



**OLEAN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

# March 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.



## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 6TH—APRIL 12TH

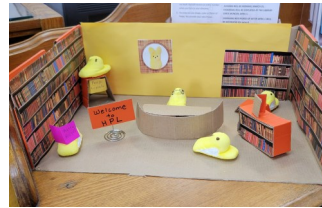


### Love our Library Staff—March 31st through April 12th

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.

**Book Box**—Sign up to participate in the library's first book box. The box will contain 1 or 2 library books chosen by our staff based on your interests. Watch Facebook and Instagram for online sign-ups. Fill out the survey provided after signing up and pick up your box during National Library Week.

**Peep Diorama Contest**—You can pick up the rules and peeps to make your library or book themed diorama on **March 17th**. Completed dioramas need to be returned to the Library by **April 4th**. A vote will be held during National Library Week with prizes to be awarded.



February was a busy month for the Friends of the Library. On February 28th, we held another successful gathering in the library, FeBREWary! Our semi-annual tasting events are a time for friends to gather, socialize and hear about updates

from the Library Director. We hold these special events to bring in funding for programming that goes above and beyond what the library budgets for. We are very proud to be able to say yes to as many requests as possible and our semi-annual events, attended by friends like you, help to provide those funds.

This past month we also had a big change in our Executive Board. Cookie Lindamer has chosen to step away from her position as President. She will continue to work with the Friends as the volunteer coordinator for the Born to Read Program. We extend our heartfelt thanks for her many years of dedicated service and look forward to working with her on special projects.

As a reminder, our membership year runs from Jan 1st to Dec 31st. You can become a member and call yourself a Friend of the Library with a donation made by cash, check, or online at the Olean Public Library's website under the Friends tab. It's never too late to be a Friend!

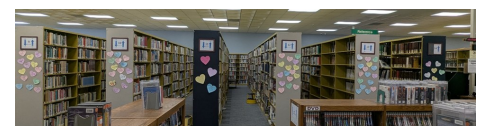


## What Our Patrons Love

For the month of February, when love is plentiful, we asked our patrons to tell us what they love.

Paper hearts were available in the library for anyone to fill out with something they love. Those hearts were then displayed on endcaps throughout the library.

Thank you to all of you who participated! You helped make our library a little brighter and warmer this winter.



**R** Registration Required

**LR** Limited Registration

**Z** Zoom Option Available

**R** Registration Requested

## 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 3/10/25 through 4/11/25 Registration begins 2/24/25 and can be completed online in addition to calling or stopping by.*



## Bunny in a Basket Petting Zoo Saturday, March 22nd at 12:00pm

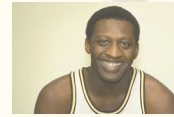
Mike Morton from Sundance Kids Farm will melt our winter hearts with his adorable baby animals just in time for spring.

There will be crafts, snacks, and photo ops available.



## St. Bonaventure Lanier Literacy Project

Monday, March 31st 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.



## 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!



## The Safe Kids Staying Safe Program



Safe Kids Southern Tier New York is led by Southern Tier Health Care System, which provides dedicated and caring staff, operation support and other resources to assist in achieving our common goal: keeping your kids safe.



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.

Thursday, March 20th at 6:00pm

Local author and firefighter Justin Willibey will be here to read and teach us about safety and injury prevention. He will also take us through the process of writing, illustrating, and publishing a book! Kids will have the opportunity to design their own book covers.

Healthy snacks & crafts will be available.



### 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!

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

#### Media Month in March!

**R** March 3rd—Jackbox Games in the Conference Room

**Due to limited space this will require registration.**

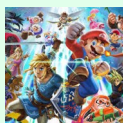


Jackbox is a fun interactive game that is played using devices such as a computer or smartphone. Computers will be available. These

games will require reading, writing, drawing, and more.

#### March 10th—Super Smash Brothers Ultimate Showdown

Come join the fun as we play Super Smash Brothers with our friends.

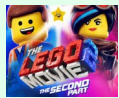


#### March 17th—Minecraft

There will be computers available that are first come, first serve. Only 10 devices can connect to the world at a time. Feel free to bring your own device to play your own Minecraft worlds on.



