

EDEN LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2025

2901 East Church Street

Eden, New York 14057

Board Members		Library Personnel	
President	Patricia Smith	Library Director	Donna-Jo Webster
Vice President	Jon Wilcox	Sr Library Clerk	Helga Antonou
Rec. Secretary &	Linda Meyer	Clerk Typist	Cheryl Colvin
Corr. Secretary		Clerk Typist	Samantha Wilson
Treasurer	Bettyann Neifer	Clerk Typist	Kelly Sullivan
Trustee &		Cleaner & Custodian	Anthony Sacilowski
Town Board Liaison	Susan Wilhelm		

The Eden Library is a public library under the jurisdiction of the New York State Education Department. It enters into contract with the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library each year which provides the budgeted funds.

The library building and grounds are owned and maintained by the Town of Eden. The Eden Town Board appoints the board members (trustees) at the recommendation of the Eden Library trustees.

Library Hours: 35 hours per week.

Meetings:

Board meetings: February 10th, March 10th, April 7th, May 12th, June 9th, July 21st, September 8th, October 13th, November 10th, and December 8th, 2025

Annual meeting: February 10th, 2025

ACT meetings: May 31st, October 18th, 2025

Trustee workshop: March 22nd, 2025

It was another busy year for the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library system. Erie County and contracting library funding was stable. Eden Library hours remain the same

At our annual meeting in January, the library officers for 2025 were elected and are listed above. The library board approved both the library director's and the president's reports.

Circulation has been stable as well as patron visits and Wi-Fi use. Programs offered at the library continue to be well attended with a variety of offerings for all age groups from toddlers to seniors. Story Time, Cookbook Club, Book Club and Yarn Club have all been well attended. The yarn club has donated over 10,100 items to local charities throughout the region.

The "Friends of the Eden Library" continued their support this year, sponsoring programs such as the butter lamb at Easter. Community use includes the Rug Hookers and the University Express Programs. University Express offered a variety of programs including Shakespeare, sports, fossils,

composting, trusts, the great lakes, and many others. A program of holiday music and song was also successful. The library also had group visits from ARC of Erie County. Donna-Jo continued a reading program at the Eden schools to inspire a love of reading in children, during which she provided bookmarks and applications for library cards.

A picnic was held in July with hot dogs, chips and bottled water. The event took place immediately after a fun foam party, and families enjoyed music and food throughout the evening.

Our fall and spring book sales and the ongoing book sale continue to be very successful. We received a donation from All Points Media in addition to donations from a former Eden resident, a former library director from sales of her book, and from a retiree who returned to this area. Donations were also received from Home Depot.

Projects at the library included new blinds, lift repair, beam repair, and repair of the automatic door. A garden plaque in Phil Muck's memory was delivered.

Policies approved and updated this year include Accessibility of Library Services, Confidentiality of Library Records, Equal Employment Opportunity Anti-Harassment Policy, State of Emergency/Disaster Leave Policy, Volunteer Program Policy, Procurement Policy, Freedom of Information Law Policy, Petty Cash Policy, Ethics Policy, Distribution Policy, Open Meeting Law, Investment Policy, Bulletin Board Policy, Community Room Policy, and the Whistle Blower and Disaster Response Policy.

2025 was a year of changes for the library. John Spears, the director of the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, passed away in July. John was a progressive advocate for libraries, and will certainly be missed. Dorinda Dardon has taken over his role and is now interim director. Here at Eden, Cynthia Bancroft retired after 26 years. Claire Blandino left to pursue a graduate degree. We wish them both the best in their future endeavors.

Library trustees, Mr. Sacilowski, and community volunteers provided maintenance and planted flowers, trees, and shrubs. Thank you to the Agles Farm and Market for the beautiful geraniums and summer arrangements.

DVDs, audio books, electronic books, music, internet access, and computer classes are some of the many offerings to our community.

Thank you to Donna-Jo Webster, our Library Director, for making reading fun and enjoyable. She continues to have a positive impact by offering programs to stimulate learning and encourage community and school involvement. Thank you to Helga Antonou for her dedication to the Yarn Club and giving back to communities who are less fortunate. Thank you to Cheryl Colvin for organizing and running the Cookbook Club. Thank you to Helga Antonou, Cheryl Colvin, Samantha Wilson, Kelly Sullivan, and Anthony Sacilowski for maintaining the warm, relaxing atmosphere of the library and continuing to make it an inviting place to visit.

Thank you to Susan Wilhelm, our board liaison, for working with the town on our behalf. She continues to advocate for us with the town and is a valuable part of our team.

Thank you to the Eden Town Board for all your help throughout the year. Your unwavering support and collaboration are invaluable. We greatly appreciate all that you do, and we are fortunate to have your support to make the library a welcoming place.

Thank you to the Eden Library Board for all that you do to make this library such a warm and friendly place to visit! We are very fortunate to have such hardworking members working together. Thank you for attending meetings, balancing our finances, working on policies, planning and publicizing events, helping with the used book sales, gardening and landscaping, and being active in decision making. As we move forward into a new year, our library will continue to be a positive asset to our community with all your support and guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia R. Smith
Eden Library Board President

cc: Eden Town Board