

Richmond Memorial Library

2023 Budget Newsletter



Richmond Memorial Library

19 Ross Street, Batavia, NY

Trustee Election

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Gallery Room

9am - 9pm

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

Richmond Memorial Library continually provides access to physical and virtual resources and services that meet the educational, informational and recreational needs of its diverse community in a safe and comfortable environment.

Message from Board President, Gregg McAllister

Welcome to our New Director, Beth Paine.

The Board of Trustees is excited to introduce the Batavia community to Beth Paine, our new library director. Bob Conrad, who served as our director for nearly eight years, resigned in September to accept a position in Westchester County. The Board immediately launched a hiring process to bring the best candidate to Batavia to become our new director.



Beth has an extensive background in public and school library experience. She was most recently director of the public library in Sidney, NY, near Binghamton. Her commitment to excellence and creative library programming will be an asset to our community.

You may already have seen Beth walking her two dogs here in Batavia, where she plans to be an active resident. If you have not met Beth yet, please stop in and introduce yourself.

We want to extend heartfelt thanks to Diana Wyrwa, who served as interim director while the Board conducted the process of recruiting and hiring Beth. Ms. Wyrwa selflessly arranged her personal life to assist us for four months at a critical stage for the library.

All of our knowledgeable library staff continued to offer top quality service to you, our constituents, during the time we were without a permanent director. Thank you to all staff for your dedication and hard work.

The trustees remain sensitive to the realities of this period as we come out of a pandemic that has disrupted the economy. We have prepared a budget with no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes. Because of this, the residents don't have to vote on our annual budget for 2023-24, though there will be an election of one Trustee position.

Our library offers so much more than books. Be sure to check out the many special programs for all ages, from pre-schoolers who are just beginning the adventure of reading to senior citizens who are life-long learners. If you haven't been to the library for a while, come to visit or check out our website at www.batavialibrary.org.

Gregg McAllister
President, Board of Trustees

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY VOTING GUIDELINES

WHO MAY VOTE?

Residents of Batavia City School District who are citizens of the United States, eighteen years or older, and **are registered voters** may vote on this year's Trustee Election.

Eligible residents of the Batavia City School District who are not registered voters may come in to the library on **April 11th** between the hours of **1 o'clock pm - 5 o'clock pm** and **7 o'clock pm - 9 o'clock pm** to register to vote in this year's library vote.

WHAT ABOUT ABSENTEE BALLOTS?

Applications for absentee ballots are available at Richmond Memorial Library. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the application must be received at the Richmond Memorial Library by 5 o'clock pm on **April 26th**. If the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter, the application may be received up to 5 o'clock pm on **May 2nd**.

"A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to it. That includes health information. And mental health information. It's a community space. It's a place of safety, a haven from the world."

- Neil Gaiman

MEET THE TRUSTEE CANDIDATE

**To serve a 3-year term
(July 2023 - June 2026)**

Richard Beatty was born and raised on the west coast of Florida before setting off on a life and career path that eventually brought him to Batavia. Since the summer of 2000, Richard and RaeAnn Engler have called Summit Street home. Richard is active in the community volunteering for the Holland Land Company, the Batavia Community Garden, GO ART! and as a member of the Books Sandwiched In committee. He has been a docent at Buffalo's Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece, the Darwin Martin House since 2004.



Most every morning of the week you will find him at Pub Hub Coffee sorting out the world's troubles with whomever may be there.

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Richmond Memorial Library Board of Trustees has voted to not raise the tax levy for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. It will remain at \$1,381,469.

PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEE ELECTION 2023-24 Fiscal Year

LIBRARY TRUSTEE MEMBER
For three-year term, 2023-2026

Vote for **ONE**

☐

Richard Beatty

☐

Write in Candidate

SAMPLE

2023-2024 Proposed Budget

Operating Revenues

Real property taxes levied by school district	\$1,381,469.00
Other payments in lieu of taxes (PILOTs)	\$54,666.00
New York State Library Aid	\$5,000.00
Library Generated Income	
--Interest of Investments	\$850.00
--Fines/Printing/Photocopy	\$20,000.00
--Gifts/Memorials	\$7,000.00
--Refund Fines/Lost Items	\$500.00
Appropriated Funds	\$189,006.00
	\$1,658,491.00

Special Earmarked Revenues

Genesee County Grant for Library Materials	\$22,210.00
Total Revenues	\$1,680,701.00

