

# THE TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY Review

ISSUE  
FALL 2017

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Paul Hicok

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### 2018 Budget Vote:

On Tuesday, September 26th voters will be asked to approve the library's 2018 operating budget. The 3.86% increase to the library tax levy means the average property owner will experience an increase of only \$3.01 per year on their 2018 property tax bill.

The reason for this increase is three-fold. The library's operating budget is very lean. Library administrators monitor expenses carefully, seeking grant and fundraising support where appropriate. Over the past several budget cycles, the book and materials budget has been shrinking as funds have been shifted to cover higher costs in other parts of the library budget. We were able to add significantly to the book and materials budget this past year, but we are still only spending approximately \$1.58 per person, while the average book budget for public libraries in the Albany and Rensselaer County region is \$4.48 per person, with many libraries spending considerably more than that. As a result, the library is proposing an increase to the book and materials budget which will bring us up to approximately \$1.76 per person.

The second change to the 2018 budget involves staffing costs, and a significant increase will be for health insurance. The library currently pays for one half of the cost of health insurance for staff. This cost is scheduled to increase by 11% next year, and along with the addition of new employees that will bring that line item in the budget up to \$53,500.

The third area of the 2018 budget to increase involves building maintenance and repairs. Because of the pressures of operating the public services of the library with very limited financial resources, routine maintenance and repairs of our two buildings has suffered. Both the Main Library and the Lansingburgh Branch are well over 100 years old. \$3,500 in the 2017 budget for building repairs is woefully inadequate to meet the challenge that both buildings present. I am therefore requesting an additional \$10,500 for this line item in the 2018 operating budget.

Thank you for your continued support of the Troy Public Library. See you on Tuesday, September 26th.



### Library Public Information Meetings

**Tuesday, September 12th**  
at 7:00 pm, Main Library

**Thursday, September 14th**  
at 7:00 pm, Lansingburgh Branch

### Library Budget Vote

**Tuesday, September 26th**  
12:00 to 8:00 pm

**Main Library**  
100 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
**Lansingburgh Branch**  
27 114<sup>th</sup> Street

You must be a registered voter and reside in the City of Troy.



[www.theTroyLibrary.org](http://www.theTroyLibrary.org)

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATES:

**Brian J. Williams** has 20 years' experience in the workforce development field assisting youth, adults, and dislocated workers with workforce options. Currently, Brian is the Principal Employment and Training Coordinator for Rensselaer County at the Rensselaer County One Stop Career Center and Capital Region Workforce Development Board. He has worked in partnership with the Troy Public Library and other UHLS member libraries in bringing workforce development and job search workshops and resources to patrons and staff. Mr. Williams serves on several community boards including Executive Vice President for the New York Association of Training and Employment Professionals (NYATEP) Board, the Capital District Educational Opportunity Center Board of Hudson Valley Community College, and the

Commission On Economic Opportunity in Troy. Brian holds a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism/Mass Communications and Sociology from St. Bonaventure University and resides in Troy with his wife, Kimberly, and son, Colin.

**Arlene Nock** - I grew up in Troy in the 1950's during a bustling period of our history. One of my vivid memories is going to the children's room of the downtown library and picking out my books for the week. My adult life included working in various community development projects in several states and in Malaysia, and then finally going to medical school at age 31. I moved back to Troy in 2010, and am delighted to return home. My adult children are all now Trojans as well. I value our library system highly, and would be honored to serve as a member of the board.

## Continuing Adult Programs

### Adult Monthly Book Clubs

Main Library, Mondays at 6:30 pm and  
Lansingburgh, Tuesdays at 6:15 pm

New members are always welcomed. Monthly participation is not necessary - come for the books that interest you! Check out the website for the list of dates and books.

### Guided Meditation

- **Main Library:** Wednesdays at 5:30 pm, Sept. 20th – Dec. 20th
- **Lansingburgh Branch:** Wednesdays at 2:00 pm, Aug. 30th to Oct. 25th



### Writers' Group

**Fridays at 1pm**, Lansingburgh, Sponsored by the Empowerment Exchange. All are welcome. Call Rob at 518-235-2173 for more information.

### High School Equivalency Classes

**Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**, Lansingburgh, For more information, call Questar III at 518-273-2264.

# READER SERVICES

All programs are free, but registration is required. Please call (518) 274-7071 or visit our website [www.thetroylibrary.org](http://www.thetroylibrary.org).

**Still Life Acrylic Painting with Sarah Bowen Mondays, Sept. 18th and 25th at 6pm, Main Library** During the first session, the instructor will guide participants in the beginning steps of each painting while looking at a staged model of every day items. Learn how to choose the composition as well as the different techniques for color mixing, paint application, and personal expression. Day two will be spent on the completion of each still-life painting. Share tips and critique with other painters in this insightful and positive space, and take home your masterpiece. No experience required. Participants must commit to both sessions for this workshop.

