CHESTER C

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING February 10, 2020

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY SYSTEM RECEIVES GRANT Westchester BRARY SYSTEM Westchester Library Systems 15,000 1/21/2020

The Westchester Library System (WLS) received a \$15,000 mini-grant from the Field Hall Foundation to support "Vision Labs: Reading for a Lifetime," a pilot program aimed at addressing the needs of low-vision and visually impaired adults.

Starting in the summer of 2020, Vision Labs will be hosted in two locations

Services will be available at the West-chester Library System headquarters in Elmsford and at the Yonkers Grinton I. Will Library. Access to resources and individualized training will be available by appointment at each location and Yonkers will also provide walk-in hours.

For more or to set an appointment, email VisionLabs@wlsmail.org.

From left: Alan Houston, Yonkers Public Library; Donna Haskel, Field Hall Foundation; Elena Falcone, Westchester Library System; Pat Brigham, Westchester Library System; Patti Lavan Horvath, Field Hall Foundation; Ierry Kirchner and Krishna Horrigan, Westchester Library System.

BUSINESS JOURNAL

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING February 3, 2020

WESTCHESTER LIBRARY SYSTEM LAUNCHES FREE CODING

Westchester's first free middle school coding program that will be hosted at public libraries across the county throughout 2020 was launched Jan. 16 at the Yonkers Riverfront Library.

County Executive George Latimer And The Westchester County Youth Bureau Announce Recipients Of Rosemarie Siragusa Youth Service Award

Published: 29 January 2020



Winners and Attendees at Siragusa Awards

County Executive George Latimer, the Westchester County Youth Bureau and Youth Board honored Francine Vernon, Daniel Bonnet and Demisha Forrester with the Rosemarie Siragusa Memorial Youth Service Award. The recipients were nominated by their peers and selected by the Westchester County Youth Board for their exceptional volunteer work and passion for children, youth and families in Westchester County.

Latimer said: "Here in Westchester, residents tirelessly dedicate their

time and efforts towards the betterment of our families and young people – and that is what this award is all about. We wish we were able to recognize all of these residents, but those who were nominated today embody all who make the same efforts. I encourage local citizens to submit their nominations and help us honor a select few who make a huge difference in the years to come."

Director of the Westchester County Youth Bureau Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden said: "The Westchester County Youth Bureau and Board are proud to keep the legacy of Rosemarie Siragusa, the founder and Chairman of the Westchester County Youth Board, alive by honoring individuals who embody her passion and commitment to the community. Like Mrs. Siragusa, who understood the value of creating a community of caring and civically engaged young persons, the 2020 awardees are celebrated for their volunteerism, advocacy, and long term commitment to Westchester's children, youth and families."

Youth Board President Jan Fisher said: "The Westchester County Youth Board is proud to stand with County Executive George Latimer and Youth Bureau Director Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden as we honor Westchester residents who consistently give of themselves with the sole purpose of ensuring a brighter future for all of our County's young people. Congratulations to the honorees."

Francine Vernon has built up infrastructure to support youth and families both in Ossining and across the county for over 40 years. She has persevered in her personal mission and vision to create sustainable and impactful infrastructure and programming for youth and families.

Vernon, nominated by Alice Joselow said: "Over the years, through both my professional careers and community volunteer services, I have initiated, operated, and involved myself in programs and activities that aim to provide opportunities for youth that struggle to develop and needy families to improve the quality of their lives. I never expected to receive an award for those activities and being a voice for the more voiceless. The service itself has been rewarding. Nevertheless, I feel fortunate to have my efforts recognized, and I am sincerely grateful and appreciative of being one of this year's youth service honorees."

Daniel Bonnet, of New Rochelle, was nominated because of the work he had done with the Guidance Center of Westchester. Here, he assists at-risk, underserved youth on developing a life plan by preparing and facilitating individual/groups for atrisk youth addressing behavioral and/or social/ emotional issues, college career readiness, academic advancement and other relevant content.

