TO: RPL Board of Trustees  
FROM: Patricia Uttaro, Director  
DATE: April 24, 2019  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report – April 2019  

**Action Items**

**RPL Private Events Policy (Snow)**
The policy and use agreement were presented at the March 27, meeting and tabled for edits. Counsel has reviewed and updated. Please refer to the policy documents included in this packet.

**Board Action Requested:** Acceptance of the RPL Private Events Policy and included fees.

**Acceptance of Humanities New York Grant (Snow)**
Humanities New York has awarded a grant of $4,187 to the Rochester Public Library to present a series of inclusive programs connected to the themes in the *Stonewall: 50 Years Out* exhibit. The exhibit commemorates the anniversary of the uprising that sparked the gay liberation movement and explores the history of Rochester’s LGBTQ+ communities. LGBTQ+-themed programs are scheduled throughout the exhibit, April 5 - July 20, 2019. Planned programming includes:

- Performance and storytelling workshop: Spy in the House of Men: A One Woman Show with Balls by Penny Sterling.
- Comic art workshop: In a Word: Trans by Justin Hubbell.
- Sand mandala art demonstration and Dissolution Ceremony by Katie Jo Suddaby.
- Film screenings and panel discussion: The Life and Death of Marsha P. Johnson and Happy Birthday Marsha.
- Film screening and panel discussion: Shoulders to Stand On.
- Gallery tour and panel discussion on intersectionality led by Adrian Elim.

**Board Action Requested:** Acceptance of the Humanities New York grant in the amount of $4,187.

**Request for New Hours at Lyell (Reeves)**
We are requesting a modification in the open hours for the Lyell Branch Library as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Current Hours</th>
<th>Proposed Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12:00-8:00 pm</td>
<td>11:00 am – 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12:00-6:00 pm</td>
<td>11:00 am – 6:00 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff has determined through observation and discussion with patrons that there is a greater need for services in the morning hours, such as job readiness training, children’s services, and digital literacy classes. Additionally, patrons in the community feel safer visiting the library during the day instead of evening hours.

**Board Action Requested:** Approval of the change of hours for Lyell Branch on Monday and Tuesday.
Report Items
Patricia Uttaro, RPL Director reporting

Recommended Reading/Viewing

RPL Strategic Plan Progress

Education & Engagement
PlayWalk – Library staff and patrons (particularly teens) continue to participate in the planning and visioning for the PlayWalk project, which will build a trail of playful experiences from The Strong to the Central Library. A draft of the plan is included with your packet. Note that there are several Little Free Libraries listed. The teens participating in the planning have been very vocal about there being free books available along the trail.

Sustainability & Resources
United Way for Raising A Reader – For the first time, Rochester Public Library is registering as a United Way (UW) agency, which will allow us to request UW funds to support Raising a Reader. We are exploring this as an opportunity, and there is no guarantee we will acquire the funds we seek. Because RPL is registering as an agency, Dr. Reeves must temporarily step away from her seat on the UW Cabinet to eliminate a potential conflict of interest.

REAL Initiative – Dr. Reeves and I have begun meeting with the City’s REAL (Racial Equity And Leadership) Team to discuss issues we experience with recruiting, hiring, and retaining staff. We have spent a significant amount of time discussing Civil Service and the obstacles it creates. The City has created local exams for some positions, so we will continue to explore this possibility with the REAL Team. Also, Ana Suro has been able to re-connect with Project SEARCH through this effort. Project SEARCH pairs individuals and their job coaches with positions in the City. We have successfully used Project SEARCH candidates in the past and look forward to re-introducing the program to RPL.

Stewardship & Curation
High Falls Center Wrap Up - The Library supported the closure and deaccessioning of the High Falls Center and Interpretive Museum from January through March, providing a contents inventory and assessment to the City and assisting in the coordination of closure notification efforts. Local History staff claimed several framed photos and signage of relevance to relocate to the Library for archives and potential future display use. A connection made with the Kodak Visitor Center, recently opened in December, for the
relocation of the Center's brownie camera (photo). The Visitor Center is free and open to the public: https://filtergrade.com/kodak-visitor-center-opens-new-york/

The City held an auction for remaining exhibits and furnishings, with a bulk of items (including the taxi!) claimed by Artisan Works. The building reverts to private ownership and current plans include conversion to residential and commercial space for the Brown’s Race buildings.

**Social Media**

**Constant Contact Newsletter**

**Central**
- Subscribers who opened newsletter – 895
- Click through – 95

**RPL**
- Subscribers who opened newsletter – 1,731
- Click through – 45

**New subscribers** – 11

<table>
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<tr>
<th>March 2019</th>
<th>Facebook</th>
<th>Facebook Calendar</th>
<th>RPL Twitter</th>
<th>MCLS Twitter</th>
<th>Instagram</th>
<th>YouTube</th>
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<td>—</td>
<td>27 (1,731)</td>
<td>15 (2,011)</td>
<td>20 (1,202)</td>
<td>0 (81)</td>
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<td>—</td>
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<td>—</td>
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</tbody>
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**Central Library Updates**

**Assistant Director Sally Snow reporting**

As the final piece of the 2012 Central Master Plan, Snow and Patron Services Manager Cynthia Dana have been working with staff to plan some changes to the 3rd and 4th floors of the Bausch & Lomb Building. A new Business Innovation Center will be developed with a small staff who have proven themselves adept at developing partnerships, doing outreach, and developing innovative programs. The space will include the Chester Carlson Center for Intellectual Property, which will move from the 3rd to the 4th floor. The service plan includes working with partner organizations already in place such as the Small Business Association, SCORE, and the KIVA loan program. Staff will do much of their work engaged
in outreach, research, and programming and will no longer staff a traditional reference desk on the 4th floor; consultations will be available by appointment. The collections of this floor will include Business, Finance, Law, Politics, and Government. Staff not engaged in the Business Innovation Center will merge with the Science/History/Technology Division staff on the 3rd floor, bringing with them the collections of Crime, Education, Social Sciences, and the Job Information Center. The third floor will continue to be engaged in activities surrounding health services, such as LROC and the visiting nurse program. This floor will continue to provide the ready reference desk service in addition to programming and outreach.

