TO: MCLS Board of Trustees  
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director  
DATE: March 18, 2019  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report – March 2019  

Action Items

Breach Notification Policy
MCLS administration, at the direction of Library Automation and Finance, has undertaken a review of risk factors and continuity needs in the areas of IT network and infrastructure. Much of the planning for local business continuity is the responsibility of individual member libraries; however, areas of network and service (internet, MCLS library catalog) fall under MCLS administrative management. In October 2018, the MCLS provided a primer to member library directors to discuss areas of responsibility and IT vulnerability. The presentation to member directors is attached. One resulting recommendation during this risk assessment review is the establishment of a breach notification policy for the system. This policy is to provide guidance for identification, notification, and recovery from an IT security incident. This policy was reviewed by the Monroe County Law Department and endorsed by the MCLS Director’s Council in February. Additional risk assessments and long-term planning in the areas of technology equipment, services, and staff training are ongoing.

Board action requested: Approval of the MCLS Breach Notification Policy.

Report Items
MCLS Director Patricia Uttaro reporting

Recommended Reading/Viewing

Upcoming Events
Friday, March 29 – Kick Colon Cancer Press Conference, 11:00 am in the BLB Atrium
Friday, April 5 – Stonewall: 50 Years Out Opening Reception, 6:00 – 9:00 pm in Hacker Hall

Collaboration
We are happy to share the news that Tonia Burton has been selected as a 2019 Library Journal Mover & Shaker! This annual award recognizes the best and brightest library staff from all over the world. Tonia is recognized for her extensive and impactful work in early literacy and
community collaborations, including her transformation of the Central Children’s Center, leadership in the City of Rochester Americorps grant, implementation of Raising a Reader, and her work with WXXI and Exploration Stations. We are fortunate to have Tonia as part of our team.

Community Reads – Alicia Gunther worked with Kristin Preyss from OverDrive during the month of February to arrange the simultaneous use of e-books *American War* by Omar El Akkad for Writers & Books 2019 Rochester Reads event and *Drawdown* by Paul Hawken for NYLA’s 2019 New York Reads, both of which are happening during the month of March. The e-books for both of these titles are available for patrons to borrow with no wait time through March 31, 2019.

Sharing Outreach Information Between Systems – Melanie Lewis and Amy Discenza met with two members of the Wood Library staff - Director Jenny Goodemote and Volunteer Coordinator Stephanie Toomey - to discuss best practices for developing an in-home program. We shared a variety of information including our application for service, sample profile, safety procedure, and information about the New York State Talking Book and Braille Library. The Wood Library is located in Canandaigua in the Pioneer Library System.

Communication

Library Advocacy Update – February 27 was Library Advocacy Day in Albany. There were 49 advocates who traveled by bus to Albany for a day of meetings rallying for library funding. It was very busy and noisy at the capitol this year as several other non-library groups were loudly chanting in the Plaza, causing delays getting through security, which in turn caused our group to miss several appointments. The teens who traveled with us from Greece, Webster, Central, and Irondequoit were superstars in the meetings. The legislators were very happy to listen to their library stories and they all spoke eloquently. Despite all the disturbances, the tight schedule and the snowy ride back, everyone seemed to have a good time.

Prior to advocacy Day, Assistant Director Snow appeared with the Director of the Pioneer Library System Lauren Moore and Canandaigua Librarian Kristy Bauman on WXXI’s “Connections” with Evan Dawson. The discussion centered on state aid for libraries and the NYLA legislative agenda for the year. The discussion also included information on how the online census may affect libraries. Snow had to answer a tricky question from a caller about computer functions at the Central Library.

In-district advocacy visits continued with a meeting at the Brighton Memorial Library with new Assembly Member Jamie Romeo. Snow gave Romeo an overview of how the system works and how state aid supports system activities which in turn support our member libraries. Many thanks to all the trustees who have attended in-district visits this year.

Staff & Trustee Development

The Pittsford Community Library Board of Trustees invited Assistant Director Snow to their meeting to review the trustee orientation presentation. Feedback since has been very positive, with new and veteran trustees sharing that they learned new things. Subsequently, the board has asked that Snow help review their current long-range plan against the new minimum standards and that she provide a presentation about crisis communication.