Bonnet, nominated by County Legislator Terry Clements said: "I am truly honored to receive this award and recognition. Growing up in this County has truly been a blessing – as have the mentors I have had along the way. These mentors were the ones that inspired young people like myself to reach high and to discover one's full potential."

Demisha Forrester works with the White Plains Community Youth Court/ Youth Bureau Social Justice Juvenile Diversion program. Her current role is to provide assistance to the Youth Court members and Coordinator, which includes preparing legal documents for Youth Court hearings, researching resources in the community for youth offenders and another essential task.

Forrester, nominated by Connie Jones-Hairston said: "I have realized that all it takes is patience, action, and a listening ear to reach the next generation."

Westchester Announces Youth Service Award Recipients

The recipients were nominated by their peers for their exceptional volunteer work and passion for children, youth and families.

By Michael Woyton, Patch Staff Jan 29, 2020 5:45 pm ET

Reply



From left, Daniel Bonnet, Demisha Forrester and Francine Vernon received the Rosemarie Siragusa Memorial Youth Service Award. (Westchester County)

WHITE PLAINS, NY — County Executive George Latimer, the Westchester County Youth Bureau and Youth Board honored Francine Vernon, Daniel Bonnet and Demisha Forrester with the Rosemarie Siragusa Memorial Youth Service Award. The recipients were nominated by their peers and selected by the Westchester County Youth Board for their exceptional volunteer work and passion for children, youth and families in Westchester County.

Latimer said that in Westchester, residents tirelessly dedicate their time and efforts towards the betterment of our families and young people.

"And that is what this award is all about," he said.

"We wish we were able to recognize all of these residents, but those who were nominated today embody all who make the same efforts. I encourage local citizens to submit their nominations and help us honor a select few who make a huge difference in the years to come," Latimer said.

Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden, director of the Westchester County Youth Bureau said the bureau and board are proud to keep the legacy of Rosemarie Siragusa, the founder and Chairman of the Westchester County Youth Board, alive by honoring individuals who embody her passion and commitment to the community.

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"Like Mrs. Siragusa, who understood the value of creating a community of caring and civically engaged young persons, the 2020 awardees are celebrated for their volunteerism, advocacy and long-term commitment to Westchester's children, youth and families," she said.

Francine Vernon has built up infrastructure to support youth and families both in Ossining and across the county for over 40 years. She has persevered in her personal mission and vision to create sustainable and impactful infrastructure and programming for youth and families.

Daniel Bonnet, of New Rochelle, was nominated because of the work he had done with the Guidance Center of Westchester. Here, he assists at-risk, underserved youth on developing a life plan by preparing and facilitating individual/groups for at-risk youth addressing behavioral and/or social/emotional issues, college career readiness, academic advancement and other relevant content.

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WESTCHESTER

MAGAZINE

DECEMBER, 2019

Westchester Libraries Are Moving Beyond Books and Becoming Cultural and Community Centers

John Bruno Turiano with research by Jessica Pavia

Books are, of course, central to what public libraries are all about — and the role they play in fostering literacy is of the utmost importance.

But our 44 public libraries are more than just book repositories. They are also cultural centers, digital-inclusion bastions (thanks to free Wi-Fi and computer access), and, increasingly, community-event hubs with innovative social programming that engages and enlightens.

The following pictorial essay showcases some of the happenings that make your local library, dare we say, the place to be.

Lewisboro

Laugh-out-loud comedy has come to the Lewisboro Library two years in a row, courtesty of local group Hard Headed Comedy, which brings NYC-caliber talent to Westchester and helps boost women and people of color in comedy. This sold-out show in October featured comedians Michele Durante, Joe Cuomo, Frank Favia, Alex Kollar, and Bill Cannon.



