

APRIL 2026 LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

- 1. Enhance Library Funding Streams**
- 2. Strengthen Outreach (Town of Gerry, CVCS, community groups)**
- 3. Catalogue and Digitize Local History Collection**
- 4. Staff and Volunteer Development**
- 5. Carry Out 25 Year Celebration of Library Building**
- 6. Identify Future Roles of the Library and Implement Changes**

Numbers are inserted to indicate when strategic plan goals have been targeted.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Quarterly Payroll Returns for the first quarter of 2026 were filed electronically by BLB Main Street Payroll, a division of Bahgat & Laurito-Bahgat, CPAs, P.C. CCLS pays for this payroll service for our library.

Form 990-EZ for 2025 is being completed by volunteer bookkeeper Ricki Sharp to be signed by Board President Bill Newton prior to the May 15 deadline.

The library's Annual Report to NYS has been completed and submitted to CCLS for their review. Please review and approve this report, which was sent by to you by email on April 20 and is also available on our website. NYS has given a new deadline of May 1st for these reports to be submitted to them. After CCLS has reviewed our report and made any needed adjustments, they will submit to NYS.

The library will be closed on Saturday, May 23rd and Monday, May 25th in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

BEAUTIFICATION AND DISPLAYS

An indoor story walk has been on display (The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt) and enjoyed by our PreK student visitors. This will be replaced by an outdoor story walk at the Sinclairville Park (The Little House by Virginia Lee Burton.) Library Assistant Huling manages the story walk installations.

Blind Date with a Book display has been very successful and was expanded to include Young Adult titles upon request from a young patron. **A-B-C Scavenger Hunt** has been put up in the Children's Room, and a planting activity station for **Grass Heads** and **Sunflowers** is set up in the main part of the library.

BUILDING, GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE

Chautauqua Sign Company repaired the free-standing sign in front of the library. Some decisions need to be made about the electricity and lighting for the sign. Al Fredrickson will address this topic during our meeting on Wednesday, April 29.

President Bill Newton, Trustee Roz Newton and Director Hadley met on April 17 with a building contractor representative to discuss ideas for expanding the library's meeting space.

Annual servicing of the air conditioning system has been scheduled to be done by Ridout's Heating and Cooling on May 15.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received the Account Statement from Victory Funds for the period January 2, 2026 through March 31, 2026 showing the total market value for all investment accounts to be \$18,427.49 (\$16,633.38 on 3/31/25) (\$16,024.68 on 3/28/24) (\$13,331.57 on 3/31/23).

The library received a Statement of Activity from the Northern Chautauqua Region Community Foundation for the Sinclairville Free Library Endowment Fund for the period January 1 through March 31, 2026. The balance in the fund as of 3/31/2026 was \$33,263.22.

DONATIONS

An anonymous donation of \$50 was found in the "Support Your Library" donation jar at the front desk.

FUNDING 1

CVCS School Budget Vote and Library Tax Proposition voting will take place on Tuesday, May 19 from 1 to 8 PM at the Middle/High School. Estimated library tax calculator is available on the library's website.

FUNDRAISING 1

The library is registered to participate in this year's Give Big CHQ, which will be conducted online June 11th. Please use the following link to review the Terms of Service our organization has agreed to in order to participate:

<https://www.givebigchq.org/info/terms-of-service>. Vice President Erin Gray has been added as an administrator for this year's drive. For tools, templates and other resources to help us get ready for this year's event please visit: www.givebigchq.org/info/nonprofit-toolkit; www.givebigchq.org/info/trainings; www.givebigchq.org/info/downloads. Questions? Contact: Liz Jones, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation 716-661-3390/ ejones@crconline.org. **1**

GRANTS 1

The Poets & Writers grant that was awarded to John Brantingham has been cancelled after his unexpected death this month.

MEMORIALS

Received a memorial donation in honor of Fred Obert from John Swanson, Vicki Martin and Jill Lawson.