Children’s Services Consultant Tonia Burton co-hosted a training with RRLC at Webster Library for Children’s Services staff. This workshop focused on nature education and activities from a broad perspective including not just science aspects, but also creativity and art, physical exercise, stress reduction, and connection with plants and animals. The role of stories and nature were also explored. Workshop content covered numerous ways that libraries can increase children’s nature experiences, particularly during the summer school break, in order to encourage the development of ties to the outdoors. The potential for library programming that supports nature interactions to increase library usage and patronage was also covered.
Technology

Erie Canal on Rochester Voices – On March 1, Director Uttaro and Historical Researcher Michelle Finn attended a press conference in Fairport where they accepted a $3,700 grant from the Erie Canalway Corridor Fund that will help create a new curriculum topic for Rochester Voices that will focus on the Erie Canal. Finn wrote the grant, which was one of several awarded to agencies in western New York. At the event, staff from Cornhill Navigation approached Finn and Uttaro to discuss the possibility of partnering with the Central Library on a new venture they are trying this summer: carrying bicycles on the canal boats that guests can use to explore various stops along their tour route. Captain LJ Fisher was especially interested in the possibility of having a stop at the Central Library.

MCLS Office, Assistant Director Sally Snow reporting

Consulting
- Assisted a member director with a question about court-required community service.
- Assisted the Henrietta Public Library to submit an amended construction grant to incorporate $37,000 in additional funding from NewYork State.
- Assisted the Webster Public Library with a question about Overdrive and Collection HQ.

MCLS Office Metrics
- OverDrive
  - E-book & Audiobook Checkouts – 52,919
  - Magazine Checkouts – 2,278
  - Simultaneous Use Checkouts – 342
- Website Inquiries – 6
- MCLS Member Library Inquiries – 36
MCLS Director’s Report – March 2019 (Continued)

- Adult Literacy Learning Lab – 8
- Big Games – 2
- Shipping
  - Totes Delivered – 6,572 (12% increase)
  - Holds Totes Delivered – 801 (46% increase)
- Interlibrary Loan Lending:
  - Requests Received – 796
  - Requests Filled – 319
- Interlibrary Loan Borrowing:
  - Requests Received – 82
  - Requests Filled – 82
- Central Meeting Room Use – 90
- Cataloging
  - New Titles Added – 2797 (Towns – 1754; RPL – 1043)
  - No hits emails received – 2524
  - Deletes from database – 2357

Social Media

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Constant Contact Newsletter
New subscribers – 23
Central
- Subscribers who opened newsletter – 1,001
- Click through – 108
RPL
- Subscribers who opened newsletter – 2,105
- Click through – 87
Outreach Services, Melanie Lewis reporting

General Services and Programs
- Outreach Station Team selected, pulled, charged, and packed materials for 15 library stations and fulfilled special requests for 10 stations.
- Outreach Librarians selected and delivered titles for 31 homebound patrons.
- We mailed digital cassettes with titles downloaded from the NYS Talking Book and Braille Library for 5 patrons.
- We added two homebound patrons this month.
- Outreach distributed 14 "Making Moves" reentry resource packets to currently incarcerated individuals, Transitional Coordinators, and parolees.

Station Support
Amy Discenza joined Dan (shipping) on the Friday station delivery route to ensure he could easily access the library at Hudson Housing despite the fact that their office is closed on Fridays. Other Friday stops included: The Freedom Center, Dunn Tower II, and Unity Living.

Monroe Correctional Facility Family Day
Melanie and Amy shared a variety of information about library services with families of incarcerated individuals ranging from the educational (TASC, computer classes & certificate program, job information center) to the entertaining (digital library services, VIP & Empire passes). We also highlighted human services programs such as LROC, Nurse Barb and the various mobile medical units. Other participating agencies included Hope Dealers BTC, ROCovery Fitness, Mental Health Association, Liberty Resources, Monroe County Workforce Development, NarAnon, Helio Health, Me Time Massage, and Huther Doyle. The event was designed to provide support for families and individuals impacted by incarceration and prepare them for the hurdles that come with transitioning back into the community.

