

Director's Report – Clarence Public Library
September 23, 2024

Financial

The monthly financial statements are included in the board packets. The latest payroll report was sent by Tracy Palicki (as of pay period 15) and shows a projected ending balance of \$18,866.44. This balance is expected to decrease by the end of the year, but is a snapshot of our payroll up to now and shows that we are within our payroll report. We also have \$1000.00 in year-end appeal funding from the Central Library that we can spend on programming, craft supplies or furniture/equipment for our public spaces.

Account Balances (as of 9/17/2024):

County Checking:	\$11,403.52
Trustees Checking:	\$15,151.52
Savings:	\$49,040.65
CD:	\$20,000.00

Claims Audit

Please see claims audit abstracts.

Donations

Total donations received for June, July and August:
\$1,771.04

Monthly Statistics:

Revised circulation statistics (May – July):

Please note that IT recently found a discrepancy in the self-check numbers for Clarence and Eggert which caused Eggert's self-check circulation numbers to be added to Clarence's circulation numbers This had occurred May-July. The numbers below reflect the corrected circulation numbers. The comprehensive circulation statistics (ranking, max circ per day, etc.) will not be included in this report.

May 2024

Circulation for Clarence was 18,917. This is a 1.4% increase from last year. (Original report had 21,898 circulation with 17.4% increase).

June 2024

Circulation, Patron Count, and Programming Summary

Circulation

June 2024 Circulation:	23,809
June 2023 Circulation:	20,956
	13.6% change
Jan-June 2024	121,963
Jan-June 2023	121,297
	0.5% change

Clarence Public Library June 2024 Pie Chart – circulation by item type

Library Visits

June 2024 Visitor Count	6,609
June 2023 Visitor Count	6,686
	-1.2% percent change
January-June 2024	41,357
January-June 2023	36,882
	12.1% percent change

- Maximum visitor count in 2024 was 426 on the 4th.
 - Maximum Visitor Count in June 2024 was 354 on the 17th.
 - Maximum in one day in 2023 was 486 on June 27th.
 - The average number of visits per day in June 2024 was 264.
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- Clarence was ranked 9th for Library Visits in June 2024.
 - Clarence was ranked 7th for Library Visits in June 2023.

Branch	June 2024 Library Visits
1. Orchard Park	11,446
2. Clearfield	11,346
3. Audubon	11,143
4. Kenmore	8,758
5. West Seneca	8,590
6. Julia Boyer Reinstein	8,394
7. Merriweather	7,761
8. Hamburg	7,034
9. Clarence	6,609

Public Access Computer Sessions

June 2024	409
June 2023	428
	-4.4% percent change

WIFI

June 2024	1,568
June 2023	1,421
	10.3% percent change

Clarence Public Library Programming

June 2024

In Library programs:	Programs	Attendance
For children 5 & under	5	121

For children 6-12	2	7
For teens	1	6
Intergenerational	2	31
For Adults	6	137

In Library One-on-One Programs: Programs Attendance

For children 5 & under	3	3
For children 6-12	11	11
For teens	36	36
Intergenerational		
For Adults		

Meeting Room Use: 16

Seed Library: 143

July 2024

Circulation, Patron Count, and Programming Summary

Circulation

July 2024 Circulation:	29,803	
July 2023 Circulation:	24,840	
		20.0% change
January-July 2024	151,766	
January-July 2023	146,137	(3.9% change)

Library Visits

July 2024 Visitor Count	8,465
July 2023 Visitor Count	7,088

	19.4% percent change
January-July 2024	49,822
January-July 2023	43,970
	13.3% percent change

- Maximum Visitor Count in July was 484 on the 1st.
- Maximum in one day in 2023 was 486 on June 27th.
- The average number of visits per day in July 2024 was 331.
- Clarence was ranked 8th for Library Visits in July 2024.
- Clarence was ranked 8th for Library Visits in July 2023.

