



Library Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 2023
Via Zoom @12:00 pm

Allen
Rosenthal
Pearson

Murphy
Tempestini
Knuth

Boam
Conway
Aoh

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes – December 15, 2022**
3. **Library Reports**
 - a. Staff Reports- Outreach Services Manager- Alyssa Johnson
 - b. Report of the Director
 - c. Review of Financial Report
 - d. Statistical and Other Reports- Sheryl
 - e. Report of District Consultant
4. **Board and Committee Reports**
 - a. Report of County Council Liaison
 - b. Report of Friends of the Library
 - c. Report of Erie Regional Library Foundation
5. **Unfinished Business-**
 - a. Bylaw Grammatical review-
Review grammatical changes, and potential motion for submission to Erie County Solicitor.
6. **New Business**
 - a. New policy – Public Paging in Libraries.
 - b. In-Person Board Meeting set for February.
7. **Adjournment**
8. **Appendix**
 - a. Announcements-
 - b. News Articles

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes – December 15, 2022

3. Library Reports

a. Staff Reports- Outreach Services Manager- Alyssa Johnson

b. Report of the Director

Connections-

-School Librarian, Hank Barbour has invited ECPL to visit Fairview High School to issue student's library cards. The library will issue cards and talk about the basics of using the library. This event will occur on January 25.

-Karen met with Foundation and Administration members to begin planning for the Children's Renovation project. We are in the early stage of this process. At this time, there is nothing to report.

-The 2022 State Report will open in late February for ECPL. The report process takes the library about a month to complete. The financials for the library are the biggest hurdle to report. The County technically does not complete their final financial reconciliation until April. The library will work closely with the Finance department to expedite the process.

Collections-

-“Dial-a-Story” is up and running. Patrons can dial a phone number to listen to a prerecorded children's story. For ECPL, there is an English line (option #1) and a Spanish line (option #2). At this time, ECPL's stories are scheduled to change on Mondays as well as aligned to be the same story in both languages; they're pulled from the LibraryCall Commons inventory. Thanks to County Coordination Aid, Dial-A-Story is available to all Public libraries of Erie County. There are seven different numbers for patrons to try. We have yet to coordinate scheduling out among the seven libraries, so there may be some duplicates every now and again. Overall, it is a simple service that does not require Internet. (ECPL does offer its stories at <https://erielibrary.org/about/children/>, so folks can listen via the webpage widgets, too.)

-Over the last few months, the Librarian's and Technical Services Department have been weeding out low circulating audiobooks and playaways. With the increase in available digital downloads and the decrease in CD player popularity, audiobook demand has decreased over the last few years. The Library has found a new home for these collection items within Pleasant Ridge Manor. The items are donated to Pleasant Ridge where the Activity Director re-distributes to the eager awaiting residents.

Capacity-

-Computer Class schedule is available through the first quarter. The Library has reverted to in-person only registration that requires prepayment for class. Prepayment has become necessary to prevent no shows. This process has received positive feedback, especially by patrons who have been stuck on waiting lists.

-Career Online High School Education- the Friends of the Library have approved a budget for the Library to sponsor three applicants for Online High School Diploma's through SmartHorizons. The library will work with SmartHorizons to identify three local applicants to receive full sponsorships for the program. To learn more about Smarthorizons, please visit their website: <https://www.shcoe.org/>. This is relatively new to the Erie area

and a great opportunity for adults and older youths who dropped out of high school to receive an accredited online high school diploma plus career certification.

