



# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



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*Inspiring Ideas*

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*Strengthening Community*

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*Enriching Lives*

# OUR MISSION

*Inspiring Ideas, Strengthening Community, Enriching Lives*

To serve as a community center for lifelong learning with access to a broad range of ideas and information through traditional and emerging resources to meet the intellectual, recreational, and cultural needs of residents in a professional and friendly manner.

## YOUR COMMUNITY CENTER

Nestled in the heart of the community, with walking paths connecting us to Columbia High School, the Greenbush YMCA, and Eddy Hawthorne Ridge (Senior Living), we are a valuable resource that is accessible to everyone of all ages.

### Collections

We offer an expansive collection of [159,142 items](#) in a variety of formats, that include materials for enrichment, enjoyment, and self-directed education. Patrons have access to online tools such as [NOVELny](#) (digital magazine and journal articles), [OverDrive](#) (eBooks, audiobooks and streaming video), [Flipster](#) (digital magazines), [Ancestry.com](#) (genealogy research), and [Novelist](#) (reader's advisory, new in 2019).

### Special Collections

#### Outdoor Equipment:

lawn chairs and lawn blankets are available to borrow

#### Library of Things (non-traditional items): New in 2019!

telescope, games, bakeware, laminator, snow shoes & more

#### Stories to Go:

theme-based early literacy kits with books, games & puzzles

#### Museum Pass Program:

discounted or free admission passes to 25 local museums

#### Hot Off The Press Collection:

multiple copies of popular titles for adult readers

#### J-POP Collection:

multiple copies of popular titles for young readers

#### Exhibit Wall & Display Cases:

features local artwork and private collections



Study carrels, designated quiet area, comfortable seating, computer lab, small meeting space and tables throughout are provided to accommodate a variety of community needs.

*Data provided throughout this document is from 2018, unless noted otherwise.*

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Michael Poost, President  
Kevin P. McCann, Vice President  
Robert West, Treasurer  
Lynne Oudekerk, Secretary  
Betty Bellino-Giugno, Trustee  
Mari Harris, Trustee  
Shay Harrison, Trustee  
Jill Dugas Hughes, Library Director

### Programs and Special Events

In 2018, we provided [1,196 classes, workshops, and seminars](#) which supported a variety of educational, economic, social, and enrichment opportunities; [21,250 people of all ages attended](#) our programs. Special programs included our annual Day Before the Awards Film Festival, Friends of the Library book sales (two sales for adult books and one for children's books), and the annual Children's Festival (also sponsored by the Friends).



Annual Children's Festival & Children's Book Sale; a community event sponsored by the Friends of the library

