



**Board of Trustees Meeting  
Board Room, Rundel Memorial Library Building  
August 19, 2024, 5:00 PM  
Agenda**

- I. PUBLIC COMMENTS** Corcoran
  
- II. ACTION ITEMS**
  - 1. Minutes of prior meeting Corcoran page 3
  - 2. Claims (June & July) Uttaro page 7
  - 3. MCLS Consortia Application Approval,  
NYSED Construction Grant Smathers page 11
  - 4. Clearpath HR Solutions Professional Services Agreement Uttaro page 11
  
- III. REPORT/DISCUSSION ITEMS**
  - 1. Liaison to Rochester Public Library Board Stockman
  - 2. Liaison to Rochester Regional Library Council Knapp
  
  - 3. Staff Reports
    - a. Director's Report/Central Library Services Uttaro page 11 & 21
    - b. MCLS Services Smathers page 12
  
- IV. OTHER BUSINESS**
  
- V. ADJOURNMENT**

**Next Meeting:  
Monday, September 16, 5:00 p.m.  
Greece Public Library, 2 Vince Tofany Blvd., 14612**





**Meeting of the MCLS Board of Trustees  
Board Room, Rundel Memorial Building  
June 17, 2024  
Minutes**

- Trustees Present:** Gary Brandt, Kimberly Brown, Alinda Drury, Peter Knapp, Amy Moffitt, Marjorie Shelly, Erick Stephens, Suzanne Stockman (quorum present)
- Trustees Excused:** Christopher Corcoran, Emily Hessney Lynch, Mack Smith, Jr.
- Trustees Unexcused:** None
- Staff and Guests:** County Law Office Liaisons, Don Crumb & Keana Williams; staff members, Emily Clasper, Katy Hasselwander, Debi Mansour, Jennifer Smathers

**Call to Order**

Ms. Stockman called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m., welcomed trustees, staff, and guests, and confirmed a quorum was present. Mr. Crumb introduced Keana Williams, Esq. as the new liaison from the County Law Office. Mr. Crumb is retiring, and Ms. Williams volunteered to replace him. Ms. Stockman thanked Mr. Crumb for his long-standing dedication to the libraries.

**Public Comments**

There were no members of the public wanting to address the board.

**Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the April 15, 2024, and May 20, 2024, meetings were APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

**Claims**

Ms. Hasselwander reviewed the financial claims with the trustees and offered to answer questions. After a brief discussion, Dr. Knapp MADE A MOTION to approve the financial claims from April as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Stephens MADE A MOTION to approve the financial claims from May as presented. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Proposed 2025 MCLS Budget**

Ms. Hasselwander reviewed the item with the trustees and offered to answer questions. Ms. Stockman asked about trustee memberships to NYLA. Ms. Smathers explained that after a recent change, NYLA memberships are only for the library staff and trustees need to have their own membership. Mr. Brandt MADE A MOTION to approve the proposed 2025 MCLS Budget. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Update to 2024-25 Central Library Budget**

Ms. Hasselwander reviewed the item with the trustees and offered to answer questions. Ms. Shelly MADE A MOTION to approve the amended 2024-25 Central Library Budget. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Central Library Program Aid FY24**

Ms. Hasselwander reviewed the item with the trustees and offered to answer questions. Ms. Drury MADE A MOTION to approve the NYSED Central Library Development Aid for the 2024-25 budget cycle. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Internet Access Policy Revision**

Ms. Smathers reviewed the item with the trustees and offered to answer questions. After a brief discussion, Mr. Stephens MADE A MOTION to approve the revised Internet Access Policy. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Distribution of Community Materials**

Ms. Smathers reviewed the item with the trustees and offered to answer questions. In response to a question, she clarified the only change to the policy was the elimination of the fee. Ms. Shelly MADE A MOTION to approve the revised Distribution of Community Materials policy. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**MCLS Annual Report to NYS**

Ms. Smathers reviewed the item with the trustees and offered to answer questions. Ms. Shelly MADE A MOTION to approve the 2023 MCLS Annual Report to New York State. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Election of Officers**

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ms. Shelly recommended the current officers (Christopher Corcoran, President and Emily Hessney Lynch, Vice President) serve an additional term. Mr. Stephens MADE A MOTION to approve the proposed slate of officers for the term July 1, 2024–June 30, 2025. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Trustee Appointments**

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ms. Shelly asked that Ms. Drury be recommended to the County Legislature for reappointed to a new five-year term. Mr. Brandt MADE A MOTION to approve the Nominating Committee’s recommendation of Alinda Drury to be appointed by the Monroe County Legislature to the MCLS Board of Trustees for the term of July 1, 2024–June 30, 2029. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Rochester Public Library (RPL) Liaison**

Ms. Stockman reported that the RPL Board approved the RPL Annual Report to NYS; a change in the Central Library hours; and an updated budget. The RPL Board also heard a report about changes in the Teen Center to calm some recent disruptive behavior and a report on the Maplewood expansion and renovation project.

**Rochester Regional Library Council (RRLC) Liaison**

Dr. Knapp reported that the RRLC Board has not met since his last report.

Erick Stephens left the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

**Director’s Report**

On behalf of Ms. Uttaro, Ms. Smathers offered to answer questions about the written report. She reported that staff has been flexible in implementing the hours change at the Central Library and everyone has cooperated to make the change go smoothly.

In response to a question, she reported that the Central Library has an agreement with the Jazz Festival and a jazz concert is held in either the Reading Garden or the Kate Gleason auditorium at Noon each day during the festival.

**MCLS Office**

Ms. Smathers offered to answer questions about the written report. She reported that all MCLS libraries are focused on summer reading right now. The theme– Adventure Begins at Your Library– is perfect for all ages and many of the libraries are promoting summer reading to adults as well as children.

**Central Library**

Ms. Clasper offered to answer questions about the written report. She reported that the new overdose monitoring sensors have been installed in the Tech Center restrooms. The motion sensors are designed to detect potential medical emergencies. It alerts management staff if someone has been in the restroom for an extended period with limited or no movement. She added that the City’s Opioid Team is very interested in the results of this trial.

**Other Business**

Ms. Mansour explained that the new Trustee Resources binders are now complete. She invited trustees to provide feedback or edits if they find errors. She advised that anyone who does not already have a Trustee Handbook should take one and add it to their binder. Going forward, she will be distributing updated pages as needed to keep everyone's binders current.

Amy Moffitt joined the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Ms. Drury asked about the new “Secret Stash” exhibit in the Hacker Hall gallery. Miss Smathers reported that the library's Exhibits Team is responsible for gathering and displaying those materials. The materials come from divisions across the Central Library.

Mr. Brandt expressed his appreciation to the library for having a rare book in the collection that he needed while writing his most recent novel. He then told a story about his recent visit to the Provincetown Library and his fascination with the half-scale replica of the *Rose Dorothea* installed in the library. The *Rose Dorothea* was a schooner that won the Lipton Cup in 1907.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

*Patricia Uttaro, Secretary*



MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
FINANCIAL CLAIMS 2024

MONTH	DAY	CLAIM VO	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	EXPENDED	REMARKS
5	30	2000616608	11127577-CARROUSEL MUSUM	VIP PASS	\$350.00	
6	10	2000617105	11109903-OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS-HOLD	\$3,372.41	MULTIPLE EBOOKS/AUDIOBOOK
6	10	2000618496	11120635-CROWN CASTLE	INTERNET	\$2,075.00	May-24
6	10	2000618496	11120635-CROWN CASTLE	2024 DIGITAL TRANSMISSION	\$16,866.56	May-24
6	14	2000618032	11110035-PROQUEST	HERITAGE QUEST	\$9,153.35	
6	14	2000618090	11125352- NUB GAMES/LIBRARYH3LP	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	\$1,692.00	
6	20	2000617674	11102541-UNIQUE MANAGEMENT	2024 MATERIAL RECOVERY	\$2,353.05	
					<b>\$35,862.37</b>	





**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
FINANCIAL CLAIMS 2024**

MONTH	DAY	CLAIM VO	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	EXPENDED	REMARKS
2	1				\$ 2,038.26	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs- paid on time, SB forgot to log in during previous months
3	1				\$ 978.60	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs- paid on time, SB forgot to log in during previous months
4	1				\$ 1,504.88	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs- paid on time, SB forgot to log in during previous months
5	1				\$ 5,393.79	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs- paid on time, SB forgot to log in during previous months
6	1				\$ 537.07	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs- paid on time, SB forgot to log in during previous months
6	10	2000619185	11109903-OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS-HOLD	\$ 325.91	MULTIPLE EBOOKS/AUDIOBOOK
6	10	2000618842	11108054-TRACEY ROAD EQUIPMENT	FREIGHTLINER	\$ 103,995.00	
6	13	2000618835	11103982- SHI INTERNATIONAL	APC SMART UPS	\$ 434.16	UNPAID FROM 2021
6	13	2000618835	11103982- SHI INTERNATIONAL	APC SMART UPS	\$ 1,736.64	UNPAID FROM 2021
6	26	2000618945	11104976-TRI DELTA RESOURCES	HPE POINTNEXT TECH CARE	\$ 972.00	
6	27	2000618908	11103162-GENESEE COUNTRY VILLAGE & MUSEUM	VIP PASS	\$ 640.00	
6	28	2000619258	11128350-GENESEE WATERWAYS CENTER	VIP PASS	\$ 420.00	
6	28	2000619244	11127580-FINGER LAKES BOATING MUSEUM	VIP PASS	\$ 180.00	
6	28	2000618887	11101803-MAG	VIP PASS	\$ 1,575.00	
7	1				\$ 2,972.91	County Journal for Fleet Maintenance Fuel & Repairs
7	1	2000621357	11112453- CONSTANT CONTACT	2024 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	\$ 24,144.00	
7	1	2000621162	11120206- SITEIMPROVE	WEB CONTENT MONITORING	\$ 2,057.33	SPLIT 50/50 WITH RPL
7	1	2000619160	11105181- Rochester Public Library		\$ 2,991.84	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	1	2000619160	11105181- Rochester Public Library		\$ 2,991.84	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	2	2000620635	11109903-OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS-HOLD	\$ 3,323.76	MULTIPLE EBOOKS/AUDIOBOOK
7	2	2000620635	11109903-OVERDRIVE	MATERIALS-HOLD	\$ 263.12	MULTIPLE EBOOKS/AUDIOBOOK
7	5	2000621283	11101777- HAMLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 2,556.00	LLSA 2024-25 90%
7	8	2000621170	11120635-CROWN CASTLE	2024 INTERNET	\$ 2,106.13	Jun-24
7	8	200621170	11120635-CROWN CASTLE	2024 DIGITAL TRANSMISSION	\$ 17,119.56	Jun-24
7	8	2000621347	11109903-OVERDRIVE	2024 DIGITAL MATERIAL PLATFORM	\$ 2,500.00	JULY-SEPT 2024
7	8	2000619658	11101777- HAMLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 295.88	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619663	11101918- OGDEN FARMER'S LIBRARY		\$ 653.12	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619664	11101928-Fairport Public Library		\$ 3,266.03	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619667	11102081- GATES PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 1,908.91	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619679	11103615- BROCKPORT SEYMOUR LIBRARY		\$ 2,111.38	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619681	11103746-Penfield Public Library		\$ 1,877.42	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24

**MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM  
FINANCIAL CLAIMS 2024**

MONTH	DAY	CLAIM VO	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	EXPENDED	REMARKS
7	8	2000619684	11104404-GREECE PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 6,603.79	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619689	11105162- HENRIETTA PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 380.31	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619691	11105288-East Rochester Public Library		\$ 325.96	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619458	11105346- Webster Public Library		\$ 1,164.38	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000620601	11105398- MENDON PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 492.30	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619460	11105432- BRIGHTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY		\$ 2,581.94	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619472	11106122- NEWMAN RIGA LIBRARY		\$ 192.47	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	8	2000619706	11106907- PARMA PUBLIC LIBRARY		\$ 236.65	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	10	2000621942	11122281-CHARLOTTE GENESEE LIGHTHOUSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY	VIP PASS	\$ 315.00	
7	16	2000620699	11127579-SEWARD HOUSE MUSEUM	VIP PASS	\$ 165.00	
7	16	2000620267	11102058- CHILI LIBRARY		\$ 1,298.67	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	16	2000620593	11104449- RUSH LIBRARY		\$ 78.12	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	16	2000620597	11105173- ROCHESTER COMMUNITY BASEBELL	100 LEVE & DIAMOND DOLLARS	\$ 3,700.00	RED WINGS GAME FUNDED BY GRANT TO BE REC'D
7	16	2000620605	11105989- IRONDEQUOIT LIBRARY		\$ 4,014.21	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	22	2000622099	11105635- CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	UTP	\$ 133,606.48	
7	22	2000621297	11103572- PITTSFORD LIBRARY		\$ 3,438.63	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	22	2000621307	11105181- Rochester Public Library		\$ 631,222.40	SYSTEM SERVICES JAN-JUN24
7	22	2000621319	11106034- SCOTTSMILLE LIBRARY		\$ 441.37	ONLINE FINES DEC23-MAY24
7	23	2000622099	11105635- CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	FORTIANALYZER & INSTALL	\$ 41,264.06	
7	23	2000622099	11105635- CAMPBELLNET SOLUTIONS	FORTIGATE 2601F & INSTALL	\$ 44,173.28	
7	25	2000620916	11102058- CHILI LIBRARY		\$ 8,088.30	LLSA 2024-25 90%
7	25	2000621302	11104404- GREECE LIBRARY		\$ 26,919.90	LLSA 2024-25 90%
7	25	2000621304	11104449- RUSH LIBRARY		\$ 1,343.70	LLSA 2024-25 90%
7	25	2000621628	11105346- Webster Public Library		\$ 12,589.20	LLSA 2024-25 90%
7	31	2000621590	11103878-GEORGE EASTMAN MUSEUM	VIP PASS	\$ 1,800.00	
					\$ 1,120,306.66	



TO: MCLS Board of Trustees  
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director  
DATE: August 19, 2024  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report–August 2024

## ***Action Items***

### **MCLS Consortia Application Approval, NYSED Construction Grant (Smathers)**

Based on NYSED requirements that multiple library locations be submitted as a consortia application, we are requesting approval of a grant submission for a RPL Branch Library energy efficiency project. The Rochester City School District is under an Energy Performance Contract with Wendel Energy Services, LLC at the Thomas P. Ryan Community Center/School 33, and Anna Murray Douglass Academy/School 12. The Sully Branch Library and Frederick Douglass Community Library, respectively, have participated in the design process to replace interior and exterior lighting at these locations as part of this energy efficiency project. The cost for the library's portion of this work is \$110,800 and we are requesting 90% NYSED construction funding with \$12,000 in 2023-24 cash capital as match. Construction is scheduled for fall 2024.

Board Action Requested: Approve a consortia grant application for the NYSED Division of Library Development for the construction projects described, inclusive of two locations (Sully Branch Library and Frederick Douglass Community Library).

### **Clearpath HR Solutions Professional Services Agreement (Uttaro)**

In recent years, the library system has experienced many unprecedented challenges related to operations, staffing, and services, as discussed at past MCLS Board meetings. In June, the Director engaged in discussion with the MCLS member library directors to discuss the staffing challenges each has faced in administering their libraries. To address these issues, the Director's Office engaged with Clearpath HR Solutions, recommended by the Rochester Chamber, to discuss a potential professional development training opportunity. Clearpath has proposed a full-day training session focused on learning, networking, team building, and group decision-making, combining educational sessions with interactive activities. The total amount of the contract will not exceed \$4,950 with a term of September 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024.

Board Action Requested: Approve a professional services agreement with Clearpath HR Solutions, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$4,950 through December 31, 2024.

## ***Report & Discussion Items***

### ***MCLS Director Patricia Uttaro is reporting***

#### Recommended Reading & Viewing

- Packhorse Librarians Photography Exhibit - [https://www.smithmountaineagle.com/news/packhorse-librarians-photography-exhibit-at-moarts-gallery-through-august-31st/article\\_24980146-3eb3-11ef-94bd-0bf1a7670387.html](https://www.smithmountaineagle.com/news/packhorse-librarians-photography-exhibit-at-moarts-gallery-through-august-31st/article_24980146-3eb3-11ef-94bd-0bf1a7670387.html) Seemed appropriate to share this as RPL prepares to launch a new mobile library!
- Libraries & Parks: A Nature-Smart Partnership - <https://www.childrenandnature.org/resources/fnn-libraries-and-parks-a-nature-smart-partnership/> Reinforces our drive to provide Empire Passes to state parks.

- BPL's Chef-in-Residence Brings Plant-Based Cooking to Roxbury Library - <https://www.boston.com/food/food-news/2024/06/20/cooking-boston-public-library-chef-in-residence/>
- Exploring Basic Needs Support Across Public and Community College Libraries - <https://sr.ithaka.org/publications/exploring-basic-needs-support-across-public-and-community-college-libraries/>

### **Monroe County Digital Equity Initiative**

The Monroe County Library System is included in Monroe County's ARPA spending package, approved at the August 13 County Legislature meeting, to provide a 2-year digital equity initiative which will improve access to computers, the internet, and life-long learning across the county. The MCLS will receive \$3.1 million to provide the following services:

- Increase the number of Mifi portable internet devices across the system. These devices will primarily be managed through the Central Library's Reynolds Media Center.
- Establish a professional services contract with Literacy Rochester to support their Digital Literacy Navigator program which provides one-on-one computer assistance at 14 library locations. This program will increase the number of locations in Year 2.
- Establish a county-wide computer training program that will provide a series of classes in a variety of topics, taught by up to 10 instructors. The instructors will be hired on a contractual basis for up to 20 hours a week through the end of 2026. We anticipate training up to 1050 county residents and providing those who complete their courses of training with a computer to keep.
- Establish a county-wide subscription to the Udemy self-directed learning database, which has been available to City residents for several years.
- Install 10 solar-powered, Mifi-enabled charging stations/tables at selected sites throughout the county. These tables provide access to device-charging and internet. Locations are being explored.

This initiative will require the following additions to Central Library staff:

- A FT Librarian IV Project Manager position will be assumed by Jen Byrnes who will act as the core team lead for all activities.
- A FT Library Assistant will be added to the Reynolds Media Center to manage the Mifi loan program.
- A FT Clerk III will be added to support the Project Manager and the project in general.
- A FT Librarian I will be added to develop and oversee the instructional design and training program.
- A PT Computer Communications Technician will be added to support the IT portions of this project.

The full proposal to Monroe County is included with this packet where you can see specific details as we know them now. There will be a board action item on funding at a future meeting.

### ***MCLS Member Libraries***

#### ***Jennifer Smathers reporting***

In June and July, MCLS libraries proved beyond a doubt that *Adventure Starts at Your Library*. The state-wide summer reading theme fit beautifully with summer reading programs, outside storytimes, free fishing days promotion of library-borrowed fishing poles, Greentopia's [Famous Rochesterians](#) Scavenger Hunt, and many appearances of Books By Bike.

Brighton Memorial Library

Spidey senses were amazed during a visit with Josh Rice, from the NY State Puppet Festival, and his spider puppet. Afterward, attendees got to make their own puppets. Library outreach visits to the Brighton Farmer's Market included the opportunity to use KEVA planks or Design Builders construction toys. On Sunday July 28, over 500 people visited the library - that's at least 1 person every 30 seconds! When this news was shared on Facebook, patrons responded with positive comments about the library open on Sunday: *"It was bustling! It probably provided some relief from the heat."* *"It's a great library with a FANTASTIC staff that provides materials and services for diverse needs!!"*

Chili Public Library

A patron popped by Facebook to share, *"Best local library that I've lived near. Good memories of trips with our daughter during our Chili years."* Hopefully, the summer reading participants will feel the same way about the library.

East Rochester Public Library

Sometimes it can be hard to find exactly the right book. These tiny patrons knew to start at the library. One slightly older patron arrived in style to a Gazebo storytime in a car-stroller. He graciously shared with friends who wanted a ride.



Fairport Public Library

On Tuesday, June 11, 2024, the Fairport Public Library held a reception in honor of Suzanne Stockman, who has retired after serving on the Board of Trustees for 35 years. Staff, colleagues, friends, and family attended as Town Supervisor Ciaran Hanna presented her with a proclamation to commemorate her contributions to the community.



Gates Public Library

July 17 was World Emoji Day. Patrons on Facebook were challenged to guess the iconic book covers with only emojis as hints. Guesses were correctly made for every title except number 5.

- |     |  |  |
|-----|--|--|
| 1.) |  | 1.) <i>The Great Gatsby</i>                |
| 2.) |  | 2.) <i>Jaws</i>                            |
| 3.) |  | 3.) <i>It</i>                              |
| 4.) |  | 4.) <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>                  |
| 5.) |  | 5.) <i>I know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> |

Greece Public Library

Children had a fun time building and learning at Sensational STEM: Spaghetti Tower Marshmallow Challenge! STEM programs are popular and there are more to come.

The community is loving the newly completed spaces at the Greece Library. One commenter said, *“Our library is a jewel in our community! Renovations were done in a very thoughtful way.”*



Hamlin Public Library

Two hundred and fifteen people attended Hamlin’s Big Machine Day! Thanks to the community partners and volunteers who made it a HUGE success: Hamlin Fire Department, Hamlin Ambulance, Hamlin Highway Department, Brightly Farms, Brockport Transportation Department, Monroe County Sheriff’s Department (SWAT Team, Bomb Squad, and Drone Team), Friends of Hamlin Recreation, and volunteers Chris, Leah, Sheila, Lili, Phoebe, Sophia and Caleb.



Henrietta Public Library

To keep cool while waiting for folks to submit tiny art, the library staff had their own ice cream drawing contest. They had Elephant and Piggy on their minds after over 50 people attended that exciting event.



Last year, [R Community Bikes](#) collected 3 truckloads of bikes during HPL's Bike Rodeo so, back by popular demand, R Community Bikes returned in June to HPL's parking lot to collect more bikes and offer minor bike repairs.

Irondequoit Public Library

Less than 200 years ago, most people in the US held the funeral for their deceased loved ones at home. The tasks related to after-death care were seen as integral to the grieving process, and still are in many countries today where home funerals remain the norm. A local expert in hospice care hosted a Home Funeral Workshop: Demystifying the Tasks Related to After Death Care at Irondequoit in July. They talked about tasks related to after-death care, as well as how to work with a funeral home to have a meaningful experience that brings the most peace to each individual.

Mendon Public Library

Summer Reading took community members all around the Honeoye Falls-Lima-Mendon community. Did you see the library staff at Lazy Acres Alpaca Farm? Or 20 Deep Winery where we learned all about farming? How about in Harry Allen Park with Deric and Amy West, or the Honeoye Falls Water Treatment Plant? The Mendon Library was everywhere this summer! Mendon's [Teen Corner opening](#) even made the TV news!



Newman Riga Library

Adventure starts and puzzles are finished at your local library! People of all ages work on puzzles together at the Riga Library. For adults who want to join in summer reading, Riga's Adult Book Bingo sheet runs July through September. Winners will be announced in October.

