

**Reading Room Association of Gouverneur
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Gouverneur Library holds 134th Annual Meeting

On January 16, 2020, the Gouverneur Reading Room Board of Trustees held its 134th annual meeting to elect officers for 2020 and review the highlights of 2019. Serving as officers in the Board will be the president- Anita Stoffel, vice-president- Charles Audet, secretary- Karen Taylor and treasurer- Donna Besaw. Five members were re-elected to sit on the board. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 3:30 p.m. in the loft and are open to the public.

The library circulated 16461 items in 2019, including books in regular and large print, books on CD, DVDs and magazines. The library was visited by 13699 patrons and of those, 2841 used the library's public access computers. There were 19585 wifi users in 2019. Over 600 books were added to the collection along with 80 books on CD for adults and children.

The library had 78 children's programs this year, which included the Monday story and craft hour. Other new programs included a monthlong seedswap, and monthly Lego Club and Treasure Time for children. There were 76 children signed up for the summer reading program with two special programs by the Utica Zoo and Martian Magic Man. Both of these performances were well attended by families with over 100 enjoying the performances. The library staff provided 14 craft programs for children of all ages during the Summer Reading Program and a pizza party with cake to celebrate reading. This year the library added music by Franny to their monthly storytimes at both headstart and the recreation center.

The Mammography van from Upstate Medical visited in November. Weekly Knitting group continued to meet on Tuesdays and Bookclub on the last Wednesdays of each month. Overdrive, the downloadable audio and e-book service saw increased use in 2019. E-material check outs were up by almost 30% over the previous year. The friends of the library continue to support the library financially by making a \$3,000 donation to the operating budget. Funding for their financial support was made possible through the Annual Geranium Sale, Arts in the Park and Trivia Nights.

The Reading Room Association of Gouverneur celebrated its 134th birthday on January 14th with a cake, light refreshments and folk music. The board and the staff of the library look forward to serving the community by supporting literacy and learning in 2020.