**Arts and Literature Division, Nanci Rosenberg-Nugent reporting**

**Programs**

- Librarian Mary Fraser hosted a "6x6 Party" for Rochester Contemporary Art Center's "Make Art Day." Several people stopped by Harold Hacker Hall to create square art using library-provided materials. Some chose to donate their work, and Mary delivered them with entry forms to RoCo. This program was part of the Arts and Literature Division's "Artist at Work" series.
- Who does not love a cute stuffed animal? Apparently, our patrons do, as they love sewing them. Librarian Nanci Nugent led another popular sewing class, where students sewed one of the most popular pets in the US, a cat. These cats were sewn with solid fabric and then a dress was sewn in different colors and prints. Calicos, plaids, and floral prints were used from the Art collection to create these cute little dresses. Patrons said they were very happy to bring home the pattern for the cat and dress so they could make more of these felines. These sewing classes are some of the most well-attended programs and next month patrons will sew a woodland rabbit.
- The Page is Your Playground: A Four-Part Writing Series - Popular writing teacher, Jennifer Case, taught this first-time class to Rochester Writes students of varying levels. The focus was on having fun, experimenting with different genres, and flexing writing muscles. Here are a few of the responses to the question on the evaluation form, “What is one thing that you learned or took away from this program?”
  
  “To remember to have fun while writing.”
  “I really can write!”
  “That the page is truly my playground! Have fun and relax and lean into writing prompts!”
  “Anything can be a source/inspiration for writing.”

**Business & Social Sciences, Darlene Richards reporting**

**Meetings**

Timothy Cosgriff from Empire State College requested a meeting with Bishopp Vélez in order to learn more about the library’s business resources. In particular, she showed him how to use the A to Z database to pull a report of businesses within a given geographical location. They also discussed possible ways in which the Business Division, and especially the Job Information Center, might collaborate in the future with Empire State College.
Programs
Drake Thomas of the Small Business Development Center, along with eleven construction and economic development representatives from the City of Rochester, Monroe County, and New York State, discussed planned construction projects for the region and how area businesses could participate. Part of the forum included information regarding financing and bonding programs available for contractors.

Small Business Consulting
- Sarah Bishopp Vélez had a busy month with small business-related questions and many requests for one-on-one meetings. Some of the business ideas people needed research for included bakeries, consulting services, home health care, marketing firms, and web design.
- Besides market research for small businesses, Bishopp Vélez has also been partnering with Kiva Rochester to organize the Roc City Scavenger Hunt for National Small Business Week this May. Look for the brochures and posters, which will be posted by April 1st, and invite friends and co-workers to Shop Small!

Historical Stock Quotes
- Florence Morris fielded a question that included stock certificates for five companies. The caller, representing her employer who had old stock certificates for these companies, wanted to know if they were worth anything and if the companies still existed. Morris did the research, photocopied, scanned and sent six e-mails that included all the information needed.
- Morris also worked on two historical mining stock quotes for two different patrons.

Children’s Center, Tonia Burton reporting

Outreach and Community Contacts
- Citizen Scientists - MCLS is partnering with WXXI and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to educate the public on how to be a Citizen Scientist. At the March Children’s meeting, Betsy Ukeritis, Inter-regional Environmental Educator for DEC, trained library staff on what it means to be a Citizen Scientist, shared information on current programs, and discussed upcoming programming. Ukeritis also demonstrated the site SciStarter, the place to find, join, and contribute to science. The site provides access to searchable research projects and events. SciStarter also offers a coordinated place to record contributions and access the tools and instruments needed to participate in citizen science projects.

Through SciStarter the group viewed the iNaturalist app. iNaturalist is a citizen science project and online social network of naturalists, citizen scientists, and biologists built on the concept of mapping and sharing observations of biodiversity across the globe.
- There are two large events happening in April. On Saturday, April 13, there is a Family Fishing Derby at Powder Mills Park Fish Hatchery from 9 am to 1 pm. On Saturday, April 27, at Seneca Park there will be a Kids Nature Fest. The fest will include nature walks, a WXXI Nature Challenge, Seneca Park Zoo City Nature Challenge, PBS KIDS Nature Cat will be there for a Meet & Greet, and MCLS will host activities as well as other area organizations.
Programs

- The Children's Center's Girl Scout troop met four times in the month of March. Girls learned about money handling, making change, and customer service in preparation for selling cookies in the following two weeks. They sold out their entire cookie inventory on both cookie booth days.

- News reporter Kaci Jones visited one of our meetings to talk about being a journalist. Participants then split into groups and chose an issue that affects girls in their community and did a short news report presentation about that issue.

Raising a Reader

- Sarah Fitts Romig from the Toy Library and Burton presented a workshop for parents and caregivers at Ibero on the importance of play and literacy. Attendees learned about the resources at the Toy Library and how they can use play to expand their child's background knowledge, word knowledge, print awareness, and expand on their interest.

- Burton is working with Cynthia Rochet from the City Department of Recreation and Youth Services to implement RAR at three sites. Adams Street and Ryan Centers had orientations in March and the Gantt Center will begin in April. Rochet will work with the children’s librarians located closest to each R Center. The sites are serving 3-8 children, ages 6 - 8 at each site.

Anecdotes

Public library staff has daily opportunities to make a positive difference in the lives of our patrons. Sometimes patrons stop coming because they have moved or started going to school or work. This month we were lucky enough to have a visit from an old friend and her daughters. Several years ago, “Lisa” began coming in with two of her daughters and was in a rough place. She was angry and at times struggled with parenting. One of our amazing Security Guards, Antoinette Davis, worked with us to be sure we knew that “Lisa” was going through some serious things. Fast forward a few years and “Lisa” came in with two of her three daughters. She was happy to share that she is now a successful Certified Nursing Assistant and is also debt free and saving for a house. Antoinette was a major factor in “Lisa” getting rid of the bad influences in her life. The Children’s Center provided a safe and welcoming place for her and her children during the day. The day after Burton spoke with “Lisa,” she and Katie Powell were in the Children’s Center when another Mom said “I have to tell you something, the library is my safe place. Every time I come here good things happen. Thank you for being so nice to us.” She went on to share more of her story that was about to change because as she was sitting in the Children’s Center, she got a call telling her there was an apartment available for her and her daughter and she could leave the shelter! The Children’s Center often loses patrons once they gain housing and we are happy to say goodbye knowing they will find a library in their new neighborhood.

Circulation/Information, Chad Cunningham reporting

New borrowers: 196
Access cards: 4
Notarial Acts: 172
Programs

After Brian DiNitto’s Basic Excel class a patron came to talk to Chad Cunningham about the class. She told Cunningham that the class was wonderful and that she homeschools and wanted to see if there was
a way there could be computer classes for her homeschool group. She asked for Cunningham’s e-mail so she could send information about what she’s looking for.