### Services

#### Reference Services:

research, individualized technology assistance

#### Small Business Services:

fax, copy, scan, print (including wireless), notary

#### Technology:

fiber high-speed WiFi, public computers/laptops, and headphones

#### Government Information:

tax forms, voter registration

#### Referral Services:

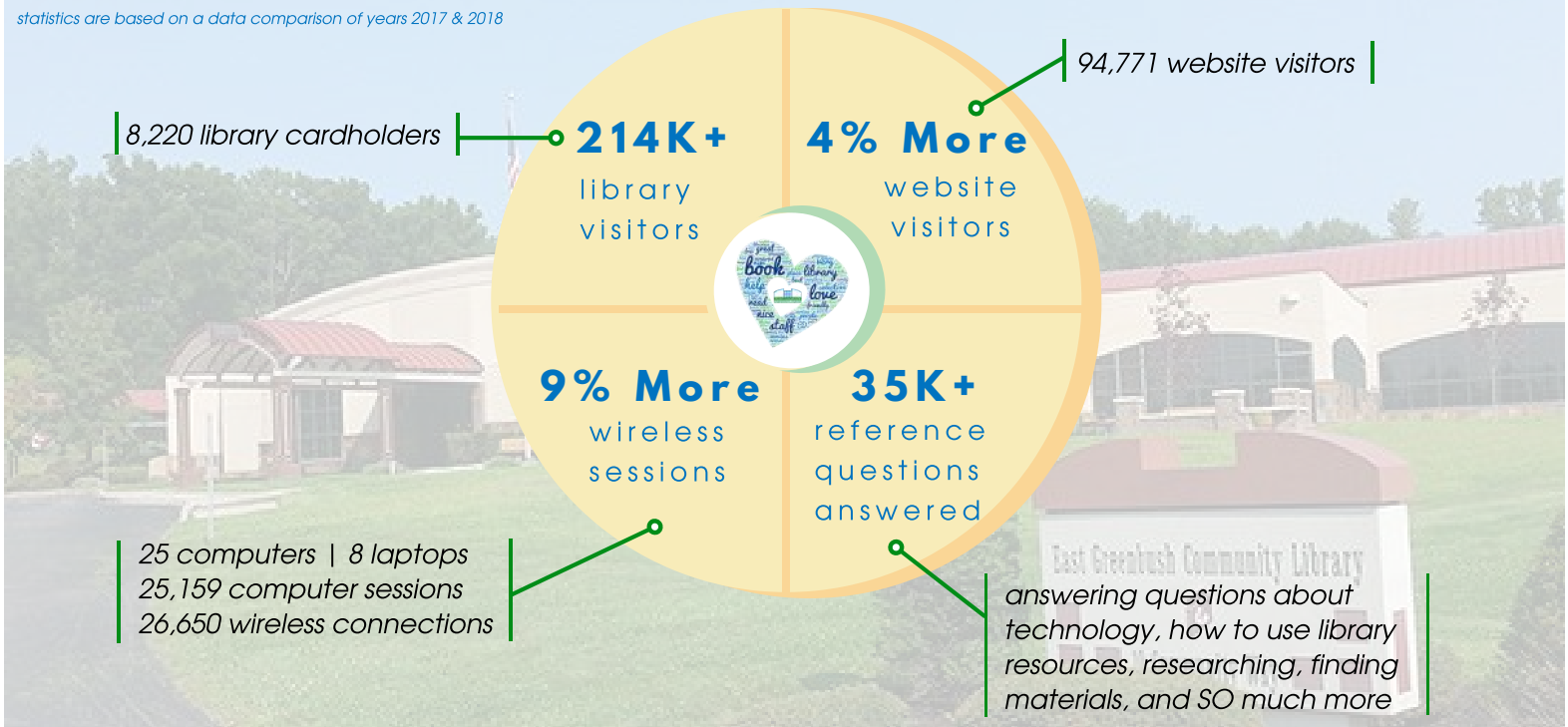
legal, employment, health, housing, social services

#### Meeting Room Space:

job seekers, community organizations, work/study groups

# BY THE NUMBERS

statistics are based on a data comparison of years 2017 & 2018



## Libraries Build Community Character and Culture

We provide a free and informal place for family and friends to meet, socialize, attend activities, and access resources that many others take for granted because they can afford them. Participation in community life is more critical than ever with the increasing use of the Internet and online media to support political and social activities.

statistics are based on a data comparison of years 2017 & 2018

### HOURS OPEN

**3,351**

### VOLUNTEERS

**431** volunteers

**20+** community experts

**1,780** volunteer hours



Children's Festival Volunteers

### MATERIALS

**159,142** total items

- fiction
- non-fiction
- magazines
- newspapers
- eBooks
- music CDs
- DVD/Blu-ray Movies
- A/V downloadables & eAudio
- video games

**8% more items**

**17% more**

### PROGRAMS

**1,196** program sessions

**21,250** attendees

Children enjoy making cars for the drive-in movie



### CIRCULATION

**383,017** physical items

**61,081** electronic content use

**444,098** total collection use



Library card day



### LIBRARY USE

**425**

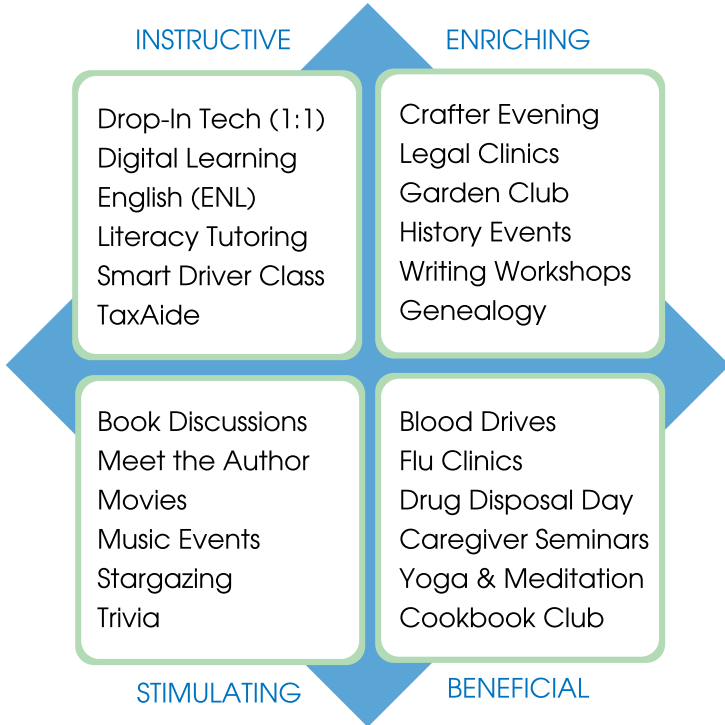
non-library sponsored programs, meetings, and events provided by and for the community

