

Between the Bookends



Annual Library Newsletter & Report to the Community

Summer 2026

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Library Closings

Independence Day
Saturday, July 4th

Labor Day
Monday, September 7th

Indigenous People & Columbus
Monday, October 12th

Veterans Day
Wednesday, November 11th

Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 26th
Friday, November 27th

Weather related closings
will be announced on the library
website & social media.



MAMAKATING
L I B R A R Y

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The Library Needs Your Input: Take the Survey Today



Your library is yours — and we want to make sure it serves your needs. We're conducting a short community survey to help us plan for the future, and your voice matters more than you might think. Whether you visit us every week or haven't stopped in for a while, we want to hear from you. The more responses we receive, the better we can understand the full range of needs across our

community — and the stronger the case we can make for the programs and resources that matter most to you.

The survey is just 12 questions and takes only 5–10 minutes to complete. Grab a cup of coffee and let us know what you think! You can fill it out online by scanning the QR code above, or pick up a paper copy at the library.

As a thank-you, everyone who completes the survey will have the option to enter a drawing for gift cards to local businesses. Please complete the survey by August 1st — and thank you for helping us build a library that truly serves our community!

Have you met our new library mascot? **Sprout** was designed by local artist Elana Sahagun & introduced in 2025. Community members & students at our local schools helped choose the name Sprout. You'll surely see Sprout around town promoting library services & encouraging everyone to grow their knowledge in the coming years!



All programs require registration unless otherwise noted. Register by calling the library or by visiting mamakatinglibrary.org.

All programs are subject to change. For information on Special Programs visit our website.

Ongoing Adult Programs

Parent's Group (Coffee & Play Date)

Every Wednesday at 11:15am

Meet local parents to build a support network together. Laugh about the silly things our kids do, and troubleshoot the struggles with others. Coffee discounts thru our partner, The Coffee Way Café. (Kids welcome too). **NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



Tech Topics

First Saturdays at 12:00pm

Join Malcolm to learn about a different technology topic each month. Bring your device if you have specific questions. If time permits, Malcolm is happy to assist you in troubleshooting.

Books & Tea (Monthly Book Club)

Third Tuesdays at 2:30pm

Studies show we get the most out of reading when we discuss it with others. Join us for a lively discussion each month. Copies of the current book are available at the library circulation desk and via Libby.

July 21: *Darling Girls* by Sally Hepworth

August 18: *Atmosphere* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

September 15: *The Correspondent* by Virginia Evans



Library Speakers Consortium Author Talks

3 Best-Selling Authors and Thought Leaders Join Us
Virtually Each Month

June 23rd at 2pm: Simple, Sustainable, and Powerfully Delicious Meals with **Sana Javeri Kadri** and **Asha Loupy**

July 14th at 7pm: Small Towns and Big Secrets: In Conversation with **Bestselling Author Karin Slaughter**

July 16th at 2pm: Migrant Heart: The Hidden Cost of the American Dream and Healing Through Storytelling with **Reyna Grande**

July 28th at 2pm: The Power of Connection: Creating Lasting Friendships in an Increasingly Lonely World with **Dr. Marisa Franco**

Register by calling the library at 845-888-8004 or via library.org/mamakatinglibrary

Fearless Foodies—Culinary Club

Third Tuesdays at 1:00pm

Join our Fearless Foodies as they tackle a new cuisine each month. Bring a dish to share with new & old friends.

July Theme: 250 Years of All-American Fare

August Theme: Summer Salads

September Theme: Garden's Bounty



Books & Brews w/ Two Farms Brewing

June 14th, August 23rd, October 18th at 12:30pm

Join us for Books & Brews at Two Farms Brewing in Bloomingburg. The books will be available on Libby or at the library prior to the events. Upcoming books:

June: *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah

August: *Such a Fun Age* by Kiley Reid

October: *Atmosphere* by Taylor Jenkins Reid



Pages & Perspectives (Non-Fiction Book Club)

Last Mondays at 2:00pm

Join Rose each month to explore memoirs, biographies, self-help, history, and so much more in the world of non-fiction titles.

Copies of the current book are available at the library circulation desk and via Libby.

July: *Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter*

August: *The Unthinkable: Who Survives When Disaster Strikes*

September: *The Damnation Island*



Sci-Fi with the Science Guy

Third Thursdays at 5:00pm

Join Professor Lorry Green for a monthly movie night featuring classic Sci-Fi movies and discussion about the sometimes "questionable" science. Popcorn is always provided!

