

# July 2025 Newsletter



**OLEAN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

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

Hours:  
M-Th 9am-9pm  
Fri 9am-6pm

The library will be closed Friday, 7/4, in observance of Independence Day.  
The library will be closed on Saturdays from July 1st - August 31st.  
Curbside service available by appointment.



## Born to Read: A Gift of Literacy from the Very Beginning

One of the Friends of the Olean Public Library's favorite projects is the **Born to Read** program—a heartfelt initiative that welcomes new parents into the world of early literacy. Through this program, the Friends provide each new parent at Olean General Hospital with a gift: their baby's very first book.

Along with the book, families receive information about the Olean Public Library and the numerous resources available to help them embark on a lifelong journey of reading together. It's our way of encouraging parents to start sharing stories from the very beginning and building strong literacy habits right from the start.

We believe that every child deserves the joy of books, and every parent deserves support as they nurture their child's love of reading. It's a small gesture with a big impact, and we're proud to continue this work in partnership with our local hospital and the library.



We are thrilled to announce that the 2026 budget & \$7.9M capital project bond both passed. We want to thank each and every resident that visited the library on

June 26th to exercise their right to vote. We are truly grateful for the community's support and belief in our positive role in the community. We are excited for the opportunity to grow and look forward to sharing updates along the way.

*Congratulations!*

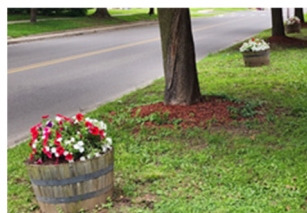
We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new board trustee, Mike Morgan, who won the 2025-2026 trustee election.



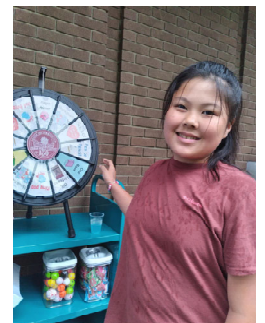
We hope everyone in the community enjoys the beautiful flowers in the library's planters.

The flowers were purchased at Stayer's Greenhouse by the Friends of the Olean Library.

A special THANK YOU to Library Board President Lanna Waterman for planting the flowers.



The Summer Kick Off Carnival and Magic Show on Saturday, June 14th was a soggy success. Even though the weather didn't cooperate, a lot of people braved the raindrops and came out for a good time! Thank you Friends of the Library for once again sponsoring this fun event!



**R** Registration Required

**LR** Limited Registration

**Z** Zoom Option Available

**R** Registration Requested

## Children/Family Programs



### BOOK YOUR SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY!

Registration for all children's programs and the Summer Reading challenge at the Olean Public Library begins June 30th.

Register for clubs and programs in person, online or by phone. These begin the week of July 14th.

Registration is requested for all programs except Special Events.

Kids of all ages register for the **Color our World** summer reading challenge. Read on your own or with someone to earn Kid Cash and buy cool prizes.

Check-ins begin July 14th.  
NO CHECK-INS ON FRIDAYS.

The last day to check in and receive prizes is August 7th.



### Color Our World Art Club

**R**

Thursdays at 4:30pm  
Kids 6–12 Color our world with a different art method each week!

### Stories & More

**R**

Wednesdays at 10:00am  
Program for children ages 1 to 3 years. With an adult, children listen to stories, learn songs, rhymes, finger plays and participate in group play and creative art projects.

### Stories & Stretches

**R**

Thursdays at 11:00am  
Children ages 2 to 5. A fun movement oriented program with stories, songs, stretches and moving!

### Investigations Stations

**R**

Tuesdays at 6:30pm or  
Wednesdays at 3:30pm  
Children 5 and up participate in directed group activities, including stories, music, and games followed by art and assisted exploration of the stations.

### Waggy Tales Book Club

**R**

Wednesdays at 3:30pm  
Sometimes reading can be ruff. Reading out loud with a “Paws”itive friend can reduce stress and make practice fun! Choose a book to keep and come read with one of our therapy dogs. Explore the Investigation Stations and have some “Pupcorn” while you wait.



