



**OLEAN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

# April 2025 Newsletter



134 N. 2nd Street  
Olean, NY 14760  
(716) 372-0200  
Oleanlibrary.org

Hours:  
M-Th 9am-9pm  
Fri 9am-6pm  
Sat 10am-5pm

Curbside service available by appointment.  
**The library will be closed 4/19/2025.**

**Drawn to the Library**  
National Library Week  
April 6-12, 2025

ALA American Library Association  
Library Champions  
SCHOLASTIC

Millions of people across the country visit their libraries every week.  
**What's the draw? Everything.**

From young families stopping in for play and story time, to students sketching out their next creative project for the 3D printer, to seniors seeking tech help and everyone in between, libraries of all kinds help us connect the dots from one part of our journey to the next. Chart your next literary adventure by browsing the stacks or joining a book club. Explore your creativity in an arts program or craft class. Dig into your roots at a genealogy workshop. Whatever draws you in, the library has something for everyone.

Celebrate National Library Week. April 6 - 12, 2025.

This is just a sampling of the exciting activities happening at the library during National Library Week!

**Love our Library Staff**  
**March 31st–April 12th**

Grab a card at the library, write down a compliment for a staff member, and we will display them for National Library Week to showcase all of the amazing ways the Olean Public Library's staff has positively impacted our community.

**Peep Diorama Contest**— If you picked up supplies in March to participate, please return completed dioramas by **April 4th**. A vote will be held during National Library Week with prizes to be awarded.

**2025 Library Duck Hunt**

**Sponsored by your Olean Teen Advisory Board (OTAB)**

Just like last year, OTAB will be hosting another Duck Hunt in the library to help make National Library Week just a little "quacky." Hidden throughout the library during National Library Week will be seventeen (17) rubber ducks, each with a letter of a secret phrase written on its bottom. Decoding that message and submitting a completed Duck Hunt sheet to a service desk will earn you a bonus Duck Ticket for our basket raffle. Head to a service desk during National Library Week to get the form to participate.

(Please be kind to other participants and leave the ducks where you find them. If you can't find one, let a staff member know so we can give you a clue or, if a duck wandered off, find its "quacky" understudy.)

**Basket Raffle**  
**April 7–12th**

As part of our National Library Week celebrations, we will be raffling off a few gift baskets. Patrons can pick up a ticket each day they come to the library during National Library Week. Winners will be selected at closing on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, and baskets can be picked up the following week during normal business hours.

**Book Boxes**  
**April 7–12th**

Boxes can be picked up for patrons that completed a survey in March.



"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"  
- Poem 133: The Summer Day, Mary Oliver

**April is National Poetry Month!**  
We'll be having a month-long celebration of poetry with programs, pop-ups, & more. Keep an eye on our social media & stop in often to see what fun poetry-related things we'll have for you!

See pg. 3 & 4 for poetry month programs. Look for this image for easy identification.



**Peg Bothner Bookmark Contest**

Annually, the Friends of the Library holds a bookmark design contest for area school children in grades 1-5. This contest was named after a long-time Friend of the Library and local artist, Peg Bothner. The members of our bookmark contest committee supply the librarians in the area schools with a theme and template for a bookmark and ask their students to each design a bookmark that best illustrates what the theme means to them. Most schools participate and the submissions are annually over one thousand! Many thanks to our judges, Betsy Matz, Helen Ruggieri, Sheila Taylor, Melissa Yaworsky and Diane Ksionzyk who reviewed each bookmark and chose one winner per classroom and then one overall winner per school. We are very appreciative of our community partner, BOCES for help with reproducing the school winning bookmarks for us to share.

**We are pleased to announce the winners of each school.**

School	Winner	Teacher	Grade
Allegany-Limestone Elementary	Isabelle Thierman	Mrs. Dombeck	3 <sup>rd</sup>
East View Elementary	Alaina Austin	Mrs. Chase	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Portville Elementary	Lucia Anderson	Miss Ulasewicz	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Washington West Elementary	Paisley Anderson	Ms. Hennerman	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Olean Middle Intermediate—Tie	Elwyn Herne	Ms. Matejka	5 <sup>th</sup>
Olean Middle Intermediate—Tie	Lilian Xie	Mrs. Hamed	5 <sup>th</sup>

Congratulations to our winners! All the entries will be on display in the Gallery at the library until the last week in April. Come by to check out the incredible bookmarks!