-The Library has begun the process of reconvening the Joint Operating Committee (JOC). This committee is responsible for making decisions and policies regarding the Bayview Commons Area (the lobby in the Blasco Library that connects the Maritime, Planning Dept and access to the HIRT Auditorium and Admiral Room). A meeting is set to occur at the end of this month to discuss current issues, concerns and the upcoming challenges regarding the Bayfront Parkway Central Corridor Improvements.

c. [Review of Financial Report](#)

No report available

d. [Statistical and Other Reports- Sheryl](#)

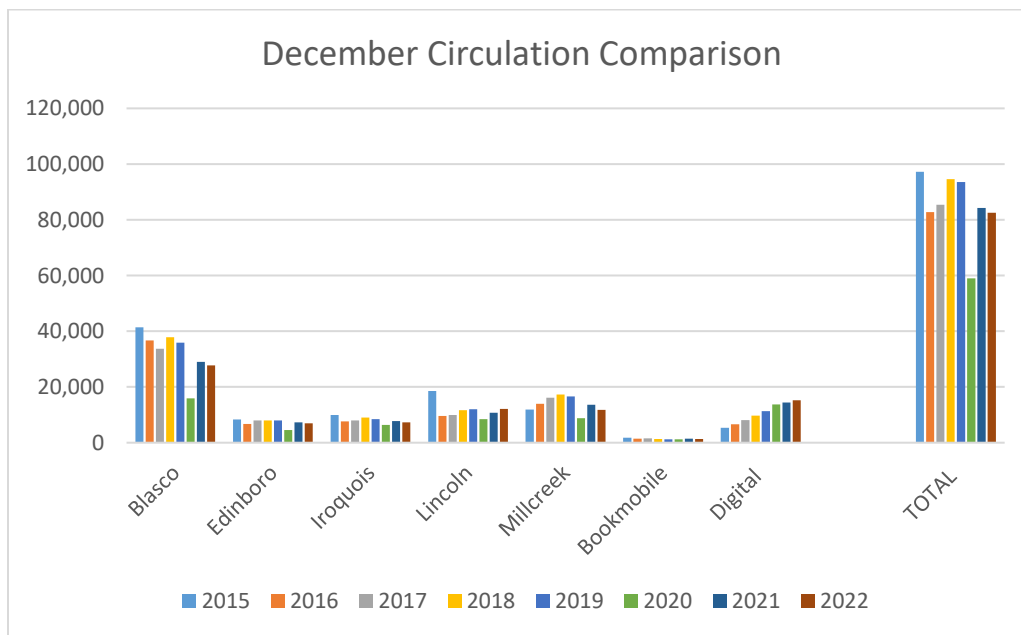


2022 Statistics

Numbers Snapshot

- **311** new cards issued, including **35** e-cards
- **3,369** WiFi logins, **2,558** public PC logins across locations
- **30,117** patron visits, 18,330 at Blasco and 11,787 at branches and Bookmobile

