October 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.

Exciting things are happening at the Olean Public Library! We look forward to sharing updates and pictures as the building expansion and renovation gets underway.

As you visit the Library in the upcoming weeks and months please pardon our dust as construction is set to begin in late October 2026 and will continue until approximately February 2028.

Things may look different but please expect to see the same smiling and helpful staff ready to assist with the various available library services.

Friends of the Olean Public Library

Join the Friends of the Olean Public Library for our Chipotle Fundraiser on Wednesday, October 7, from 4:00–8:00 p.m. at Chipotle, 2727 W. State Street, Olean.

Enjoy a delicious meal while supporting your library—25% of event sales will be donated to the Friends of the Olean Public Library to help fund programs, events, and resources that benefit our community.

If ordering online for pickup, be sure to use code 43BLFTE. You can also show the flyer when ordering in the restaurant.

We appreciate the continued support of our community and hope you'll join us for a great meal supporting a great cause!

The Library and Board of Trustees would like to recognize the Friends for their help and support of the library in honor of National Friends of the Libraries Week!

Miller's FARM MARKET

A huge thank you to Miller's Farm Market on East State Rd for supplying the beautiful pumpkins and crisp apples for our Pumpkin Patch Petting Zoo. We couldn't have brought this festive fall event to life without your amazing local support. Thank You!

R Registration Required | LR Limited Registration | Z Zoom Option Available | R Registration Requested

Children/Family Programs

Fall 2026
Oct 19th—Nov 20th
Registration Begins September 28th.

Registration is requested. You can register in person, online, or by calling 716-372-0200 ext. 2023.

Stories & More
R

Wednesdays at 10:00am

There is nothing like story time to capture the imagination and attention of young ones and inspire a lifelong love of books and reading. Join us for our different story times, complete with songs, rhymes, flannel boards, and instruments. Our programs are specially designed for babies and toddlers from 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.

St. Bonaventure Lanier Literacy Project

Thursday October 22nd at 3:30pm

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

We will be celebrating Halloween as part of our regularly scheduled programs beginning Tuesday, October 27th. Children may come in costume and we will have a "parade" through the building.
Other activities include Halloween stories, crafts and games. Families are welcome to bring treats for the group if they wish. Cider and donut holes are provided by our Spook-tacular Friends of the Library.

Thank You Friends!

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

Now on Fridays!!!

Pokemon Club
Friday October 2nd

Minecraft Club
Friday October 9th

Lego Club
Friday October 16th

Halloween Hangout
Friday October 23rd

Teen Programs
(Ages 13-18)

Please pay attention to locations as some programs have moved. Follow signage at the Presbyterian Church for any programs held there.

Teen Swordfighting w/ Wayne Wellburn

Friday October 2nd
4:00pm in the Parking Lot
Rain Location: Gallery

Local montante instructor Wayne Wellburn will be teaching us the basics of this traditional Spanish swordfighting art. Though all safety equipment will be provided, if you have your own helmet (ex: football; fencing), please bring it to class. Also, please wear closed toe shoes, bring water, and dress ready to work out.

OTAB Meeting

Tuesday October 6th
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.

Rainbow Alliance

Wednesday October 7th
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 gather as allies and friends, enjoying snacks and company. Got ideas for things we could do? Come share them!

Teen Dungeons & Dragons
R

Wednesday October 14th
6:30-8:30pm in the Gallery

Both groups are together this month! A city has disappeared from the

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Teen Dungeons & Dragons

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material plane, and it's up to our new group of heroic adventurers 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.

Interested in our Teen DnD Programs?

Scan for more information!

Teen Gaming Club

Wednesday October 21st
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.

OTAB Halloween Party

Friday October 30th
3:30-5:30pm in the Basement Gym (Presbyterian Church)

Join us before trick or treating as we celebrate the spookiest holiday with snacks, scary movies, and snacks like chips and candy! Dress in costume to be extra festive, and enjoy a spooky-themed photo booth with your friends. Also, we once again will have trophies available for the best costumes, with hidden judges awarding them.

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

Please pay attention to locations as some programs have moved. Follow signage at the Presbyterian Church for any programs held there.

Adult Dungeons and Dragons

Z R

Monday October 5th
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.*

Knit, Crochet, & Crafting Club

Z

Saturday October 10th
11:30am in the Fellowship Hall (Presbyterian Church)

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.

250 Years of Haudenosaunee History with Perry Ground

Thursday October 15th
6:00pm in the Gallery

When people think of the Haudenosaunee, they most commonly imagine living in a longhouse, hunting, planting the Three Sisters, or playing lacrosse. They may think of Wampum Belts and the Great Law Peace, the first democracy in North America. But what has happened to the Haudenosaunee since the United States was founded in 1776? What role have the Haudenosaunee played in the history and culture of New York State? What are the relationships between the United States, Canada, and the Haudenosaunee over these years? Why have people moved to many different areas? What issues still face the Haudenosaunee today as they struggle to maintain culture, land, language, and tradition in an ever-changing world? This PowerPoint slideshow will highlight how the Haudenosaunee were shaped by, and contributed to, the growing country, and how they adapted to the changing technology and government policies that continue to shape our world.
Ages 12 & Up.