**Pottery Workshop with Bianca Dupuis Wednesdays, Oct. 18th and 25th at 6pm, Lansingburgh** If you enjoy creating objects with your hands you will love this workshop! Our first session will consist of hand-building clay objects for decorative use (vase, plates, etc.). In our second session we will finish our surface by decorating with colorful under-glazes. Come and enjoy all that clay has to offer! You must attend BOTH classes to complete the project.

**Watercolor Workshop with Joy Ting Charde Wednesdays, Oct. 18th and 25th at 6pm, Main Library and Mondays, Nov. 13th and 20th at 5:30pm, Lansingburgh Branch** In this two-part class, participants will learn doodle and basic watercolor techniques. We will be creating colorful and expressive backgrounds using watercolor washes. Students will layer different types of doodles/drawings on the colorful pieces. No experience necessary!

*The projects are made possible with funds from the decentralization program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature and administered by the Arts Center of the Capital Region.*

**Understanding Shakespeare Thursdays, Sept. 14th - Oct. 19th at 6:30 pm, Main Library** This will be a six-session program on how to understand Shakespeare's plays. This program will allow the participants to put *Macbeth* in a variety of contexts, such as its relationship to his other works and to the modern existential world. Tom Bulger, Shakespeare scholar and retired professor from Siena College will lead this workshop. Copies of *Macbeth* will be available at the circulation desk the first evening of the program.

**Serious Side of Food: Reading and Discussion Program Wednesday, Sept. 13th and 27th, Oct. 11th and 25th, Nov. 8th and 29th at 6pm, Main Library** This reading and discussion series was developed and sponsored by Humanities New York. Participants will come together over the course of six sessions to discuss a variety of thematically linked texts with Marissa Peck, Food Assessment Coordinator at Capital Roots. Texts include historical accounts, novels, and narrative nonfiction and will be provided by the library.

**French Film: "Monsieur Lazhar"**

**Saturday, Sept. 23rd at 1pm Main Library** Join us as the La Fédération franco-américaine du New York kicks off their 2017-18 film series with the screening of *Monsieur Lazhar*.

**Recovering from War: Successes and Challenges Monday, Sept. 25th at 3pm Main Library** Cathy Wilkerson is the author of the memoir *Flying Close to the Sun*. Cathy will be sharing the successes and challenges faced in projects addressing the lasting effects of Agent Orange, the unexploded ordinance and PTSD on American vets, Vietnamese refugees, and Vietnamese citizens, now 50 years after the Vietnam War.

### Author Visit: John Caher

**Wednesday, Oct. 4th at 6:30pm Main Library** Caher will discuss his book, *The Curious Case of Kiryas Joel*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

### Comic Jam with Ira Marcks

**Saturday, Oct. 7th from 1pm to 4pm, Main Library** Fun for artists of all ages. No previous experience necessary! Drop in for a few minutes or stay for the whole time, it's up to you.

**The Writing Life Monday, Oct. 16th at 6pm Main Library** Please join us for a discussion with Steven Leibo of the Sage Colleges on challenges that face writers in the 21st Century. The author of both non-fiction and fiction books including *Beyond the Heavenly Kingdom* which is set in part in Troy in the 1870s, Leibo is a commentator on WAMC, Northeast.

**Scary Shorts Out Loud Thursday, Oct. 26th from 6:30pm Main Library** "Shorts Out Loud" consists of fifteen minutes of LIVE acoustic music followed by a spooky short story, read out loud.

- Musical Guest: George Wilson
- Reader: Debra Zaffuts

## FRIENDS' REPORT

Have you checked out the BookSeller?

Only a few dedicated book lovers know that the Lansingburgh Branch of the library is the home of the BookSeller. A project of the Friends of the Troy Public Library, the shop within the library is a treasure trove of over 5,000 gently used books offered for sale two days a week at bargain prices.

The BookCellar was first organized in 1990 by the Friends and was in the basement of the Main Library. It moved in 2010 to make room for the elevator and renamed the BookSeller. For many patrons it seemed to disappear.

The store, however, is alive and well under the faithful management of Chris Lasky and a crew of thirteen volunteers. This spring and summer, to increase the visibility of the

store and sales, the Friends have offered a series of off-site pop up events, including a gardening book sale during the Hidden Garden tour, two book sales at the Troy Flea, a children's book sale at TAUM in South Troy, a poetry book sale at the Kitchen's Poetry Open Mic, and sales of short stories at Shorts Out Loud. These sales also afforded an opportunity to talk about the Library's current offerings.

The BookSeller is an important asset for the library as proceeds from the sale of books are used to underwrite programs such as the children's Summer Reading Program, the Museum Pass Program and Shorts Out Loud. Come to the BookSeller, volunteer to help out, clue us in to new opportunities to pop up with books and spread the word. We will all be richer for it.

