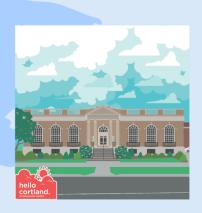


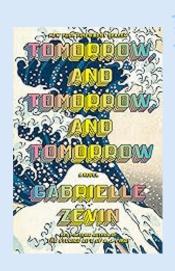
CORTLAND FREE LIBRARY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

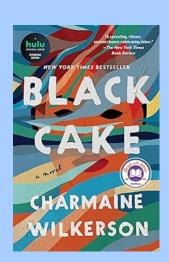
Cortland Free Library's roots extend back to 1886 when a South Cortland Farmer, Franklin Hatch, realized his dream of endowing a public library. Hatch's library served Cortland residents for nearly 40 years, until it was reorganized in the the early 1920s as the Cortland Free Library. Chartered by New York State Department of Education on July 20, 1925, the library now serves the City of Cortland, Town of Cortlandville and Town of Virgil.

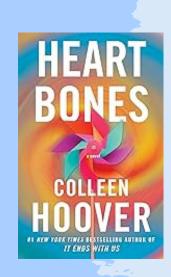
Since 1886, libraries have changed and evolved so that books are just the beginning of what a library does. Cortland Free Library' Mission is to provide information in a variety of formats. It strives to make available library materials and programs to educate, inspire, enrich, entertain and inform. The Library and it's staff work to promote the tools, skills and techniques for literacy development, language skill acquisition, lifelong learning, recreation and research.



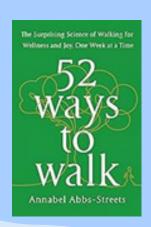
What were people reading in 2023?







Books are just the beginning



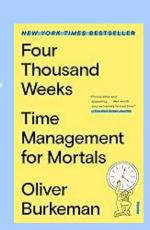
65,934 - Books in the collection

8,290 - Audio and Video items

69,201 - Books circulated

24,437 - A/V items circulated

But there's more!



86,321 - visitors to the library

2,597- reference questions answered

9,278 - interlibrary loans received

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



And still more!

307 - youth programs offered
7,834 - youth attended
62 - programs held in the community
2,481 - children attended offsite programs

One example of a great program working with community partners!

Partnering with the Mental Health Association for Cortland County, Cortland Free Library presented Gizmo's Pawesome Guide to Mental Health to 3rd and 4th graders. Along with a reading of the book and tips on child-friendly ways that kids (and adults) can take care of their mental health, each participant received a stuffed Gizmo toy. Participants also were able to connect with a therapy dog named Sophie.



