



# UPPER HUDSON LIBRARY SYSTEM

Together. For Better Libraries.

## 2015 Annual Report



## 2015 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT: Philip Erlich  
VICE-PRESIDENT: Tara Ricard  
TREASURER: MaryAlice Molgard  
SECRETARY: LouAnne Lundgren

Antonio Booth	Mary Muller
Ronald Ginsburg	Lisa Scoons
Herb Hennings	Marie Stasiak
Janet Ivory	Judith Wines

*“We strengthen public libraries in Albany and Rensselaer Counties, providing essential services to connect people and information.”*

### PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Philip Erlich

During my several tenures as Board President, it has been a pleasure to watch Upper Hudson grow, change and improve. It is a sign of the strength of our organization and the dedication of our staff, that although the names and faces changed during the years, there was barely a stutter in our strides forward.

We experienced a year of revolving trustees in 2015 and this situation actually prompted a major change in our By-Laws. Four trustees resigned during the year:

Alison Calacone, Brian Hartson, Jeremy Martelle and Carol Rosenthal. Oddly enough, these four all served as representatives from our largest libraries: Albany, Guilderland, Bethlehem and Colonie respectively. Those libraries struggled to seek out new representatives. They seemed unable to find people on their Boards who could serve on the UHLS Board, and therefore after due consideration, we approved a By-Laws change that broadened the membership requirements and gave them a larger population from which they could draw their representatives. Rather than limiting their representatives to members of their own Board of Trustees, the By-Laws would now allow a library or represented group of libraries, to nominate any individual who

resides in the libraries’ service area, for appointment to the UHLS Board. This was only the second change to Board representation since the current By-Laws were adopted twenty-eight years ago in 1987. We eventually welcomed Herb Hennings (Guilderland) and Lisa Scoons (Bethlehem) to our Board, looking forward to the new perspectives and experiences that they brought with them.

The primary topic during the year was the new integrated automation system we

purchased from Innovative Interfaces Incorporated (familarly known as “Triple I”). The system “went live” at the end of March after six months of intensive preparation and training. Board members brought progress reports from their home libraries to our meetings. On the whole, the successful migration process and subsequent learning period proceeded on time and as expected.

During the course of the year, we passed Resolutions acknowledging the retirement of several staff members. Jo-Ann Benedetti and Lynn Orme retired from UHLS after a combined 38 years. Richard Naylor, retiring from the Director position at the Wm. K.

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***Although the names and faces changed...there was barely a stutter in our strides forward.***

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Sanford Town Library, served for many years on several UHLS Board Committees and we appreciated the dedicated service that all three gave to our organization.

All of our Board Committees (Administration, Finance, Services) carried on their normal work, considering projects and proposals in detail and making their recommendations to the full Board. Even though the number of Committee members fluctuated, the framework under which they all functioned is so well established that, except for the intermittent lack of a quorum, they were all able to carry out their duties. The Finance Committee met each month just before the Board's meeting while the others met as needed.

The year passed very quickly. I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to all of our trustees who so willingly volunteered their time and expertise both in their local libraries and working TOGETHER on the "broader picture" as members of the UHLS Board.

#### **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Antonio Booth, Chair  
Herb Hennings, Jeremy Martelle, Mary Muller,  
Carol Rosenthal, Matthew Graff

#### **SERVICES COMMITTEE**

LouAnne Lundgren, Chair  
Alison Calacone, Brian Hartson, Lisa Scoons,  
Marie Stasiak, Richard Naylor, Scott  
Jarzombek

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Mary Alice Molgard, Chair  
Janet Ivory, Ron Ginsburg, Tara Ricard,  
Judith Wines

## 2015 UHLS STAFF

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

MANAGER, AUTOMATION SERVICES:

MANAGER, ADULT SERVICES & OUTREACH:

MANAGER, YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES:

Timothy Burke

Joe Thornton

Jo-Ann Benedetti / Deanna DiCarlo

Mary Fellows

Robert Carle

Rawdon Cheng

Heidi Fuge

Lynn Orme

Diane Riganti

Joseph Sherry

*Together. For better libraries.*

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Timothy Burke

We live in a state of almost constant change. And in the world of public libraries, the pace of change may be even more accelerated. While any change, especially big change, can be unsettling for everyone, there are ways to ensure that even the biggest changes can be managed positively. One of the keys to successful change management is creating organizations filled with people with the right attitude and a common goal. In a healthy and optimistic organization, change is embraced as a sign of progress, of opportunity, and of new possibilities. In the last year UHLS experienced two big changes that we fully embraced with a focus on a positive future.

In 2015 we successfully migrated to our new Integrated Library System – Ill's Sierra. An ILS migration is perhaps the most disruptive change for a library system, for the member library staff, and for the library users. The transition process was not without its share of anxiety, frustration, and other "drama," but thanks to the hard work of our stellar UHLS Automation team and all the member library staff that shared their expertise and invaluable front-line experience with us throughout the migration, we came through the process successfully. To be sure, there is still a lot of

work to do, but we can all add a notch to our belt for the completion of an ILS migration (and ANOTHER ONE for some of the longer-tenured members of our library community!)

The year also saw the retirement of two members of the UHLS staff. Jo-Ann Benedetti served as Manager of Information and Outreach Services for more than 10 years and was the force behind the creation of the UHLS

shared e-content collection, which is a statewide model of effective and efficient resource sharing with digital collections. UHLS Library Technician Lynn Orme worked behind the scenes in

many different support roles and her service with UHLS dated back to the early days when the System shared space on the top floor of the Albany Public Library's Main building. While we were sorry to lose the experience and knowledge Jo-Ann and Lynn brought to UHLS, we embraced the opportunity these changes afforded us to look at different ways to structure positions and provide improved and expanded services to the member libraries. In August, Deanna DiCarlo joined UHLS as Manager of Adult and Outreach Services. The title change was intentional to reflect a shift in emphasis to focus more on support of adult services in our member libraries. At the close

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***...Successfully managing change (requires) people with the right attitude and a common goal.***

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of the year we invited Anne Pitlyk to the team as System Support Associate, with expanded responsibilities in resource sharing and member library support. I think that “Team UHLS” has come through these changes with a stronger skill set, but with the same customer focused service goals that have long been a fixture for the organization.

As a community we, UHLS and the member libraries, were able to manage these changes successfully because we are a healthy, optimistic organization that has a long tradition of cooperation and collaboration toward our common goal...the best library service possible within each community and for all the residents of Albany and Rensselaer Counties.

### **Adult and Outreach Services**

Deanna DiCarlo

2015 was a busy year of transition in our department! Two essential long-time employees retired this year: Jo-Ann Benedetti, Manager of Information & Outreach Services, retired in May after ten years of service, and Lynn Orme, Library Technician, retired in October after 28 years of service. We miss them both and sincerely thank them for their dedication and their numerous contributions to strengthening library services in Albany and Rensselaer counties. We hope you will join us in wishing them all the best during the next exciting chapter in their lives.

When I joined the UHLS team as the new Manager, Adult & Outreach Services (AOS) in August after working for nearly ten years at Albany Public Library, it was clear there were some pretty big shoes to fill, and I needed to learn to fill them quickly. In December, we conducted a search for a new Library System Support Associate, and in January, we welcomed the wonderful Anne Pitlyk, also formerly of Albany Public Library, to join the UHLS team. The AOS Department is responsible for strengthening services to adults at member libraries, coordinating outreach efforts, managing resource sharing

via delivery, interlibrary loan, and our circulating collections, managing E-rate telecommunications reimbursements, and demonstrating leadership for development and support of our digital content collections. A new era is beginning, and we are excited to report on progress made or began in 2015. In November, we reconvened the Adult Services Advisory Council (ASAC), and 23 professional and paraprofessional staff from 14 member libraries were in attendance. We discussed the results of our October 2015 survey measuring perceptions of the evolving nature of services to adults in our communities. The majority of respondents replied that their primary adult services concerns include community engagement, programs, and technology, and we began tailoring ASAC meetings to address these professional needs with a “spotlight” format highlighting a particular area of interest and facilitating a discussion of modern trends. We look forward to continuing our efforts to meet the needs of our member libraries who are committed to improving library services to adults.

NYS requires that every library system employ a professional librarian as an outreach coordinator responsible for developing library services to New Yorkers who are most in need and who often are not regular library users. In October, we convened the Coordinated Outreach Advisory Council (COAC) which is made up of community members who work with underserved populations. At the meeting, we approved NYS Adult Literacy Workforce Development Mini-Grant awards to four member libraries to continue or launch work readiness programs at their locations: Albany Public Library, East Greenbush Community Library, RCS Community Library, and William K. Sanford Town Library (Colonie). UHLS also provided services to both Albany & Rensselaer County Jails by purchasing books for their collections via the NYS County Jail Grant. We look forward to reimagining COAC in the future and leveraging it to create networking and training opportunities for our member libraries.

Usage of our digital content collection continued to grow and we've come a long way in the past decade! Our predecessors had a vision back in 2005, and that small collection of 1,400 holdings with a total circulation of 8,601 has grown beyond our wildest imaginings. Fast forward to 2015, and we offer a collection that includes 42,000 items with a total circulation of 321,500. In 2015, we also introduced digital magazines and they were enormously popular with over 31,000 downloads last year. The success of our collection rests upon how truly cooperatively it is developed, maintained, and supported System-wide. All member libraries contributed to OverDrive's content in 2015, and the thoughtful selection by our members and at the Central Library has truly demonstrated what great heights we can reach if we work together as a team.

And speaking of teams, the UHLS eTeam grows stronger every year, including: Content selectors from most member libraries; staff from member libraries and UHLS who assist our patrons and/or develop training and marketing materials; and the eContent Advisory Committee, a representative sub-committee of the Director's Association that meets regularly to analyze trends and make recommendations for best practices. All these moving parts are essential to ensuring the best return on our investment in digital content, and working together to grow and support the collection is a challenge we will continue to meet into the future.

Resource sharing is at the heart of NYS library services, and our department plays a big role in ensuring equitable access to materials across libraries of every population. Physical delivery remains an essential service that is a daily operation for us here at UHLS—our three drivers stop at every member library and UHLS every weekday (that's nearly 200 stops per week), and in 2015, our three drivers picked up, sorted, and delivered 2.5 million items. In addition to facilitating the lending of materials

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across member library locations via our delivery service, UHLS also provides books and articles to and from other libraries nationwide via our interlibrary loan service. In 2015, UHLS filled over 230 requests for our member library patrons who needed access to materials located outside of UHLS. Finally, UHLS facilitates resource sharing with our circulating collections. We manage four collections of large print books, CDs (music and audiobooks), and DVDs that rotate among our libraries six times per year. We continue to maintain both a professional book collection and a book discussion collection that any patron or library staff member can request.

Finally, our department manages E-rate telecommunications reimbursements for most of our libraries, and in 2015, we were able to get \$18,000 back from service providers and into the coffers of our member libraries.

On a personal note, I serve on the board of the New York Library Association's Public Library Section, and I helped organize and implement PLS's activities at NYLA's 2015 annual conference in Lake Placid. I had the honor of presenting "Social Outreach in a Digital World" to an audience of over 100 of my peers at the PLS annual meeting. It was an amazing opportunity to share ideas about the importance of using social media to tell our library impact stories all year round, not just during advocacy season, so our communities have constant reminders of what a huge value we are to work, life, and play every single day. I am also a current member of NYLA's Leadership & Management Academy, and in 2015, I attended valuable training on Sustainability and Human Resources. I am super excited to work hard to elevate the Adult & Outreach Services Department's contributions to the library profession with all of you as we move forward!

## **Automation Services**

Joseph Thornton

A look at the numbers alone tells you that we were “typically busy” in 2015. UHLS saw approximately 4,000,000 item loans and 600,000 item requests. Our member libraries added 40,532 bibliographic records and 146,471 item records. Many of these numbers are declining due to the shift to econtent, the loans of which do not show in our circulation, request, or notices statistics. We do know that patron activity is steady and in many libraries is growing, but the trend toward more use of digital content continues. The everyday work of our department includes support of the following activities at UHLS and at the member libraries: server maintenance; ILS and other automation related training; 24x7 helpdesk; maintaining the UHLS website; advising and assisting with library hardware or networking projects; desktop computer repair and restaging; support of member library websites; cataloging; online databases; system backups; maintaining email accounts and mailing lists; generating reports for the member libraries; coordinating three advisory councils and anything else that comes up.