Branch
1. Clearfield
2. Orchard Park
3. Audubon
4. West Seneca
5. Kenmore
6. Lancaster
7. Hamburg
8. Clarence

Public Access Computer Sessions

July 2024	497
July 2023	423
	20.1% percent change

WIFI

July 2024	1,672
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July 2023 1,278
 30.8% percent change

Public Access Computer Sessions

July 2024 497
 July 2023 423
 20.1% percent change

WIFI

July 2024 1,672
 July 2023 1,278
 30.8% percent change

Clarence Public Library Programming

July 2024

In Library programs: Programs Attendance

For children 5 & under	7	166
For children 6-12	3	78
For teens	3	16
Intergenerational	9	293
For Adults	1	3

In Library One-on-One Programs: Progrms Attendance

For children 5 & under	3	3
For children 6-12	63	63
For teens		
Intergenerational	18*	18*
For Adults		

***Scavenger Hunt**

Meeting Room Use: 7

Seed Library: 63

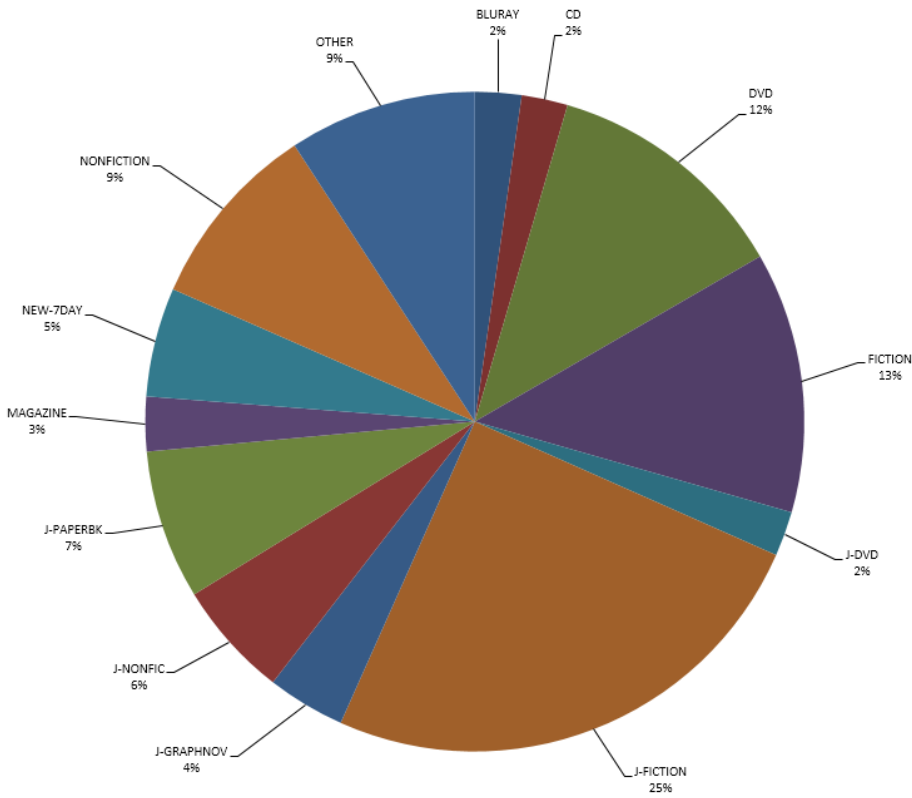
Outreach: 100 (estimate) – Monica and Sarah represented the library at Summer Fest presented by the Clarence Youth Bureau on July 20 at Clarence Town Park.

August 2024

Circulation, Patron Count, and Programming Summary

Circulation

August 2024 Circulation:	27,879
August 2023 Circulation:	24,730
	12.7% percent change
January-August 2024	179,645
January-August 2023	170,867
	5.1% percent change



Library Visits

August 2024 Visitor Count	7,872
August 2023 Visitor Count	7,501
	4.9% percent change

January-August 2024	57,694
January-August 2023	51,571
	12.1% percent change

- Maximum Visitor Count in August 2024 was 429 on the 6th.
- Maximum in one day in 2023 was 486 on June 27th.
- The average number of visits per day in August 2024 was 291 .
- Clarence was ranked 11th for Library Visits in August 2024.
- Clarence was ranked 11th for Library Visits in August 2023.

Public Access Computer Sessions

August 2024	523
August 2023	502
	4.2% percent change

WIFI

August 2024	1,627
August 2023	1,320
	23.3% percent change

Clarence Public Library Programming

August 2024

In Library programs:	Programs	Attendance
For children 5 & under	4	78
For children 6-12	2	52
For teens	1	5
Intergenerational	6	179
For Adults	2	39
In Library One-on-One Programs:	Programs	Attendance
For children 5 & under	1	1

For children 6-12	44	44
For teens	5	5
Intergenerational		
For Adults		

Meeting Room Use: 10 (non-library sponsored meetings and events)

Seed Library: 69

Groups/Organizations using the Meeting Room (June-August):