## Repco Wildlife Presents Color Our World

Thursday July 17th @ 2:00pm



Learn all about why colors are important for reptiles in this fun, interactive program. Meet lizards, snakes and turtles from all around the world. You can see, touch and take photos of all these amazing species.

## Freddy Frog's Foam Party



Thursday July 24th  
@ 2:00pm

Don't miss this amazing event. We will transform our outdoor area into mountains of safe, fluffy, allergen-free, biodegradable foam! Wear a swimsuit and non-slip shoes. Bring a towel and hop, sing, and dance in our fabulous foamy fantasy land.





## Omnipresent Puppet Theater presents Hansel and Gretel

### Hansel and Gretel



Thursday July 31st @ 2:00pm

Join us for this amazing production. The family business is in a slump and Hansel and Gretel must forage for food. Lost deep in the woods they discover a wonderful gingerbread house and an “evil” witch. Can a skunk named Bearnaise and their parents find them before it's too late? Come to the library to find out!!

# Special Events!



Thursday July 17th @ 2:00pm  
Repco Wildlife Show

Thursday, August 7th @ 2:30pm  
Cris Johnson Magic Show & balloon  
twisting workshop



Thursday, July 24th @ 2:00pm  
Freddy Frog's Foam Party

Thursday, August 14th @ 12:00pm  
Honor Book Presentation



Thursday, July 31st @ 2:00pm  
Omnipresent Puppet Theater  
presents Hansel and Gretel

Thursday, August 14th @ 1:00pm  
Honor Book Party

## Kids were all fired up for the Kids and Clay pottery class!

Last month 40 kids in 4 separate classes experienced the wonder of clay! Tara Dedrick of Tshed Pottery in Allegany taught the classes. The creativity was flowing as the kids held the clay in their bare hands, formed it into some amazing creations and prepared their works to be fired and returned to them. The kids created either amazing self portraits or beautiful picture frames. These cool creative programs are made possible by a grant from the Francis Bean O'Connell Arts Grant and we can't wait to do it again!



**After School Program  
“Summer Edition”  
Ages 7-12 4:00-5:00pm**

**July 7th—Pokémon**

Bring your Pokémon cards, enjoy friends who love Pokémon as well and some extra special Summer After School Club edition touches!

**July 14th– Bluey**

Come celebrate Bluey! You asked for Bluey because big kids like Bluey too! We will have some fun activities and some extra special Summer After School Club edition touches!



**July 21st-Toy Story Toy Swap with ABC: A Beautiful Child**

ABC: A Beautiful Child will be bringing many toys that have been gently used to “swap”! If your child’s interest changed since Christmas, it’s time to swap them out for what they’re interested in now! Don’t have anything extra? That’s okay, come anyways to play and maybe find something you might like!

Some Toy Swap rules:

- Toys must be clean and gently used
- Toys must be suitable for a 7-12-year-old
- Toys must be swapped, not left
- No Stuffed animals or anything with fur
- No extra-large items



**July 30th—Doodling Workshop with Skylar Surra from Riot Games  
1:00-2:30pm in the Gallery**

Ever get the itch to draw but just don’t know where to start? Have an idea for an imaginary character, but just don’t where to start drawing it? Skylar Surra, Senior Principal Animator at Riot Games, will present a doodling workshop for kids ages 7-12. All supplies will be provided thanks to the Francis Bean O’Connell Endowment.

**R**

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

**OTAB Meeting**

Tuesday July 1st

3:30pm in the Conference Room

We’ll be finalizing the Teen Amazing Race events, as well as reviewing our programs. Teens ages 13-18 are welcome to attend and join OTAB. Email [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org) for details.

**Team A, Teen DnD**

Wednesday July 2nd

6:00—8:30pm in the Gallery

Our brave heroes have returned to Leilon. They’ve driven off the Death-Knight Dreadnaught and (for now) secured a measure of peace for the Sword Coast. What will they do next? *Team A is currently FULL, but scan the QR Code to request information on Teen DnD programs with openings.*

**R**



**Teen Jackbox Games**

Thursdays in July

2:30—3:30pm 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 Gaming Club**

Wednesday July 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.