December Circulation

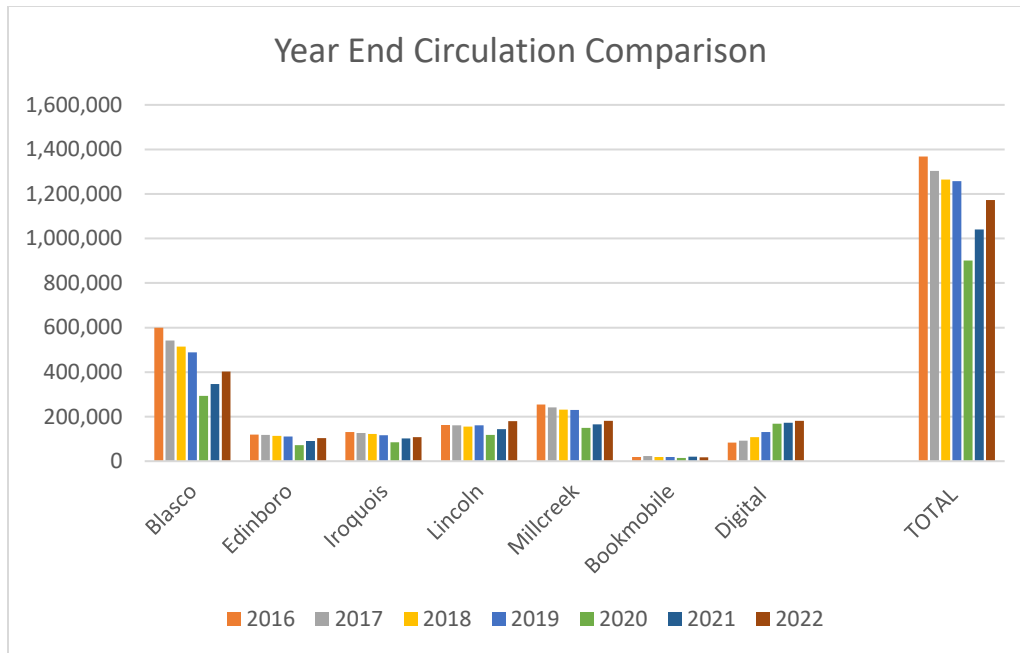


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Blasco	41,436	36,711	33,776	37,808	35,942	15,909	29,008	27,702
Edinboro	8,298	6,743	7,949	7,933	7,960	4,538	7,295	6,917

Iroquois	9,903	7,654	8,039	8,995	8,423	6,330	7,727	7,358
Lincoln	18,606	9,648	9,926	11,617	12,028	8,473	10,788	12,077
Millcreek	11,863	13,980	16,095	17,297	16,645	8,808	13,614	11,825
Bookmobile	1,745	1,391	1,502	1,315	1,226	1,252	1,444	1,354
Digital	5,389	6,647	8,066	9,666	11,337	13,718	14,369	15,250

TOTAL	97,240	82,774	85,353	94,631	93,561	59,028	84,245	82,483
--------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

2022 Circulation



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Blasco	599,239	541,309	515,225	488,238	292,957	346,593	403,171
Edinboro	118,753	117,438	113,679	111,344	72,575	91,264	103,021
Iroquois	131,544	126,091	122,325	117,024	85,271	101,590	107,353
Lincoln	162,537	160,471	154,646	160,424	118,618	143,152	179,658
Millcreek	254,185	242,065	231,088	229,995	149,197	165,089	181,447
Bookmobile	19,290	23,540	19,017	19,454	14,143	19,583	16,737
Digital	83,175	92,787	108,373	130,639	168,979	173,170	180,977
TOTAL	1,368,723	1,303,701	1,264,353	1,257,118	901,740	1,040,441	1,172,364

Cards Issued in 2022: 5,201, including 733 juvenile/teen cards and 633 e-cards

Total Visits: 361,747

Blasco: 206,551 **Bookmobile:** 2,685 **Edinboro:** 27,520

Iroquois: 37,228 **Lincoln:** 38,305 **Millcreek:** 49,458

e. [Report of District Consultant](#)

District Services Report as of January 12, 2023

- Ed Lupico will be our new Office of Commonwealth Libraries Liaison. Some staff are already familiar with Ed as he is the Keystone Grant Coordinator.
- IDS, the interlibrary loan mailing service used by member libraries in Crawford County and at Erie County Public Library, increased at an unexpected amount. Last year, the invoices were under \$19,000. This year, the invoices are over \$44,000. The District may need to reevaluate interlibrary loan and delivery service across the district before this spring's round of Negotiated Agreement discussions for 2023-2024.
- The PLEC Directors met to discuss a Consortium Agreement. Please review the attachment. Each library is asked to submit a signature sheet.

4. Board and Committee Reports

- a. [Report of County Council Liaison](#)
- b. [Report of Friends of the Library](#)

The Friends are having their annual romance book sale titled, "Sweetheart of a Sale," beginning Thursday, February 9 through Saturday, February 11 in the Blasco Library Admiral Room.

- c. [Report of Erie Regional Library Foundation](#)

5. Unfinished Business-

- a. [Bylaw Grammatical review-](#)

[Review grammatical changes, and potential motion for submission to Erie County Solicitor.](#)

6. New Business

- a. [New policy – Public Paging in Libraries.](#)

SECTION:
NUMBER:
REVIEWED:
EFFECTIVE DATE:
PAGE:

PUBLIC PAGING IN LIBRARIES
585

1 of 1

This policy outlines situations in which library staff may or may not use the public paging system to make announcements. A public paging system is currently only installed at the Blasco Library. Locations without a system will use this to dictate when to seek, call out, or otherwise convey information in a public manner using available resources.