**United Way Volunteer Fair**

**April 23, 2025**  
**6:00–8:00pm**

Meet with a number of local organizations and explore volunteer opportunities that match your skills and interests. Whether you're passionate about community service, youth programs, or supporting local nonprofits, there's a place for you to make a difference. Stop by and get involved!



## Children/Family Programs

### Stories & More

**R**

Wednesdays at  
10:00am

Story time captures the imagination and attention of young ones to inspire a lifelong love of books and reading. Our story times include songs, rhymes, flannel boards, and instruments. Our programs are specially designed for birth through preschool. We incorporate early literacy tips and practices to promote reading readiness.

### Stories & Stretches

**R**

Thursdays at 11:00am

Children ages 2 to 5. A fun, movement-oriented program with stories, songs, and stretches.

### Investigation Stations

**R**

Tuesdays at 6:30pm or  
Wednesdays at 3:30pm

Kids ages 3 and up participate in directed group activities, including longer stories, music, and instruments, followed by exploration of creative art and STEM stations.

### Reading Can Be Ruff Club

**R**

Tuesdays at 6:30pm or  
Wednesdays at 3:30pm

Practice reading with our favorite therapy dogs. These guys are great listeners and never judge! They make reading fun. Bring a book or choose one here. Explore the Investigation Stations and enjoy some "pupcorn" while you wait.

*Stories & More, Stories & Stretches, Investigation Stations, and Reading Can Be Ruff Club run from 3/10–4/11/25 and then 4/28–5/23/25. Registration can be completed online in addition to calling or stopping by.*

## Magical Easter Celebration

Saturday, April 12th at  
12:00pm

There will be a magic show by  
the  
Marvelous Mr. J!

An Eggs-cellent Easter Egg Hunt!

Baby chicks and ducks!

A visit from the Easter Bunny  
himself!

Don't miss this fun event!



### St. Bonaventure Lanier Literacy Project

Monday, April 14th at 3:30pm

Student athletes from the St. Bonaventure Lanier Literacy Project will be here to read to kids, have fun, and promote literacy. There will be crafts, snacks, and giveaways.

Kids! Come to the library anytime from April 7th through April 12th to celebrate National Library Week!

Write the name of your favorite book on a bookworm circle and get a book to keep! Make our bookworm grow!



April 5th through  
April 12th

The Library will be partnering with the Olean Area Charter for Compassion and the City of Olean to celebrate the Community Week of Kindness. This is a week long event being celebrated throughout the city.

Draw a "Picture of Kindness" and bring it to the library. This could be any representation of an act of kindness that you have seen or experienced. Your picture will be on display all week at the library. Treats and giveaways will be available. The theme of kindness will be the highlight of all our children's programs this week!

### The Safe Kids Staying Safe Program



Thursday, April 24th at 6:00pm

This month a representative from Worthy Pharmacy will be on hand to read and discuss medicine safety and poison prevention, There will be fun activities, safety materials and giveaways for parents and caregivers.

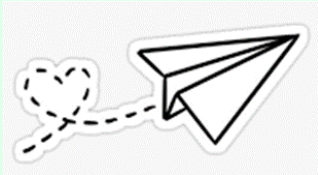
Join us at the library every third Thursday at 6:00 beginning in February.

Each month a different community organization will present a book related to one of the Safe Kids Staying Safe Initiatives.



## After School Programs (Ages 7-12) - (4-5:00pm)

**April 7th**—National Library Week Celebration. Come join a Saint Bonaventure student with a fun "just dance" time to stay active and then we can upcycle old books pages into paper planes because reading makes you travel to places you've never been!



**April 14th**—Egg Scavenger Hunt a fun scavenger hunt for our regular After School Club Members to celebrate together!

**April 21st**—Robot Coding

**April 28th**—Pokémon Club



QR code for after school program updates & reminders.

## Teen Programs (Ages 13-18)

### Team A, Teen DnD

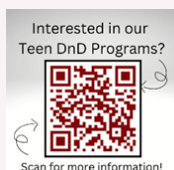


Wednesday April 2nd

6:00—8:30pm in the Gallery

Our brave heroes have taken down the Death Knight Dreadnaught and (to varying levels of success) found a way to board the moored ship. How will the party return this cursed vessel to the high seas?

*Team A is currently FULL, but scan the Teen DnD QR Code to request information on Teen DnD programs with openings.*



### Teen Gaming Club

Wednesday April 9th

3:30—4:45pm in the Gallery

We'll bring our Nintendo Switch and some games: you come prepared to play! We also have space ready and available to play board games or card games like Sushi Go. Any and all teens are welcome to join, and you can bring a game to play if you want. In honor of National Library Week, we'll also have available Mario Kart Live Circuit cars to play with.