Ogden Farmers' Library

Welcome to the newest librarian at Ogden., Sophia! They are responsible for all things teen at OFL. As their photo would suggest, Sophia is a huge fan of Edgar Allen Poe, and even had a cat named after one of his poems! When they aren't at the library, Sophia enjoys watching movies and reading horror novels.

Parma Public Library

Patrons visited Parma on July 29th for an engaging and unique journey through time that showcased the explorers and adventurers who came to this region.



The presentation included a historical survey starting with the ancient Algonkin nation, to the Senecas, to early colonizers, to our modern-day city. Presented by Matt Rogers from Transit Apparel, this event was sponsored by [Mainly Books Friends of Parma Public Library](#)

Parma's Family Game Kit for ages 2-3 has been appreciated by many patrons. It offers a great first start to games and learning simple rules. The kit includes My First Orchard, Roll & Play which is a motion and actions game, and a toddler at-home scavenger hunt. Parma offers other family game kits for ages 3-5 years, 5-8 years, 8-12 years, and teens. All are a part of their Library of Things collection.

### Penfield Public Library

The Penfield Library has an incredible team of volunteers who work tirelessly to bring the best to our community. Penfield is grateful to all who invest their time, skills, passion, and resources into the library. Whether they shelf-read, organize book sales, develop capital investment projects, work with book donors, provide funds for library programs and services, set up and tear down furniture for events, serve as a board member, swap book and movie recommendations with library staff, or perform those out-of-sight, thankless tasks that keep the library humming, they are incredible! Without our volunteers, library staff couldn't do their jobs.



### Pittsford Community Library

The Bills were back in Pittsford, so PCL went down to Schoen Place to celebrate with the Book Bike. Folks who answered some Bills trivia won books.

Mary Jo Lanphear, Town of Brighton Historian, presented a program at Pittsford about the Kodakids of World War II. These children of employees at Kodak's plant in Harrow, England came to Rochester in August 1940 expecting to stay for six months. Their sojourn instead lasted five years. The presentation on the little ambassadors included information about their influence on American foreign policy and their experiences in their new country.



### Rush Public Library

When Rush staff queried Facebook users about the number of books on their To-Be-Read (TBR) lists, they didn't hold back: "A few hundred I'd say. Some of course are higher ranked. That list is about 20." "Over 300 on Library saved lists (plural) not including my bookcases." "So, so many! Libraries make it all possible."



Here's hoping some ravenous readers will participate in Rush's Adopt an Author fundraiser. Donors select a favorite author from a list and make a \$15 tax-deductible donation to the library when their next book is published. The donor gets to be the first patron to read it, bypassing any other holds!

### Seymour Library

Summer reading kicked off with some good clean foam fun at the Seymour Library in Brockport. That was followed with lots of dirty hands with the gardening club. All the summer programs were so varied and engaging, no one had time to be blue. (Except for Bluey.)



### Webster Public Library

Webster celebrated all things adventure with a 3-week Adventure Camp! Each week participants made an adventure themed craft and snack for grades 4-12. Paracord compass keychains, trail mix, travel tic tac toe and granola bites, and adventure journals and s'mores cones were just a few of the adventures offered. Further adventures with the library in June and July included an arboretum tour, campfire songs, National Selfie Day, and the PB&J Olympics to support the Webster Community Chest.

## ***MCLS Office Updates***

### ***Jennifer Smathers reporting***

These months saw a fair amount of work-related travel, outreach events, and the occasional staff member vacation.

Throughout June and July, Alicia Gunther coordinated MCLS's participation in the Rochester Pride Parade and Festival on July 20. Over 20 representatives of MCLS member libraries walked in the parade. Six MCLS member library staff and 2 representatives from Shoulders to Stand On had a booth at the festival.

Gunther, Amanda Vargas-Dixon, and exhibit team members received the artwork for the Art of the Book Exhibit and have been working on exhibit detail preparations such as artist statements, artwork tracking forms, exhibit brochure, etc. In-person judging of the works will take place in early August. Gunther also finalized Art of the Book details with the Fringe Festival organizers and the exhibit is now officially part of the Fringe.

The “big games” in the MCLS collection were shared with 10 member libraries over the summer.



Social Media



Interlibrary Loan:

Lending:      Requests Received— 1030      Requests Filled— 308  
Borrowing:    Requests Received— 128      Requests Filled— 120

**Children's Services, Tonia Burton reporting**

Programs

- Katie Powell hosted a Donuts with Dad program on the Saturday before Father's Day. Participants ate snacks and made a handprint craft for a special guy in their life.
- Margarita Chaves held bilingual story times every Monday during the month of July. Families were able to participate in learning Spanish songs and Spanish vocabulary. After each story, participants were able to complete extension activities with their family members based on the story read.
- Powell hosted a program with Monroe County 4-H about Bees, Butterflies, and Bats. Students listened to a story about bees, got to touch a honeycomb, made pollinator bracelets and beehive art.
- Powell also facilitated five weekly storytime sessions at Highland Park with the help of Gabby Larsen, the consultant staff funded through a Konar grant. The storytime sessions were attended by students from the nearby Generations Highland Childcare Center, as well as families from the neighborhood.



Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Tonia Burton offered training for community partners on early literacy. She partnered with Quality Stars and WXXI. The sessions were:
  - Using The Pyramid Model Book Nooks to Build Social-Emotional Literacy
  - Spark Playful Literacy Learning with PBS KIDS!
  - Discover Your Next Beloved Read
  - Igniting Early Reading Adventures – (Supercharged Storytime)
  - Empowering Trusted Messengers: Spreading the Talking is Teaching Movement Across Rochester
  - Raising A Reader Program Management
  - DIY Flannel boards

Participants were treated to lunch and able to choose books to take back to their centers. This was supported by the Friends & Foundation through a Konar grant.

- Chelsea Arnold and Burton attended Harbor Festival, where they gave away books and information promoting summer reading.
- Burton organized a table at the WXXI PBS Kids Day at the Ballpark. She was joined by Natalie Soto (Lincoln), Shalis Worthy (Lyell), and Rebecca Rodriguez and Larsen (Central summer support staff.) Families played Minute-to-Win-It to win free books and made paper bag puppets.
- Burton and Rodriguez also visited The Freedom School to give out books and support their reading adventures.

- Larsen and Rodriguez visited Raising a Reader sites to offer storytimes and activities throughout July. Rodriguez also visited Wilson Commencement Summer Day Camp each week to offer STEM activities.

#### Anecdotes/Other

- During June and July, the Children's Center offered programs and adventures in addition to the annual Summer Reading game. This year's theme, Adventure Begins at Your Library, was a fun way to incorporate diverse types of programs and events. We were awarded additional funding through a grant from Konar Foundation through FFRPL. This funding allowed us to purchase books and Raising a Reader supplies to use with community partners, provide transportation to Central and Lincoln Library, and field trips for Maplewood Library.
- Support from the *I love My Library* state funding provided all member libraries the opportunity to participate in the World of Work with the Red Wings reading program. Each library chose winners to get tickets to the game and will hear from the Red Wings Owner Naomi Silver about all the behind-the-scenes jobs available in a minor baseball team's organization. One winner will get to throw out the first pitch at the home game on August 13.

#### ***Library Automation Services, Brenda LaCrosse reporting***

- Closed 477 helpdesk tickets.
- Jim Whittemore worked on prepping and moving equipment from the current Maplewood site to the new temporary location. Whittemore coordinated site visits with telecom carriers Spectrum and Crown Castle fiber to locate access to the temporary site's demarcation point.
- Nick Pembroke configured Microsoft group policy to deploy a FortiGate SSL certificate to all RPL PCs to eliminate the security warning. He configured break glass admin accounts in the event of a need for emergency access to the M365 tenant. A break glass account is an account that is used for emergency purposes to gain access to a system or service that is not accessible under normal controls. Finished the MCLS ePortal replacement on SharePoint and presented it to LAS staff and the MCLS associate director.
- In addition to his comprehensive work on the updated e-Portal, Pembroke worked through a Microsoft Licensing change taking effect on August 1, 2024, by reading many articles to understand the changes, wrote documentation for MCLS staff to access the web-apps (multiple methods) and migrated all users from expiring "A1 Plus" to "A1" license.
- Brenda LaCrosse worked with Campbellnet Solutions to perform major upgrades to the MCLS edge firewall and network analyzer.
- Tristan Young configured a new VPN tunnel on the temporary Maplewood site. Crown Castle Fiber was not able to complete the service connection within a 6-month window. As a result, we are using Spectrum which posed some configuration challenges for our network.

#### ***Outreach Department, Maren Kyle reporting***

##### In-Home Library Service

Outreach staff selected and distributed library materials to 36 in-home patrons:

- 33 patrons received a home delivery of library materials (540 items total)
- 3 patrons received a cartridge loaded with digital audiobooks from the NYS Talking Book and Braille library by mail (48 titles total)
- 1 reference packets mailed to in-home patrons.

### Library Stations/Micro Collection Lending Service

- June:
  - 14 library stations served.
  - 989 items distributed.
  - Special requests were filled for 7 sites.
- July:
  - 11 library stations served.
  - 680 items distributed.
  - Special requests were filled for 7 sites.

### Corrections and Reentry Support

- Jail Presentation: On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Ron Freitag and Wes Becker delivered a presentation regarding local library and reentry services to a group of 12 women at the Monroe County Jail.
- Outreach staff fulfilled 9 requests for physical “Making Moves” reentry resource packets.
- “Making Moves” webpage received 76 total pageviews.

### Other Outreach

- Presentation: Ron Freitag spoke to the current cohort of Pathstone’s Employment Focused Services Program about essential library services, with an emphasis on library collections and services that are of value to individuals who are job hunting. The program serves individuals 18+ on probation and who are court-referred. All participants are unemployed.
- Short Story Discussion Program: Outreach librarians resumed monthly visits to Lifespan senior day programs where we listen to a short story read by Levar Burton and then discuss it.
  - June:
    - Lily Café: “Singing on a Star” by Ellen Klages, 6 participants
    - Wolk Café: “Pockets” by Amal El-Mohtar, 16 participants
  - July:
    - Lily Café: “The Lady of the Yellow Painted Library” by Tobi Ogundiran, 3 participants
    - Wolk Café: “The November Story” by Rebecca Makkai, 18 participants

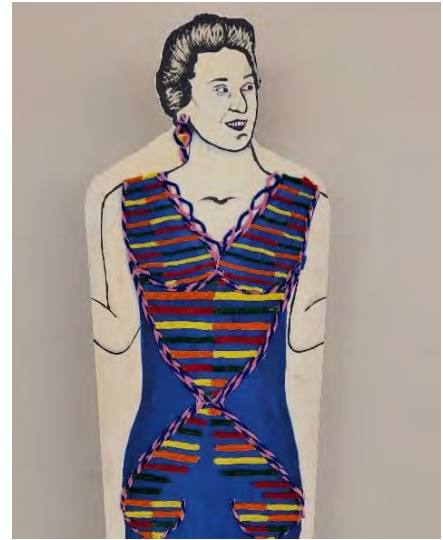
## **Central Library Updates**

### **Emily Clasper reporting**

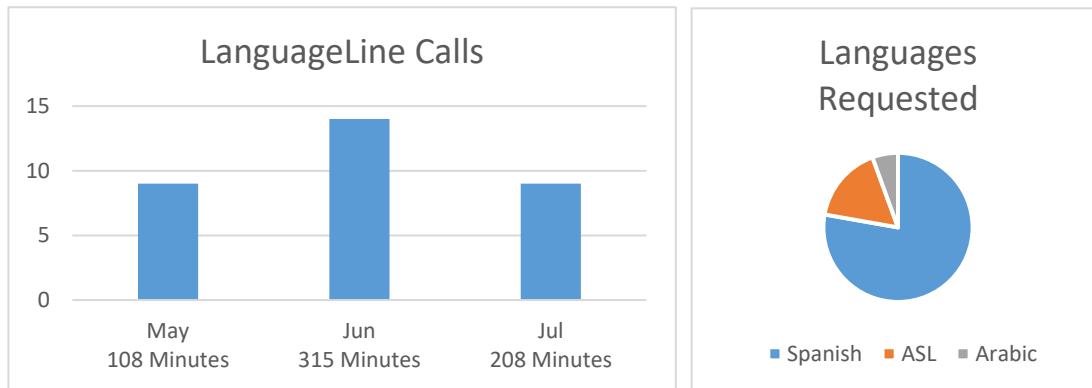
- The Central Library celebrated our new corporate neighbors, Constellation Brands, with a banner welcoming them to the neighborhood. Constellation responded by sending donuts for the Central staff. Colleagues at City Hall thanked us for the gesture, expressing that it was a wonderful way to highlight the relationship between downtown businesses and City of Rochester departments. Library staff then attended the Constellation grand opening event, which gave us a chance to promote the offerings of the Central Library and make some connections.



