

AURORA FREE LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JUNE 2026

Submitted for Board of Trustees Meeting

HIGHLIGHTS AND NEWS

- Caulking is complete on Front Steps by Stock and Stone Masonry. Looks great! **THANK YOU DAVE!!**
- *****Community Survey** for Long Range Plan UPDATE. It is on our website and Dave has distributed Spanish surveys to some local locations. We have _____ responses so far. It is on our outdoor sign and posted online, emailed out and posted in the library. HELP GET MORE OUT
- Thanks to a **Family Literacy Grant** through FLLS for \$490, I have purchased 4 annual passes to area museums and will have them ready to circulate by the end of the month. These include the Museum of the Earth, Museum of Science and Technology (MOST), Rochester Museum & Science Center and the Seward House Museum.
- Received 5 fishing poles from NY DEC to circulate. Coming up with a way to package them and looking for someone to help with keeping them in working order.
- Is there a project that we need volunteers for on The Day of Caring? If so we can sign up at https://www.volunteercayuga.com/need/index?s=1&need_init_id=15576

GRANT ACTIVITY NEWS

Rosen Take it on the Road and Storytime Train 2026-27 Grant Applications and Hazard Grant for Summer 2026:

- Planning for summer reading. Contacted Jim Wilcox to see if he will again donate ice cream to our readers once they reach 20 days of reading or complete a certain number of activities or attend a certain amount of programs. Made posters for performers and are focusing on what weekly drop-in events we will have and Take and Make giveaways for Summer.
- Purchased books to be given away at the Dinosaurs Rock! program in July.
- Kathy's summer Tween Book Club which will read a modern version of *The Secret Garden* is FULL.
- The last Dragon Explorers (for ages 6-9) meeting was held in June with giant tiles and Lego fun. This group will change to the Dino Explorers Book Club for the summer where kids will read a dinosaur book that goes along with the summer theme and meet to discuss it and do an activity or two at the end of July.
- Storytime will resume in the fall.

Rosen Take it on the Road and Beyond 2025-26 and FLLS Outreach Mini-Grant (for Food Pantry):

- Volunteers assembled a bag with summer reading information and dinosaur activities and a reading buddy for King Ferry Food Pantry families. Sarah will go to the King Ferry Food Pantry this weekend with Lisa to distribute the goodies.
- During the month of June there will be a Take and Make with some dinosaur activities for summer to kick off our summer reading!
- We received many Clay Prehistoric Creatures back from our May Take and Make and they are displayed in the foyer Display Case for our Tiny Clay Art Show.
- I will finish spending and will complete final reports for both Rosen 2025-26 and Outreach Mini-Grant 2025-26 by the end of June.

Rosen Grant Storytime Train 2025-26

- Storytime ended last week with a giveaway of the book *How to Spot a Dinosaur* to all in attendance using Outreach Mini-Grant funds.
- Made monthly visit to UPK classrooms with Hazard Library in May and June. Gave away a Dinosaur Activity Book to UPK classes on June 16 to encourage summer reading theme around dinosaurs. Used Outreach Mini-Grant funding. In May we gave away Alphabet Cards with recipes that we received through an Outreach Mini-Grant.
- This grant is complete and I will write the final report by end of month.