#### March 24th—Lego Movie 2



Come watch The Lego Movie part 2, and make paper Lego figures.

#### March 31st—NO CLUB



QR code for after school program updates & reminders.

### **Teen Programs (Ages 13-18)**

#### OTAB Meeting

Tuesday March 4th  
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.

#### Teen Anime Club

Wednesday March 5th  
4:30—5:45pm in the Conference Room

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 Jackbox Games

Friday March 7th & 21st  
3:30—4:30pm in the Conference Room

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.

#### **Team A vs. Team B: A One Shot** **R**

Wednesday March 12th  
5:00—8:30pm in the Gallery  
It's time again for our annual Player vs Player game between our two Teen DnD Groups! Come prepared with your CURRENT character from either Team A or Team B; the rest of the details will be provided on game day to keep it fair for all. Pizza and wings will be provided, and there'll be prizes for the winners and honorable mentions. Want to just come cheer it on? Reach out to Cherish so she can plan enough seats and food.

*Sign up in Teen Room or at the circulation desk.*

#### **Art Club: Air Dry Clay Creations** **R**

Thursday March 13th  
3:30—4:30pm in the Gallery  
Come join OTAB as they provide air dry clay and the space to create with it. Make your own creations, or try one of the examples we'll have available to reference. Please plan to pick up your creations the next day.

*Sign up in Teen Room or at the circulation desk.*

#### Teen Gaming Club

Wednesday March 26th  
4:30—5:45pm 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.

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

## Adult Programs

### Knit & Crochet Club



Saturday March 1st  
11:30-12:30pm in the Conference Room

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.

### Dungeons and Dragons



Tuesday March 11th  
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!

### Seed Starting w/ Stephanie Pikulski



Thursday March 13th  
6:00-7:00pm in the Gallery

Join Master Gardener Volunteer Apprentice Stephanie Pikulski and learn the basics of seed starting. Learn how to choose which seeds you should grow, what supplies you will need, and the steps to growing a bountiful garden. This program will be targeted at beginner gardeners, but experienced gardeners may learn useful information, too!

### Cooking Club



Thursday March 20th  
6:30pm in the Gallery

This month, the Cooking Club theme will be **Breakfast for Dinner!** Bring a

breakfast dish to share, and we will discuss our recipes, dishes, and cooking in general. This is a fun, laid-back program that is great for home cooks of all skill levels. New members are always welcome!

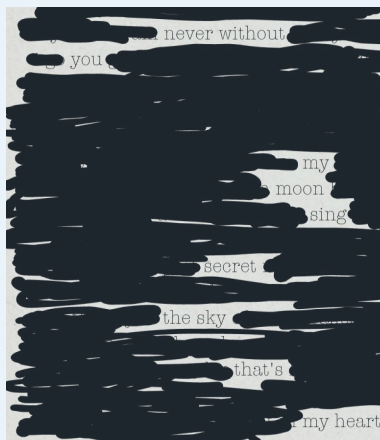
### Pop-Up Program

#### Blackout Poetry

Friday March 21st

Between 1:00-5:00pm

March 21st is World Poetry Day! To celebrate, we'll have a table set up in the library where blackout poems can be made. Blackout poetry, also called erasure or redacted poetry, is a type of "found poetry," where the poet uses already existing or "found" texts to make something new. You take the original text, find or highlight words you want, and then blackout the rest. The remaining text is your new poem! You can do as many as you'd like and take your new poems home or give them to us to share on our socials. It's a great way to get excited for National Poetry Month in April!



### Genealogy Research Club

In the Conference Room  
6:00-8:00pm

Wednesday March 12th

Focus Topic: Vital Records

This research session will focus on birth, marriage, and death records that are available online. Participants can bring their own laptop or borrow a library laptop. Staff member Stephanie Beneng will provide a demonstration and research assistance.

Wednesday March 26th

Focus Topic: Newspaper Records

This research session will focus on free online newspaper records, particularly the NYS Historic Newspapers Project. Participants can bring their own laptop or borrow a library laptop. Staff member Stephanie Beneng will provide a demonstration and research assistance.