Photo provided by New Rochelle Library

New Rochelle

The acclaimed Calpulli Mexican Dance Company came to New Rochelle Public Library this summer to teach children and students dances from various regions of Mexico. Since Calpulli's first visit to New Rochelle, in the summer of 2012, the group continues to bring its spectacular costumed performances to the library. Their next workshop will be in January 2020, leading up to a Jan 5 performance celebrating Three Kings' Day.



photo by elizabeth hobson

Dobbs Ferry

This Dinosaurs Rock program was presented courtesy of the Friends of the Dobbs Ferry Library organization on behalf two young girls who asked party guests to donate money to the library in lieu of birthday gifts for themselves. The science-minded girls chose the dinosaur program, and some 75 guests attended.



photos provided by dave donelson

Harrison

Harrison Library's Learn2Play program on Sept 7 drew more than 3,000 kids and parents — three times the number of attendees from the program's first year, 2016. With more than 40 hands-on activities, including a Bubble Bus, the Cooking Crew, and participatory dance by the New York Performing Arts Center, Learn2Play is an annual celebration of childhood learning through play.



photo provided by mallory marinaro

Ossining

The Ossining Public Library has been hosting concert series since its 2007 renovation added the 250-seat Camille Budarz Theater. The library offers a concert on most Sundays, as well as special concert events throughout the year, bringing free music programming to the community.



photo provided by linda smith

Purchase

When children started showing interest earlier this year in the library's adult Paint Night series, Linda Smith at Purchase Free Library started Kid's Paint Day. The popular program is open to all school-aged children, and the Purchase Community House lets children from their after-school program participate. Smith hosts Kid's Paint Day and picks artwork that "is easy to do and fun to make for the kids."

Exteriors



Greenburgh

The original Greenburgh library building opened in 1968 at 22,000 square feet. A \$20 million renovation/expansion in 2008 brought the library to its current, striking glass form, at a capacious 45,000 square feet. Last year, the library had 279,662 visitors and offered 1,498 programs.

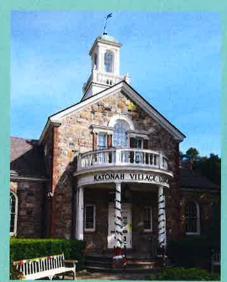


photo provided by john bruno turiano

Katonah

The Katonah Village Library was established in 1881 on Railroad Ave in Old Katonah. Its current Bedford Road location opened in 1930 and received renovations/expansions in the 1970s and 1990s. Last year, the library served more than 148,000 visitors, who checked out some 115,000 books and other library materials.



photo provided by donna pesce

Briarcliff Manor

This 1906 Tudor Revival-style building — which formerly housed the Briarcliff train station — is now home to the Briarcliff Manor library (with close to 37,000 books) and the William J. Vescio Community Center. The building is located in historic Law Park, adjacent to a pavilion and the village pool.



photo provided by susan thaler

Yonkers

Opened in 1962, the Grinton I. Will Branch of the Yonkers Public Library began an extensive exterior renovation in 2017 that at press-time was scheduled for completion in November. The 57,000 sq. ft. branch can hold an impressive 150,000 books at capacity.



photo provided by mallory marinaro

Ossining

Originally known as the Sing Sing Public Library, the Ossining Public Library started in 1914 with a collection of 700 books. The library relocated to its new home in 2007 and currently serves nearly 35,000 patrons.





Mount Vernon

The third annual Mount Vernon Public Library Comic Expo on Sept 28 brought together artists, vendors, and special guests — as well as die-hard comic fans. The free event featured workshops, gaming, and musical performances for comic-lovers of all ages.



photo by elise m. landesberg

Hendrick Hudson

Beginning in October 2018, Hendrick Hudson Public Library kicked off a series of Sunday-afternoon concerts in their Constance Dyckman Community Room. Concerts are currently scheduled through March 2021, with a variety of musical acts ranging from classic rock to American folk.



photo provided by jennifer brown

Peekskill

At Peekskill's Field Library, patrons can enjoy a live animal show by Animal Embassy, a part of the library's "Library Live" program. For the past two years, more than 200 patrons have attended this interactive show. Animal Embassy founder Chris Evers allows the attendees to hold —and sometimes even feed — the animals.

