



# Library Advisory Board Meeting

Thursday, June 15, 2023  
Locations: Via zoom

Groves  
Rosenthal  
Pearson

Murphy  
Tempestini  
Knuth

Boam  
Conway  
Aoh

## AGENDA

1. ***Call to Order***
2. ***Approval of Minutes – May 18, 2023***
3. ***Library Reports***
  - a. Staff Reports- Andrew Miller
  - 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
  - d. Reports from the Districts
5. ***Unfinished Business- None***
6. ***New Business- None***
7. ***Adjournment***
8. ***Appendix***
  - a. Announcements-
  - b. News Articles

***Entertainment and more around Erie not to miss the week of May 25-June 1***

## 1. Call to Order

## 2. Approval of Minutes – May 18, 2023

## 3. Library Reports

### a. Staff Reports- Andrew Miller

Summer Reading Challenge

### b. Report of the Director

Welcome Bonnie Barthelmes!

### **Connections-**

**Bookmobile at the Courthouse** – The Bookmobile began a monthly pop-up visit outside the Courthouse on Thursday, May 25. Both County Employees and Community Members can stop in and get a library card, checkout some material or return a book. These pop-up stops will continue through the month of August. Two of the pop-up dates correspond with the Biometric Screening Mobile Unit.

**Career Online High School** – Do to the overwhelming amount of interest from Erie community members, the library has secured three additional scholarship spots from the Friends of the Library. The program runs eighteen months but can be reduced if the student has transfer credits from previous high schools/GED/HiSET. An additional benefit is the ability set individual career paths. Our goal is to add more community partners to help sponsor additional scholarships.

**Flag Day** – the Blasco Library has scheduled the day with a variety of patriotic events. Brian Hannah from WQLN/NPR is broadcasting his show live out front of the Blasco Library. There will be two different bands on site playing classical music throughout the day and there will be a changing of the Civil War flags ceremony in the Heritage room. The marketing flyer is attached to this report.

**Business After Hours- Cathedral Prep** – Karen Pierce and Deana Cooper attended the Erie Regional Chamber Growth & Partnership Business After- Hours on May 25 hosted by Cathedral Prep. The event took place in the new Salata Technology and Innovation Center.

**Blue Whale Project** – The Erie County Public Library was chosen from over 90 applicants to receive the “Blue Whales” opportunity. This project includes a \$1000 honorarium to help cover costs of programming, a life size (25’x10’) blue whale tail floor mat, a pop up banner, virtual field trip videos, activity books to promote understanding for local ecosystems and more. There is a scheduled zoom kickoff meeting June 1.

**Library Presents at Iroquois Elementary** – Karen Pierce & Jessica Stefano presented to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class at Iroquois Elementary School for Career Day. We talked about all the different jobs that you could do: Librarian connects people to information and helps find answers, books and more. Archivists works with history and old photographs, newspaper and saves stories. Maintenance works with their hands and fix things. Maker

space technicians teach people how to use tools and build things. Children’s librarians read stories and sing and act with puppets and toys. No matter what they like to do, they may, someday, work in a Library!

**Library Presentation at the Jefferson Educational Society** –Karen Pierce presented on May 26 at the Jefferson education Society. She discussed the top three trends happening in libraries:

1. Sustainability in Libraries (with libraries being role models in a fiscal, environmental and social sense)



2. Loneliness as an epidemic – the current trend for people aged 15 + to report feelings of un-connectedness, isolation and depression – how the libraries are responding by becoming centers of the community with targeted programming for connection building
3. AI – Artificial Intelligence – love it or loathe it, we must educate ourselves and know that it is here. We can’t fight it – so let’s learn how we can harness the power that AI brings to our lives.

## **Collections-**

**Opioid Settlement Grant** – the Library was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Opioid Settlement fund. The grant provides \$10,000 to purchase collection materials and programming giveaways that focus on addiction, recovery and other related materials. These collection materials will be available to the entirety of Erie County. The more rural communities in Erie County will have access to these specialized collections. The remaining \$10,000 will be used to pay for presenters for a variety of “Speaker Series” at the different libraries. This will be an ongoing project in 2023 and 2024.

**Book Lifecycle Issue** – Due to the pandemic, the natural lifecycle of a printed book has been interrupted. As a result, there are many more books on our shelves than should be (some should have worn out, gotten lost, etc.). We are looking into how a Summer Reading Challenge may benefit all the libraries in Erie County.

## **Capacity-**

**Staff In-Service Day** – the library had their annual staff in-service day on Thursday, May 11. All library employees participated in this half-day event. Sessions included a presentation from CCAP on Ergonomics in the Library, Career Online High School introduction, tutorial and training on using Newsbank (digitized newspaper database) and a refresher on the proper procedures and policies regarding handling money and deposits. These on the job trainings inform and educate staff that work directly with the Community.

