



LIBRARY BUDGET VOTE AND TRUSTEE ELECTION THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2019

PUBLIC HEARING

When: Monday, April 8, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: H. Dutcher Community Room

This is an opportunity to learn about the proposed budget, to ask questions, and meet Trustee candidate, Minita Sanghvi.

VOTING DAY

When: Thursday, April 11, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: H. Dutcher Community Room



Saratoga Paint & Sip

HOW DID YOUR LIBRARY SERVE THE COMMUNITY IN 2018?

- An average of more than 1,000 people a day visited the library during the year.
- Our children's, teen, and adult services librarians answered nearly 50,000 reference questions.
- 988 local non-profit groups utilized our library's meeting room spaces.
- Nearly 100,000 sessions were logged on public computers and wireless access.
- Library users borrowed 770,695 items.
- More than 30,000 people attended over 2000 library programs for all ages, including those designated to increase literacy and to enhance workforce development.

What are we voting for?

- Budget: The public will be voting on a proposition to collect \$5,205,672 in school district property taxes in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 to operate the Saratoga Springs Public Library. This is a 2% increase in the amount that was approved for FY2018-19. The last increase was 0.5% in 2017, and the previous increase was 0.5% in 2015.
- Minita Sanghvi, of Saratoga Springs, is running unopposed for election to the library's board of trustees. She was previously appointed to fill a position vacated by Darren Drabek, who moved out of the district.

Who can vote?

Any school district resident who is a registered voter is eligible to vote. Please call Marjorie Johnson at 584-7860 ext. 253 for information about absentee ballots.

What happens if the budget doesn't pass?

Unlike public school budgets, the law does not allow for any changes if the budget is defeated, and unless the library board decides to hold a second budget vote (highly unlikely), the library would still receive the same amount appropriated in FY 2018-2019. Should the proposed budget not pass, the library board will decide what budget lines and services will be reduced or reallocated.

What will be happening in the coming year?

With more than 770,000 physical items borrowed in 2018, a 20% increase in borrowing of digital materials, and an 8% increase in program attendance over 2017, library use continues to be very high. The proposed budget will not only allow us to continue to meet the high demand for library services, but also allow us to continue to make improvements and repairs to our aging mechanical systems, enhance our sustainability efforts, and expand our outreach services.

Impact on Taxes?

Because equalization rates and complete assessment data are not yet available, school district officials cannot yet estimate the tax rate impact on residential properties.

Saratoga Springs Public Library's Proposed Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget

Budget Line Item	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
Books	\$265,000	\$265,000
Magazines and Microfilm	\$25,000	\$25,000
Reference and Electronic Resources	\$60,000	\$60,000
Computer Software	\$10,000	\$10,000
Audio & Visual Materials	\$110,000	\$105,000
Supplies	\$55,000	\$55,000
Postage	\$14,000	\$14,000
Miscellaneous and Bank Charges	\$5,000	\$5,000
Insurance	\$80,000	\$80,000
Heat	\$11,000	\$14,000
Electricity	\$85,000	\$82,000
Phone & Internet	\$20,000	\$20,000
Sewer Tax	\$8,000	\$10,000
Repairs & Maintenance	\$70,000	\$75,000
Equipment	\$70,000	\$65,000
Conferences & Training	\$35,000	\$35,000
Professional Services	\$60,000	\$60,000
Printing	\$20,000	\$20,000
Program Expenses	\$80,000	\$80,000
Automation	\$115,000	\$135,000
Capital Projects	\$300,000	\$200,000
Retirement	\$350,000	\$366,450
Social Security	\$226,600	\$237,250
Health Insurance	\$600,000	\$600,000
Disability Insurance	\$5,000	\$5,000
Salaries	\$2,935,500	\$3,073,565
Total Operating Budget	\$5,615,100	\$5,697,265
Non-school District Levy Income	\$511,500	\$491,593
Required from School District Levy	\$5,103,600	\$5,205,672



Parent/Child Workshop



Bagels & Barks!



Summer Reading: "Libraries Rock!"