2023-2024 Proposed Budget


Operating Expenses

Library Materials - Books	\$57,000.00
e-books	\$6,000.00
Media	\$40,000.00
Periodicals	\$10,000.00
Microfilm	\$3,500.00
Online Resources	\$37,400.00
Imagination Library	\$10,000.00
Library Programs	\$45,000.00
Supplies	\$8,000.00
Equipment	\$5,000.00
Computer/Technology Services & Support	\$44,890.00
Contractual Services & Support <i>such as security system, printer, copiers</i>	\$25,270.00
Publicity	\$15,000.00
Professional Services and Dues	\$56,540.00
Postage	\$2,500.00
Mileage	\$1,600.00
Continuing Education	\$11,000.00
Office Supplies	\$5,000.00
Telecom	\$3,900.00
Utilities	\$27,950.00
Insurance	\$7,000.00
Custodial Supplies	\$2,100.00
Wages & Salaries	\$872,073.00
Employee Benefits - Social Security	\$67,217.00
Health Insurance + Fees	\$203,873.00
NY State Retirement	\$83,788.00
Worker's Compensation	\$9,100.00
Capital Improvement	\$20,000.00
Total Expenses	\$1,680,701.00

2022 in review



83,458
people visited the library (avg. 286/ day)



108,886
physical items circulated; books, DVDs, CDs & more


days open **292**



19,556
digital checkouts on Hoopla & OverDrive



eBooks, audiobooks, movies, music, magazines & more



16,323
active cardholders at the end of 2022



10,544
computer sessions used

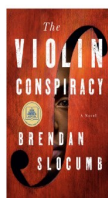
190
adult & all ages programs

478
kids & teen programs

36
programs with virtual option

11,073
total program participation

most popular print items



fiction



non-fiction



graphic novel



young adult



chapter book



picture book

top 5 authors
James Patterson
Danielle Steel
Mo Willems
Dav Pilkey
Nora Roberts

most popular media

CD- *The Essential Johnny Cash*
Movie- *Encanto*, *Finding Nemo* & *Jungle Cruise* (a three way tie!)
TV Series- *Murdoch Mysteries*
Adult Audio- *The Dark Hours* by Michael Connelly
Kid's Audio- *Dragonslayer* by Tui Sutherland
Periodical- *People Magazine*

Richmond Memorial Library

19 Ross St, Batavia NY | 585-343-9550 | batavialibrary.org

Message from Library Director, Beth Paine

"The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library." Albert Einstein



Having moved multiple times around the state, this quote really has a special meaning for me. I have moved more than a few times, including moving from my "hometown" of Bloomfield, NY to Oswego for college, living in Rochester for two years after receiving my degree, on to Canandaigua, then Penn Yan, and then down to Sidney, NY in the Catskills region. And with each new place where I have resided, one of the first things I would locate was the library. The library was always my happy place, the place where I knew I could relax and let my worries slip away. It was the place of amazing stories, knowledgeable people, and endless forms of entertainment.

My first, and probably best, memory of the library was going with my mother to our small public library in Bloomfield. To walk into that sanctuary of books and records brought a calm to my young mind that I experienced nowhere else. I will forever be grateful to my mother for introducing me to that wonderful place. And though it took me 43 years to realize that being a librarian was my true calling, I still get the same feeling of calm every time I walk into the building. And Richmond Library is my new happy place!

Though I did not actually experience the happenings at the Richmond Memorial Library in 2022, as I only arrived in late February, I did compile the 2022 Annual Report for NY State and have a good cache of knowledge regarding much of what occurred during the past year. While the effects of the pandemic can still be seen in the fact that the library's attendance still has not reached pre-COVID levels, there was an increase of about 30% in visitors to the library from 2021 to 2022. There was also a large increase in the number of items checked out, including all genres and formats. Programming has continued to show a huge uptick in attendance, 17x what we had in 2021! And as per usual, the Richmond Reads program had the highest attendance for adult programs, and Santa's in-person visit in December was by far the best attended Children's program of 2022.

Working diligently on the library budget with the Board of Trustees, we had many discussions regarding rising costs, not just for the library, but for our patrons, as well. With this in mind, the Board voted that the library would not raise the tax levy for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, and instead, hold steady at \$1,381,469. The Board feels that as these difficult times continue, the library should be a place of refuge from the storm, and that the library can absorb some of these price hikes so that our patrons do not have to.

Though the pandemic still has some lingering negative effects on our library usage statistics, we are coming back strong, and I am so thrilled to be a part of this new chapter at the Richmond Library. I have already come to love the library and I am constantly impressed by the knowledgeable and motivated staff that I have the privilege to work with every day. And now that I'm caught up on learning the ins and outs of the library, you'll see me out of my office more, so please feel free to stop me and say hi!