### Art Club: Painting (wooden) Eggs



Thursday April 10th

3:30—4:30pm in the Gallery

Come join OTAB as they provide paint, wooden eggs, and the space to make them your own. We'll also have examples of pisanki, the Polish tradition of egg painting, available for reference. Please plan to pick up your creations the next day. *Sign up in Teen Room or at the circulation desk.*

### Teen Jackbox Games

Friday April 11th & 25th

3:30—4:30pm in the Gallery

We have every party pack available to play! Bring a device and your thinking caps to compete with other teens. The family filter is kept on throughout, and your screen names and answers must remain library appropriate throughout the program.

### OTAB Meeting

Tuesday April 15th

4:30pm in the Conference Room

We'll be working on our new Art Club's offerings, as well as planning for Summer Reading 2025. New members are welcome to attend, though participants need to be between 13 and 18 years old; reach out to [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org) for details.

**The teen room is open  
weekdays 3—6pm.**

### Team B, Teen DnD



Wednesday April 16th

6:00—8:30pm in the Gallery

Argus Skeel has been tracked and cornered by our stalwart adventurers, though he has proven a tricky foe to vanquish. Will our heroes—and their host of loyal creatures—be able to neutralize this threat to Phandalin before the sun rises?

*Email [programming@](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org)*

*oleanlibrary.org or scan the QR code to join.*



### Teen Anime Club

Wednesday April 23rd

3:30—4:45pm in the Gallery

Thanks to an Outreach program from Crunchyroll, we have access to literally hundreds of anime to watch in our club. Come enjoy some international snacks and watch anime with other teen fans. We will choose to either continue Puella Magi Madoka Magica or begin a new series.

### Teen Rap Battle/Poetry Slam



Wednesday April 30th

3:30—5:30pm in the Gallery

Got something you want to vent about? Compete with your fellow teens by slamming topics through the power of verse. Secret judges will use audience reactions to decide who wins prizes.



If interested in virtually attending a program with a virtual option, email [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org)

Registering for Programs at the Library is as easy as 1, 2, **OR** 3!

1). Call: 716.372.0200

2). Email: [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org)

3). Stop in:  
134 N. 2nd Street  
Olean, NY 14760



Registration Required



Limited Registration



Zoom Option Available



Registration Requested 3

## Adult Programs

### Composting Basics with Stephanie Pikulski



Thursday April 10th  
6:00-7:00pm in the Gallery

Interested in making homemade, nutritious garden compost but not sure where to start? Join Master Gardener Volunteer Apprentice Stephanie Pikulski and learn the basics of composting! This class will be targeted towards beginners, but more advanced gardeners may learn something, too!

### Knit & Crochet Club



Saturday April 12th  
11:30-12:30pm in the Gallery

Knitters, crocheters, and other fiber artists of all levels are welcome to attend. Bring your current craft (or one you need a bit of help with), and we'll provide the space and company of fellow crafters. Interested but don't have a project to start? We'll have some free patterns, yarn, and some basic crochet hooks and knitting needles available to take home.

### Silent Writing Group



Saturday April 12th  
2:00-3:00pm in the Gallery

Do you have a writing project you're working on or have always wanted to start but can never find the time to work on it? This is for you!

Join us in the Gallery, where we'll have some light refreshments available while you work quietly on your writing in the company of other writers. Open to anyone who enjoys writing, regardless of skill, age, or project type. Please note: this is \*NOT\* a workshop class, so we won't be sharing and critiquing our work. We're providing a space to quietly encourage each other as a writing community.

### Dungeons and Dragons



Tuesday April 15th  
6:00-8:30pm in the Gallery

Interested in playing Dungeons and Dragons with other adults? Come join Cherish, our library's resident game master, and try it out. Players of all experience levels are welcome, and bringing a snack to share,

though not required, is appreciated.

*Scan the QR to create a character ahead of time!*

Adult DnD Campaign



Join here!

### Cooking Club



Thursday April 17th  
6:30pm in the Gallery

This month, the Cooking Club theme will be **New (to you) recipes!** Bring a dish you've never made before and join us to try some delicious dishes. We will discuss food and cooking. This program is great for home cooks of all skill levels and we always welcome new members!