# ADULT SERVICES

## Highlights

### Instructive & Enlightening Experiences

We offer a wide variety of classes, seminars, and workshops taught by library instructors and community experts in both individual and group settings.



### Educational & Employment Resources

Our services support adult learners, job seekers, and members of the community who are experiencing a period of unemployment. Through partnerships, programming, specialty collections, and reference instruction, we help our patrons develop new, marketable skills, prepare for standardized and professional tests, and become comfortable with the technologies they will use as job seekers, employees, and self-sufficient information creators and consumers.



Digital Learning Day

#### Adult Literacy

##### Digital (Tuesday Tech Time)

124 (1:1) sessions

##### English Language Class

74 group sessions

371 attendees

##### TOTALS FOR 2018

533 (1:1) | 100 group sessions

732 total attendees



Questar III BOCES' English language class; held bi-weekly in the Hurr Education Center

### ADULT PROGRAMS

**418**

sessions

**5,737**

attendees



### Day Before the Awards Film Festival



Jim (L), Jackson (R)

2018 marked the **5th anniversary** of this popular annual event; **352 people attended**. Film critics, Jim Dickson (left) and Jackson Murphy (right), provided commentary prior to the showings of six Academy nominated films, followed by Q & A sessions for each, with games and prizes throughout the day.

### Reference Services

Our Reference Librarians hold Master's Degrees in information services and update their training throughout the year by attending courses, workshops, and conferences. **Librarians staff the adult reference desk over 3,300 hours per year**, offering reading suggestions, assisting patrons with their information needs, and providing instruction in the use of resources and technologies within the library and across the networked world.



#### Providing expert and personalized service:

- Research Assistance
- Technology
- Use of Library Resources
- Agency Referrals
- Reader's Advisory

### NEW IN 2018



A collection of popular titles for adult readers; several copies available at all times.

#### BECOME A 36 er!

59 teams | 60 individuals

21 visited all 36 UHLS libraries



#### TGAR FINALE EVENT

Discussion of our community pick,

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, and a celebration of books and reading with WMHT's Danielle Sanzone.

# YOUTH SERVICES

## Highlights

### A Unique Learning Environment



Library Card Day; Genet

Our children's library is filled with materials suited for young readers (infants to age 13). We offer both print and digital materials, computers, manipulative kits as well as early childhood development areas designed to encourage imagination and socialization; a "playroom" complete with toys, train table, kitchen play set, costumes and puppet theater, dolls, legos, blocks, and puzzles.

### Early Literacy

To get ready to read, children need an environment that supports early literacy and learning. Our trained librarians focus on creating programming and early learning spaces that support the five early literacy practices from Every Child Ready to Read - talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing. Our storytimes are designed to incorporate these elements and are our most popular ongoing programs. [Our Youth Services librarians prepared and presented 162 storytimes with over 6,200 participants in 2018.](#)

### 1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

73 new registrants  
273 check-ins  
26 graduates

*Represents 27,300 books read!*



Research shows that the amount of time children spend with books is crucial to reading achievement, and ultimately to school achievement in general. The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program rewards parents and young children for reading at 100 book intervals.

### NEW IN 2018

- Added additional Saturday afternoon programs
- J-POP Collection
- Homeschool Meetups
- Teen Volunteer (TV) Club
- Zumba & Yoga with the YMCA

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

370

sessions

14,502

attendees



Pig Out on Reading!