July: *Outbreak (1995)*

August: *Jurassic Park (1993)*

September: *Five Million Years to Earth (1967)*



Local Writers' Group

Last Fridays at 10:30am

Led by local writer, **Alethea Pape**

Join us as we share our work, discuss techniques, and become better writers together.



ERHN Exercise Class & Walking Group

Tuesdays at 10am (Indoors in bad weather or walking outdoors in nice weather)

Led by an instructor from the Ellenville Regional Rural Health Network. When the weather is bad we will do a class indoors and if the weather is nice we will walk the trails in town together.



Special Events & New Programs are always being added. Check our online calendar for the most up-to-date information on programming. Have a idea for programming? Contact iredzimski@rcls.org to make a suggestion.



Summer Reading Challenge 2026

Registration begins June 22nd

This summer kids & teens are invited to register for summer reading, track their reading, & collect prizes all summer. Starting June 22nd—your reading log!

Flower Children Music Class

July 7th & August 4th @ 1:30pm (ages 12-16)

Join Local Musicians James & Becca for a fun folk music class with lots of interaction.



Teen Art Club

July 7th & August 4th @ 1:30pm (ages 12-16)

Join us this summer as we inspire our creativity and learn a new skill in the process.

Art w/ Ms. Patiana

June 11th, July 9th, Aug. 12th, Sept. 10th

Join Ms. Patiana for a new process based art program each month. The focus is always on learning a new medium or experimenting. Have fun. Make Art! (ages 8-12)

Storytime in the Park

Wednesdays at 10:30am

Join Ms. Giuliana in Veteran's Park every Wednesday for stories and songs. If the weather is bad, this will take place in the children's room at the library.



SRP Wrap Up Ice Cream Party

August 14th @ 12:30pm (all SRP readers welcome!)

Join us as we end our summer of reading with an ice cream party and fun games out on the lawn.

Summer Youth Programs

Foam Party & Lawn Games @ Founders' Day

July 11th at 12:00pm (All Ages)

Join us for a soapy good time! We'll fire up the foam cannon and have the giant Jenga table going all day!



Dinosaur Club

July 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th @ 11:00am (Ages: 5-12)

Discover what it's like to be a Paleontologist and dig for dinosaurs. Get ready for a day of hands-on exploration and discovery.



Build-a-Dino Picnic

July 17th and August 7th at 11am (Ages 3-11)

Join us to build your own stuffed dino & have a picnic & storytime together on the lawn.



Crafternoons w/ Ms. Beth

July 14th & 28th 1:30pm (Ages 5-10)

Spend an afternoon embracing creativity while enhancing fine motor skills with fun crafts & activities.



Explorer's Club

July 16th, 23rd, 30th @ 12:30pm (Ages 5-12)

Join us & explore the natural world. Unearth the secrets of plants, dinosaurs, fossils, gems, geodes, & more



Builders' Brigade— Summer Edition

Mondays at 3:00pm starting 7/7 (Ages 5-12)

Join us for building challenges each week. Make new friends, challenge your brain, and think creatively.



Announcements



Story Trail on the Canal Tow Path

A story walk encourages families to engage in building reading skills, physical activity, and family bonding all at the same time. Our Story Trail begins at the Canal Tow Path trail off Pine Street near the Wurtsboro Firehouse. The featured book will change seasonally so check back often for a new story!

Seed Library celebrates its 2nd Year!

Thanks to our dedicated Friends of the Library, we had such a successful first year, that we've brought the seed library back again! It's simple, just stop in and pick up to **5 packets of flower, fruit, herb or vegetable seeds** per visit.



Book Fairies Bring Smiles & Books to Locals



The Book Fairies believe that books belong everywhere. This year the Book Fairies began appearing at local events. Some highlights include Fairy Fest at the Mamakating Environmental Education Center, The Historical Society's Holiday Train Show, WBOT's Spring Fling & Fall Fest, Farmer's Markets, and even Teacher's Appreciation Week at the Chase School.

Bestsellers Clubs

Be the first to get your hands on that new Bestselling Novel!

Join a Bestseller Club at the library today. Over **20 authors** available in **regular and large print**. By joining the club for your favorite author(s) you'll automatically be put on the holds list when we receive a new title by your choice of author. **No more placing individual holds yourself and waiting months for that new title!** Ask at the circulation desk for more information.



Library Apps & E-Resources

Entertaining, Educational, Accessible



RCLS Go | Library Catalog
Allows you to browse the RCLS catalog, manage your account & place holds on the go.



