Award winners - director Val Meyerson was honored with the Chamber’s Athena Award, and teen librarian Nisa Kesseler was honored as the state’s Teen Librarian of the Year with the Fran Pletz Award.

The Americans and the Holocaust exhibit proved to be a resounding success and marked a powerful start to 2023. The exhibit, granted to the library from the Holocaust Memorial Center in Washington D.C. and the American Library Association, garnered widespread kudos for its compelling content which explored the complex relationship between Americans and the Holocaust. Visitors continued to praise the exhibit throughout its six-week stay.

(see page 3 for statistics)
2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Nurture Knowledge
- The “Paws to Read” program added a new therapy dog, Ladybug, to listen to our young readers read aloud.
- Petoskey Chess club expanded and now offers US Chess Federation rated tournaments for all ages.
- Steam Tweens program brought fun science programming to kids.
- Storytime continues to be a popular program with our littlest residents.
- Code Club brings young people together to learn the very beginnings of coding.

Connect Community
- Celebrating New Year’s Eve with families is always a highlight. This year’s weather brought in lots of people to enjoy games, crafts and s’mores in addition to all the fun at CTAC.
- Providing passports for our residents to go explore our neighboring libraries was a fun way to connect to other communities.
- We now provide free period products thanks to grants from: Zonta Club, Friends of Petoskey Public Library, and Xi Epsilon Gamma of Charlevoix.

Drive Discovery
- Many patrons enjoyed stretching their imaginations with a series of creativity classes to spark them on.
- We hosted a class on composting food waste, providing an opportunity for residents to learn how to best manage food waste.

Stewardship of our Building
- This was a big year for taking care of our building. Our construction project repaired the brick and stone which had major signs of water damage, cleaned the building, sealed all the stone and windows. Now it is ready for many more years.
- The Carnegie Building also had some TLC. We repaired the large window keystones.
The Americans and the Holocaust exhibit was a huge success. Here’s the round-up of our numbers:

Visits: 2,316
28 docents hosted 87 separate tours, including 13 different schools and 7 different adult groups for a total of 1,124 guided people. We also had 1,192 people individually go through the exhibit.

Library Circulation: up 97%
We compared the circulation of Holocaust and World War II materials from the exhibit time period compared to the same time period last year and we saw a 97% increase in the use of those materials.

Door Counts: up 47%
We compared the door counts during the exhibit period (11,549) to the same period last year (7,879) a 47% increase in people coming into the library.

Programs
We hosted 3 movies, 3 lectures, and a virtual book discussion for 244 people. The Anti Defamation League along with an educator from the Zekelman Holocaust Center spent two days discussing Antisemitism with 90 students in the Harbor Springs Schools and 220 students at the Public Schools of Petoskey.

2023 FINANCES

OPERATING REVENUES:
- City Taxes-Operating: $579,159
- Township Taxes-Operating: $532,494
- Federal/State/County Revenues: $77,226
- Local Library Income: $71,137
- Grants & Donations: $86,661
Total Revenues: $1,346,667

OPERATING EXPENSES:
- Wages and Benefits: $845,054
- Library Supplies & Materials: $114,198
- Programming: $99,049
- Building & Equipment Maintenance: $64,129
- Supplies & Development: $21,709
- Utilities & Insurance: $67,186
- Contracted Services: $135,352
Total Expenses: $1,346,677

CAPITAL BUDGET:
City Taxes allocated to capital project: $76,726
Transfer from Fund Balance: $820,630
Capital Outlay Expenses: $897,356

DEBT BUDGET:
City Tax Revenue-Debt Fund: $242,922
Debt Payment: $242,922
Year End Fund Balance: $484,991
Visitors
The door counter clocked **86,833** visitors, up **11%**.

Read, Watch or Listen
You borrowed **172,112** items, up **9%**.

Used Meeting Rooms
You utilized meeting rooms in the library **822** times, up **9%**.

Educational and recreational classes and programs were enjoyed by many different people
- **4,563** adults attended **272** programs
- **2,812** kids attended **156** programs
- **843** teens attended **111** programs
- **2,236** people attended **16** family programs

Technology
- **7,457** sessions on public computers, up **18%**
- **31,180** sessions on library wifi
- **120,755** visits to our website

Gathered Information
- **17,433** questions were asked of staff and **9,399** of those are considered reference questions.

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**MOST CHECKED-OUT ITEMS OF 2023**

**ADULT FICTION**
*Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
BORROWED **61** TIMES

**ADULT NON-FICTION**
The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck* by David Grann
BORROWED **17** TIMES

**YOUTH CHAPTER BOOK**
Wings of Fire: The Graphic Novel* by Tui T. Sutherland
BORROWED **63** TIMES

**YOUTH PICTURE BOOK**
Brownie and Pearl Take a Dip* by Cynthia Rylant
Peek and Seek* by Charlotte Milner
BOTH BORROWED **15** TIMES

**TEEN BOOK**
Catching Fire* by Suzanne Collins
BORROWED **15** TIMES

**ADULT MOVIE**
Foyles War: The Home Front Files* by Val Meyerson
BORROWED **50** TIMES

**YOUTH MOVIE**
PAW Patrol* by Bob Lee
BORROWED **23** TIMES