



Library Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, April 20, 2023
Via Zoom @ noon

Groves
Rosenthal
Pearson

Murphy
Tempestini
Knuth

Boam
Conway
Aoh

AGENDA-REVISED

1. ***Call to Order***
2. ***Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2023, no March meeting***
3. ***Library Reports***
 - a. **Staff Reports- John Euliano**
 - b. **Report of the Director**
 - c. **Review of Financial Report- Deana**
 - 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-***
6. ***New Business***
 - a. **Staff Report- none**
7. ***Adjournment***
8. ***Appendix***
 - a. **Announcements-**
 - b. **News Articles**

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes – February 16, 2023, no March meeting

3. Library Reports

a. Staff Reports- John Euliano

Career online high school

b. Report of the Director

Connections-

Youth Services WJET and Classy 100 Interviews– the Youth Services Department participated in two separate interviews the week of March 27. WJET visited the Blasco Library to learn about the Toddler Time programs offered at the Library. Youth Services Librarian, Amberlee McGaughey spoke of the importance of introducing all things literature at an early age. See link for broadcast.

<https://www.yourerie.com/community/toddler-time-at-blasco-memorial-library/>

Brenda Savelli from WXKC- FM Classy 100 interviewed the Youth Services departed on Thursday, March 30 to learn about the upcoming LibCon events and spring children’s programming. The interview link will be shared once it goes live.

A Night at the Museum Gala '23 honoring former Gov. Tom and Michele Ridge– the library is in preparations for the anticipated visit of Michele Ridge in September when she and former Gov. Tom Ridge will be the honored guests at the Hagan History Center. Michele was the Library Director for Erie County from 1982 until 1995. Michele’s dedication plaque is currently on display in the Heritage Galleria.

Friends of the Library Book Drive – The Friends will have their semi-annual book drive at the Blasco Library on Saturday, April 29 from 10am -2pm. The materials collected are organized and sold throughout the year during the Friends book sales. Proceeds from the sales go towards funding all Library Programming.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
Drive-thru Book Drive

Saturday, April 29 from 10am to 2pm
Drop-off on the east side of Blasco Library, off Holland Street.

Accepting:
books in good condition,
used CDs, DVDs, and puzzles.

Unable to accept:
encyclopedias, Readers' Digest
condensed books, textbooks,
magazines, VHS, and cassettes.

Blasco Library Watershed Display –The Blasco Library Heritage display case currently houses an information and conservation display assembled by the Regional Science Consortium from the Tom Ridge Environmental Center.



LibCon Erie Week 2023 – The Library 2023 LibCon Erie will take place the week of April 24-April 29. LibCon is the Library’s version of ComiCon. These are free, family-friendly events featuring workshops, board games, cosplay, crafts, food trucks and more!

<https://eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/LibConErie>



National Network of Library Medicine Partner Program–the Library is collaborating with All of Us for Citizen Science Month to offer a Health Screening Day. The Library will receive up to a \$5,000 grant to market the event and to purchase health and medical oriented books for the library collection. The event will take place on Saturday, April 22. (See attached flyer)

Collections-

Opioid Settlement Grant –Adult Services Manager, Andrew Miller has applied for a \$20,000 grant from the Opioid Settlement fund. The grant would provide \$10,000 to purchase collections that focus on addiction, recovery and other related materials. The remaining funds would be for marketing and programming.

Capacity-

Security Camera Update– With the reward of the Keystone grant, the Library is in the early stages of preparing a bid for the new security cameras for the Blasco lobby. The Library hopes to have the RFP ready for bid early spring.

Blasco PA system –Wilkins is working on the PA paging system at Blasco. There have been numerous complaints by staff that the pages cannot be heard in numerous locations throughout the building. Wilkins is currently troubleshooting the issue.

Joint Operating Committee (JOC) Update – The JOC continues to meet bi-weekly to discuss action items and issue related to the joint space. The current action items revolve around security, HO Hirt Auditorium technical issues, equipment upgrade and parking.