The Erie County Public Library does not page for or otherwise attempt to locate within the building individuals at the request of members of the public, whether in person or over the phone.

While this service may be requested, the library is unable to page or locate individuals. This policy is enacted to protect the privacy of individuals using the library and to avoid situations in which staff may be called upon to ascertain the intentions of a requestor. Staff may not page for an individual to respond to a service location or to a phone call at the request of another individual.

Pages may be used to locate individuals when needed for library business. Library staff may page for an individual who has left an article (e.g. card, wallet, keys) at a service point. Staff may page for a manager or other staff member when needed, however, other methods of communication (phone, walkie-talkies) should be attempted first unless it is an emergency.

Similarly, staff may page for public interest matters, such as a lost child looking for parent/guardian, car doors left open or lights on, cars left in the fire lane, etc. only when the information has been verified by a staff member.

Pages may be used to announce library programs and events happening that day and, using an approved script, at established intervals to inform patrons that the building is closing.

Pages will be used to direct staff and individuals in the event of a fire drill (or similar), emergency closing, or other evacuation or shelter in place situation, where appropriate.

Due to their nature, pages are loud and intrusive and should be used sparingly.

b. In-Person Board Meeting set for February.

7. Adjournment

8. Appendix

- a. Announcements-
- b. News Articles

December 25, 2022 Erie Times News

Popular titles at Erie County libraries in 2022 included 'Unholy Murder'

Dana Massing
Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" wasn't really a surprise, and there always seems to be a John Grisham title. Dolly Parton and James Patterson's thriller also made the Erie County Public Library's 2022 list of most-circulated titles, along with a book about a real-life Erie bookmaker's murder.

"We're probably the only library in the country that has this in our top circulating titles," said Anitra Gates, technical services manager for the Erie County Public Library, about "The Unholy Murder of Ash Wednesday."

Gates compiled the unscientific list in late November and made a few edits to it in early December. Including results from Blasco Library, the library branches — Edinboro, Iroquois, Lincoln and Millcreek — and the bookmobile, the list spans the first 11 months of the year and is meant to be "a fun little thing," she said. The results are based on library data but also Gates' "editorial curation."

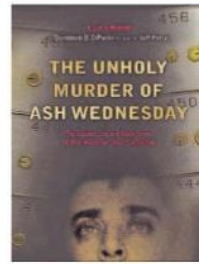
"A purely data-driven top titles list would be dominated by adult fiction and I wanted to make sure the list highlighted several areas of the collection," said Gates, who also included results in categories such as nonfiction, children's books and DVDs.

"Not everybody's a book person," she said. "We do have DVDs."

Among those DVDs available from the Erie County Public Library, Disney's animated "Encanto" came out on top with 176 circulations. Another Disney production, "Jungle Cruise," starring Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt, also made the list, along with "Despicable Me 3," "Sing" and "The Batman."

Grisham's "The Judge's List" topped this year's Erie library list overall with 402 circulations. "Run, Rose, Run," from Parton and Patterson, is a thriller that circulated 268 times since its March publication.

"Harry Potter" books by J.K. Rowling usually lead among children's titles so Gates picked one for the list this year: "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." Entries in the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" se-



"The Unholy Murder of Ash Wednesday" by Dominick D. DiPaolo as told to Jeff Pinski PROVIDED

ries by Jeff Kinney are typically among top requests from young readers, too, and Gates included "Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul" for this year. Another top children's book was "100 Ways to Rebuild the World," which features "fun ideas to be kind and spread joy to the world around you" using Lego bricks.

"Haikyu!!" is a Japanese manga series written and illustrated by Haruichi Furudate. Gates said 234 circulations were divided up among the 44 volumes in the set.

