

# Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library



PO Box 29, 5751 State Route 86, Wilmington, NY 12997 (518) 946-7701

Valued Community Members,

The last few years have been hard to believe and the library had to make many changes to work with the uncertain times we were dealing with. In 2021, we operated using curbside pickup for the first five months. During that time, we offered Grab & Go crafts monthly in place of our children's programming.

We opened for regular services in May and our patrons were happy to be browsing in the library again. We resumed our bi-monthly children's programming in July with the beginning of our Summer Reading Program. The children's programs were a huge hit and we were hitting record numbers for attendance.

In late October we surveyed our community members to highlight areas where we are succeeding and areas that we need to work on. The surveys were incredibly helpful and we have since taken steps to improve in the areas where we are lacking. One area was the refreshing of our middle-grade book collection and we have purchased around fifty books in this area.

The library is in need of a renovation as the building is relatively in the same condition as it was when it was built in 1932. We plan on upgrading the ceiling, flooring, and brand new bookshelves which will net us over 200 square feet of more shelving space. In order to offset costs, we applied for the New York State Public Library Construction Grant. The results of the grant award will be announced in late July of this year and hope to begin construction in late October/early November. The construction will take approximately six weeks and we are excited to begin the new year with a fresh outlook.

We look forward to sharing our 2022 results with you next year!

Best,

The Board of Trustees of Wilmington E.M. Cooper Memorial Public Library