AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes – February 20, 2020
3. Library Reports
   a. Introduce new board member Kara Murphy
   b. Report of Director
   d. Statistical and Other Reports
   e. Report of District Consultant
4. Board and Committee Reports
   a. Report from County Council Liaison
   b. Report of Friends and ERLF
5. Adjournment
6. Appendix
   a. News Articles

ECPL Advisory Board Meeting
May 21, 2020 noon-1pm

Meeting URL
https://bluejeans.com/732423440/1885
Meeting ID
732 423 440
Participant Passcode: 1885
Want to dial in from a phone?
Dial one of the following numbers:

- +1.408.419.1715
1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes – February 20, 2020
3. Library Reports
   a. Introduce new board member Kara Murphy
   b. Report of Director
      Separate Attachment
   d. Statistical and Other Reports
      • No statistical report available
      • Reopening Plans—Sheryl Thomas
      • Review of Supplies & Capacity—Deana Cooper

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**Blasco Inventory List - PPE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit Price</th>
<th>In Stock Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>In Stock Total</th>
<th>On Order</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>XL Gloves</td>
<td>1800 pairs</td>
<td>1800 pairs</td>
<td>36 XL Gloves 100 per</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1800</td>
<td>pairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>L Gloves</td>
<td>1300 pairs</td>
<td>1300 pairs</td>
<td>26 L Gloves 100 per</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>pairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Med Gloves</td>
<td>500 pairs</td>
<td>500 pairs</td>
<td>10 Med Gloves 100 per</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>pairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Sm Gloves</td>
<td>500 pairs</td>
<td>500 pairs</td>
<td>10 Sm Gloves 100 per</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>pairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Wipes</td>
<td>64 container</td>
<td>64 container</td>
<td>4 Antibacterial wipes containers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>64</td>
<td>containers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Disinfect. Spray</td>
<td>25 cans</td>
<td>25 cans</td>
<td>25 Sterile Phne II disinfectant spray (ON LIST N)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>cans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Pump Dispenser</td>
<td>32 refills</td>
<td>32 refills</td>
<td>16 Refill (2PK)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/2/pk</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Tissues</td>
<td>93 boxes</td>
<td>93 boxes</td>
<td>93 2 cases (10 per) 33 boxes</td>
<td></td>
<td>36/1000/mL bags</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNT</td>
<td>Virex</td>
<td>93 boxes</td>
<td>93 boxes</td>
<td>5 Bottles (makes approx 100 bottles of solution (CDC approved for covid)</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 bottles</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Office</td>
<td>Surgical Masks</td>
<td>40/50/box</td>
<td>2400 each</td>
<td>8 boxes (50 per)</td>
<td>40/50/box</td>
<td>2400 each</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends</td>
<td>Face Shields</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50 each</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>50 each</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Office</td>
<td>Thermometers</td>
<td>12 units</td>
<td>12 units</td>
<td>12 units</td>
<td></td>
<td>12 units</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Office</td>
<td>Box Hand San Bottles</td>
<td>240 bottles</td>
<td>240 bottles</td>
<td>20 boxes (2 per case)</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 boxes (2 per case)</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>bottles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>Sneeze Guards</td>
<td>26 Sneeze guards</td>
<td>26 Sneeze guards</td>
<td>Glass sneeze guards with wood frame (11+ branches)</td>
<td></td>
<td>26 branches</td>
<td>26 Sneeze guards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These items are currently in stock at Blasco. This list will supply the Branches with the PPE needed for each location. A visit to each Branch is planned on Wednesday, 5/20 to inventory and determine each Branch's needs.
Youth Services after opening—Shane Donaldson
Adult Services after opening—Andrew Miller
Strategic Planning Process—Sheryl Thomas

e. Report of District Consultant

4. Board and Committee Reports
   a. Report from County Council Liaison
   b. Report of Friends and ERLF

5. Adjournment

6. Appendix
   a. News Articles
As a portal to lifelong learning and creativity, the Erie County Public Library system can feed your brain, but it can also fill your belly, keep you fit and a whole lot more.

At press time, the library was closed due to COVID-19, but when it reopens, prepare yourself for great access to loads of free resources at any number of local library branches or from your own computer or mobile device. Here is just a smattering of what the libraries have to offer.