The biggest project for us this year was our migration to Innovative Interfaces’ Sierra/Encore Integrated Library System. This was a very complicated transition that required a great deal of collaborative work between UHLS and the member libraries to insure its success. We made extensive use of Google Docs and spreadsheets to gather and organize our libraries’ data and preferences, uploaded many very large files to the new system vendor, and communicated continuously with the member libraries through email updates and regular meetings with the UHLS advisory councils to address migration issues. In any software change this significant there are always many problems, but all of them were addressed quickly (sometimes constrained by our dependence on the speed of the vendor’s responsiveness) and sometimes creatively, but always with the strenuous effort of everyone in our department and the

cooperation of the member libraries. There is still a list of migration tasks to complete, but the project was a success and we’re very proud of the contributions we made to a smooth transition from one vitally important and complex library system to another.

Throughout the year we were also busy supporting computing in the libraries in both the software and the hardware environments, consulting on building renovations, wiring, and wireless access, often performing the work ourselves. We continued to manage staff and public PC security, updates, and troubleshooting for any library that identified a need, and we were gratified that we were able to continue this valuable service to the libraries with our small staff even while the demands of the migration grew and often required the full attention of the entire department.

## **Youth and Family Services**

Mary Fellows

Some years bring more change than others. Working in youth services means striving to become particularly adept at change, as our individual customers literally change from month to month as they grow! Supporting as well as practicing youth services work is, then, about embracing change while holding fast to the values that drive our work. Advocacy for public library excellence in serving children and teens is a consistent UHLS core value. I had the opportunity to share that value in September, when New York Board of Regents members were the audience for a presentation on the essential work of libraries in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. I was invited to speak about early literacy in the State. Tim Burke, speaking about public library systems, was also among our small group of leaders. The Regents responded favorably, and had perceptive questions. It was a privilege and a treat to seek to inform and persuade at this level in support of public library youth services.

In a different advocacy arena, we worked this past summer with Assembly Member John McDonald’s office on a joint summer reading

project. This project fostered stronger relationships between Assembly Member McDonald and participating libraries in his district, and offered a model for other UHLS libraries. We will be seeking to expand this project in 2016.

My engagement in advocacy activities through the New York Library Association’s Legislative Committee and Advocacy Day also kept public library youth services at the table. Speaking opportunities at the NYLA Conference and the (NYLA) Youth Services Section Spring Conference supported that goal as well. Also on a statewide level, my role as a member of both the advisory group and the training cohort of Ready to Read at New York Libraries continues. This early literacy project is designed to improve and expand public library early learning services in local communities through train-the-trainer efforts, resources, and marketing. I’ve been fortunate to have a strong role in shaping the project.

A number of UHLS projects offered ongoing education and opportunity to our member libraries in youth services. Twenty libraries participated in our collaborative (with MVLS) teen Read It Forward project that encourages teen reading and a unique connection to the library. The Family Literacy Grant, STEM-Sell, helped libraries promote STEM to children and families through books and programming around two titles that libraries could give to families.

The Prototype Project on Early Literacy (ProPEL) is a more intensive program and saw some exciting developments this year. ProPEL is our derivative project of the Ready to Read at New York Libraries mentioned above. I’ve been working closely with three libraries – Westerlo, RCS, and Albany – to develop deep knowledge and implement the early literacy methods learned in Ready to Read at New York Libraries. This smaller-scale, more

granular development will help me to bring our other UHLS libraries the most effective strategies to deliver early literacy services. Community focus groups, key informant interviews, and assessments were all part of our ProPEL work this year.

One of our newest training efforts grew out of ProPEL. In December, I began leading a class on public speaking, open to all UHLS member library staff, but required for the three ProPEL libraries. Becoming an articulate and compelling public speaker is an essential skill for advocacy. The goal of this course is for participating staff to learn best practices and to work intentionally on their presentation skills in a safe environment. The course, considered a beta test for possible repetition, concludes in January 2016.

This year, other training offered included our ever-popular annual Summer Reading Program Workshop. Sixty-three people attended this joint UHLS/Mohawk Valley Library System (MVLS) offering, learning to consider their standard summer programming from some new perspectives. We also collaborated with MVLS on early literacy training called “It’s All About the Children - No, Wait! The Parents: Strengthening Young Families Through Modeling and Readers Advisory.”

December included an especially fun workshop in partnership with Albany Public Library and MVLS, titled “Anytime, Anywhere, Anyhow: Flexible Tween/Teen Makerspaces.” Participants worked in the APL maker lab, learning about projects replicable with their tweens and teens. Then our own star member library makers shared their best projects and showed colleagues how to replicate them. While we didn’t exactly “make up” the day as we went along, the flexibility in the learning environment was a hit – and another model for our libraries in their programming.

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***Becoming an articulate and compelling public speaker is an essential skill for (library) advocacy.***

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We've also added to our STEM kits for libraries to borrow for programming. As a way to help market these kits to the member libraries, Annual Dinner attendees got to see some of them and learn how some libraries have used them.

The Sierra migration this year brought us a new kids catalog. With the partnership of a task force of member library staff, we customized the catalog to look more kid-friendly and be more functional. Youth e-content evaluation was also part of our engagement with e-tools for the public.

While the retirement of valued colleagues Jo-Ann Benedetti and Lynn Orme left a gap, it was good to welcome Deanna DiCarlo in August and Anne Pitlyk in January 2016. Anne has proven herself an able partner in rotating collection management, and Deanna brings a fresh and thoughtful perspective to our work. Unchanging are the excellent contributions of Senior Support Associate Diane Riganti, a positive force in the effectiveness of our youth services work, interlibrary loan, and various other UHLS endeavors.

Along with steadfast core values to guide our work as we embrace change, it is a gift to have people to work for, and with, who help and inspire us. Colleagues across our member libraries make our work rewarding every day.

## DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

Sue Hoadley, President

The Directors Association met eleven times in 2015. The migration to our new online library system, Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (Or “Triple I” to the cognoscenti) continued to be a primary topic of discussion at the beginning of the year. Training sessions abounded as we prepared for a “go-live” date of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Moving to a new automation system gave us the opportunity to further work on standardizing policies among the member libraries. We acknowledged that similar policies among neighboring libraries would certainly make it less confusing for our patrons and to that end, the DA’s Parameters Committee made recommendations for certain changes. In a relatively easy transition, our new system went live as expected and things continued to run fairly smoothly except for intermittent slowness.

Discussions about the new system did not prevent us from also looking ahead to other advantages that we could offer patrons. To this end, we initiated a pilot project with OverDrive to offer online magazines. This turned out to be highly successful; in the first month alone over 2,400 magazines circulated! Participating in purchasing e-content through OverDrive has proven to be a large motivator for cooperation among all of the libraries. Everyone purchases e-content and this content is available to patrons in all of the member libraries. The eContent Advisory Committee produces quarterly spreadsheets showing the funds spent in this area by individual libraries and makes annual recommendations for expenditures. Every year, we seem to find more and more issues on which we can all agree and cooperate and this high level of collegiality benefits all of us.

The relevancy of libraries in the 21<sup>st</sup> century was an ongoing topic through the year. What do people want and expect from libraries? How can libraries prove their value above and beyond the normal statistical way? How can libraries best connect with their communities?

Boards need to be educated as to what other services libraries can offer and should understand that sometimes the worth of these services cannot be measured through the usual statistical means. The philosophical discussions were enlightening and helped many of our libraries formulate new programs and ideas such as selling fishing and hunting licenses, offering museum passes, circulating shaped cake pans and other cooking implements, and selling CDTA bus passes. However, books will always be a vital part of what libraries offer.

During the course of the year, we bid “Fare Thee Well” to Richard Naylor (COLN), Christian Collins (GRAF), Sandi Goodwin (VAFL) and Katherine Chansky (NASS). New Directors included Jill Dugas Hughes (EGRN), Evelyn Neale (COLN), Laurenne Teachout (NASS), Ronnie Tatro (GRAF) and Kelly Akin (VAFL).

We have a strong network of colleagues and when we get together once a month, we discuss, argue, exchange views, ideas and suggestions all with one point: ***to make our libraries the best that they can be.***

## ALBANY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mary-Ellen Piché, Board President  
Scott Jarzombek, Executive Director

Albany Public Library is a true modern public library, providing patrons with technology, programming, and access to information while acting as a “third place” for the community. APL’s successes in 2015 speak to those pillars of library service.

It’s not uncommon to see people lined up in front of Albany’s branch libraries waiting for the doors to open in the morning. These individuals don’t want to borrow materials; what they most need is the internet access that APL provides. The library is a bridge over the digital divide for many people in Albany. Through hard-wired and WiFi connections, the library links individuals to family, friends, businesses, and employment. Last year, saw an incredible increase in the public bringing their own devices to APL locations to utilize the WiFi. In fact, APL hosted 536,610 WiFi sessions in 2015, an increase of 12%.

The library’s biggest success last year was programing. APL hosted 4,398 of its own programs with 57,249 attendees, which is an increase of 15%. The library also hosted 10,184 classes, meetings, and programs for community partners, an increase of 114% over 2014. Programing also includes outreach to the community. Librarians and staff venture out of the branches to raise awareness of the great resources it provides, and to create relationships with community partners. In 2015, APL tripled the number of collaborators, fostering relationships with Albany Promise, Albany City School District, Albany Department of Recreation, and many others.

Improving access to the branch libraries themselves, and the information contained within them, was another accomplishment in 2015. The branch schedule was expanded to provide more options for library service seven days a week. This change resulted in increased library hours throughout the city. With more opportunities for people to use the

branch facilities, APL experienced a 3% increase in visits and 15% increase in cardholders. The library is truly that “third place” for many in the community—a neutral, comfortable, social space separate from home and work.

Enhancing customer experiences is important, too. The Washington Ave. Branch, the flagship APL location near the heart of downtown Albany, saw some significant improvements. The library installed more and different kinds of seating, added lighting, and reconfigured the layout of several public areas. A new youth services area was created, along with study rooms, a community room, and the Albany Made Creative Lab makerspace. Additional improvements to the adult collection and reading areas are continuing. The goal is to bring the Washington Ave. location up to the level of the five beautiful branches that were built or fully renovated several years ago. Providing great customer service and valuable programs in a pleasant atmosphere at all branches is paramount.

APL is proud to serve the Albany community, and strives to live up to the compliment paid by one of its young patrons who said, “this library is the best-est library ever!”



*Children’s Room ribbon cutting*

## ALTAMONT FREE LIBRARY

Yvette Terplak, Board President  
Joe Burke, Director

2015 was a year of transition for Altamont Free Library. Changes in the Library's leadership occurred at both the Board and staff levels, including the departure of longtime Library Director Judith Wines to the RCS Community Library at the end of 2014. Incoming Director Joseph Burke began work in January 2015.

AFL's circulation was up very substantially throughout 2015. The Altamont Free Library circulated 32,580 items in 2015, up over 23% from 2014, demonstrating the value of the Library to the Altamont community.

Throughout the year, the Library leadership team took part in numerous discussions to create the Library's Long Range Plan. This process was ably led by Trustee Christine Carpenter and facilitated by UHLS Executive Director Tim Burke. The three-year Long Range Plan was formally adopted by the Board in December.

From May through the end of 2015, the Library completed several small construction projects, financed in part by a New York State Construction Grant. Notable projects include the construction of a safety fence along the railroad tracks, the installation of ceiling fans, attic insulation and interior storm windows to increase the energy efficiency of the building and a new back door to increase the safety of the building. The Building Committee led by Bob Haggerty did phenomenal work to bring all of these projects to fruition.

The Library received a number of grants and program-related donations throughout 2015. Notably, we received a \$10,000 Budget Aid appropriation from Senator George Amedore which we used to finance a portion of the 2013 NYS Construction Grant projects. We also received welcome contributions from the Stewart's Holiday Match Program, the Altamont High School Alumni Association,

County Executive Dan McCoy, Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple, CDPHP, Tom Sands and the loved ones of Richard Spadaro.



*County Executive Dan McCoy and Mayor James Gaughan learn about video editing*

Programming highlights included a series of six well attended summer concerts, Eat Around the World potlucks, featuring cuisines from 12 different cultures, book clubs, over 120 storytimes, author visits, teen and adult trivia nights, craft nights, and much more. We collaborated with numerous community organizations, including Altamont Elementary School, the Center for Disability Services, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Altamont Community Traditions and many others to create exciting programs for our library community.



*Eat Around the World Potluck*

In 2016, Altamont Free Library celebrates our Centennial. Throughout the year, we will be offering events, activities and fundraisers to celebrate our Hundredth anniversary, and we welcome the entire Upper Hudson Library System community to take part in marking this wonderful milestone!

