Ossining Public Library
www.ossininglibrary.org

Children's Theater
Theater O
Ossining; www.theatero.org

Dance School

Penny Lane
Dance Academy
Baldwin Place
www.pennylanedance.com

Dining With Kids

City Limits Diner
White Plains
www.citylimitsdiner.com

Girls' Clothes

Lil Chameleon
Tuckahoe; www.lilchameleon.com

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Scarsdale: Library overhaul, closure and where to get services

Nicholas Tantillo, Rockland/Westchester Journal News Published 6:30 p.m. ET June 26, 2018

SCARSDALE - Officials have moved library services offsite while the village's library is closed for renovations that will modernize the aging building and make it more accessible to people with disabilities.

Library director Beth Bermel said the \$18 million project will add roughly 7,000-square-feet of space to the 31,000-square-foot building, located at 54 Olmsted Road. Plans also call for changes to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

(Photo: Dattner Architects)

"We're excited to transform the library into one that is accessible," Bermel said, adding that plans include updated technology and group meeting spaces.

RANKED: Best schools districts in Westchester County ([/story/news/education/2018/06/25/niche-school-list-westchester-district-ranks/731135002/](http://story/news/education/2018/06/25/niche-school-list-westchester-district-ranks/731135002/))

POLITICS: 3 Democrats look to topple Eliot Engel ([/story/news/politics/elections/2018/06/24/congressional-primary-3-democrats-look-topple-eliot-engel/715388002/](http://story/news/politics/elections/2018/06/24/congressional-primary-3-democrats-look-topple-eliot-engel/715388002/))

Renovations could take as long as two years to complete, the village said.

A temporary space on the second floor of the Library Loft at Supply Field, 244 Heathcote Road, will open to carry on limited library services. Construction of the loft began in October and was partially funded by a \$500,000 reimbursement grant from the state.

A fundraising campaign for the project has raised more than \$7 million, according to the village. The village will contribute \$9.9 million of public funds.

Just over a mile away from the library, the temporary space at 244 Heathcote Road will open July 5 and offer reference and children's services, computers, new books, magazines and newspapers.

The library's microfilm and indexes will be stored at the Greenburgh Library, at 300 Tarrytown Road in Elmsford, where patrons will have access to them.

Talks to overhaul the village's stone library began in 2010. Now, plans call for nearly doubling the children's space, adding two programs rooms, four meeting rooms, a technology instruction room and a larger entrance with a cafe area.

With few updates to the building since the 1970s, the library is dated and in need of repair, Library Board of Trustees President Terri Simon told The Journal News/lohud in 2016. The building's restrooms do not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and an elevator is needed.

Bermel said an elevator will be constructed to carry patrons from the lower level to the second floor. The village is expected to award a construction contract on Tuesday. Construction is expected to begin in late July.

The library closed last week but books may be returned to the Olmsted Road location until July 4. Books may also be returned to any Westchester County public libraries.

7/18/2018

Scarsdale: Library overhaul, closure and where to get services

The temporary space will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through the summer and closed on Sundays.

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