Central Library Updates

Arts and Literature, Nanci Nugent reporting

Programs
- Hanging Birch Succulent Planters – Some of our most popular classes are taught by Kathleen Rullo, owner of Jardin Terrariums. Rullo was back to lead a class on making a rustic hanging log planter. For this project students learned the ins and outs of succulent handling and care, then they used a hollowed out log with fungi to plant their succulent. Rullo provided whimsical and creative objects to add to their succulent such as small fake mushrooms and other small plants. Students added finishing touches with hardware and a string to hang.
- Lifespan – Melissa Manczuk of the Arts and Literature Division hosted another craft class at Lifespan. The group of talented crafters created 3-D paper hearts. The participants used scrapbook paper and glue to make their hearts. They loved how pretty the hearts looked.
and how easy the craft was. One woman, Dorothy, said that she came specifically because she knew Manczuk was teaching the class and she loves it when she comes to teach.

- **Kente Cloth and Adrinka Symbols of Ghana** – Nita Brown, local owner of MansaWear, gave an informative and lively lecture on the history of Kente cloth and some of its symbols. Kente is a silk and cotton fabric that comes from the word kenten, which means basket. Brown, who is from Ghana, spoke on the history of the cloth and how it is made. The cloth is made on a strip loom which produces a narrow band of cloth about four inches wide called ntomaban. Several of these strips are arranged and hand-sewn together to create a cloth of the desired size. Most kente weavers are men. She spoke about the Adrinka symbols that are used extensively in fabrics and pottery. These symbols have decorative functions but also represent objects. She described the messages that often convey traditional wisdom such as aspects of life or the environment. Brown who was dressed in a traditional Kente cloth gown said Kente was often worn for royal or sacred ceremonies but can be used now for clothing or other objects.

- **Beginning Pastel Drawing** – Pastels can be an intimidating medium to work with due to the dust and sometimes muddy effects they create. Artist Gail Johnson brought her expertise with pastels to students who were not sure how to use these colorful sticks. Johnson taught library patrons basic pastel techniques such as blending, feathering, and how working with the edge of the pastel can give varied effects. As students were leaving the class some remarked, "I feel a lot more confident using pastels now," and "Gail was a patient and friendly teacher."

- **Writing to Heal** – This new literature program was taught by Anais Salibian who culminated her seven-week writing class to help people who are dealing with health problems, grief, job loss, past trauma, or life transitions. Here are a couple of comments from people who took this class: "Way back in the old days, a wrestler could advertise that he was “willing to take on all comers,” meaning he’d wrestle anyone who showed up, regardless of weight or gender or anything else. These library writing classes are kind of like that – all kinds of people show up. This makes them interesting as well as a challenge to teach sometimes. Anaïs Salibian was certainly up to the task, handling potentially sensitive issues with a deft touch. She made it look easy, but that is only because she is so well versed in the genre of writing and healing."

- **After “I Do”: Perspectives on Marriage in Literature** – In honor of Valentine’s Day, the Division hosted this four-part group with St. John Fisher College Professor Emeritus David Sanders. Participants read and discussed written works reflecting a range of perspectives on marriage. The group enjoyed discussing poetry and prose with an expert facilitator who drew insights from a diverse group of people.

- **Learning to Lie: A Fiction Writing Workshop** – Local author and writing teacher Gail Hosking taught this workshop for writers learning how to create stellar fiction through specific and concrete details. The group rewrote inept pieces of fiction writing, revising them to avoid clichés and to dramatize rather than summarize, and learned what makes a good story.

- **Taking Your Blog to the Next Level** – This class was taught by Jane Sutter, owner of Sutter Communications and an expert blogger; this was a continuation of the *Introduction to Blogging* class that took place in November. This more advanced class was geared toward bloggers or aspiring bloggers who want to learn how to build traffic and interaction and make money from their blog. Jane taught proven tactics that achieve results and shared case studies of how expert bloggers achieve success.
Meetings
Sarah Bishopp Vélez joined several other Center for Urban Entrepreneurship (CUE) partners to discuss the development of the UniteUs database which will help agencies track small business clients. The meeting was led by project manager Lomax Campbell, Director of the Mayor’s Office of Community Wealth Building. At a subsequent meeting, participants saw a demo of the software and were universally impressed with the progress. The group reconvened after the demo to discuss specific details of how the database would need to be structured, as well as the next steps to take. It was agreed that the CUE and the Office of Community Wealth Building would move forward and start the process of purchasing the database.