Libby | E-books & Audio Books
Find thousands of e-books, audio books, & magazines accessible with your card.



hoopla | Music, Movies, & TV
Stream free music, movies, & TV shows on hoopla for free.



Comics Plus Library Pass
Access thousands of comics, graphic novels, manga issues here. You can create shelves & lists of favorites to re-read too!



Mango Languages | Learn a new language
With over 40+ languages to learn, your library can help you master a new language in no time!



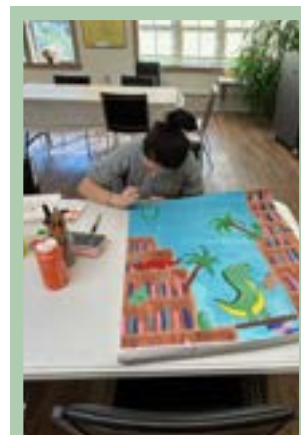
Vet Now | Help for our Veterans
Use VetNow to help navigate the many resources and services for Veterans.

Teen Volunteer Hours Available

Are you a high schooler who needs volunteer hours? Get a jump start on next school year's volunteer requirement this summer at the library. Stop by and pick up an application to get started.

Volunteer tasks may include:

- Program Prep, Set up, & Breakdown
- Gardening Help
- Cleaning & Organization
- Unique Artistic Projects
- Event Help (Founder's Day)



Are you an adult looking to volunteer? Join the Friends of Mamakating Library for lots of opportunities to help. Contact mamakatingfol@gmail.com for more information.

Mamakating Library By The Numbers



Number of physical library materials you checked out
25,150



Number of library sponsored programs offered to you
427



Number of digital library materials you checked out
9,555



Number of attendees at library sponsored programs
6,180



Number of your reference questions answered
5,558



Number of your Wi-Fi and internet sessions
21,237

Top Checkouts in 2025

Museum Pass



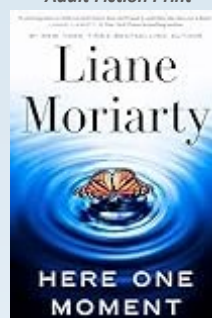
Video Game



Adult DVD



Adult Fiction Print



Adult Non-Fiction Print



Adult Audiobook



Adult Non-Fiction Audiobook



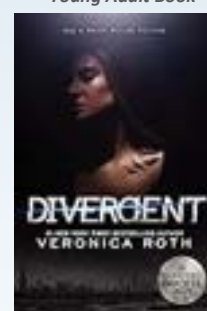
Large Print



Magazine



Young Adult Book



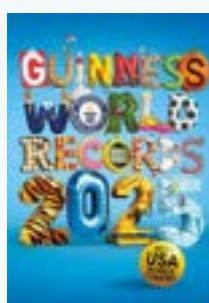
Young Adult Graphic Novel



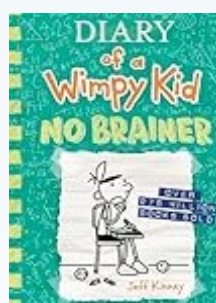
Children's Graphic Novel



Children's Non-Fiction



Children's Fiction



Children's Picture Book



Community Events



Farmers Market & Music in the Park

Thursdays
5:00-8:00pm
on 3rd Street

June 11th thru
September 24th



September is Library Card Sign Up Month!

Get signed up for your Mamakating library card in the month of September and automatically be entered to win an E-reader!* One adult and one child will be chosen at the end of the month.**

*The library service area includes the Town of Mamakating within the Monticello, Minisink, & Pine Bush School Districts.

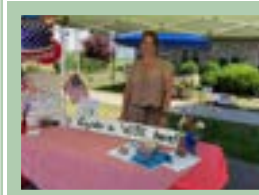
**Drawing Sponsored by the Friends of Mamakating Library

On Display At The Library New Displays Monthly

Each month the library features a new local artist or local patron's collection at the library. Whether you are a sculptor, fiber artist, watercolorist, jewelry designer or illustrator, or you collect something interesting, the library can be your gallery.



All art forms & collections will be given consideration according to policy. Contact iredzimski@rcls.org for more information on featuring your art or collection in our display space.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

for the Founders' Day
Book Sale Table

Saturday, July 11th

Volunteers and Friends of the Library members are always needed to make our outreach efforts a **success!** Join the Friends of Mamakating Library today to be an essential part of what makes this library so wonderful. Friends assist with library programming, outreach, fundraising, gardening, and so much more!