Anecdotes
A little boy about 7-years-old spun the fine wheel to get some fines waived off his card. The wheel landed on “Sing Baby Shark” but he was too shy to sing alone so Kathy Sochia sang with him.

Local History & Genealogy Division, Christine L. Ridarsky reporting

The focus for the Local History & Genealogy Division during the month of March was on final preparations for the opening of the Stonewall: 50 Years Out exhibition. The Exhibit Planning Team, led by City Historian/Historical Services Consultant Christine L. Ridarsky, met throughout the month. Historical Researcher Michelle Finn and Librarian I Brandon Fess also participated. Installation began the week of March 25. The opening reception was April 5, in Hacker Hall. The exhibit will be open through the end of Pride Week, closing on July 20, 2019.

Programs
- The highlight of March’s programming was the 2nd annual Rainbow Dialogues, offered in partnership with the Out Alliance. This year’s program focused on the effect the Stonewall uprising had on activating Rochester’s LGBTQ+ communities and drew an impressive crowd of about 115 people. Among the sessions was a behind-the-scenes tour of the Local History & Genealogy Division and it’s LGBTQ+ collections led by Historical Services Consultant Christine L. Ridarsky and Librarian I Brandon Fess.
- We drew another large crowd for a talk by Irish politician Eamon O Cuiv on “100 Years of Irish Independence”. O Cuiv and the members of the O’Rorke Society, which helped arrange for the talk, were impressed with the turnout and with our facilities and have expressed interest in partnering to hold future events here.
- Genealogy Specialist Barb Koehler presented one session in her popular TGIS: Think Genealogy It’s Saturday, focusing on resources available in the Local History & Genealogy Division. She also presented two workshops off-site this month: "Library Resources and Ancestry" at the Fairport Public Library and "Library Resources, Maps, and Directories" to a large group of local real estate agents at the Greater Rochester Realtors Association.
- This month’s offering in the Rochester’s Rich History Series was “Making Their Place Here: 19th Century Deaf Rochester.” Prof. MaryBeth Kitzel of the Rochester Institute of Technology spoke about her research on Rochester’s earliest deaf residents and the founding of the Rochester School for the Deaf. This talk was warmly received by an impressive crowd. Professor Kitzel was so impressed by her reception here that we are already discussing how to build upon it and present more programming here on and for Rochester’s deaf community.
- Pepe hosted the first session of “Your Silence Will Not Protect You! – The writing of Audre Lorde Reading and Discussion series.” The facilitator, Tokeya Graham, had a family emergency and was not able to attend the session. Pepe passed out books and gave participants an introduction to the series. Local History & Genealogy is co-sponsoring the series with the Arts & Literature Division in partnership with Humanities New York.

Community Outreach/Meetings
- The Local History & Genealogy Division hosted a group of about 45 eighth-grade students from the Early College International High School for field experience. Staff demonstrated how city directories and maps can be used to gain an understanding of what life was like in various neighborhoods in the past and engaged the class in a discussion on the massive impact floods have had on the city. The
students were also able to watch a looped PowerPoint presentation of images of the tremendous floods of 1865 and 1913.

- Pepe hosted another visit to the division by 100 eighth graders from the World of Inquiry School for a series of station activities on the theme of Civil Rights and the Race Riots of 1964. Their teacher, Mark Blair, wrote the following thank you note: “Thank you for everything, I heard many positive things from students and teachers about today. It really helps us to have students make connections with history through other media other than just the traditional textbook.”

- The Rochester History editorial board met this month. The board discussed two pending articles on the Rochester Almshouse/State Hospital, which we hope to publish as a two-part series. Unfortunately, one of the articles still requires significant revision. Ridarsky has scheduled a meeting with Dr. Laurence Guttmacher, who has been advising the authors of these papers, to determine how he might help them to make adequate progress in their revisions so that we can get this publication ready. The board also offered additional feedback to the author of the article "Segregation in Rochester schools: 1819-1856." We expect to be able to move that article toward publication soon after the author resubmits with the requested revisions. The author of an article on architect James H. Johnson plans to submit her final draft in May. We expect that article to be ready for final editing upon submission.

- Ridarsky gave a talk on the history of Woman Suffrage for the Irondequoit Historical Society at the Irondequoit Public Library.

- Ridarsky co-facilitated a visioning session as part of the planning process for the proposed Rochester Civil Rights Park. Approximately 20 people participated in the daylong session at Spiritus Christi Church. The effort is a joint project of the Spiritus Anti-Racism Coalition (SPARC), the City of Rochester, and the Rochester Schools Modernization Program. Department of Environmental Services Commissioner Norman Jones asked Ridarsky to join the planning team to help the team develop a historical narrative to guide park development.

Collections

- Fess completed a reorganization of materials in the division’s old document cases and began accessioning and describing collections housed therein. These included: the Florence Cooksley papers, Aristarchus Champion papers, C. Storrs Barrows papers, Obed Hussey papers, and the George W. Aldridge papers. He also described the Pam Barrale papers, concerning Monroe County’s first adoption by a same-sex couple. These papers had been transferred to us from the Out Alliance incorrectly identified as part of the Pam Barres papers, a mistake that the Alliance discovered and corrected.

- Clerk Hope Christansen managed the intake of 48 donated books and processed another 24 previously donated items, as well as five short runs of donated periodicals. She continued the project of securing the best copies of the City Directories in our climate-controlled inner stacks and completed the intimidating process of “cleaning up” the records for the entire collection of City Directories.

Digital Projects

New York State Historical Newspapers finished mounting our collection of German-language newspapers. The Beobachter, Deutscher Wochenspiel, and Abendpost are all now accessible online at http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/titles/places/new_york/monroe/. Unfortunately, there was a scanning error in the images of the Beobachter that was quickly detected. The relevant microfilm was returned to the Northern New York Library Network for rescanning; correction of this problem has been prioritized by the organization.
Social Media
Staff from the Local History and Genealogy Division contributed content for 11 social media posts in March: 3 on Twitter, 4 on Facebook, 3 Facebook Events, and 1 blog entry on www.rochistory.wordpress.com. The reach of these posts was 4,246. This includes 2,617 on Facebook, 1,240 on Twitter, and 1,389 on our blog; 131 people engaged with Local History & Genealogy posts on Facebook, 17 on Twitter, and 48 on our blog. PT Library Assistant Emily Morry contributed one blog entry: “Out of the Loop Pt. 5: A Before and After look at the Neighborhoods of the Inner Loop” Morry’s previous blog post of February 26, had a reach of 1,221 and engaged 48 people in March.

