

By: Timothy Baird  
Dept. Adult Services  
Subject: Monthly Report – December 2018  
Date: January 5, 2019

### Administrative

- Attended Mayor's Youth Board meeting.
- Attended NEA Big Read meeting to narrow selection down to three books for the Committee to vote on and then distributed copies of the books to YWCA, City Hall, WP High School, and NY Presbyterian.
- Generated Graphic Novels weeding list for Collection Management.
- Compiled Foundation Center online resource usage statistics for Director Kenney.
- Assisted Collection Management with Director's Station list generating questions.
- Jewish Museum passes were made available to the public mid-December. Very good usage during the holidays.
- Librarian Himmelfarb handed in his resignation. His last day will be January 29<sup>th</sup>. Himmelfarb did tremendous work as our Local History Librarian making the WP Collection much easier to use, starting the WP newspapers digitization project, being on the Board of the WP Historical Society, and leading the WP History Roundtable. He also was the lead on the Poetry Slam & Open Mic program, the Common Ground program with the WP League of Women Voters, and the Jazz Jam with Art Bennett. Himmelfarb will be greatly missed and we wish him all the best in his career.

**Staff Activities** - *Thanks to librarians Sharon Rothman, Mariel Perez, Ben Himmelfarb, Kristen Thornton-De Stafeno and Austin Duffy who contributed to this report.*

- Librarian De Stafeno designed the logo for the Spanish version of the Library's website. She attended a marketing meeting with the WLS consultant. She was also part of the NEA Big Read meeting.
- Librarian Perez attended a Paraguayan Independence Day Celebration meeting with ArtsWestchester.

### Customer Service:

- 20 Local History queries, mostly via email.

### Community Outreach:

- Please see the Community Outreach report for more details.

- Librarian De Stafeno attended the WP Neighborhood Council Association meeting as the Library representative.

### Programs:

- Forgiveness: Making Peace with the Past. Workshop with Dr. Mimi Liebman.
- English Conversation Group holiday party on December 17, for ESL people, volunteers and librarians. Twenty-five people came. It was a big hit. Friends of the Library funded the party.
- Poetry Slam & Open Mic with Guest Poets Ryan J and Nate Mask.
- Common Ground Community Conversations in partnership with the WP League of Women Voters. This month's topic was Trans Rights & Gender.
- White Plains History RoundTable worked on updating Wikipedia entries concerning WP History.
- Author Field Horne presentation on his new book "Westchester County: A History".
- Jazz Jam: Had 5 musicians come to participate, which was great. Had 23 audience that I counted, though people continue to move through the whole time. Librarian Himmelfarb will meet with Art Bennett next week to discuss how to move forward with programming given that he is leaving the Library. Arts Westchester just informed us that the Artists' Loft got \$1300 for 2019 programming.
- Spanish for Beginners finished another successful Fall semester. A very popular program that always fills up quickly.
- Computer programs included: Virtual Reality for Adults; Adobe Apps for Adults, Malware Defense and Drop in Computer help sessions.
- Thank you to Edge Librarian Carroll who did an Introduction to Sewing program for adults. Adults used to show up to the teen sewing programs so she decided to offer a class just for adults.
- Very good attendance at the four Wednesday Lunchtime Meditation programs.
- Book groups included: Book'em Mystery group; Slow Reading; and Short Story Series with Barbara Wenglin.
- Hot Topic programs included a program on Immigration Enforcement Know Your Rights; and Proposal for Reporting and Preventing Hate Incidents.