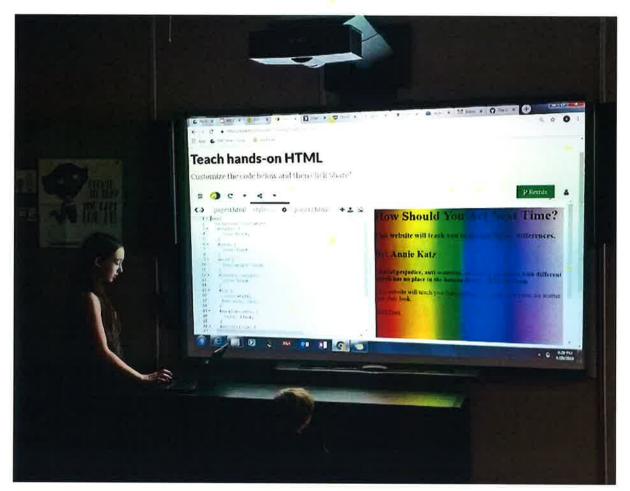


photo provided by jack weiss

Mamaroneck

Now in its fourth year at Mamaroneck Public Library, Girls Who Code is a free program for girls ages 12-18 to learn more about coding and help them feel comfortable in a field that is dominated by men. The program, which lasts up to eight months and is open to all experience levels, is currently scheduled for Monday-evening meetings through April 2020.

Record Review 2/1/2020

Katonah Library makes push for increased town funding

By JEFF MORRIS

The town board spent its work session Feb. 4 listening to presentations about what Supervisor Chris Burdick called the town's "jewels": its three hamlet libraries. He said the town board was very pleased to be able to provide financial support for the libraries.

"This (session) was initiated by folks in Katonah, who had a conversation about what lies ahead," Mr. Burdick said, "... what might be the possibilities for increasing funding from the town for the libraries." He said he thought that was a conversation that would be appropriate to have with each of the libraries, well ahead of the budget planning period for 2021.

The overview began with Raymond Infarinato, president of the board of the Bedford Free Library, and Ann Cloonan, the library director. They looked at the library's operations, including both services and programs, and methods and avenues used for fundraising, grants and partnerships.

Ms. Cloonan pointed out that the library building is owned by the Bedford Historical Society and is over 200 years old. She also noted that, because it is in the historic district, there are additional requirements for approvals before

Supervisor Chris Burdick indicated the board was going to "work hard" to see that there were substantial budgetary increases for the libraries.

doing any repairs or improvements to the building.

That was but one of the challenges facing the library. Mr. Infarinato revealed recent difficulties with obtaining shared services that should be provided by the Westchester Library System. He said he had been in discussions with other WLS member libraries having the same problems. Ms. Cloonan noted that there had been several cyber attacks on WLS, with the problems still not being resolved.

"That's an eye-opener," Mr. Burdick said. He asked for more details. "Here, you have what should be an ideal shared servicing system — you shouldn't have to be put in this position." He said that, as elected representatives, they should be able to do something to help resolve the problem.

Next up was the Bedford Hills Free Library, represented by ex-

ecutive director Mary Esbjornson and board president Terrie Paladino Viola. Ms. Esbjornson spoke about the hamlet's demographics, with a median income a fraction of what it is in Bedford and Katonah, and 10% of households living below the poverty line. "This is the community we're working really hard to reach," she said.