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

## Craft Programs

### Fairy Houses



Monday March 24th  
6:00pm in the Gallery

Come upcycle old bottles into cute fairy houses. This craft could include use of a glue gun and hand work.

**Ages 15 & up.**



### Pop In : DIY Wineglasses

March 12th, & 13th

**Stop by the information desk between 6:00pm & 9:00pm**



Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, come decorate your very own special glass.

*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).*



= 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.

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 4

## Book Clubs



### Brown Bag Book Club



Monday March 17th  
at 12:30pm in the Gallery

You bring the lunch, we supply the refreshments! Join us as we discuss *My Name is Lucy Barton* by Elizabeth Strout.

Multiple copies of the book are available through the library system. Want to read ahead? For April, we'll be reading *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon.

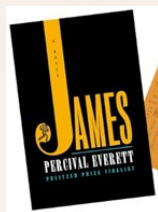


### The Race Unity Circle of Olean Book Club @ the library:

Wednesday March 19th at 1:00pm

March Book selection: James: a novel by Percival Everett

At February's meeting we discussed Twain's Adventures of Huckleberry Finn and then for March we are reading James which is the retelling of Mark Twain's 1884 classic from the point of view of Jim, the runaway slave who joins Huck on his journey down the Mississippi river. While it would be possible to enjoy James without knowing the original, its power derives from its engagement with Twain's book. Race Unity Circle Book Club is free and open to the public. Multiple copies are available via the library.



## Outreach

**FREE TAX HELP!**

Get in-person tax help and file for free at the Olean Public Library.

Sign-ups begin March 1<sup>st</sup>. Call for availability. Volunteers will be on hand to walk you through your income tax return. Use on-site computers, or your own laptop, tablet, or mobile device. Printing will be available. **If you earned \$84,000 or less in 2024, have basic computer skills, and have an active email account that you can access while filing, you qualify for this service.** Documents that will be required:

- a photo ID (driver license, passport, and so on)
- state issued ID: required to submit New York State return
- all of your income documents (W-2s, 1099s, and so on) and other documents available
- a copy of your 2023 tax return (if you filed)



**CASA-Trinity is recognizing Black Balloon Day in our community on March 6th**—a day dedicated to raising awareness of overdose deaths and honoring those we have lost to addiction. This National Day of Remembrance serves as a powerful way to support families and individuals affected by addiction while also spreading awareness about available mental health and addiction resources. To commemorate this day in our library, CASA-Trinity will be displaying black balloons, informational flyers, and a small paper-based activity that provides an opportunity for people to honor their loved ones. We would be honored if you would stop by to show your support, show solidarity with those impacted by addiction, and reinforce our collective commitment to mental health awareness.



**See our display in-library:** The mission of the Enchanted Mountains Village, Inc. is to support its members to age well at home by fostering connections to other members, community resources, educational and social activities thus encouraging the development of a vibrant, involved, and mutually supportive community. Our Village is a local network that is part of a nationwide movement being embraced by people who want to age successfully and vibrantly in their own homes. Enchanted Mountains Village welcomes members 55 and older as well as volunteers and business members of any age!  
[www.enchantedmountainsvillage.org](http://www.enchantedmountainsvillage.org)



Displaying this month in the library is the Healthy Community Alliance. Its mission is to improve quality of life in rural communities through broad-based, inclusive partnerships that support wellness and prevention. Healthy Community Alliance is recognized throughout the region as a preeminent rural health network, committed to health promotion, disease prevention, and building quality of life. They offer health insurance navigation, a caregiver tech solutions grant, a home visiting program among other things. Call Brittney, Community Wellness Coordinator, at 716-410-5558 for additional info.

**YOU DESERVE AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE.**

**LawNY Healthcare Navigator** available in-library Mondays, March 3, 10, 24, and 31 from 10am until 1pm.



Connect with our Integrated Services Today!

- Housing
- Primary Care
- Mental Health
- Addiction
- Treatment
- Employment
- Education
- Arts & Culture
- And More!

## Gallery: March 2025

### Paintings by Stephanie Goodwin

Born in Hornell, local artist Stephanie Goodwin took the opportunity to paint murals after moving back to Olean following her time in the Army. From her artist statement, Stephanie “painted independently, mostly with oils and some ceramics.” In her debut show, Stephanie will be featuring a number of her paintings, forming a collection of works in oils, acrylics, and watercolors.