Find your roots

Genealogy, the study of family ancestry, is among the most popular and fastest-growing hobbies in the U.S. As genetic testing tools like 23andMe capitalize on the trend of family tree research, Erie County Public Library cardholders can dig up their ancestral roots for free. The Heritage Room at Blasco Memorial Library provides access to top genealogy search tools Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest; the military records database Fold3; and local history resources like high school yearbooks, historic maps and more. Visit the Heritage Room and librarians can help you get started researching your roots.

Plant your own roots

Library patrons can cultivate literal roots, using the seed libraries available at the Edinboro and Iroquois Avenue library branches. Thanks to a collaboration between ECPL and the Erie County Department of Health, patrons can check out and plant fruit and vegetable seeds, such as beans, corn, lettuce, radishes and cucumbers.

“We have a big gardening community in Edinboro,” Randalee Gross, Edinboro branch manager, said. “We had 86 (seed) packets circulate last year, and this year I’m hoping for lots more.” Seeds from library patrons’ harvests can be preserved and donated back to the library, keeping the seed library fresh and vibrant.

Borrow a fishing pole

Add some protein to those veggies when you check out a fishing pole and tackle box – and even a bait coupon, while supplies last. The local nonprofit fishing club S.O.N.S. of Lake Erie provides the fishing gear – available at the Blasco and Iroquois Avenue library branches – and keeps it in good working order, repairing and replacing poles as needed. Patrons can check out the poles and accessories for a week at a time.

Adults must have their own fishing license, whereas children don’t need one, as long as they’re assisted by an adult.

Enjoy some virtual learning that’s fun

Getting back to nature on land and sea is enriching, and so are lots of virtual learning experiences, especially for the youngest library patrons.

Tablets preloaded with educational apps teach pre-K and elementary children about animals, basic math concepts and more. The tablets come with their own charger and are great for keeping little ones engaged on a long haul – like a weeklong family road trip – or just a jaunt to the grocery store. Like all the resources named here, they are available free of charge to library cardholders.

Track some words for kids

You might use a fitbit or other fitness tracker to keep tabs on your physical activity. But Starling wearables, available from the library, track users’ verbal activity. These cute (and drool-proof!) clipon devices track how many words, and what kinds of words, a baby or toddler is exposed to throughout the day. A corresponding app provides tips for improving children’s vocabulary and allows users to set daily word goals and view progress over time. Check one out to set your little Einstein on the right track.

Take up the challenge of video games

For older kids, the library circulates about 100 video games for Nintendo (Wii, Wii U, 3DS and Switch), Xbox (Xbox 360 and Xbox One) and PlayStation (3 and 4). They are rated E (appropriate for
everyone), E 10+ (for everyone ages 10 and up), or T (appropriate for teens).
And they pack an educational punch.
Andrew Miller, adult services manager at Blasco Library, explained that gamers develop problem solving
and decision-making skills while following complex story arcs. The American Psychological
Association has indicated that playing video games can sharpen cognitive skills like spatial
navigation, reasoning, memory and perception. And games can help build reading comprehension,
as reluctant readers may be more inclined to read on-screen instructions and back stories if they
are excited about the game they’re playing.
There are social, emotional and health benefits, too. Friends and family socialize while playing
together; video games can relieve stress, especially for children who struggle with emotional
challenges; and video games that use a motion sensor, like the Xbox Kinect, encourage exercise.