Ms. Viola said that for a number of years, the library board has been looking for more clarity on how the town budget application process works, and said it would be helpful to have more understanding of the allocation process. Mr. Burdick responded by describing all the steps the town takes in developing its budget. His message was that there is "precious little" discretion left after taking into account all of the parameters within which they must work. "I wish I had a better answer," he said. continued on page 4

Record Review 2/1/2020 Bedford libraries tell board they're starved for cas

By JESSICA LEIBMAN

On Tuesday, the town board held pecial work session to discuss funding of Bedford's three liries — the Bedford Free Library, lford Hills Free Library and the tonah Village Library.

he economic recession in 2010 used the town board to cut fund-

for the Bedford libraries for ee years before beginning to rere the funding back to normal els. The Bedford libraries receive fortion of their funds from the m and the rest is supplemented the library's own fundraising, cry library noted that the fund els are still below normal, eausthe libraries to suffer.

Members of the Katonah Village rary wrote to the board requestthis work session in order to cuss the hardships many of the raries are facing due to budget icits, Mary Kane, the director of Katonah Village Library, said explained that the Bedford limies already meet regularly and cuss their needs, so she felt that conversation should be extend-to the board.

I know this is a community that use education and that the litry plays a big part in that, and 're hoping the town can continue support us and also understand t we need more support," Ms. as said.

ach library took turns presentto the board and Abraham nbrano, town comptroller. Ann onan, the director, and Raynd Infarinato, the president of library's board of trustees, preted on behalf of the Bedford Free rary.

Is. Cloonan began with a generverview of what the library does what it offers the community, library cited three main conis that require additional funds rder to be addressed; the need to ace longtime library volunteers, lack of student volunteers, and rise in minimum wage.

ccording to all three libraries, main item in their budgets are sonnel. Ms. Cloonan described "...we're hoping the town can continue to support us and also understand that we need more support."

- MARY KANE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE KATONAH VILLAGE LIBRARY

Bedford Free Library's goal is career longevity, with volunteers moving into part-time positions and eventually full time. However, with the lack of incoming volunteers to replace the current ones, the library must hire more paid positions.

Ms. Cloonan also touched on some of the helpful programs and activities the library provides the community, which adds to the need for additional funds. The library has been increasing its own funds for programs and digital content. Mr. Infarinato added that digital content is where the library sees its highest levels of circulation.

Ms. Cloonan said that a lot of funds were being used for construction on the library's building, due to the fact the library pays 100% of the construction costs.

The Bedford Free Library closed out their presentation citing the need for tech help. All three Bedford libraries are members of the Westchester Library System, which provides services to libraries in order to cut their costs by providing centralized services. One of these services is tech, and Ms. Cloonan stated that there has been a lack of help from WLS who they rely on for tech help.

In response to the Bedford Free Library's concerns, Town Supervisor Chris Burdick said that the lack of aid from WLS is a major problem for every library and the town board needs to address the issue. After the first presentation, board members already began showing support for the libraries.

"Libraries are truly the institutions that serve absolutely everybody without distinction, without judgement, and that's something that I think we need to be very mindful of," Bobbi Bittker, town board member, said.

The next library that presented was the Bedford Hills Free Library. Mary Esbjornson, the library's executive director, also spent the majority of her time discussing what the library provides for the community.

This included English for Speakers of Other Languages programs and summer reading programs. Ms. Esbjornson also emphasized the major demographical differences between the Bedford Hills library to the other two. She explained that the median income in Bedford Hills is a fraction of what it is in Bedford and Katonah, and that 10% of households are living below the poverty line.

This presentation, like the previous, described to the board the library's different programs, staffing and maintenance costs. However, Terrie Paladino Viola, the president of the library's board of trustees, added that they would like to see more clarity on the budget allocation process from the board. Ms. Viola explained that the library builds its budget based on need, and she would like to see a similar process from the board.

The last library to present was the Katonah Village Library Michael Dwyer, the co-treasurer of the library's board, and Virginia Lanigan, the president of the board, delivered the majority of the presentation with Ms. Kane. Their presentation, unlike the previous two, was a much more comprehensive quantitative analysis of the library's struggles.

Mr. Dwyer and Ms. Lanigan worked to show how the library is

performing compared to other the area, how the decrease in fa affected them and what needs t done to correct that. They emisized a "right-sized" budget showed what the funding she have been, and explained how a gerous it is to normalize emerge fundraising tactics that the lib has been forced to rely on.