Personnel Updates– the Library is in the process of filling multiple clerical positions. We recently hired two part time Library Clerk Floaters, a part time Blasco Library Clerk and two Per Diem Library Clerks. Other personnel changes include: Alan Green transitioned over to a full time Iroquois Branch Clerk on Monday, April 17 and Julie Santana, a current Millcreek Library Clerk, will transition over to the Technical Services Department on Monday, May 1.

c. Review of Financial Report- Deana
See attached

d. Statistical and Other Reports- Sheryl

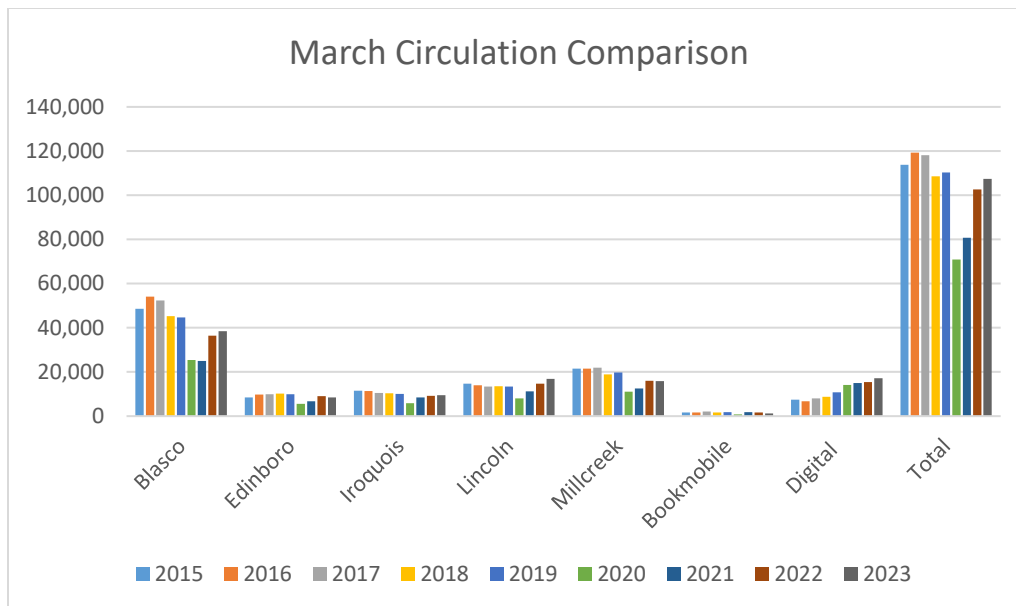


March 2023 Statistics

Numbers Snapshot

- **510** new cards issued (↑35%)*, including **48** e-cards (↑37%)
- **4,292** WiFi logins (↑3%), **3,711** public PC logins across locations (↑24%)
- **40,225** patron visits (↑36%), **25,021** at Blasco (↑49%) and **15,204** at branches (↑19%)

Circulation



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Blasco	48,541	54,106	52,297	45,211	44,710	25,478	24,972	36,412	38,438
Edinboro	8,431	9,801	9,977	10,203	9,932	5,592	6,749	9,123	8,430
Iroquois	11,451	11,354	10,496	10,296	10,042	5,860	8,503	9,139	9,537
Lincoln	14,702	13,986	13,419	13,480	13,384	7,997	11,276	14,754	16,815
Millcreek	21,577	21,578	21,905	18,878	19,743	11,068	12,461	15,985	15,824
Bookmobile	1,688	1,673	2,083	1,638	1,782	799	1,739	1,677	1,258
Digital	7,452	6,763	8,001	8,817	10,744	14,138	14,995	15,478	17,135
Total	113,842	119,261	118,178	108,523	110,337	70,932	80,695	102,568	107,437

e. Report of District Consultant

District Services Report as of April 14, 2023
Updates for ECPL LAB Report
Submitted by Jessica Church, District Consultant

Annual Reports

The libraries have submitted their data for the annual reports, which I have reviewed and submitted to the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (OCL). This year, with new people in the positions at OCL relevant to the report, there has been detailed attention to the information provided, so it's been a longer process to review. OCL will reach out with further questions as they do their reviews.

Strategic & Facilities Planning

ReThinking Libraries, the organization selected to help libraries begin their strategic or facilities planning processes, will be offering boards and directors with a training opportunity on May 4th at 12 p.m. to give an overview of the process. The session will be virtual, but for those who want to attend something in-person, a group will be streaming it at

Meadville Public Library, following the District Advisory Council meeting that same morning. During the weeks of May 8 and May 22, ReThinking Libraries will be completing their site visits to build their reports for libraries.

District Negotiated Agreement 2023-2024

The District Advisory Council meeting will be held Thursday, May 4 at 10 a.m. at Meadville Public Library. A major change to the proposed budget will be on support expanding interlibrary loan delivery across both counties, with Erie County's County Coordination Aid utilizing funds to supplement another delivery/outreach vehicle. The planning process will be extensive, so it will take time to figure out the details. More information as it becomes available.

