

### GRANT UPDATE

- We are moving forward with purchasing a **bookmobile bike**, which we will make available to other Dutchess County libraries to borrow for their own events when we aren't using it. Other directors seem very excited about the possible ways they may use the bookmobile. The provider is Icicle Trikes and we are opting for the foldable version (which fits into a tall SUV), rather than the electric version (which doesn't collapse at all). When the time comes, we will ask for community volunteers to help us transport the bookmobile to some locations.
- Chancellor Livingston Elementary School will install the **StoryWalk** display equipment around the edges of their woods, with acknowledgement via small plaques that the materials were donated by Starr Library and paid for by a grant from Dutchess County. We decided not to pursue installation in Thompson-Mazzarella Park due to a number of unforeseen complications. Giving the materials to the school district will further the goals of the grant program, increase the reach and impact, and enable the school to incorporate a wide variety of curricular activities.
- We are narrowing down the **furniture** options for the teen space (based on excellent input from our in-house teen employees) but are waiting until we convene the new Teen Advisory Board to make purchasing decisions. Chris DiMase (carpentry) and Dave Long (electric) are working up estimates for installing a laptop bar.

### PERSONNEL

- August and September were challenging months for staffing, due to vacations, illnesses, and various family emergencies. Mondays are a consistent challenge, as almost all of our circ desk staff are unable to work that day and we are trying to rotate Mondays off for the FT staff who take turns working on Saturdays.
- I would like to discuss reopening the library on Sundays, and if the Board agrees, it seems to make sense to hire someone to work Saturday, Sunday, and Monday (16 hours total).

### BUILDING & GROUNDS

- **Community Room Facelift** - Dan Umbro came back to add semi-gloss to the doors and do some touch ups (\$600). Chris DiMase completed work merging the two large closets, installing shelves, sealing the ceiling with mildew-killing paint, creating two vents, and hanging the new window shades (\$1000).
- **Doors** - The new exterior doors were installed on Sept 12. Hudson Valley Door & Hardware will be coming back for minor adjustments. Doyle Security came to reposition the alarm sensors. The balance due of \$10,800 will be paid in the next billing period.
- **Dumpster** - Chris DiMase will install two pieces of fence around the dumpster for \$600.

- **Shed** - The purpose of installing a standalone storage shed is to house the new bookmobile bike and to open up space in the Community Room closets by relocating large items like extra shelving, coat racks, and the stage. Community Room closets could then be dedicated to programming materials and overflow space for the Friends to process donations. We have clearance from the Town Building Department to put up a shed that is less than 144 sq.ft. without a permit, and it isn't subject to minimum set-back rules. Our top choice shed is from Lowe's, a 10'x12' gable style called Asheville, for approximately \$5000 (installed but not painted). Installation estimates are about 8-10 weeks from purchase. The target site is across the driveway from the dumpster, set back several feet to allow for snow plowing. The shed does not require a foundation or major leveling.
- **Accessibility** - There are quite a few problem areas in and around the library which make wheelchair access difficult. I would like to prioritize correcting these problems: smoothing out gaps in the path from the rear handicap parking spots to the downstairs entrance; making it easier to open the bathroom door next to the circ desk; filling in the gap immediately outside the front entrance. More involved fixes include the steep incline from the handicap parking in the front (possibly moving the designated parking), repairing the exterior stairs and rails in the back, and installing an automatic door opener in at least one bathroom.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- There were two positive stories about Starr in the Red Hook Daily Catch:
  - <https://www.thedailycatch.org/articles/exclusive-with-new-librarian-in-place-starr-library-weighs-multi-million-dollar-renovation/>
  - <https://www.thedailycatch.org/articles/starrs-new-librarian-jaclyn-savolainen-plans-ambitious-new-programming-no-book-banning-here-she-avers/>
- We are building exciting bridges to the school district and re-invigorating partnerships there:
  - Connecting with the school librarians and individual teachers to see how we can support their needs
  - Pushing into elementary classes to give out library cards and demonstrate our resources
  - Sharing event information for distribution
  - Gathering current textbooks from the upper grades to keep for in-library use
  - Establishing procedures for upper grade students to take a school bus to the library
  - Donating the StoryWalk displays
  - Planning for the Seniors' Passion Project field trip
- We have started sending more frequent focused newsletters, and continue to refine and adjust the format of our communications.