An opening reception will be hosted on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm in the library’s Art Gallery. The public

is encouraged to attend.



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!

Visit with Safe Point Lighthouse staff on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 11:30am. Safe Point is an integrated outpatient clinic that provides care to those who struggle with substance use in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County. We educate about harm reduction and addiction in general. We also provide free harm reduction supplies such as NARCAN, drug testing strips, and bags of goodies for people experiencing homelessness. Call for more info: (716) 413-4661

Give hope this spring.  
Give blood.



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

VOLUNTEER



LEND YOUR MUSCLE.  
CONTRIBUTE KNOWLEDGE.  
**WE ALL HAVE**  
SOMETHING TO OFFER.  
EVERYBODY WINS  
**WHEN WE ALL**  
**PITCH IN**  
**TO ADVANCE**  
THE COMMON GOOD.

### SAVE THE DATE

Looking for ways to give back?

Join us at the **United Way's Volunteer Fair** from 6-8 pm on April 23, 2025. 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! (To have your org represented at this event contact Ryan, outreach at [uwcac.org](http://uwcac.org), Marketing & Outreach Manager, United Way of Cattaraugus & Allegany Counties.)



In celebration of Women's History Month, Race Unity Circle of Olean, NY will be celebrating the lives of women who have made a difference: Fannie Lou Hammer, Dorothy Day, Winona La Duke and more...

Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 1pm  
Free. Open to the public. No registration necessary. Refreshments available.

**R** Registration Required

**LR** Limited Registration

**Z** Zoom Option Available

**R** Registration Requested 6

# Tribute Gift Book Plates February 2025

Honor    ✎    Memorialize    ✎    Acknowledge

**In Memory of:** Carole O'Malley

**Donation by:** Julie Myler

## Library Programs—March 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Knit & Crochet Club 11:30am
3 LawNY 10am-1pm After School Jackbox Games 4pm	4 OTAB Meeting 4:30pm	5 Anime Club 4:30pm	6 #BlackBalloonDay Casa-Trinity	7 Jackbox Games 3:30pm	8 Women's History Month Celebration with Race Unity 1pm
10 LawNY 10am-1pm After School Super Smash Brothers 4pm Gallery Reception— Stephanie Goodwin 6:00-8:00pm	11 DnD 6pm Investigation Stations 6:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 6:30pm	12 Safepoint Lighthouse 9:30-11:30am Stories & More 10am Investigation Stations 3:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm Team A vs. Team B: One Shot 5pm Genealogy Workshop 6:00-8:00pm Pop-in DIY Wineglasses 6:00- 9:00pm	13 Stories & Stretches 11am Teen Art Club 3:30pm Seed Starting 6pm Pop-in DIY Wineglasses 6:00-9:00pm	14	15
17 Brown Bag Book Club 12:30pm After School Minecraft 4pm  <b>Pick up rules &amp; peeps for diorama contest</b>	18 Investigation Stations 6:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 6:30pm	19 Stories & More 10am Race Unity Book Club 1pm Investigation Stations 3:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm	20 Stories & Stretches 11am Safe Kids Staying Safe—Author & Firefighter 6:00pm Cooking Club 6:30pm	21 Pop-Up Blackout Poetry 1:00-5:00pm Jackbox Games 3:30pm	22 Bunny in a Basket Petting Zoo 12:00pm
24 LawNY 10am-1pm After School Lego Movie, part 2 4pm Fairy Houses 6pm	25 Safepoint Lighthouse 9:30-11:30am Investigation Stations 6:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 6:30pm	26 Stories & More 10am Investigation Stations 3:30pm Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm Teen Gaming Club 4:30pm Genealogy Workshop 6:00-8:00pm	27 Stories & Stretches 11am	28	29
31 LawNY 10am-1pm St. Bonaventure Lanier Literacy 3:30pm  <b>Love our Library Staff Compliments Begins</b>					

Adult programs in black  
 Teen programs in blue  
 Children/family programs in red  
 Community outreach programs in purple