

SHELF LIFE

MOHAWK VALLEY LIBRARY SYSTEM



Gloversville Public Library

FOND FAREWELLS



Sadly, we say farewell to three fantastic library directors over the next few weeks. Dawn Lamphere from Margaret Reaney Memorial Library, Michael Burnett from Northville Public Library, and Helen Thomas from Sharon Springs Free Library are retiring. The three of them leave behind a

combined legacy of more than 85 years of service within the Mohawk Valley Library System.

Their dedication has made a tremendous difference in the communities they served. We are grateful to Dawn, Michael, and Helen for their years of leadership and service, and we wish them a well-deserved and rewarding retirement!

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Margaret Reaney Memorial Library



Northville Public Library



Sharon Springs Free Library

FEATURE YOUR COLLECTIONS

Book display tips

Looking for some helpful hints for ways to feature books from your collection? Try these:

- Set up display items in a set of three. This seems to be the magic number. People are more likely to choose from three options. When there are more or less than three, people are less likely to make a choice. (Remember to replace the item so you will always have three displayed.)
- Create your displays with books facing out. This is an invitation: "Look at me!" Spines do not invite choice.
- Place impulse picks by the circulation desk. These are easy to grab, last-minute add-ons, like a candy bar at the grocery store. Display items throughout the library to encourage people to experience your entire building. Hint: keep large print books near the circulation desk or the front of the library for easy access.

This Information is from the Designing Community Centered Libraries presentation at NYLA 2023 by David Vinjamuri, NYU professor and author of "Library Space Planning: A PLA Guide" (ALA, 2019).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Dates!

Creating Welcoming Spaces for LGBTQ+ Patrons

Thursday, January 11th, 9:30am | via Zoom

Adult Program Swap

Wednesday, January 17th, 2pm | via Zoom

NYLA Advocacy Day

Wednesday, February 7th | NYS Capitol

Children's SRP Planning Workshop

Thursday, February 15th, 9:30 am - Noon | via Zoom

Teen SRP Planning Workshop

Wednesday, March 13th, 9:30 am - Noon | via Zoom



Amy (on the right) recognizes her Library Director, Kim (on the left) for being supportive and helpful.

DO YOU KNOW A LIBRARY SUPERSTAR?

We will send them a candy bar and a card

It is always wonderful to recognize library staff members, trustees, and directors for their hard work and accomplishments. If you know a Library Superstar who should be recognized for their work, just contact an MVLS staff member, and we will make that happen.



NINE FOR NINE: 2023 TAX LEVY VOTES

Trends are encouraging

The results are in: every library tax levy vote in our system was successful. Congratulations to all!

Nine MVLS libraries held tax levy votes. All nine passed by significant margins. The median increase was about 12 percent, with a wide range of increases among the nine libraries. The percentage increases were comparable to the previous two years, as well.

Looking back over the past three years, the data and trends are very encouraging. During that time, the number of library budget votes has increased from four in 2021, to eight in 2022, to nine this year. All of those votes have been successful. This year, approximately 75 percent of voters supported their library budgets.

The annual library tax levy vote can be a nerve-racking event. Understandably, libraries might be reluctant to ask their community for tax increases. Yet, every library experiences increasing annual costs, especially in this current era of higher inflation. If libraries do not keep up with the costs, the vital programs and services they provide can suffer.

If you have any questions or want to dig into the data more, especially as you plan ahead for 2024 votes, please contact Eric or Wade at MVLS.

2023 Tax Levy Vote Results



100%

Tax levy votes that passed. Nine MVLS libraries held tax levy votes.

12%

Median tax levy increase across all MVLS libraries.



75%

Average percentage of votes in favor of the tax levy increases.



While NYLA Advocacy Day is coming in February, we need your help to urge Governor Hochul to properly fund libraries in her upcoming budget. It's easy. Visit the following link to send her an email and/or make a phone call:

https://oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net/messages/edit?promo_id=21508



With the holidays upon us, you may see more emails in your personal email. This is a popular time for scammers to create fake emails about your Amazon purchases, UPS/FedEx deliveries, and links to coupon deals. Beware of those pesky phishing attempts and scams that try to trick you into clicking on a link or providing personal data. Here are a few reminders on how to stay safe on the internet:

- Delete emails from unknown senders.
- Do not click on links in an email message – unless you initiated a verification link.
- Do not provide personal data in an email message or over the phone to unknown callers.
- Make sure your Wi-Fi at home is password protected, and do not conduct your banking or shopping on an insecure (not password protected) Wi-Fi connection.
- Double check to see if the website you are using for online shopping or banking is secure. Look for https:// and a lock icon next to the web address in the address bar.
- Consider using two-factor authentication, (a code is texted to you as an extra layer of protection), on banking websites, Amazon, Apple, Gmail, etc.
- At a minimum, do not use the same password for multiple accounts.

And lastly, trust your gut. Do not send money or get tricked into believing something is wrong with your computer – don't click, don't call the number, restart your computer. Awareness is the best protection!

CONTACT US

Do you have questions we can answer? Helpful comments? Want to tell us about something going on at your library? Email us or call us at 518-355-2010.

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Best wishes for a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