PROGRAMMING/PR

- We have been finalizing the Summer Reading Program events and in-house activities.
- Melissa Hulme has continue to work on décor for summer and we should be receiving the items that were made by SCCS art students next week.
- I am promoting the Summer Reading Program on the website and through Facebook as well as at SCCS and Peachtown with reading logs and schedule of events being held at both Aurora and Hazard.
- Purchased a dinosaur costume that we will have Gwen Knopp wear at summer events.
- We have been hiding Digby the dinosaur daily and will hold a drawing for prizes at the end of the month for all who enter.
- Mary Lou Chappell and a few other crocheters have made over 50 stegosaurus and T-Rexs to be given out as reading buddies this summer.
- We have held several sessions of Children's D&D with Primrose Kirk leading it using FLLS Outreach Mini-Grant 2026-27 funds. Kids are enjoying it and we are looking at best dates for continuing it in the summer.
- **Chess Club** will meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month from June-August from 5-7 pm.
- Elizabeth Snyder put together our front planters and is planning our front garden. We are soliciting donations of plants for a pollinator garden.
- The Movie *Hoppers* was shown last weekend. The attendance was a bit low, but enjoyed by all.
- The Southern Cayuga Book Club discussed *Hamnet* in June and is reading *This Is Happiness* for July.
- The Teen D & D group stopped meeting this month and may return in the fall. It has had low numbers recently and the leader has not been able to make it the past few weeks.
- Reviewed/ gathered info for the June Hub Newsletter and submitted article and photos for June Tribune.
- Updated website with webmaster and posted to FB and Instagram. Used Mailchimp to alert patrons of latest events. Created PR for events and sent out press releases.

ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

- Attended Literacy Committee Meeting in late May with Hazard Library at Emily Howland to go over plans for summer reading including logs and ice cream party.
- I am exploring purchasing books from another small book business in Medina, NY called Author's Note. This may save time on getting books and support local business.
- Applied for an Aunt Flow Grant from FLLS which will provide free period products to our patrons in our restroom. Read more about [Aunt Flow here](#).
- Our intern Sarah joined Lisa from Hazard Library at the PTO Night last week to offer activities and promote summer reading to families.
- Working with our Intern on a list of tasks that she can assist with this summer.
- Filled out FLLS Plan of Service Survey.
- Gave David Kirk a gift card to thank him for his work on the basement.
- Attended the New SCCS Superintendent presentation Monday, June 15.

FINANCE/LEGAL COMPLIANCE/FUNDRAISING

- Met with Melissa this week to discuss grant spending since several must be expended by the end of June.
- In touch with Dave about Construction Projects and other Preservation/Building Maintenance issues.
- Promoting BLB and Book Sale where I can. Updated Book Sale Poster with this year's dates.
- Received Dennis' 2 hours of Required Trustee Training. **Congratulations Dennis!**

DOOR COUNT: *Daily door count (not including those who attended programs).

January 2026 Door Count 245 people (plus 180 at 14 programs)

February 2026 Door Count 326 people (plus 677 at 21 programs)

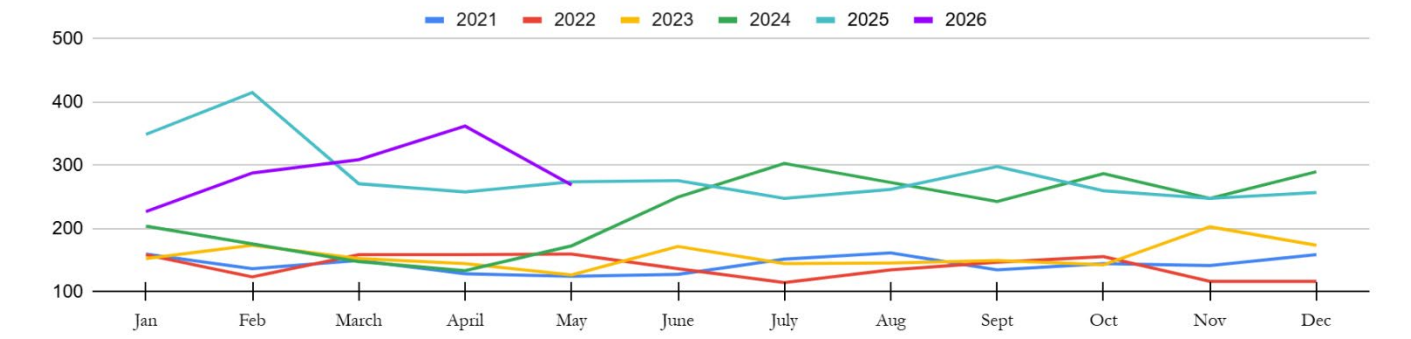
March 2026 Door Count 446 people (plus 715 at 27 programs)