**Director Participates in Erie Ambassador Program** – I recently completed the 10-week Erie Ambassador program offered through the Chamber. What an incredible experience – I truly recommend that anyone new to Erie attend! The connections forged will help me be a better resource for the community. Many of my classmates were native to Erie but were newer to the business world. This program gave us experience in the various sectors of our local economy, from manufacturing on a large scale (Wabtec) to local and state government (courthouse and municipal tours) and small businesses (restaurants and Troyer Farms). I am looking forward to developing partnerships between the Library and the amazing people I've been able to meet!

**Security Camera Update**– the Library and Operations are working with Wilkins to review placement of the new security cameras configuration for the Blasco Library. The RFP should go out in June.

**Joint Operating Committee (JOC) Update** – the JOC met on 5/25 to discuss the three main areas of concern, security, accessibility and parking. We learned that the Bayfront Parkway Multimodal is scheduled to go out to bid on June 22, 2023. This is the \$104M PennDot project from Sassafras to Holland St.

**Personnel Updates**– the Library is in the interview process for the full time position at Lincoln and the per diem van driver. Both positions should be wrapped up this week. In addition, a part time clerk position at Milcreek will post soon.

**Social Media & AV Coordinator** – the Library is in the interview process for the new Social Media Coordinator position. We received numerous applications of qualified candidates. We hope to have the position offered by the end of next week.

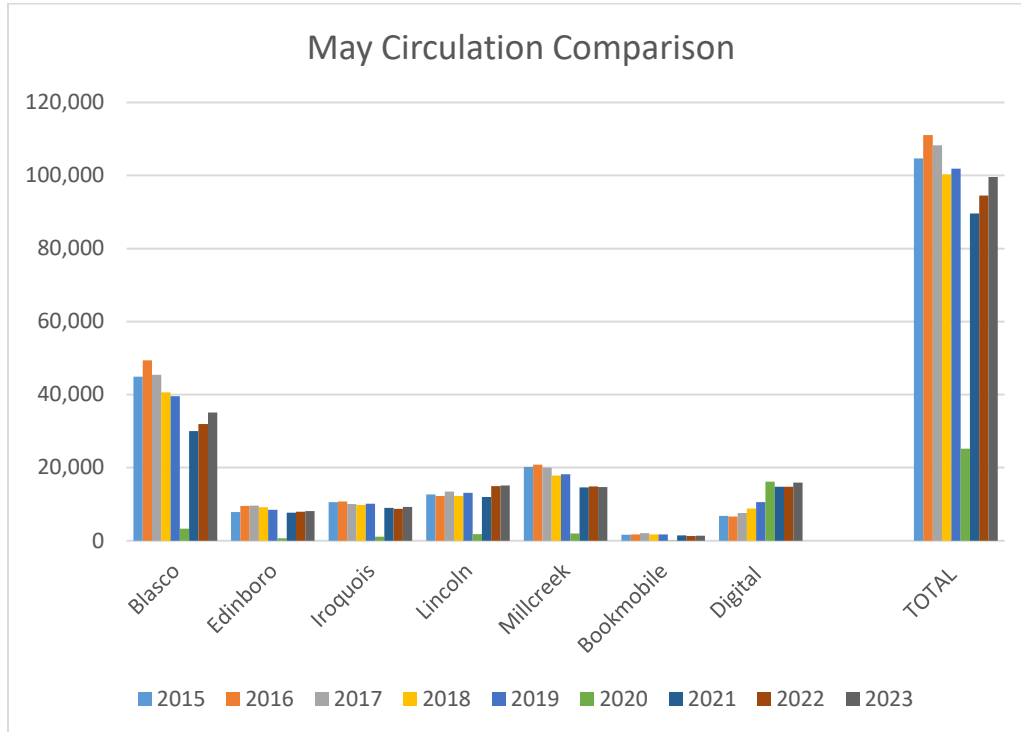
c. [Review of Financial Report- Deana](#)  
No report as of 6/13/23

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

**May 2023 Statistics**

**Numbers Snapshot**

- 478 new cards issued (↑27%)\*, including 43 e-cards (↑16%)
- 4,159 WiFi logins (↑10%), 3,328 public PC logins across locations (↑12%)
- 35,425 patron visits (↑24%), 20,809 at Blasco (↑30%) and 14,616 at branches (↑17%)