## **BERLIN FREE TOWN LIBRARY**

Rebekah Lamphere, President  
Sharon Vogel, Director

The Board of Trustees adopted *Love Your Library* as their fundraising slogan for 2015 and worked very hard to reach their goal of \$7,000, an ambitious mission for our small library and rural community of under 2,000 inhabitants. A large thermometer was mounted to the outside of our building, measuring our steady progress through the months and hitting the top in early December.

Fundraising was officially kicked off on Valentine's Day with young patrons modeling origami hearts and decorating our *Love Your Library* sign. Trustees coordinated their time, efforts and culinary skills by handcrafting and packaging strawberries for a chocolate-covered strawberry sale. A steady stream of residents from Berlin and neighboring communities arrived to buy sweets for their sweethearts, making this well-advertised event a big success.

Our annual events (Maple Syrup Sale, Pie à la mode Café, Book and Bake Sale and Thanksgiving Pie Sale) kept our thermometer on the rise. Trustees composed a fundraising letter that reached out to patrons, highlighting the services we provide for the community and asking for their monetary support. Our patrons responded very favorably.

The library designed its Summer Reading Program around the *Every Hero Has a Story* theme. We offered 13 programs for youth during the months of July and August and continued to schedule some events in the evenings as well as early afternoons. We received a generous gift of 100 juvenile titles from the Brownstone Book Fund that were placed in our collection just in time for the beginning of Summer Reading. We also continued to involve our adult patrons in reading over the summer months with an official Adult Summer Reading Program. Prizes were awarded to youth and adults throughout the summer.

The library continues to offer programming for youth and adults throughout the year, including story time and craft sessions for youth and music, literary, visual art exhibitions and community gatherings for adults. The Stephanie Flint Book Club meets monthly from September through June, the Yoga group meets once a week and a variety of local educational and community groups use our space for meetings on a regular basis.

We thank our Trustees for their excellent work, our staff and volunteers for their dedication and our community for their patronage and generosity.

## **BERNE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

JoAnne Brady, Board President  
Judy Petrosillo, Library Manager

Great things keep happening at the Berne Public Library thanks to the hard working staff, trustees, and Friends along with the support of the Towns of Berne and Knox. Library visitations and circulation increased again in 2015. The feedback from recent surveys and focus groups was positive on many levels. The most suggested improvement was increasing library hours which became a part of our strategic plan.

Improvements to the library building and grounds were made possible with \$39,856 from the 2015 Library Construction Grant Program matched by the Town of Berne. Air conditioning was installed and we now have a lined, paved parking lot with proper drainage. The current dilemma is the need for more parking spaces; a wonderful problem to have!

Our most popular program was Storytime led by the dynamic Kathy Stempel. Seven to nineteen children under the age of five attended this weekly program. The Pre-K classes walked to the library from the Berne-Knox-Westerlo school for monthly programs. We hope these programs established an early bond with libraries that will develop into life-long use.

Life-long users was also our goal for the *Raising a Reader* program held for expectant and new parents.



*Jr. Chef Challenge*

Middle level children enjoyed reading to Ariel, our tail waggin' tutor, and playing with Legos during Lego League. Over school vacations, three makerspace programs were sponsored by the library: Jr. Chef Challenge, Marble-Maze, and LED light-up

Card Making. A special STEM program on the Titanic was led by Naval Jr. Officer Nathan Stempel. Children participated in the Halloween Minute-to-Win-it and the Star Wars Celebration. All of these events encouraged reading along with having a lot of fun.

Our teens met monthly during TAG. They produced a video for the 2015 Summer Reading Program, played music and games, made blankets for shelter animals, and helped install a temporary story walk at the town park. They enthusiastically celebrated the summer with super heroes and villains.

Monthly programs for the adults included Knit Wits, Game Night, Book Club, Memoir Writing, and Inky Fingers card design club. The library coordinated with the Berne Historical Society to sponsor programs including *The Spirit of New York* by Bruce Dearstyne, *The Empire Plaza* by Jack McEneny, and *One-room Schoolhouse* by Dan Driscoll. Other special adult programs included basket weaving, beekeeping, bird watching, solar energy, and book publishing.

Families enjoyed listening to talented, local bands perform on Wednesday evenings during

our Summer Music in the Park series. Monthly movie nights throughout the year provided free entertainment for the community. And of course, there were summer reading programs for every age group with the focus on heroes.



*Inky Fingers card design*

It was an exciting year for our staff, trustees, Friends, and community. We look forward to providing innovative services and longer hours in the upcoming years.



*Super Hero staff at Berne*

## BETHLEHEM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mary Redmond, Board President

Geoffrey Kirkpatrick, Director

Bethlehem Public Library continued to cover new territory in 2015. We offered a wide range of events and services – from our perennially popular music series and book talks to exciting programs focused on careers and technology. We've also grown our collection to include new and innovative items for checkout, such as fishing poles, GoPro cameras and electronic tablets for kids.



*Joe and Naomi Storch donated a dozen 3Doodler pens*

Further cementing our role as an important community asset, we added a permanent outdoor bicycle maintenance station and started offering year-round free wifi at the Bethlehem town pool and surrounding park. Inside the library, we installed a lockable mobile device charging station for people on the go. We continued our frequent visits to Bethlehem schools, often bringing along new technology to share, such as our 3Doodler pens, which were a gift from the Storch family of Bethlehem.

This spring we joined our fellow UHLS libraries in the debut of a new online catalog, which presented an updated interface and more intuitive searches. It was a big change for staffers and patrons, but everyone worked together to make the transition as painless as possible. Our patrons also embraced the addition of more than 100 titles of downloadable magazines. Later in the year, we opened up online registration for programs

that require sign up – like our wildly popular sewing classes for adults and teens. As we look ahead to another year of innovative thinking, we present additional highlights from 2015:

- The Ann Seegal Memorial Storytelling Series delighted audiences with performances in the winter and fall.
- A series made possible through NYS Assembly Priority Project funding facilitated by Assemblymember Patricia Fahy provided information about job search resources and high-tech careers.
- Our Friends sponsored trips to Glimmerglass and New York City, and they hosted an off-site antiques appraisal event.
- R.A.D. programs presented by the county and focusing on personal safety took place in the winter and fall, with a special edition during the summer for kids.
- Beloved book characters Curious George and Elephant and Piggie visited.
- A menagerie of animal visitors charmed patrons during our llama and raptor programs.
- Summer Reading was a huge hit, with activities that brought out everyone's inner hero. Our teen volunteers kept everything running smoothly, and a whole bunch of grownups joined in the fun by participating in their very own summer reading challenge.
- We continued to support STEM initiatives in our schools by hosting panels and programs with a science and engineering focus.



*All smiles: participants in one of the Parent and Child Sewing programs made stuffed toys*

## **BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

Marie Stasiak, Board President

Natalie Schipano, Director

2015 was a busy year for Brunswick Community Library! We tripled the amount of programs we normally host which resulted in tripled attendee numbers and raised our circulation. We shattered all of our previous Summer Reading Program statistics, forged some great relationships with our neighboring pre-school and public school, continued our popular T/ween Club, and welcomed new adult programs.

Later in the year, we put two of the Library's bookcases on castors to open up our "community living-room" just a bit more and enhance our programming. This allowed us to host a "Paint and Sip at the Library" class with local artist and teacher Samantha Noles. Every month, Samantha and library staff work together to transform the library into an art studio. The program is well attended and brings in new patrons. Ms. Noles has also donated a free class to our Brunswick Youth; 20 happy kids were able to paint a picture and have a pizza party at the library for free.

In April, the library hosted its first ever Egg Hunt. Due to weather the hunt was held inside, but that didn't keep people away. Over 120 patrons showed up for the Egg Hunt and a chance to pose with the Easter Bunny! Since the program was so highly received, the library decided to continue to host a Hunt every year.

Our story time attendance has hit an all-time high averaging about 25-35 participants. The local pre-school walks over every Thursday for "library class," with new friends. Our T/ween Club program continues to be a large success as well, with attendee numbers rising as high as 20; with monthly craft programs and a book discussion. The Library collaborated with the Tamarac Middle School to work on a Newbery project, where students were assigned an adult leader and a book to read that was nominated for the Newbery. The groups met

weekly to discuss and debate the quality of each book. This program greatly strengthened the relationship between the School and the Library; resulting in more monthly participants for T/ween Club.

Our Summer Reading Program for 2015 was incredible. We had 168 children registered, hosted 29 programs, and had an overall attendance of 687. This was the first year we had teens register for Summer Reading Program and the first year where every program had participants, sometimes totaling over 30.

The rest of the year went very smoothly with a successful Dr. Who Program, that was solely put on by library staff, Pumpkin Painting program for all ages, a Halloween Parade and our annual HalloTween lock-in.

Our Library circulation statistics yielded a fantastic year as well, totaling 42,659 items circulated. We saw a large increase in the circulation of DVD's and Young Adult fiction.



*November Paint Night*

## CASTLETON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Olivia Karis-Nix, Board President  
Melissa Tacke, Library Director

2015 provided an opportunity for Castleton Public Library to continue the momentum of our 2014 building renovation. In addition, CPL added new staff members, significantly increased the number and variety of programs that we offer, and worked on building and refining our collections. We have continued to collaborate with Upper Hudson Library System to provide exceptional service, programs, and a robust collection of printed and electronic resources. We are pleased to celebrate our 106th year of service to our community. CPL provides services to the Village of Castleton-on-Hudson and extends services to residents of the Town of Schodack.

### New Staff

The year saw the addition of two key staff members. In March 2015, Melissa Tacke joined our staff as Library Director. In May 2015, Mia Orobona was hired as CPL's part-time Youth Services Librarian, filling a position that had been vacant since September 2014.

### Programs, Services, and Outreach

Our open, newly-renovated space allowed us to greatly increase the number of programs we were able to offer for children, teens, and adults. Attendance at our programs increased significantly. Children, family, and teen programs included our weekly Story Hour with Miss Linda, Family Movie Nights, an American Girl Tea Party, a multi-generational Comic Jam, a Halloween costume swap and Halloween fun day/parade, STEM programs such as paper airplane making and codebreaking, and creative expression programs such as tie dye

making and back-to-school crafts. Adult programs included Open Mic Nights and Bring Your Own Book Club, computer help, recipe and holiday cookie swaps, and presentations about local history and genealogy, decluttering, Social Security and Medicare, and DIY bath products.

CPL's four public computers and our Wi-Fi connection continued to be an in-demand service at the library. We also created a Coupon Exchange to help people in the community save money. Our outreach service

to the Riverside Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing and to Castle Hill senior housing expands the reach of our library to those who might not otherwise be able to visit us.

### Summer Reading Program

CPL hosted a very successful Summer Reading Program, reaching more children, teens, and adults than we have in several years. 88 children, 27 teens, and 49 adults registered for our 2015 Summer Reading Program, a 105% increase over Summer Reading Program registration in 2014. We

kicked off the summer with an ice cream party, offered 39 fun, hands-on programs to keep children and teens engaged throughout the summer, and wrapped up with a finale pizza party and raffle prize drawing.

### Looking Ahead

We thank all of our Trustees, Friends, staff, and volunteers for providing the enthusiasm, dedication, and care that makes CPL a special place. In the coming year, we look forward to continuing to improve service at the library and to strengthening our connections with people and organizations in the community.



*Third Grade field trip to the Library*

## **COHOES PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Carol Clingan, Board President  
Matthew Graff, Director

2015 was a busy year for the Cohoes Public Library. The Library sought to change its charter via public referendum, had a wholesale turnover in staff, began a significant restoration/construction project, underwent a policies and procedures audit by the Office of the State Comptroller, and saw a new City administration voted in. But amidst all of this chaos, the Library kept true to its role as a vital anchor in the community, offering resources to the community that enrich, educate, and entertain.

But we did not stop there. During the chaos, CPL and its committed staff continued to provide other critical services to the community including assisting a senior patron with no computer skills find and print her online pay stub records; helping a parent fax documents to National Grid to have heat restored to her home; aiding a recently-released offender find resources to help “start his life over;” digitizing old family pictures to be shared online with distant and not-so-distant relatives; offering people with special needs an opportunity to volunteer and learn new skills; supplying space for the Albany Juvenile Community Accountability Board to meet to discuss cases; providing free tax forms and e-file tax help.