- Clarence Family Support Center
- WNY Armenian Community
- Clarence Senior Center Card Group
- Village Station HOA
- Clarence Concert Association
- Bookmarks Book Discussion Group
- Happy Bookers Book Group
- Growing with Others Neurodivergent Teen Social Group
- New Directions Peer Support Group
- Laurel Park HOA
- Clarence High School Reunion Committee
- Creekwood Meadows HOA
- Jane Austen Society (JASNA)
- Women of Waterford
- American Heart Association
- Shadow Woods HOA
- Alzheimer's Association
- American Red Cross
- Reserve at Spaulding Green HOA
- Hollows at Loch Lea HOA

Summer Reading Report (compiled by Sarah McLean-Plunkett for the B&ECPL to be submitted to NYS by the system):

Total children 0-5 registered for the summer reading program:

12

Minutes read: 7,200

Total children 6-11 registered for the summer reading program:

53

Minutes read:

31,800

Total teens registered for the summer reading program:

7

Minutes read:

4,200

Total Adults registered for the summer reading program. (We did not offer a summer reading program for adults)

0

Total number of children who recorded minutes read:

80

There were eight logs submitted with no age given.

There were 21 logs submitted with no school listed.

Total minutes read: 43,200

Did your library location partner with the local affiliate of a Summer Reading at New York State partner? NYS local Legislator Assembly: Assemblyman Michael J. Norris

How was your summer reading publicized, and how effective were these methods?

Also, what publications did you use to promote your programs?

Newsletter, social media, public outreach events. The Clarence Bee.

Please share anecdotes about the summer programming at your library.

At the beginning of the summer we attend Clarence SummerFest. We offered a Dino Dig and had over 80 children participate in that activity. After that event we experienced a spike in circulation.

Biggest Summer Reading Challenges this year?

It was difficult to arrange class visits with the schools as well as obtain new reading lists.

Biggest Summer Reading take away for your library?

Summer Reading has been valued for preventing "summer slide", but many of the schools have reading programs. I think it is the freedom to read what they choose and enjoy that makes summer reading valuable. By offering meaningful summer activities we are bringing them into the libraries to forge that connection.

Did your library location collaborate with any local businesses to enhance or promote your summer reading program?

Yes. Greg's U-pick Farm

Questions not on the State Report for summer reading programs but included in our summer statistics at the Clarence Public Library:

Top Readers

1. Olivia Chen (8)
2. Esther Matveev (7)
3. Naomi Matveev (7)
4. Yeva Matveev (6)
5. Samuel Chen (4)
6. Noah Mack (4)
7. Zoya Matveev (4)
8. Clare M.F. Over (4)

Tied for 9th

Brynn Mack

Cora Manson

Selah Perkins

Logs with no age reported: 8

Total registered: 80

Total logs submitted: 158

School Participation

Clarence Center Elementary: 8

Clarence High School: 1

Clarence Middle School: 4

Harris Hill Elementary: 7

Ledgeview Elementary: 10

Sheridan Hill Elementary: 7

Schools Outside of Clarence:

Country Parkway: 1

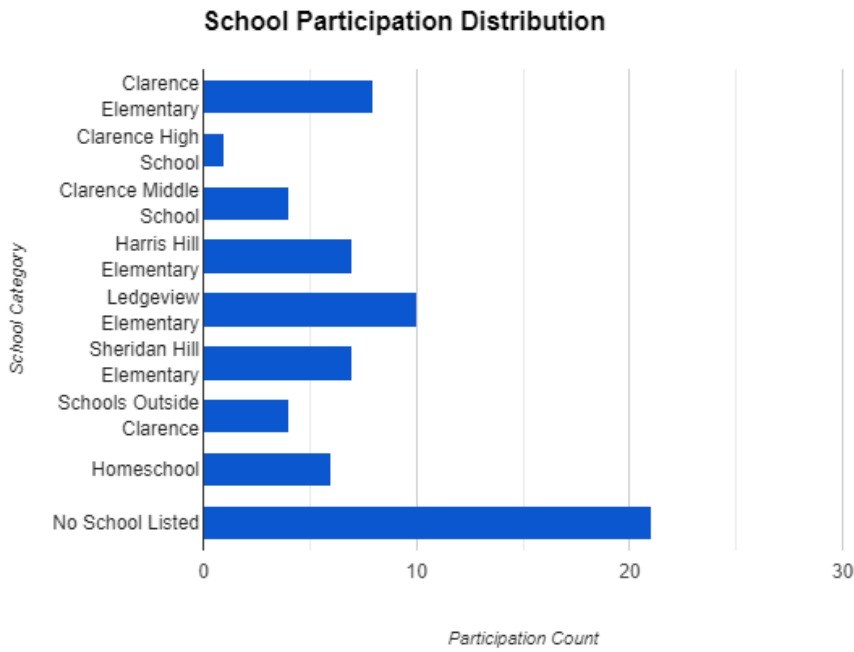
Park School: 1

Sacred Joy: 1

S.H.V. 3

Homeschool: 6

No School listed: 21



Wagon tickets: 161
 Blue Bike: 121
 Silver Bike: 69

Ticket to Read (teen reading program)

Tickets to Read submitted: 75 tickets.