- Emily Clasper has recently met with representatives from the Memorial Art Gallery, St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Rochester Education Opportunity Center to discuss potential future partnerships that will enhance the services of the Central Library and bring new services and opportunities for growth to our patrons.
- The Central Library participated in Greentopia's *Famous Rochesterians* Art Project by hosting six art pieces in July. These cut-out representations of famous Rochesterians were part of a 14-library scavenger hunt that ranged across the entire county. The pieces were then auctioned off during Greentopia's "Reflections on the River" Gala event, hosted in Rundel's Hacker Hall on August 1.
- Clasper attended the 2024 Library Advocacy and Funding Conference, a virtual event that centers on advocacy and funding strategies from experts from the library field as well as other sectors. This year's conference featured many sessions on managing materials challenges and controlling these situations so that they do not become a public relations nightmare. Attendance at this conference included access to recordings of sessions from past years, which have provided helpful information about budgeting practices, advocacy, and the use of data to design and market services.
- Clasper and Jennifer Smathers attended the 2024 New York Alliance of Library Systems (NYALS) Summer Symposium, which included additional meetings for the Public Library System Directors Organization (PULISDO). Discussion at these meetings covered issues currently facing our colleagues at other NY Library systems, and included discussions of library funding, advocacy, policy, and marketing. Preliminary plans for the upcoming 2025 budget advocacy season were discussed, with a sizable portion of the time devoted to a collaborative process where participants worked to set priorities and shape the messaging that will be used to communicate our needs in Albany.
- The "Secret Stash" exhibit in the Anthony Mascioli Gallery highlights rarely seen treasures from the Central Library's collections. Staff and patrons alike have commented on what a treat it has been to get a glimpse of these unique items they may never have known about otherwise!



- The LanguageLine on-demand interpreting service has been in use at the Central Library since mid-April. In the first three full months, Central staff have used this service 32 times for a total of 631 minutes of interpreting. The most requested language is Spanish, with some ASL interpreting via video call and two requests for Arabic. Staff feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with enthusiasm from staff regarding how easy the service is to use. The one criticism has been that it would be even easier to use if staff had dual handset telephones to use for this service, so we are currently looking into obtaining these for the service desks.



- In June, we began using a restroom monitoring system in the Technology Center to provide staff with an alert for possible overdose or other medical issue. The [BRAVE Overdose Detection System](#) sends a text message to key library staff when there is no motion in an occupied restroom for a period of time, or when the restroom is occupied for a long time. Staff can then ask Security to perform a wellness check on the restroom. In July, we received 61 alerts, averaging two or three alerts per day. In most cases, the patron responded to the wellness check, or was already gone before Security arrived. Staff feedback has been universally positive, with many expressing relief that there is a safety net in place to alert us to potential issues, and a sense that any “false alarms” we experience are a small price to pay for being able to respond in a timely manner when there is a real issue.
- A team of Central and Branch staff has been formed to implement a new [Patron Incident Tracking System \(PITS\)](#) for all RPL Branches and Central. This system is designed to improve reporting and tracking of security incidents and help communicate more effectively with staff about issues that occur. We hope to launch this system in mid to late September.

### **Arts/Literature, Don Hyatt, Andrew Coyle, Melissa Manczuk reporting**

#### Programs

- Don Hyatt began his series of Cyanotype programs, taking advantage of the summer sun we enjoy at this time of year. Hyatt begins the programs talking about the history of the Cyanotype process and the chemistry that is occurring when the Sun's UV rays hit the light sensitive materials. These cyanotype programs have been occurring bi-monthly and will continue through August.
- Photo walk: *Rochester's photographic history before Eastman 1840-1880* This photo walk was an informed look at the photographic processes that developed within this 40-year era and how they were seen through the development of Rochester. Presenter Don Hyatt had an engaged audience that was interested in the various processes of the time. Patrons were interested in the processes



represented as well as the persons within the imagery. This walk was about 1.5 miles and provided a different historical look at the downtown landscape in the era of the Erie canal and Rochester's major growth at the time. The program ended in a location with a photograph taken by Eastman himself, showing how this earlier history informed the background that developed and shaped Eastman's further developments in the advancement of photography.

### Outreach

- Lifespan program: Cyanotypes of local history. Hyatt visited the downtown Lifespan facility and had an audience that enjoyed looking through imagery to make prints. The group was deeply interested in the action processing the prints in water and the second bath in peroxide to have the vivid blue of the prints develop out. As this was an older audience, many spoke about their own memories of some of the places that were seen within the imagery that was used for prints.



### Anecdotes

The digital literary journal of the Arts and Literature Division, *Rundelania*, published its 15th issue and has been the most popular issue yet, more than 2500 views in May alone!

### ***Business Insight Center (BIC), Jennifer Byrnes, reporting***

#### Programs

- Introduction to the Cannabis Industry, presented by Cannabis Workforce Initiative. This program helped prospective cannabis industry employees learn more about the strict regulations they will need to know.
- The Science of Cannabis Symposium, presented by BLOOM ROC raised the awareness of the industry and informed aspiring cannabis entrepreneurs about the variety of support services available to them in the area.
- Estate Planning and Intellectual Property, presented by Tracy Jong of Evans Fox showed participants that your intellectual property does not die with you. The speaker discussed the importance of having an Intellectual Property Plan and making arrangements for who will inherit your Intellectual Property when you die.

#### Outreach

- Byrnes met with Davis Craig, Director of Economic Empowerment for Connected Communities, Inc. to discuss how BIC can assist their clients. Their mission is to partner with city residents in the Beechwood and EMMA neighborhoods to break the cycle of poverty through antiracist community revitalization and equitable resource coordination.
- Tim Palmer, former head of Eastman Business Park, is currently living in Bristol, RI, where he serves on the Friends of the Library Board. Byrnes consulted with Tim and Peter Maloney, another board member, on how to provide business services to their community.
- Byrnes met with Jacqueline Kelly-Myers, senior stakeholder liaison for the IRS. Through the IRS, the division will provide a four-week program on small business taxes in addition to tax scams.
- Melissa Cobo staffed a table at the City of Rochester's Entrepreneurial Networking and Relationship Building Event.



- Cobo attended the Connected Communities Town Hall 2024 – Emma/Beechwood Neighborhood Networking event.
- Byrnes presented on BIC services to the latest Luminate cohort for NextCorps.
- Byrnes presented to the latest FoodFutureCo cohort on BIC services, a food and beverage accelerator based in NYC.
- Jennifer Byrnes met with Brian Farmer, Deputy Director of Business Incubation for the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) and Dr. Brandy Young of Certainty Analytics to discuss forthcoming grants from the OCM.
- Melissa Cobo and Lily Anthony attended Statista AI Research Overview, sponsored by the database Statista. They also attended a webinar on using the Patent Public Search database through the US Patent and Trademark Office website.

#### Anecdotes

- Byrnes has been appointed to the American Library Association's Business Research Competencies Task Force.
- BIC will be working with the companies in the NY SMART-I Corridor, a \$40 M initiative. Over the next five years, the consortium will serve a critical role in supporting Upstate New York's continued growth into a globally competitive center of semiconductor workforce development, innovation, and manufacturing—part of the continued transformation from rust belt to innovation belt, the state says.
- Anthony and Cobo assisted a Cornell University professor with using the Patent Public Search database, and he expressed interest in having the Business Insight Center teach his Cornell graduate class how to use the database in the 2024-2025 academic year.

#### Consulting

- Hours of in-depth market research/prior art searching: 106
- The Carlson Center for Intellectual Property assisted:
  - In person: 6
  - Email: 23
  - Mail: 3
  - Phone: 3
  - Zoom: 4
  - 3D Printer: 2
  - Webpage views: 34
  - Requests Outside Greater Rochester Area: 32
  - Referrals to Tracy Jong: 1

#### Database Usage Statistics

- Frost & Sullivan: Page views: 1; Value: \$950
- IBISWorld: Page views: 96; Value: \$46,120
- InnovationQ: Logins: 17; Searches: 47
- PitchBook Logins: 38
- Mintel: Page Views: 11; Downloads: 8
- Statista: Page views: 76; Downloads: 21

### ***Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting***

#### Statistics

- Curbside Pickup Appointments-2
- New Borrowers- 554
- RRLC Access Cards Issued- 13
- Notarial Acts- 238

#### Anecdotes

- A patron e-mailed to ask about getting a Rochester Regional Library Council Access Pass. She is a Rochester resident, studying at a college out of state, and wanted to know if the pass would give her access to the collection of the University of Rochester. Cunningham e-mailed her back instructions on how to apply for a pass and she had one within 30 minutes.
- A patron came to check out a copy of the movie *Mary Poppins*. It has been her favorite movie since she was a child. She has had a string of rather unfortunate events lately, and being able to watch the movie helps keep her spirits up. She and Cunningham discussed the importance of being positive and the joy of being colorful and expressive.
- A patron needed help using the fax machine. She was having difficulty typing out the information for the cover sheet. Cunningham volunteered to type for her. Cunningham then proceeded to type every single word incorrectly. The two of them were laughing so hard they were crying. Both agreed it was great to start the day laughing.
- Kathy Sochia assisted a patron who needed help filling out some paperwork. He was having trouble writing and Sochia spent a significant amount of time writing down the information he dictated to her.
- Stephanie Penns assisted a patron who needed multiple copies of some extensive paperwork. When the print jobs were released, the patron was confused and Penns helped him collate his print jobs and organize his paperwork.

### ***Local History & Genealogy, Christine L. Ridarsky reporting***

#### Programs

- Cynthia Howk, retired architectural research coordinator for the Landmark Society of Western New York, presented a talk entitled "Lost and Found: The Photos of Henry Durgin, Rochester's Most Talented Amateur Photographer, 1880s–1890s." Howk discussed Durgin's career, his photographic artistry, and rediscovery of the photographs themselves.
- The division's outdoor walking tours continued to be popular. Dan Cody led 29 people on a June tour entitled "Beyond Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass: Activism in Rochester," and 22 people joined Emily Morry's tour, "Multicultural Rochester: Immigrants, Migrants, and Minorities in the Flower City" in July.
- Brandon Fess gave a talk at the Fairport Public Library on "Discovering Local History & Genealogy at RPL." The talk was an overview of the collections held here and how to use them.

#### Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Christine Ridarsky was a guest on WXXI's Connection with Evan Dawson where she discussed plans for the new High Falls State Park and Greentopia's Reflections on the River art project. Listen at <https://www.wxxinews.org/show/connections/2024-07-30/how-can-parks-reflect-local-history>.

- Brandon Fess and Sheila Pietrowski represented the Shoulders to Stand On LGBTQIA+ Archive at the library's table at the Rochester Pride Festival in July. They reported that they had conversations with numerous people who might be interested in contributing personal or organizational archives to the collection in the future.
- Ridarsky attended a meeting of the City of Rochester's Heritage Committee. She also met with the new director of social studies for BOCES to discuss educational resources at the library and possibilities for future collaboration.

Digital Projects

The FamilySearch scanning team continued operations in June and July.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Volume</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Total</b>
Nazareth Academy	1915-1932	Nazareth Academy	10
The Lanthorn	1934-2010	Nazareth Academy	73
Vignettes Our Lady of Mercy	1951-1968	Our Lady of Mercy HS	16
Veritas Our Lady of Mercy	1969-1998	Our Lady of Mercy HS	17
Junction	1951-2013	Penfield HS	29
HiLights	1952-1969	Pittsford Central School	7
Sutherland St	1970-1974	Pittsford HS	4
HEIMSKRINGLA	1975-2015	Pittsford Mendon HS	24
Sutherland St	1978	Sutherland HS	1
metamorphosis	1985	Sutherland HS	1
Kaleidoscope	1989-2017	Pittsford Sutherland HS	25
Hi-Lights	1946-1948	Pittsford HS	3
Legacy Barker Road	1970-1983	Barker Road Jr. High	4
ZENOBIA Palmyra-Macedon	1964-1980	Palmyra-Macedon H. S.	4
Academy of the Sacred Heart	1948, 1969	Sacred Heart Academy	2
Senior Annual R. Catholic HS	1917	Rochester Catholic HS	1
ECHO Bergen HS	1951	Bergen HS	1
AINODELAC Caledonia HS	1932	Caledonia HS	1
Annual of West High Rochester	Jun 19	West High Rochester	1
The Monrolog	1944	Monroe HS	1
RIDGELIN Lincoln School	1951	Lincoln School	1
KALEIDOSCOPE T. Edison S.	1958	Thomas Edison School	1
The Rushes	1946	Rush High School	1
SODUSKAN	1935	Sodus High School	1
Roll Call	1950-1951	Leavenworth School	2
KIONDAGA	1946-1953	Keuka College	3
Kodak High School	1926	Kodak High School	1
Genoatk	1948	Scottsville, HS	1
The Right Angle: Sr. Annual Rochester Tech HS	Jun-25	Rochester Tech HS	1
St. Mary's Marvia	1948-1950	St. Mary's Sch. of Bus.	3

Title	Volume	Author	Total
Sr. Annual Rochester Catholic High	1914-1915	Rochester Catholic HS	2
ECHO	1931	Palmer Institute Starkey Sem	1
The TROUBADOUR	1951	Kendall Central Sch.	1
The Rochester Gem	Vol. 3 1831 - Vol.6 1834	The Rochester Gem	3

Interns/Volunteers

- Noeme Liestman provided a total of 5.75 hours of volunteer time in June. She completed processing the Whitelaw Roemer Photograph Collection, an ample collection of documentary, experimental, and fine art photographic prints from a local amateur photographer.
- Volunteer Karen Sue Brown continued working on sorting and filing newspaper clippings. She provided 50.5 hours of service in June and July. The focus of her work continues to be clippings that were left unfiled in 2012; she also spent time completing a needed revision and reorganization of clipping files on research projects at the University of Rochester and Strong Memorial Hospital and continuing revisions of files on both Wegmans and area wineries.
- Kaye Gray completed 30.5 hours of volunteer service in June and July. In that time, she created finding aids for 19 archival collections.
- Our summer intern, Savannah Devore, contributed 60 hours in July. She wrote biographical descriptions for incoming Archive of Black History and Culture collections, then worked on the arrangement and description of the newly acquired Donovan Shilling Papers.

Social Media

- A late May post to the Local History ROCs! blog, “Why Wegman?: the History of 72-80 West Main Street, Pt. 2,” written by Christopher Brennan, received 51 views in June.
- While researching a new blog post, Morry came across a ca. 2022 PhD dissertation, “A view from Oregon Street: an analysis of ethnic sport and social clubs in Rochester, NY, 1880-1915,” by Alec Hurley (University of Texas at Austin), which cited two blog posts from Local History Rocsl: “Lost Leisure: the Story of one of Rochester’s Earliest Entertainment Destinations,” by Morry and “Jewish Rochester,” by Michelle Finn. The dissertation can be read online at <https://repositories.lib.utexas.edu/items/7eda9a94-59e6-41e7-9194-c152286d9407>
- Two new articles were posted to the Local History ROCs! blog in July: “More than One Month is Pride Month in Rochester, NY,” written by Hope Christansen, and “Ahhh...the French’s: The History of Rochester’s Mustard Mongers, pt.2” written by Emily Morry, who also edits the blog. Those posts received a total of 42 views in July.
- Readers revisited more than 240 previously published posts, which garnered more than 5,500 views from readers in more than 33 countries.



### Anecdotes

- Fess found one reference question from the month especially memorable: A patron wrote via e-mail asking for any information available on an ancestor named John Burke, a foundry owner who died sometime in the 1870s. Fess began searching for information, only to find an overwhelming number of sources. As it turned out, despite not exactly being a common name, Rochester had three notable men named John Burke at the time: a City Council member, a professional con artist, and the foundryman being researched! Once this became clear, Fess was able to focus the results and find a detailed obituary for the John Burke in question.

### ***Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting***

#### Reference

RMC handled 1686 reference questions and 630 non-reference transactions for a total of 2316.

#### RMC Circulation

Total circulation of RMC materials, including those that occurred at other libraries was 23,200

#### Hoopla

Total Circulation – 5618

#### Community Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Robert Scheffel had a zoom meeting w/Beth Adams of WXXI re Central's "Secret Stash" exhibit.
- Diane Gardner did a book review of *Every Living Thing* by Jason Roberts for "Audiofile" Magazine's Aug issue.

### Anecdotes

A patron was standing just outside of Media Center, reading the posters of upcoming programs (Jazz Concerts and Summer Movie Matinees) and she exclaimed; "Holy S\*\*\*\*! I never knew there was so much to do here. I should have f\*\*\*ing retired much sooner!" And with that she took a copy of all the flyers that were on the table by the Program Calendar

### ***Science and History, Gabe Pellegrino reporting***

#### Programs

- America's entry into the Vietnam conflict: Lyndon B. Johnson & the Gulf of Tonkin Incident-- presented by Mark Sample, MCC history professor. Mark discussed the events that occurred after JFK's assassination and how America got involved with the Vietnam War. The audience was engaged throughout Mark's presentation.



- Clarence Darrow: The People's Defense Attorney— presented by Mark Sample, MCC history professor, talked about the people that Darrow represented in court including the famous cases of Leopold & Loeb and the John Scopes Trials. A small group attended the program, and everyone was interested and engaged with Mark's presentation; several people asked questions.
- Come Along on a Mystery Trip! - This Zoom Travelogue program was presented by Lisa Wemett and Terry Mulee who have taken trips throughout Western New York State and the Finger Lakes including Ithaca, Buffalo, and many small towns. They explored and photographed gardens, scenic views, and art. They shared what they discovered. They also provided a handout to share that listed all the places discussed throughout their presentation. Renee Kendrot and Melissa Manczuk collaborated to plan and host this program. There were a lot of positive comments from the people who attended.
- Gardens of Southern England and the Chelsea Flower Show Travelogue - Another Zoom-based program was presented by Ken Harbison. Ken and his wife Judy traveled to Southern England to twelve diverse gardens. They also attended the Chelsea Flower Show. Ken shared lots of beautiful pictures of the gardens and the Chelsea Flower Show. There were many positive comments from the people who attended this program. Kendrot and Melissa Manczuk collaborated to plan and host this program. The Come Along on a Mystery Trip! and Gardens of Southern England and the Chelsea Flower Show Travelogues were programs to correspond with the MCLS Summer Reading theme- Adventure Begins in Your Library.

#### Outreach/Meetings/Training

- Gabriel Pellegrino was invited to be a guest speaker at the Wilmot Community Conversations on Cancer Webinar series for their June presentation on the Biobank. Dr. Bradley Mills, PhD., is the director of the Biobank Shared Resource, which provides access to deidentified biospecimen and metadata for research use. As the Central Library is a Community Partner and Pellegrino serves on the Biobank Advisory Committee, he spoke on the importance of this resource to the public, especially underserved populations, and how it can help the greater good through research, much in the same way clinical trials are important and useful to all. The Biobank Advisory Committee also held its semiannual meeting in July.
- Pellegrino attended the Center for Community Health & Prevention Community Partner Breakfast, at their building on Prince Street. This was a fantastic opportunity for networking among the various partners. The Central Library is involved in multiple fruitful partnerships with CCHP, including the Distinction in Health medical student outreach program.
- LROC (Library Resource Outreach Center) visitors continued to be busy through the early summer, though there were many cancellations. Legal Assistance of Western New York (LawNY) have reestablished their

presence at the library once a month, and more frequently in the fall. Pellegrino also handled 15 LROC referrals through the UniteUs platform, connecting the individuals with needed help.

- Pellegrino attended the monthly meeting of the Cancer Community Action Council. The Community-Driven Cancer Workgroup is working on a new project regarding promotion of clinical trials for underrepresented groups. It will focus on creating brochures redocumenting historical studies which have led to distrust. The Tuskegee Study and the Puerto Rico Contraceptive Trials have been chosen and the literature will show how clinical trials have greatly improved through present day.

### Anecdotes

- Alaikia Miller created displays for Pride Month and Disability Pride Month, along with Summer Sips, a cocktail- and mocktail-oriented display. These have been immensely popular, with many patron loans.
- Patrons continue to be impressed with the breadth of the collections in the Science Division. Civil Service and test study materials continue to be popular, with many new exams occurring during the summer. The library has been a busy place and seating has been full in the Division throughout this time.

### **Technology Center, Jay Osborne Reporting**

### Anecdotes

- Many months ago, the Tech Center staff helped a local entrepreneur create a watermarked template for all his client-facing paperwork. Tech Center staff helped him create a few project proposals, and mentioned that if they were accepted, he would be able to hire local people to do the work. A year later our friend has a crew of seven and is bidding on increasingly larger projects. This week Jonathan Hammond took on the project of showing him how to create a polished project proposal using Google Docs that included text links to images and videos, highlighting specific features of the project. Our friend was incredibly happy and now he can use this proposal as a template for other projects in the future. Two days later he brought in two Spanish speaking women who needed help getting through the basic paperwork of setting up their business. He asked for Pedro Nunez, our native Spanish speaker on the Technology Center staff. He made introductions and told the women in his own halting Spanish "Pedro's great! You'll get all the help you need down here!"
- Lately Technology Center staff have been helping out in Teen Central. It seems as though the teens respond well to having an extra adult in the room, and behavior issues have been minimal. Cy Shropshire has lost a game of chess and a game of scrabble against two very smart teens, and lost ping pong battles to many more. Trevor Johnson seems also to be genuinely enjoying his time in Teen Central. It's been beneficial to our ability to recognize our regular patrons. Many of the teens that frequent the teen center can also be seen walking through the link between programming sessions.



