



OLEAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

September 2026 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 on the dates below.

Saturday, September 5th
Monday, September 7th
Friday, September 18th



We honored our super-readers at the Honor Book Presentation. Kids who reached their summer goal were presented with a brand new library book put into the library's collection in their name.

Summer closed with the End of Summer Reading Party featuring WonderTwist Balloon Creations and an AMAZING petting zoo with Mike Morton from Sundance Kids Farms.

It was another fabulous summer for the books at the Olean Public Library!

Thank you, Friends of The Library, for all you do. Thanks to you we were able to offer these 8 special events to our families this summer. Over 900 people attended these fun events!



Friends of the Olean Public Library

The Friends celebrated Read Between the Wines with a joyous crowd of 115 and raised nearly \$5,000! Guests enjoyed music courtesy of Brian Lothridge, great food, 50/50 and basket raffles, and of course delicious wine.

Thank you to participating wineries, liquor stores, and our incredible donors/volunteers:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ◆ Alan & Paula Bernstein | ◆ Brian Lothridge | ◆ Kathy Boser |
| ◆ Allen's Wine and Liquors | ◆ Century Manor | ◆ Lauren Schifley |
| ◆ Amanda Hulbert | ◆ Christie's Boutique | ◆ Linda Connelly |
| ◆ AMC Theaters | ◆ Cutco | ◆ Mary Giardini |
| ◆ Angie Manross | ◆ Darlene Connelly | ◆ Mirchi |
| ◆ Anne Kivari | ◆ Dom's Butcher Block | ◆ Olean Public Library Board |
| ◆ Annemarie Wright | ◆ Ellicottville Distillery | ◆ Olean Public Library Staff |
| ◆ Argentieri Bros. Alex & Mikki Cole | ◆ Enchanted Mountain Chocolate | ◆ St. Bonaventure Bookstore |
| ◆ Bartlett Country Club | ◆ Friends of the Library Board | ◆ St. Bonaventure Ticket Office |
| ◆ Beach House | ◆ Hazlitt Winery | ◆ Tasta Pizza |
| ◆ Bee Spit Meadery | ◆ Jammie & Jeff Carapallatti | ◆ Tom Jacobs |
| ◆ Beef 'n Barrel | ◆ John & Deborah Stevens | ◆ Tony's Napoli |
| ◆ Ben Gross | | ◆ Tops Friendly Market |

Stay tuned for our next fundraising event.



Jimmy won cold hard cash in a basket and donated it back to the Friends!



Brian Lothridge is always a treat serenading the crowd with his talent and artistry.



Loyal volunteers Ben and Kathy sold raffle tickets again this year!

Children/Family Programs

Weekly programs run
10/19-11/20/2026.
Registration begins
09/28/2026.

Registration is requested for all programs except special events 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. Our programs are specially designed for birth through preschool. We incorporate early literacy tips and practices to promote reading readiness.

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.

*If our regularly scheduled therapy pup can't make it to the library some weeks, we will read to our much loved giant stuffed dog. He is also a great listener and makes a great reading pillow!



We unearthed a whole lotta fun at the library this summer!

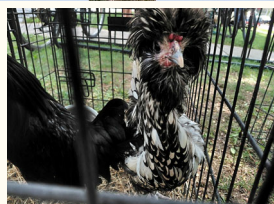
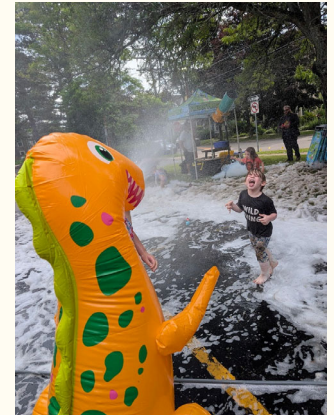
We roared into summer with our annual Summer Kick-off Carnival and Magic Show, followed by the Kids and Clay program presented by Tara Dedrick and sponsored by the Francis Bean O'Connell fund.

The wet and wild Last Day of School Foam Party was epic.

July evolved into a dino-explosion of activity, beginning with the Omnipresent Puppet Theater's presentation of Bonnie's Brachiosaurus.

Next we took a Jurassic Journey with Cris Johnson and his life size dinosaurs and ended the month with Checkers the Inventor Dinosaur Variety Show.

August was a hoot with the Pfeiffer Nature Center's engrossing (and a little gross) presentation on Owls: Present Day Dinosaurs.



Children/Family Programs

Homeschool Picture Day

Saturday September 12th
12:00pm-4:00pm in the Gallery

The first weeks of school traditionally include "Picture Day," the day where an official photo of each child is taken to document a new and exciting school year.

If your family homeschools you may be missing this milestone day. But you don't have to! Saturday, September 12 from 12:00-4:00 the library is offering photo sessions for homeschool kids to mark this new school year. Registration is required so we can be sure each child is guaranteed a photo session.

