

To: Greene County Legislature

From: Greene County Libraries' Association

Date: April 1, 2024

## **2023 Annual Report**

We thank the Greene County Legislature for their continued support to the Greene County Libraries' Association, as their financial assistance helps us meet the needs of our Greene County borrowers. We provide more than just books. That's the tip of the iceberg. There's so much more to libraries! By broadening our network connections, we are an oasis to the public. We provide connectivity to the most vulnerable. As a trusted institution, we provide assistance with technology skills and safety to help people be more independent. Our libraries use locally relevant content, support local artists; and have contact with many local nonprofits and businesses for programming; outreach, and volunteering. We provide opportunities to the public for meaningful connections in our community. The Greene County Legislature helps us accomplish this.

There are a total of **24,378 Greene County active Library Card Holders** in 2023.

Libraries in Greene County continue to find new ways to help and serve their communities. We saw an overall increase of **31% more programs being offered**, a **35% increase in program attendance**, and a **16% increase in electronic**

**checkouts compared to last year.**

**Programs which our Greene County Libraries held this year** included:

Concerts, Sing-Alongs; Weekly Story Hours; Summer Reading Programs offered to the public from PreK-Adult; Robotics; Family Meal Kits; Community Yoga; Seed Library; Author Talks; Ukulele Club; Trivia Nights; Therapy Dogs; 4-H programs; Art Classes; Piano Hours; Digital Literacy Classes; Story Walks; Art Exhibitions; Painting Classes; Recycling Craft Program; Nature Craft Workshop; Cookie Decorating; Christmas Ornament Decorating; Letters to Santa November and December; Build A Bear Kit; Limberjack Workshop; Book Binding Workshop; Tie Dye Art Workshop; Veterans' Coffee Hour; Childrens Face Painting; Meditation Classes; Nutritional Programs; Local History Roundtables; Homeschool Meet-ups; Children's Halloween Party; Adult & Children's Take and Make Kits; Family Movie Nights; Holiday Crafts; Field Trips/Programs for local schools and districts; Coffee Klatch/senior social time; Columbia-Greene Community College Classes; Columbia Greene Workforce Training; Healthcare Consortium; Individual Divestment from Fossil Fuel; Digital Navigator Programs; Community Connection Event; Plant-Based Nutrition; Tax Help; Intro to Bookbinding; Mobile Office Hours with Senator Hinchey; Songbirds Concert; Earth Day Celebration; Joyful Yoga; Wildlife Show- Birds of Prey; Storywalk in the Woodland at Mountain Top Arboretum; Juicy June; Piano Hour; Living Safely with Bears; Lego Club; Quickbooks; Meditation Mondays; Watercolor Painting Workshop; Kid Art Workshops; Bellydancing; Whale of a Trail Navigation; Essential Oils;

Radio Play; Author Talks; Artist Lecture Series with Catskill Mountain Foundation; Healthy Heart Series; Story Treasure Boxes; Narcan Training; Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia; Meet-Up Monday; DIY Gifts & Gratitude; College Night; Hot Dog! Story Time; Holiday Stroll; Journey with Journey; Birdwatching; Robotics team (the Evarts Engineers—At their first competition of the season at the VEX tournament at The Mount Academy; competing with 30 other teams and won the coveted Judge's Award).

**Outreach Services** included visits to Home Sweet Home on the Hudson; The Eliot at Catskill; Catskill Senior Center; Hearthstone Senior Day Care; Coxsackie Senior Center; a Pop-Up Library at Bethany Village; a Pop-Up Library at the Rivertown Senior Apartments and Home Sweet Home assisted living facility bringing a curated selection of books and other media; along with requests made by the residents. We place holds and issue library cards all on the go.

Together in total we offered **2,198 Library Programs** throughout Greene County in 2023. With a **grand total in attendance of 22,292 patrons**. Our libraries also answered more than **37,048 reference questions** and continue to provide free Wifi after hours.

Library patrons of Greene County downloaded a total of **55,663 electronic content items**, a **16% increase from last year**. These are all of the digital resources we offer such as e-books; digital audiobooks, videos, and music. We are grateful the County assists us in helping us to meet the demand our

patrons have for our electronic materials. **Library physical materials circulated totaled 18,079 items.**

**2023 Financials:**

- \$20,500 of total county funding was divided among the 8 libraries for Resident Support
- \$3,800 went to technical support
- \$3,000 went towards the on-line databases that provide access to reliable health info; business resources; history and genealogy; and homework help as well as e-magazines
- \$4,000 went for eBook and audiobooks
- \$700 went to tax preparation
- \$1,900 went to outreach (brochures) Book Pages subscription; and a subscription to Hudson River Valley Heritage. HRVH consists of digital collections from libraries and cultural heritage institutions that document the rich history of the Hudson River Valley. Hundreds of images and documents have been added during the past few years of the pandemic.