Get a free pass
Get in some extra steps as a tourist in your own town. Free family passes to the Erie Art Museum
and Erie Maritime Museum are available at most local library branches.
Or travel to far flung locales with a Book Club in a Bag. Ten copies of the same book make it easy
to coordinate a literary escape with nine of your bookworm besties.
For the solo escapist, Playaways are a great option. These MP3 players are preloaded with an
audio book.
Pop in a AAA battery, plug in your headphones and you’re off to wherever your favorite author
takes you.
“I use (Playaways) if I’m running in a 5K or working in the yard,” Gross said. “We probably have 60
titles at Edinboro (Branch Library). And some of the independent libraries we share resources with
have them as well. T here’s a good mix of some classics and more contemporary books.”
Borrow a hotspot
While the tablets, Playaways and many library-supported apps can be used without an internet
connection, the library branches also lend out Wi-Fi hot spots, allowing patrons to gain home
internet access for up to 10 days at a time.
“I think it’s not something people think about when they think about libraries,” Gross said. “But it
really helps close that digital divide.”
Cruise through the virtual branch
About 10 different devices can access the web using one of the hot spots, which may open up a
world of exploration, learning and self-improvement for everyone in the household, especially when
paired with the library’s suite of databases.
These dozens of databases – known collectively as a “virtual branch” of the library – are extremely
powerful, comprehensive search and teaching tools that you can access anywhere there’s an
internet connection, using just your library card. Any of the databases would normally cost a pretty
penny, but they are paid for by the library for the benefit of the public.
To find them, follow the quick-link at www.erielibrary.org, or select “e-databases” under the
“services” tab.
Library staff named the databases they recommend most often:
Overdrive and Libby offer access to a massive library of e-books and audio books.
Novelist recommends your next read, based on your favorite book, author or genre.
“I might not read the same genre as a patron,” Gross said. But using Novelist “really helps you find
the next book that you’re gonna love.”
It’s also handy for parents and teachers, providing Lexile numbers to match readers with material
that’s appropriate for their age and reading level.
BookFlicks and TrueFlicks allow younger kids to watch a video and engage with visual content
related to a book. These two apps will also read to the child, or highlight words as the child reads,
and they both offer resources for teachers, too.
Consumer Reports is the handy companion to the popular magazine of the same name. Get
reviews and ratings of virtually every popular consumer product under the sun, before you buy. Or use the database to identify which magazine edition the item was reviewed in, and the library can procure that edition if it isn’t already in-house.

A few of the databases are especially useful for students. The Testing Resource Center offers help preparing for ACT, PSAT, SAT, LSAT, MCAT and other standardized tests. A scholarship search tool does exactly what it sounds like. And Gale Academic accesses tons of scholarly journal articles, book excerpts and magazine articles. It’s easy to filter information, and the database will even pull up style citations, making bibliography-writing a breeze.

For lifelong learners who’ve left the classroom, there’s Universal Classes, which offers more than 500 online classes on just about everything from crafting to history to computer classes to bookkeeping. A real person grades the homework and the tests of participants, and some classes offer continuing education credits.

“There are other people who are taking the classes, too,” Gross said. “So it really creates that classroom type environment.”

Another great way to expand your social horizons is through language learning. It not only keeps your mind sharp or preps you for a dream destination, but it can also actually change the way you think, revealing the perspectives of other cultures. The Transparent Languages database offers more than 100 languages, and users can learn in English or in almost any other language. All of these databases are “pretty easy to navigate, and pretty intuitive,” Gross said. But for help getting started, it can’t hurt to reserve one-on-one time with a librarian.

“I think it’s amazing to see a spark of passion occur when someone is loving a program and really engaging,” Gross said. “One of my favorite parts of being a librarian in general is having the opportunity to help people. This is something I am able to do every day that I come in to work.”

Start your lifelong learning today

These are just some of the thousands of opportunities the library offers to connect to a community of learners.

Including regular programs in the Teen Space and Idea Lab at Blasco library, "we offered over 1,800 programs in the library system last year," Miller said. "From story time for babies to insurance scam seminars for seniors and every age in between."

If you haven’t visited your local branch in a while, dust off that library card, log on and explore. You might be surprised what you learn.

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TV Segments:

Great American Book Sale canceled - By Madeleine - Erie Times-News

(PA) - April 23, 2020 - page 6

April 23, 2020 | Erie Times-News (PA) | Erie Times-News | Page 6

The beloved Great American Book Sale is the latest big Erie event to be canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic.
The massive book sale, which was set to run from June 14 to June 19, will not take place this year.
The Friends of the Erie County Public Library decided to cancel at their board meeting on Monday, said Peg Shenefelt, the group’s president.
The Great American Book Sale features tens of thousands of books and other media, which are generally sold for $1 or 50 cents. The proceeds help fund programming at the county’s public libraries.
This would have been the sale’s third year at its new location, the McDowell Intermediate High School Commons.
Shenefelt said it would be too difficult to postpone the 2020 sale until later in the year.
“We need so much help to pull that off,” she said. “It takes us over 100 people to put that together.”
The Friends of the Erie County Public Library will try to host smaller sales at the Blasco Library later in the year, she said.
Contact Madeleine O’Neill at moneill@timesnews.com. Follow her on Twitter @ETNoneill.
WiFi Access Expanded at All Erie County Public Library Locations

The WiFi network at each library location can now be accessed from anywhere in the library's parking lot or within approximately 100 feet of the buildings.