SNOE Consortium: Board Academy

The SNOE Consultants have received many requests for board education in bite-sized pieces. At the beginning of April, they launched Board Academy – an email publication that we intend to arrive in inboxes 4 – 6 times a year with additional publications for breaking news. There will also be a printable PDF attached to it, if that's a preferred way to read the content or to share with other library board members.

You can access a printable PDF version [HERE](#). To start, board presidents have been added to the list. If you would like to receive it directly by email as well, send me an email and I can add your name/email address to the list.

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-

6. New Business

- a. [Policies- Sheryl Thomas](#)

7. Adjournment

8. Appendix

- a. [Announcements-](#)

The next board meeting will be held in- person at the Lincoln Community Center Branch. The meeting will be at noon.

- b. [News Articles](#)

LIBCON Erie coming to libraries in April

Dana Massing

Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Whether you already have a favorite fandom or are looking for one to love, LIBCON Erie will give you six days in April to celebrate your passion.

The family-friendly, free event will offer comic books, graphic novels, gaming, escape rooms, panel discussions, cosplay creations, workshops, board games, crafts and more at Erie County Public Library locations, organizers said. The fun will begin April 24 and continue until the main event day April 29.

What is LIBCON Erie?

Originally known as the Erie Library Comic Con, LIBCON Erie began in 2015 and grew into an annual celebration of comic culture and arts, according to information on the Erie County Public Library website. The con was cancelled in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic and returned in 2021 as a one-day virtual event newly renamed LIBCON Erie. In-person events resumed in 2022, along with some virtual ones.

The 2023 version will be a week-long experience of online and in-person programs and events at all library locations highlighting fandoms across a wide spectrum, according to the website.

Visitors can try out video games in the Arcade or stop by the Game Zone for various activities, both located at Blasco Library.

A cosplay contest and an art contest will be held.

While events are free, some do require registration.

Highlights of LIBCON Erie

Cosplay Workshop: April 24, 6 p.m., Blasco Library, 160 E. Front St. Learn how to incorporate easy LED lighting, how to put armor together for wear or display and how to properly fit and assemble cosplay pieces. For ages 12 to adult.

Create Your Own Board Game: April 24, 6-7:30 p.m., Lincoln Community Center Library, 1255 Manchester Road. Design and create your own board game based off the classic Candyland game model.

Superhero Tiles: April 24, 6:15-7:15 p.m., Edinboro Branch Library, 413 W. Plum St., Edinboro. Make your own decorative tile. For ages 6 to adult.

Miniature Painting: April 24, 6-7 p.m., Millcreek Branch Library, 2088 Interchange Road. Paint your own miniature figure perfect for role-playing games. All ages.

Mario Planter: April 25, 6-7 p.m., Iroquois Avenue Branch Library, 4212 Iroquois Ave. Make a piranha



Participants attend the first Erie Library Comic Con in 2015 at Blasco Library. Now known as LIBCON Erie, the 2023 event will run April 24-29. ERIE TIMES-NEWS FILE

plant planter craft and plant a seed. For ages 5 to adult.

K-pop 101: April 25, 6-7 p.m., Blasco Library. Learn the lingo and more about this fandom. Recommended for ages 10 and older.

Super You: April 27, 2:30-3:30, Blasco Library. Design your own super hero mask and comic book. For ages 3-12.

Dungeon Master Boot Camp: April 29, 10-11 a.m., Blasco Library. Learn the ins and outs of being a dungeon master for a Dungeons & Dragons campaign. Ages 10 to adult.

Learn more

For more information, including a schedule of events, visit eriecounty-pa.libguides.com/LibConErie/Home or call 814-451-6900.

Dana Massing can be reached at dmassing@times-news.com.



Gamers play Star Wars X-Wing at the Erie Library Comic Con in 2016. Now known as LIBCON Erie, the 2023 event will include the opportunity to create your own board game. GRLG WOIHL-ORU/LRIL TIMES-NEWS

Ongoing entertainment in Erie

"It's Wild Out There": Through Friday, Blasco Memorial **Library**, 160 E. Front St. Photographic Arts Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania presents a photographic artworks exhibit of nature and wildlife. Viewable during regular **li-brary** hours. 814-449-5305, pasnw-pa.org, erielibrary.org

Erie Times-News March 23, 2023

Things to do around Erie: 'Crucible', magic, Midori and more

Night of African Gospel Music: Saturday, 4-6:30 p.m., Blasco **Library**, 160 E. Front St. Learn about and listen to African Gospel music performed by David Kambowa and the Altar of Worship Choir. Free. 814-451-6927, <https://events.rielibrary.org/event/10312619>

