

April 2026 Newsletter



OLEAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

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 on Saturday, April 4th 2026.

Olean Public Library Receives \$10,000 Carnegie Gift

The Olean Public Library has received a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the foundation set up in 1911 by the industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

The gift is part of a national initiative celebrating the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and recognizing the unifying role libraries play in a democratic society.

Between 1886 and 1917, Carnegie funded the construction of 1,681 free public libraries across the United States, and a total of 2,509 worldwide. He described public libraries as “cradles of democracy,” understanding that universal access to library resources was essential for citizen participation in a democratic system of government, and for improving citizens’ prospects for educational and financial success.

One of the rules required of communities seeking Carnegie funding to establish a public library was that they agree to support future operations with sustainable funding—that is, an annual tax approved by local voters, demonstrating their long-term commitment to support the library.

While the Olean Public Library no longer “lives” in the Carnegie building established in 1909 (now the *Old Library Restaurant* located at 116. S. Union Street), the current library, located at 134 N. 2nd Street, has always recognized and celebrated its connection to the former Carnegie building.

In fact, many libraries originally housed in Carnegie buildings have since moved into larger and/or more practical facilities, especially during the energy crisis of the 1970s, when heating, cooling, and maintaining older structures became unaffordable; yet the ongoing recognition of their Carnegie past has allowed many of them to receive the \$10,000 celebratory gift. Currently, of the 1,681 Carnegie libraries originally established in the United States, 1,280 still operate and acknowledge their association with Carnegie.

The Olean Public Library will soon break ground on a \$7.9M capital expansion and renovation project, which received broad support from school district voters in 2025. The Carnegie gift will help in our endeavor to create a facility that furthers Carnegie’s ideal that libraries serve and uplift all community members, and will further our mission to assist all people with their educational, informational and recreational needs.



Olean Public Library

Budget Hearing



In the Library

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

6:00 PM

Olean Public Library 2026-27 Trustee Election & Budget Vote for the 2027 Fiscal Year will be held at the Library on **Tuesday, May 5th.**

Polls open at 9 am and close at 8 pm.



We hope you exercise your right to vote on May 5th!

Please note that in addition to the tax levy to support the operating budget for 2027, it is anticipated that the levy increase approved by the voters on June 26, 2025, associated with the expansion capital project, will also be collected in 2026.



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

APRIL 19TH—25TH 2026

Basket Raffle

Monday April 20th – Saturday April 25th

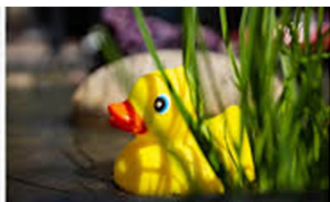
As part of our National Library Week celebrations, we will be raffling off a few gift baskets. Patrons can pick up a ticket each day they come to the library during National Library Week. Winners will be selected at closing on Saturday, April 25th, and baskets can be picked up the following week during normal business hours.

2026 Library Duck Hunt

Sponsored by OTAB

Monday April 20th – Saturday April 25th

Just like in previous years, OTAB will be hosting a 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 twelve (12) 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 needed 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.)



Pop-In: Bling Your Book

April 21st, 22nd, & 23rd

6:00-8:00pm

It’s national library week!

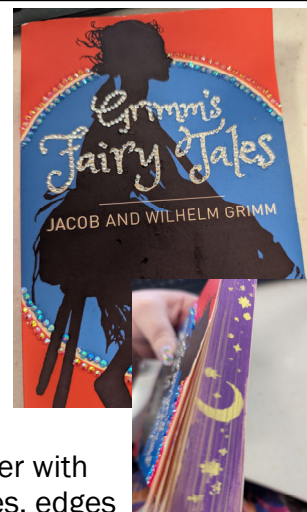
So, what’s a better way to deck out your favorite book? We will have

rhinestones and materials to decorate your book

edges (larger books do better with this). You can do rhinestones, edges

or both! Please remember that Rhinestoning is a relaxing but timely process so

please get here early. This is a BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) program!