A Note from the Director



A. Issac Pulver

In FY2018-19, Saratoga Springs Public Library reached our goal of being named Certified Sustainable by the New York Library Association, one of the first two libraries in the state to achieve this designation! This recognition is the result of a process that began with the 2017 release of our long range plan, *Toward a Sustainable Future*, and required an intensive audit of our use of resources, our policies, and our

procedures related to three questions about our operations:

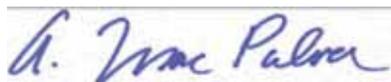
- Are they environmentally sound?
- Are they economically viable?
- Are they socially equitable?

The first step in this process was a thorough examination of our use of consumable resources and environmental policies and practices, leading to the milestone of our being named a Certified Green Business by the Green Business Partnership, the second library in the state to earn this designation!

Special recognition for these achievements goes to the staff members from all areas of the library who led, and continue to lead, the charge as part of our "Green Team" to measure, monitor, and make recommendations about the resources we consume; to our public services staff who build our collections and plan and present programs and activities for people of all ages and interests, and strive to ensure that in each interaction, our customers are treated with dignity and kindness; to our residents, who have voted overwhelming in support of our budget for many years; and to our Trustees who are charged with oversight of that budget and our policies, and who committed wholeheartedly to the sustainability certification process.

As we head into the next fiscal year, the ongoing challenge of meeting the three questions above looms large, especially the third one: making sure that our programs, collections, and services reach as many members of our community as possible. We are very excited that, with the help of the Friends of the Saratoga Springs Public Library, we will be placing special emphasis on our outreach efforts in the coming year, strengthening and expanding on current initiatives like our "The Library Goes to Town" preschool story times throughout our service area, school visits, and services to the homebound.

As the way people consume information continues to change and evolve, we are steadfast in our commitment to providing access to the written word in print, and to enhance that core service with access to an array of digital resources, and an incredible variety of programs. We thank you for your continued support.



Statement from the Trustee Candidate



Minita Sanghvi

I have been fortunate to serve on the library board these past 2 years as a replacement for Darren Drabek. I have worked with our current board and library administration on two budgets and a host of other issues - big and small. Our library has been going from strength to strength these past few years, and I hope to continue the work.

My wife and I moved to Saratoga Springs after my PhD to work at Skidmore College where I teach Marketing in the Management and Business Department. Our son was born here and we have been using the library resources ever since we moved here - from adult programming to the Children's Room - we've enjoyed the what our library has to offer and truly believe that libraries are essential knowledge based cultural institutions for a community. As Saratoga evolves and changes - I believe having a diverse voice on the board is critical to the future of the community.



Saratoga Springs Flag Day Parade



Family Drum Circle



Crafting at Greenfield Community Center

Other interesting facts about your library

- The library building is 58,626 square feet on three floors.
- Our library collection has over 212,000 items:
 - More than 166,000 books and magazines.
 - Over 45,000 non-print items, including movies, music, and audiobooks.
 - 21,677 items were added in 2018.
- Hours: We are open seven days a week, 70 hours per week–year round.
- The library's 57 full-time equivalent staff members are comprised of full-time and part-time librarians, clerks, maintenance workers, cleaners, and other support staff.
- Approximately 45 volunteers donated 3,247 hours in 2018 in various capacities at the library.
- Each season we offer more than 60 free computer education classes open to anyone 16 years old regardless of residency.

INFORMATION

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday–Thursday	9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	Noon – 5:00 p.m.

SARATOGA ROOM HOURS

Local History Collection	
Monday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursday	5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
<i>Or by appointment 584-7860 ext. 254</i>	

TEEN ROOM HOURS

Monday–Thursday	2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday	2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

FRIENDS BOOK SHOP HOURS

Used books for sale, operated by The Friends of Saratoga Springs Public Library. 518-584-7860 ext. 333

Monday–Thursday	10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday	10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

BREAD BASKET BAKERY CAFÉ HOURS

Coffee, Espresso, Pastries, Soups, Salads, Sandwiches, and Snacks.
Matthew Tallman, Proprietor

Monday-Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	CLOSED

E-mail Reference Questions: sar-eref@sals.edu

 www.facebook.com/SaratogaLibrary