Volunteer/Intern hours
Volunteers from the Rochester Genealogical Society contributed 39 hours in March and assisted 13 patrons. We were also aided by five volunteers (Kevin Allen – 8 hours; Karen “Kaye” Knoll – 5 hours; Noeme Liestman – 8.75; Nancy Martin – 1.5 hours; and Ira Srole – 32.5 hours), three college interns (Josue Cuevas, University of Rochester – 21 hours; Mason Lezette, RIT – (unavailable) hours; and Katie Keegan, RIT – 2 hours). In all, volunteers and interns contributed 117.75 hours, not including Mason’s hours, which had not been reported in time to include.

Reynolds Media Center, Joseph Born reporting

Reference
During the month of March, RMC handled 1,686 reference questions and 404 non-reference transactions and for a total of 2090.

Circulation
In March, RMC rented 9 pieces of equipment and circulated 12,259 items or 54% of the Central Library’s total circulation of 22,693 (before renewals from Catalog Plus, Classic Catalog and Telephone are added).

Hoopla
Hoopla circulations for March totaled 1246:
- 319 Movies/TV
- 542 Audiobooks
- 116 Music
- 166 eBooks
- 103 Comics
361 patrons used the service during March with 44 new users registering and 81 patrons using all seven circs (23%). The average cost was $2.10/item.

Programs
- Our First Friday Film series on March 1st showed the movie “At Eternity’s Gate”.
- Saturday, March 23rd was our See It First movie. We presented the movie “Green Book”.
- Friday, March 29th was the Short Films Sandwiched In. This month’s category was “Unlikely Connections” shown through various short films.

Door Count
In March, RMC’s door count averaged 479/day during the week. Monday and Wednesday nights between 6-8:30 averaged 55 people. The door count on Fridays between 5 pm and 6 pm averaged 36.
Science and History Division, Jennifer Byrnes reporting

Meetings
- Jennifer Byrnes met with Kelly Sciarratta of the Open Access Clinic. The clinic is open 24/7 and serves as a referring agency to connect substance abusers with treatment.
- Byrnes had multiple meetings with the Center for Community Health to plan for the March 20, colon cancer awareness event.
- She also met with Jack Simple from Citizen Film to discuss marketing for April’s American Creed events.
- Other meetings include the 360 Network Provider Meeting, Civic Seminary conference call, and the young adult group meeting to discuss the LARC initiative (Long-Acting Reversible Contraception) with Jessica Cranch, Health Project Coordinator for the Hoekelman Center at the URMC Department of Pediatrics.

Programs
- Levi hosted the program “DIY: Making Sugar Scrubs with Gina Marie.”
- Got Health: Lose Weight and Stay Motivated. The presenter was April Ho, RD, CPT, Clinical Dietitian at the Center for Community Health & Prevention, University of Rochester Medical Center.
- Got Health: How to Talk to Your Doctor. The presenter was Howard Beckman, MD, FACP, FACH, Senior Consultant at Common Ground Health and Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.
- Levi hosted Adult Lego Club. It grows each month!

Partner Organization Statistics
- LROC – 64
- Volunteer Legal Services Project – 16
- Medical Student – 20
- STI Testing – 3 All negative
- 360 Collaborative Network Referrals – 27

Outreach
- Byrnes and Anthony attended the RIT Venture Creations Incubator “graduations.” Byrnes and/or Meddaugh have provided extensive support to 3 of the 4 graduating companies: Empire Medicinals, ThermApparel, and Positive Science. It was a great opportunity for Byrnes to finally meet people that she has only known via email for the past few years and to actually see the products. Meddaugh was acknowledged for her participation in their “Ask the Expert” series.
• Meddaugh held Office Hours at Venture Creations Incubator as part of their Ask the Expert Program.
• Meddaugh and Byrnes were presenters at The Entrepreneurs Network Boot Camp. They discussed the importance of the Carlson Center for IP and the business resources available to TEN participants.
• Byrnes and Anthony also attended the Rochester Downtown Development Corporation’s “Downtown Rising” luncheon. This provided fodder for potential partnerships, including Roc Game Dev, Roc City Skatepark, and the Edison Tech building and construction program.
• Steve Nash attended March’s Greece Historical Society program meeting. The topic was “An Equal Right to Act: Remembering the Rochester Women’s Rights Convention of 1848.”
• Nash was invited to the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20 Annual Dinner. He represented Central and our “Vietnam Learning Center.”

Consulting
Carlson Center for Intellectual Property: 16 in person, 3 by email, 3 by mail, 3 by phone
3 Patent Virtual Assistance Center appointments. 75 Webpage views. One prototype was printed on the 3D printer.

Database Usage
• ADAM Interactive Health – Not available at this time.
• CountryWatch – Not available at this time.
• InnovationQ Patent Search Tool – 17 InnovationQ database users with 82 independent patent searches
• Mitchell ProDemand Automotive Repair Information – Not available at this time.
• VentureSource – 10.

Anecdotes
• Meddaugh was concerned about a perceived low number of users of the Patent Virtual Assistance Center portion of the Carlson Center for Intellectual Property. Meddaugh polled the other Patent and Trademark Resource Center Libraries that offer that service to see when they started the program and how many users they’ve had. Meddaugh’s concern was for naught. Two other libraries offering the same service since 2018 have seen 1 customer, and zero. The Central Library’s Carlson Center has seen 15 users.
• Levi live streams Got Health programs on Facebook. One of the remarks during the “How to Talk to Your Doctor” presentation was that it was one of the best presentations! Very rewarding to know that people watch the Got Health presentations and respond positively!
Teen Central, Dennis Williams reporting

Programs

- We concluded the PlayWalk program planning this month. Shawn Dunwoody was wonderful with the kids. They took them over to Strong twice and also really engaged with them to get their ideas on what they’d like to see for Court Street this summer.

- The Mock Trial sessions continue on Saturdays. Craig Carson and several other lawyers have been using the library to meet with approximately 35 teens every week and have been teaching them how law works.

- Thomas Cuyler created a project entitled Concrete Rose. Part of that project was getting a person to teach his high school students how to do video production. I taught the kids for 6 weeks in the imagineYOU lab.

- YA Librarian Antoine McDonald provided a tour to the Early College Preparation School. It was his first library tour and was a learning experience for all who participated. He also gave a tour of the art gallery, which was the highlight of March. He plans on giving similar tours because it was a big hit with the teens who participated.

- Bostic’s Saturday classes continue successfully. Here’s Jeff teaching a teen graphics using Adobe Illustrator.

