



**Director's Report to Board of Trustees  
February 2, 2026 Regular Meeting**

**Lyla Grills Reporting**

**Grills Meetings and Trainings: Directors Council 1/7, Friends of MPL 1/8, MCLS Plan of Service Meeting 1/21**

- Lyla is serving on the MCLS Plan of Service committee.
- We were awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place from the Honeoye Falls Fire Department for the Christmas Parade! This came with a \$75 prize to Mendon Public Library.
- The Tichenor table and 6 chairs will be taken by John Bailey for refinishing and reupholstering later this week.
- We have been discussing working with nonprofit organization Taproot to get some free garden beds and soil this spring so that teens and others can work on a Community Vegetable Garden.
- Kelly, Emily E, Deb D, and others have been planning Unearth a Story: Summer Reading 2026.
- We will be getting 10 MiFis (hotspots) into circulation within the next week or so. These are funded by ARPA to MCLS through 2026 and much of the management is being taken care of by MCLS. Emily B is receiving training to be our point person here at MPL.
- Matt has been working on a design for the 2025 Year in Review Annual Report to the Community.
- Thank you to Town Maintenance and Highway for keeping our driveway and parking lot so safe and clear of snow. Kevin J and Supervisor Alati are also making progress on getting the EV Charging Station back up and operational.
- April 19-25 is National Libraries Week. Monday is "Right to Read Day" and we will display an ALA report released that day entitled "The State of America's Libraries." Tuesday is "National Library Workers Day" and The Friends have a special treat to give to all staff. Wednesday is "National Library Outreach Day" and we are going to highlight our connection with Pinehurst (residents are also displaying artwork here in April). Thursday is "Take Action for Libraries Day" and an activity is TBD.
- Saturday, April 25 is the Environmental Fair across the street at Harry Allen Park. We will host a Recycling Table here in the library. We also plan to create a celebratory display about our progress so far with SLI.

**Programming Highlights for February 2026**

- Kids: January was cozy and fun at the library. We enjoyed robust gatherings and even some beautiful, feathered guests at a special Chicken Story Time. Martin Luther King Day saw us hosting a lot of great events, including a Special Story Time, wonderful All Ages Collage Program sponsored and hosted by the Mill Art Center, Hot Cocoa Bar sponsored and hosted

by the Kiwanis, and LEGO event. Besides offering space to gather and learn new things, we were excited to give the Mill Art Center and the Kiwanis leadership a place/opportunity to discuss how they might partner in the future to make our community stronger.

- Our Amerks Reading Power Play had over 100 entries – that’s over 300 books read by our local students in December and January. Fingers crossed, one of our entrants wins the grand prize – suite tickets for an Amerks game in February!
- February finds us preparing for a fun slate of events jammed packed into the Break Week mid-month. Additionally, we’ve submitted our application for M&T Summer Reading grant money. We’re hopeful that local businesses and our community will also respond well to our sponsorship/prize request.
- Teen Involvement: Miss Emily continues to create lots of fun and exciting events for our Teens. Every Tuesday, VolunTeens meet up to create fun crafts and do worthwhile projects around the library. From this group of awesome teens, we’ve nominated a few for the Monroe County Youth Citizen Award. Every year, we’ve had the privilege of recognizing a few of these impressive young people with this award given out at a county awards ceremony.
- Emily is working on some teen offerings for the Summer Reading Program. Maybe some after-hours special Teen Time.
- Adults: Good news! The RRLC application to get funding for a Marketing/Capacity Building Program with Causewave was reviewed and awarded to Mendon Public Library. Lyla will be quarterbacking this process along with help from Kelly, the Friends and BOT. More information to come.
- We’re offering some new events for our community in February. Make sure to check out the Underground Railroad Talk by the Rochester Museum and Science Center (2/17) and the Cultivating Mushrooms Talk taught by mycologist Sam Warren (2/25). Additionally, the Sweet Bites Poetry Discussion each month has grown to welcome a lovely group of adults – in January, we were thrilled that several folks braved windy, snowy conditions to join Kathleen for this special opportunity to slow down and talk poetry. Kathleen will be back in February and March for more Sweet Bites Poetry Discussion.

## **2025 PROGRAM STATISTICS:**

- 2836 Children 0-5 attended 124 programs.
- 1558 Children 6-10 attended 48 programs.
- 342 Teens 11-18 attended 74 programs.
- 911 Adults Attended 138 programs.
- 829 People of Various Ages attended 46 general interest programs.
- 196 People participated in 196 one-on-one programs (tech tutoring, take and make crafts).
- TOTAL: 8,656 People participated in 626 Programs.