The month of Earth Day and Arbor Day was marked with a number of nature-related events, including talks on native trees and shrubs and on ticks, an Earth Day discussion with children’s illustrator Meg Sodano (Beaver and Otter Are Friends, Sort Of, and other nature books), the planting of wildflower “seed bombs” by our homeschool children, a book club discussion of The New Possible: Visions of Our World beyond Crisis, and a video and discussion on the Homegrown National Park program. We also reopened our Seed Library, and our Sustainable Libraries Initiative committee began work on our certification. April is also National Poetry Month, and once again we shared daily poetry prompts with those who registered to receive them and on our website and co-sponsored a poetry open mic night with the Copake Grange at the end of the month.

Programs:
- English Tutoring—average 5 students per week
- Playtime with Tia—average 3 kids, 2 adults
- Homeschool Wednesday—average 9 kids, 3 adults
- Chess Club—average 3 players
- April 20—Book Mark! Bookclub—3 attended
- April 22—Children’s book illustrator Meg Sodano—9 children, 7 teens, 7 adults attended
- April 23—Back to Nature: Ticks—20 attended
- April 25—Drawing with Lenny Titzer—9 attended
- April 25—Head Start Story Time—10 children, 4 adults
- April 27—Tea Time at the Library: Financial Peace of Mind—13 attended
- April 29—Homegrown National Park Film Screening and Panel Discussion—60 attended
- April 29—Poetry Open Mic Night at the Grange—25 attended
- May 1—Tech Labs: Traveling Apps—27 attended
- May 4—Cinco de Mayo at the bibliotheca—20 children, 10 adults attended
- May 6—Back to Nature: Gardening with Containers—16 attended
- May 6—Origami—3 children, 1 adult attended
- May 10—Roe Jan Writers: Ned Schneier
- May 11—First meeting of the Octagon Club
- May 11—Photo composition workshop

Upcoming Events:
- May 18—Book Mark! Book Club, reading *The Dead March: A History of the Mexican-American War*
- May 18—Photo Composition: 3 Sessions to Better Photos
- May 20—Cookbook Club
- May 25—Tea Time at the Library: Gardening with Linda Levitt
- May 25—Photo Composition: 3 Sessions to Better Photos
- May 28—Concert: Armen Donelian Trio
- May 30—Webinar: The Story of Japanese Internment (with CCLA)
- June 1—Beginning of weekly Qigong and Tai Chi at the Library
- June 10—Gala
- June 11—Concert: Eagles Stage Band at the Roe Jan Park
- June 15—Book Mark! Book Club
- June 17—Cookbook Club

Traffic Count

![Traffic Count Graph](image)
Library Usage:
In April, our collection use took an unexplained dip, in both digital and physical materials, though it still remained above pre-pandemic levels. There is usually a slight dip in April, perhaps as nicer weather arrives, but this year that dip was larger. Traffic in the library remained at usual levels, as did the number of e-borrowers and “active” patrons, so it seems the same number of people were borrowing fewer materials. Program attendance also remained consistent with earlier patterns. We will need to see what happens over the next couple of months. We welcomed another 22 patrons to the library.
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<th>Jan-22</th>
<th>Feb-22</th>
<th>Mar-22</th>
<th>Apr-22</th>
<th>Jan-23</th>
<th>Feb-23</th>
<th>Mar-23</th>
<th>Apr-23</th>
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![Total Circulation Graph](image-url)
### Circulation by Material Type

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Staffing and Professional Development:
- Kate began working full time—Tuesday through Saturday
- Tammy cut back to 4 days per week, generally Monday through Thursday
- Staff completed sexual harassment prevention training

This month we also:
- Staff helped clean out basement
- Tammy sent out daily poetry prompts for poetry month and Kate posted them to our website
- Staff created displays for poetry month in April and on mothers in May, also smaller displays for Arab American Heritage Month, Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and on creating, building, and observing
- Robin and Fran attended a Repair Café in New Lebanon to help plan for our own
- Tia attended the Hudson Children’s Book Festival
- Tammy and Robin attended the Success Fest at Taconic Hills High School
- Fran resumed monthly outreach at WIC at Our Lady of Hope
- Sustainable Libraries Initiative committee met to review first steps, draft sustainability policy, and update purchasing policy
- Tammy attended MHLS DA meeting and Resource Sharing Advisory Committee meeting

Grants/Fundraising:
- Tia is applying to the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation’s grant for ELLN participants to help pay for summer reading programs

MHLS
- May-July – Construction Grant Office Hours by Appointment
- Early June – Construction Grant Portal Opens
- June 28 – Construction Grant Technical Assistance Workshop
- August 4 – Grant Application due to MHLS
- September 12 – MHLS Board of Trustees Reviews Applications
- Mid October – Applications are due to DLD from MHLS
- June – October, 2024 – Libraries receive confirmation of Grant awards from DLD

**Columbia County Libraries Association**
- Attended Hudson’s Children’s Book Festival
- Completed 2023 990 form for IRS
- Planning to attend Columbia County Fair
- Seeking additional funding for a community read in the fall—applied to Stewarts, the Rheinstrom Hill Community Foundation, and to the Ackerman Foundation