### Let's Talk About Poetry



Tuesday April 22nd  
6:30-7:30pm in the Conference Room

Calling all poetry lovers! In celebration of National Poetry Month, we will be hosting a poetry discussion group. Come talk about all things poetry with fellow poetry lovers in our community.

### Personal Finance Plan & Budget



Tuesday April 22nd  
6:00-8:00pm in the Gallery

Tired of not getting ahead financially? This free class with Richard Esposito shows you the way to getting out of debt and building wealth.

This 2 hour class includes the following: one hour on steps to get out of debt and stay out of debt, build wealth, and live and give generously, then one hour on creating a budget that works. Join us and see what the path to being debt-free looks like!

### Decades Trivia Night



Thursday April 24th  
6:30pm in the Gallery

Join us for a fun adult trivia night at the library! We'll be doing decades trivia- each round will be based on a different decade of history and pop culture, from the 1960s to the 2010s. You can participate as an individual or with a team of up to 4. Registration is encouraged, but not required. Bring your friends and come have a fun evening playing trivia!

## Poetry Jam

Wednesday April 30th  
6:30-8:30pm in the Gallery



Wrapping up National Poetry Month, we will be hosting a "Poetry Jam!" An informal, café style get-together where patrons can hang out and share their favorite poems, songs, even read their own work if they want. A fun, relaxing way to close out the month and foster creativity in our community.

## Craft Programs

### Pop-In: Poetry Collage

Monday April 7th  
6:30pm in the Gallery

Come make some more found poetry with us! Found poetry uses already existing or "found" texts to make something new. On the 7th, we will be making Collage Poems, which is where you cut out words and images from newspapers, magazines, etc., and paste them to a blank sheet of paper to create your new poem! It's a fun and relaxing way to get into the spirit of National Poetry Month.



### Bunny Celebration Centerpiece



Monday April 14th  
6:00pm in the Gallery

Come join Miss Amy to create a cute Easter centerpiece.

**Ages 18 & up.**

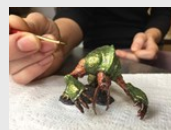


### Miniature Paintings



Monday April 28th  
6:30pm in the Gallery

Adventurers and lovers of tabletop games, come join Miss Allison! Bring your minis and paints or use ours! Come hang out and paint some minis for your game or just for fun. This is not class, but we will be available for help. **Ages 12 & up.**



*This month's arts and crafts programs are made possible by the Frances Bean O'Connell Arts Grant.*

*If you are interested in donating to the Frances Bean O'Connell Art Program Fund, please contact Keely Doyle, Director of Philanthropic Services at the Erie Community Foundation at 814-454-0843, ext. 101, or by email at [kdoyle@eriecommunityfoundation.org](mailto:kdoyle@eriecommunityfoundation.org).*

**LR** = To allow access to as many interested patrons as possible for these programs, patrons may sign up for one and go on the wait list for others.

## Book Clubs



### Brown Bag Book Club



Monday April 21

at 12:30pm in the Gallery

You bring the lunch, we supply the refreshments! Join us as we discuss *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon. Multiple copies of the book are available through the library system. Want to read ahead? For May, we'll be reading *The Paris Novel* by Ruth Reichl.

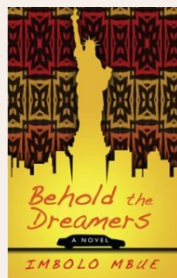


### The Race Unity Circle of Olean Book Club @ the library:

Wednesday April 16th at 1:00pm

April Book selection: *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue

A compulsively readable debut novel about marriage, immigration, class, race, and the trapdoors in the American Dream—the unforgettable story of a young Cameroonian couple making a new life in New York just as the Great Recession upends the economy. Race Unity Circle Book Club is free and open to the public. Multiple copies are available via the library.



## Outreach

LawNY Healthcare Navigator available in-library Mondays, April 7, 14, 21, and 28 from 10am until 1pm.



## Film Screening & Discussion

R

Monday April 21, 6:30–8:00pm

In honor of Earth Day, Love in Action and the Olean Public Library will be showing the short film, *Choosing Earth: Choosing Life*. After the documentary, director/producer, Coleen Elgin will join us remotely to respond to questions and note the many resources the *Choosing Earth* team has to support the work of serving the wellbeing of all life. Participants will be invited to a future tree planting locally and other opportunities to contribute to the health of our Earth and communities will be featured. Free. Open to the public and refreshments provided. Please register at 716-372-0200.

