



Katrena Cohea, Director
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Monthly Director's Report July 2026

Patron & Circulation Updates

During the month of June:

- We had total of 1,433 patrons visit the library
 - 982 adult patrons
 - 308 children patrons
 - 61 teen patrons
 - 79 computers were used
- 1368 items were checked out
 - Adult books were checked out 487 times
 - Adult video was checked out 90 times
 - Children's books were checked out 369 times
 - Econtent was checked out 124 times
 - Library of Things items were checked out 11 times
- We registered 35 new patrons.
 - New registrations have reached a three-year high!
 - This represents 20.7% year-over-year growth and 25% growth over two years.
- 93 items were received to fill holds between MVLS & SALS
- 291 items were transferred to fill holds between MVLS & SALS
- 142 holds were placed
- 923 people used the wifi, for an average of 62 people per day

Collection Updates

The Collection Committee emailed to review purchases for the month. For July 2026, 38 items were ordered, and all items ordered have been received, and processed. The Collection Committee has received the collection list for August, and it will be approved via email.

I was made aware of an Amazon alternative to purchasing books via SALS, and had a meeting with Julie Berry, who is one of the owners of Author's Note. They offer library ordering (with special pricing), as well as cataloging and labeling services. I sent all board members a copy of the information she shared with me, and would like to discuss the possibility of moving our purchasing, and labeling to Author's Note. While they can't offer prices as low as Amazon, some of the benefits are keeping our purchases circulating within the New York local economy, and potentially saving on purchasing labeling materials, while allowing library staff to utilize their time more efficiently.

Friends of the Library Updates

The Friends of the Library held their Tricky Tray on July 15. I emailed Friends President Sandy LaVarnway towards the end of July to request \$750 for additional incentive prizes for our summer reading programs. This request was denied; the Friends would like to complete their last two summer book sales before they award further financial support.



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Building Updates

As previously mentioned I shared the two electrical bids for the automatic door project from Mike Visscher and Gary Foutch with the Town Building Committee. I confirmed this at the Town Board meeting I attended on July 20. I'm waiting for the Building Committee to let me know which bid to accept, and give me an idea of when we can start the project.

Building projects that are ongoing include:

- Window washing - interior and exterior
- Research for continued memorial items for patrons (benches, rocks?)

In August or September, I would like to schedule a date and time to get the holiday lights we purchased last year for the library hung. Getting this done ahead of the colder weather is essential.

I would like assistance cleaning, throwing out, and organizing the files in the attic.

Outreach Updates

As previously mentioned, I attended the Town Board meeting on July 20. I gave a brief update on our summer reading programs, and numbers, and presented each board member with a copy of the 2025 Report to the Community brochure.

Once we approve our outreach and homebound policy, I will reach out to Jessi Ostrander from the Wells Mealsite, and will be providing her with information and sign up forms for individuals to sign up for homebound delivery from the library. I have a meeting scheduled in August with the Senior Center in Speculator to tell them about this service, as well as our other senior focused services and programs.

After attending the IMLS Library Convening 250: Telling America's Story conference in Washington DC, I filled out a stipend form so that we could receive funds to implement America 250 programming in our library. We've received a check for \$1,000. I will not have to report back on how these funds are spent; it will be up to us to determine the best use for the award.

The Summer Art Auction that Beth Knapp coordinates is now active in the library. There have not been many submissions, and after speaking with Beth on July 29, we agreed that it may be best to hang the submissions that have been received, but not put them up for auction, since there haven't been many submissions.

Personnel Updates

None at this time.



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Programming Updates

Programs for September and October are currently being scheduled. We have a program on The First Adirondackers, local author Roger Sheffer, and Haudenosaunee Storyteller Perry Ground scheduled to visit and present on the Haudenosaunee in the Revolutionary War.