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Blasco	44,946	49,354	45,476	40,664	39,594	3,292	30,045	31,951	35,106
Edinboro	7,910	9,516	9,588	9,197	8,456	649	7,711	7,976	8,101
Iroquois	10,591	10,749	10,052	9,779	10,130	1,159	9,003	8,705	9,271
Lincoln	12,663	12,225	13,448	12,280	13,154	1,813	11,979	14,964	15,174
Millcreek	20,176	20,812	20,031	17,840	18,169	1,962	14,604	14,868	14,656
Bookmobile	1,608	1,754	2,058	1,709	1,722	87	1,475	1,298	1,346
Digital	6,805	6,671	7,644	8,824	10,620	16,216	14,797	14,755	15,918
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>104,699</b>	<b>111,081</b>	<b>108,297</b>	<b>100,293</b>	<b>101,845</b>	<b>25,178</b>	<b>89,614</b>	<b>94,517</b>	<b>99,572</b>

e. [Report of District Consultant](#)

**District Services Report as of June 13, 2023**  
**Updates for ECPL LAB Report**  
**Submitted by Jessica Church, District Consultant**

**Strategic & Facilities Planning**

The ReThinking team came out for two weeks in May to visit all independent member libraries as well as Blasco and Edinboro branch of ECPL. They'll be working on assessment reports to wrap up the first part of gathering data to help member libraries develop strategic and/or facilities plans.

**End-Of-Year**

June 30 will mark the end of the District's fiscal year, with a the 2023-2024 fiscal year beginning July 1.

**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](#)
- d. [Reports from the Districts](#)

**District 4-**

Wesleyville Community Day is this Saturday, June 17, from 11:00 am until fireworks at dusk. Free admission.

Iroquois High School "Only the Bravest 5k Run and Walk" will be held on Tuesday, July 4, from 8:00 - 9:30 am. Entry fee is \$15.

**See attachments for provided reports**

**5. Unfinished Business- None**

**6. New Business- None**

**7. Adjournment**

**8. Appendix**

- a. [Announcements-](#)

The next board meeting will be on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at noon via zoom.

- b. [News Articles](#)

# Entertainment and more around Erie not to miss the week of May 25-June 1

May 25, 2023 | Erie Times-News (PA)

Page: S2 | Section: Features

554 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1140, grade level(s): 9 10 11-12

Wee Play: Friday, June 23, July 7 and Aug. 4, 10-11 a.m., Blasco **Library**, 160 E. Front St. Free play with blocks, toys, puzzles and friends for babies and toddlers. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free. 814-451-6927, erielibrary.org

## Erie's Great American Book Sale returns June 11-16 at Flo Fabrizio Ice Center

June 1, 2023 | Erie Times-News: Web Edition Articles (PA)

Author/Byline: A.J. Rao, Erie Times-News | Section: Entertainment

603 Words | Readability: Lexile: 1510, grade level(s): >12

### [Read News Document](#)

Get ready, book lovers. The Great American Book Sale is right around the corner.

The weeklong event, which has been organized for more than four decades by the Friends of the Erie County Public Library, will take place June 11-16 at the Flo Fabrizio Ice Center, 527 W. 38th St.

Nearly 80,000 books in multiple categories will be available, according to the Friends.

Books: Erie's Werner Books to add coffee shop, move to a new larger home in Liberty Plaza

Bob Gallivan, a longtime member of the Friends, said visitors will be delighted by this year's collection.

"We know what the public likes and we got a lot of what they really like," said Gallivan, referencing the roughly 20 different categories of books available, from recent fiction and biographies to history and children's books. "By the time 5 to 10 minutes is over, (people) are usually smiling and grabbing books and having their arms bulging with wonderful treasures," he said.

More: Girard farm boy grew up to be WWII hero. He gave his life and is remembered in a new book.

What to expect

The sale will offer an estimated 75,000 books in multiple categories including fiction, mystery, romance, children's, teen, science fiction, nonfiction, biography, history, science, fine arts, cooking, home and garden, craft, travel, large print, religion and reference, according to the Friends.

Hardcover and paperback books will be available.

The Collector's Corner features vintage and rare books that are individually priced. Selections include nonfiction, fiction for adults and fiction for children. This special area will be open Sunday through noon Thursday, according to the Friends.

More: PennWest Baron-Forness Library renovations focus on 21st-century needs

Gallivan said prices will be similar to last year — that is, slightly higher than in previous years — largely due to inflation.

Wednesday and Thursday will continue to offer all materials, excluding those in the Collector's Corner, at half price. On Friday, visitors will be able to purchase a bag or box of books at an even lower price.

Proceeds will support and assist the Erie County Public Library system in putting on programs and events, training staff and for other purposes.

Gallivan said the ice center will have extra tables set up to allow for easy browsing.

Before 2020, the Great American Book Sale had been held for a few years at McDowell Intermediate High School in Millcreek Township. Due to construction at the school, the Friends had to choose a new location for their sale.