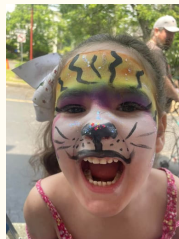
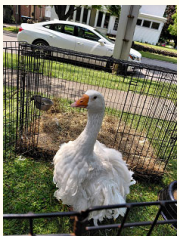


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Pumpkin Patch Petting Zoo

Saturday September 26th
at 12:00pm

What is the best way to welcome Fall? Decorate a pumpkin and cuddle with Mike Morton's adorable animals, of course! While you're there, get *your* face decorated by the famous Glitter and Giggles Face Painter!



After School Program

(Ages 7-12) / 4:00-5:00PM

Now on Fridays!!!

Swordfighting with Wayne Welburn

Friday September 4th

Location: Parking Lot

Rain Location: Gallery

Join local sword instructor Wayne Welburn as he teaches us sword fighting basics. Participants need to bring a good pair of closed toe shoes, appropriate athletic wear, water, and (if you have one) a helmet with a face shield. Wayne will supply everything else!

We will need registration for this program so that we can email information and safety rules to the parents. This will give Wayne more time to teach the physical sword fighting!

R

Fidget Trading with Miss Amy

Friday September 25th

How does fidget trading work?

- Bring your own CLEAN fidgets or squishies from home that you want to trade.
- The trader chooses what they want to trade. You may ask them to add. You can accept or deny.
- Once a trade is finalized, it is final.
- We will have trading with Miss Amy and peer to peer trading. Lets have fun!



Pokemon Club

Friday October 2nd

Watch Pokémon battles in real life and trade cards.



Teen Programs

(Ages 13-18)

OTAB Meeting

Tuesday September 1st
3:30pm in the Rainbow Room
(Presbyterian Church)

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.

Team A, Teen DnD

Wednesday September 2nd
6:30-8:30pm 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. Join us as they assist the Flaming Fist in their quest to protect Baldur's Gate. **Email**

programming@oleanlibrary.org or scan QR code below if interested.



Rainbow Alliance Interest Meeting

Wednesday September 9th
3:30pm in the Rainbow Room
(Presbyterian Church)

Rainbow Alliance is open to LGBTQIA+ individuals ages 13-18, and to supporting allies, friends, and relatives in the same age group. Join us as we discuss restarting this once popular program, deciding what we would like to offer during this program's meetings, best days to meet, and how best we can serve this population.

R Registration Required

LR Limited Registration

Z Zoom Option Available

R Registration Requested 3

Teen Programs (Ages 13-18)

Team B, Teen DnD

Wednesday September 16th

6:30-8:30pm 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. Join us as we embark on a new adventure! **Email**

programming@oleanlibrary.org or scan QR code below if interested.



Teen Gaming Club

Wednesday September 23rd

3:30-4:45pm in the Rainbow Room (Presbyterian Church)

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.

Fidget Trading

Friday September 25th

5:00-5:45pm in the Gallery

How does fidget trading work?

- Bring your own CLEAN fidgets or squishies from home that you want to trade.
- The trader chooses what they want to trade. You may ask them to add. You can accept or deny.
- Once a trade is finalized, it is final.
- We will have trading with Miss Amy and peer to peer trading. Lets have fun!



The Teen Room has moved to the Rainbow Room of the Olean Presbyterian Church.

We are open in our new location Monday-Thursday 3-6 pm. Please follow all signs outside and within the church to help you find our new location, and thank you for your patience as we settle into our temporary home.

Adult Programs

Adult Dungeons and Dragons

Tuesday September 8th

6:30-8:30pm 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. If possible, have a level 4 character prepared to play. **Email** programming@oleanlibrary.org for details prior to the program.

Cooking Club

Thursday September 10th

6:30pm in the Gallery

The September Cooking Club theme will be **Fall!** Bring a fall-inspired dish to share and we'll try each other's dishes and chat about food and cooking. Home cooks of all skill levels are welcome to join us. New members are always welcome!

Knit, Crochet, & Crafting Club

Saturday September 12th

11:30am 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.

Herbal Salve Making with Sarah Swinko

Wednesday September 23rd

5:00pm in the Gallery

Join Sarah, a local forager and herbalist to learn what common local plants can be foraged to create your own salve. Create your own salve to take home with plantain plants, coconut oil, and beeswax. Priority will be given to previous class waitlist.



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

Craft Programs

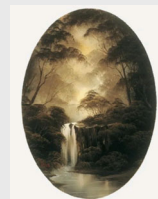
Bob Ross Painting with DeDee Crouse

Tuesday September 15th

5:30pm in the Gallery

Join Bob Ross trained instructor DeDee Crouse to create this gorgeous painting, step by step. This instruction does take up to 3 hours.

Ages 18 & up.