Discover Crystals with Sarah Swinko

Tuesday October 20th
5:30pm in the Gallery

Join Sarah to discover different crystals and learn interesting information on crystals and their uses!

Haunted Hinsdale House Daniel Klaes

Thursday October 22nd
6:30pm in the Gallery

Daniel has had a lifelong interest in the paranormal field since he was a child. He was raised in a haunted house. In 2012, he co-founded the Greater Western New York Paranormal Society which was responsible for tackling some of the most challenging paranormal cases in the New York region. Daniel is the proud owner of "The Haunted Hinsdale House"; The 1853 "Hinsdale House" is currently staged in its 1970's period dressing to maintain its integrity from that era when the hauntings began. The home is currently used as a paranormal research location. Come listen to Daniel speak about the house and his experiences.

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

Z

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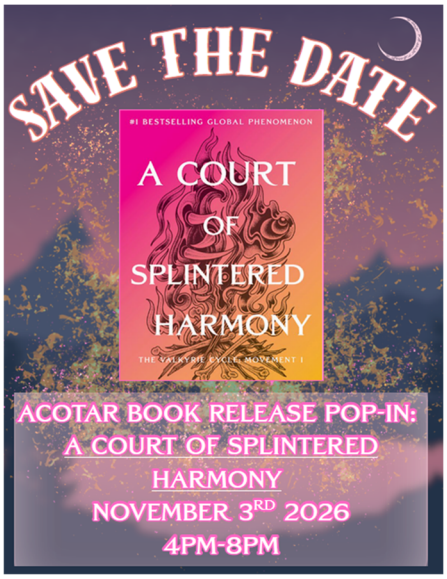
The Supernatural World & Our Interactions With It with Jacob Goode

Tuesday October 27th
6:00pm in the Gallery

Everything from cryptids to ghosts to other paranormal phenomena, let's explore these creatures and how they came to be. Let's talk about the differences in zombies, chat about phantasms, and explore why you never whistle back.



Craft Programs

Paper Lanterns with Susan Avery

LR

Tuesday October 6th
6:00pm in the Gallery

Join us, in crafting vibrant paper lanterns to welcome fall! All materials, step-by-step instructions, and plenty of creative inspiration are provided—just bring your imagination. This hands-on activity is not only colorful and fun, but also rooted in centuries-old traditions where lanterns lit the way for festivals, good fortune, and community celebrations. Come make a little history—and a lot of light—with us!

Ages 12 & up.

Painting with Shelby Halloween Street Sign

LR

Tuesday October 13th
6:00pm in the Gallery

Join us as we make a 16 x 40" Halloween Sign.

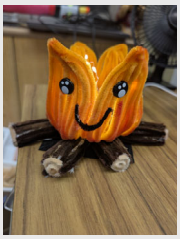
Ages 18 & up.

Pop-In Craft Light Up Campfire

October 6th & 15th
6:00-8:00pm in the Gallery

This is a pop in program but it is very time intensive. This program is beginner friendly but is expected to take at least one hour to complete. There will be hot glue used in this program.

Ages 12 & up.



Pop-In Craft Bedazzled Mini Ghost Portraits

October 22nd & 29th
5:00-8:00pm in the Gallery

This is a pop in program and should take 30 minutes to an hour and works with small gems.

Ages 12 & up.

Programs labeled with LR are crafting programs with limited seating available. 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. If you have registered for one of these programs and CANNOT attend, you MUST contact the library before the day of the program to cancel your reservation. Repeat violations of this rule can, at the discretion of the programming staff, result in being placed automatically on the wait list for future programs. Please reach out to programming@oleanlibrary.org with any questions.

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

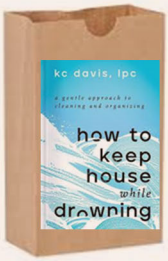
If you are interested in donating to the Frances Bean O'Connell Art Program Fund, please contact Keely Doyle, Director of Philanthropic Services at the Erie Community Foundation at 814-454-0843, ext. 101, or by email at kdoyle@eriecommunityfoundation.org.

Book Clubs

Brown Bag Book Club

Monday October 19th
at 12:30pm in the Fellowship Hall (Presbyterian Church)

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



Join us as we discuss How to Keep House While Drowning by K.C. Davis, LPC.

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

Want to read ahead? For November, we will be reading Maud's Line by Margaret Verble.

