

NEWSLETTER

December 2024

CELEBRATING 2024: A YEAR OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND SHARED SUCCESS AT THE LIBRARY!

The library had another fantastic year, thanks to the generous support of our community. Your contributions have enabled us to expand our programs and activities, bringing life, excitement, and a welcoming space to our library. Our primary mission remains serving the diverse needs of our community, with a dedicated secondary mission as a repository and research center for local history. At the Gilbertsville Free Library, we are committed to making a positive difference, and we couldn't do it without the support of community members like you. Thank you for helping us continue this journey together.



DAILY BUSINESS

The library is open five days a week, offering free Wi-Fi and a public computer for patrons. A wide selection of books and magazines are available for checkout. If you're looking for a specific title not in our collection, you can easily request it through the Four County Library System's interlibrary loan service, with deliveries arriving twice a week. We also provide assistance with faxing, copying, and scanning services.



| Library Hours | |
|---------------|---------------|
| MONDAY | 1:00PM-5:00PM |
| TUESDAY | 9:00AM-1:00PM |
| WEDNESDAY | 1:00PM-5:00PM |
| THURSDAY | CLOSED |
| FRIDAY | 1:00PM-5:00PM |
| SATURDAY | 9:00AM-1:00PM |
| SUNDAY | CLOSED |

PRESERVING OUR LIBRARY

The Gilbertsville Free Library, proudly serving the community since 1891, holds the distinction of being Otsego County's first Free Association Library. For over a century, it has been carefully maintained by the dedicated Board of Trustees and still operates in its original historic building.

Preserving this landmark remains one of the library's largest ongoing expenses. In 2024, we completed key projects, including essential maintenance on the building's original windows, an upgrade to energy-efficient LED lighting, and other refreshes to enhance both functionality and preservation. These improvements ensure our library continues to be a welcoming and sustainable resource for future generations.

HELP KEEP OUR LIBRARY THRIVING

While the library receives some funding from local sources and the state, it often falls short of covering the costs necessary to serve our community effectively. We need your financial support to fulfill our mission. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference. Please consider helping to keep the Gilbertsville Free Library vibrant and thriving for everyone in our community.



Summer Story Time Participants



GMU's National Honors Society Members

GRATITUDE FOR OUR LIBRARY TEAM AND VOLUNTEERS

Our day-to-day library operations are managed by the dedicated team of Dawn Gage and Jamie McNamara. We are fortunate to have such passionate individuals committed to the library's success.

A heartfelt thank you to our Board of Trustees for their tireless efforts: Marie Stebbins, Tim Stark, Barbara Lilley, Amy Favinger, AnnMarie Hill, Jody Hughes, Susan Freyermuth, Scarlett Newman, and Liz Bankus.

Special thanks to Jacquie Foster for her leadership in making the Buns & Books program a continued success and to Kathy Hartman for heading the Preschool Storytime. We also extend our gratitude to Amy Favinger for leading the Summer Reading Program, along with the many community members and local authors who contributed their time and talents.



Otsego County Dairy Promotion

2024 PROGRAMS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ongoing Programs:

- **Weekly Preschool Storytime**
- **Monthly Buns & Books Book Club**

Special Events:

- **Summer School Age Storytime:** Featuring local authors, Otsego Dairy promotion, GMU's National Honors Society Members, and our dedicated community volunteer readers.
- **July 4th Games:** Board Trustees facilitated games and served free ice cream from Stewart's.

Fundraisers and Community Initiatives:

- **Meatloaf Dinner Spring Fundraiser:** This event brought the community together and raised funds for a new computer for the library.
- **The Great Give Back Program:** A successful initiative in October, collecting supplies for the Butternut Food Pantry and Pet Pantry.
- **Participant in Hannaford's Bloomin' 4 Good Program:** This initiative connected shoppers to the library, allowing us to advertise our services while earning funds through bouquet purchases. It was a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness about the library in our community!



Author Abby Hanlon



Author Dawn Wheeler

HELP US THRIVE:

TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS WELCOME

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support the Gilbertsville Free Library today. Your generosity helps us continue to provide essential programs and services to our community.

You can donate by check or through PayPal. With a contribution of just \$100, you can also become a lifetime member of our library. Every gift makes a difference—thank you for your support!



Donate via PayPal using this QR code