This list is far from exhaustive, and certainly all UHLS member libraries can recount similar service examples. My point is not to single out Cohoes Public Library specifically for helping patrons in these ways, rather it is to emphasize that libraries are a strong institution made stronger by dedicated staff

Cohoes Public Library had an interesting 2015, but our core services remained a reflection of the needs of our community, and we will proudly continue to offer those services.

## **WILLIAM K. SANFORD TOWN LIBRARY (Colonie)**

Rosemary Armao, Board President  
Evelyn Neale, Director

2015 was a year of many changes for the Colonie Town Library. After close to 30 years on the staff and more than a dozen years as Director, Richard Naylor retired in May. Evelyn Neale took her post as new Director at the end of June.

A major weeding project was begun for fiction, non-fiction and reference and will continue into 2016. The reference collection will be reduced by 2/3rds and moved to help with reorganization of the Access Services space. The Friends of the Library raised money for a new Circulation Desk that was installed in late August and a second information desk was created by the front entrance for patron convenience. In December the library introduced Fax 24.

In 2015 the Library had 240,305 visits, approximately 20,000 per month! We offered 1,133 programs with a total attendance for the year of 32,906. 646,682 items circulated and the public computers were used 31,555 times. Many great noon Author Talks were presented as well as two film series, the Chinese Film Series Discussion, and American Cinema and WWII with our own Lenny Zapala, Director of the Menands Public Library.

The big event in the teen room was the Battle of the Bands on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. We had eight bands compete for prizes donated by the Friends of the Library, Hilton Music Center, White Lake Music and the Guitar Center. The bands were judged by Jason Panucci, C. J. Ruth and Kiki Vassikalkis. The barbershop quartet *3 Men and a Melody* won the \$500 grand prize donated by the Friends of the Library. This program brought lots of new teens and parents into the library.

This summer 846 children joined our summer reading club and read 330,136 minutes.

Our volunteers are a big part of our summer. We had 53 volunteers who volunteered 1,508 hours.

A new four week program called CyberKids was added in 2015 and was a huge success. A team of Shaker High students taught children to code and make video games

The summer ended on a high note with an outdoor concert by the Colonie Town Band. Patrons enjoyed selections from Broadway shows, movies, marches and light classical pieces.

With the Library celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Albany Shaker Road in 2016, plans for events and changes continue.

### EAST GREENBUSH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Michael Poost, Board President

Jill Dugas Hughes, Director

The East Greenbush Community Library was obviously an important destination for many people. Over 200,000 patrons came through our doors in 2015. As one patron recently wrote “it is the best thing about our town.” 2015 was a year of change and thanks to the flexibility and teamwork of library staff, service never skipped a beat. We said goodbye to beloved director, Evelyn Neale; supported colleague Lois Papp in her able role as Interim Director, and warmly welcomed new director Jill Dugas Hughes. We managed the transition to Sierra with patience, smiles, and community education. In November, staff kicked off the library’s strategic planning process with an all-staff retreat.

Approximately 18,000 items were added to our collection and circulation increased by 2%. The largest increases were seen in Children’s books (+8%), and Electronic Materials (+21%). Adult CD/DVD circulation dropped 26%. On average, our 5,963 active cardholders borrowed 67 items each and 118 items circulated per hour that the library was open.

## What Did 214,963 People Do at the Library?



Many of our youth and teen programs were collaborations with community organizations such as the Tri City Valley Cats, Art with the Tang Museum, and healthy cooking with Price Chopper. During the summer, we collaborated with the Town of East Greenbush and the YMCA summer camps and presented our summer reading finale for 196 children & parents at the Greenbush YMCA. Our teen librarian developed new programming to serve our tween/teen population such as Middle School Makers (arts & crafts), writing workshops and STEAMPunk (creating with LEGOs, snap circuits, etc).

Our adult programming partnerships with community groups allowed us to offer an eclectic lineup of programs and services such as: AARP Smart Driver courses; TaxAide preparation; one-on-one Career Clinics; GED classes; history programs by the Greenbush Historical Society and gardening programs by the Greenbush Garden Club. The adult department started Adult Coloring afternoon and evening sessions which were very popular. Our adult winter reading program had 60 participants who enjoyed a film, lecture, book discussion, and a reading game with prizes. In

February we held our first annual “Day Before the Awards Film Festival” showing 6 Oscar nominated films which drew 306 attendees.

We hosted a weekly summer Farmers Market co-sponsored by the YMCA, featuring local farms and specialty vendors. In 2015, the market added a prepared food truck each week as well as a community tent that featured musical groups, voter registrations, and educational programs by Cornell Cooperative Extension and Capital Roots.

Each month, the library exhibits works from a local artist in our entry gallery. In July, artist Robert Bode exhibited “Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood?” a series of 20 paintings focused on people serving people in East Greenbush. Molly Chatt, our Head of Youth Services, was featured in one of the paintings.

As always, we count on the generosity and support of our Friends of the East Greenbush Library who run the annual Children’s Book Sale and Festival and Spring Book Sale, and volunteer weekly at the library.

### **GRAFTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

Estella Hovnanian, Board President

Leanna Sweet, Co-President

Ronnie Tatro, Library Director

The Grafton Community Library continued to grow its role in our community in 2015. We expanded our programs for all ages, striving to meet the increased needs of our community.

Libraries serve a dynamic role within small communities; providing services and materials for both recreation and education as well as offering a meeting space for community groups. We remain committed to providing core library services, providing access to our own carefully chosen collections, as well as the collections of all of the UHLS member libraries, including ebooks, downloadable audiobooks, and streaming video.

In addition to our materials we have a number of programs for both youths and adults. Our

programs focus on education, enhancing positions within the work force, and the ever popular hands-on workshops to feed the crafty side of our patrons.



*Demonstrating the art of the blacksmith*

Workshops offered in 2015 included blacksmithing, wet felting, creating art bots, wire wrapping, and more. These appealed to a variety of crafters, skill sets, and age groups. The library looks forward to continued involvement with hands-on workshops with great thanks to the Community Arts Grant.

The Summer Reading Program was a great success with 77 youths and adults in participation. We look forward to going full steam ahead in 2016 with continued encouragement of children and young adult’s literacy development.



*Some of the Summer Reading participants*

Special acknowledgment goes to the library's Board of Trustees whose efforts help to continue the development of the library. The trustees assume a vital fundraising responsibility that allows the Library to enhance its ability to continue an expanded variety of projects.

The success of the library is a reflection of the individuals in the community and their desire to see their library thrive and grow. Thanks to all the community members of the Grafton Community Library who contributed in making 2015 an amazing year.

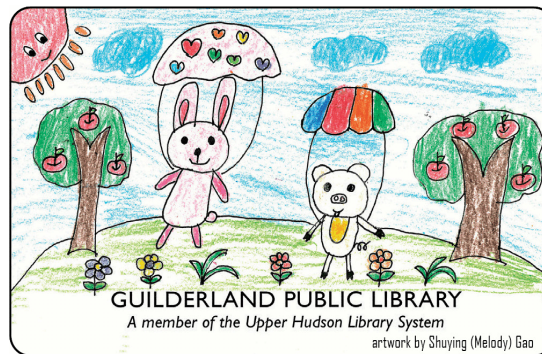
### **GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Christopher Aldrich, Board President  
Tim Wiles, Director

There was an explosion at the Guilderland Public Library in 2015. It wasn't a real explosion, just a dramatic expansion in our programming efforts and corresponding attendance. Under the dynamic leadership of Programming and Public Services department heads Maria Buhl and Beth Rienti, our librarians developed innovative programming for all ages that has generated a pro-library buzz here in Guilderland.

Major events such as the "Hudson Valley Beer: From Hops to Home" series, spotlighting the burgeoning craft-brewing scene in the Capital Region, and "The Art of Being Super," a celebration of comic-book artistry that brought four of the leading comic book artists to Guilderland (including Guilderland's own Batman-drawing superstar, Greg Capullo), have attracted a wider audience.

We started celebrating homegrown talent with the monthly "Read Local" series featuring Capital Region authors. The program kicked off in December with Troy-based author Amy Halloran slinging her signature pancakes while talking about her new book, *The New Bread Basket*.



*Redesigned youth library card by Melody Gao*

We had local kids enter a contest to redesign our youth library card – congratulations Melody Gao! – and came up with a catchy new adult library card on our own, featuring our new slogan, "Imagine, Discover, Connect @ Your GPL!"

From a youth perspective, the Summer Reading Program was greatly enhanced, and attendance at our Storytimes is through the roof, regularly racking up 60 to 80 participants.

If you are seeing us in a whole new light, it is because every light on the premises has been replaced with highly efficient LEDs, which save a lot of energy and money; this was accomplished thanks to a 75K grant from Assemblymember Pat Fahy. And Senator George Amedore helped the library with a \$100K grant which will help fund the summer 2016 replacement of our 24-year-old roof; additional monies from the State Library Construction Grant program will help as well. Further, a new collaborative effort with the Guilderland Central School District will save taxpayers money on construction-management costs.

A number of food drives gave customers the opportunity to have their fines forgiven in exchange for the donation of non-perishable food items. This collaboration with the Guilderland Food Pantry furthers their mission of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors." It has been so successful that a permanent food-collection receptacle has been installed in the Library's lobby.

In order to serve our customers better, we began selling fishing and hunting licenses—the first public library in the country to do so. We also began circulating folding tables, bake ware, and similar items that patrons would love to use, but might not want to own.

Our librarians came up with the “Pop-Up Library,” which can appear anywhere in Guilderland to reach library users—and maybe some non-users, too, wherever they are. Customers can check out material, register for programs, and even get a library card! Speaking of library cards, we broadened eligibility to include not just those who live in Guilderland, but also those who work here and who contribute so much to our local economy.

Right at the end of the year, we installed what we hope will be a highly effective marketing tool: A digital electric sign in front of the Library on Western Avenue. This sign provides at-a-glance updates on upcoming events.



*Greufus moooves in*

And, last but not least, WE GOT A COW! Not just any cow, but a local icon that had sat atop a local business since 1963; “Greufus” as he’s called,

has quickly become a beloved staff member. It would behoove you to come see him!

It’s been quite a year here at GPL. Who knows what 2016 holds?

### **CHENEY LIBRARY (Hoosick Falls)**

Priscilla McCaughin, Board President  
Carol Gaillard, Director

Cheney Library in Hoosick Falls, started repairing the ramp into our building in 2014 and finished it in 2015. All of the old brick had to be taken off because it had begun to fall off in places and the piers were disintegrating

from their bases up. Water had gotten in at any place that it could and our winters of freezing and thawing did the rest. Now we have a safe entry into our lovely building.



*The completed ramp into the Library*

We continued with our round of Fall and Spring story times for preschool children, plus the Summer reading adventure for grade school children. Classes from St. Mary have continued to come to the Library for a story and to take out books. The kindergarten classes at Hoosick Falls Central School had the library director come to read to them.

We continued to have a knitting and crochet group that met weekly; a quilting group that met twice a month and two book clubs (one afternoon and the other evening). We introduced a Lego Club for grades 5 and 6 and it was such a hit that we had to make time for grades 2, 3, and 4!

The Friends of Cheney Library supplied the library with a gas fireplace insert. They had some successful fund raising and it has become a cozy spot to sit and read, which we have named the Bill Peckham Reading Nook for a past president who was very instrumental

in the library for many years. In 2016, with the money they raised, we hope to install a chair lift to the basement, to make it handicapped accessible.

Two very busy friends, Susan Hoffman and Margaret Pine, made a working/storage space out of one of the rooms in the basement. For years it had accumulated “stuff.” Susan and Margaret helped winnow it down to “usable stuff.” Then they created shelving for the room. I now know where everything is located for Storytime and Summer Reading programs. In the process of creating this room they also made the Book Sale room a very inviting place to come for our First Saturday Book Sales. My other volunteers: Kari Brock, Mary Remancus and Jane Verderosa help to keep the library humming along.

### **MENANDS PUBLIC LIBRARY**

(Report not available)

### **NASSAU FREE LIBRARY**

Sam Whaley, Board President  
Laurenne Teachout, Director

This was a year of change at Nassau Free Library. Early in the year, a Community Arts Grant enabled the library to offer a memoir writing program with author Mary Shartle. The program was well received by local adults. Children’s programs were plentiful, organized by Tracey Clague, Assistant Director. Monthly programs included Lego Club, Family Movie Night, and VolunTeen Meetup. The Lego Club has a theme-build each month, and a Lego Bingo game after children work on their projects. Projects are displayed in the library for patrons to view. VolunTeen Meetup is a time where our dedicated teens come together to play games, watch movies, discuss books and work together on projects for the library.