**Teen Central, Jeff Bostic reporting**

Programs

The Adolescents Inspiring through Multi-Media (AIMM) program started this month. Action for a Better Community sends their AIMM program to the library as part of their Summer Youth Employment Program. They learn technical skills, job readiness skills, and get to express themselves. Many kids stay past work hours to utilize other facets of the library that they are unable to utilize while working. The kids are learning to use photography, videography, social media skills, and writing techniques to produce media that voices their message to the community. They have made posters, logos, skits, AI images, and multiple websites. Check out the behind the scenes website here:

<https://express.adobe.com/page/8cmyE1pd1hn2a/> and the portfolio here: <https://jnbostic532d.myportfolio.com>



Anecdotes

- Staffing issues in Teen Central have begun to take a positive turn with the return of Youth Services Assistant John Hylton and the addition of two new staff members: Part-Time Youth Services Assistant Trudy Iervolino and Part Time Librarian I Courtney Withey. Additionally, Antoine McDonald from Local History has been temporarily assigned to Teen Central to lend additional support during the summer months. We are hopeful that Youth Services Coordinator Shetora Banks will also return from medical leave soon. In the meantime, staff from the Children’s Center and Technology center have also been helping.



- A teen who is a talented musician and music producer, asked John Hylton to help him create a flyer for a performance and a business card for his music production. Together, they were able to create designs using the design program Adobe Illustrator. The process was a great learning experience using problem solving skills and attention to detail. The teen was pleased with the result and was introduced to a new resource that will be useful to him in the future.
- A Teen Central teen was going through some challenging times in his life and made a bad decision in the library that caused him to be barred. After being barred and experiencing a personal loss, homelessness, and being fired from his job, he took actions that landed him in some legal trouble. Realizing that this usually nice and caring youth needed help, Central staff and administration worked to find this young man the resources and support he needed. The teamwork from the RPL staff was inspiring and exemplified the compassion needed in how we assess and interact with youth in need.







Date: July 12, 2024  
To: Laura Smith, Chief Deputy County Attorney; BJ Scanlon, Aide to the County Executive  
From: Patricia Uttaro, Director Monroe County Library System  
Re: Digital Equity Initiative Funding Proposal

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The Monroe County Library System is pleased submit the attached budget for a digital equity project beginning Fall 2024 and concluding December 31, 2026.

The library system proposes the following:

1. An immediate increase in the number of MiFi devices made available for loan throughout the 30 library locations in Monroe County. The Central Library Media Center staff has 4 years of experience in managing the MiFi loan program and are prepared to order, process, and deploy up to 1000 devices by November 30, 2024. The funding proposal includes a staffing position to manage the increase. This position will be the primary contact between the library system and the vendor and with the member libraries. The position will manage procurement, processing, training, and maintenance of all devices in the system. There are currently 400 devices in the system, with 420 people waiting for their turn. This increase will immediately satisfy the existing wait list.
2. Necessary staffing to support this work includes:
  - a. Project Manager position – Jennifer Byrnes, currently Head of the Central Library Business Insight Center, will step into the role of Project Manager. Jennifer has significant experience in managing large projects and we are confident she will deliver a successful project here.
  - b. Instructional Designer and Technology Coordinator – it is expected a current staff member from the Central Library Technology Center will step into this role. The librarian in question has designed and delivered technology training at Central and in several City branches. This position will report to the Project Manager.
  - c. Administrative Support – a Clerk III/Typing will manage schedules, data collection, and procurement. This position will report to the Project Manager.
  - d. Computer Communications Technician – is responsible for supporting the equipment and will report to the MCLS IT Supervisor.
  - e. MiFi Program Manager – this position will manage procurement, processing, deploying, training, and troubleshooting for the 1000 MiFi units. This position will report to the Supervisor of the Central Library Media Center.
3. Develop a 2-year training program available in selected locations throughout the county, including libraries, senior centers, and low-income housing developments. This program will train a projected 1050 residents in 2025 and 2026 on basic, intermediate, and advanced computer operations. An Instructional Design position will develop the training based on topics and needs identified through the 20 library directors in Monroe County. Courses will run on a 4-

week schedule at 7 sites concurrently – 2 on the westside, 3 in the City (with one at Central Library), and 2 on the eastside. The draft course schedules is:

- a. March 3 - 28, 2025
- b. April 7 – May 2, 2025
- c. May 5 – 30, 2025
- d. July 7 – August 1, 2025
- e. August 4 – 29, 2025
- f. October 6 – 31, 2025
- g. November 3 – 28, 2025
- h. January 5 – 30, 2026
- i. February 2 – 27, 2026
- j. April 6 – May 1, 2026
- k. May 4 – 29, 2026
- l. July 6 – 31, 2026
- m. August 3 – 28, 2026
- n. October 5 – 30, 2026
- o. November 2 – 27, 2026

Planning and review time is built in every two months to assess the success of the training, adjust as necessary, and gather & report data. Classes are planned for 10 people per class per site for a total of 1,050 potential graduates by the end of 2026. Students completing a course will keep the computer they have used in the class. The quote is a blended rate for Chromebooks, which will be used for basic and some intermediate classes, and laptops which will be used for advanced classes in topics such as coding.

A draft roster of classes, drawn from discussion with member library directors and informed by their experiences with patrons in our libraries, includes:

- Basic Computer Skills
- Intermediate Computer Skills
- Advanced Computer Skills
- Coding
- Resume Building
- Job Applications, Civil Service
- ID.me, NY.ID, IRS & other govt websites
- Photo Manipulation & Digitization
- Web Development
- Business Use
- Security - Staying Safe Online
- Use of mobile devices
- Lifestyle use - insurance, trips, banking
- Social Media
- Art & Music
- Advanced class on networking - setting up a network in your home

The Project Manager and Instructional Designer will plan and develop the curriculum and begin hiring instructors September 2024 – December 2024.

Up to six 20-hour per week instructors will be hired to deliver the classes throughout the county. The Instructional Designer will train the instructors on the curriculum and monitor their performance throughout the life of the project.

It is being considered that students who move through basic, intermediate, and advanced classes successfully may also be recruited to become instructors and navigators in their communities.

4. Support and enhance the Digital Literacy Navigator program currently in 14 libraries and staffed by Literacy Volunteers of Rochester. MCLS initiated this program more than 10 years ago and it has been a very successful partnership. From July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, DLN's provided 2,708 hours of one-on-one computer assistance at 14 libraries in Monroe County. Within the scope of this project, Literacy Volunteers will add DLNs at 6 additional sites to be determined and provide up to 55 hours of service a week across the designated sites.
5. Install 10 solar-powered internet outpost tables at selected locations such as low-income and senior housing facilities and parks throughout Monroe County. We recommend the Lynx table which provides device charging and wifi. Wifi is a monthly \$30 expense per table. We are aware of one such installation in Monroe County on the UR campus, although the tables are installed in hundreds of locations nationally. We will work with the State Librarian over the next 2 years to advocate to make this type of internet outpost service eligible for annual reimbursement through the federal e-rate program, thus providing some sustainability for the tables after this project is completed.



6. Procure a countywide subscription to Udemy, a database for self-directed learners that provides access to thousands of courses. Udemy has been available to City residents for several years and is well-used. This will provide an opportunity for people who graduate from the training classes to continue to pursue online learning, post-training.

This proposal will be amended to include more detail as we hear feedback from Monroe County.

**Anticipated Timeline:**

This is a flexible timeline and we anticipate there could be supply chain issues and possible delays in hiring the necessary staff. This is the best projection we can give at this moment.

Activity	Begin	End
Hire Staff	August 2024	November 2024
We anticipate using existing Central Library staff for the Project Manager and Instructional Designer positions. We will backfill their current positions with temporary 2-year staff. The other positions will be posted through City of Rochester Department of Human Resources. We are using existing titles with current civil service lists, so the process should be done in a reasonable time.		
Order, process & deploy Mifis	August/September 2024	November 2024
Order equipment	August/September 2024	October/November 2024
Complete subscription to Udemy	August 2024	August 2024
Design Curriculum	September 2024	December 2024
Engage Digital Literacy Navigators	September 2024	December 2026
Receive & prep equipment	October/November 2024	December 2024
Order & receive solar tables	September 2024	November 2024
Train on solar tables	December 2024	January/February 2025
Hire instructors	November/December 2024	December 2024/January 2025
Train instructors	January 2025	February 2025
Advertise & register for training classes	January 2025	November 2026
Install solar tables	May 2025	June 2025

I am happy to answer your questions and look forward to your feedback.

MCLS Circulation

<b>Town Libraries</b>				
	<b>June 2024</b>	<b>June 2023</b>	<b>+/-</b>	<b>%</b>
Brighton	50,716	43,674	7,042	16.1%
Seymour	13,004	11,367	1,637	14.4%
Chili	18,811	17,733	1,078	6.1%
East Rochester	3,746	3,604	142	3.9%
Fairport	58,372	51,914	6,458	12.4%
Gates	21,461	18,002	3,459	19.2%
Greece	47,785	44,299	3,486	7.9%
Hamlin	4,580	4,161	419	10.1%
Henrietta	39,994	35,733	4,261	11.9%
Irondequoit	39,521	36,057	3,464	9.6%
Mendon	9,561	7,875	1,686	21.4%
Newman Riga	2,197	2,034	163	8.0%
Ogden	11,622	11,410	212	1.9%
Parma	8,251	7,037	1,214	17.3%
Penfield	35,910	36,661	(751)	-2.0%
Pittsford	51,554	45,155	6,399	14.2%
Rush	2,113	2,615	(502)	-19.2%
Mumford	807	559	248	44.4%
Scottsville	2,599	2,341	258	11.0%
Webster	40,242	36,183	4,059	11.2%
<i>Towns Subtotal</i>	<i>462,846</i>	<i>418,414</i>	<i>44,432</i>	<i>10.6%</i>
<i>RPL Subtotal</i>	<i>72,636</i>	<i>61,060</i>	<i>11,576</i>	<i>19.0%</i>
<b>MCLS Total</b>	<b>535,482</b>	<b>479,474</b>	<b>56,008</b>	<b>11.7%</b>

## MCLS Circulation

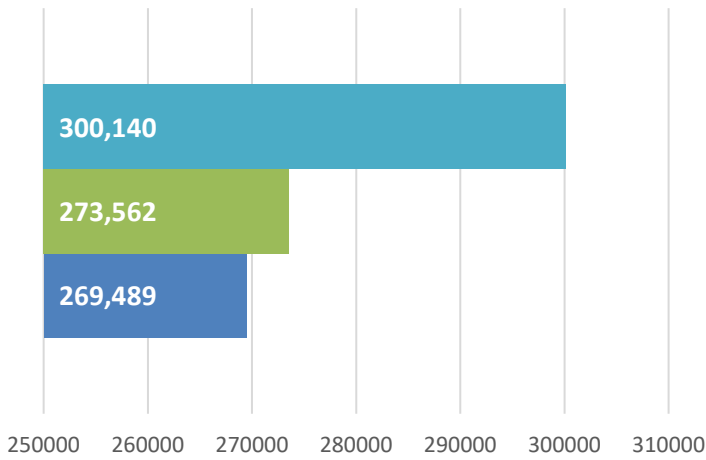
Town Libraries				
	Jul-24	Jul-23	+/-	%
Brighton	59,630	45,218	14,412	31.9%
Seymour	15,267	13,253	2,014	15.2%
Chili	24,975	19,202	5,773	30.1%
East Rochester	4,487	3,728	759	20.4%
Fairport	69,383	57,766	11,617	20.1%
Gates	25,180	19,815	5,365	27.1%
Greece	59,106	47,251	11,855	25.1%
Hamlin	6,231	4,693	1,538	32.8%
Henrietta	49,911	41,199	8,712	21.1%
Irondequoit	46,068	35,482	10,586	29.8%
Mendon	12,148	8,749	3,399	38.9%
Newman Riga	2,512	2,173	339	15.6%
Ogden	14,086	11,998	2,088	17.4%
Parma	10,413	7,926	2,487	31.4%
Penfield	46,806	37,186	9,620	25.9%
Pittsford	57,971	46,235	11,736	25.4%
Rush	2,546	2,801	(255)	-9.1%
Mumford	1,037	758	279	36.8%
Scottsville	3,394	2,518	876	34.8%
Webster	49,662	39,964	9,698	24.3%
<i>Towns Subtotal</i>	<i>560,813</i>	<i>447,915</i>	<i>112,898</i>	<i>25.2%</i>
<i>RPL Subtotal</i>	<i>80,154</i>	<i>65,766</i>	<i>14,388</i>	<i>21.9%</i>
<b>MCLS Total</b>	<b>640,967</b>	<b>513,681</b>	<b>127,286</b>	<b>24.8%</b>