*Choosing Earth: Choosing Life* explores the speed, depth and magnitude of our growing planetary crisis, and the opportunity we have to meet this crisis consciously – with eyes and hearts wide open. Through a broad, whole-systems perspective, the film examines key challenges (climate change, inequities, species extinction, overconsumption, and more) and explores the deeper transformation being called forth from humanity to awaken to and serve the well-being of all of life.



April is the month where we recognize Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention. CCA works diligently with outreach, prevention education, and direct service efforts to make sure survivors get the resources and support they need respectively, and we hope to see community support for these causes as well. Stop by the library to see CCA's display throughout April.

Give hope this spring.

Give blood.



Sign-up now for the upcoming American Red Cross Blood Drive @ the library **Friday, April 4th from 11:30 AM to 4:30 PM**. Please schedule an appointment today by calling 1-800-Red-Cross, visit [redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive](https://redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive) or download the blood donor app. Type OPLibrary in the "Find a Drive" search bar.

## Gallery: April 2025

### Peg Bothner Bookmark Contest sponsored by the Olean Friends of the Library

It is once again time for our annual Peg Bothner Bookmark Contest! The schools that participated are Allegany-Limestone Elementary School, East View Elementary School, Olean Intermediate Middle School, Portville Central Schools, and Washington West Elementary School. Judges chose one winner from each school. The public is invited to view all entries in the Art Gallery through the month of April.

### Two award ceremonies will be held Saturday, April 5th in the Library:

- 11 am: East View Elementary, Washington West Elementary, Olean Intermediate Middle School winners
- 1 pm: Portville Central School, Allegany-Limestone Elementary School winners

Interested in showcasing your art in our gallery? Contact the library by phone or by emailing [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org) to learn more. Please remember: artwork must be appropriate for a general library audience (i.e.: suitable if children see), and you must be able to fill the entire gallery with your pieces. Any 2D medium is welcome to submit!

# Tribute Gift Book Plates March 2025

Honor    ✎    Memorialize    ✎    Acknowledge

<b>In Memory of:</b> Carole O'Malley	<b>Donation by:</b> Olean Public Library Staff
<b>In Memory of:</b> John F. O'Malley	<b>Donation by:</b> Olean Public Library Staff
<b>In Memory of:</b> Mr. & Mrs. Victor Stebbins Sr.	<b>Donation by:</b> Nickey Nichoson
<b>In Memory of:</b> Phillip Bernstein	<b>Donation by:</b> Rosalie Dieteman
<b>In Memory of:</b> Diane Dieteman Elliott	<b>Donation by:</b> Rosalie Dieteman

## Library Programs—April 2025

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

	1	2 Team A DnD 6pm	3	4 American Red Cross Blood Drive 11:30am-4:30pm  Peep Dioramas Due!!!	5 Peg Bothner Bookmark Award Ceremony 11am & 1pm (see pg. 5 for additional information)
7 LawNY 10am-1pm After School: National Library Celebration 4pm Poetry Collage 6:30pm	8 Investigation Stations 6:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 6:30pm	9 Stories & More 10am Investigation Stations 3:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm Teen Gaming Club 3:30pm	10 Stories & Stretches 11am Teen Art Club 3:30pm Composting 6pm	11 Jackbox Games 3:30pm	12 Knit & Crochet 11:30am Magical Easter Celebration 12pm Silent Writing Group 2pm
					
14 LawNY 10am-1pm After School: Egg Scavenger Hunt 4pm St. Bonaventure Lanier Literacy 3:30pm Bunny Centerpiece 6pm	15 OTAB Meeting 4:30pm DnD 6pm	16 Race Unity Book Club 1pm Board Meeting 5:30pm Team B DnD 6pm	17 Cooking Club 6:30pm	18	19 <b>CLOSED</b> 
21 LawNY 10am-1pm Brown Bag Book Club 12:30pm After School: Robot Coding 4pm Choosing Earth 6:30pm	22 Talk About Poetry 6:30pm Personal Finance & Budget 6pm	23 Anime Club 3:30pm United Way Volunteer Fair 6-8pm	24 Safe Kids Staying Safe 6pm Decades Trivia Night 6:30pm	25 Jackbox Games 3:30pm	26
28 LawNY 10am-1pm After School: Pokémon Club 4pm Miniature Paintings 6:30pm	29 Investigation Stations 6:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 6:30pm	30 Stories & More 10am Investigation Stations 3:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm Teen Rap Battle 3:30pm Adult Poetry Jam 6:30pm	Adult programs in black Teen programs in blue Children/family programs in red Community outreach programs in purple		