April 2026 Door Count 339 people (plus 302 at 23 programs)

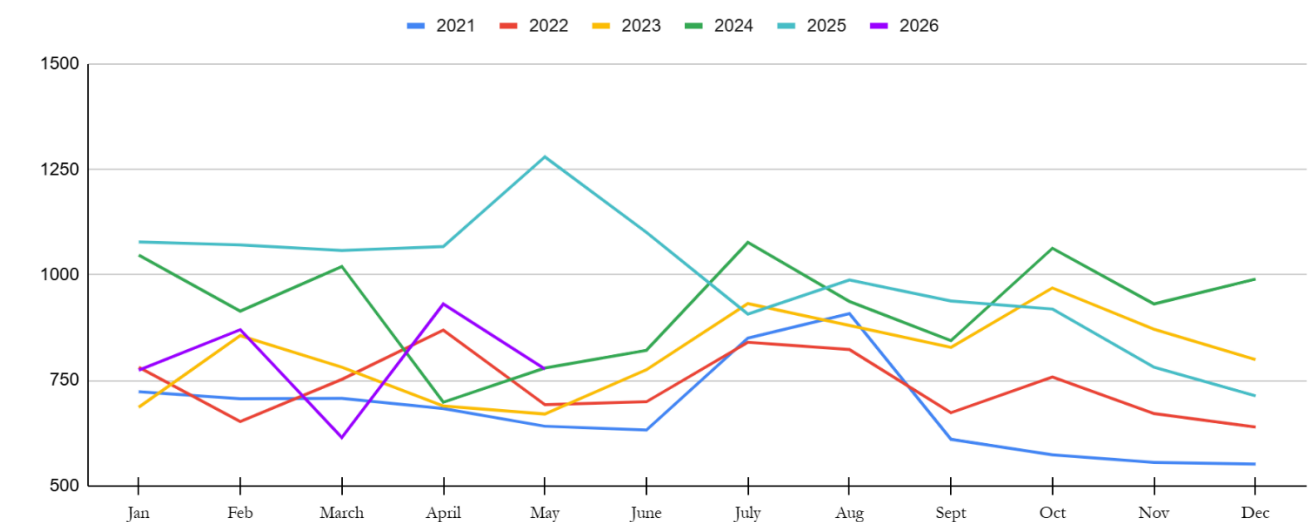
May 2026 Door Count 516 people (plus 618 at 23 programs)

CIRCULATION:

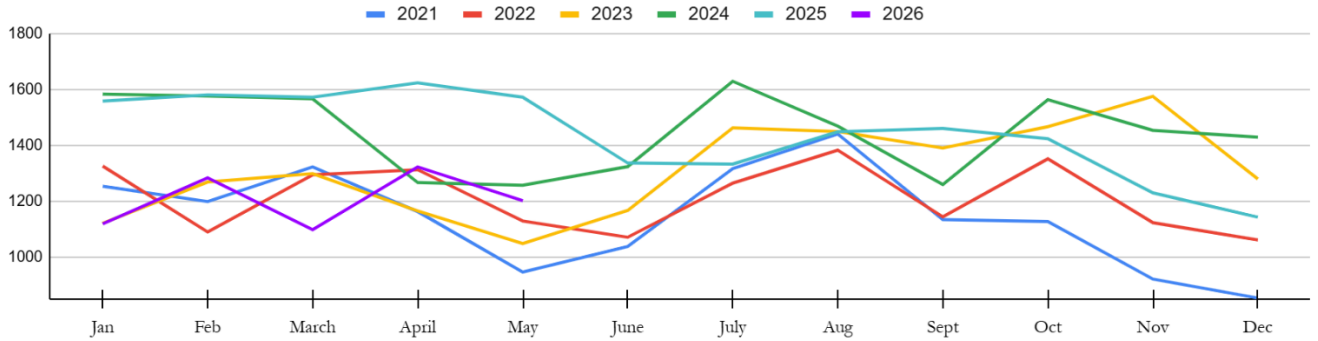
Total Circulation of Overdrive ematerials



