



FRIENDS News

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE FRIENDS OF
THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

VOTING MATTERS

The Library's 2026 Budget & 2025 Trustee Election

will be held Tuesday, May 20, 2025 from 9am to 9pm at the C-R High School

The proposed budget for 2026 is \$505,600. Over 6% of the budget is covered by state aid, grants, donations, and the fundraising activities of The Friends of The Library. The remainder is funded by the tax levy approved annually by voters in the Cobleskill-Richmondville School District. The tax levy request on the ballot this year is \$475,200 for budget year 2026. Your membership in the Friends is an important way to help our Library, but encouraging your friends, family members, and coworkers to turn out to vote in favor of the Library's 2026 tax levy on May 20 is another.

The Community Library is expecting portions if not all of the annex to be open in 2026.

Interested in running for Library Trustee? More information can be found on page 4.

Battle of the Books

In January, the Friends of the Community Library donated \$2,500 to support "Battle of the Books" at CRCS Radez and Golding buildings. These funds allow the purchase of books, T-shirts, prizes, pizza, snacks and drinks. This year there were twelve elementary teams and two middle school teams. The Radez battle was held on Saturday, March 29 and the Golding battle was on April 9. The students, coaches and volunteers had a great time. The winners were: Knight Readers at Radez and Chapter Chasers at Golding.

Many thanks to all who volunteered to help. Special thanks to Courtney Little, Kim Zimmer, Donna Jo Cody and Laura Gagnon for all their hard work to make this possible for the students. Thanks to Stewart's for providing coupons for ice cream cones for all our participants.

Your support makes this program possible! Thank you.



Chapter Chasers
the Golding Battle winners.

Membership

Haven't joined us yet for 2025? It's not too late. Our membership year is Jan. 1st through Dec. 31st. Dues are at least \$10. Every little bit adds up to help support special purchases and programs for the library. Please consider joining us with a membership donation before the end of the year.

2024-2025 Officers

President: Catherine Weidman
Vice-Pres.: Kim Walchko
Treasurer: Margaret Dafeldecker
Secretary: Jody Pugh
Membership: Sally Stroh
Fiscal Year: 7/1/24 – 6/30/25
Membership: 1/1/25-12/31/2025

2025 Meeting Dates

Meetings start at 10:00 am
May 3
June 7 Annual Meeting
July 12
August 2
September 6
October 4
November 1
December 6

CONNECT WITH THE FRIENDS

Email: FriendsCommunityLibrary@gmail.com

The Friends have a Facebook Page

Look for "Friends of The Community Library" on Facebook

President's Corner

At our April 9, 2025 Friends meeting, it was decided to have all our monthly meetings on Saturdays. This past year we tried holding meetings on Wednesday nights at 6pm to draw more members. This did not work out as we had hoped. There were conflicts with other activities, so some members could not attend. We hope that you will be able to join us. All are welcome! We always need volunteers to help with our new and continuing projects. The Basket Raffle will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2025 from 10am - 1pm. Ticket sales will start on Tuesday, September 2. Last year we had over 40 baskets donated. We would love to beat that number this year. Please consider donating a basket this year. Informational forms will be in the Library this summer. Our ongoing used book sale is happening at all times that the Library is open. Donations are always welcome. Keep a look out for a new activity coming in November. We have slates from our old roof that some of our local artists have been painting.

Do you enjoy wrapping gifts? We are looking for volunteers to help people wrap their gifts this December. Specific times will be in the Fall newsletter.

Look for our county Libraries at the Maple Festival on April 26, 2025 from 9am - 4pm at Progressland at Fairgrounds.

If you have any questions about any of our projects or meetings, please contact me at friendscommunitylibrary@gmail.com

Enjoy Spring in upstate New York!

Cathy Weidman

Book Sale News

We are happy to accept donations of your used books for our ongoing sale in the basement. The library benefits most if donations are brought into the library. Please try to bring books during regular library hours so you can bring them inside. If the library is closed, please put them in the green Better World Books bin in the parking lot. Do not leave books out in the weather. So far this year \$599.15 has been raised from our book sales. We couldn't do it without you! So come on in and check it out during regular library hours all through the year. Find some interesting books and just leave a donation in the red box on the wall by our bulletin board. We appreciate your donations of used books and your support of the sale.



Basket Raffle and Book Sale 2025

This year's "Basket Raffle & Used Book Sale" is set for Saturday, September 20, 2025, from 10am. to 1pm. Anyone interested in donating a basket or helping that day (adult or students), please contact friendscommunitylibrary@gmail.com

Baskets will be on display inside the library. The used book sale will be set up outside weather dependent.

Basket Raffle Tickets will be on sale after Labor Day, September 2, 2025.

FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

January 1 – December 31, 2025 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Your membership helps fund special purchases and programs for our library.

Dues are a donation of at least \$10.

Be the 50th member for 2025 and win a \$10 Stewart's gift card.

A donation of \$25 or more entitles you to 10 free raffle tickets for our Basket Raffle in September.

Please check here ☐ if you prefer to decline the free raffle tickets.

Please fill out the form below and return to:

The Friends of The Community Library

The Community Library, 110 Union St, Cobleskill, NY 12043

Make checks payable to **THE FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY.**

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Number _____

Donation Amount \$_____ Tax Receipt ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please check if you may be interested in volunteering to help The Friends with any of the following:

☐ Basket Raffle ☐ Book Sales ☐ Staffing Events ☐ Publicity ☐ Battle of the Books

Membership

We have a winner!

Millie was our 25th member for 2025 and won the \$10 gift card to Stewart's. Will you be the lucky 50th member and receive a \$10 gift card?

It's not too late to join. Our membership year is January 1st through December 31st. Dues are at least \$10. Every little bit adds up to help support special purchases and programs for the library. Please consider joining us with a membership donation before the end of the year.



Friends volunteer to help with Battle of the Books. The Friends donation to the Library supports the books, prizes, snacks and pizza for all the participants.

2025 had 56 student participants and several read more than 15 of the twenty books.



Events @ The Library

Visit the Library's events calendar
at <https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryEvents>
You can register for upcoming programs

New Library Items

You can view our new items at:
<https://bit.ly/CommunityLibraryNewStuff>

Holiday Closures

Saturday, May 24th for Memorial Day.

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Thursday, June 19 for Juneteenth.

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Friday, July 4th for Independence Day.

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Saturday, August 30 for Labor Day.

## The Library is hosting Community Discussions

We invite you to participate in an open discussion to help us plan for the future of The Community Library. The Library is in the middle of a renovation/expansion project and is also developing our next five-year Long Range Plan of Service. These hour-long events include a series of questions, a tour of the renovation/expansion project and light snacks. We hope you can join us for one of these meetings.

Here are the meeting dates and times:

Wednesday, April 23rd, 5:45 pm

Friday, April 25th, 12:15 pm

Friday, May 2nd, 12:15 pm

Saturday, May 3rd, 10:15 am

Registration is required.

If you are unable to attend one of these discussions, please share your feedback through the [online survey](#).

Paper copies of these surveys are also available at The Community Library.

We value your participation and input as we focus on the next five years and how the Library contributes to community!

Sincerely,  
The Community Library Board of Trustees

## The Community Library is seeking civic-minded individuals for our Board of Trustees!

Are you interested in helping guide and support the work of the Library? There are three open seats with varying terms. To find out more about the Board of Trustees and how to become a candidate please visit [www.communitylibrarycobleskill.org/trustees](http://www.communitylibrarycobleskill.org/trustees) or visit the Library.

The petition deadline has passed but write-in candidates are allowed the day of the vote.

The Library will have more details on nominated candidates after April 30th.