During the summer months VolunTeens donate their time to help with Summer Reading programs, including set up, and take down. The VolunTeens are an incredible asset to our library and to our community. Over the past year the VolunTeens have

worked over 175 hours in the library. The feedback from the community has been wonderful and so positive. Parents are encouraged to see VolunTeens as role models for their younger children.



*Nassau VolunTeens*

The Library had a very successful Summer Reading Program and worked with the Town camp to provide free books for local children and a magic show. We also collaborated with the Village Youth Committee to provide a community tie-dye event. It was a great summer with many smiling faces!

In June, we bid a sad farewell to Katherine Chansky, Library Director, as she accepted a new position out of state. A search was conducted and the Board appointed Laurenne Teachout, Library Director, in August. Laurenne is also the Director of Stephentown Memorial Library and divides her time between the two libraries. During the interim months of June and July, Tracey Clague, Assistant Director, stepped up to the Director role with skill and aplomb. Thanks to Tracey’s efforts, along with the dedicated Staff and the Board, the transition to the new director was a smooth one.

Fall brought a flurry of new programs, including Adult Coloring, weekly Story Time for toddlers, Star Wars Reads Day, Yoga Classes, a presentation by the Albany Paranormal Research Society, and a wonderful holiday songwriting program for youth that culminated in a Holiday Concert in December. Community Arts Grant funding enabled local musician Deb

Cavanaugh to spend time with 10 local youth and help them to write and perform their own holiday songs. The songs were then put onto a CD and each child received a copy to cherish forever.

The Friends of the Nassau Free Library held several successful fundraisers throughout the year, including Book & Bake Sales, Quilt Raffle, and Holiday Gift Shop. The funds raised were used to print our monthly newsletter and to purchase Museum passes for Berkshire Museum and Mass MoCA. The library is fortunate to have the strong support of this group of library supporters.

### **NORTH GREENBUSH PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Martin Carbone, Board President

Daryl McCarthy, Director

In 2015 the North Greenbush Public Library was a busy place. The mission of the library is to provide the highest level of service in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible. The library currently has over 106,000 items to lend to patrons. This includes over 38,000 eBooks available through the Upper Hudson Library System. Patrons borrowed over 101,000 items from the library in last year. The community requested more items than ever from the library especially talking books, DVDs, music CDs, and downloadable books. The interest in using downloadable materials grows every year. Working together with other Upper Hudson libraries, our library is developing a wonderful collection of eBooks.

Patrons in other libraries requested 12,723 of our items, and our patrons requested 11,775 items from other Upper Hudson libraries. The library continues to expand its collections by adding popular items and welcomes suggestions from the public to improve our collections.

The 2015 Summer Reading Program was very successful. We had over 100 children participate reading books and earning prizes. Again this year, the highlight of the program

was its kick-off with players from the Tri City Valley Cats and Southpaw conducting a reading session. The library is very fortunate to have a minor league baseball team in its community. Our Teen Summer Reading Program had a small but dedicated group of readers who read for prizes all summer. For the first time the library sponsored an Adult Summer Reading Program that encouraged over 60 adults to read and earn the chance to win great prizes.

The residents of the Town of North Greenbush are generous in their support of the library and our dedicated staff and volunteers continued to provide valuable service. Volunteers provided many hours of service to the library allowing the staff to serve the public more efficiently. Our Friends group remains active in keeping our on-going book sale in order. The Friends provide the library with funds to purchase items as needed.

The library looks forward to more growth and continued community support in the future. The library board and staff are working hard to provide the best service possible. The library continues to be the busiest place in town.



*Getting their first library card at North Greenbush*

## PETERSBURGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Lori Hamm, Board President  
Sharon Hodges, Director



*New handicapped access ramp*

A new handicapped ramp was installed to replace the one built in 1978 prior to the current code requirements. This included a new, larger landing at the top of the ramp and new handrails up the length of the ramp.

The library continues to be a center of activity with programs for all ages.

There was a painting party enjoyed by the young adults as part of the summer reading program.

Pottery programs were offered in the summer for children and young adults. Many programs were offered for children during the summer and the reading program was enjoyed by all.

Weekly preschool story hour programs were held thanks to our volunteers, who are three retired school teachers. A knitting group continued to meet weekly and a book discussion group was held monthly.

Local history has been of great interest to a variety of people so an effort is being made to put on the library website as much information about Petersburg and its residents as possible. Library volunteers have gathered a collection of historic photographs which have been linked to our website.



*Painting Party at Petersburg*

## POESTENKILL LIBRARY

LouAnne Lundgren, Board President  
Margie Morris, Director

As it was for all the member libraries of UHLS, 2015 was a time of change in the automation system. Patrons and staff alike needed to learn how the new Sierra system worked. Some days it made everyone happy and other days the learning curve was more of a challenge. But overall, Sierra has received favorable ratings.

The new magazine selections offered by Overdrive have been a great hit with patrons. They are great to read on mobile devices and with the number of titles available, there is something for everyone. It is also nice to be able to offer the option to download books or magazines when the library needs to close for inclement weather as it did often at the beginning of 2015.

The 3D printer Poestenkill Library purchased in 2014 continued to be a great hit all through 2015! Projects for schools and local businesses (software company, ice cream shop) took up most of the printing time this past year. And Christmas projects were a big hit too! One patron designed a desk top cellphone holder imprinted with the library's initials. The holders are so popular that we keep selling out of the wonderful colors we are able to print.

The Poestenkill Library is the social center of the Town. As the borrowing habits of patrons change, such as taking out fewer items, it is important to remember that libraries are more than just books. To remain viable, libraries must look at different ways to serve the needs of their community. The purchase of the 3D printer was a step in that direction.

Two new, large, touch screen computers were purchased for the staff workspace. We had been using laptops in this space, but these larger screens make it much easier to see and their all-in-one design takes up the same

amount of desk space as a laptop. Everyone's eyes are happier!

The Friends of Poestenkill Library held their two, always successful, Market Days which generate a sense of community, along with much needed funds. Over \$7,000 was raised during the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Lights Appeal in December and set the record as the most profitable ever. In addition, the Friends gave the director money to update the travel books in the nonfiction collection and to purchase new books about countries for the juvenile collection. The books have been well-received, including a new book on travel to Cuba.

The library trustees began to explore the possibility of expanding the library space. An architect drew up plans for enclosing the front porch with windows and making it a usable, flexible library space. In addition, the entrance would be redesigned and increased outdoor lighting would be added. We are still in the discussion stage of deciding if that is the best use of space for the money or if we should go in another direction, but just being in the process is a big step forward.

2015 brought an upswing in library usage and you can tell by looking at the shelves that more books are going out than has been the case in recent years. Patrons have shared that, although they enjoy the convenience of reading books on their mobile devices, they are missing the feel of holding a real book in their hands and we can now see that reflected in the increase in book checkouts. It is great to be able to meet the various needs of our wonderful Poestenkill patrons. Here's hoping that the numbers keep rising in 2016!

## RCS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Antonio Booth, Board President  
Judith Wines, Director

At the end of 2015, the RCS Community Library had a different look and feel than it did twelve months earlier.

The Library started the year by removing the existing carpeting and installing a vapor barrier and new carpet. We took the disruption as an opportunity to reorganize our layout, create larger areas for teens and children, and reorganize the adult sections. We updated our look by adding locally made wooden end caps to all of our steel bookshelves. We replaced the old, modular circulation desk with one built for us by an area carpenter. We built a new meeting room and created a café area with a fridge and coffee maker in a previously underutilized space. We installed an art display system to create a gallery space for local artists. The café, new meeting room, adult reading area, tutoring areas and teen space all got new furniture, and additional staff workspace was created in the new circulation area. We doubled the number of light fixtures to address patron concerns that the space was too dim.

In addition to the physical changes, we made changes to the way we operate. We moved into the 20th century with the acquisition of a cash register, and a self service public fax and color copier/printer. Then we moved into the 21st century when we received a donation for the purchase of a 3D printer. We made all but our newest DVDs requestable, and stopped double casing DVDs. We increased the loan period on our audiobooks and more than doubled the number of magazines we subscribe to. The Library launched a new website and more than doubled our number of social media followers. We came out the other side of a New York State Comptroller's audit and implemented their recommendations. We



*Happy patrons at RCS*

changed our staff roles so all staff now work shifts at our circulation/public service desk. The year ended with the retirement of our custodian Angus Doyle, a 93 year old, WWII veteran.

The new space was busy with programs. Highlights include felting programs, upcycled book trees, a small business scavenger hunt, two new book clubs, a Pi day celebration, potlucks, elementary school science programs, sip and paints, sensory storytimes, terrariums, and lava lamps.

The year ended with an almost completed strategic plan that will help guide our way in 2016 and beyond.

### **RENSELAER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Annette Sebuyira, Board President  
Jane Chirgwin, Director

The Rensselaer Public Library had another busy year in 2015. As well as hosting Literacy Volunteers, Living Resources, T.O.P.S. and tutors from the Rensselaer City School district, we participated in the Rensselaer County summer food program, providing lunches to in-need children five days a week with the help of our dedicated volunteer, Dolores. We continue to experiment with ways to reach out to the community and our school. Our "Who's your Hero?" poster and essay contest was a huge success.



*Friends Group President MaryLou Knox at our Nurses Station for Hero Day Program*



*Anonymous caped patrons at Rensselaer Circulation Desk*

The Friends group received a grant from the Troy Savings Bank Foundation to start a mobile maker lab, a traveling set of resources for Rensselaer County libraries to share. It includes a 3D printer, programmable robot, green screen, ipad and more for use in programs related to science, technology, engineering, art and technology. For that reason, we've dubbed this project the "S.T.E.A.M. trunk".

### **RENSELAERVILLE LIBRARY**

Dale Dorner & Connie Kudlack, Co-Presidents  
Kimberly Graff, Director

During 2015 the Rensselaerville Library Board and staff continued to focus on supporting the community, enhancing programming and offering unique fundraising opportunities.

Part of the Library's mission is to be a "gathering place that is open, free and inviting." This was never more evident than in January when a neighborhood family lost their home to fire. On that cold night, the Library served as a comfort station, providing facilities and warmth for the family as well as to the volunteer firefighters who worked to put out the blaze. Our friends at the Palmer House Café brought soup across the street so that we could not only provide physical warmth but sustenance as well.

Over the past two years the Library has received a total of \$1,000 in support from the Bank of Greene County to develop an entertainment center. The funds supported the purchase of a large screen tv, sound system, DVD player and camera. This new equipment has provided the Library the opportunity to offer movie screenings followed by discussion, community viewing of popular TV programs, and the ability for family members to Skype with military personnel on deployment overseas.



*Poetry on the lawn*

The bimonthly poetry group meetings and poetry month programs inspired the *Summer Poetry on the Library Lawn* event. This July 2015 program included readings by seven poets and had an audience of 34. Poets and audience loved the outdoor venue and as a result encouraged the Library to focus on expanding Library space and access to the gardens.

A local resident, author and film director, Tom Gilroy, curated the 2013 Haiku Project where five writers: author and film director Tom Gilroy; filmmaker, Jim McKay; musician Michael Stipe; writer Patrick So; and poet Shin Yu Pai, each committed to writing one haiku a day for the entire month of April 2013. The original notebooks were auctioned off during the 2013 Festival of Writers. Tom continued the effort by taking individual Haikus from each writer and creating an Indie GoGo campaign around a special Haiku broadside package and raised \$2,745 for the Library. The project was repeated in 2014 with authors Lisa Gill, Tom Gilroy, Steve Peters, Shelley Silver and Shin Yu Pai and the 2014

Indie GoGo campaign went live in 2015 to raise \$2,670 for the Library. As a result of these efforts we now have the broadsides (\$10), dish towels (\$25) and bandannas (\$10) for sale in the Library.



*Haiku broadsides*

2015 was a very busy year for Rensselaerville. We saw an increase in registered borrowers, the use of public computers and visitors to the Library. The circulation increased by over 1,600 items and downloads from Overdrive increased by over 140 items.

The support and collaborations have demonstrated the importance of the Library in this Hilltown community.

### **SAND LAKE TOWN LIBRARY**

Robbin Colandrea, Board President  
Melinda Fowler, Director

2015 was another busy and productive year for the Sand Lake Town Library. We continued to serve as a center of learning and community. At least 16 different groups and organizations used the Kennedy Room for 137 meeting sessions throughout the year.