**Teen Sword Fighting w/ Wayne Welburn**

Fridays, July 11th, 18th, & 25th

3:00-5:30pm in the Parking Lot  
(rain location: Gallery)

Local sword instructor Wayne Welburn as he teaches us more basic sword fighting basic as part of our Teen Summer Reading Program. 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!

**Teen Art Club**

Tuesday July 15th

3:30—5:00pm in the Gallery

Come join OTAB and Cherish as we enjoy some art activities. For July, we’ll have available wooden boxes and small canvases to paint as well as air dry clay to work with.

**R**

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



## Teen Programs (Ages 13-18)

### Team B, Teen DnD

Wednesday July 16th

6:00—8:30pm in the Gallery

Our adventurers continue on their quest to secure and develop the town of Leilon.

*REGISTRATION REQUIRED—email [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org) or scan the QR code to join.*



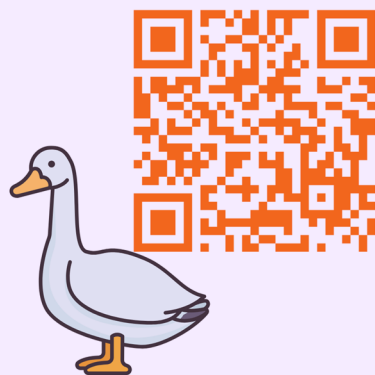
### Revenge of the Honkra: A DnD One-Shot

Wednesday July 23rd

5:00—8:30pm in the Gallery

Last Summer Reading, he came and HONKed his way to a glorious defeat at the hands of our valiant Teen DnD players. This year, he's bigger, meaner, and better allied! Both of our Teen DnD groups will meet together to try to save the realm from Honkdra, the angriest goose hydra the OPL has ever seen and his fierce monotreme forces! There will be prizes to win throughout, including a special prize for the player whose character manages to fell this 3D printed beast and a consolation prize for the first player whose character falls to Honkdra's forces.

*Visit the circulation desk or scan the QR code to sign up.*



### Character Design with Skylar Surra from Riot Games

Wednesday July 30th

3:00—4:30pm in the Gallery

Have you ever wondered how your favorite video game characters are created? Join Skylar Surra, Senior Principal Animator at Riot Games, as he gives our teens a glimpse into how a character goes from a brief from the development team to a usable avatar in-game.

### Teen Summer Reading

Registration begins  
06/30/2025 & Check-ins begin  
07/07/2025 at the Info Desk.

See Programming Librarian  
(Cherish) for prizes.

Last day for check-ins will be  
08/08/2025.

## Adult Programs

### Dungeons and Dragons

Tuesday July 8th

6:00-8:30pm in the  
Conference Room

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 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



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

### Introduction to Spiritual Development with Mary Beth Colton & Donya Lyons

Wednesday July 9th

& Thursday July 10th

6:00pm in the Gallery

This two-day class will focus on Spiritual Development. Topics include guided meditation, discussion and techniques to enhance one's understanding and awareness as they explore their own spiritual journeys.

### Knit & Crochet Club

Tuesday July 15th

6:00pm 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.

### Cooking Club

Thursday July 17th

6:30pm in the Gallery

This month's Cooking Club theme, to fit with summer reading, is **Color Our World!** Bring a colorful dish to share and join us to try some delicious dishes and discuss food and cooking. This laid-back program is great for home cooks of all skill levels, and we always welcome new members!

### Trivia Night

Tuesday July 22nd

6:30pm in the Gallery

Join us for a fun adult trivia night at the library! We'll be doing general trivia in a variety of different themed categories for 6 rounds. You can participate as an individual or with a team of up to 4. Light snacks will be provided! No registration required. Bring your friends for a fun evening playing trivia!

