

Annual Report to the Town of Cortland- 2023-2024

The fiscal year ending April 30, 2024, proved to be busier than the previous year. The library was again open for the entire fiscal year, and continued with all in-person programming. We provided many programs for all ages including preschool story time, preschool playtime, crochet for kids and adults, family story time, craft club, young adult library lounge, book club, movie club for adults and various one time programs such as our "Day of the Dead" celebration and our Summer Reading kick-off party. This year we also added a Homeschool program which has been one of our most attended programs. The Library also makes a point to participate in all other Town activities such as Summerfest, the Cortland Lions Egg hunt, Trunk-or-treat etc. in which we provide crafts, activities and face painting. We love being able to be a part of providing these amazing programs to our community. To the best of our tracking abilities, we served approximately 4,351 people at our various programs. This includes on site and off site programs. One of our smaller, but much appreciated services is the free Daily Chronicles we get for our patrons, we receive 10 a day and they are on a first come first serve basis. We also have many copies every week of the Midweek available.

Our approved levy income for the 2024/2025 fiscal year is \$282,607. This is an increase of \$17,984 over last year. We came in within budget and hope to do some building improvements this year.

I had a full and active library board through April, not always an easy accomplishment, but currently we have a great group of people. I cannot speak highly enough of my staff, they are hardworking, creative and have an amazing love of the library. As most of you know, we lost our beloved Ms. Chrissie in March. Chrissie Donnelly had been with the library for 21 years. This was a heartbreaking loss for our entire library family. In February our Children's Programmer, Shelly Hoshaw gave notice that she would be moving out of state. With my two IMRF position employees gone, it let us navigating some difficult waters for a few months. I am pleased to say that we filled the vacancies, adding an extra staff member and things are going smoothly again. Amanda Johnson is our new Children's Programmer, and Sofia Bryant and Jessica Nava are working the desk, learning of all the different duties required and thankfully are very quick learners!

Total fiscal year patron visits 31,839 up from 25,259

Total circulation- 32,668

Books-23,777

DVD's- 5,847

Audio Books & CD's- 1,039

Other-62

Magazines-364

Electronic materials (downloadable e-books and audiobooks) - 2,743

ILL (Interlibrary loan) - loaned -5,767 borrowed -5,035

A total of 10,802 items transported through our blue bins for the year.