The BEST (Bringing Educators and Students Together) Program met weekly during the school year to help students in grades 3 – 10 with homework, organization, research and time management. Between January and June 2015, over 475 students and tutors met at the Library for BEST; an additional 170+ students and tutors used the library to meet outside of the BEST program. This collaborative volunteer-run program is a great resource to the community and a wonderful use of Library space.

We started off the year with a lot of time spent preparing for and then moving to a new circulation software program. The program has provided a lot of new options for patrons such as reading lists and histories.

In August, the Library received word that a NYS Library Construction Grant to help fund renovations to our main room and circulation area had been approved. We then began the process of looking for bids and preparing the room, our staff and the public for the project which will be completed in early 2016.

Adult programs during 2015 included learning about computers, our very first Trivia Night, a Mac'n'Cheese Cookoff, and building a solar food dehydrator.

We opened the summer with our annual Library Fair featuring a tea party, traditional dances, and of course, the always popular Bounce House. Twenty-eight summer youth programs included a make-do windball, arm knitting, superhero bootcamp, and a traveling pond.



*Make-do windball in action*

We are very grateful for the monetary donations from Senator Kathy Marchione, Stewarts' Holiday Match, WGY Christmas Wish, and from patrons throughout the year. These funds help with programming, museum passes and so much more.

As always, we are thankful for the continuing dedication and hard work of our staff, volunteers, and trustees, as well as the support of our patrons and our community.

## **ARVILLA E. DIVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY (Schaghticoke)**

Marilou Pudiak-Town, Board President  
Nicholas Matulis, Director

You could say it was a constructive year for Diver library...but I wouldn't.

Sure, library leadership acted as responsible, forward thinking stewards of a building that has been our only home since the library was founded in 1940. We repaired our roof, replaced a gutter, painted steps, installed a fence and purged our garage of years' worth of unwanted and unneeded junk. We entered into phase two of our ongoing energy efficiency renovation—an attempt to keep our operational costs low and our carbon footprint small—replacing the last of our drafty, turn-of-the-century windows, also laying the groundwork for a split heating/ cooling system to be installed in 2016!

And yet, despite all of the work we did to maintain and improve the physical structure of the building, I know that I'll remember 2015 as a year of demolition. All year long, philosophically speaking, we were tearing down walls.

The library board of trustees completed a long range plan, based largely on a survey we conducted in town, and conversations we had with our patrons. It was decided, among other changes, that Diver needed to be more proactive and forward in engaging the community. This is reflected in our new mission statement:

*"...To be an advocate and a haven for lifelong learning, to inspire, support, and celebrate members of our local community as they work to define and achieve their personal, professional and communal goals."*

Words like "advocate" and "inspire" are a cornerstone of the evolution of our philosophy. To truly embody these words we knew that we had to step outside of the library, to be a presence in town, not just a place, to form new relationships and reinvigorate old ones.

We grew our Storytime at the school garden. And our annual Christmas concert at the Presbyterian Church was the best attended in recent memory. We visited the Valley Falls community center for an art program, and co-sponsored other programs with the Valley Falls library, strengthening our relationship with our good neighbors around the corner.



*Storytime in the Garden*

We traveled to Hoosic Valley High School to offer a weekly class on songwriting, and on multiple occasions students from the school returned the favor by performing at the library. Diver board members led the charge, founding a community outreach organization called “The Community Builders,” which hosted everything from neighborhood dinners to street festivals.

We made new friends in 2015. Lots of them. An obvious correlation: library visits were up again! And programming was through the roof! For the second straight year we set Diver records for Summer Reading sign-ups (+33%), programs held (+33%) and program attendance (+50%)!

We also got a cat.

Hmmm... I take it back. It was a constructive year.



*Assistant Director Gloria*

## **STEPHENTOWN MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

Thomas Quimby, Board President

Laurenne Teachout, Director

Stephentown Memorial Library continued to serve the community in new and innovative ways in 2015. In the spring, we had a local musical group, Shoni, perform to an enthusiastic audience of Celtic music fans. The atmosphere was warm and cozy, in spite of the cold outdoors and several people commented on how nice it was to have music at the library. Our Seed Exchange continued to provide local families with seeds to use in their home gardens and our Plant Swap in May was also a highlight for local gardeners. Area teens attended a Babysitter’s Training Class at the library in March. The Red Cross provided a day of training for 20 area teens that are now certified to babysit. We were happy to facilitate this great educational opportunity!

Early in summer, we purchased a large special event tent that was used for our Annual Book Sale and Summer Youth Camp in July. The tent will serve us well in years to come for outdoor events in our green space. Construction grant money provided us with expanded parking spaces and resurfacing of our parking lot and also a new storage shed to house donated books and other items.



*New special events tent*

Our summer was filled with smiles and laughter from children participating in the Summer Reading Program, attending our Summer Camp and enjoying our Summer Food Program, which provided free breakfast and lunch on weekdays for 4 weeks. Highlights of Summer Camp were a visit by Dazzle Dogs, who performed amazing tricks and agility stunts and a Quidditch game for kids at our

End of Summer Party. Ice cream was donated by Stewart's for the party and the weather was perfect. We also hosted a sniffer dog program, robotics workshop, and smoothie making with Jodie Fitz. Summer Camp was exciting and fun for all who participated!



*Quidditch Game at the End of Summer Party*

As the temperatures cooled, we kicked off a new family movie series called Flashback Fridays. Starting with *Back to the Future*, we showed favorite older movies that both parents and kids could enjoy together. Families loved this and we had good attendance for these events. Halloween was another highlight for SML. We sponsored a town wide Halloween Party, along with a Haunted House and a Trunk-or-Treating event for local children and families. This was a huge hit and was attended by almost 200 people.

The year culminated with our annual Mitten Tree gathering of mittens, gloves, hats and scarves that are donated to area families in need. We also had our annual Mini-Gingerbread House making, which is a favorite with small children.

Throughout the year, we were fortunate to have many volunteers, a talented staff, and dedicated Board members who worked very hard to make Stephentown Memorial Library the special place that it is.

## **TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Evelyn Greenstein, Board President  
Paul Hicok, Director

In meetings with consultants and field trips, the Board of Trustees continued throughout 2015 to work on gathering information towards the goal of formulating a master plan for the library. We hope to conclude this work in the coming year.

Work on restoring the fourteen casement windows on the first floor of the Main Library, made possible by a New York State library construction grant, was nearly completed in 2015.

In 2015, the library successfully hosted a number of reading and book discussion groups. In addition to our traditional monthly book groups, this year we added a variety of themed reading groups. Two themes used; *Making Sense of the Civil War* and *Our World Remade: World War I*, were supported by grants from The NY Council for the Humanities. Additionally we continued our Understanding Shakespeare Group which read and discussed "Hamlet," "Othello" and "The Tempest" this year.

Another staple of our library programming, Computer Instruction, had strong attendance with more than 150 people utilizing the library to learn how to use email, eReaders, Microsoft Word, Excel and basic computing skills. The GED class held at our Lansingburgh Branch, offered in conjunction with Questar III, had 17 students enrolled with three passing the exam this year. We also offered two full-day seminars on *How to Start Your Own Business*, underwritten by a mini-grant from the Upper Hudson Library System, which brought in local business experts to guide potential start-ups through the nuts and bolts of entrepreneurship.

Exercising our minds and bodies continues to be programming that is actively pursued by patrons. Yoga, Zumba and meditation groups remain popular at the library. Our meditation

groups at both locations draw an average of 10-15 people each week. A number of special events drew large crowds this year, the screening of Bobby Kendall's original silent film, "When An Alien Robot Crash Lands in Troy, NY" with live music by Lastdayshining attracted more than 80 people to the library on a Friday evening. Our Victorian Stroll classical guitar concert also proved to be immensely popular.

Overall we saw a total of nearly 2,600 people attend programming at both of our locations, this represents a slight increase from 2014 of 3%.

Children's programs also saw an increase in 2015. Our Main Library story times and Lego programs have tripled in attendance and are full to capacity. Multicultural materials and programming have been expanded to accommodate the interests of our increasingly diverse community.

### **VALLEY FALLS FREE LIBRARY**

Ralph Marino, Board President  
Kelly Akin, Library Manager

For the Valley Falls Free Library, 2015 was a year filled with many changes, beginning with the migration from Horizon to a new integrated library automation system, Sierra, and ending with a complete change in staffing.

Our beloved Director Sandi Goodwin retired, and spurred a long process to fill her position. Sandi was invaluable in training the Interim Director Kelly Akin in her duties, and this made the eventual transition to Library Manager a seamless one. We said a fond farewell to Deb Bevevino and Bobbi Crowther, and brought on board four new staff: Betsy McGeoch, Jessica Chapko, Rusty Herrington and Carolyn Stover.

In an attempt to make the library seem fresh and new, a deep weeding of uncirculated books and media was performed and 3,485 items were removed from the library.

Bookcases and tables were relocated, the rug was deep-cleaned, and a beverage center established. The changes created a space that is still familiar, but more open.

The 2014 Wentorf Grant was used to purchase an iPad for use in the library. The iPad has been used by patrons, and more apps will be purchased to appeal to a wider audience. The Stewarts Grant covered the costs of programming for the Summer Read Program. A grant from the Pilcrow Foundation in conjunction with the Sandi Goodwin Fund, gave us over \$1,200 in Juvenile Nonfiction and Fiction books, with a \$400 pledge. These books filled in the gaps left from the deep weeding.

Our Summer Reading Program had 16 youth registered, with 13 returning their reading records at the end of the summer. Programming included the Tang Teaching Museum creating superhero capes.

The Library also had an increase in collaborative programming with the Diver Library: We participated in a few Summer Reading Program activities, such as creative movement with Lili Loveday. We cooperated in more creative movements in December, and an "In the Garden" activity. We represented our library in two community events in Schaghticoke (Fall Fest and Christmas Corner), offering crafts and read-alouds for the children.

Programming at the Library included the Memorial Day Service (headed by Lynn Brown Keyes) with an attendance of 78 people, which has firmly established this as a well-liked tradition. Our Annual Yard Sale was very successful, as was the Children's Corner (headed by Janet Weber) at the Schaghticoke Fair. Our Pumpkin Fest was not as successful as past years, but we are still hopeful! A new program, Author Night (headed by Janet Weber) was a surprising success, with 21 people attending to listen to Dawn Lajeunesse talk about her books and self-publishing. More Author Nights are being planned for 2016.

Our Children’s Story Time remains popular with a core group of children in attendance. Marcia Geren offers wonderful crafts and stories, and has been faithfully assisted by Donna Barnhart.

On the technological side of things, the Library website, hosted by Upper Hudson Library System, had 118,749 visits in 2015. Also, the Facebook page has gained a following of 222 people! A concerted effort by our Board, staff and patrons to share and promote these sites will ultimately bring more people into the library.

Our library continues to grow and flourish, as we serve our community in innovative ways. We have many exciting plans for the coming year and are always open to suggestions and feedback.

We also welcome anyone who would like to volunteer to assist in programs, work at our book sale, or present something that they are passionate about. As always, the Valley Falls Free Library is your library.

### VOORHEESVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Janna Shillinglaw, Board President  
Gail Alter Sacco, Director



SuperHeroes at VPL

Our community is transforming our Library. We asked for their ideas and needs, then responded to their input. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics programming increased for preschoolers

through adults. A Seed Library is available and residents are borrowing seeds to plant. Guest speakers led a thought-provoking World War I program series. Community members tried coding, used our 3D printer, and learned about archiving their personal digital history. These programs were designed to help each person innovate and be empowered in today’s world.

The Friends of the Library built a float for the Memorial Day Parade and won first place! They also published their first book – a collection of memoirs written by the library’s Personal History Writing Group. Book discussions offered for all ages often included the opportunity to interact with authors and illustrators in person and through expanded use of technology. Of special note is the lecture and discussion with Forrest Pritchard, author of *Growing Tomorrow: A Farm-to-Table Journey in Photos and Recipes: Behind the Scenes with 18 Extraordinary Sustainable Farmers Who Are Changing the Way We Eat*.



Forrest Pritchard, author

The addition of the electronic materials on Overdrive has nearly doubled the resources obtainable by our residents. Our new High Demand Collection makes bestsellers available more quickly. In addition we are expanding our Library hours; we open earlier on weekdays and summer weekend hours will be longer.

We digitized some of the library’s local history items and uploaded them to the New York State Heritage Digital collection so people from all over New York State can have access

to our local history. One of our diaries originally belonging to Frank L. Smith, founder of Smitty's Pizza, brought the library national attention when Smith's dog tags from WWI were found in France.