2022: Grisham, Parton, Patterson books among top titles borrowed from Erie County Public Library

Gallivan said he believes the sale will remain at the Flo Fabrizio Ice Center "for the foreseeable future."

Gallivan acknowledged the sponsors for this year's sale including Erie Insurance, Erie Community Foundation and Erie County Community College.

Valuable books available online

The Friends are selling their more valuable book donations that are typically found in the Collector's Corner on [abebooks.com](https://abebooks.com), an online marketplace for high-end or rare items.

The Friends' items on [abebooks.com](https://abebooks.com) are listed under Bayfront Bookshelf, the name of their bookstore in the lobby of Blasco Library.

More: Imagination Library in Erie County mails 1 million books to children in less than a decade

Where to donate books?


Gallivan said books can be donated to the sale late Saturday morning at the ice center.

For information, visit the Friends of the Erie County Public Library Facebook page at [facebook.com/EriePAFriendsOftheLibrary](https://facebook.com/EriePAFriendsOftheLibrary).

Great American Book Sale dates and times

When: Sunday-Thursday, June 11-15, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, June 16, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Where: Flo Fabrizio Ice Center, 527 W. 38th St. in Erie



THE FRIENDS OF THE ERIE COUNTY **LIBRARY** PRESENT

# THE GREAT AMERICAN BOOK SALE

*Over 75,000 used books and media items for sale!  
Bargains galore!*


JUNE 11-15 10AM-8PM | JUNE 16 10AM-3PM

**LOCATION:** FLO FABRIZIO ICE CENTER AT THE ZOO  
527 W 38TH STREET, ERIE, PA 16509

*Located on EMTA Bus Route #3  
Across from the Glenwood YMCA*

**ERIELIBRARYFRIENDS.ORG**

Generously sponsored by:



EP-35950295

## BEST BETS

# Entertainment and more around Erie not to miss the week of June 1-8

Erie Times-News  
USA TODAY NETWORK

**Family Fun Time Story Book Party- Stuffed Animal Party:** This Thursday, 10-11 a.m., Lincoln Branch [Library](#), 1255 Manchester Road, Fairview Township. Storytime for preschoolers; take a favorite stuffed animal for stories, play and art. Free. 814-451-7085, [events.erieliibrary.org/event/10760465](https://events.erieliibrary.org/event/10760465)

**"Ode to the Streets":** This Thursday, 6 p.m., Hirt Auditorium, Blasco [Library](#), 160 E. Front St. Erie's Black Wall Street presents a celebration of the street dance culture in Erie; event kicks off Views Festival organized by Erie Arts & Culture and will showcase the talents of local dance troops and B-boys. Free. <https://bit.ly/odetothestreets>

**Views Festival:** Through June 13, various Erie locations. An urban-based mural extravaganza organized by Erie

Arts & Culture presenting 28 murals led by local and guest artists; also with events or exhibitions that relate to and demonstrate urban arts and culture, including hip-hop showcases, a visual exhibition of sneakers featuring collections from local sneakerheads, and a vendor market of streetwear brands. 814-452-3427, [www.viewsfest.com](http://www.viewsfest.com)

**"Up Close with the Collection":** This Thursday, 6-8 p.m., Erie Art Museum, 20 E. Fifth St. Evening of heavy hors d'oeuvres, drinks and conversation; explore a behind-the-scenes view of the Erie Art Museum; tour the museum's collection of over 8,000 objects and engage with the artist-in-residence, exhibiting artists and staff. Includes reception and book signing for visual artist and documentarian Tony Machi, whose show, "Passionately Curious," also opens this Thursday in the Customs House. \$50. 814-459-5477, [www.erieartmuseum.org/up-close](http://www.erieartmuseum.org/up-close)



You can spend a Friday evening in June, July and August sitting around a campfire behind the Asbury Woods Nature Center, shown here. ERIE TIMES-NEWS



Rankin & Schell, with Glenn Rankin, left, and Chip Schell, will be performing June 12 at Asbury Woods as part of the Monday Music in the Woods series. PROVIDED BY RANKIN & SCHELL

**First Friday Campfires:** Friday, July 7 and Aug. 4, Asbury Woods, 4105 Asbury Road. Take your chairs and hang out by the campfire behind the Nature Center. Campfire is free; s'mores ingredients will be available for purchase in the gift shop. 814-835-5356, [www.asbu](http://www.asbu)

Erie Sports Center, 8161 Oliver Road. Saturday, Twisted Lid; June 10, Disco Inferno; June 17, Crush; June 24, The Groove Band; July 1, Chris Higbee, 7:30-10 p.m.; July 8, The Breeze Band; July 15, Reign Maker; July 22, Family First Music Festival, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; July 24, Cadets Community Performance, 5:30-