Please watch these!
https://youtu.be/MG64p5eymtA
https://youtu.be/UqpUHe2dR1Y
ImagineYOU

- 479 Visitors
- E-Sports - The E-Sports computers continue to be extremely popular. Teens play Fortnite matches with and against each other. Groups of friends took turns and enjoyed watching each other play.
- Virtual Reality - The Oculus Rift VR station is still very popular and gains a crowd when anyone is playing something cool.

Saturday Classes
This month included a repeat of our photo, video, and editing classes. Our new create your own logo class exposed a teen girl to illustrator and allowed her to create a piece of work she titled “Skye’s best work”

Glass room
The glass room’s is almost constantly in use. Karaoke, recording, vocal practice, and dancing all take place in the glass room. One dance duo recorded four videos for their social media on a visit including this video: https://mclsny-

my.sharepoint.com/v:/g/personal/jeffery_bostic_libraryweb_org/EcdfpT1AcVNNib8h-DnK2dsBuONeyUA9IT350TCPplc8IQ?e=ajErb others just had fun for themselves.

Studio
The studio has been in use by certified individuals. All studio certification cards are in and on display. Girls Who Code Class continued in March. They allowed young men to take the class and learn coding as well.

Coming Soon
imagineYOU and Teen Central will be hosting a Mortal Kombat 11 tournament in April. imagineYOU plans to start a Fortnite competition soon. We will name the first person to win a Battle Royale match on one of our PC’s the “imagineYOU champion”.

Branch Library Updates
Assistant Director Tolley Reeves, EdD, reporting

Branch Administration, Patricia Connor reporting

Programs
- Notary Public services continued at the Lincoln and the Maplewood branches and were added at the Lyell Branch library in March. Both branch supervisors report that they have spoken with patrons interested in returning during the scheduled time periods. Connor notarized documents for patrons at all three libraries.
- Message boxes and displays were distributed to the branch libraries for display prior to Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The messages were collected and a poster for will be made for display during the month of April. *(Priority #1—Education and Engagement)*
- Stories about green sheep and frogs were shared with the Universal PreK classes at School #17 for March Wearing of the Green. First library cards were handed out to several of the students.

Community Outreach
- Evanna DiSalvo (Maplewood) and Connor spoke to two ESOL classes and one TASC class at OACES (Office of Adult and Career Education Services of the Rochester City School District). The students were very eager to hear about what the library had to offer to them and their families. One of the instructors inquired about getting library cards for the students and DiSalvo will be following up with the instructor. *(Priority #2—Sustainability and Resources)*
- Derrick Coley (Safe to Be Smart) and Connor represented the library at the “Resilience in Fatherhood: Building Healthy Relationships” conference sponsored by Healthy Baby Network. The event was attended by fathers from Rochester, Buffalo and Syracuse. We shared information about upcoming library events, the Toy Library, library card registration and the always popular Empire Pass program.
- Library staff members are scheduled for the Celebrate City Living being held on Saturday, April 13, 2019 and flyers were ordered and produced by Graphics. Connor has also been in contact with Edgar SantaCruz from Cameron Community Ministries about a table at the Family Fair and Resources event being held in June.

Safe To Be Smart, Derrick Coley reporting

- **The Arnett site**: Shetora Banks facilitated the movie *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* for teens with healthy snacks. She said, “Many of the youth are not able to attend movies in theaters because of age restrictions and transportation.” Banks conducted S.T.E.M activity using Nintendo LABO for a group robot building project. She assisted many teens with job readiness skills for Summer of Opportunity interviews (SOOP). Many of the teens sat in a group at the computers to complete applications and create proper email addresses for correspondence. Banks had the teens prepare answers to certain interview questions in advance of interviews for practice.
- **The Phillis Wheatley site**: Numbers were low in March due to Lynnicsha Bostick-Beckford being out three weeks for medical reasons. However, before she went out, she facilitated an arts and crafts program for youth decorating rocks with craft paints and bling. Some youth honored St. Patrick’s Day with green rocks. Bostick-Beckford moved the Playstation-4 in the teen space to draw in teens to play games and it works. Bostick-Beckford assisted many teens with Summer of Opportunity online applications before the deadline. Bostick-Beckford said, “The teens needed to use a professional and respectable looking email to finalize the application.” In the past slang and vulgar email address were used by many teens signing up for SOOP due to the Hip Hop culture.
• **The Maplewood site**: The March S.T.E.M. field-trip was chaperoned by Mark Dixon and George Carter. They chaperoned a large group of teens from the Maplewood and Sully branch libraries Safe to be Smart program to “VeRacity VRcade” a virtual reality gaming center. The youth played games in the virtual reality platform. This was a first-time experience for many of the youth. Mark has five youth interested in attending summer camp at “VeRacity VRcade.” Dixon continues to provide board-gaming and card playing opportunities for teens at Maplewood. He assists many of the teens with job searches and applications.

• **The Lincoln site**: Vera Haygood and the YA Librarian Jacob Bigelow celebrated National Pi (3/14) Day with the youth. The teens had problem-solving activities, games and food for participation. Haygood has been hosting a lot of digital gaming for teen males using ROBLOX and PS4 in the teen space. She assisted many teens with Summer of Opportunity applications and new email accounts. The sign-ups were more difficult this year for many of the teens creating new email accounts because they must keep the written email accounts on paper or cellphones so they can reply when contacted by SOOP.

• **The Sully site**: George Carter went all out for St. Patrick’s Day with a smorgasbord of Irish foods and desserts for all comers at the Sully Branch and Thomas Ryan R-Center. The participants received Irish hats and bling for the occasion. Many of the staff and youth gave Carter kudos for caring so much about them all!

• **Teen Central site**: Lydia Williams and John Hylton have been hyper-vigilant in watching for gang members and activity in the teen space with the weather getting warmer. They report that there has been an uptick in fights outside the library but none inside. They continue to deter the gang activity and violence in the library. Williams recognized two “Shining Teens” for the month of March. They let her know about trouble stirring and possible fights and they want a safe teen space to come to after school. She rewarded them with gift cards. They also hosted a movie day for the teens to unwind, sit down and have a snack. Williams and Hylton facilitated a puzzle tournament for the teens with a gift card prize. Teens were encouraged to play against youths they did not already know for the tournament. Hylton continues to do sweeps of the Central library for truant teens during in-school hours. He said, “The list is growing as many students that are failing this year have given up on attending daily classes.”