Librarians continued to serve the community, working with the seniors, school district, New Scotland Historical Association, and other organizations with their local projects. We were happy to host Pat Fahey for one of her Community Conversations. We are proud to serve a community which appreciates the power of literacy and the value of the library.

### **WATERVLIED PUBLIC LIBRARY**

David Wheatley, Board President  
Samantha Fagan, Director

2015 was an exciting year for the Watervliet Public Library! The library hosted its annual *I Love My Library* Dinner in May, which honored longtime volunteer, Mary O'Brien. We had a great turnout with prizes including an overnight stay at the Desmond, a television and tickets to see the New York Giants. Funds from the dinner went towards the library's expansion.

The 2015 New York State Summer Reading program theme was "Every Hero Has a Story." We celebrated with some great programs including Comic Jam with Ira Marcks and fun family activities with WMHT. At Comic Jam, kids were able to draw their own comics then swap with their friends to create an entire story. 2015 was a record year with double the amount of participants from the 2014 program with 110 participants.

2015 also saw the groundbreaking ceremony for the expansion of the Watervliet Public Library. The library added a 1,365 square foot expansion that included the Bill and Judy Fahr Children's Area and the Mary P. O'Brien Quiet Reading Room. Along with the expansion the library completely remodeled its existing space adding new shelves as well as tables and chairs for quiet study space. The expansion allowed the library to increase its children's

and adult programming and has given patrons a quiet space for tutoring and leisure reading. The expansion will be completed in January 2016.



*The new Bill and Judy Fahr Children's Area*

We had such an exciting year in 2015 and are looking forward to settling into our new space in 2016!

### **TOWN OF WESTERLO PUBLIC LIBRARY (Westerlo)**

Laura Tenney, Board President  
Sue Hoadley, Director

In 2015, the library was awarded a 75% Public Library Construction Grant in the amount of \$14,801. The grant was matched by \$4,934 in library capital funds for a total project budget of \$19,735. The major focus of this project was installation of an ADA-compliant concrete sidewalk to the building's handicapped-accessible entrance and creation of a new outdoor reading and program "patio" space. Grants from the Bank of Greene County and Stewart's Charitable Foundation will fund new outdoor furniture.

In 2015, the library was open to the public 29 hours per week, six days a week, for 300 days. 8,343 children and adults entered the building. We circulated 16,189 items. Of those, 4,116 items were borrowed from member libraries in the Upper Hudson System. In turn, we loaned 4,503 items from our

collection to patrons at the other member libraries, making us a net-lender. In addition to physical books, audios and movies, our patrons downloaded 929 items of e-content from Overdrive in the form of e-books, audiobooks, videos and magazines. Our two public computers were used 764 times and many more took advantage of our 24/7 WiFi service.

Our outreach to children increased again in 2015. We offered 117 programs attended by 653 children and young adults. “Read to Angus,” the certified therapy dog, continued on a monthly basis. Our adult book discussion and quilting groups met 31 times with attendance of 113. The New York State Summer Reading Program, held annually to encourage school-age children to read for pleasure during summer vacation, had the theme “Every Hero Has a Story.” We celebrated the everyday heroes in our own community with a weekly “Lunch with Local Heroes” program. Our special guests included the Westerlo Rescue Squad, the Volunteer Fire Company, the Albany County Sheriff’s Office and the Town Highway Department.



*“Lunch with Local Heroes”*

The trustees completed a Long Range Plan in September. The planning process began in December 2013 with a workshop presented by the Upper Hudson Library System staff. Over a period of several months, the Board and director explored the library’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Community input was compiled using online and paper surveys at the library, as well as at several community gatherings. A focus group was conducted, facilitated by Upper Hudson staff. Priorities were identified, then goals and objectives were outlined to meet those priorities.

New York State launched *Ready to Read at New York Libraries*, a multi-year initiative to help public libraries improve the quality of early learning services. The Upper Hudson Library System’s approach to Ready to Read involved offering training to all UHLS members, but working in-depth with three libraries on an early literacy prototype project. ProPEL, the Prototype Project on Early Literacy, benefits one library of each size – large, medium and small – through additional training, personal assistance, and more resources. After a rigorous application process, Westerlo was selected as the small library for the initiative.

The trustees held their annual Mother’s Day Book & Bake Sale in May. The library received a \$500 grant from Stewart’s Charitable Foundation. We also raised \$2,500 in a new Memorial Brick fundraising program for capital projects. And over the course of the year we received two major gifts totaling \$15,000 for our Capital Fund.



*Library supporters on parade in Westerlo*

## 2015 AWARDS

TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR	<b>Ralph Marino , Valley Falls David Wheatley, Watervliet</b>
YOUTH PROGRAM OF THE YEAR ADULT PROGRAM OF THE YEAR	<b>William K Sanford Town Library Guilderland Public Library</b>
VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR	<b>Nancy Bush, Sand Lake Holly McKenna, Albany</b>

## PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS

### TRUSTEE OF THE YEAR

1993 Carolyn Durnin, Grafton	2008 Robert E. Ganz, Guilderland
1994 Joyce Hunt Strand, Bethlehem MaryLou Youmans, Ravena	2009 Mary Muller, Troy
1995 Pamela Daves, Brunswick Sally Ten Eyck, Voorheesville	2010 Julie Dessloch, RCS Tobi Freebern, Rensselaer
1996 Janice Brand, Rensselaerville Sally Fox, Stephentown	2011 M. Mary Kinnaird, Berne Anthony Kossman, Altamont
1997 Lynne Strnad, Altamont Frank Della Rocca, WK Sanford	2012 Marilou Pudiak-Town, Schaghticoke Rebecca Pahl & Rita Stein, Voorheesville
1998 Susan Birkhead, Bethlehem William Meredith, Albany	2013 Nancy Lendrum, Berne
1999 Sue McLaren, Poestenkill Michael Poost, East Greenbush	2014 Marion Burghart, Berne
2000 Jane Spain Ducatt, Troy Barbara Hahn, Schaghticoke	
2001 Dorothea Fisher, Poestenkill Judy Rosen, Albany	
2002 Patricia Carlson, Brunswick Lester Warren, WK Sanford	
2003 Ellen Bach, Albany Monica Shupe, Berlin	
2004 Susan Zweig, Nassau	
2005 No Award presented	
2006 David Brown, Albany Francis Hamblin, Nassau	
2007 Anthony Beverly, Stephentown	

### PROGRAM OF THE YEAR

1993 Sand Lake Town Library Voorheesville Public Library
1994 Guilderland Public Library <i>Honorable Mention:</i> <i>Berlin Public Library</i> <i>East Greenbush Library</i>
1995 Berlin Public Library Watervliet Public Library
1996 Rensselaerville Library Guilderland Public Library
1997 Petersburg Public Library WK Sanford Town Library
1998 Rensselaerville Library Guilderland Public Library

- 1999 Castleton Public Library  
WK Sanford Town Library
- 2000 Brunswick Community Library  
Bethlehem Public Library
- 2001 Brunswick Community Library  
Guilderland Public Library
- 2002 Brunswick Community Library  
Albany Public Library  
*Honorable Mention:*  
WK Sanford Town Library
- 2003 Petersburg Public Library  
Cohoes Public Library and  
Watervliet Public Library (joint award)
- 2004 RCS Community Library  
Troy Public Library
- 2005 Albany Public Library  
Guilderland Public Library
- 2006 Castleton Public Library  
Guilderland Public Library
- 2007 Albany Public Library
- 2008 WK Sanford Town Library  
Berne Public Library
- 2009 WK Sanford Town Library  
Voorheesville Public Library  
*Honorable Mention:*  
Albany Public Library
- 2010 Albany Public Library  
Berne Public Library
- 2011 Rensselaerville Library
- 2012 East Greenbush Community Library  
Rensselaerville Library
- 2013 Albany Public Library  
Altamont Free Library
- 2014 Albany - Adult Program  
Brunswick - Youth Program

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**

- 2006 Tanner Williamson, Cheney  
Maggie Oldendorf, Guilderland
- 2007 Dan Cornman, Reed Dawley,  
Ed Evans, East Greenbush
- 2008 Stephanie Sampsen, Berne
- 2009 Michele Reilly, Voorheesville
- 2010 Matthew Graff, Berne  
The Friends Group, Poestenkill
- 2011 Gene Damm, Albany
- 2012 John Madlin, Cohoes
- 2013 Berneata Barger, WK Sanford
- 2014 Donna Gwin, Berne

**ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR**

- 2000 Malcolm Bell  
Eva Gemmill
- 2002 Michael Borges
- 2006 Dennis Gaffney

# 2015 STATISTICAL SUMMARIES - MEMBER LIBRARIES

## LOCAL SUPPORT, MATERIALS and PERSONNEL EXPENSES

Library	Population	2014 Local Support	2015 Local Support	Change in Local Support	Per Capita Support	Per Capita Ranking
Albany	97,839	\$8,289,073	\$8,354,377	1%	\$85.39	5
Altamont	1,720	\$90,971	\$93,278	3%	\$54.23	7
Berlin	1,880	\$10,350	\$10,350	0%	\$5.51	27
Berne	2,794	\$34,290	\$36,443	6%	\$13.04	22
Bethlehem	27,878	\$3,824,085	\$3,859,301	1%	\$138.44	2
Brunswick	11,941	\$143,794	\$146,294	2%	\$12.25	23
Castleton	1,473	\$117,325	\$117,325	0%	\$79.65	6
Cohoes	16,168	\$219,035	\$229,295	5%	\$14.18	21
Colonie	81,591	\$2,480,709	\$2,530,323	2%	\$31.01	12
East Greenbush	16,473	\$1,761,078	\$1,813,037	3%	\$110.06	3
Grafton	2,130	\$22,538	\$23,788	6%	\$11.17	24
Guilderland	36,131	\$3,390,342	\$3,430,942	1%	\$94.96	4
Hoosick Falls	6,924	\$49,940	\$49,940	0%	\$7.21	26
Menands	3,883	\$126,483	\$126,483	0%	\$32.57	11
Nassau	4,789	\$108,870	\$108,870	0%	\$22.73	15
North Greenbush	12,075	\$299,827	\$302,825	1%	\$25.08	13
Petersburgh	1,525	\$53,467	\$56,562	6%	\$37.09	10
Poestenkill	4,530	\$63,400	\$65,034	3%	\$14.36	20
RCS	14,064	\$520,827	\$538,108	3%	\$38.26	9
Rensselaer	9,392	\$98,543	\$102,530	4%	\$10.92	25
Rensselaerville	1,843	\$44,048	\$45,794	4%	\$24.85	14
Sand Lake	8,530	\$129,297	\$131,812	2%	\$15.45	19
Schaghticoke	592	\$29,015	\$29,015	0%	\$49.01	8
Stephentown	2,903	\$46,675	\$47,109	1%	\$16.23	18
Troy	50,129	\$574,608	\$952,432	★ 66%	\$19.00	17
Valley Falls	5,804	\$27,432	\$27,432	0%	\$4.73	28
Voorheesville	7,208	\$1,123,619	\$1,112,674	-1%	\$154.37	1
Watervliet	10,254	\$41,000	\$41,000	0%	\$4.00	29
Westerlo	3,361	\$71,200	\$73,474	3%	\$21.86	16
<b>AVERAGES</b>	15,373	\$820,408	\$843,305	3%	\$39.57	