To celebrate National Library Week we are offering an Olean Public Library Book Box!

Here's how it works:

- * You fill out a survey (watch our social media) (must have a valid library card number) (must be able to pick up at the Olean Public Library) (must be 18 years or older)
- * A box is created for you based on your answers
- * Pick up for the boxes will be during National Library Week
- * In the box, there will be two Library books that you may like to read and a couple extra goodies!
- * The library books will need to be returned to the library on their due dates but the goodies are yours to keep!

Give hope this spring.

Give blood.



Please consider donating at the American Red Cross Blood Drive @ the library Friday, April 3rd 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 or download the blood donor app. Type OPLibrary in the



Registration Required



Limited Registration



Zoom Option Available



Registration Requested

Children/Family Programs

Story Times & Big Kid Programs run

4/20/26 - 5/22/26

Registration is requested and can be completed online in addition to calling or stopping by.

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. This program is 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, stretches, and movement.

Investigations 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

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.



St. Bonaventure
Lanier Literacy
Thursday April
16th 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, & giveaways.



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 19TH—25TH 2026

Be sure to come down to the library during National Library Week. There will be:

- ◇ Contests
- ◇ Activities
- ◇ Crafts



How many?



Saturday, April 11th at 1:00pm we will be welcoming

Sundance Kids Farm Baby Animals Bunny in a Basket Petting Zoo!

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

There will be crafts, photo ops and tons of cuteness .



COMING SOON! Planting Party Tuesday, May 5th at 3:30pm

Decorate a pot and plant a beautiful flower.
There will be balloons, activities and healthy snacks!



April 5th through April 10th 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.

R Registration Required

LR Limited Registration

Z Zoom Option Available

R Registration Requested 3

After School Program (Ages 7-12) 4:00-5:00PM

Mario Madness Begins

Mario Kart on the Switch!
Monday April 20th

Super Mario Movie & Chat
Monday April 27th

Come join us for snacks, crafts and hanging out with your bestie in a low pressure hang out day!

Teen Programs (Ages 13-18)

Team A DnD

Wednesday April 1st
6:00-8:30pm in the Gallery

A city has disappeared from the material plane, and it's up to our new group of heroic adventures to make things right. Please join us on our new adventure! Email programming@oleanlibrary.org or scan the QR code to join.



Olean Teen Advisory Board (OTAB) Meeting

Tuesday April 7th
3:30pm in the Conference Room

Want a say in what happens in our teen programs? Teens ages 13-18 are welcome to join OTAB, where OPL teens work with the programming librarian to brainstorm new programs and reflect on any challenges or concerns from previous ones.

Teen Art Club

Decorate a Duck
Thursdays, April 9th
3:30-4:30pm in the Gallery
Back by popular demand, librarian

Cherish will be offering a repeat of our popular "Decorate a Duck" pop-up craft for our teen population. The library will provide the supplies: teens just need to bring their artistic vision and a sense of fun! We'll also be decorating a set of ducks for our annual Duck Hunt later this month! (Please note that this is a program for ages 13-19 only. Please reach out to programming@oleanlibrary.org to request repeats of this program for other demographics.)

Teen Gaming Club

Wednesday April 15th
3:30-4:45 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.

Teen Jackbox Games

Fridays, April 10th & 24th
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 your answers must remain library appropriate throughout the program.

Teen Boba & Cookie Party

Thursday April 23rd
4:00-5:30 in the Gallery

Celebrate National Library Week with a boba tea party! We'll be making and trying our own boba teas as well as decorating cookies together to eat or take home. Because April 23 is our 2026 Take Action for Libraries Day, we'll also have information available about the importance of libraries and ways that even teens can speak up for their libraries.

Team B, Teen DnD

Wednesday April 29th
6:00-8:30pm in the Gallery

The threats on the high seas were no match for our adventurers, but land is not proving to be any safer. They descend into their enemy's cliffside lair, where unknown horrors await.