## Adult Programs

### Working in Video Game Animation with Skylar Surra from Riot Games

Wednesday July 30th  
6:00pm in the Gallery

The Olean Public Library is delighted to welcome back Skylar Surra, a Shinglehouse, PA native and Senior Principal Animator for Riot Games. He will join us to present a talk on his career in video game animation, telling us how he got to where he is today and what preparations went into his career path. A Q&A portion will follow his presentation.

### Adult Summer Reading

Registration begins June 30th.

Sign up at the Information Desk & receive a small gift.

Participation in the Summer Reading Program includes reading/listening to books, participating in library programs, and so much more.

More participation means more chances to win summer reading prize baskets!



## Craft Programs

### Pottery with Tara Dedrick

Monday July 14th  
5:00-7:00pm in the Gallery

LR

Come join pottery artist Tara Dedrick at the Olean Public Library to learn how to create a flower vase. Students will learn technical terms as well as use pottery tools and tips from Tara to create a one-of-a-kind pottery vase.

Students will hand build, plan, create and glaze a 10" vase to hold this summer's colors in flowers! Vases will be dried and fired at Tara's home pottery studio and kiln, and then returned when finished.

No previous clay hand building experience necessary. Tara will guide you each step of the way.  
**Ages 18 & up.**



### Beaded Plants

Monday July 28th  
6:00pm in the Gallery

Come join Amy as we create beautiful sun catching window hanging plants! The sun will beam off the disco ball creating beautiful dancing lights in your home. We will provide different size beads and the disco "planter" to create a beautiful home decoration for years to come!

**Ages 16 & 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](mailto:kdoyle@eriecommunityfoundation.org).*

## R Cyber Self-Defense

Tuesday July 22nd at  
11:00am & 6:00pm

&

Thursday July 24th at  
11:00am

This talk will cover some common scams on the internet and what practices you can employ to keep yourself and your loved ones safe.

Tuesday the 22nd at 11:00am will focus on Children, Parents, and young adults (under 25).

Tuesday the 22nd at 6:00pm & Thursday the 24th at 11:00am will focus on older adults and seniors.

## Book Clubs



### Brown Bag Book Club

Z

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

You bring the lunch, we supply the refreshments! Join us as we discuss *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis.

Want to read ahead? For August, we'll be reading *The Comfort of Crows* by Margaret Renki.

Multiple copies of the book(s) are available through the library system.



Registration Required



Limited Registration



Zoom Option Available



Registration Requested 6



## Book Clubs



### Bite-Sized Book Club

Friday July 11th  
at 12:30pm in the Conference Room

Join us again for our book club centered on short stories! This month we'll be reading: "Give It Up!" by Franz Kafka "The Huntress" by Sofia Samatar "Possession(s)" by John Smolens All short stories are available to read online; links are on our Book Club page on our website. Please email [programming@oleanlibrary.org](mailto:programming@oleanlibrary.org) if you have any questions or need help accessing the stories!



SCAN ME

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

Wednesday July 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.

July selection: In Open Contempt: Confronting White Supremacy in Art and Public Space by Irvin Weathersby Jr.

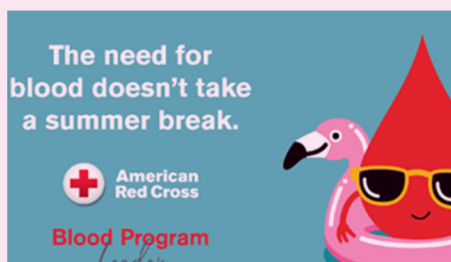


August selection: American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

## Outreach



If you have a disability, the Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Development Board can help you find work! Their Disability Resource Coordinator will work with you to reach your employment goals. Call Marsha today to find out more: 716-806-0060. Or visit us in-library every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday from 1pm to 2pm. This month find us July 21<sup>st</sup>! <https://cawfny.com>



### Summer Brings Fun—and an Increased Need for Blood Donations

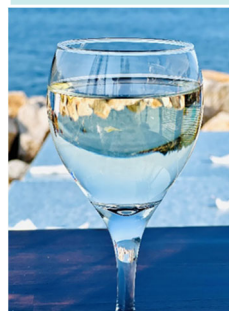
Emergencies don't take a holiday. With millions of Americans expected to travel between Memorial Day and Labor Day, engage in water sports, boating, camping and other outdoor activities, the risk of accidents increases. Though it can be a busy time, making and keeping blood donation appointments remains a critical priority. Please

consider donating at the American Red Cross Blood Drive @ the library Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 PM to 6:30 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: July 2025

