About the Mid York Library System (MYLS)

- Mid York is a nonprofit cooperative library system chartered in 1960 by the NYS Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The MYLS is one of 23 public library systems in New York State.
- The MYLS has a cooperative arrangement with 43 autonomous public libraries in Herkimer, Madison, and Oneida Counties. The majority of them are rural (22). The remaining are town, suburban or city libraries. The largest is the Utica Public Library serving the City of Utica.
- Fourteen employees including librarians, and support staff.
- Residents of Herkimer, Madison, and Oneida Counties have access to our member libraries’ collections and electronic resources by using a Mid York Library System card.
- Governed by a fifteen member board who are residents of our three county service area
- Mid York provides the following services:
  - Consultation
  - Interlibrary Loan
  - IT
  - Acquisitions, cataloging, and processing
  - Five days/week delivery service to our member libraries
  - Continuing education
  - Outreach
  - Reference
- Mid York Library System Road Trip, (see included Sentinel newspaper article). This was the most popular event the MYLS held.
Buckle-up for a readers road trip

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Staff writer
e-mail / twitter
May 29, 2022

Do you know which of your local CNY libraries has a resident cat and which has a 3D printing machine? Are you up for a challenge?

(Submitted image)
This summer, kids, adults, and families are welcome to join a three-month self-guided trip to visit 45 library locations throughout Herkimer, Madison, and Oneida counties as part of the Mid York Library Road Trip. The event runs from June 1 through Aug. 31.

Mid York Library System Executive Director Wanda Brushis explained that CNY libraries offer more than just books. Each library reflects the rich history of its community and provides offerings with their own flare. As navigators stop at each of the public libraries in the Mid York Library System, they will discover the unique buildings, services, and resources available at their local and neighboring communities. Unique items cardholders can borrow include park passes, tools, cake pans, crutches, and snowshoes.

By the end of the multi-stop journey, travelers will have visited a library dedicated by President Theodore Roosevelt, another built by Andrew Carnegie, one located on the ‘yellow brick road,’ and another with a museum that displays Egyptian artifacts — and even includes a mummy. “Several libraries have glass floors — a unique architectural feature to see,” Brushis added.

“Libraries are essential, vibrant, cost-effective community and information centers that readily adapt to change,” Brushis remarked. “Mid York Road Trip gives the opportunity for the libraries to ‘strut their stuff!’”

This event is a cooperative effort between Mid York and its 43 autonomous public libraries, and its a first of its kind, according to Bruchis. “We spoke of doing something along these lines for a number of years. For a variety of reasons, this year everything fell into place,” Bruchis explained.

**Start your road trip**

The Mid York Library Road Trip begins by picking up a map at your first stop, which can be any Mid York Library. A list of libraries and their locations can be found at www.mylibraryroadtrip.org. Use this map to plan your road trip to as many of the 45 Mid York Library System locations as you can visit. At each stop, a staff member will stamp your map to document your trip.
Whether you travel in a pack or go solo, you’ll earn prizes when you’ve visited 5, 15, 30, and 44 locations. Any person, team, or family that is able to receive a stamp from all 45 locations will receive a VIP gold library card — a custom library card with complementary bragging rights, Bruchis remarked.

Beyond the offerings within the libraries themselves, road-trippers are encouraged to embrace the surrounding communities’ attractions, restaurants, parks, and vendors.

For more information on libraries and their communities, visit www.mylibraryroadtrip.org.