

Director's Report 11/20/24

Buildings:

- The past month has been a daily push to meet with Woodbine owner, Code Enforcement, Planning & Zoning, getting site plans approved, working with staff on the layout of new space, and lining things up for renovations & moving. The public hearing and final approval is scheduled for Tuesday, November 26th. I hope to have the lease signed on the 27th, allowing us to start the necessary renovations immediately after the long Thanksgiving weekend. We are already in preparations and discussions with bookshelf carpenters, movers, and our networkers. Owner is in contact with GC, electricians and painters.

Collection Circulation & Usage:

- October continued to show strong Year-over-year growth in both items circulated and total number of patrons cards used at least once. CPL (both CAT and PAL) showed at 15% increase. I know personally, I can feel this when entering Catskill lately and feeling a larger presence of in-house usage. I'm looking forward to having 'door counts' YoY come January.

Program and Services:

- While focusing on Palenville, I've been proud to see in-house programs like Silly Scientist and Tiny Tots thriving, with growing attendance. We're also hiring more outside facilitators. The recent "Repcos Visit" was a hit at both branches, and I had a blast!
- We'll be formalizing our Adult & Senior section of our website soon, bringing forward many services (like Tech Time) which goes on regularly but isn't directly mentioned anywhere.
- ENL is meeting in the evenings now with double attendance. This currently means they are meeting outside of our library hours, but points their students schedules and availability.

Marketing, Promotion & Outreach:

- This is going to be a focus of mine in 2025 given much of what I've learned from working and living in the community for 2024.
- Getting close to a "Community Calendar" concept where the library would catalog or make available for self-cataloging, the events of CCSD.

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📍 1 Franklin St.
Catskill, NY 12414

☎ (518) 943 - 4230

📄 (518) 943 - 1439

🖱 catskillpubliclibrary.org

Personnel, Policy & Coming Year:

- While again very focused on getting Palenville out of their building by year's end, I've also been working on the introduction of year-end performance reviews (beginning in 2025), changes to employee handbook related to staffing, and a few other ideas for 2025 up for discussion in Executive Session and prior to our December board meeting.