Ticket to Read participants: 13

Top readers Abdullah Azhar 26

Muhammed Azhar 24

Programs of Note:

Growing with Others Neurodivergent Teen Social Group – This program is made possible by a partnership between the Clarence Public Library and the Clarence Central School District Family Support Center and meets one evening per month at the Clarence Library throughout the

school year. Facilitated by a licensed mental health counselor, the goals of this program are community connection, building positive relationships, and developing new skills such as self-awareness, social wellness and coping with stress. Teen participants will also be able to discuss feelings, interests, ideas and goals in a safe and supportive environment.

“Chat About That” – Formally known as our “Tea & Conversation” group, this program is free and open to anyone who wants to improve their English conversation skills. The group will meet every Monday from 12:00 to 1:00 pm beginning September 16 at the Clarence Public Library. Attendees are welcome and encouraged to bring conversation topics and do not need to register. And, of course, tea will still be served! This program is part of the ENL grant with funding from the Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo – Daniel C. and Beatrice M. Fisher Fund.

Makery Programs – Our afterschool “Makery” programs for school age children have been a huge success for the past year. Students have had an opportunity to work on a variety of maker-focused projects. Past examples include ZEN Gardens, beach-inspired wind chimes, pressed flower lanterns, sun catchers, and no-knit yarn art. September’s afterschool Makery was *Hojalata* or Mexican tin art. Students crafted their own tin art inspired by Day of the Dead sugar skulls. Also, this month, we presented a new “Evening Makery” for those 14 and up. The theme for this Makery is *Kintsugi* (“Golden Joinery”), which is a Japanese art that repairs broken pottery with gold, rendering a new piece that is more exquisite than it was before the break. It literally means to join with gold. Participants brought broken mugs or and made Kintsugi. The program was a huge hit with kids and adults alike!

And There Was Light - A presentation based on Pulitzer Prize winning author Jon Meacham’s book *And There was Light: Abraham Lincoln and the American Struggle*. Respected presenter Bob Poczik will use Lincoln’s own words and vintage photographs to bring a complex, imperfect and yet heroic Lincoln to Life. This program is scheduled for Monday, September 30 at 7:00 pm. Patrons are asked to call the Clarence Public Library at 716-741-2650 to register.

Tail Waggin Tutors – We are pleased that we have partnered for the second year in a row with Therapy Dogs International (TDI). They have a reading therapy dog program called Tail Waggin Tutors and we now have Oakley, a lovely Golden Retriever who will be visiting the library one Saturday per month. Parents can register their children for a 15-minute reading session with Oakley. In addition, we also have Cody, another beautiful Golden Retriever from TDI who visits weekly on Wednesdays from 3-4 pm. These therapy dog visits have been well-received by our patrons.

TeenLit Boxes – Beginning October 1 through October 15, we will be taking online registration for our new TeenLit Boxes! What are TeenLit Boxes? Ever heard of subscription services such

as OwlCrate or Book of the Month? Our book boxes are like that, but free! They are hand-picked and packaged with a selection of 3 library books based on the teen patron's past favorites, snacks, and surprises. Teens simply need to fill out the online form, pick up the box during the allotted timeframe and then return the books and box to the Clarence Public Library. They keep everything else!

New York State Library Construction Grant – I completed the application for the New York State Library Construction Grant for the AC Compressor Replacement and new boiler and submitted it to Andrew Wiede, Facility Operations Manager at the B&ECPL. Andrew will submit the grant in early October to the New York State Library for review. Grant awards will be made in approximately one year.

The AC Compressor has been replaced. Work was completed by D.V. Brown during the months of July and August and the new compressor was operational by September 5th. The boiler replacement is tentatively scheduled to begin at the beginning of November and should take approximately 4-6 weeks to complete.

Many exciting programs and events will be taking place in October, including the Friend of the Clarence Public Library's Annual Fall Book Sale which is scheduled for October 23rd (Friends Night) through October 26th. We hope to see you there!

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Mooney
Director – Clarence Public Library