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**Arnett Branch, Bruce Tehan reporting**

**Programs**

• **Literacy Aide Prudence Anderson-Leusch’s Arts and Crafts programs continue to be popular as does our LEGO Club.**

• Nancy Cholewa had several successful children and teen programs in March, especially those dealing with food. We had a little Mardi gras party on Fat Tuesday that included food and drink, along with a mask decorating activity and some discussion about the traditions of Mardi gras, Fat Tuesday and Lent. It was a fun afternoon with a very high participation rate.

• Our second highly attended program was Super Simple Supper, where we made a simple Taco Chili. The teens watched the cooking demonstration, were given the recipe to keep and ate a bowl of the chili, along with a roll and a bottle of water. In all the teens ate about 30 bowls of chili (all of both batches prepared) and 3 dozen rolls. The chili got rave reviews and many teens took the recipe home for future preparation. We also talked about how the recipe might be altered to accommodate personal tastes and what might be served with the chili to create a well-rounded family meal. *(Priority #1Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)*

• Ginger Brewer-Bennett facilitated an ArKnit knitting workshop on March 21 and 28, taught by Arnett friend and past manager, Deb Leary. This is part of a three-part series with the third class occurring on April 4. Leary attracted eager beginners who wanted to practice the art of knitting and crocheting.
as well as those who had some experience knitting. She supplied the yarn, needles and other materials as she and the class worked on creating cozy cowls.

- On March 9, we hosted the Eastman Pathways Concert. The event brought parents, students, staff, patrons and community members together as they enjoyed watching musically talented performers. *(Priority #3 Stewardship and Curation: Provide access to an evolving variety of collections, programs and services based on community needs)*

- The Arnett Library has partnered with Rochester Regional Health’s Mobile Mammography Center, to encourage women to get mammograms. Together, we hope that women are being screened and properly treated for breast health. In an effort to ensure that women are receiving proper care, RRH provides a mobile center with state-of-the-art screenings, a spa like atmosphere, dressing rooms for privacy and board certified radiologists. They will accept walk-ins and no insurance is needed for this free program. RRH will be Arnett every 4th Monday from 8a-12pm. *(Priority #2 Sustainability and Resources: Create and maintain essential library relationships)*

**Anecdotes/Other**

- Cholewa helped one of our “New American” students prepare for a storytelling project at her school. Together they created a condensed version of “Little Red Riding Hood” and worked on her delivery of the story. The student had difficulty pronouncing some of the words like “cottage”, and “gulped”, as those were not words she had encountered before. Cholewa and the student also added some comic relief by commenting on how “slobbery” Red and Grandma were when they escaped from the wolf’s belly. The student practiced her storytelling on several members of the library staff and reported that her teacher was very pleased with her efforts. The “story telling contest” is still to come, so we will see how she fares with the event.

- Cholewa wisely and kindly provided fine relief to one of our patrons whose borrowed library books were destroyed during a fire that occurred across the street from the library. Cholewa describes the fire this way, “On March 7, our normal routine was disrupted by a major house fire right across the street from the library. The fire had the streets around the library blocked for most of the day and impacted our visitors for several days, as the building was taken down and the mess cleaned up. I am happy to say that none of the residents were hurt in the fire but unfortunately, they lost all of their worldly possessions. The neighborhood association is planning an event to help these residents get back on their feet. That event will be held here in the Arnett meeting rooms.”
Charlotte Branch, Paul Tantillo reporting

Programs
- On March 2, the Children’s Room held the annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration. Children’s librarian Kim Whittemore has held this program for several years in a row. This year’s activities featured a movie with popcorn, games, and Cat in the Hat crafts.
- On March 7, Whittemore reprised a popular science program – Breakerspace. Kids took apart an old computer to see what’s on the inside.
- Whittemore also scheduled a special session of family bingo in March 22, to give families something extra to do on the RCSD day off from school. Her instincts were good - the bingo activity was quite well-attended.
- Adult librarian Karen Duff held a very well-received program on March 20. It was entitled “Cutting the Cable Cord” and was conducted by staff from the Jewish Community Center. The class focused on making the switch from television cable service to streaming. The instructor explained streaming, reviewed streaming services, discussed hardware and provided a set of steps for those wishing to move from cable to streaming. 17 people attended, there was lively interaction by participants, and there were several after-program discussions by lingerers (always the sign of a successful program!). The presenter had a good time, as well. He said he passes Charlotte Library daily on his way to work but had never stopped in. He liked the patrons and the atmosphere. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)

Frederick Douglass Community Library, Erin Clarke reporting

Programs
WXXI: Miss Cara brought some awesome activities for the children to work on this month. The kids created their own board games, bird feeders, and played with shaving cream and different materials while talking about texture. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Expand our visible presence in our communities)

Anecdotes/Other
- Sarah Ngo had more students wanting to come over to the library from the recreation center to play and use devices. She is also working to strengthen ties with the recreation center to develop more reading-based activities. Ngo created a library card for the recreation center to use for borrowing items for homework help and literacy engagement. One R-Center staff member is looking to start a book club with the teens and will be meeting with Ngo and Stahovic-Barnes to discuss developing this club. After school: Total After School Library Users for our kid’s space: 870. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse population)
- Each week two classes from RCN visit the library for storytimes. Ngo is very busy on Tuesdays with reading, singing, and dancing with four-year olds. Ngo’s class visits at RCN are always enjoyable as well with the three-year-old classes. This month’s topics were alligators, bears, and cats. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Expand our visible presence in our communities)
- Ngo visited her Raise a Reader sites, ABC Headstart on Joseph Ave, twice to read stories. The children were very enthusiastic and really enjoyed story time. The songs she sings are new to all the children, so they are very active listeners.
Lincoln Branch, Sarah Lehman reporting

Programs

- We kicked off March at the Lincoln branch with a 6X6 art making party held by the Joseph Avenue Business and Arts Council. Every year the Rochester Contemporary Arts Center holds an exhibit of art created on squares that measure 6 inches by 6 inches. The Rochester Contemporary Arts Center (ROCO) brought supplies and snacks so that the kids at Lincoln could all create their own 6 X6 art piece that will be included in the ROCO exhibit in June! We had a large group of kids stop in throughout the day and can’t wait to see their art hung up on the walls in the gallery in the summer!

