

2023-2024 Trustees

Ken Hotopp - President
Rebecca Leggieri - Vice President
Virginia Downs – Secretary & Finance Officer
Harriet Berard - Historian
Pat Adams
Fred Barnes
Nathan Davis
Doreen Russo
Janet Sand
Julia Walter

Treasurer

Linda Carpenter

Staff

Kimberly Zimmer—Director
Cob-director@mvls.info
Don LaPlant – Adult Services Librarian
Courtney Little – Library Assistant
Amy Mele – Library Clerk
Jackie Barbato – Library Clerk
Heather Heckman – Library Clerk
Beth Eckel – Library Page
Annabella Mele – Library Page

HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Friday & Saturday 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
Closed on Sunday and Monday

So far this year

At the start of 2024, we adjusted library hours to add one additional hour and provide a consistent schedule. We also launched a new website www.communitylibrarycobleskill.org and developed a logo with assistance from SUNY Cobleskill Graphic Design professor Kayla Vaughn. We encourage patrons to swap out their old green cards for the new logo library cards.

Library renovations continue through designated grants and donations. The basement window restoration and window sill repair will begin this summer. The exterior brick restoration was completed this spring and there is still some interior brickwork to be completed. The fire suppression system installation is underway. Vaysen Studio is assisting with the space design. Renderings to come this Summer.

THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY
Serving our communities for over 100 years!
Cobleskill, New York

Proposed 2025
Operating Budget
&
2024 Trustee Election



Vote Date: May 21, 2024

9:00 am – 9:00 pm

Cobleskill-Richmondville High School



If you have not visited the
Library recently, stop in and make
sure to get a NEW Library Card!

May 2024

2025 Proposed Budget and Tax Levy Request

On May 21 Cobleskill-Richmondville voters will have the opportunity to vote on the library's proposed 2025 spending plan.

The tax levy request approved annually by voters in the Cobleskill-Richmondville School District is \$396,000. The proposed 2025 budget is \$476,986 with grants, donations, fees, and fundraisers supporting the additional income above the tax levy. We expect that the renovation project will be completed by the end of 2024 and expenses will increase as we bring utilities online, expand collections, and address technology and staffing needs.

The renovation work is funded through grants and donations and is not part of this operating budget.

Resources: books, DVDs, databases, supplies, etc.	\$44,700
Programs: performers, guest speakers and supplies	\$15,000
Technology: computers, printers and software	\$14,500
Administration: professional services, supplies, mail, phone, promotional materials, etc.	\$23,745
Facilities: maintenance, service, utilities, insurance	\$75,608
Personnel: wages, benefits, travel, insurance, retirement, etc.	\$303,433
Total Expenses	\$476,986

The Community Library Board of Trustees Election

Five seats on the 11-member Board of Trustees are open this year. The five-year and one-year terms will be filled through the write-in process.

Meet the candidates:

Five-year term newcomer **Abbie Gascho Landis** is a veterinarian, author, and mom of two teenagers in the Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School District. She and her family moved to Cobleskill ten years ago for her husband to teach Environmental Management at SUNY Cobleskill. Abbie has been an avid library patron her whole life and believes libraries are vital to healthy communities. In her spare time, Abbie writes, gardens, and hikes with her dogs.

Five-year term incumbent **Patricia Adams** moved to Cobleskill nearly 60 years ago. She graduated from both Cobleskill Central School and Cobleskill Ag & Tech and continued her education, including a Masters in Library and Information Science, at the University at Albany. Following a library/library sales career, Pat is beginning to use her knowledge and experience serving on the Board of Trustees of The Community Library.

Two-year term incumbent **Fred Barnes** has been a member of the Cobleskill community for over 50 years. He and his wife, Marilyn, moved to Cobleskill in 1973. Fred was a professor at SUNY Cobleskill where he

taught Early Childhood Education. After retiring from SUNY Cobleskill, he continued his teaching in the GED program at BOCES. Over the years, Fred has served on many boards. Most recently, Fred has been a library trustee interested in the library renovation and he looks forward to continuing his involvement until the project is completed.

2023 BY THE NUMBERS

Our collection includes 47,514 items from print, audio, eBooks, magazines, newspapers, movies, museum passes, laptops to board games.

We had over 19,215 visitors. 36,711 items were borrowed or otherwise accessed. 5,109 books and materials were borrowed through Inter-Library Loan and we shared 4,964 items with patrons at other libraries.

We provided access to computers and online resources for over 12,172 sessions. 3,463 people attended the Library's 465 programs for children, teens and adults. The library's 58 summer reading programs involved 523 children and teens.

Community organizations or individuals reserved space to host 312 meetings or programs in the building.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

The Library and Friends of the Library supported CRCS Battle of the Books teams at Radez, Golding and the High School. We provided volunteer coordination, prizes, questions and snacks.

Staff added new programs to the monthly schedule, created a paper calendar and email newsletters to keep patrons informed.

The Library is in the process of digitizing the Daisy Brown Scrapbook collection. The 66 scrapbooks will be online at nyheritage.org in 2024.

The County Board of Elections continued to hold early voting at the Library. Library meeting rooms also host tutoring, trainings, meetings and programs from outside organizations.

YOUR LIBRARY

The Community Library is a member of the Mohawk Valley Library System (MVLS), a fine-free system. Along with the Southern Adirondack Library System, MVLS is part of a large network providing library resources to every person in the Cobleskill-Richmondville School District. Inter-Library Loan is available from any of the 57 libraries in the 8 counties to all borrowers and can be done from home or at the library.

During library hours patrons may use the public internet-connected computers, stand-alone educational computers, a fax machine and copier. Wi-Fi services are available on library property. Chromebooks, a DVD player, CD/RW drives, binoculars, museum passes, and board games are available to borrow. You also have access to downloadable books, audiobooks, and magazines through the Libby app.