



TOWN OF ULSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

2022

Report to the Community

TOWNOFULSTERLIBRARY.ORG

860 Ulster Ave. Kingston, NY 12401
845-338-7881



A Message From the Board President

Dear Town Neighbors,

In January 2022, the publicly elected Town of Ulster Public Library Board of Trustees approved a Long Range (2022-2026) Plan for the Library. This plan grew from conversations with community members, staff, and Board of Trustees. A link to the Long Range Plan can be found in the left hand column of the homepage on our Library website.

Some work on our Longevity Goal included board and staff training through the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS), attendance at the NY Library Association (NYLA) Conference by Library Director Mary Collins and a staff member, and a small improvement in staff wages though still at levels far from community comparability. We had hoped to get a Friends of the Library group started but have been slowed by Covid concerns and work on other tasks. We would love it if someone or a group of people would like to approach our Director to get a Friends group going to support our Library.

Our Collections Goal is an ongoing task as we grow our books, electronic, audio, etc. holdings. We have used the generous donation from Tena Nippert's family to add to the children's books and children's bookshelves.

Our Facilities Goal has had the most visible work with the addition of new lighting and a sound cloud resulting in the completion of Phase Two of our building renovations. We have also replaced some failing vital building units. We continue to work on and better use our outdoor space with future hopes and plans to create more useful and aesthetically pleasing open air spaces.

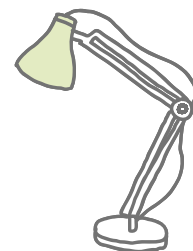
The Technology Goal progressed with upgrades to our WIFI system and some other technologies and the training of two staff as Digital Navigators who have been providing IT support to patrons.

We continue to work on our Opportunity Goal with our Director submitting grant applications and joining with staff and the board in searching out connections and opportunities in our Town. Staff have continued to provide excellent programs and activities such as the children's summer reading program, school visits, book club, adult craft nights, musical presentations, making and donating nursing home decorations, youth gatherings, early literacy programs, genealogy research support, school supply help, technology aid, etc. The ingenuity, creativity, commitment, and devotion of our Library staff make for true treasures to be found in the Town of Ulster Public Library.

We will continue to strive for a "responsive and welcoming oasis of opportunity and civility – providing enrichment, education, and entertainment for all," as stated in our Vision statement.

I thank Director Mary Collins, fellow volunteer board members, our staff, and our community members and businesses for their amazing and generous support of the Town of Ulster Public Library.

Thank-you and Best Wishes,
Rita Joyce
Board President





Programs & Projects

2022 was a great year for programs at the Town of Ulster Public Library. For children, weekly story-hours and after school programs were just the beginning, we also had take-home crafts and special weekend activities. Library staff visited both Crosby and Miller schools, and classes from Chambers traveled to the library, to learn about programs and getting a library card. Summer Reading at the Library was tremendous success, with a record 96 children participating in 26 story-hours, programs, and events. Our readers read more than one thousand books! Adult programs also flourished - monthly craft night offered needle felting and painting, seniors enjoyed a ceramics workshop through the Cornell Creative Arts Center, and we were all delighted by live music from the Half Moon Ensemble. Four different book clubs were offered for teens and adults and we hosted a monthly writer's group. The library presented a traveling exhibit on immigration, had ecology and geology programs, and distributed tomato seedlings for Earth Day. We added the Empire Pass so patrons can get out in nature and have a new YA games program. Adults and children collaborated twice this year making centerpieces for the Northeast Center for Brain Injury and Rehabilitation, flowers for the spring and pinecone owls and cork pumpkins in the fall.



Children's Programs
children@townofulsterlibrary.org

Adult Programs
programs@townofulsterlibrary.org

Digital Navigators and Tech Help
tech@townofulsterlibrary.org

After many years of planning and fundraising, the lighting renovation project at the Library was completed in the summer of 2022. Along with LED lights in the adult stacks and party patio lights in the central area, the project added two sound dampening clouds with lights over the circulation desk and in the center of the Library. We thank everyone who made this project possible. Indeed, thank you to everyone, patrons, staff, and the Board of Trustees, for a great year at the Library - now on to the next! -Mary Collins, Director



Digital Navigators
 provide support to community members in connecting online, providing instructional assistance in traversing the internet, troubleshooting problematic devices, and even helping access low-cost internet services.



2022 in Numbers



THE TOWN OF ULSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

860 Ulster Ave. Kingston, NY 12401

Mission

The Town of Ulster Public Library connects people, ideas, information, and technology, to enrich lives and strengthen our community.

Vision

The Town of Ulster Public Library aspires to be a responsive and welcoming oasis of opportunity and civility, providing enrichment, education, and entertainment for all.

Board of Trustees

President – Rita Joyce
Vice-President – Anne Davis
Secretary – Jason Kovacs
Bruce Engholm, Andrea Epstein,
Gene Nettle, Allison Organtini, Nicole Vicari

General Information

845-338-7881
staff@townofulsterlibrary.org

Library Director
director@townofulsterlibrary.org



Hours of Operation

Monday: 10:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday: 12:00pm – 7:00pm
Wednesday: 10:00am – 3:00pm
Thursday: 12:00pm – 7:00pm
Friday: 10:00am – 3:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am – 3:00pm
Sunday: Closed

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