This presentation included cific requests for the board \$195,000 increase in their cur 2020 allocation from the bo from \$636,000 to \$831,000 speedy response to the library's quests, and a commitment from board to an annual budget w session.

Due to the fact that the to board's budget discussions do normally begin until the spring, Burdick highlighted some of logistical issues of the Katonah brary's requests. He also added while the libraries could use m funding, it is also necessary to knowledge that the board must locate funding to a lot of other eas.

"I can tell you that in one-onconversations with my colleag from the board, we want to give great emphasis to our libraries 2021," Mr. Burdick said. "What I looks like, I don't know wheth have an answer for you anyt soon,"

Following the work session, Kane expressed that she was had with how the meeting went and impressed with the support of town board. Her main goal of work session was to address the that the library board and her are only able to focus on fundring which is limiting the amoun outreach and programming. Wout additional funding, Ms. Kis afraid that tough decisions have to be made to ensure the ture of the library.

"We have an amazing board he and I would love to see what il can do if they can put their ene into something more than fundraing — because all they're doing fundraising," Ms. Kane said. The Westchester

County Press

Thursday, February 6, 2020

Black History Celebrated at Ossining Public Library

The Ossining Public Library will host a series of events in celebration of Black History Month, beginning with an exhibit in the Main Gallery of the Library by the Westchester Photographic Society. The opening reception will be held on Saturday, February 8th at 2:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. The public is invited to attend. The exhibit will be available throughout February.

Also on Saturday. February 8th at 10:30 a.m., Beverly "Aminata" Spencer will present a Meditation Aromatherapy Sound Session in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. Come out to listen to Ms. Spencer play Himalayan singing bowls to relax, rejuvenate and refresh you. Ms. Spencer is a Certified Holistic Health Counselor and holds a BA in Music from Yale University, as well as a Professional Certificate from the Dance Theater of Harlem. Chairs will be provided but feel free to bring your own meditation cushion. No registration is required and all are welcomed to attend.

At 2:00 p.m. on February 8th, there will be West In-

dian Music Pepper Pot with Conroy Warren as he invites the audience to sing and dance as he demonstrates the rhythm and rich tradition of West Indian music: reggae, calypso and more. This program will be held in the Children's Room and is open to all ages. Children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. A Drumming Circle will also be held in the Budarz Theater at 2:00 p.m.

On Saturday, February 15 at 3:00 p.m., there will be a Talk Culture Book Group session in the 2nd Floor Conference Room to discuss the book by Colson Whitehead, "Underground Railroad." Copies of the book can be found behind the Information Desk. Light refreshments will be served.

On Saturday, February 22 at 2:00 p.m., Project Tapestry will take place with Jazz and Dance performance, presented by jazz musician Ted Daniel and dance by Tomiko Magario. This program features a live concert featuring original choreography and original jazz music as Ted and Tomiko focus on sharing the process of creation with a local audience. There will be a meet and

greet and Q&A session following the performance. All are welcomed to attend this special event in the Budarz Theater.

On Wednesday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m., the community is invited to come out to experience an African Show featuring Rita Wagener. Experience the fashions and dances of Africa for a delightful evening of

entertainment in the Budarz Theater.

Don't miss these opportunities to celebrate Black History Month and learn of the history, culture and creativity of people of the African Diaspora. The Ossining Public Library is located at 53 Croton Avenue, Ossining, NY. For additional information, call (914) 941-2416 or check the calendar at www.ossininglibrary.org

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\$25,000 for renovation project Will Library in Yonkers awarded

Posted: Feb 06, 2020 2:42 PM EST Updated: Feb 06, 2020 2:42 PM EST

A Yonkers library is getting a makeover, thanks to a state grant.

The Will Library in Yonkers is being awarded \$25,000 for a new renovation project.