Email programming@oleanlibrary.org or scan the QR code to join.



Adult Programs

Knit & Crochet Club

Saturday April 11th
11:30am 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.

Garden Planning with

Stephanie Pikulski

Monday April 6th
6:00pm in the Gallery

Interested in starting a garden, but feeling overwhelmed and don't know where to start? Join Master Gardener Volunteer Stephanie Pikulski and learn the basics of planning a garden. Whether you already have a garden or are starting from scratch, you will learn some tips and tricks about planning, starting, and managing your garden. No gardening experience necessary to attend!

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

Z If interested in virtually attending a program with a virtual option, email programming@oleanlibrary.org

Adult Programs

Adult Dungeons and Dragons

Z

R

Tuesday April 7th

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. Bringing a snack to share, though not required, is appreciated. Email programming@oleanlibrary.org for any details prior to the program.

Cooking Club

Thursday April 16th

6:30pm in the Gallery

April's Cooking Club theme will be **Salad!** Bring any kind of salad to share, and we'll try each other's dishes and discuss food and cooking. This can be up to your own interpretation- there are lots of different kinds of salads! Home cooks of all skill levels are welcome to join us. New members are always welcome!

Puzzle Race

R

Saturday April 18th

2:30-5:00pm

Join us for our 3rd annual Puzzle Race! Find your three best puzzle goers and try to beat the others and you race to finish your puzzle. At the end of the day, everyone who participates is a winner because we all have a great time! We encourage teams of four to sign up in either the Adult or Family versions. We have Adult and Family versions. We encourage families with children under teen years to be in the family race and teens and up to sign up for the adult race! If you are struggling to find teammates, please email us at achaffee@oleanlibrary.org (if I do not respond within 24 hours, please email me again). You may also call to be on a waiting list! (We recommend coming early as the race will begin promptly at 2:30pm.)



To celebrate, we'll have a few pop-up programs, a poetry books display, and social media posts talking about our favorite poets & poems!

Poetry Pop-Up: Blackout Poetry

Monday April 6th—Saturday

April 11th

Blackout Poetry is a type of "found" poetry, where you take an existing text (like a paragraph from a book) and blackout parts of it. The text that remains visible is your new poem! We'll have a variety of printed texts available near the Info Desk throughout the week for you to make your own blackout poems.

Poetry Pop-Up: Write a Haiku

Monday April 13th—Saturday

April 18th

April 17th is International Haiku Poetry Day! Haiku Poetry is a type of short form poetry that originated in Japan and is made up of three lines with the following syllable pattern 5-7-5. Throughout the week, we'll have a spot near the Info Desk for anyone who'd like to try writing their own haiku.

Poetry Pop-Up: Poem in Your Pocket Day

Thursday April 30th

April 30th is Poem in Your Pocket Day! All day long, you can pick up a small poem scroll to take with you. Keep it in your pocket or share it with your friends.



May the 4th be with you

Monday May 4th

More details to come soon....



Book Bingo

Tuesday May 5th

6:00-8:00pm

Book Bingo is back with some spring goodies as well! Bring your good luck and join our super fun Bingo games!

OPL's Short Story Contest May 2026

That's right, we're doing it again! This May, the library will be hosting another Short Story Contest for adults. Keep an eye on our next newsletter and our social media pages for more information.



thank you

The Friends would like to thank all of the attendees, donors, and supporters of their 6th Annual FeBREWary Beer Tasting Event held February 27th. The event featured beer, hard cider, wine, hard seltzers, and canned cocktails from over 21 breweries and distributors. Guests also enjoyed light fare, a 50/50 raffle, a basket raffle, and the musical stylings of Brian Lothridge.

The Friends would also like to acknowledge the wonderful bookmarks on display in the Art Gallery for the Peg Bothner Annual Bookmark Contest. Students and their families celebrated the artists on March 14th with a formal program, certificates, and refreshments. Six school winners were highlighted and received prizes and copies of their bookmarks.