### Photography with Lyn Harris

Lyn Harris lives in Bemus Point, NY, is the owner of Lyn Harris Designs, and has had fiber pieces sold in Chautauqua Institution, Rochester NY, Pawleys Island, SC, New Smyrna Beach FL and several western NY galleries. She has taught fiber classes at the Woodstock ON Fiber Fair, the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival, Southeastern Animal and Fiber Fair, the Great Lakes Fiber Festival, the New England Fiber Festival as well as workshops through adult education programs of galleries in western NY, PA, FL and SC.



Interested in showcasing your art in our gallery? Contact the library by phone or email [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 June 2025

Honor    ✎    Memorialize    ✎    Acknowledge

**In Memory of:** Dennis Grimm

**In Memory of:** Dennis & Michele Grimm

**In Memory of:** Jack Kelly

**In Memory of:** Jack Kelly

**In Memory of:** Jack Kelly

**In Memory of:** Jack Kelly

**Donation by:** Joelle Perry

**Donation by:** Carrie Samuelson


**Donation by:** Dr. Ashok & Dr. Yogini Kothari

**Donation by:** Rita Jones

**Donation by:** Michael Shane

**Donation by:** Pecoriello Family (Mike, Abby, Lily, & Sasha)

## Library Programs—July 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 LawNY 10:00am-1:00pm OTAB Meeting 3:30pm	2 Team A DnD 6pm	3 Jackbox Games 2:30pm	4 <b>CLOSED</b> 
7 LawNY 10:00am-1:00pm Pokémon Summer After School Club 4:00pm	8 DnD 6pm	9 Teen Gaming Club 3:30pm Intro to Spiritual Development 6:00pm	10 Jackbox Games 2:30pm Intro to Spiritual Development 6:00pm	11 Bite-Sized Book Club 12:30pm Sword Fighting 3:00pm
14 LawNY 10:00am-1:00pm Bluey After School Club 4:00pm Pottery with Tara 5:00pm	15 Teen Art Club 3:30pm Knit & Crochet Club 6:00pm Investigation Stations 6:30pm	16 Stories & More 10:00am Race Unity Book Club 1pm Investigation Stations & Waggy Tales 3:30pm Board Meeting 5:30pm Team B DnD 6pm	17 Stories & Stretches 11:00am Repro Wildlife Show 2:00pm Jackbox Games 2:30pm Color Our World Art Club 4:30pm Cooking Club 6:30pm	18 Sword Fighting 3:00pm
21 LawNY 10:00am-1:00pm Brown Bag Book Club 12:30pm Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Development Board 1:00pm-2:00pm Toy Story After School Club 4:00pm	22 Cyber Self Defense 11:00am Cyber Self Defense 6:00pm Investigation Stations 6:30pm Trivia 6:30pm	23 Stories & More 10:00am Investigation Stations & Waggy Tales 3:30pm Revenge of the Honkra 5:00pm	24 Stories & Stretches 11:00am Cyber Self Defense 11:00am Freddy Frog's Foam Party 2:00pm Jackbox Games 2:30pm Color Our World Art Club 4:30pm	25 Sword Fighting 3:00pm
28 Beaded Plants 6:00pm	29 American Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30pm-6:30pm Investigation Stations 6:30pm	30 Stories & More 10:00am Doodling Workshop 1:00pm Investigation Stations & Waggy Tales 3:30pm Character Design 3:00pm Working in Video Game Animation 6:00pm	31 Stories & Stretches 11:00am Jackbox Games 2:30pm Omnipresent Puppet Theater 2:00pm Color Our World Art Club 4:30pm	<div>Adult programs in black</div> <div>Teen programs in blue</div> <div>Children/family programs in red</div> <div>Community outreach programs in purple</div>