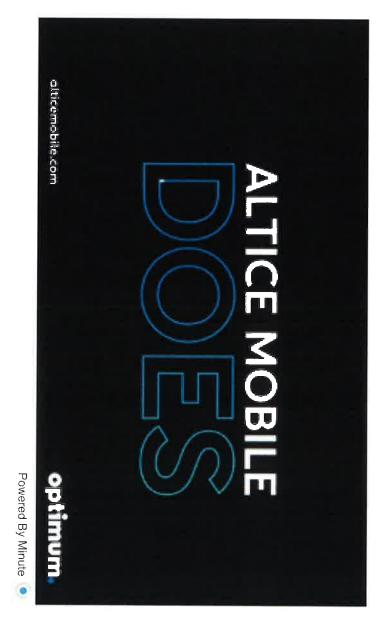
community Local officials say it is a major step toward modernizing a piece of the Yonkers

date," says Nader J. Sayegh, Yonkers assemblyman of the 90th District. century. To make sure it's being utilized. It's being well-maintained. And it's up to "This grant will be utilized to renovate this existing facility to bring it into the 21st

creating more floor space for future programs. Renovations will include transforming community rooms and conducting a study on



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The Scarsdale Inquirer

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the library The Bee comes Back as residents swarm to benefit

Scarsdale Inquirer/Jim MacLean | Feb 2, 2020 Updated Feb 2, 2020 | 🗪 0

High School, Friday, January 31. A large crowd turned out to watch 19 teams compete. The final round took a long emerged as the champions. Scarsdale Foundation Honey Bowl team made up of Janice Starr, Randy Guggenheimer and Frank Lichtenberg time to complete as the contestants were up to the challenge spelling one word after another correctly before the The Spelling Bee is back as the Friends of the Scarsdale Library hosted it's fundraiser spelling bee at the Scarsdale

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Choosing the Right College at the Hart Library

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ıblished on Thursday, 23 January 2020 10:43 Written by John C. Hart Memorial Library



NEXT

Choosing the Right College Thursday, January 30 at 6:30 pm

How to get started in the process, or continue if you are stressed or overloaded. Presented by Joshua Marber, MS.Ed., former college admissions counselor and financial aid counselor with 20 years of experience in the field.

- When should I start searching for colleges & visiting them?
- How do I fill out the application & write a good essay?
- Should I take the SAT or the ACT?
- How do I get financial aid & scholarships?

Get answers to these questions and more during this informative workshop! **Please do not submit the FAFSA financial aid application before attending! For students and parents! Register online.

John C Hart Memorial Library in located to 1130 Main Street in Shrub Oak

Next article Reception at Somers Library..



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Poetry Workshop with John F. McMullen, Poet Laureate of Yorktown

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© Published on Tuesday, 21 January 2020 15:23



Written by John C. Hart Memorial Library

Poetry Workshop with John F. McMullen, Poet Laureate of Yorktown Wednesday, January 22 at 6:00 pm

It will meet monthly on the 4th Wednesday of each month with John F. McMullen, Poet Laureate of Yorktown. The Poetry Workshop will be a place for poets and would-be poets to sharpen their skills by reading their work, having it respectfully criticized, listening to the work of others, and sharing information relating to the business of poetry (publishing platforms –

magazines, journals, and on-line; and reading opportunities) and resources (books, courses, and technology tools. Email John F. McMullen directly at johnmac13@gmail.com if you are planning to attend. If you plan to read a poem please bring 12 copies.



Namoste KMA Meditation and Art

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BUSINESS JOURNAL

GOOD THINGS HAPPENING January 20, 2020



New Roc hosted a family-friendly Times Square-inspired countdown at noon to ring in the new year on Dec. 31.

The annual event featured the release of 3,500 balloons in the atrium of New Roc at 33 LeCount Place in New Rochelle.

The event raised \$3,500 for the New Rochelle Public Library Foundation (NR-PLF) thanks to a \$10 donation per family of four.