Actress and Food Network personality Valerie Bertinelli reflected on her life in "Enough Already: Learning to Love the

Way I Am Today," which made the Erie County list. So did Bob Woodward and Robert Costa's "Peril," about the transition from President Donald Trump to President Joe Biden. Also there was CNN anchor Anderson Cooper's "Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty."

"I think the nonfiction ones are always a surprise just because every year trends tend to change for what's popular," Gates said.

The cover of "The Unholy Murder of Ash Wednesday: The Stained Life and Rude Times of Mob Wannabe 'Bolo' Dovishaw" calls it "a cop's memoir" by Dominick D. DiPaolo as told to Jeff Pinski. The 2014 book tells the story of the 1993 gangland-style murder of Frank Dovishaw, whose nicknames included "Bolo" and "Ash Wednesday." Caesar Montevecchio pleaded guilty to third-degree murder related to arranging the murder, and Robert E. Dorler Sr. was convicted of first-degree murder as the triggerman.

Dana Massing can be reached at dmassing@timesnews.com. Follow her on Twitter @ETNmassing.

Bus station to open temporarily

Officials seeking long-term solution from Greyhound

A.J. Rao

Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Erie County Executive Brenton Davis and the Erie Metropolitan Authority announced an agreement Thursday to re-

open the Greyhound bus ticket office at the Intermodal Transportation Center on East Bayfront Parkway.

Greyhound passengers arriving, departing or stopping in Erie have had no access to the building since May, when Greyhound's rented space in the Inter-

modal Center was converted to an e-ticket location. As part of that change, the building was locked, eliminating access to restrooms and a climate-controlled waiting room.

Starting Friday, customers will be able to enter the ticket office from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., seven days a week.

EMTA CEO Jeremy Peterson said the temporary solution involves the county lending its contracted security service from the Blasco Memorial Library to patrol and help secure the ticket office during regular business hours. This will provide safety and security to the

See STATION, Page 5A

Station

Continued from Page 1A

unmanned Greyhound office and its customers.

"With the conversations that we've had over the past week, and with the upcoming storm that we have coming this weekend, it made sense that we stepped up and did something together," Peterson said Thursday morning at a news conference.

Davis said the solution will not cost taxpayers additional dollars, making it a good example of "reasonable government entities working together."

"We wanted to make sure that the message that we're sending to our community and to these riders — and to the rest of the world, essentially — is this is a warm and welcoming place," Davis said. "It's not very welcoming when you shut folks outside."

Davis added that the county and EMTA will continue to work with Greyhound to try to find a more permanent solution to keep the doors open.

Greyhound has not indicated any inclination to permanently staff the office with a ticket agent.

"As an industry standard, bus operators conduct service from a unique mix of locations including owned stations, transit centers, gas stations, convenience stores, restaurants, community landmarks and more," Greyhound spokeswoman Lourdes Brown said in a recent statement. "This is true as well for Greyhound locations across our network, including Erie where we continue to service as an e-Stop."

Julie Minich, interim executive director of All Aboard Erie, a nonprofit advocate for the development of high-speed rail and improvements to public transportation, told the Erie Times-News on Thursday she was pleased with the county's temporary solution but indicated more work needs to be done for a permanent fix.

"I would personally like to thank EMTA and the county executive for working together and I hope they can work together in the future because I don't think the battle is over," she said.

A.J. Rao can be reached at arao@gannett.com. Follow him on Twitter @ETNRao.

Entertainment and more around Erie not to miss the week of Dec. 29-Jan. 4



December 29, 2022 | Erie Times-News (PA)

Author/Byline: Erie Times-News; USA TODAY NETWORK | Page: S2 | Section: Features

860 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1290, grade level(s): 11-12

Noon Year's Eve: Saturday, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Blasco Memorial **Library**, 160 E. Front St. Party for children and families who can't stay up late. With fancy snacks, games, and ball drop at countdown to 12. Free. 814-451-6936, events.erialibrary.org/event/9574543