Programs
- The BizKid$ program returned to the library for 2019. Sixteen children and teens along with 9 counselors and instructors visited during Winter Break to learn how to write a basic business plan. Sarah Bishopp Vélez gave a brief introduction to the library’s resources, including sample business plans, and then the entire group used Teen Central’s computers to do some market research. A big thank you to Dennis Williams and the rest of Teen Central’s staff for accommodating the large group!

- Take Your Child to the Library Day – The 4th floor chose to host a Plinko game for Take Your Child to the Library Day on February 2. The kids answered simple questions pertaining to the law as part of the game. Renee Kendrot set everything up, which included creating the questions and borrowing Children's Books that contained answers to the questions. Since Kendrot was not able to be here for the day, Cynthia Dana assisted patrons with the Plinko Game.
MCLS Director’s Report – March 2019 (Continued)

- **Tax Program** – Florence Morris and Brad Stanley from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance have been working together for 5 years to assist patrons with tax filing. February started off great with Brad and his two staff members serving 42 clients and successfully preparing 34 tax returns. Their best day was 16 clients, many of whom were referred by the 1st floor and CASH staff.

- **Grants Consulting** – Darlene Richards had grant appointments with nonprofits including Water for South Sudan, Director for Advancement for the Hillel Day School, the Executive Director of Cameron Ministries, a return visit from a patron from the Friends of Two Saints Church and his friend, who is looking for funds for historical preservation, and a woman from a church in Genesee County, also looking for funds for historical preservation.

- **Small Business Consulting** – Sarah Bishopp Vélez, and the Business Division as a whole have handled many small business research questions this month! Some of the topics include ambulatory services, accounting, consulting, boat repair, and pet boarding.

*Children’s Center, Tonia Burton reporting*

**Outreach and Community Contacts**

- The Rochester Academy Charter School borrowed dozens of materials for their recent project-based learning unit on African Civilizations (6th Grade) and the Black Panther Movement (7th Grade).

- Hazen and Powell visited seven preschool classes at the Metro YMCA. Powell offered a storytime session at Lincoln Branch attended by Early Pre-K students from Peter Castle Family Resource Center.

- Jennifer Byrnes, Science and History Division Supervisor, set up visits from Pediatric Interns at the University of Rochester Medical Centers in the Pediatric LINC program. Throughout the semester residents are visiting the Children’s Center and learning about the resources and services that can be shared with patients at the clinics. One resident was very excited about creating a prescription to visit the library, Burton is working with the School to make this happen.

**Programs**

- February was a flurry of programming! Our annual Take Your Child to the Library Day event was a success.

- Our Girl Scout troop continued to meet every Wednesday this month. Participants have completed three badges, including a money manager badge. In this photo, Girl Scouts of Western New York facilitator Krystal Osei is leading girls in an activity about budgeting for needs and wants. Next month, participants will be learning about customer service and entrepreneurship as they prepare to sell cookies. At the end of March, newscaster Kaci Jones from NEWS10 NBC will be speaking to the girls about her career as part of our effort
to expose children to a variety of careers and fields of study and help them feel empowered to explore new topics.

- In our Crafting with Yarn program kids made pompoms and god’s eyes and did some finger knitting, loom knitting and a little traditional knitting too.

- Families came to the Connect 4 Tournament to challenge each other for bragging rights and prizes. Kids loved going to head-to-head on the giant Connect 4 set-up borrowed from MCLS. More large-scale game tournaments are in the works for the future.

Local History & Genealogy, Christine Ridarsky reporting

Exhibitions
The Stonewall: 50 Years Out Exhibit Planning Team, led by City Historian/Historical Services Consultant Christine L. Ridarsky, met three times this month and continued to refine the narrative framework for the exhibit and to identify images and objects to be displayed. Historical Researcher Michelle Finn and Librarian Brandon Fess also participated. The opening reception, sponsored by the Out Alliance, is 6 – 9 p.m. April 5, in Hacker Hall and includes hors d’oeuvres, cash bar, and 1960s-70s-era music by DJ Solid Bear. The exhibit will be open during and through the end of Pride Week, closing on July 20, 2019.

Ridarsky, with assistance from the Friends & Foundation of RPL’s Executive Director Ned Davis, secured a $15,000 sponsorship from Trillium Health, Dr. William Valenti, and James Wolf. She raised an additional $2,000 from project partners (Asbury First United Methodist Church, Third Presbyterian Church, Landmark Society of Western New York and a private donor) and secured in-kind contributions of goods or services valued at approximately another $3,000 from Human Rights Campaign of Western New York, the Out Alliance, and the Empty Closet. FFRPL also secured media sponsorship packages from WXXI, City Newspaper, and the Rochester Business Journal, as well as the production services of Dixon-Schwabl, which produces 15- and 30-second public service announcements to be distributed to local television stations.