Ring in the New Year at Noon at New Roc is produced by CBRE and Harquin and is held in association with the New Rochelle BID Family Day event series.

New Roc is a 450,000-square-foot entertainment/residential/retail complex located in the heart of downtown New Rochelle.

From left: Susan Vinales, CBRE-New Roc; Sherry Bruck, Harquin; Dr. Cheryl Archbald, NRPLF board; Fred Bruck, Harquin; Daniel Bonnet, area director, New Rochelle CAP Center of WestCOP; Michael Getlan, FunFuzion; and Chris Selin, president, NRPLF board. Current Issue

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(https://www.nyla.org/4DCGI/tbbul/etiewhtml3.org/4DCGI/eBulletinPast.html?

menukey=ebulletin)

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A Publication of the New York Library Association

Congratulations to the 2019 NYLA Award Winners

The New York Library Association will honor individuals for their support, leadership, and advocacy of libraries at the 126th Annual Conference and Trade Show in Saratoga Springs, NY on Friday, November 15.

The <u>Senator Hugh Farley Outstanding Advocate Award (https://www.nyla.org/senator-hugh-farley-outstanding-advocate-of-libraries-award/? menukey=career)</u> recognizes and honors an individual who has made a far reaching, sustained contribution to the promotion and/or support of library and information services to the people of New York State. The 2019 recipient of the Senator Hugh Farley Outstanding Advocate Award is **Assemblymember Patricia Fahy**. <u>Assemblymember Fahy (https://nyassembly.gov/mem/Patricia-Fahy)</u> has represented the 109th Assembly District, comprised of the Capital Region, since 2013, and throughout her tenure has been a fierce advocate for libraries. She can always be counted on to vote for library funding and does everything she can to ensure the libraries in her district get what they need.

The <u>Outstanding Service to Libraries Award (https://www.nyla.org/nyla-outstanding-service-to-libraries-award/?menukey=career)</u> recognizes and honors an individual who has made a significant, sustained contribution to the development, promulgation, growth, or extension of library and information services to the people of NYS or to residents. This year's award will be presented to **Lauren Comito and Christian Zabriskie**, Founders of <u>Urban Librarians Unite (ULU)</u> (https://urbanlibrariansunite.org/). For the past decade Lauren and Christian have been seen on the front lines of library service: planning programs to benefit refugee children, doing story times for displaced children during Hurricane Sandy, and advocating for library funding in NYC and statewide.

The Mary Bobinski Innovative Public Library Director Award (https://www.nyla.org/mary-bobinski-innovative-public-library-director-award/?menukey=career) recognizes a public library director who has developed or implemented an innovative program leading to an increase in financial support and/or usage of their library. The 2019 recipient is Caitlin Johnson, Director of the Schuylerville Public Library (https://schuylervillelibrary.sals.edu/). Serving as the Executive Director since 2015, Caitlin has increased circulation by 38%, library visits by 32%, program attendance by 118%, and summer reading participation by 427%. She has also ushered in multiple building projects, including an accessible ramp and sidewalks, interior renovations, handicap bathrooms, and a 500 square foot addition.

The Intellectual Freedom Award (https://www.nyla.org/intellectual-freedom-award/?menukey=career) recognizes an individual who's efforts have furthered the cause of intellectual freedom in NYS. This year's award will be given to the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund (CBLDF). The CBLDF (http://cbldf.org/) provides legal referrals, representation, advice, assistance and education to cases affecting the First Amendment right to read, create, publish, sell, and distribute comics and graphic novels.

Congratulations to this year's award recipients, Assemblymember Patricia Fahy, Lauren Comito, Christian Zabriskie, Caitlin Johnson, and the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund!



Assemblymember Patricia Fahy



Lauren Comito



Christian Zabriskie



Caitlin Johnson

Yonkers -River Front



Comic Book Legal Defense Fund

Click here (/userfiles/Documents/2019 Award Winners.pdf) to view as a PDF.