

**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.

RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
19 Ross St.  
Batavia, NY 14020

# RICHMOND MEMORIAL LIBRARY

## 2017-2018 Budget Newsletter

### You Know What's Overdue...? By Bob Conrad, Library Director

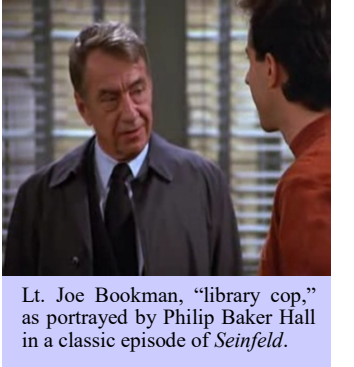
BATAVIA – When somebody learns what you do for a living, how do they react? If you work in a public library, you get used to some common reactions:

One is a look of guilt, or of actual fear – *as if they think we're going to have them arrested!* – that crosses their face as they confess that they owe us “like a million dollars” for material they never returned as a teen. Never mind that library fees typically max out around \$5 per item or the replacement cost of materials: their point is that they haven't been to a library since they were a kid, and they feel kind of bad about that..

Better is when they react with delight, and begin talking about their favorite books, movies, music, and library services (...but mostly books). This usually leads to a lively conversation, so be sure to invite library workers to all of your dinner and cocktail parties!

Or, finally, they inform us – either woefully or gleefully – that soon we'll be out of our jobs. That everything is online now. That nobody reads any more. And that nobody uses libraries.

I have found this third type perplexing. It isn't that we're unaware of certain trends, particularly the decades-long decline among adults in reading for leisure. But the libraries I've worked at have been such busy places,, with people waiting to be let in at open, and people needing to be thrown out at close; with bookdrops demanding to be emptied, regularly, of actual books, which actual people have checked out and returned; with waiting lists for popular new materials, and waiting periods for interlibrary delivery of esoteric materials. “Have you *been* to my library?” I often asked the third kind of person! *(continued on page 2)*



Lt. Joe Bookman, “library cop,” as portrayed by Philip Baker Hall in a classic episode of Seinfeld.

### From the Youngest...

In order to get their own library cards, kids at the Richmond Memorial Library need to be able to write their own first and last name. So here's a trick question: how old is the *youngest* child enrolled in a Richmond Library program?

If you said *one month*, you're right! With help from their caregivers, kids don't need library cards to visit the library or attend storytime, and they can enroll in **Imagination Library** on the day that they're born.

With **Imagination Library**, we will mail a new, age-appropriate book (to keep!) directly to the home of any child, birth to age five, who lives in the Batavia City School District. That's up to 60 books to help make “Every Child Ready to Read” before they even get to Kindergarten!

### Library Stats in 2015 - 2016

Population chartered to serve (per 2010 census) .....	19,073
Registered residents .....	14,122
Registered non-residents.....	7,683
Library visits.....	166,802
Days open.....	292
Average daily attendance .....	571
Printed materials on hand .....	96,585
Cataloged book circulation .....	128,480
Media and other items on hand .....	13,138
Circulation of Media and other items.....	67,641
Electronic materials available.....	8,920
Electronic materials usage .....	58,662
Grand total - holdings.....	118,643
Grand total - circulation .....	254,783
Est. value of holdings (@\$20/item).....	\$2,372,860
Est. value of circulation (@\$20/item) .....	\$5,095,660
Interlibrary loan materials borrowed .....	14,047
Public Internet sessions offered.....	33,759
WiFi connections .....	23,400
Visits to library homepage ( <a href="http://www.bataviailibrary.org">www.bataviailibrary.org</a> ) .....	71,260
Library programs offered .....	355
Program attendance .....	4,471
Non-library uses of community rooms.....	339

**wow!**

### ...To the Oldest!

Part of Genesee County's privately-funded “Aging in Place” program, **SAGE** delivers library materials and services directly to the homes of people age 60 and up who, for whatever reasons, cannot always get to the library on their own. Services are built around the individual's needs. For example: book and movie delivery to VA residents without automobiles of their own; wintertime delivery to otherwise active seniors who prefer not to drive in ice and snow; library fine forgiveness for patrons and families struggling with memory loss; or home training on video chat and library apps like Skype and Overdrive.

Contact the **SAGE** desk for more information, to volunteer or to enroll by calling 343-9550 x 6 or email [sage@nioga.org](mailto:sage@nioga.org).