In July we hosted the following programs. Attendance is in ()

- Wednesday, July 1, 6:00pm - DIY Revolutionary Dino (2)
- Thursday, July 2, 10-10:45am - Tech Time (1)
- Thursday, July 2, 11:00am - A.I. All Around (3)
- Friday, July 3, 11:00am - REPCO Wildlife at the Speculator Pavilion (80)
- Monday, July 6, 7:00pm - Dino Academy at the Speculator Pavilion (45)
- Tuesday, July 7, 10:30-11:00 - Story Time (4)
- Tuesday, July 7, 12:15-1:15 - Summer Reading Program for ages 4-9 (10)
- Wednesday, July 8, 2:00-5:00pm - Chalk Art Competition (3)
- Thursday, July 9, 11:00am - Healthcare Proxy + More with Mountain Valley Hospice (14)
- Thursday, July 9, 5:00-6:00pm - Summer Reading Program for ages 10+ (2)
- Friday, July 10, 6:00pm - Composing Better Photographs (4)
- Monday, July 13, 5:00pm - All About Libby (2)
- Tuesday, July 14, 10:30-11:00 - Story Time (6)
- Tuesday, July 14, 12:15-1:15 - Summer Reading Program for ages 4-9 (6)
- Thursday, July 16, 5:00-6:00pm - Summer Reading Program for ages 10+ (6)
- Friday, July 17, 12:30pm - Dino 3D Printing Program (15)
- Monday, July 20, 11:00am - Dinoman at the Speculator Pavilion (45)
- Tuesday, July 21, 10:30-11:00 - Story Time (6)
- Tuesday, July 21, 12:15-1:15 - Summer Reading Program for ages 4-9
- Wednesday, July 22, 2:00pm - Didgeridoo Down Under at the Speculator Pavilion (20)
- Thursday, July 23, 5:00-6:00pm - Summer Reading Program for ages 10+ (3)
- Monday, July 27, 5:00pm - America 250 Story & Craft Time (6)
- Tuesday, July 28, 10:30-11:00 - Story Time (1)
- Tuesday, July 28, 12:15-1:15 - Summer Reading Program for ages 4-9 (6)
- Wednesday, July 29, 10:00 am - Coffee and Conversation (1)
- Thursday, July 30, 10-10:45am - Tech Time (1)
- Thursday, July 30, 5:00-6:00pm - Summer Reading Program for ages 10+

The following (nonlibrary) meetings used the library space in July

- DRAG - July 18
- Historical Society
- CCE



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In August we plan on hosting the following programs:

- Saturday, August 1, 2:00pm - Tasting Table: U.S. Presidents' Favorite Foods
- Monday, August 3, 5:30 - Climbing to New Heights with local author, Terry Hynes
- Tuesday, August 4, 10:30-11:00 - Story Time
- Tuesday, August 4, 6:00pm - Women of Mystery
- Wednesday, August 5, 6:00pm - Resume Refresh for Teens and Adults
- Thursday, August 6, 10-10:45am - Tech Time
- Thursday, August 6, 11:00am - Understanding Fraud & Scams
- Friday, August 7, 2:00-5:00pm - Chalk Art Competition
- Saturday, August 8, 11:00am - Utica Zoomobile at the Speculator Pavilion
- Monday, August 10, 10:00am - Coffee and Conversation
- Tuesday, August 11, 10:30-11:00 - Story Time
- Wednesday, August 12, 6:00pm - Ladies' Self Defense
- Thursday, August 13, 2:00-6:00pm - School Supply & Fashion Swap
- Friday, August 14, 9:00am-3:00pm & Saturday, August 15, 9:00am-3:00pm - Friends of the Library Book Sale
- Saturday, August 15, 11:00am -Percy Jackson Birthday Bash
- Monday, August 17, 4:00-6:00pm - Rubber Duckie Decorating Contes
- Wednesday, August 19, 4:00-7:00pm: Quack-a-Palooza at the Speculator Pavilion
- Friday, August 21, 5:00pm - Celebrate America's 250th with Marty Podskoch
- Tuesday, August 25, 2:00pm - Tea Rex Summer Sendoff Party!
- Thursday, August 27, 10-10:45am - Tech Time

Grant Updates

There are no other grant updates at this time.

Respectfully Submitted,

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