

EDEN LIBRARY

2023 COMMUNITY REPORT

A Special Place...

There is never a “normal” day at the library! You might find a family picking out books in the children’s area, an older patron using the computer to check email, someone coming in to make copies. Books come in and go out. DVDs provide visual entertainment. Kids are building with Legos. Meetings are going on... all pretty normal activities. And, then someone comes in to return a book that was due in 1981! Who would ever have guessed that would happen!

Libraries are constantly evolving to meet the needs of our community. The materials that people are looking for are different; their need for technology help has grown. But one thing remains-- they know that they can find what they need at the library at no cost! In fact, 2023 was the first entirely fine-free year for the library system. No more overdue books!

The University Express programs, which are offered through the Erie County Dept. of Senior Services, were new to our library in 2022 and increased in popularity this past year. Geared for lifelong learners, they continue to bring many non-residents to our library to enjoy lectures on a wide variety of topics.

While we refer to our building as the “new” library, we have to acknowledge that it is aging! All of the carpet will be replaced in early 2024 after completion of a drainage project on both sides of the building’s exterior. Unfortunately, that entailed removing all of our foundation plantings, including three large River Birch trees.

Our staff continues to rise to the occasion and meets every challenge with grace, ingenuity, and a desire to provide the best possible service for library patrons here in Eden. Our hope is that the Eden Library will always be “a special place” for residents and visitors alike.



Thanks to...

- ... our staff who have willingly adapted to ever changing protocols and continue to serve our patrons with excellence.
- ... our Board of Trustees who dedicate many hours to making sure that our library is adequately funded and maintained.
- ... the Town of Eden for their help with snow removal, lawn mowing, building maintenance and so much more.
- ... The Friends of the Eden Library who continue to support the library with funding for programming and other activities.
- ... the many individuals who have donated books for our used book sales over the years and those who come to shop at the sales.
- ... all who continue to use our library on a regular basis for information, entertainment and technology assistance.



Top: Our mature River Birch trees and all of the landscaping shrubs were removed in late fall to facilitate a drainage project. The building looks barren without them, but a grant from the Eden Community Foundation will see their replacements going in during the summer of 2024. Above (1, 2, 3): An End of Summer picnic brought out lots of families to watch balloon animals being made, snack on popcorn and snow cones, try their luck with the hula hoop and lots of other games of chance. Library Board members grilled hot dogs as well. It was a beautiful night in Eden! (4) The Pumpkin Patch program is always a popular night at the library with magic, animals (real and stuffed), and pumpkins, of course! (5) Former Library Director Joyce Maguda launched her first children’s book--“Mr. Turkey’s Song”-- during a presentation at the library. (6) Saint Paul’s Bell Choir treated library patrons to a wonderful evening of traditional carols just prior to the Christmas holidays.



EDEN LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS FOR 2023:

46,592
items circulated

15,913
patron visits

8,797
items knitted for charity by the Yarn Club since 2007

3,725
registered borrowers

3,391
reference questions answered

2,114
wi-fi sessions

1,351
people attended 129 programs

1,350
computer sessions

1,200
Facebook followers

210
children & adults contacted through
outreach programs

129
hours of service by 11 volunteers

13
University Express Programs

6
volunteer board members

6
dedicated staff members

1
great location!



*Thanks to Agle's Market for their many years
of supplying geraniums to beautify
the Library's grounds.*

Contact your Representatives!

Special thanks to our elected officials for their continued support of library services in Erie County. Let them know that this library is important to you and your family.

Erie County Legislator, District 11
John J. Mills
92 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY 14202
john.mills@erie.gov

NYS Assemblymember, 147th District
David DiPietro
411 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052
DiPietroD@nyassembly.gov

NYS Senator, 60th District
Patrick Gallivan
2721 Transit Rd., Suite 116
Elma, NY 14059
gallivan@nysenate.gov

Library Staff

Donna-Jo Webster, *Library Director*
Helga Antonou, *Senior Library Clerk*
Cynthia Bancroft, *Clerk Typist*
Cheryl Colvin, *Clerk Typist*
William Ruof, *Clerk Typist*
Anthony Sacilowski, *Caretaker and Custodian*

Hours:

Monday ... 11 to 6
Tuesday... 11 to 6
Wednesday... 2 to 7
Thursday... 11 to 6
Friday... 11 to 5
Saturday... 11 to 2

Library Board

Patricia Smith, *President*
James Agle, *Vice President*
Linda Meyer, *Secretary*
Bettyann Neifer, *Treasurer*
Jon Wilcox, *Trustee*
Susan Wilhelm, *Trustee and
Town Board Liaison*



EDEN LIBRARY

2901 East Church Street, Eden, New York 14057
716-992-4028

www.BuffaloLib.org/locations-hours/eden-library
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