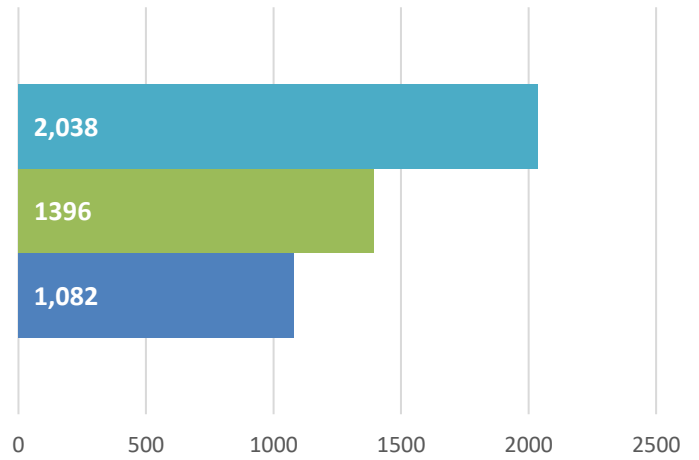
RPL Central Statistics YTD  
Jan--June



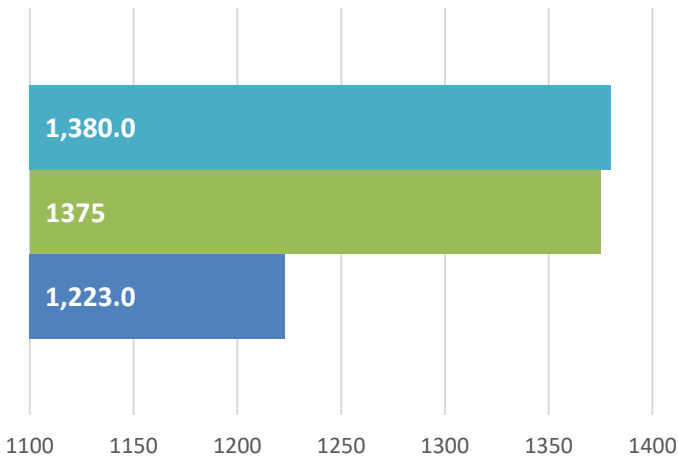
CIRCULATION



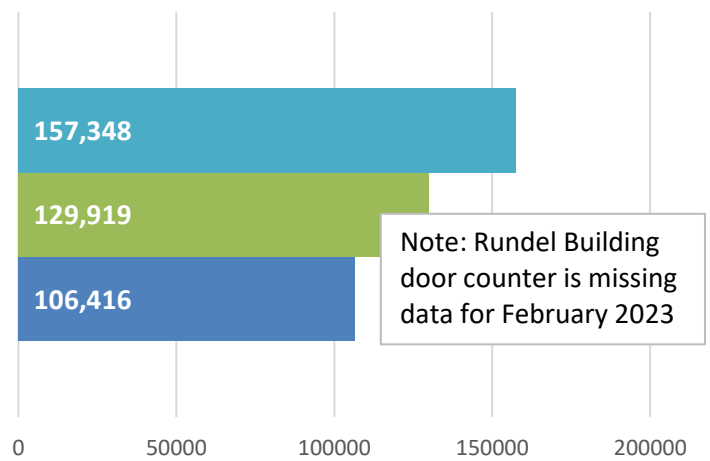
LIBRARY CARDS



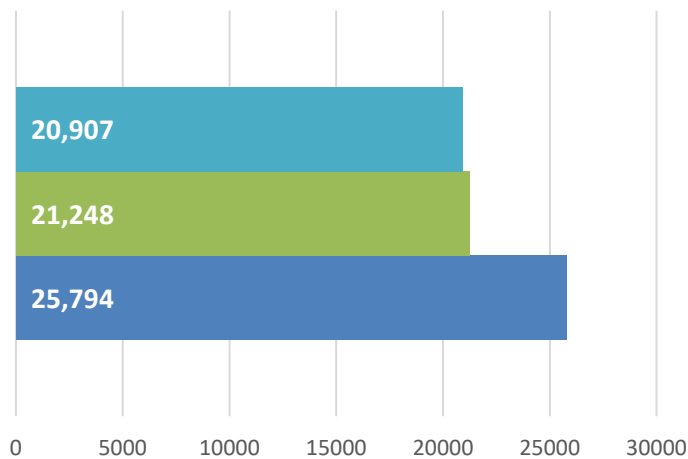
SERVICE HOURS



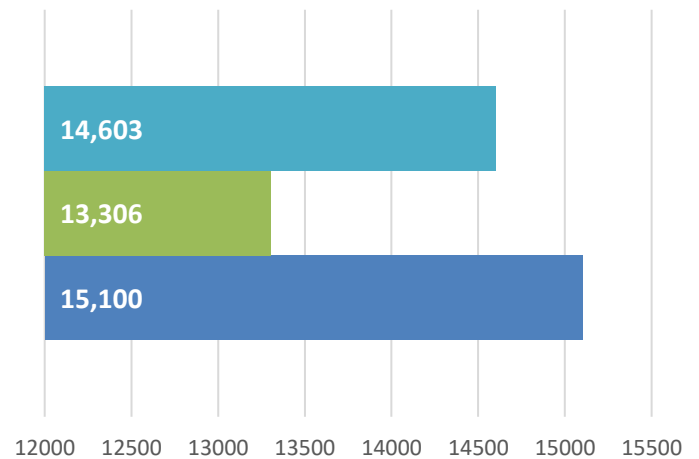
VISITS



REFERENCE QUESTIONS



NON-REFERENCE



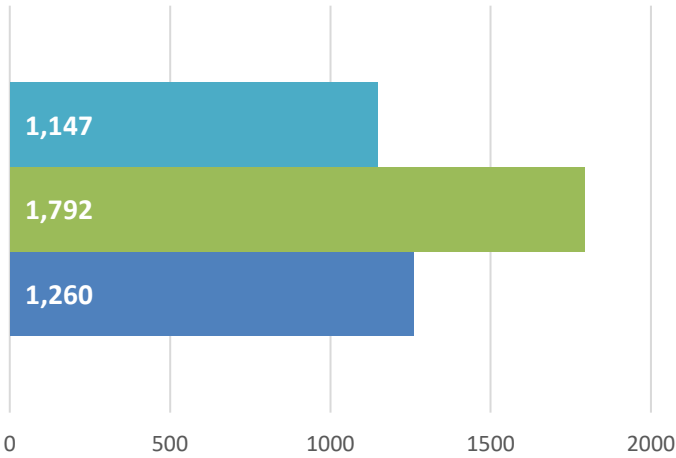
RPL Central Statistics YTD  
Jan--June



NOTARY

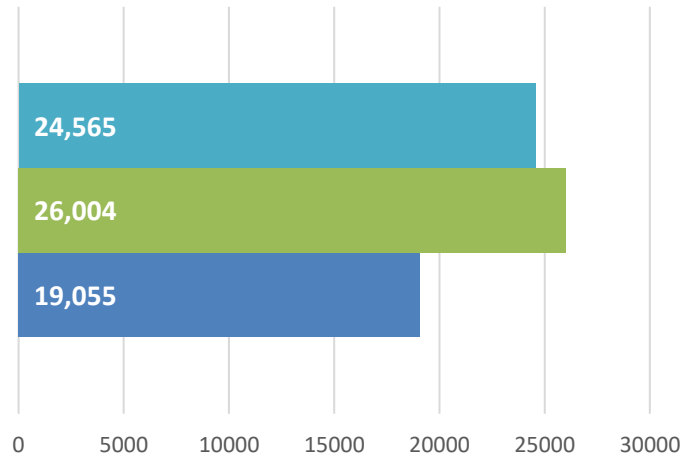
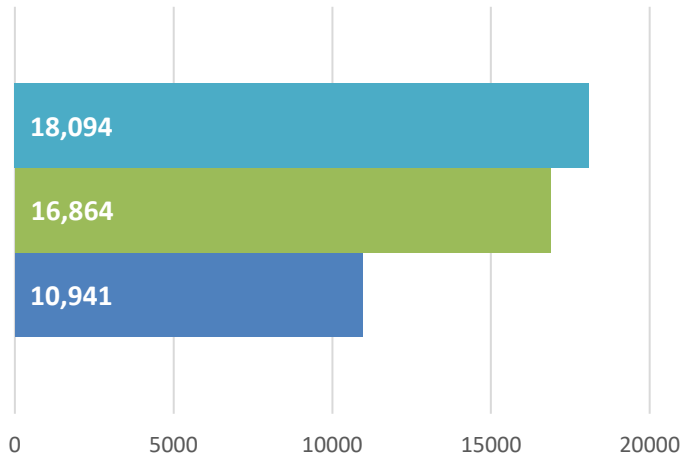
**DEFINITIONS**

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**Program Attendance:** Attendance at Group Programs. Excludes staff and presenters.