## FINANCES

- Insurance - We changed Director's & Officers' Liability policy from Philadelphia Ins. Co. to Mount Vernon Fire Ins. Co., while staying with Dowden as our local broker. Philadelphia would have been \$2566, Mount Vernon is \$1043 for the same \$1MM limit (defense attorney costs subject to a separate limit). Dowden is looking for savings in alternate plans for our other policies, as well.
- Amazon is terminating its business line of credit program, which we use. We should consider applying for an Amazon Prime credit card.

## PROGRAMMING

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>August 2022</b>	<b>Total 2022 YTD</b>
Attendees for all programs	371	1752
(Excludes Scrabble, Starr Stitchers, Mahjong, outside groups)		(Missing some info which I hope to correct)

### August Program Highlights

- 8/6 Brian Robinson Animal Show - 80 people
- 8/13 Zach Alexander Magic Show - 85 people
- 8/16 Rhinebeck Legion Band Concert - 75 people
- 8/17 & 8/24 Literacy & Art with Teresa Corrigan - 15 people
- 8/20 Chamber Music Concert - 18 people
- 8/20 What's Your Story With Brent Sverdloff - 12 people
- 8/25 Music and Movement with Terry Watson - 15 people
- 8/30 Starr Book Club - 18 people
- Other August programs: Qigong, Chair Yoga, Lego Hour, Mini Art Museum, Storytime, Houseplant Swap

## PATRON SERVICES

- We have modified our new card registration forms to eliminate gender, as it is not a relevant field.
- We've made a lot of progress with shelf shifting to make space in the teen zone. Several collections have moved around, with more changes to come. Also, in the course of shifting, we decided to eliminate two small collections with very low circulation: MP3s and the Great Courses (available on Hoopla).

## SUGGESTED FOCUS FOR THE BOARD

**Trustee education opportunities** - This fall, MHLS will be offering both in-person and online events for trustee education. For complete program descriptions and to register for any of these online workshops please visit the MHLS calendar. All trustees attending the events live will receive a certificate of attendance. <https://midhudson.org/calendar/>.

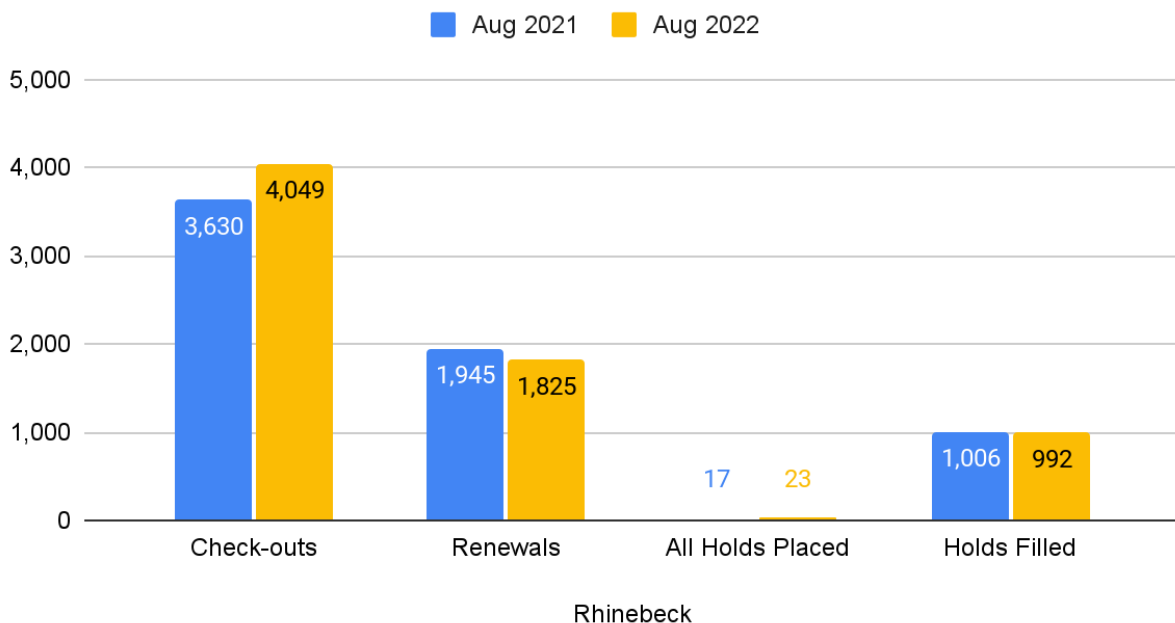
I would like to **schedule meetings with all committees** to review current activities and discuss goals.