R Registration Required

LR Limited Registration

Z Zoom Option Available

R Registration Requested 5

Craft Programs

Fairy Garden With Martha Thorne

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Wednesday April 8th
6:00pm in the Gallery

Come and join Martha in creating your own mini fairy garden. All supplies will be provided. Use your imagination as we glue together rocks, sticks, moss and a few 'extras' to create a magical miniature fairy garden.

Craft Level: Beginner
Ages 12 & up.



Kinusaiga, Fabric Art

Monday April 13th
5:30pm in the Gallery

LR

[Kinusaiga](#) is a traditional Japanese art form, sometimes called "patchwork without needles," that transforms fabric scraps into textured, painting-like, or 3D images. Join Miss Amy as we create our beautiful artwork together. This is a program that can be very easy, but we will be using X-Acto knives. The program requires no art skills but does need patience and hand control (which is why this program is labeled as intermediate.) Please email Achaffee@oleanlibrary.org with any questions!

Craft Level: Intermediate
Ages 16 & up.



Pop-In: Wine Cork Succulent Magnet

Tuesday May 5th

Look for additional details in the May Newsletter & on our social media.



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.

*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.

Book Clubs



Brown Bag Book Club

Z

Monday April 20th
at 12:30pm in the Gallery

You bring your lunch, and we'll supply some treats and good company!

Join us as we discuss *The Feather Thief* by Kirk Wallace Johnson.



Multiple copies of the book are available physically and digitally throughout the library system.

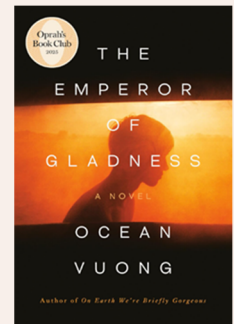
Want to read ahead? For May, we will be reading *100 Rules for Living to 100* by Dick Van Dyke.

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

Wednesday April 15th
at 1:00pm in the Conference Room

Race Unity Circle Book Club is free and open to the public. Multiple copies are available via the library.

April Selection:
The Emperor of Gladness
by Ocean Vuong.



Outreach

VOLUNTEER FAIR

United Way's Volunteer Fair

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

from 6:00-8:00pm
in the library.

Looking for ways to
give back?

Meet with 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 find out how to contribute to the community!

R Registration Required

LR Limited Registration

Z Zoom Option Available

R Registration Requested 6

Outreach



Are you 60 or older and looking for an opportunity to learn how to stay healthy and meet new people? Join us, and bring a friend! Sign up by calling the library: 716-372-0200

The WISE educational program offers six lessons that cover a wide range of topics.

Session Dates: Wednesdays, April 22, April 29, May 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 10:30am-12:00pm.

Join us for this fun program, where you'll meet new people and:

- Learn about the aging process and how to make healthy lifestyle choices
- Celebrate this exciting stage of life and all the benefits that come with it
- Discuss risk factors and behaviors you should avoid to stay healthy
- Examine how alcohol, prescription medications and over-the-counter medications affect seniors differently and how you can avoid problems
- Learn how to use simple tools to help you feel more empowered about your health and the healthcare you receive

For questions, please contact Erica Sebastian at Esebastian@casatrinity.org / Phone: (716) 373- 4303 ext 521.



Visit the library in April to check out Help Me Grow WNY's display and play

a game of "I Spy" throughout the library.

To celebrate Week of the Young Child (April 11-17), Help Me Grow WNY will be showcasing specific books and a specially crafted I Spy game to engage in at the library. Beginning in April, you will be able to head to the display and pick up a sheet telling you what to look for. A hunt around the library will reveal pictures of tasty treats, musical instruments, community buildings, and more! Playing "I Spy" helps children develop key cognitive, language, and social skills, including visual discrimination, vocabulary, and focus. The game improves descriptive language, categorization, and spatial awareness while fostering patience and communication.



