

AUGUST 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

The library will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.

CCLS

The CCLS annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14 at Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celeron, with a cash bar at 5:30, Business Meeting at 6 and Dinner & Keynote after the meeting. The Keynote address will be presented by Nikki Ronan, the founder of City of Light Creative & Consulting. There are no workshops scheduled this year. Cost to attend is free for two representatives from each Member Library. Director Hadley and Assistant Huling would like to attend. Additional guests are welcome to attend at a cost of \$32 each. Dinner reservations, payments and workshop registrations are due by Friday, September 11. One voting representative needs to be designated to attend the Business Meeting.

The library received our third Materials Plan Grant in the amount of \$772.25.

DONATIONS 1

We received a prize award of \$281.23 from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation as part of the Give Big CHQ.

FUNDRAISING

The library's book sale is scheduled for October 8-10, with set up scheduled for 11 AM- 2 PM on Wednesday, October 7. A bake sale will be held during the same

time. Donations of baked goods and gently used books are requested. Volunteers are also needed to help with the sale. This will be our last big book sale. 1

Fundraising during the History Fair on September 12 includes the following: Painted rock creations by volunteer Cathy Obert will be on sale at a library booth in the commons, and a chicken BBQ will be held in partnership with the Sinclairville Volunteer Fire Department. 1

GRANTS 1

The library's Intent to Apply for NYS Public Library Construction Aid for 2026-2032 cycle was approved. Kevin Kochersberger will complete the application, which is due Monday, September 14. 1

The library has an opportunity to apply again for a Pilcrow Foundation Children's Book Project Grant. The deadline for this application is October 1 (postmarked).

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Library Calendar:

The library events calendar is available on the library's website with paper copies available at the front desk

Highlights:

Summer Reading logs must be returned no later than September 9.

Monday, September 14 at 6 PM: Family Night: Math Magic: Stations for learning a few simple strategies for multiplying double digits in your head. Exploration of fun and easy math games that can be played with dice or a deck of playing cards. Target audience is age 8 to adult (Led by Erin Gray).

Thursday, September 17 at 6 PM: Life Story Writing program (Hybrid). Ages 12 and up.

Book Club Selections:

The Book Club at the Homestead in Gerry will be held on September 18 at 3:00 PM. The book to be discussed is The Martha's Vineyard Beach and Book Club by Martha Hall Kelly.

Books Unlimited will meet on Monday, September 21 to discuss Long Bright River by Liz Moore.

The online Book Club will meet on Monday, September 24 to discuss Half Broke Horses by Jeannette Walls. The link to join the online book club meeting is available upon request.

Program Updates:

Baby Talk program will resume meeting at 10:30 AM starting September 2.

HISTORY FAIR: Saturday, September 12. Plans for the library's float for the History Fair parade are uncertain at this time. Amanda Myles has been asked to help again this year. Face Painting will be available at the library 11 AM to 1 PM. The Erie Zoo will provide Traveling Zoo Outreach from 11 AM to 1 PM, with some live animals. Local authors will have their books available for sale from 1 to 3 PM during an author "Meet and Greet."

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Director Hadley met with Marcy Sweetman, CVCS Director of Education & Accountability, Chief Information Officer and Grant Coordinator, on August 6 to discuss collaboration ideas for the upcoming school year. **2**

Library patrons residing at the Homestead retirement campus were pleased to receive the flower bouquets delivered to them that had been created during the "Fun with Flowers" program led by our VP Erin Gray. One lady called to express her thanks, saying it had brightened her day after a "down week." **2**

REQUESTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Charlotte requests small, meaningful donations of things to be included in the Time Capsule for America's 250th Birthday (to be opened in 50 years on the 300th Birthday in 2076). They are looking for items that show our community, traditions, and everyday life: printed pictures on acid free paper in ziplock bags (one picture per bag); local event programs or tickets; handwritten notes or letters about life in Charlotte; artwork, recipes, or stories. Items can be dropped off at the Town Clerk's office during open hours: Monday 10:30 to 2; Wednesday 10 to 1; Friday 9 to noon. The deadline to submit is Friday, September 4 at noon. The Time Capsule will be sealed at the History Fair.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

A calendar of the days and times staff and volunteers are scheduled to cover the front desk at the library is posted in the office. Currently, there are only two volunteers on the schedule who are able to use the online circulation system (Beth Loomis and Joan Stroh). 4

Volunteers receive regular notices about changes to procedures, such as upgrades to the KOHA automated circulation system and any changes to shelving location when books are re-arranged. 4

Volunteer Cathy Obert will assist with scheduling volunteers to man the library's booth in Minckler's Commons during the History Fair. 4

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, PATRONS AND TRUSTEES:

An Introduction to NYS Historic Newspapers

September 30, 2026

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

[REGISTER](#)

The New York State Historic Newspapers project provides free online access to a wide range of newspapers chosen to reflect New York's unique history, features over 15 million pages, and includes content covering 300 years. It's a vital tool to support research on genealogy, local history, and more.

Join Chuck Henry, manager of the NYS Historic Newspapers project, for an overview of this robust resource. This one-hour session will be a straightforward tour of search functions, tools for documentation, and tips for printing, followed by Q&A. It is intended for users new to the resource. Workers from all types of libraries, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, and anyone interested in learning about the resource are welcome.

The session will be recorded, and the recording will be sent to all registrants. Contact Amy (amy@nnyln.org) with questions or to request a specific accommodation.

Beyond the Headlines: Advanced Features of the NYS Historic Newspapers

October 13, 2026

10:00 AM - 11:15 AM

[REGISTER](#)

Level up your search and use of the NYS Historic Newspapers! Join Chuck Henry, project manager of the NYS Historic Newspapers, for an hour-long session dedicated to more advanced functions, tips, and tricks of the resource, with a deep dive on Boolean search, followed by Q&A. Intended for users with basic working knowledge of the site.

All are welcome: workers from all types of libraries, researchers, genealogists, history enthusiasts, and anyone interested in the resource.

The session will be recorded. Please register to receive the recording.