Starr has a lot of exciting programs coming in August (please review the [calendar](#)), but it would be great if the board focuses their efforts on **getting the word out** about these two:

- Fri. 10/14 @ 5pm - **Miracles on Montgomery** - a parade, cinematic screening & food trucks with Upstate Films
- Wed. 10/26 @ 7pm - **Nerds at Night** - adults will play tabletop games with Megabrain Comics

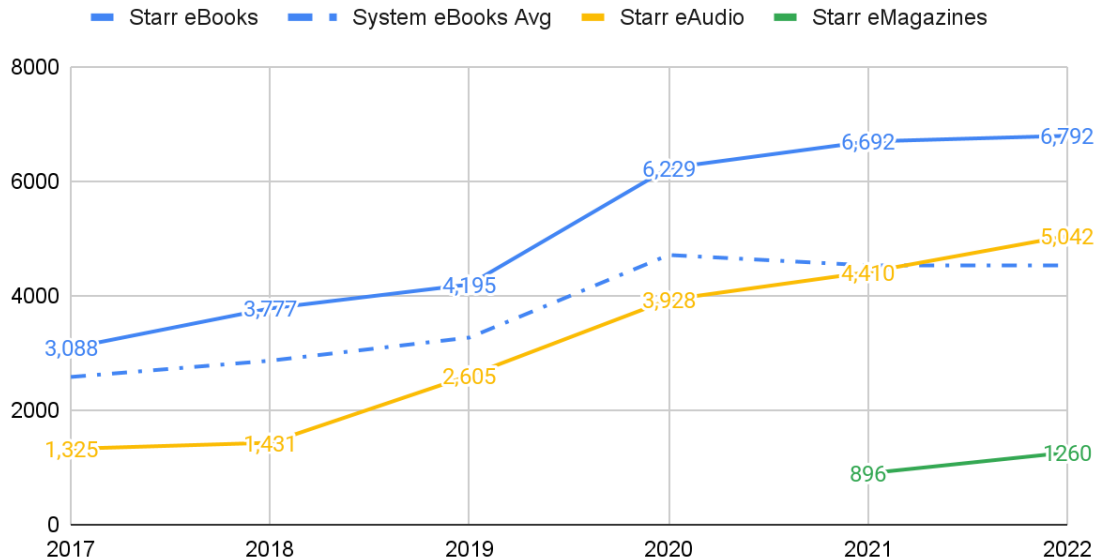
## STATISTICS

### Circulation Transactions at Rhinebeck by All Patron Types



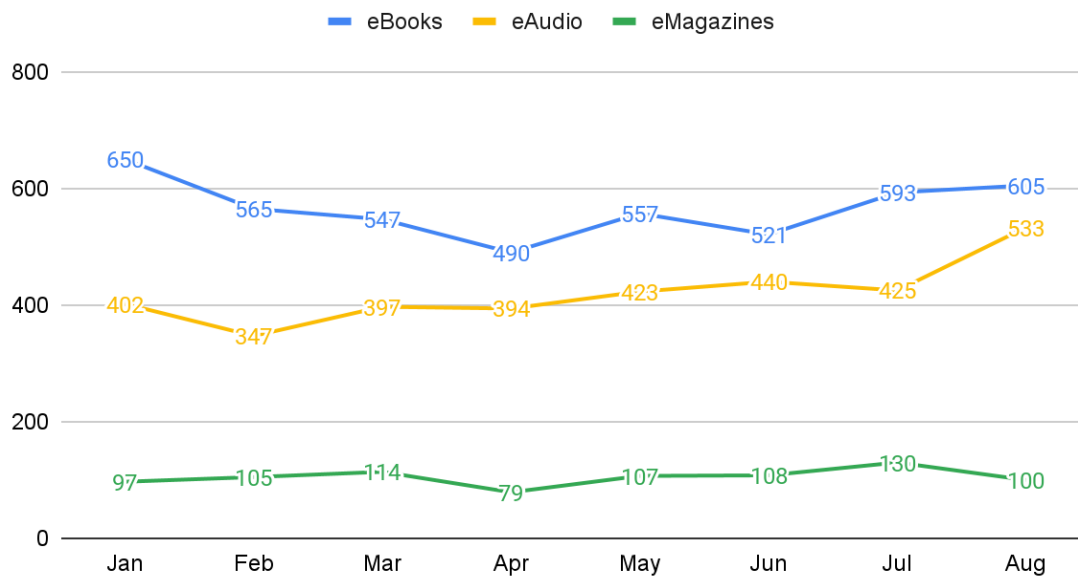
This month, we're starting to look at our library's usage of eResources, keeping in mind the comparison to physical circulation transactions that took place in Rhinebeck (see above chart). Mid-Hudson facilitates gathering of statistics separately by the Overdrive collections (eBooks, eMagazines, eVideo), Hoopla collections, and all other databases (Gale, Mango, Tumblebooks, etc).

## Starr Overdrive Usage Compared to Past 5 Years and System



The projected 2022 Overdrive totals above are based on actual totals of Jan-Aug plus 4 months of averages. Overdrive only offered eMagazines starting in 2021. Considering that checkouts of physical items at Starr has been roughly 4000 per month, the total Overdrive circulation represents roughly a quarter of what crosses the circulation desk.

## Starr Overdrive Monthly Usage 2022



eAudio usage at Starr has increased gradually, while eBooks and eMagazines have been fairly consistent across the year so far (eBooks were a little higher during January, July, and August)