(You Know What's Overdue...? continued from page 1)

And most of the time, they haven't. Like those in the first group, it has been years, if not decades, since they stepped through a library's doors. If they read, they buy their own books. If they don't read, they're streaming and downloading their movies and music. And since they don't use a library, they assume nobody else does, either. They're astonished to learn that our library, with a service population just over 19,000 people, has 22,000 active library cardholders (a third of them from outside of our service area). They would never guess that the busiest year in America's public libraries, as measured by material circulation and library visits, was not fifty or one hundred years ago, but in 2010, at the height of the economic crisis.

To all of you who haven't been here in a while: drop in again. If you do owe us money, it's probably not as much as you think. Whatever you owe, we'll give you free access to our digital materials, anyway. Our streaming and downloadable services are getting easier to use, with more popular content available every year. There is never an overdue, lost, or damaged fee for any of our streaming or downloadable content, and for some of the music and magazine downloads, there isn't even a due date – you can keep a copy for as long as you like.

Perhaps you will discover that the only thing overdue at the library.... is you!

Message from Library President Michael Rivers

The proposed 2017-18 library budget was written, in part, to accommodate two competing mandates from New York State. On one hand, we're faced with a mandatory increase to minimum hourly wages; on the other, we remain subject to New York State's property tax cap.

Thanks to an expected increase in PILOT revenues and the public's approval of the Batavia City School District's 2020 Vision plan (which addresses many of the library's capital needs), we were able to modestly increase the wages of most hourly employees and increase the allocation for library A/V materials, even while keeping the tax levy increase under 2%.

Thank you, Batavians, for continuing to support Genesee County's busiest, friendliest, and hardest working library!



**2016-2017 RML Board of Trustees:**  
**Michael Rivers, President . Norm Argulsky, Vice President**  
**Jennifer Cascell . Jennifer Reardon . Elizabeth Stich, Trustees**

MEET THE CANDIDATE...Rebecca Long



Rebecca Long, a Human Resource Generalist with Liberty Pumps, is active in community organizations throughout Genesee County, including the United Way, the UMMC Foundation, Leadership Genesee, and the WNY Tech Academy. Through her involvement, she recognizes that all of these organizations have something in common: they work to build a stronger community. The Richmond Memorial Library does the same! The Library builds the foundation of learning by getting kids ready to read, and continues on informing, educating, and entertaining adults their entire lives. Rebecca wants to be a Trustee of the Library Board to ensure we continue educating and strengthening our community.

**BUDGET VOTE & TRUSTEE ELECTION**  
**THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017**  
**9:00 am to 9:00 pm**  
**Gallery Room**

**PROPOSITION**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY BUDGET**  
*Shall the Board of Education of the City School District of Batavia be authorized to raise by tax \$25,044 to increase the annual appropriation from \$1,284,332 to \$1,309,376 for the benefit of the Richmond Memorial Library?*

**ELECTION OF CANDIDATE**  
**LIBRARY TRUSTEE MEMBER**  
For five year term: 2017-2022  
*Vote for only one.*  
\_\_\_ Rebecca Long  
\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2017-2018 Proposed Budget		
Operating Income	2016-17	2017-2018
Local Public Funds		
Batavia City School District	1284332	1309376
PILOT Funds	41481	67838
New York State Library Aid	6000	6000
Library Generated Income:		
Interest on Investments	600	600
Fines/Printing/Photocopy	28000	30000
Gifts/Memorials	3000	4500
Rental space	1950	2400
Appropriated Fund Balance	91966	76761
	\$1,457,329	\$1,497,475
Genesee County Appropriation	24458	unknown
	\$1,481,787	\$1,497,475
Operating Expenses	2016-2017	2017-2018
Library Materials:		
Books	55921	56000
eBooks	4993	5000
Media	29624	45000
Periodicals	9154	9650
Microfilm	2497	8000
Online Resources	15811	16000
Imagination Library	8000	6000
Library Programs	13000	13000
Supplies	35206	37305
Equipment	6000	2000
Computer/Technology Services & Support	49288	41288
Contractual Services & Support security system, printer/copiers	38598	18935
Other Services such as postage, legal fees	19455	36255
Travel including mileage, library training	10600	12600
Telecom	7000	7000
Utilities	30000	30000
Wages & Salaries	764959	800083
Social Security	58520	61206
Health Insurance + Fees	175250	164764
Retirement + Incentive	122203	120889
Worker's Compensation	1250	6500
	\$1,457,329	\$1,497,475
Library materials/technology support with Genesee County funds		
	24458	unknown
	\$1,481,787	\$1,497,475