

Roswell Public Library

January 18, 2026 – February 18, 2026

Accomplishments

Building Improvements Plans

Children's Garden: We will be presenting at the Finance Committee on March 5, 2026 to award the bid and approve expenditures for the construction of the Children's Garden/Jarin de Niños. We will also present at the Infrastructure Committee meeting in March. The final approval to award the bid will be done by the Roswell City Council

Sprinkler System Repairs and Inspection: While determining where a water leak came from the City of Roswell Facilities staff noticed two corroded pipes in the northeast corner of the main collection. We contacted, Allegiant Fire, the vendor who worked on our sprinkler system last year. They provided a quote and within two weeks and the repairs and the sprinkler system inspection has been completed for the year.

Skylights: With the assistance of the Finance Department, we pulled funds from several accounts in order to create a purchase order for repairs to 6 cracked skylights.

Roof Leaks: After the January snowstorm a patron alerted us of a leak in the Spanish Collection on the stone area. City of Roswell Facilities staff took pictures and broke up ice on the roof that helped the water drain off the roof. Then RoofCare worked on the roof after the ice melted.

Tables: We purchase and put together 14 tables for the Young Adult area and the Spanish Collection area. The tables are designed to flip up and are on wheels. This will allow the public to move them if they want a group meeting and it will allow library staff to rearrange them for large event programs. 2022 General Obligation Funds were used for this project.

Service Improvements

Computers: IT Staff exceeded expectations and moved staff computers onto a new server configuration in just 8 days, rather than the expected two weeks. IT staff, replaced the public computers and moved them off of the Wi-Fi onto a separate server to increase the computer security for the City of Roswell. In doing so they moved our printing service to a cloud-based service and configured the printing so we may again offer both black and white and color printing to the public. We reduced the number of computers available for the public, but we now have one computer per table, which the public likes, and they are all facing the reference desk so we may more easily monitor usage. The Library remained open while work was done on the computers. We only had to check out books on the offline mode when the internet was down citywide.

City Directories: Advantage Archive has completed the scanning, indexing and place on a third-party website the Roswell City Directories for 1947, and 1971-1996. We plan to complete the scanning of the Polk Directories in the fiscal year 2027.

Yearbooks: Advantage Archive has completed the scanning of the Roswell High School Yearbooks through 2000. We should complete the scanning of the Roswell High School next fiscal year and begin working on Goddard High School yearbooks.

Map Case and Archival Materials: We are expecting a map case to be delivered before the end of the month. The case will be used to hold the posters for the National Championship Air Races, Print Newspapers relating to Roswell History, and other items. The map case was purchased with 2022 General Obligation Funds along with mylar sleeves and acid free folder to follow best practice for preservation of print materials.

Boardbook Book Bin: Board books are books for babies with study pages and designed to fit into small hands. The books are shelved with covers facing shelves. We now have 4 boardbook book bins in the children's area. Each paid with grant funds.

End of Row Book Display Shelves: We purchased additional display shelves that are placed at the end of the rows. Staff have created a movie display, valentine's display, black history display, children's series book display, new juvenile fiction display and we are working on a staff pick display.

Programs

Hello Kitty Tea Party: We set a new record for people (441) attending our tea party and Saturday events. Nikki Ruiz coordinated this event with the help of Christi, Christopher, Diana, Jessica, Megan, Priscila, Priscilla, Quiannalei, Rebecca, Samantha, and three volunteers. Anna, Jane, and Lacey working behind the scenes. The Friends of the Library sponsored the event. The event included treats and ice tea, finger nail painting, face painting and temporary tattoos, book giveaway, Hello Kitty and Friends headbands, photo shoot area, scavenger hunt and Hello Kitty Bingo.

Spice Club: The spice of the month for February – poppy seeds.

Grants and Donations

State Grants in Aid: The Roswell Public Library has received \$10,000 in New Mexico Grant in Aid to Public Libraries. Funds must be spent by June 1, 2026. We received a quote for 7 iPads with cases and screen protectors, one keyboard and apple pencil and two Apple TV. The Apple TV will allow us to project the iPad images on a big screen TV. The cost for these items is \$9,979.00. The iPads will allow staff to share apps in programs as well as show the public how to access several of our databases including Tumblebooks, Comic's Plus, Libby and Zoobean.

STEM Innovation Network: The STEM Innovation Network has purchased \$17,093.68 worth of consumable materials and items for the Makerspace to improve access to out-of-school time STEM enrichment. We are using a majority of the funds to create STEM items that may be loaned by other organizations to present STEM activities.

Carnegie Corporation of New York: We received a \$10,000 check from the Carnegie Corporation of New York with the following letter.

Dear Roswell Public Library,

It gives me great pleasure to enclose this check from Carnegie Corporation of New York in celebration of the 250 anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Andrew Carnegie wrote that libraries are “cradles of democracy” and it has been truly inspiring to hear accounts from across America of how the 1350-plus surviving Carnegie Libraries are serving their communities today.

This gift is freely given without conditions or expectations, you can spend it however you choose for the benefit of your library and community in commemoration of the 250 anniversary.

The response we have had to our renewed focus on libraries has been overwhelming and overwhelmingly positive. At a time of unprecedented strain to our social cohesion, libraries are among the few public institutions which play a genuinely unifying role.

Thank you for all the good work you are doing

With best regards
Dame Louis Richardson
President, Carnegie Corporation of New York