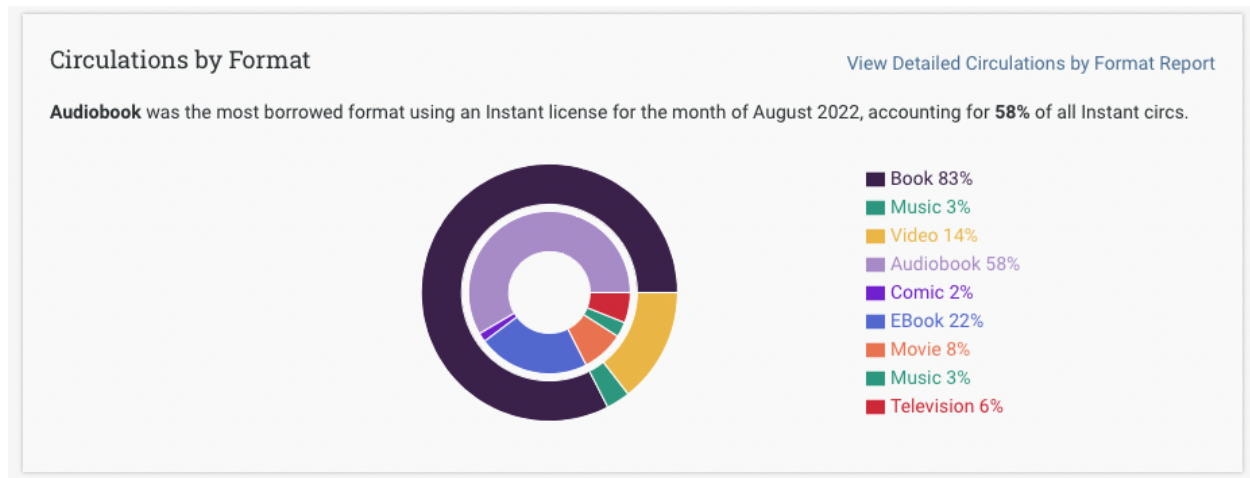
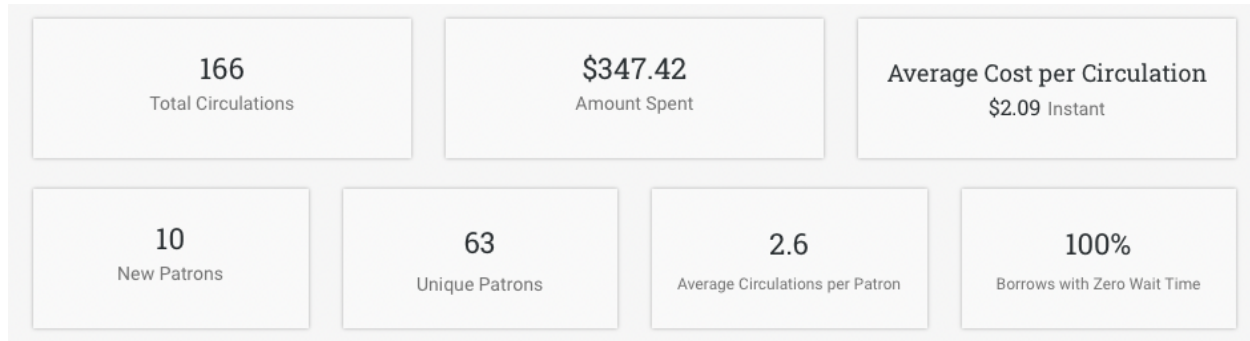
For all of Overdrive, Starr averages 10 new users a month and about 260 unique users a month (across all of 2022).

Mid-Hudson just released data about Overdrive usage and spending, along with recommendations to share the costs more fairly. Starr patrons account for 2.2% of total Overdrive circulation in the system, but our financial contribution only accounts for just under 1% of the total spent. In line with their recommendations, we will aim to double our spending on Overdrive. Over the past 5 years, Starr patrons have consistently used Overdrive substantially more than the average use across all Mid-Hudson libraries. Electronic materials are typically at least twice as expensive as print.

OverDrive Purchasing 2021	Starr Library
Amount Spent on OverDrive Shared Collection	\$3,474
Total eBook circulation	6692
Percent of eBook circulation	2.17%
Total eAudio circulation	4410
Percent of eAudio circulation	2.24%
Combined OverDrive eBook & Audio Circulation	11,102
Total # of Overdrive Holds	6,503
Percent of OverDrive Spending	0.99%
Percent of OverDrive Circulation	2.2%
Difference in OverDrive Spending & Circulation	-1.2%
Percent of OverDrive Holds	2.6%
Chartered Population	7,548
Per Capita OverDrive Spending	\$0.46
Average Days Wait for OverDrive Holds	53
Additional OverDrive Spending Amount to Meet Recommendation	\$4,712

# Hoopla

Aug 2022



I am just learning how to use Hoopla’s dashboard and statistics so I will explore this further in the future. In the last 12 months, Starr spent \$4200 on Hoopla for 2094 circs (192 unique patrons), with no overall spending cap in place, although there is a limit of 5 titles per patron per month.

## Other Databases

Outside of Overdrive, Starr users have access to a few dozen other databases. However, only Gale shows any meaningful engagement (averaging around 400 hits per month in 2022), and Mango Languages has 10 or fewer hits per month. Two months also had minimal activity in Tumblebooks (20 or less). Creativebug generates 0-4 active users each month.

One takeaway from this is that our databases are underutilized and we may wish to start a campaign to educate our patrons about what is available to them and how they can access these resources.