- Sarah Fitts-Romig, reports that the Toy Library featured restaurant play for the month of March with the entry area converted into both a dining area and kitchen. Restaurant pretend play was enjoyed by both children and adults. Overall, it was a quiet month and we learned that the UPK classes and EPK classes visited less often without the preschool science events. (Priority #1Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)

- Fitts-Romig joined Tonia Burton for an early morning outreach event at Ibero that focused on the value of play and the resources that the Toy Library has to offer. One parent who attended the workshop visited the next week and plans to come regularly. (Priority #1Education and Engagement: Expand our visible presence in our communities)

- March was the beginning of another year of the Neighbors as Partners (NAP) programming here at Lincoln. We get regular 10-12 attendees to this twice a month program aimed at seniors in the area. The first meeting of the month was spent on planning speakers to come visit for the year and the second meeting was spent working on a community quilt that the attendees will continue to add to throughout the year. (Priority #2 Sustainability and Resources: Create and maintain essential library relationships)

- March also saw the beginning of the TASC (Test Assessing Secondary Education) tutoring classes here at Lincoln. Every Thursday and Friday, Jim Lynch will be at Lincoln to give one-on-one tutoring for any individuals who are interested. We have had two individuals regularly attending the program this month and many who have expressed an interest in attending the classes.

- Dr. Reeves, Joan Lee, Sarah Lehman, and Brie Harrison met with Justin Suarez, who runs the Roc Paint program and Sarah Rutherford, the artist that assisted with the creation of the Roc Paint murals, at the end of March. They discussed the logistics involved with assembling the mural panels that will be placed in the children’s division as well as any programming around the murals themselves. The murals depict a girl from the Rochester area who has written her own book to go along with a similar theme Sarah Rutherford had for her ‘Her Voice Carries’ project she completed in the past. The projected goal date to have the panels installed in is late May. We are also planning to have a more formal unveiling event in June to celebrate the installation of the murals, as well as hopefully kick off summer reading. Finally, we discussed using the recording equipment from the Story Corps grant to hopefully interview some of the youth who were involved in the creation of the murals as well as other young patrons in the area to record their perspective of the event.
Lyell Branch, Shamika Fusco reporting

Children’s Programs

- Dr. Seuss Day/Read Across America Day was quite an eventful day. The children received Dr. Seuss giveaway bags filled with books, bookmarks, erasers and pencils. We wore our special “Cat in the Hat” hats and we even made Truffula Trees out of popsicle sticks from the Dr. Seuss Books.

- On National Oreo Day patrons helped us to celebrate by snacking on some Oreos! We asked the kids to attempt to make phases of the moon out of the cream.

- The Digital Literacy volunteers from Literacy Volunteers of Rochester have continued to be available to assist with computer help. We now have literacy volunteers 5 days a week. Last month we acquired a volunteer who comes late on Mondays and that has been extremely beneficial. Walter had a special request from a patron and was able to help them two Mondays in a row. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)

- We had a wonderful intergenerational mix of volunteers at our monthly produce distribution. They were interacting and singing as they were going through the green beans! Youth representation was from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. youth Auxiliary group. (Ages 9 – elders) (Priority #2 Sustainability and Resources: Demonstrate the value of our libraries to our communities)

- For our last Black Klansman Social Justice Book discussion group meet up, we invited patrons to enjoy the movie. Our last patron had finally finished reading the book on her own and we had a brief discussion. In terms of the book, she was wondering how he got away in real life with not being recognized where their voices could give them away. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)
• Last Friday Coffee and Cookies: We put the pot on! Patrons joined us for a light snack. Next month we may serve cookies and lemonade or tea.

Maplewood Community Library, Johann Buran reporting

Programs
The library celebrated National Potato Chip Day. We had a blind taste test with all ages and asked for favorites. People liked the salt and vinegar the best. The buffalo bleu cheese flavor was the least liked. The children and teens took their taste testing very seriously and competed to see who guessed the most correctly.

Anecdotes/Other
• The teen volunteers will continue until the end of their semester. One of the volunteers from Aquinas decided she wanted to create a crafting class for the children. Her first group went well so we did it every Thursday in March. The children continue to want to sculpt using super light air-dry clay. The super light air-dry clay is non-toxic and doesn’t need to be baked to hold the form that is sculpted. The children enjoyed playing with the clay as it was easy to mold and there was a wide variety of colors. Some created miniature foods, animals, superheroes and flowers.
• Two groups of students from St. John Fisher continue to volunteer and help children with their homework on Mondays and Wednesdays. The third group of service-learning and community service students meets with a small group of children in first through third grade using the Seeds of Success program. The Seeds of Success program is designed to build resiliency in children from the City of Rochester who are impacted by poverty, trauma, and other challenges. The students will read books and run activities on topics like autonomy, persistence, and goal setting. Resiliency helps a child’s ability to deal with adversity and life stressors, which then leads to positive relationships and academic success.

Monroe Branch, Mary Clare Scheg reporting

Programs
• Margaret Paige, Children’s Librarian, reports that she visited School # 23. During the kindergarten visits she read A Worm’s Tale by Barbro Lindgren and Hooray for Snail! by John Stadler. We changed the words to Old MacDonald and sang “Mr. Rodriguez has a School,” accompanied by the ukulele. She saw familiar and new faces in the two classrooms; many of the Kindergarteners were in the Pre-K classes that visited the library throughout last school year.
• Paige led story times about “Octos” and “Dolphins” at St. Paul’s Child Care Center on March 14, 2019. She also dropped off a bag of 10 books for a UPK classroom to borrow. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Expand our visible presence in our communities)

Anecdotes/Other
• The Food Truck continues to be very popular with many of our patrons. Don, one of our regular patrons, continues to bring in day old bread and rolls for the Food Truck. We are keeping track of the number of items that are taken in one day. For the month of March, we have given out a total of 338 items. Because of the government shut down, people had a different schedule for getting their food stamps. Dave, a regular patron, told us that this Food Truck saved his life. I know this sounds unbelievable and very dramatic, but he said it was true. The food he took from the “Truck” filled that gap in benefits. This is by far the best comment I can share.

• Because of the comeback of LP’s, the library purchased a few record players for circulation. People can try it and see if they want to invest their money in LP’s and a record player. It will be interesting to see what happens.

Sully Branch, Maria-Heeks-Heinlein reporting

Outreach
Jen Nesbitt had the opportunity to attend two events at School #33 this month. She went to their Books and Blankets program as a guest book reader and enjoyed reading to the children and their families. This event was held in the gym and it was nice to see families snuggled up on blankets sharing stories with their children. Dr. Ellison spoke at the event and emphasized how early literacy and book sharing is so connected with future academic success.