In support of the exhibit, FFRPL has contracted with Talking Pictures, LLC on behalf of the library to implement a new project to collect picture-based oral history stories from people who identify as LGBTQ+ or as LGBTQ+ allies. These “PixStories” will be publicly accessible through a kiosk in the exhibit, as well as online through various formats. They will be created using an application that Talking Pictures developed as an oral history
collection tool, which has exciting possibilities for library projects beyond the Stonewall exhibit. We invited anyone who interested in helping to collect stories to contact Finn, michelle.finn@libraryweb.org.

We have also contracted with a local queer artist of color, Adrian Elim, to produce photographic portraits of at least 20 people representing the diversity of Rochester’s LGBTQ+ communities. These portraits will be a focal point within the exhibit.

Finally, Ridarsky arranged to participate in a pilot project with The Community Learning Lab, an upstart Rochester-based company with a non-profit arm designed to provide a web-based content management system for curating educational materials and developing community-based learning modules. We will use the platform to develop a digital version of the Stonewall:50 Years Out exhibit and to allow partners and community members to contribute additional content to a virtual archive on Rochester’s LGBTQ+ history. Because we have been accepted as a pilot participant, there is no cost to the library. Our pages have not been built yet, but you can view The Community Learning Lab here: https://www.communitylearninglab.org. If you click on Curated Collections, you will see a holding spot for Stonewall: 50 Years Out.

Community Outreach/Meetings

- In support of an effort to establish a public history center at SUNY Geneseo, Finn participated this month in a daylong symposium on the Geneseo campus that brought together public historians, college professors, students, state and education officials, and other stakeholders. Finn was part of the panel that led a discussion on how the proposed Public History center might serve local historians, students, and the college, highlighting Rochester Voices as an example of a public history project that successfully leverages student internships to accomplish its goals. A couple of students who attended this symposium expressed interest in working as interns for Rochester Voices in the future.
- Ridarsky was interviewed by Nathan Miller of the City Communications Bureau for a forthcoming CityWise broadcast about plans for the historic Broad Street aqueduct.
- Ridarsky gave a short TED-style talk on the “Top 10 Things You Probably Don’t Know About Rochester History” to the staff of the University of Rochester’s Advancement Department. It was a highlight of the department’s annual retreat.
- Ridarsky and Pepe met with Grant Holcomb, former director of the Memorial Art Gallery, and Rochester History editorial board member Marjorie Searl to discuss an article Holcomb is writing about Ed Crone, the real-life Rochesterian who inspired the character Billy Pilgrim, the protagonist of Kurt Vonnegut’s novel Slaughterhouse-Five. This year marks the novel’s 50th anniversary, so we are hoping to be able to publish the article soon.

Social Media

- The Local History and Genealogy Division contributed content for 15 social media posts in February: 4 on Twitter, 6 on Facebook, 2 Facebook Events, and 3 blog entries on www.rochistory.wordpress.com. The reach of these posts was 10,766. This includes 7,098 on Facebook, 1,131 on Twitter, and 3,668 on our blog; 486 people engaged with Local History posts on Facebook, 9 on Twitter, and 155 on our blog.
- Library Assistant Emily Morry contributed one blog entry: “Out of the Loop Pt. 4: A Look at the Neighborhoods of the Inner Loop.” Her post “Down on the Corner: Taverns and Transformations in the Bull’s Head Neighborhood, posted on January 31,” is also included in the above statistics.
- Substitute Librarian Christopher Brennan also contributed one blog entry: “The Doctor Who Would Come: Anthony Leopold Jordan.”

Volunteer/Intern hours
Volunteers from the Rochester Genealogical Society contributed 33 hours in January and assisted 16 patrons. We were also assisted by five volunteers (Kevin Allen – 12.25 hours; Kayla Jackson – 19.5 hours; Karen “Kaye” Knoll – 2 hours; Nancy Martin – 7.75 hours; and Ira Srole – 26.75 hours), three college interns (Josue Cuevas, University of Rochester – 5.5 hours; Mason Lezette, RIT – 28 hours; and Katie Keegan, RIT – 2 hours), and one
MCLS Director’s Report – March 2019 (Continued)

intern from Monroe BOCES (Ethan McBride – 15 hours). In all, volunteers and interns contributed 151.75 hours.

Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting

Reference
During the month of February, RMC handled 1,468 reference questions and 353 non-reference transactions for a total of 1821.

Circulation
In February, RMC rented 11 pieces of equipment and circulated 11,604 items or 54% of the Central Library’s total circulation of 21,532 (before renewals from Catalog Plus, Classic Catalog and Telephone are added).

Hoopla
Hoopla circulations for February totaled 1169:
- 305 Movies/TV
- 484 Audiobooks
- 100 Music
- 188 eBooks. 92 Comics

336 patrons used the service during February with 55 new users registering and 80 patrons using all seven circs (24%). The average cost was $2.10/item.

Presentations
Joseph Born presented a talk entitled "Advances and Trends in Technology and Media: Past, Present and Future" for the Tuesday Topics program sponsored by FFRPL on February 12 in the Kate Gleason Auditorium.

Science & History Division, Jennifer Byrnes reporting

Meetings
Jennifer Byrnes and Nurse Barb met with Jacqueline Compagnoni of the Behavioral Health Care Collaboration, a group focused on Medicaid reform and decreasing unnecessary mental health visits to the emergency room. They discussed doing training on dealing with people in crisis/de-escalation and identifying community partners who may be able to come to Central if someone is in crisis but does not warrant a mental hygiene arrest.

Programs
- Citizen Science: Great Backyard Bird Count. June Summers of the Genesee Valley Audubon Society spoke about the Great Backyard Bird Count, why it’s important, and how to identify local birds.
- The division hosted a program for MCLS staff on nonviolent communication with Kit Miller, director of the Gandhi Institute for Nonviolence.
- We have finally been added to Rochester Regional’s Mobile Medical Unit’s schedule. They will be here every other Friday from 1:00–4:30.

Health Central Use
- LROC – 65
- Volunteer Legal Services Project – 22
- Nurse Barb – 33
- STI Testing – Not available at this time.
- 360 Collaborative Network Referrals – 3
Consulting
The Carlson Center for Intellectual Property assisted the following: 25 in person, 4 by email, 2 by mail
3 by phone. There were four Patent Virtual Assistance Center appointments. There were 97 webpage views

Anecdotes
- Byrnes’ all-time favorite show is Law & Order, so she was super excited to assist the NYS Police with
  identifying a logo on a bank robber’s clothing!
- Steve Nash was approached by a patron who is writing a book about the life of a World War II Army
  officer. The patron was delighted to find out that Central owns the multi-volume series United States Army
  in World War II by the United States Army Center of Military History. In addition, the patron asked for the
  July 3, 1938 issue of Life magazine which contained a pictorial article on the soldier and other West Point
  Military Academy seniors who were married the weekend of their graduation.
- Nash was contacted by a local governmental office inquiring about the “POW/MIA Chair of Honor.” Central
  is the only organization in Monroe County that has a chair on display.

Circulation/Information Services, Chad Cunningham reporting

New Borrowers – 207
Access cards – 2
Notarial Acts – 101

Programs
Brian DiNitto taught 12 computer classes. 42 people attended.

Circulation Anecdotes
One of the options on the fine wheel this month is “Sing Baby Shark.” A woman spun the wheel and landed on
“Sing Baby Shark.” She didn’t know the song so she made up one of her own. It was, in the desk staff’s opinion,
a better song.

Information Anecdotes
- One of the more enjoyable aspects of our work is to see the social environment that is created in our
  computer lab area. Patrons will interact with us and with other patrons regarding many topics, but often
  about jobs. This month we had some patrons trading their experiences with different temp agencies. This
  can be very helpful for patrons to know who is a reliable agency, who is not, who has the most work
  available, etc. In this instance, patrons spoke about the agencies that were not helpful to their workers. It
  is very rewarding to be involved with patrons in this way and to help them to feel comfortable sharing
  information that can be so helpful to others.
- Another interesting social aspect to work in the computer lab is how some patrons will help mentor
  younger patrons they interact with on the computers. One patron, in his fifties, has done this previously
  and this month was helpful again to a young man who had some temper issues. The older patron spoke to
  him at length about the importance of keeping his temper in check and suggestions about how to go about
  doing it. They spoke for quite some time and the younger patron showed his appreciation for the counsel.
- A deaf woman called the Information Desk through the Relay Service to inquire about finding resources in
  the library. She set up an appointment and came into the library the next day with a deaf friend. DiNitto
  assisted them in setting up an appointment to have their taxes completed by CASH on the day that ASL
  interpreters were available. DiNitto also assisted her in finding Khmer language resources at the library
  and helping one woman download a Khmer-language novel onto her computer.
Teen Central, Dennis Williams reporting

