Design of new children's space finalized: Architectural firm Butler, Rowland, Mays has redesigned the interior of the library Annex in order to consolidate the children's collection and build a new accessible circulation desk (see schematic on right). New children's tables and seating will feature lively orange and teal hues. New kid-friendly shelving will run along the south wall and perpendicular to the entrance. The renovation to this area of the library is financed by a State and Municipal Facilities Program (“SAM”) grant.

$25,000 New York State Council on the Arts Award announced: Our rural, Main Street library received NYSCA’s Support for Organizations Grant for 2023. The library is planning special events, concerts, and artist-led workshops to be underwritten by this grant. Our Board of Trustees works tirelessly as good stewards of our library to obtain support from a range of diverse agencies.

Improvements to 1924 section of library planned: The library will carpet and paint both the Annex and the 1924 section of the library. However, grant funds do not cover the cost of these improvements in the older part of the library. A special legislative grant through State Assemblyperson Jacobson will help underwrite new energy-efficient lighting. Consolidation of books and other materials for adults in the older section of the library calls for new shelving, which will need to be purchased with future donated or awarded funds.

"Preserving Our Past, Planning Our Future" capital campaign initiated: The Board of Trustees recently inaugurated a capital fundraising campaign to provide the financial means needed to remodel the 1924 section of the library. A $4,000 donation from the Milton Engine Co. No. 1 in 2022 gave the 2023 campaign a push forward.

Full schedule of in-person clubs, meetings and programs revived: The library staff happily brought in-person programming, including pre-school and after-school sessions, back to pre-pandemic levels.

2022 by the Numbers: Library Collection & Programs

| Physical Materials: 18,572 items, 5,984 circulations | Electronic Materials: 21,965 units, 1,664 uses |
| Additions to Holdings: 2,450 (physical & electronic) | Interlibrary Loans: 1,258 received, 4,259 provided |
| Library Visits: 4,931 | Programming/Events: 213 sessions, 1,780 attendees |
| Wireless Internet Use: 4,248 | Website Visits: 4,796 | Reference Questions Answered: 971 |

N.B. Electronic collection includes purchases made by the Mid-Hudson Library System for use by all member libraries.

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Current Board of Trustees
Rosemary Wein, President Maribeth King, Vice President
Ardis Ketterer, CFO Susan Trapani, Secretary
Janice Appler, Sabrina Chesser, Celeste Ricciardone, Patricia Walsh, Dr. Jennifer Wrage, Ph.D.

Board meetings: 4th Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.
Combined Nov./Dec. 2023 meeting, November 29

Library Director, Lois Heiser Skelly