The other event this month was the Showcase of Learning at the school. Nesbitt had the opportunity to share a table with the reading teachers to promote reading, library services, and obtaining library cards. This event gave families the chance to see what things children are learning in school. There were special projects on display throughout the gym. Nesbitt saw some familiar faces and enjoyed promoting the library and supporting the literacy efforts of the school. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)

Programs
Nesbitt kicked off a new Birthday Book Club this month. Children who register for this club will be invited to pick out a brand new/high quality book to keep in honor of their birthday. Nesbitt’s biggest hope for this club is that it will give children books to keep at home, since some are not allowed to check things out on library cards, and some have said they don’t have any books at home to read. With help from Margaret Paige at Monroe, Jen adapted a postcard reminder to send to kids when their birthdays get close. The little birthday postcards are a fun way to get kids excited for their birthdays, and a reminder to visit the library to pick out a special book of their choice. Birthday Book Club is kicking off with over 100 books ready to be loved by children in the Sully neighborhood. (Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)

After school the kids stopped by to make some crafts.
Anecdotes/Other

- In the month of March, Tim Ryan was able to build a new relationship with two of Sully's newest patrons named Lily and David. Lily and David are an area couple from Japan and currently work with the Strong Museum of Play. Ryan noticed them coming into the library and sitting in our teen section. David would work on his computer and Lily, who is expecting, would read board books out loud to her baby-to-be. Not long after, Ryan was contacted by J.P. Dyson from the Strong Museum of Play. Dyson asked Ryan if he saw Lily and David and if he could introduce himself and help them get adjusted to the area and assist them with any library or community needs they might have, as they were having some difficulties adjusting to their new home. Dyson had expressed to David and Lily that at Sully “we are good people” and “can help with whatever needs” they have. Ryan reached out and began to foster a relationship with David and Lily, and helped them find housing information, bus schedules, and health insurance information. Ryan has also been helping locate any library resources they might need for themselves and their baby-to-be as they adjust to being in the United States.

- One of our regular patrons was in the library when the school made an announcement over the PA system requesting assistance in communicating with a Spanish speaking parent. This patron heard the announcement and said that she could help with this. I walked her to the office and introduced her to Dr. Ellison. The next week, Dr. Ellison approached me and said that he was so relieved when he saw me walking into the office with someone that could help, and that he very grateful for the relationship the school and library has.

- The City contracted with WXXI to create a video for Celebrate City Living. Beechwood is one of the neighborhoods the city is highlighting in the next city living event. WXXI visited the library and the rec center to show the benefit we provide to this community. The library was contacted by a local organization to see if we could host a book give away event here in March. The organization brought several boxes of new to almost new books to give away, and many wonderful books were given out that day.

- During the month of March, Ryan assisted George Carter and the rest of our library’s staff with a St. Patrick’s Day program. Carter put together a great program that included traditional Irish food and music, and he asked Ryan if he was willing to share some Irish history and some information on St. Patrick given his Irish ancestry. Ryan felt very privileged for this opportunity to share a little information about his ancestry. Ryan was able to speak to both children and teens about the true story of St. Patrick, as well as some of the myths surrounding his existence. Ryan separated fact from fiction and gave the children and teens attending further information on the Black Irish, the Great Potato Famine, origins of St. Patrick and St. Patrick’s Day, along with some facts about Irish independence. It was a very rewarding experience to be able to share something that is very important to Ryan and the Sully Branch family.

- I worked with local author S. Shine to set up a book signing at the library. Ms. Shine was also one of the participants in the Black Woman’s Book festival that was held at the Wheatley Branch library later
in March. Ms. Shine donated a copy of her second book to the library, and was able to generate a lot of excitement from patrons regarding her book.

**Phillis Wheatley Community Library, Lori Frankunas reporting**

**Programs**

- Reverend Lori from Montgomery Center came, and we learned about chickens. We learned that when new chickens are brought into the group, they are not always nice to each other. Then we compared it to ourselves and how humans act the same way. We talked about how we can be better in including new friends who come into the library. Then we were able to see chicken eggs and all the colors they come in. After, we worked on cutting up hard boiled eggs and other vegetables to make egg salad. *(Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Promote Learning and Provide educational experiences for our diverse populations)*

- Potato Chips were invented in Saratoga, NY on March 14. We had a potato chips tasting. BBQ chips were the favorite followed by Dill Pickle. One young gentleman had to try them all. We made shamrock punch, green punch with whipped cream and a cherry on top, for the March Mix and Mingle. It didn’t look very tasty but the teens and kids enjoyed it.

**Community Outreach/Meetings**

South West Common Council meeting- Jennifer Bannister from Teen Empowerment was at the meeting. We talked about collaborating this summer. They will have a group of teens working with the Clarissa St. Reunion. We can provide use of our meeting room and computers to help facilitate the audio-visual history project they will be working on.

**Anecdotes/Other**

- Women were grateful for the Black Women’s Book Festival held on March 23. One patron exclaimed how good it felt to be among like-minded people. The poetry performances were especially meaningful and powerful. The festival gets bigger each year! Patrons were able to meet with local adult and children authors, listen to live poetry and ask the panel of authors’ questions in regard to publishing their own works of literature.

- Conversation on Race and Poverty provided insight into issues which may be prevalent in Rochester, as well as helping others to identify what they may be able to do when conversations on race and poverty arise within their own settings/life.
Winton Branch, Kathy Wolf reporting

Programs
Rhyme Time is a time for babies and their caretakers to get together for some rhymes, songs and to play and talk with one another. We started up again at the beginning of February, and things have been going great. Attendance is consistently positive, moms and babies seem to be having a good time, and it is very little work for a big return! When I knew that I was going away for a week, I was a little nervous about putting that program on hiatus. I feared that people who had it in their routine to come to the Winton Library on Tuesday morning might get out of the habit. For that reason, I asked one of the moms if she could lead the program on the Tuesday that I was out of town. The ploy seems to have paid off; while attendance was down that one week, it has since come back around.

(Priority #1 Education and Engagement: Provide access to an evolving variety of collections, programs and services based on community needs)

Selected Meetings & Outputs, March 16 – April 12 (Uttaro)

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

Other

Arts & Cultural Council Board meeting
REAL Partnership meeting
FFRPL Board meeting
Joan Michie, librarian re-locating to Rochester
MCLS Board County Relations Committee meeting
FFRPL Editor’s Circle Brunch
Rochester Reads event
Pre-Budget Meeting with City Budget Director
RPL Budget meeting with Mayor Warren
RPL Board By-laws Committee meeting
NYLA/ALA Program Planning Call
My Brother’s Keeper Committee meeting
Stonewall: 50 Years Out Opening Reception
REAL/REJI Meeting
City Education Team meeting
National Library Worker Appreciation Day activities
REAL Committee meeting on Civil Service
Roc the Future annual retreat
### Email Activity

**March 2019**

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