

SEPTEMBER 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 2026 Summer Reading Program Statistics and Evaluation Report was completed by Library Assistant Huling and has been submitted to CCLS as required.

The library will remain open on Monday, October 12th (Columbus Day).

The CCLS annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 13th at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel in Celoron. Director Hadley, Clerk Lawler and trustee Fredrickson plan to attend. Director Hadley will be our library's voting representative for the business meeting.

BUILDING, GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE

The vent on top of the roof has been very noisy, so Al Fredrickson has turned it off.

CCLS

A new system-wide online Events Calendar has been added it to the CCLS website main page. <https://www.cclsny.org/> It pulls in the information from our website's online calendar to help publicize our activities.

CORRESPONDENCE

Received a notice from National Grid (Potential Change in Electric Rate) informing the library that a review of our usage over the past two months indicates

that our account may meet the criteria for a demand rate if our usage continues over 2000 kWh for the next two billing cycles.

DONATIONS (1)

A donation in the amount of \$1,000 was made by Laurie Dell through the Jackson National Life Insurance Company of NY.

The Valley Historical Society donated \$300 towards the cost of the library's History Fair programming (face painting and Erie Traveling Zoo). **1**

FUNDRAISING (1)

\$2,500 proceeds from the chicken BBQ were received (\$2,275 last year). We have not yet received a bill for the chicken or for the expenses of the Sinclairville Volunteer Fire Department.

Funds earned from the sale of painted rocks raised \$110.00 this month.

Annual Book and Bake Sale is scheduled for October 8-10 during the library's regular operating hours. Donations of baked goods are always greatly appreciated and can be brought to the library Wednesday 10/7 between from 2 to 5 PM, Thursday 10/8 between 2 and 7 PM or Friday 10/09 between 10 and noon. The time for the sale to be set up on Wednesday, October 7 has been changed to between **2 and 5 PM**.

The Victorian Tea fundraiser will take place at Park Methodist Church on Saturday, October 17 at 3 PM. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased in advance at the library or at the door prior to the event. Harriet from Hat Tea's Tea Room & Café will do a presentation: "Fun Facts About Tea." The menu includes tea, chicken salad, rolls, scones, fruit and assorted sweets.

GRANTS (1)

The Final Grant Report was completed by Assistant Huling and submitted to CCLS for the Summer Reading Program 2026 Mini-Grant. **(1)**

The library's application for construction aid for the 2026-2032 cycle was submitted to CCLS on the library's behalf by Kevin Kochersberger.

The deadline to apply for a Pilcrow Foundation Children's Book Project Grant is October 1 (postmarked). Assistant Huling will complete this grant application.

Assistant Huling has been selected as a recipient for the CCLS 2026 NYLA Travel Grant, and is eligible to be reimbursed up to \$500 for registration, travel, meal, lodging and substitute help costs.

OUTREACH (2)

Outreach to residents of The Homestead in Gerry continues, with materials being delivered and picked up on a regular basis. Monthly Book Club and Life Story Writing programs take place there with digital services assistance provided as well.
(2)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Assistant Huling is registered to attend the NYLA conference in November, and will participate in numerous professional development workshops there.

Trustees who participate in the NYS Historic Newspapers webinar(s) may count this time towards trustee training requirements (see August Director's report for details).

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

A calendar of events is available on the library's website. Paper copies of the calendar are available at the front desk.

Highlights:

Monday, October 12 at 5 PM: Family Night: Fall Science

Thursday, October 15 at 6 PM: Life Story Writing (hybrid). Last meeting this year.

Friday, October 23 12:45 PM: Life Story Writing at 76ers Dining Out program at Sinclairville Fire Hall (Outreach Program).

Monday, October 26 at 6 PM: Author Mindy Nichols Wendell with her new release California or Dust.

Book Club Selections:

Books Unlimited will meet in person at the library on Monday, October 19 at 7:00 PM to discuss Under the Same Stars by Libby Bray.

Book Club at the Homestead in Gerry will meet at 3:00 PM on Friday, October 16 to discuss What You Are Looking For is in the Library by Michiko Aoyama.

Online Book Club will meet on Thursday, October 22 at 6 PM to discuss The Woman in the Library by Sulari Gentill. The link for online book club meetings is available upon request.

CLCS book club will meet at 3 Lakes Café in Cassadaga on Saturday, October 24 at 9 AM to discuss Anxious People by Fredrik Backman.

Program Updates:

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Library programs and activities were publicized in the Post-Journal and Dunkirk Observer as well as through social media and on the library's website.

The Valley Historical Society will use the library building for their meeting to be held on November 3 at 7:00 PM.

The following items were provided to the Town of Charlotte for the time capsule: our September calendar of events, the History of the Sinclairville Free Library 1870-2020 pamphlet, this year's summer reading program leaflet and bookmark, and our library information brochure.

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS (4)

Library Clerk Kristie Lawler completed her first year of employment at the library as of September 15.

Director Hadley attended a virtual meeting with CCLS staff and member library directors on September 18th for updates. There were no Director's meetings scheduled throughout the summer. (4)

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.

TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT

Jessica's computer is still very noisy. CCLS IT staff have been asked to evaluate it.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS SUMMARY

1 Enhance Library Funding Streams: Chicken BBQ fundraiser was a success. Victorian Tea planned for October 17. Consider forming a committee to explore additional grants to apply for.

2 Strengthen Outreach (Town of Gerry, CVCS, community groups): Outreach continues with plans in process to continue programs at The Wrap childcare program at Park Methodist Church, Pre-K classes at CVCS, and other opportunities through CVCS. The Homestead at Gerry is visited monthly with time for general library services and digital assistance in addition to programming.

History Fair 2026: 285 people visited the Erie Zoo Traveling Outreach on the library's front lawn. 85 people came to the Children's room, with 55 children getting their faces painted. The front door counter showed that 239 people came through the front door on History Fair day.

3 Catalogue and Digitize Local History Collection: No progress.

4. Staff and Volunteer Development: Assistant Huling is registered to attend NYLA (New York Library Association) conference in November with a variety of workshops available. Director Hadley participated in CCLS Director's meeting and webinar on the Director-Board relationship.

5. Carry Out 25 Year Celebration of Library Building: A successful celebration was completed in September, 2025.

6. Identify Future Roles of the Library and Implement Changes: Recommend joining with CCLS/partnering with CVCS to survey library patrons about library hours, programs and services.