Friday, May 1st 2020, 4:52 PM EDT
Updated:
Friday, May 1st 2020, 4:53 PM EDT

WiFi reach at all Erie County Public Library locations has been expanded.

Even before the closure of library facilities due to the COVID-19 outbreak, patrons of the library system had consistently ranked WiFi login and internet lab usage as one of the system's most valuable services.

Now, as the COVID-19 pandemic keeps the library system closed, expanded WiFi will enable the library to continue to offer the service, even though in-person computer labs are unavailable.

The WiFi network at each Erie County Public Library location can now be accessed from anywhere in the library's parking lot or within approximately 100 feet of the buildings.

The increased WiFi accessibility came at a time when Erie County residents are most in need of access.

"We hope this service will benefit the many residents needing free internet access," said Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper.

Dahlkemper also reminds patrons to observe proper COVID-19 social distancing guidelines. She asks users to keep a distance of at least six feet from others and to wear a mask to protect others. She says the guidelines will be enforced.

https://www.eriencnow.com/story/42080474/wifi-access-expanded-at-all-erie-county-public-library-locations
Erie County Courthouse Preparing for June 1 Opening Date
Erie County Courthouse taking steps to make building safe for full reopening to the public on June 1.

The halls of the Erie County Courthouse have been empty in recent weeks, but come June 1, life in county government will begin inching back toward normal.

Sheriff’s deputies who handle security are already wearing masks, and hand sanitizing stations have been installed at the entrances of the courthouse and throughout the building.

According to director of administration Gary Lee, about 35% of the county work force will be on the job every day, back in their offices.

If they face the public though, there will be glass partitions for protection. Crews were at work installing them on Monday.

Masks will be a must for anyone who enters the building.

The county is looking at systems for checking temperatures too.

The plan is for 34% of the courthouse staff to work on rotating schedules, so work spaces will meet social distance requirements.

The county has found that about 23% of the staff, some 280 employees will continue to work from home. “There are just some particular functions that require that you are here on site at the courthouse,” Gary Lee said, “but other functions that you can do remotely, so the department leaders are responsible for determining that mix and making sure that the outcomes are met.”

About 100 county employees were furloughed because of COVID-19, most of those at the Erie County Public Library, the rest dotted across the staff. Lee said the county expects to reopen the library June 1 for staff and people returning items. Curbside service is expected to start June 15.

https://www.erieneuwsnow.com/story/42143747/erie-county-courthouse-preparing-for-june-1-opening-date

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 1, 2020

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814-812-0089

Erie County expands Wi-Fi reach at all Erie County Public Library locations

Erie, PA – County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper, in partnership with Erick Friedman, director of IT for Erie County, and Erie County Public Library announce the expansion of the reach of Wi-Fi networks at all Erie County Public Library locations. This move will help increase accessibility to the internet at a time when Erie County residents are most in need of access.

Wi-Fi logins and internet lab usage ranked consistently high in Erie County Public Library’s statistics before the closure.

“For many patrons, our free public Wi-Fi is the library’s most valuable service,” said Sheryl Thomas, assistant director of Erie County Public Library. “Though ECPL is not able to offer in-person computer labs, we can now offer expanded access to Wi-Fi even while the library facilities are closed.”

Seeking to provide this essential service to patrons, library administration brought the idea to expand Wi-Fi offerings to the county’s IT department who sourced the necessary equipment, installed it at each library location, and completed setup for a May 1 start date.

“Implementing this project on short notice and with scarce equipment in the marketplace was a tremendous team effort between resourceful local vendors, an amazing facilities department and our world class IT team,” Friedman said.

The Wi-Fi network at each Erie County Public Library location may now be accessed from anywhere in the library’s parking lot or within approximately 100 feet from the buildings.

“We hope this service will benefit the many residents needing free internet access,” Dahlkemper said, “but it is imperative that patrons observe proper protocol while using this free service to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Keeping a distance of at least 6 feet from other users and wearing a mask to protect others in the area will be enforced.”

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