

## Grafton Community Library 2018 Annual Celebration Narrative

2017 was a year of many changes for the Grafton Community Library. We were successful in receiving New York State Construction Aid and were able to continue our construction project. We hope to install a handicapped entrance, new lower level floor, and some more remodeling over 2018. Sadly, we said goodbye to Library Director Ronnie Tatro, but at the end of 2017 we signed an MOU with the Brunswick Community Library to bring shared services to the community and welcomed Library Director Natalie Hurteau and Program Manager Sara Hopkins to the Grafton family.

Our favorite adult program this year is the Hydrangea Wreath Making program. This project was made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a re-grant 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. We were able to, with the help of the Arts Grant, combine three community groups, Grafton Community Library, Grafton Historical Society, and Grafton Center Cemetery Association. Members of the Grafton Center Cemetery Association helped with the cutting of the hydrangeas. Estella Hovnanian, representing the Grafton Historical Society, as well as the Grafton Community Library was able to give a tour of the cemetery highlighting burials of founding members of the Grafton Community Library.

Our favorite Youth and Family Programs are our YA Book Clubs. Library clerk Angela Kanser leads these clubs. We love this program because it actually gets teens in to the library—in Grafton! Angela is very passionate about books and does a tremendous job leading this club, on her free time.

The Grafton Community library would like to acknowledge its small but hardworking, dedicated staff. The library has had a lot of management change over the past few years and its staff, Angela and Amy, are loyal, dedicated employees. They are some of the most knowledgeable, reliable, hardworking and friendly library workers I have ever seen. Every library should have an Amy and Angela.

This year the Library expanded its scope on the annual appeal and continued its effort with the Run for the Roses.

What makes the Grafton Community Library unique is its board dedication to the library. The board was brave enough to reach out to Brunswick Community Library and talk about the idea of shared services, so that the library and community could have quality, consistent staff and services. The Grafton Board is a working board with a determined goal to make the library the community hub.