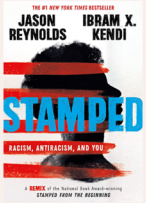
R Registration Required LR Limited Registration Z Zoom Option Available R Registration Requested

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

Wednesday October 21st
at 1:00pm in the Library

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

October Selection:
Stamped by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi.



Outreach

Discover Girl Scouts!

Thursday October 1st
5:00-6:30PM

Join us at the library to see what Girl Scouts is all about! Girls and caregivers can explore, ask questions and discover exciting opportunities to make friends, build confidence and try new things. Caregivers can learn how you can help girls experience Girl Scouts—even if you've never been a Girl Scout yourself. We'll answer questions, explain how troops work and help interested families get started. Stop by and see what she can do!

R

Our Role in Creating a Culture of Dignity

Tuesday November 10th
5:15-8:15pm

Location: St. Joseph's Church
Dinner Provided. Free but registration is required.
Call 716-372-0200 to register.

Relationships are key to our health and happiness. In fact, humans are wired for connection, so the polarization that permeates our airwaves, newspapers, social media, and sometimes even our families takes a toll. Surveys show that between 70% and 87% of Americans admit to being "exhausted by division." There is widespread dissatisfaction with the tone, hostility, and social consequences of polarization. Over half of us also report that political divisions create strain within our own families. No wonder we are struggling.

If you are in this majority and would like to discover ways to personally bring more dignity into how we think, speak, and act, Love in Action Cattaraugus County is sponsoring an interactive workshop tailored to this moment. "Our Role in Creating a Culture of Dignity" will be led by Love in Action steward Darlene Goetzman. She plans an evening that will give participants the insights and tools to implement actions that can make a meaningful difference, even in situations where we disagree. The event is free and open to the public.

Costume Swap (or not)!

Tuesday October 13th - 6:00-8:00PM

Bring the kiddos and a costume to swap (or not)! You do not need to bring a costume to participate!
Find a new-to-you spooktacular costume! Swap a costume or take a costume for free!
Get a free treat bag. No Registration necessary. Thanks to Winning Olean Back for sponsoring this event!

Gallery: October 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.

Buy the Book

Support the Olean Public Library Expansion

Donors will be recognized on a special bookshelf-style donor wall in the new library lobby, with a name and/or honoree/memorial engraved on a simulated book.

Each "buy the book" donor may choose to have their own name or an honoree/memorial placed on their "book" - a meaningful opportunity to become a visible part of Olean Public Library's next chapter. Qualifying donors will be contacted by Library staff near completion of the capital project to finalize wording and allow for donors to maximize their level of giving.

Donations can be given in person at the library or mailed to:
Attention: Capital Project
134 N. 2nd Street, Olean, NY 14760

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Tribute Gift Book Plates September 2026

Honor ☙ Memorialize ☙ Acknowledge

In Memory of: Kristin Chambers — **Donation by:** Darlene Goetzman & Mike Blumenthal

In Memory of: Gary Sherburne — **Donation by:** Dave & Ann Ramire

Library Programs - October 2026

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Discover Girl Scouts 5:00-6:30pm	2 Pokémon Club 4:00-5:00pm Swordfighting 4:00pm	3
5 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm DnD 6:30pm	6 OTAB Meeting 3:30pm Paper Lanterns with Susan 6:00pm Pop-in Campfire Craft 6:00-8:00pm	7 Rainbow Alliance 3:30pm	8	9 Minecraft Club 4:00-5:00pm	10 Knit, Crochet, & Crafting Club 11:30am
12	13 Halloween Street Sign with Shelby 6:00pm Costume Swap (or not)! 6:00-8:00pm	14 Board Meeting 5:30pm Teen DnD 6:30pm	15 250 Years of Haudenosaunee with Perry Ground 6:00pm Pop-in Campfire Craft 6:00-8:00pm	16 Lego Club 4:00-5:00pm	17
19 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm Brown Bag Book Club 12:30pm	20 Discover Crystals with Sarah 5:30pm Investigation Stations 6:30pm	21 Stories & More 10:00am Race Unity Book Club 1:00pm Investigation Stations & Reading can be Ruff 3:30pm Gaming Club 3:30pm	22 Lanier Literacy Project 3:30pm Pop-in Bedazzled Ghost Craft 5:00-8:00pm Haunted Hinsdale House with Daniel Klaes 6:30pm	23 Halloween Hangout 4:00-5:00pm	24
26 LawNY Medicare, Healthcare Navigator, Elder Care Law 10:00am-1:00pm	27 Supernatural World & Our Interactions with Jacob 6:00pm Investigation Stations 6:30pm	28 Stories & More 10:00am Investigation Stations & Reading can be Ruff 3:30pm	29 Pop-in Bedazzled Ghost Craft 5:00-8:00pm	30 OTAB Halloween Party 3:30pm	31