We offer a variety of children's, tween, and teen programs throughout the year that encourage reading, provide enrichment, are educational, inspire creativity, as well as allow kids to explore and have fun! Some favorite programs of 2018 were: Pig Out On Reading, Big Truck Day, Bubble Bonanza, Zumba & Yoga, and Valley Cats.



Big Truck Day

### Youth Summer Reading Program

Our Summer Reading Program provides enriching experiences for youth and builds excitement around reading in order to prevent "the summer slide" - the loss of academic skills over the summer months. In 2018, the library worked with CMOST, WMHT, Dyken Pond, Tech Valley Game Space, RPI Society of Women Engineers, Tang Museum, and the Price Chopper Cooking Club to bring educational and fun summer programming to our library patrons.

### SUMMER READING (CHILDREN/TEENS)

894 registered

103 events

5,289 attendees



The Summer Reading Program begins with an ice cream social. The teens celebrate their program finale at the EG Bowling Center, while the younger kids conclude with a magic show at the Greenbush YMCA.

# YOUTH SERVICES

## Highlights

### A Welcoming Space for Teens

Teens have their own space where they can relax, socialize, read, or do homework. The Teen Room is filled with teen books, comfortable bean bag chairs, work spaces, and plenty of charging stations for their convenience. After school our Tween/Teen Librarian is available to assist students with finding research materials for homework or to recommend a popular read.



Teen Mashup

### Teen Programs

Our programs for middle and high school students are designed with their input and preferences in mind. Friday Mashup is a weekly drop-in program which provides teens with opportunities to play games, craft, tinker with maker tech, eat snacks or just hang out. Teen Anime Club happens twice a month and is an afternoon of movies and snacks. In addition to these regular programs, we offer special events during break weeks and in the summer reading program. [The Back To School Bash was a new event in 2018 and it was a hit!](#) 35 teens attended this event which entailed an afternoon of fun in a mobile video game truck followed by ice cream sundaes. Other popular programs were the Cupcake Bash, Paint & Snack, and Breakout Rooms.



Back To School Bash



Summer Reading Volunteers

Elephant & Piggy launch the UHLS Library Expedition

Making the Summer Reading HQ sign

### Teen Volunteers

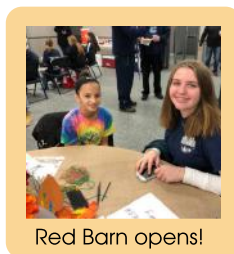
93 teens 1,210 hours

Teen volunteers play an important role in supporting our youth programs. During the school year our TV (Teen Volunteer) Club meets monthly to work on community service as a group. [72 teens took part in our 2018 Summer Volunteer Program](#), assisting at our Summer Reading Headquarters and working with children during programs such as Brownies & Board Games, Building Club, Bubble Bonanza, and the Farmers' Market Kids' Craft Table.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIPS

We push beyond our library's physical walls to engage and reach our community through outreach. We visit area camps, preschools, and senior centers to provide programming throughout the year. Our librarians can be found at numerous local events to share what the library can offer to residents. In 2018, our librarians attended Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA, the grand opening celebration at the East Greenbush Town Park, and provided programming for Discovery Place Preschool, New Dreams Nursery School, Evergreen Commons Rehabilitation Center, and the East Greenbush Town Camp.

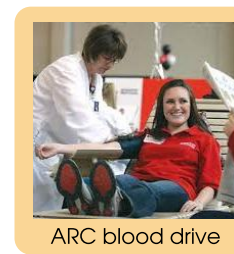
By leveraging our strategic partnerships and coalitions, we are able to provide more with less; working collaboratively to find creative ways to share resources and deliver added value.



Red Barn opens!



Genet library day



ARC blood drive

- AARP
- American Red Cross
- Capital District EOC
- Castleton Library
- CDPHP
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- ConSERNS-U
- East Greenbush CSD
- Eddy Hawthorne Ridge
- Girl Scouts
- Greenbush Garden Club
- Greenbush Historical Society
- Greenbush YMCA
- Hudson Valley Community College
- Nassau Free Library
- NY Connects
- Pride Center
- Questar III BOCES
- Rensselaer County One-Stop
- Rensselaer County Sheriff
- Sisters In Crime
- Society for Creative Anachronism
- The Legal Project
- Town of East Greenbush
- Town of Schodack
- Upper Hudson Library System
- WMHT