Programs

- Teen Central hosted several Chess tournaments this month. The patrons would like to see another month-long tournament where they can compete for winnings.

- Girls Who Code was run every Saturday this month. The volunteer teachers are University of Rochester students who are part of their in-house coding program.

- Shawn Dunwoody, Healthi Kids, the City of Rochester, and the library have been collaborating on an installation known as the Play Walk. Part of the installation includes getting buy-in from the teens that will be using the area on Court Street from the library over to REOC and The Strong. The library has provided space and expertise for the kids to collaborate on the project, helping to teach them about budgeting, different career paths, and being creative. Dunwoody and other professionals have worked with the kids each week, one on one, to help them not only find their voices but to expand their knowledge.

- Rochester Institute of Technology approached us last month for a program they wanted to do in the library called “The Mock Trial.” Their goal is to teach kids about law and how it works in the justice system. While they signed up for the Kate Gleason Auditorium, they found they much prefer to use the teen space. We made that happen for them. Craig Carson and several other lawyers helped the kids learn how to build an argument and understand the rules surrounding a courtroom atmosphere.

- The Saturday photography class in imagineYOU is a big hit. Jeffery Bostic, Digital Media Specialist, works with students to build basic camera skills. Nothing captures the attention of tweens and teens like photography and video...except maybe more video games.

- YA Librarian Antoine McDonald’s workout programming and Black History Month programs have been extremely successful. In February, he conducted several health and fitness programs, during which he made smoothies with the teens to promote healthy eating and to provide healthy alternatives. He now also uses this time as an extension of what used to be Teen Talks Tuesday where various topics that the teens bring up concerning life, school, relationships, etc. are discussed.

- McDonald accompanied some of the teens to Albany, NY for Library Advocacy Day. It was a great opportunity for teens to get out of Rochester and visit a new place for a great cause. Their visit to the New York State Legislature went very well and they did a great job of articulating why the library is important to them and the role in which the Teen Center specifically has played in their lives.
imagineYOU added two new e-sports computers, including headphones and webcams for Fortnite and other high-level computer games. Teens have already started to enjoy the new computers and spend time competing with each other.

**Virtual Reality**
The Oculus Rift VR station was offline for a short time. It has been replaced and remains very popular, especially with families who visit together on Saturdays.

**Glass Room**
The glass room has been converted into a second, more amateur studio. It has been used for karaoke, music production, video production, and photography.

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**MCLS Member Libraries, Bernadette Brinkman reporting**

**Brighton Memorial Library, Jennifer Ries-Taggart reporting**
- The Board has 2 new trustees, Joan Swanekamp and Andrea Koch.
- Mandarin story times have been well attended.
- The library is busy with capital improvements: new ventilation in its server room, replacing energy-inefficient can lights, and installing an exterior LED sign.
- A parent computer center designed to entertain adults while their children are enjoying the Discovery Room is now in place.
- The Brighton Memorial Library Foundation had its first meeting, with Kathy Miller presiding.

**Brockport-Seymour Library, Carl Gouveia reporting**
- Seymour will conduct a book sale on April 3-6.
- There are Sunnking bins on premises to collect e-waste. A percentage of the profits generated will be donated to Camp Good Days.

Below is the judging panel for Brockport’s Bookmark Contest.
Chili Public Library, Jeff Baker reporting

- Chili Public Library will be having a book sale on March 27.
- It also presented a program on the Double Initial Murders. Author Michael Benson has recently published a book on these infamous murders after decades of research and gave a fascinating presentation on these murders that shocked Monroe County in the 1970s.

Fairport Public Library, Betsy Gilbert reporting

Fairport has started its second session of English for Speakers of Other Languages classes, including citizenship training, in partnership with Literacy Volunteers.
Greece Public Library, Cassie Guthrie reporting
Greece sent 3 teens to Advocacy Day.