★ Rec'd additional City funding owed from previous years

Library	2014 Total Expenses	2015 Total Expenses	Percent Change Total Expenses	2015 Materials Expenses	Percent Materials of Total \$	Percent Staff of Total \$	Per Capita Materials Expenses	Per Capita Ranking
Albany	\$10,074,947	\$8,817,657	-12%	\$660,543	7%	55%	\$6.75	8
Altamont	\$143,514	\$157,341	10%	\$12,838	9%	51%	\$7.46	6
Berlin	\$54,817	\$55,770	2%	\$4,379	8%	57%	\$2.33	16
Berne	\$142,675	\$40,961	★ -71%	\$6,314	4%	59%	\$2.26	17
Bethlehem	\$3,689,592	\$3,589,043	-3%	\$339,709	9%	78%	\$12.19	2
Brunswick	\$156,004	\$181,533	16%	\$16,124	10%	60%	\$1.35	24
Castleton	\$206,932	\$98,222	★ -53%	\$8,886	4%	76%	\$6.03	10
Cohoes	\$229,130	\$247,765	8%	\$21,996	10%	78%	\$1.36	23
Colonie	\$2,543,210	\$2,595,313	2%	\$246,039	10%	79%	\$3.02	15
East Greenbush	\$1,897,836	\$1,833,590	-3%	\$133,126	7%	64%	\$8.08	5
Grafton	\$55,502	\$55,616	0%	\$3,679	7%	59%	\$1.73	21
Guilderland	\$3,217,336	\$2,887,315	-10%	\$338,697	11%	75%	\$9.37	3
Hoosick Falls	\$89,388	\$82,169	-8%	\$5,349	6%	66%	\$0.77	27
Menands	\$133,987	\$130,041	-3%	\$23,034	17%	63%	\$5.93	12
Nassau	\$119,213	\$105,577	-11%	\$8,592	7%	63%	\$1.79	20
North Greenbush	\$242,834	\$253,747	4%	\$71,727	30%	57%	\$5.94	11
Petersburgh	\$73,741	\$71,172	-3%	\$10,682	14%	58%	\$7.00	7
Poestenkill	\$78,473	\$80,215	2%	\$14,845	19%	56%	\$3.28	14
RCS	\$543,599	\$621,599	14%	\$26,546	5%	68%	\$1.89	19
Rensselaer	\$105,326	\$108,620	3%	\$14,652	14%	75%	\$1.56	22
Rensselaerville	\$156,885	\$113,128	-28%	\$15,365	10%	48%	\$8.34	4
Sand Lake	\$148,010	\$155,558	5%	\$28,009	19%	69%	\$3.28	14
Schaghticoke	\$62,202	\$49,559	-20%	\$3,837	6%	39%	\$6.48	9
Stephentown	\$92,703	\$103,024	11%	\$5,559	6%	45%	\$1.91	18
Troy	\$984,287	\$1,006,132	2%	\$65,767	7%	72%	\$1.31	25
Valley Falls	\$42,241	\$49,097	16%	\$5,814	14%	60%	\$1.00	26
Voorheesville	\$1,013,090	\$1,000,644	-1%	\$98,670	10%	73%	\$13.69	1
Watervliet	\$64,685	\$69,513	7%	\$4,978	8%	79%	\$0.49	28
Westerlo	\$78,202	\$76,236	-3%	\$11,317	14%	69%	\$3.37	13
<b>AVERAGES</b>	\$911,737	\$849,523	-7%	\$76,106	9%	66%	\$4.48	

★ Capital improvement projects in these libraries in 2014 resulted in larger expenses

## CIRCULATION and HOLDINGS

Library	Population	2014 Circulation	2015 Circulation	Change in Circulation	Per Capita Circulation
Albany	97,839	1,119,705	1,022,420	-9%	10
Altamont	1,720	26,388	32,580	23%	19
Berlin	1,880	10,116	10,434	3%	6
Berne	2,794	15,623	16,641	7%	6
Bethlehem	27,878	713,998	684,835	-4%	25
Brunswick	11,941	34,897	42,659	22%	4
Castleton	1,473	17,664	20,146	14%	14
Cohoes	16,168	37,737	38,191	1%	2
Colonie	81,591	686,545	646,682	-6%	8
East Greenbush	16,473	392,324	398,781	2%	24
Grafton	2,130	20,256	18,639	-8%	9
Guilderland	36,131	504,704	501,721	-1%	14
Hoosick Falls	6,924	18,856	16,070	-15%	2
Menands	3,883	28,959	27,704	-4%	7
Nassau	4,789	22,615	20,767	-8%	4
North Greenbush	12,075	108,387	101,605	-6%	8
Petersburgh	1,525	20,710	19,177	-7%	13
Poestenkill	4,530	18,260	17,937	-2%	4
RCS	14,064	63,526	65,146	3%	5
Rensselaer	9,392	20,187	22,432	11%	2
Rensselaerville	1,843	10,753	12,392	15%	7
Sand Lake	8,530	43,291	42,401	-2%	5
Schaghticoke	592	10,613	9,853	-7%	17
Stephentown	2,903	19,906	20,632	4%	7
Troy	50,129	224,446	194,996	-13%	4
Valley Falls	5,804	7,831	8,232	5%	1
Voorheesville	7,208	107,913	101,023	-6%	14
Watervliet	10,254	20,782	30,014	44%	3
Westerlo	3,361	17,646	16,189	-8%	5
<b>AVERAGES</b>	15,373	149,815	143,459	2%	9

Library	Population	2014 Holdings	2015 Holdings	Change in Holdings	2015 Per Capita Holdings
Albany	97,839	333,892	335,792	1%	3
Altamont	1,720	43,448	51,284	18%	30
Berlin	1,880	42,298	50,831	20%	27
Berne	2,794	44,690	53,278	19%	19
Bethlehem	27,878	149,010	164,069	10%	6
Brunswick	11,941	40,833	48,887	20%	4
Castleton	1,473	44,065	50,360	14%	34
Cohoes	16,168	64,669	67,841	5%	4
Colonie	81,591	237,407	238,971	1%	3
East Greenbush	16,473	126,826	136,508	8%	8
Grafton	2,130	42,388	50,517	19%	24
Guilderland	36,131	206,246	218,645	6%	6
Hoosick Falls	6,924	47,011	54,083	15%	8
Menands	3,883	47,426	56,427	19%	15
Nassau	4,789	57,586	65,412	14%	14
North Greenbush	12,075	96,978	106,937	10%	9
Petersburgh	1,525	55,869	64,886	16%	43
Poestenkill	4,530	43,650	52,051	19%	11
RCS	14,064	58,010	66,716	15%	5
Rensselaer	9,392	51,454	60,577	18%	6
Rensselaerville	1,843	48,425	56,255	16%	31
Sand Lake	8,530	62,202	68,432	10%	8
Schaghticoke	592	38,296	46,709	22%	79
Stephentown	2,903	46,546	54,692	18%	19
Troy	50,129	200,377	184,694	-8%	4
Valley Falls	5,804	41,021	47,485	16%	8
Voorheesville	7,208	77,213	87,677	14%	12
Watervliet	10,254	46,326	53,154	15%	5
Westerlo	3,361	41,889	50,183	20%	15
<b>AVERAGES</b>	15,373	84,002	91,150	9%	16

# LIBRARY USE and PROGRAMS

Library	2015		Internet Filtering	# Public Computers	# Public Computer Sessions	2015		Total Annual Attendance
	Resident Borrowers	Non-Resident Borrowers				Reference Transactions	Annual Hours Open	
Albany	86,015	417	No	143	155,542	135,799	15,328.00	861,524
Altamont	2,038	62	No	5	3,060	1,479	2,928.00	15,000
Berlin	391	44	No	4	2,986	322	1,120.00	6,311
Berne	831	402	No	7	1,747	498	1,422.00	14,313
Bethlehem	20,808	47	No	56	44,772	69,553	3,704.00	338,282
Brunswick	3,004	916	No	5	1,868	6,240	2,210.00	17,640
Castleton	505	423	No	4	1,475	3,700	2,392.00	12,806
Cohoes	3,150	409	No	10	10,221	2,400	2,132.00	65,337
Colonie	28,549	164	No	25	31,555	22,729	3,380.00	240,305
East Greenbush	5,963	2,415	No	30	28,278	43,690	3,371.50	214,963
Grafton	1,219	9	No	3	1,263	728	1,248.00	6,633
Guiderland	11,097	3,148	Yes	37	30,461	42,793	3,376.00	214,092
Hoosick Falls	1,562	97	No	5	856	184	1,976.00	10,662
Menands	1,312	78	No	3	2,400	3,550	1,612.00	11,300
Nassau	1,258	78	No	5	1,961	688	1,820.00	9,969
North Greenbush	3,292	1,950	No	2	1,400	5,475	2,440.00	44,500
Petersburgh	825	4	Yes	4	1,086	735	1,248.00	5,870
Poestenkill	987	72	No	3	834	815	1,638.00	10,084
RCS	3,947	191	No	12	8,689	6,700	2,772.00	42,350
Rensselaer	6,152	16	No	9	9,563	4,080	2,288.00	22,567
Rensselaerville	817	3	No	6	941	646	1,456.00	5,909
Sand Lake	2,472	237	Yes	4	2,848	2,080	2,466.00	18,961
Schaghticoke	198	326	No	6	1,000	1,086	1,352.00	5,742
Stephentown	845	24	Yes	11	3,597	4,680	1,872.00	14,665
Troy	22,091	7,155	No	30	30,730	25,840	5,200.00	76,241
Valley Falls	404	4	No	3	1,028	202	1,820.00	6,006
Voorheesville	2,980	490	No	7	4,898	19,518	3,033.00	53,499
Watervliet	6,333	2	No	10	4,148	3,099	1,976.00	15,658
Westerlo	622	14	No	2	764	448	1,508.00	8,343
<b>AVERAGES</b>	<b>7,575</b>	<b>662</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>13,447</b>	<b>14,130</b>	<b>2,727</b>	<b>81,708</b>

Library	Adult		Young Adult		Childrens		Other	
	Programs	Attendance	Programs	Attendance	Programs	Attendance	Programs	Attendance
Albany	1,893	18,478	485	4,398	1,896	34,373	0	0
Altamont	75	2,200	14	100	170	2,300	0	0
Berlin	21	181	2	16	15	81	0	0
Berne	61	501	14	84	116	1,838	20	424
Bethlehem	147	2,885	148	3,409	902	24,897	29	2,888
Brunswick	149	1,426	30	202	120	1,735	18	346
Castleton	54	429	15	118	103	1,490	0	0
Cohoes	100	1,020	1	10	17	256	4	11
Colonie	369	8,796	113	2,217	651	21,893	0	0
East Greenbush	195	3,981	52	1,147	322	13,595	192	424
Grafton	84	703	3	28	29	316	0	0
Guiderland	351	3,771	78	356	327	7,276	0	0
Hoosick Falls	52	332	0	0	63	1,345	0	0
Menands	33	223	15	106	68	573	0	0
Nassau	48	415	12	99	95	1,424	15	476
North Greenbush	11	180	0	0	48	740	0	0
Petersburgh	54	295	3	24	58	758	0	0
Poestenkill	15	111	0	0	51	533	0	0
RCS	138	1,170	56	386	401	5,307	0	0
Rensselaer	73	239	48	385	80	1,306	0	0
Rensselaerville	101	621	4	6	14	118	0	0
Sand Lake	43	391	2	10	90	863	30	733
Schaghticoke	35	158	23	270	38	374	4	463
Stephentown	80	627	44	368	147	2,251	2	57
Troy	331	2,727	66	695	190	4,095	0	0
Valley Falls	8	317	0	0	30	662	0	0
Voorheesville	146	1,787	58	1,034	168	5,162	2	52
Watervliet	96	576	7	66	50	1,612	0	0
Westerlo	31	113	5	16	112	637	0	0
<b>AVERAGES</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>1,885</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>4,752</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>203</b>

## RESOURCE SHARING

Library	MATERIALS RECEIVED		MATERIALS LOANED	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
Albany	99,998	110,860	117,481	124,929
Altamont	7,459	9,586	5,985	6,789
Berlin	2,554	2,446	3,356	2,977
Berne	4,261	4,134	4,535	4,307
Bethlehem	73,431	81,452	52,516	56,378
Brunswick	10,732	13,056	4,252	4,418
Castleton	4,967	5,472	4,955	5,046
Cohoes	7,325	7,715	5,134	5,551
Colonie	71,283	75,478	60,878	68,473
East Greenbush	40,787	43,279	36,007	41,698
Grafton	6,542	5,694	4,678	4,243
Guilderland	51,606	51,693	57,736	57,702
Hoosick Falls	6,412	6,627	4,336	4,279
Menands	2,606	3,028	10,831	8,075
Nassau	10,430	8,647	6,515	5,753
North Greenbush	12,228	11,775	13,460	12,723
Petersburgh	5,357	5,554	7,902	8,034
Poestenkill	3,064	2,913	5,930	6,025
RCS	12,609	14,290	8,654	10,326
Rensselaer	4,343	5,277	5,787	6,907
Rensselaerville	2,554	3,332	5,729	5,390
Sand Lake	10,490	10,029	10,043	10,146
Schaghticoke	4,240	2,579	2,048	2,010
Stephentown	5,120	4,807	5,208	5,139
Troy	35,114	30,836	26,011	26,815
Valley Falls	2,519	2,764	3,649	3,198
Voorheesville	16,365	11,983	20,977	18,435
Watervliet	7,867	7,717	3,147	3,797
Westerlo	5,899	4,116	5,231	4,503
<b>AVERAGES</b>	<b>18,212</b>	<b>18,867</b>	<b>17,344</b>	<b>18,071</b>

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