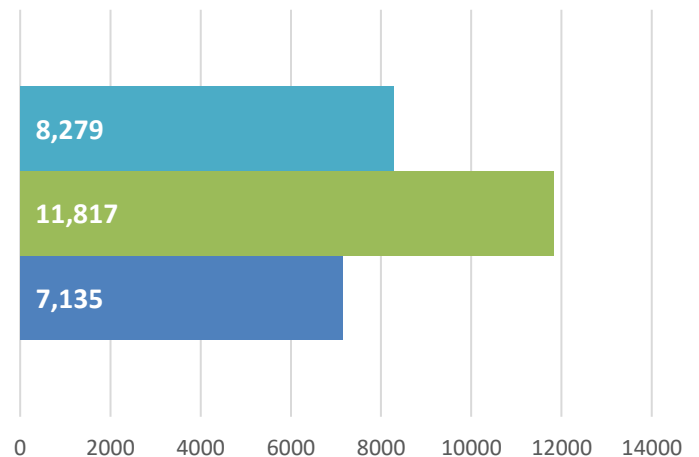
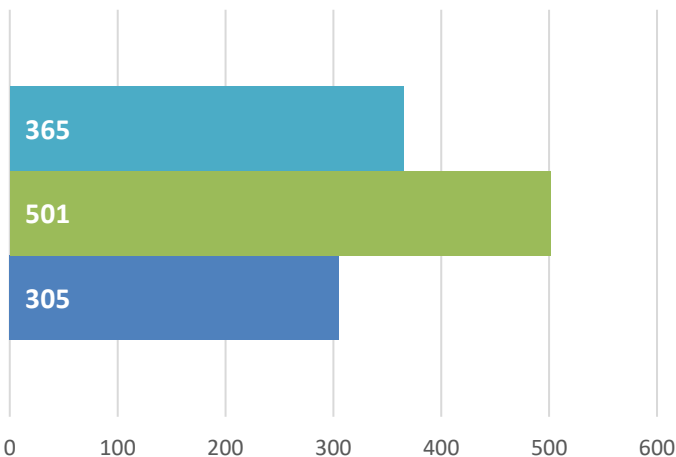
COMPUTER HOURS

WIFI USES



GROUP PROGRAMS

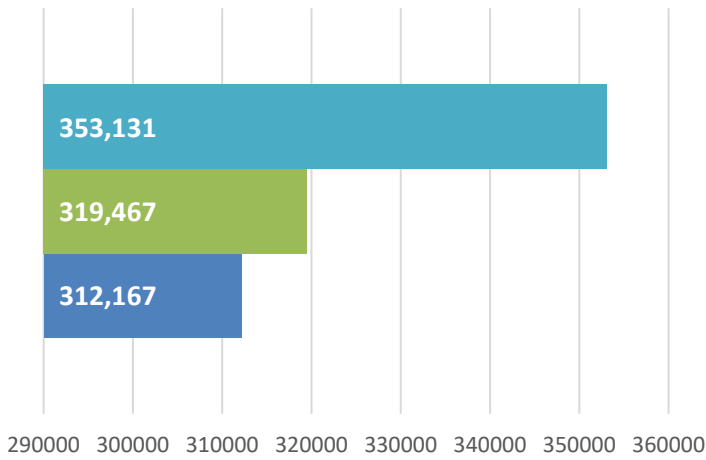
PROGRAM ATTENDANCE



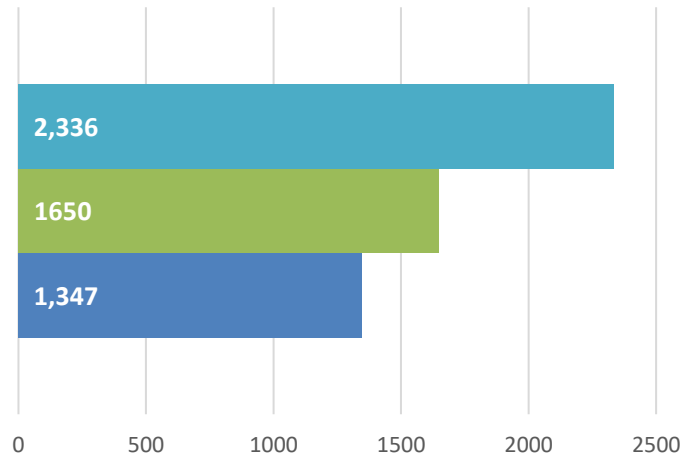
RPL Central Statistics YTD  
Jan--July



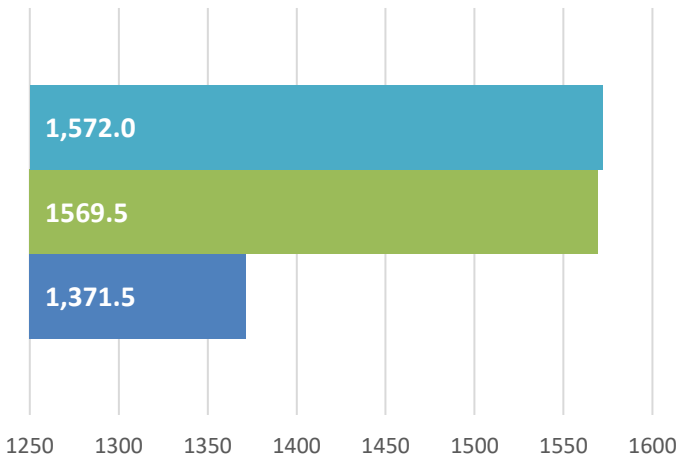
CIRCULATION



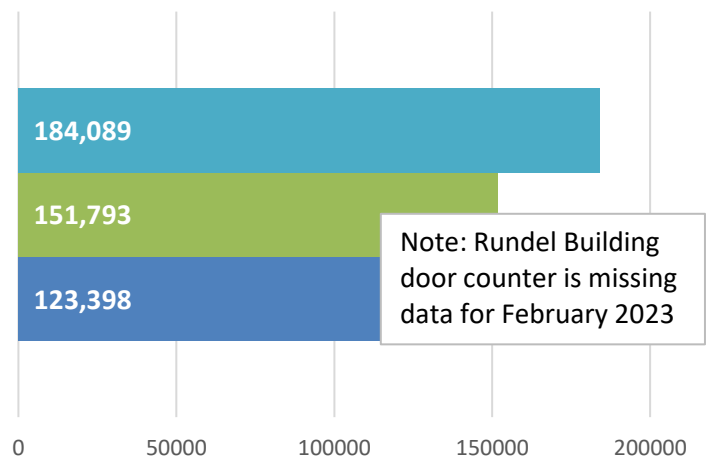
LIBRARY CARDS



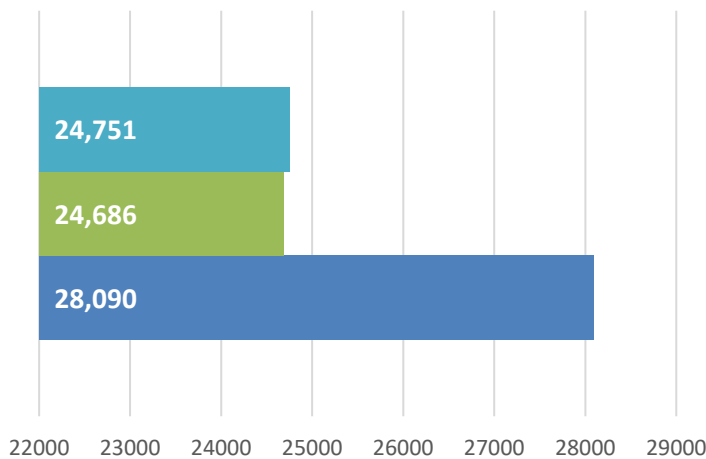
SERVICE HOURS



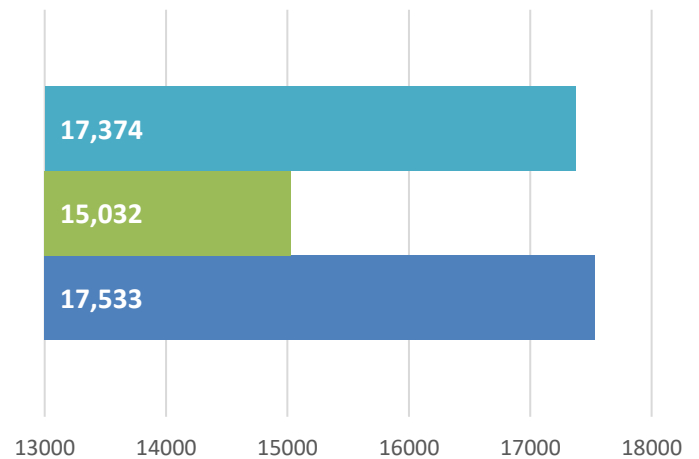
VISITS



REFERENCE QUESTIONS



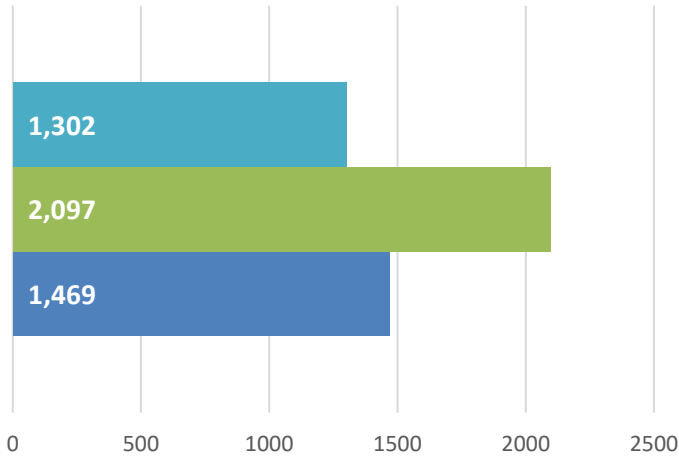
NON-REFERENCE



RPL Central Statistics YTD  
Jan--July



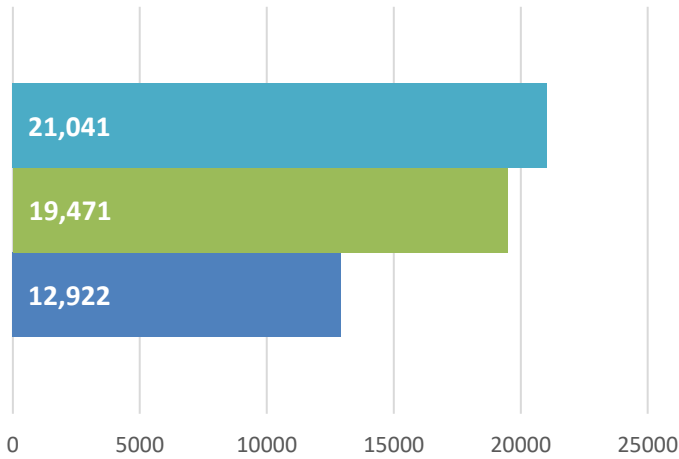
### NOTARY



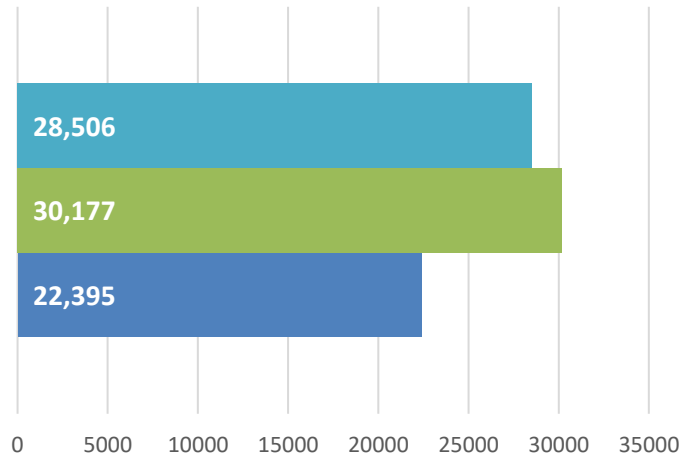
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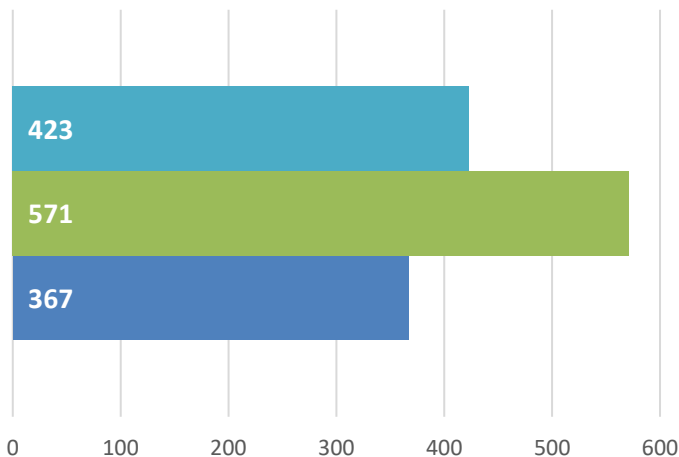
### COMPUTER HOURS



### WIFI USES



### GROUP PROGRAMS



### PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