Erie Times-News April 16, 2023



Join Us

April 22

11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Erie County Public **Library**
160 E Front St.
Erie, PA 16507



Presented by:  **PUBLIC LIBRARY** 

Adagio Health
National Network of the Libraries of Medicine
Sight Center of NWPA Diabetes Prevention Program
UPMC Hillman Cancer Center
UPMC Hamot
UPMC Health Plan

Please RSVP or Contact Us:

JoinAllOfUsPA.org

allofuspa@pitt.edu

(412) 383-2737 or (800) 664-0480

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Pennsylvania

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Find ways around Erie to help the planet in honor of Earth Day

Dana Massing

Erie Times-News
USA TODAY NETWORK

Earth Day is Saturday, but you're not limited to helping the planet just one day out of 365.

Numerous Erie-area organizations are holding events throughout April and beyond at which you can help or learn about the earth and your environment and what you can do the rest of the year to address climate change.

If there isn't a cleanup scheduled in your area, consider organizing one of your own or simply spending an hour or two picking up trash in your neighborhood this week or any week. You can make plans to plant a vegetable garden, design your own pollinator garden or get a free tree to plant. Eating locally grown food can reduce your carbon footprint, pollinator gardens help bees and butterflies, and trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Here are just a few scheduled events you can participate in around Erie:

"Erie's Bayfront": April 18, 6-7:30 p.m., Blasco [Library](#), 160 E. Front St. Jenny Tompkins, PennFuture campaign

manager for Clean Water Advocacy, will discuss opportunities to utilize the bayfront in a way that protects the water resources. Free. For information, call 814-451-6927 or visit events.erialibrary.org/event/10472946.

Our West Bayfront Spring Cleanup: April 22, 8:30 a.m.-noon. Meet at We the People Park, 556 W. Fourth St.; Strong Vincent Middle School, 1330 W. Eighth St.; Erie Ale Works, 416 W. 12th St.; or Achievers Entrepreneurial Hub, 913 Liberty St. Help clean up West Bayfront neighborhoods. For information, call 814-871-7050 or visit ourwestbayfront.org/event/owb-spring-cleanup.

Clean up the Bayfront Bike Path Bike Ride: April 22, 10 a.m., starting at Scott Park, West Sixth Street at Lowell Avenue, and ending at Penn State Behrend, 4701 College Drive, Harborcreek Township. Join the Erie Outing Club for an Earth Day cleanup event and approximately 20-mile bicycle ride. Free. For information, visit <https://bit.ly/earth-daybikeride>.

Earth Day Celebration: April 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Experience Children's Museum, 420 French St. Green Scene Thrift will present Earth Day story time

at 12:30 p.m., plus activities that allow for repurposing items and a free giveaway of previously donated books. Included with museum admission of \$9 for adults and children age 9 and older, \$7 for seniors and military, free for museum members. For more information, call 814-453-3743 or visit www.eriechildrensmuseum.org.

Grow Your Own Food: Vegetable Gardening Tips and Tricks: April 27, 7 p.m., Zoom. Goodell Gardens & Homestead will offer a virtual program to help you build your connection to the earth that sustains you by starting a food garden, whether it is on an acre in the country or in a small container on an urban porch. Registration is required. Free; donations accepted. Learn more and register at <https://bit.ly/goodellgardentips>.

Greater Erie City Nature Challenge: April 28-May 1. Download the free iNaturalist app on your smartphone or tablet, create an account, go outside and start exploring and identifying plant and animal species. Observations made in the app contribute to a global wildlife database that scientists can use to inform their research. Free. For information, including a list of local organized

hikes/events to help you participate in the challenge, visit www.asburywoods.org/events/city-nature-challenge.

Communitywide tree planting giveaway: April 29, 8:30 a.m.-noon, Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier Park, 1501 W. Sixth St., and 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Blasco [Library](#), 160 E. Front St. Several organizations are celebrating Earth Day and Arbor Day, which is April 28, with communitywide efforts to improve the local environment and to be a part of international efforts to reforest the globe as a fundamental strategy for combating climate change. A wide selection of trees will be available for free to take home and plant. For information about this and other local tree-planting efforts, call 814-453-5323 or visit www.leaferie.org or <https://bit.ly/LEA-FArborDay>.

If you're looking for more to do on your own, EarthDay.org has a list of "52 ways to invest in our planet," such as composting and switching to reusable bags. Find the list at www.earthday.org/earth-day-tips.

Dana Massing can be reached at dmassing@timesnews.com.