Textured Art Waves with Jean Benson

Monday September 21st

6:00pm in the Gallery

Using an 11" x 14" canvas, you'll build layers of texture using joint compound to create rolling ocean waves, foamy white surf, and a sandy shoreline.

Add your own creative touches with color, texture, and beach-inspired details to make a **one-of-a-kind piece of dimensional coastal art**. No artistic experience is needed—just come ready to create, relax, and have fun!



Registration Required



Limited Registration



Zoom Option Available



Registration Requested

Craft Programs

Textured Art Waves with Jean Benson

LR

Continued from previous page.

Perfect for beginners and anyone who loves the beach!

Ages 13 & up.



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



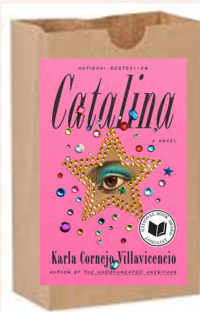
Brown Bag Book Club

Z

Monday September 21st at 12:30pm in the Gallery

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

Join us as we discuss Catalina by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio.



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

Want to read ahead? For October, we will be reading How to Keep House While Drowning by K.C. Davis, LPC.

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

Wednesday September 16th 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.

September Selection:

The Red Tent by Anita Diamant



Outreach

Unlearn Your Pain, a talk by Dr. Howard Schubiner: Exploring the intersection of trauma and chronic pain, fatigue, anxiety and depression.

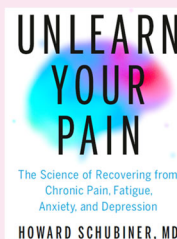
Wednesday September 9th 6:30pm—8:00pm via Zoom

Z

It is well known that there is an association between early life trauma and the development of pain and other symptoms later in life. In this workshop, Dr. Schubiner will explore how trauma creates brain hypersensitivities that can lead to the development of a variety of neuroplastic conditions. He will outline two emerging psychological therapies, Pain Reprocessing Therapy and Emotional Awareness and Expression Therapy, which have been shown to be highly effective in randomized, controlled trials. Sponsored by: Love in Action of

Cattaraugus County, Cattaraugus Community Action, Trauma Informed Coalition Cattaraugus County, and Enchanted Mountain Village. Call to register: 716-372-0200 Text to register: 716-373-2217

Book is available in the library's collection. Read it this summer in preparation for this interesting event!



Voter Registration Table
Wednesday September 23rd 3:00-6:00pm

Our local League is proud to have a display at the Olean Public Library for the month of September and will have a small display of voter registration and absentee forms, as well as other pertinent voting information until the election in November. Stop by to ask questions and pick up registration forms from LWV representatives on September 23! More info: cattarauguslww@gmail.com or our FB page.

Gallery: September 2026

The Library is pausing applications for our Gallery in preparation for our Capital Projects as of August 2026. We will announce when the new Gallery is open for submissions. Thank you for your understanding.



Tribute Gift Book Plates August 2026

Honor ☞ Memorialize ☞ Acknowledge

In Memory of: Brenda Quist
In Memory of: Brenda Quist
In Memory of: Jack Kelley
In Memory of: Shirley Anzivine
In Memory of: Carol Bess
In Memory of: Linda Manross
In Memory of: Kay Pancio
In Memory of: Edward Kivari
In Memory of: Carol Bess

Donation by: Carla Gallo
Donation by: Clint Montague
Donation by: Mary Gallagher
Donation by: Laraine Caruso
Donation by: Lanna Waterman
Donation by: Olean Coasters Book Club
Donation by: Kathy Wiley
Donation by: Your Book Club Friends in Kristine's Book
Donation by: Joan & Mark McGonnell

Library Programs - September 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 OTAB Meeting 3:30pm	2 Team A DnD 6:30pm	3	4 Swordfighting with Wayne Welburn 4:00-5:00pm	5 CLOSED
7 CLOSED 	8 DnD 6:30pm	9 Rainbow Alliance Interest Meeting 3:30pm Unlearn Your Pain via Zoom 6:30-8:00pm	10 Cooking Club 6:30pm	11	12 Knit, Crochet, & Crafting Club 11:30am Homeschool Picture Day 12:00-4:00pm
14 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm	15 Bob Ross Painting with DeDee Crouse 5:30pm	16 Board Meeting 5:30pm Team B DnD 6:30pm Race Unity Book Club 1:00pm	17	18 CLOSED	19
21 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm Brown Bag Book Club 12:30pm Textured Art Waves with Jean Benson 6:00pm	22	23 LWV Voter Registration Table 3:00-6:00pm Herbal Salve Making 5:00pm Gaming Club 3:30pm	24	25 Fidget Trading 4:00-5:00pm Fidget Trading 5:00-5:45pm	26 Pumpkin Patch Petting Zoo 12:00pm
28 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm	29	30	Adult programs in black Teen programs in blue Children/family programs in red Community outreach programs in purple		