Please contact **Friends President, Megan Comfort** at mamakatingfol@gmail.com to join the Friends of the Library, volunteer with us on Founders' Day, or to inquire about further details.

2026 Mamakating Library Proposed Operational Budget

Budget Annotations

STAFFING EXPENSES Covers the cost of salaries, benefits, & payroll taxes. The 2027 increase reflects our ongoing commitment to providing cost-of-living adjustments & competitive wages—ensuring that the team who serves our community continues to thrive here.

LIBRARY MATERIALS Covers the cost of resources used by the public including books, DVDs, video games, audiobooks, e-books, online databases, magazines, & newspapers. The modest increase in 2027 reflects rising costs from publishers & vendors, consistent with broader inflationary trends across the market.

INSURANCE The 2027 increase reflects continued rises in insurance premiums across the industry, driven by inflation & market conditions.

PROGRAMMING Covers the cost of library programs & supplies, including the Children’s Summer Reading Program, lectures & presentations, & enrichment programs for people of all ages. The Friends of Mamakating Library continue to provide valuable additional support for programming throughout the year & we partner with many community organizations to offer locally relevant programming. The 2027 increase reflects growing community demand for quality programs & our commitment to meeting the needs of all ages.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES Includes costs associated with accounting & bookkeeping, attorney & legal fees, elections, & cleaning services. The slight increase in 2027 reflects modest rate adjustments from our service providers.

UTILITIES Includes the cost of electricity, heat, & other essential building services. The 2027 increase reflects rising energy costs & fuel prices, which have continued to climb along with inflation.

BUILDING & GROUNDS Covers maintenance, repairs, & landscaping. Costs remain relatively stable in 2027, with a small increase to account for inflation in materials & contractor rates.

CAPITAL RESERVE Our fund set aside for necessary, foreseen projects such as roof repair & parking lot maintenance. In accordance with board policy, the budgeted amount for this line increases by at least the rate of inflation each year.

MISCELLANEOUS OPERATING EXPENSES Covers office supplies, equipment leases, processing materials, postage, museum & professional organization memberships, telecommunications fees, conferences, & mileage. The 2027 increase reflects incremental cost increases across these categories, driven largely by inflation & rising fuel costs.

Anticipated Expenditures	2026	2027
Staffing Expenses	281,700	304,480
Library Materials	55,800	58,100
Insurance	26,150	27,950
Programming	3,550	5,700
Professional Services	17,600	18,000
Utilities	10,000	12,500
Building & Grounds	14,250	14,500
Mortgage	24,000	24,000
Capital Reserve	6,250	6,750
Misc. Operating Expenses	22,200	24,020
Total Expenditures	461,500	496,000
Anticipated Revenues		
Interest & Earnings	12,000	9,000
Miscellaneous	6,400	5,900
Grants & Donations		
State Aid	3,100	3,100
Fund Balance	15,000	18,000
Total Revenue	36,500	36,000
Proposed Tax Appropriation		
	425,000	460,000

Important Dates to Remember:

June 30th *Petitions Available*

Those wishing to run for a board seat may pick up petitions. Petitions are due back by Friday, July 24th.

August 4th *Register to Vote*

You must be registered to vote in the library service area. Registration processing can take up to two weeks—Register early!

August 4th at 6:00pm

Meet the Candidates & Budget Hearing

Come meet the candidates and get your budget questions answered.

August 5th *Absentee Ballots Available*

Absentee Ballots will be available at the library. Call for mailing information or stop in to get yours.

August 18th 3:00-8:00pm **VOTE!**

Stop into the library to cast your ballot. All absentee ballots must be received by 8/18.

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128 SULLIVAN STREET
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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10AM - 5PM
Tuesday, Thursday: 10AM - 7PM
Saturday: 10AM - 4PM

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www.mamakatinglibrary.org

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Publicity & Social Media Coordinator:
Alethea Pape
Principal Clerk: *Donna Drake*
Clerks: *Patiana McMahon, Giuliana LaPiana,*
Kate Smith, Marie Grosso

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Jennifer Holmes, Finance Officer
Pamela Mann, Trustee
Thomas DePaulo, Trustee
Samuel Meyer, Trustee

The Library Board of Trustees meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00PM, unless otherwise noted on our website. The public is invited to attend all meetings.



Connect With Us!



Adventure Passes at the Library

Visit the Mamakating Library and **check out** a Museum!



Patrons are responsible for calling the museum directly for information on hours of operation, admission, closings, and parking.

 Please RECYCLE this mailing 