Hamlin Public Library, Christine Gates reporting
- Hamlin has a new trustee.
- The staff are trying to dispose of some unneeded printers that were discovered in storage.
- The library recently gave a presentation at the local senior lunch program and is looking for feedback from the attendees to inform program development.

Henrietta Public Library, Adrienne Pettinelli reporting
- Henrietta is in the process of ordering shelving for the new library and is working on its moving plan with an eye to a summer opening.
- A Friday night Family Karaoke event is coming up that will feature a live band.
- The library’s Friends and Foundation will hold a two-week sale in May to clear out as many used books as possible prior to its move.

Irondequoit Public Library, Terry Buford reporting
- ESL Associates have started well-attended English for Speakers of Other Languages classes. The majority of participants are native speakers of Spanish.
- The library received an award from the Irondequoit Police Department for quick intervention in 5 drug overdose incidents, resulting in saving those lives.

Newman Riga Library, Lynn Brown reporting
- Newman-Riga Library continues to work on some ongoing projects: preparing for summer reading, strategic planning, installing new computers and website development.
- Peter Pan visited the library.
- Riga also has a new Facebook page. Please follow it!
Ogden Farmers’ Library, John Cohen reporting  
Ogden’s new teen librarian, Caitlin Crilly, starts March 18.

Parma Public Library, Leslie Boedicker reporting  
- Parma has a new server.  
- They will hold a book sale April 23 through 27.  
- The library’s annual state report has been posted.

Penfield Public Library, Bernadette Brinkman reporting  
- Penfield Public Library is in the process of working with the Town of Penfield to design a new website.  
- The library has received its first shipment of new patron computers with Windows 10 and is getting up to speed to provide any assistance needed.  
- Bids are being solicited to upgrade its network.  
- Penfield will host Omar El Akkad, the author of Writers & Books’ selection for its annual Rochester Reads event, on Wednesday, March 27, at 7:00 p.m.
Pittsford Community Library, Amanda Madigan reporting

- Pittsford dispatched a contingent to Advocacy Day in Albany.
- Laura Richardson will be the new Young Adult and Technology Librarian.

Selected Meetings & Outputs, February 16 – March 15 (Uttaro)

Standing Meetings
City Senior Management Team (weekly)
RPL-MCLS Management Team (weekly)
Brie Harrison; Sally Snow; Ana Suro, Tolley Reeves, Tonia Burton – one-to-one meetings (monthly)
FFRPL Executive Director Ned Davis (monthly)
City Chief of Staff, Alex Yudelson (monthly)
Monroe County Assistant County Executive, Michael Molinari (monthly)
Central Library All-Staff Meeting (monthly)
MCLS System Services and Operations Committee (monthly)
New York State Library – Division of Library Development conference call (monthly)
Public Library System Directors’ Organization (PULISDO) conference call (monthly)
Lyla Grills, Penfield Public Library mentoring meeting (monthly)
Tonia Burton, MCLS/RPL Children’s Services Consultant (now a direct report; monthly)
City Dept. of Environmental Services Commissioner, Norm Jones (bimonthly)

Other
Director of Historical Resources & City Historian, Christine Ridarsky
Sokol High School Literary Award Reading Committee
Baker Tilly Consultants on new City strategic plan results
Nick Buron, Chief Librarian & Senior Vice-President of Queens Library, conference call
Roc the Future Executive Team Meeting  
Early Grade Literacy conference call (twice)  
Mary Ann Mavrinac, Dean of River Campus Libraries, University of Rochester  
Library Advocacy Day, Albany  
Cynthia Dana, Central Patron Services Manager  
Erie Canalway Heritage Corridor Press Conference  
Community Program Locator Development meeting with RIT at GRASA  
Marisol Ramos Lopez, trainer & consultant  
RPL Trustees Hamilton & Benjamin and FFRPL Executive Director Davis  
City Education Team Meeting  
NYLA Public Libraries Section Board conference call  
Early Grade Literacy Team meeting  
Except When It Isn’t: The Line Between Service & Safety RRLC workshop  
City Budget Citizen Input Session  
RPL Branch Supervisors  
Genesee Country Village & Museum Board Meeting  
RPL Managers Retreat

Email Activity  
February 2018

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