OUTREACH 2

Outreach continues with CVCS Pre-K visits to the library, reading to children at The Wrap childcare program at Park Methodist Church, and library services and programs offered at the Homestead bi-monthly. **2**

Assistant Huling is scheduled to present library information and invite collaboration at the CVCS PTO meeting scheduled for May 6 and will share our summer reading program information at the CVCS Board of Education meeting on May 20 accompanied by Director Hadley. **2**

Story Walk (Blueberries for Sal by Robert McCloskey) has been installed by Assistant Huling at the Gerry Town Park.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Highlights:

Life Story Writing (Hybrid) will be held on **Thursday, May 7 at 6 PM.**

Local Author Showcase: Saturday, May 9 at 10:30 AM: Authors from the Write Circle group who have recently published their books will present information and make copies available for purchase and signing: Windblown by AK Coulter; One Hundred and Fifty-Four Sonnets by Paul Leone; The House of Secrets by Richard Knott, Jr.

Family Night: Monday, May 4 at 6 PM. Mother's Day theme. Paint and plant a succulent pot for Mom. Handprint Keepsake craft. Drop-in activities.

Nighttime Story Hour: Monday, May 18 at 6 PM. Butterflies theme with painted butterflies craft.

Summer Reading program starts Monday, June 1st: Theme is "Unearth A Story" and dinosaurs will play a leading role!

Baby Talk: Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11 AM for ages birth to 2 years old. May's topic is "Little Blue Truck: Friendship & Kindness." Each month focuses on one theme related to baby development. Sing songs, fun movements, learn baby sign language and spend time with other babies.

Story Hour programs for ages 2 to preschool are held at 1 PM on the following Wednesdays:

5/6 Mother's Day (Mother's Day flower pot)

5/13 Letter Week: S is for Strawberry

5/20 Butterflies (painted butterfly)

5/27 Going on a Picnic (nature collecting card)

Book Club Selections:

Books Unlimited will meet at the library on Monday, May 18 at 7 PM to discuss The Green Mile by Stephen King.

Virtual Book Club will meet on **Thursday**, May 28 at 6 PM to discuss The Astral Library by Kate Quinn. If copies of this new book don't become available, the group will read The Engineer's Wife by Tracey Enerson Wood instead. The link to join online is available upon request.

Book Club at the Homestead in Gerry will meet in the Bergquist building to discuss Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly on May 15 at 3 PM.

CLSC Reading Circle: Erin Gray will facilitate discussions of selections from the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle in partnership with the library. The next meeting will be held at 3 Lakes Café on Saturday, May 16 at 9 AM, and the group will discuss Bog Queen by Anna North.

Program Updates:

Write Circle has resumed hybrid meetings on Fridays at 9 AM. The link to join online is available upon request.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Press releases to the Observer and Post-Journal as well as Facebook posts were published to advertise the library's programs and events.

Chautauqua County Office for the Aging has scheduled a Roswell Park smoking cessation program to be held in our conference room on Wednesday, May 13 at 1 PM. (quitquest.roswellpark.org).

Our library will host the CCLS Professional Development Book Club meeting on Friday, May 29 from 2 to 4 PM to discuss I Never Thought of it That Way by Monica Guzman.

Public use of the conference room this month includes meetings of the Healthy Community Alliance, T.O.P.S., Charlotte Cemetery Association, Cassadaga Valley Youth Soccer, Spanish tutor with adult student, and CVCS students working together on a school project.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS 4

Fred Obert, husband of volunteer Cathy Obert, passed away on April 23. John Brantingham, volunteer provider of poetry and writing events at the library, passed away on April 5.

A volunteer and staff meeting will be held on April 30 at 4 PM. Director Hadley will be away May 21-25. A schedule of the staff and volunteer work schedule for the month of May is posted in the office

Director Hadley has been invited to share about her Chautauqua scholarship experience with the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle Alumni celebration for this year's graduating class of which she will be a part. The event will be held on Thursday, August 6 at 5 PM at the Athenaeum Hotel.

TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT

Completed survey of computers for CCLS: Currently, there are five patron-use computers (four in the main area, and one in the conference room) and five staff computers (Front Desk, Director, Assistant, History room and laptop for conducting online programs.)