Total Circulation of all Materials without renewals



Total Circulation of all Materials with renewals



BUILDING USE AND MAINTENANCE

- Continuing to speak with Dave about building projects.
- Heard from Ellen that MOH will be using B&C for maintenance for heat/AC. She and her committee looked at a number of options and chose them. Spoke to Dave and agreed that the AFL will also get our equipment serviced by them and will need to decide who we will call in emergencies.
- Jeff Kuehn redid the outdoor sign door since it was showing signs of wear due to the elements after only a year. **THANK YOU DAVE for getting that redone!**

2025 Maintenance/Checks

NEW

- Received word that the person who owned Service Alert Alarm Systems and did our maintenance of the alarm system passed away. I am in the process of looking at a new contract with an Alarm Company to take over that maintenance.
- Met with a representative from HSC Associates from Ithaca last week to go over options for heating the Jail room and the main basement room. Awaiting estimates to determine cost which may determine whether we will apply for NYS Construction Grant for it. In touch with Dave and Steve about this.

Stair Chair (8/27/2025), Fire Extinguisher Check (12/2025), Service Alert (4/24/2025) and Fall Visit (10/7/2025), Furnaces/Navien Boiler maintenance Holbrook Heating came 1/29/2025, Holbrook Heating AC maintenance (6/4/2025), **Window Washing and Power washing (5/16/2026)**.

- Consider 'permanent' sign for Lili's puppets
- Consider options for lighting for step from platform in front of flowers to front walk way. **DAVE will look at electric light for those areas**
- Need New Grate made in Front Room (metal has split and Dave made temporary wooden one). Inns use Reggio Registers. **LORI and DAVE**
- Follow-up on water line issue with Village (Mike White). **DAVE**
- Basement dehumidifier and jail heat. **DAVE**
- AFL/MOH Front sign near sidewalk will be refurbished by Yesteryears. **DAVE**
- Need to install street number – **OPEN ISSUE**
- First floor weatherizing south windows- **OPEN ISSUE- Since did not receive DRI funding, resubmitted in NYS Construction Grant.**
- Stains on interior north wall MOH – **OPEN ISSUE**
- Consider extending concrete walkway from back steps to curb. Also consider a concrete handicapped parking space near back door?

UPCOMING EVENTS: PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK for more

DATE	EVENT	FUNDED BY	TIME & LOCATION (AFL unless noted)
Any time	Overdrive/Libby Eresources help		
Mondays	Fiber Arts Group		4 pm
Mondays	Teen D & D Group		5-6:45pm
Wednesdays	Storytime	Rosen	9:30 am
6/24/2026	Chess Club		5-7 pm
6/27/2026	Super Mario Galaxy Movie Night		7 pm
7/1/2026	Southern Cayuga Book Club		Opendore 7 pm
7/8/2026	Tween Graphic Novel Club <i>The Secret Garden</i>	Rosen	6 pm
7/9/2026	Moreland the Magician	Rosen - Hazard	6:30 pm
7/15/2026	Dan the Snakeman	Golf Club	6 pm Wells Golf Club
7/20/2026	The Rev Theatre	Arts Grant	6:30 pm
7/22/2026	Chess Club		5-7 pm
7/29/2026	Dinosaurs Rock!	Rosen Cortland	6:30pm
7/31/2026	Dino Explorer's Book Club	Rosen	4:30pm
8/8/2026	T-Rex Tea Party	Love Your Library	Noon
8/8/2026	No Promises -MOH	Arts Grant	TBD
8/15/2026	Rock Doc Geology Talks	FREE	10 am and 1 pm

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Groth