Interfaith Caregivers is excited to share that we have officially moved to a new location at: 242 N. Union Street, Olean, NY (Right next to JCC) We look forward to seeing you there and continuing our mission of supporting caregivers and community members in need with the Olean Medical Equipment Loan Center, The Olean Area Blind Association, Senior Transportation services, and the Medicaid 1115 Waiver Program. Medical Loan Center Hours: Monday-9AM-12PM & 5PM-6PM / Thursday-9AM-12PM / Friday-1PM-3PM / *1 Saturday a month starting April 18th. Find out more by checking our Facebook, calling 716-372-6283, or stopping by our display in-library thru the month of April!



Gallery: April 2026

Paintings by Marion Coughlin

In September 2022, the Olean Public Library was the recipient of 20 Marion Coughlin paintings, donated by former Olean residents Dr. Carol Royer of Mabank, TX and Mr. Dave Royer of La Pine, OR. Their mother, Edna Royer, was a lifelong friend of Marion Coughlin, a well known Olean artist. Coughlin willed the paintings to Edna, who eventually passed them on to Carol and Dave. An exhibit of these paintings—as well as ones the library already owned—were exhibited in November 2022. In April, we'll be exhibiting them once again for the public to view before our Capital Project kicks off later this year.



Interested in showcasing your art in our gallery? Contact the library by phone or by emailing 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 2026

Honor ☞ Memorialize ☞ Acknowledge

In Memory of: Mary Quantrall
In Memory of: Michael D. Dieteman
In Memory of: Irene E. Dieteman
In Memory of: Lynn Marie Machen

Donation by: Lanna Waterman
Donation by: Rosalie Dieteman
Donation by: Rosalie Dieteman
Donation by: Fred & Ann Marie Tompkins

Library Programs - April 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Stories & More 10:00am Investigation Stations & Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm Team A DnD 6:00pm	2 Stories & Stretches 11:00am	3 American Red Cross Blood Drive 11:30am-4:30pm	4 CLOSED
6 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm Seed Starting 6:00pm Blackout Poetry-all day	7 OTAB Meeting 3:30pm DnD 6:00pm Blackout Poetry-all day	8 Teen Gaming Club 3:30pm Fairy Garden 6:00pm Blackout Poetry-all day	9 Teen Art Club 3:30pm Blackout Poetry-all day	10 Teen Jackbox Games 3:30pm Blackout Poetry-all day	11 Knit & Crochet 11:30am Baby Animal Petting Zoo-Bunny In A Basket 1:00pm Blackout Poetry-all day
13 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm Self Care 12:00-2:00pm Kinusaiga 5:30pm Write a Haiku-all day	14 Write a Haiku-all day	15 Race Unity Book Club 1:00pm Teen Gaming Club 3:30pm Board Meeting 5:30pm Write a Haiku-all day	16 Lanier Literacy 3:30pm Cooking Club 6:30pm Write a Haiku-all day	17 Write a Haiku-all day	18 Puzzle Race 2:30pm Write a Haiku-all day
20 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm Benefits of Yoga 12:00-2:00pm Brown Bag Book Club 12:30pm Mario Kart 4:00pm	21 Investigation Stations 6:30pm Budget Hearing 6:00pm Pop-in Bling Your Book 6:00-8:00pm	22 Wise 10:30am-12:00pm Stories & More 10:00am Investigation Stations & Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm United Way Volunteer Fair 6:00-8:00pm Pop-in Bling Your Book 6:00-8:00pm	23 Stories & Stretches 11:00am Boba & Cookie Party 4:00pm Pop-in Bling Your Book 6:00-8:00pm	24 Teen Jackbox Games 3:30pm	25
					
27 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm Benefits of walking & physical activity 12:00-2:00pm Mario Movie & Chat 4:00pm	28 Investigation Stations 6:30pm	29 Wise 10:30am-12:00pm Stories & More 10:00am Investigation Stations & Reading Can Be Ruff 3:30pm Team B DnD 6:00pm	30 Stories & Stretches 11:00am Poem in your Pocket Day	Adult programs in black Teen programs in blue Children/family programs in red Community outreach programs in purple	