**Wednesdays:** 2:00 to 6:00 pm

**Saturdays:** 10:00 am to 2:00 pm



## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

All programs are free, but registration is required. Please call (518) 274-7071 to register. For more information, visit our website: [www.theTroyLibrary.org](http://www.theTroyLibrary.org)

### YPS News!

Thank you to the Friends of TPL for sponsoring many of our summer events. We had fairies and story hours, magic and movement, sculpture and painting, plus puppets and pond critters. Thank you to Assembly member John McDonald for partnering with us. Special thanks to Amy Relyea and Sarah Bowen for their assistance throughout. Thank you also to Stewart's Shops for financial support for children's programming. This fall we look forward to the return of LEGO and Family



Science Nights with more art for teens and tweens plus Storytime returns weekly to the Main Library. Additional programs to follow. Please check our website for the latest information or stop by either branch to pick up a schedule of events.

### Young People's Programs

**LEGO Club:** Let your creativity go wild! Tuesdays at 6:00 pm, Main Library: Sept. 19th, Oct. 3rd, Nov. 7th and Nov. 21st, Ages 4 and up  
**LEGO League:** Mondays, 5:30 pm Lansingburgh, for ages 4 and up, with an adult. We bring the LEGO bricks and kids bring their imaginations.

**Family Science Night:** Fun science experiments for the whole family! Tuesdays at 6:00 pm, Main Library:  
• **Sept. 12th** - Static Electricity,  
• **Oct. 10th** - Lava Lamps,  
• **Nov. 14th** - Straw Rockets  
For kids ages 4 and up with adult.

**Preschool Family Storytime:** Join us for stories, songs, and a simple craft for children up to age 5 with a parent or caregiver.  
**Main Library:** Wednesdays at 10:30 am and **Lansingburgh Branch:** Thursdays at 10:30 am

**Family Craft Nights:** Tuesdays, at 6:00 pm, Main Library:  
• **Sept. 26th** - Play with Paints  
• **Oct. 24th** - Halloween Craft  
• **Nov. 28th** - Foam Fun  
• **Dec. 12th** - Holiday Banners

**Tween Art Nights:** Thursdays at 6:00 pm, Main Library:  
• **Sept. 7th** - Oops Art  
• **Oct. 12th** - DIY Leaf Garlands  
• **Nov. 9th** - TBA  
• **Dec. 7th** - TBA

**Teen Art Nights:** Thursdays at 6:00 pm, Main Library  
• **Sept. 21st** - T-shirt Tote bags  
• **Oct. 26st** - "Blackout" Poetry  
• **Nov. 16th** - TBA  
• **Dec. 21st** - TBA

**Tutor Time:** Saturdays at 10:00 am, Lansingburgh, free K-12 tutoring by RPI students in reading, math and other subjects. Begins September 16th. Call 518-276-3098 to make an appointment or for more information.

**Teddy the Reading Dog:** First Saturday of the month at 10:30 am, Lansingburgh Branch Students can come practice their reading skills with Teddy the Shih Tzu, who listens with a judgment-free ear and a wagging tail. Appointments are first-come, first served and are free, but Teddy is happy to accept belly rubs.

**Teen Gaming at Lansingburgh:** Every Tuesday 3:00 pm. Hang out, play games, enjoy snacks!





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US Postage Paid at  
Albany, New York 12288  
Permit No. 901

## FRIENDS OF THE TROY PUBLIC LIBRARY

100 SECOND STREET,  
TROY, NEW YORK 12180

### HOURS:

#### Main Library

100 Second Street  
Phone: 518.274.7071

- Monday thru Thursday - 9am to 8pm
- Friday - 9am to 5pm
- Saturday - 9am to 5pm\* (closes at 1pm summer)
- Sunday - 1pm to 5pm (closed during the summer)

#### Lansingburgh Branch

114<sup>th</sup> Street & 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Phone: 518.235.5310

- Monday thru Wednesday - 1pm to 7pm
- Thursday and Friday - 10am to 4pm
- Saturday - 10am to 4pm\* (closes at 1pm summer)
- BookSeller Hours - Wednesday - 2pm to 6pm and Saturday - 10am to 2pm

# take 5

## RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Stop in to see our latest Fiction and Non-fiction titles. Here are just a few of the books we have ordered:

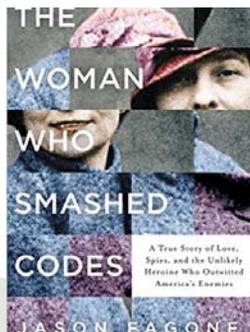
**1. *Five-Carat Soul* by James McBride**

**2. *Historic New England: A Tour of the Region's Top 100 National Landmarks* by Patricia Harris**

**3. *The Ninth Hour* by Alice McDermott**

**4. *Darwin's Backyard: How Small Experiments Led to a Big Theory* by James T. Costa**

**5. *The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America's Enemies* by Jason Fagone**



## BECOME A FRIEND

Be a Friend of the Troy Public Library. Since 1972, the Friends of The Troy Public Library have been making a difference. Help us maintain this important tradition.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership levels per year:

- \_\_\_ \$15 Students and Seniors
- \_\_\_ \$20 Individual
- \_\_\_ Additional Contribution (optional)
- \_\_\_ I would like to be contacted about opportunities to volunteer

### Send your completed form and check to:

Friends of The Troy Public Library  
100 Second Street  
Troy, NY 12180

Your contribution is tax deductible.