**Total Expenditures:****\$33,900**

Thank you again for your continued support. As always we look forward to accommodating our local Greene County communities and meeting the library needs of our patrons and of the public.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Benson, President of the Greene County Libraries' Association

# GREENE COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Catherine Benson | Heermance Memorial Library | 1 Ely Street | Coxsackie, NY 12051 | 518-731-8084 | heermancelibrary.org  
Vice President: Jacqueline Elmo-Emel | Mountain Top Library | 6093 Main Street | Tannersville, NY 12485 | 518-589-5707 | mountaintoplibrary.org  
Treasurer: Barbara Flach | Greenville Public Library | 11177 NY-32 | Greenville, NY 12083 | 518-966-8205 | greenville.lib.ny.us  
Secretary: Candace Begley | Windham Public Library | 5379 NY-23 | Windham, NY 12496 | 518-734-4405 | windhamlibrary.org  
Julian Giarraputo | D.R. Evarts Library | 80 Second Street | Athens, NY 12015 | 518-945-1417 | drevartslibrary.org  
Corinne Tatavitto | Cairo Public Library | 15 Railroad Avenue | Cairo, NY 12413 | 518-622-9864 | cairoliberal.org  
Christopher Leary | Catskill Public Library | 1 Franklin Street | Catskill, NY 12414 | 518-943-4230 | catskillpubliclibrary.org  
Regina Johnson | Hunter Public Library | 7965 Main Street | Hunter, NY 12442 | 518-263-4655 | hunterlib.org

## 2023 Annual Report to the Greene County Legislature

2023  
**24,378**

### TOTAL REGISTERED PATRONS

Includes all Greene County citizens with active library cards

### TOTAL IN-PERSON PROGRAMS

Includes all programs conducted at libraries

2022  
**1,676**



2023  
**2,198**

2022  
**16,511**



2023  
**22,292**

### TOTAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Total number of participants in all programs

2022  
**163,257**



2023  
**195,332**

### TOTAL PHYSICAL ITEMS CIRCULATED

Books, Audiobooks, CDs, DVDs, Video Games, Periodicals, Magazines

2022  
**48,100**



2023  
**55,663**

### TOTAL ELECTRONIC CHECKOUTS

eBooks, eAudiobooks, eVideos, eMagazines from library apps: Libby & Hoopla through use of a library card

2022  
**32,591**



2023  
**37,048**

### TOTAL REFERENCE QUESTIONS

The total number of questions libraries answered: book recommendations, holds, assistance with copies, fax, scan, computer help



Come visit  
**Mountain Top Library**

In Partnership With  
**The HTC SPTO**

**Happy Holidays**

Hot Chocolate Station  
 Ornament Making  
 Rubber Band Ball &  
 Bookmark Making  
 Book Sale

**Saturday  
 December  
 9th  
 11am-4pm**

Part of the  
**Tannersville  
 Holiday Stroll**

6093 Main St.  
 Tannersville  
 518-589-5707

MOUNTAIN TOP LIBRARY



Images are of various fantastic programs held in Greene County libraries in 2023



# "WHALE OF A TRAIL ADVENTURES" NAVIGATION WORKSHOP AT THE MOUNTAIN TOP LIBRARY



A FAMILY-FRIENDLY  
WORKSHOP FILLED WITH  
TIPS & TRICKS TO KEEP  
YOU SAFE ON THE TRAIL

**WEDNESDAY  
JULY 26TH  
10:30AM-12  
PM**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
CALL 518-589-5707



6093 MAIN ST., TANNERSVILLE - 518-589-5707









**MONDAY MEET-UP**  
2PM

Spend the afternoon sipping coffee & socializing  
**AT MOUNTAIN TOP LIBRARY**  
We've got games, puzzles, programs, and more!

Join us every Monday afternoon to share stories, play games, learn about local history, and enjoy conversation.  
All ages welcome.

6093 Main Street, Tannersville 518-589-5707

**Belly Dancing**  
© The Mountain Top Library

Learn the Basics of This  
Fun & Traditional Dance  
Form with  
Donna Barrett

For  
Ages  
16  
& Up

**SAT.**  
**JULY 22**  
10am -  
12:30pm

Donna Barrett teaches & performs Belly Dance in the Hudson Valley. Recently, she has taught Community Classes at Columbia-Greene Community College. She has performed at Hudson Hall, Club Helsinki, Columbia-Greene Community College, and The Black Arts & Cultural Festival in Hudson; Taghkanic Hills Performing Arts Center in Craryville; Bridge Street Theater; and the Greene County Council on the Arts in Catskill; and in Kingston at BSP, Green Kill Art Center, and the Arts Society of Kingston

6093 Main Street  
Tannersville, NY 12485  
MountainTopLibrary.org

**Wildlife Show**  
@ The Mountain Top Library

Wednesday  
August 16th  
11 am

**BIRDS OF PREY**

GET CLOSE TO THESE MAJESTIC  
PREDATORS WITH YOUR  
HOST, BILL ROBINSON OF  
ROBINSON'S WILDLIFE LECTURES.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS  
AT STEWART'S SHOPS!

6093 MAIN STREET  
TANNERSVILLE, NY  
518-589-5707

**Story Time**  
at Mountain Top Library

**HOT DOG**

Tuesday  
November 28th  
10:30 am

Doug Salati

6093 Main St. Tannersville - 518-589-5707