

MANISTEE COUNTY LIBRARY

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



From the Director...

Dear Valued Supporters,

This year marks a monumental milestone for our library - 120 years of service to the community! We're so proud to be a part of this shared history, and it's all thanks to the continued support from people like you.

The doors of the Main Library first opened in June of 1905. Since that day, our library has evolved into more than just a place to check out books. What makes our library so special is not only the materials we offer, but the community that surrounds it.

Our events are designed to foster creativity, spark new ideas and most importantly - bring people together. From author talks and workshops to film screenings, music events, and children's programming, we strive to provide experiences that inspire, challenge, and entertain. The library is a place where people from all walks of life come together to explore, grow, and share - strengthening the fabric of our community.

Libraries are more than just spaces for events and collections. They are vital pillars in today's world, providing access to information, education, and resources that may otherwise be out of reach for many. In a time when technology and the digital landscape can sometimes feel overwhelming, we remain a trusted source for guidance, support, and connection. Whether it's accessing online courses, borrowing movies, or reading the latest bestsellers, we're here to support your lifelong learning and personal growth.

As we reflect on the past 120 years, we are excited for the next chapter of this journey. Thanks to the continued support of the Manistee County community, we will continue to grow and adapt, offering new and innovative ways to serve our community for many years to come.



You, our patrons, are the heart of what makes this library so special. Together, let's keep this incredible resource alive, vibrant and accessible for generations to come.

With sincere appreciation,

Julie Cirone
Executive Director
Manistee County Library



"The staff at the Manistee Library are some of the most helpful and friendly staff in all of Manistee. There have been several times where they have gone above and beyond to help out whether it's getting books sent from another branch, researching specific information about a book for me, or stuffysitting my daughters Minnie Mouse (by mistake) overnight and helping me rescue her in the morning. ❤️ Hands down the best thing is the staff."



"It brings free access to materials and media that would otherwise be out of reach to many."



"The people who work there truly care about helping me when I visit with a question. I feel seen."




"The staff is friendly, helpful and knowledgeable. They genuinely care about the patron's experience and work to make it positive."




2024 By the Numbers


60,691 Library Visits ↑ 4.8%	679 Programs Held	11,052 Program Attendance
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103,863 Physical Check-Outs	1,251 NEW Library Cards ↑ 5.7%	5,300 NEW Items Added
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29,283 Libby Borrows ↑ 14.8%	13,142 Hoopla Borrows ↑ 10.2%	63,879 Newsbank Uses ↑ 64.0%
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12,657 MeL Check-Outs ↑ 4.8%	1,219 Reference Questions Answered	1,792 Tech Questions Answered
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Story Park



The Manistee County Library Story Park broke ground in the summer of 2024 and will be completed Summer 2025. The Story Park will feature a StoryWalk®*, a gazebo for outdoor programming, musical park instruments, a sensory board, native plants and seating.



Ground Breaking & Sidewalk Poured
July 31st, 2024

Ribbon Cutting & 120th Birthday Celebration
June 7th, 2025

*The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

2024 Library Board

Ralph Mortensen
President

Mark Fedder
Vice President

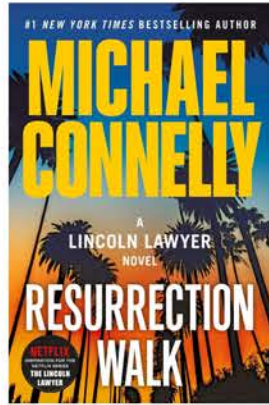
Richard Blue
Treasurer

Pamela Evans
Secretary

Raini Gilmore
Trustee

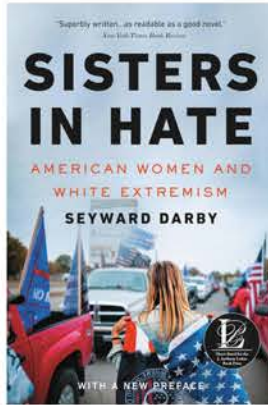
2024 Top Checkouts

Fiction



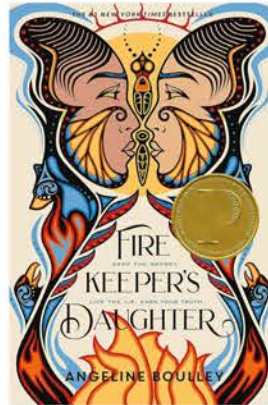
Resurrection Walk:
Michael Connelly

Non-Fiction



Sisters in Hate:
American Women and
White Extremism:
Seyward Darby

YA Fiction



The Firekeeper's
Daughter:
Angeline Boulley

DVD



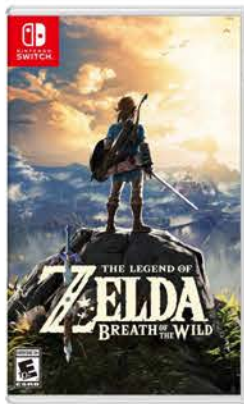
Oppenheimer

TV Show



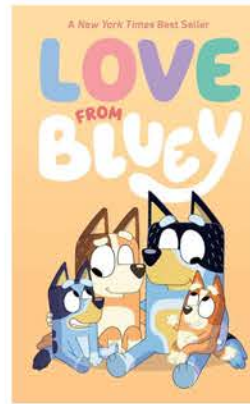
Yellowstone:
Season 1

Video Game



Legend of Zelda:
Breath of
the Wild

Kids Book



Love from Bluey:
Suzy Brumm

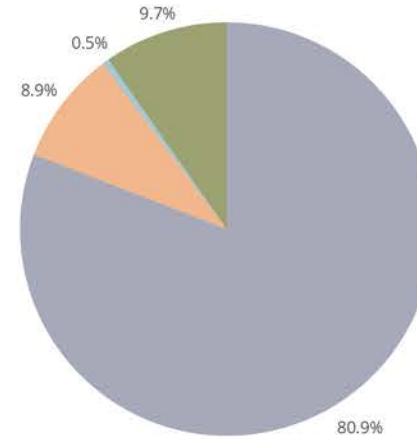
Kids DVD



Paw Patrol:
Big Truck Pups

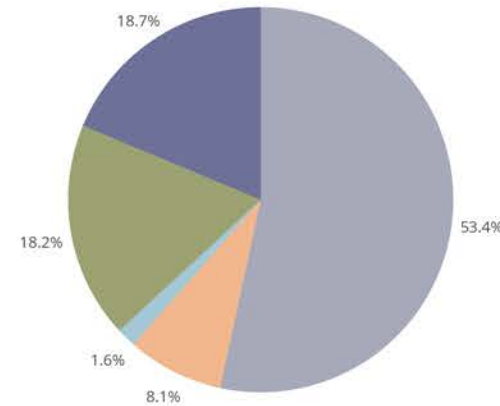
Fiscal Year 2024 Summary

Revenue



- Taxes: \$1,392,423
- State/Federal Grants: \$153,300
- Charges for Services: \$8,695
- Gifts, Fines, Interest, and Other Misc. Revenue: \$167,089

Expenditures



- Personnel/Wages: \$896,309
- Collection/Subscriptions: \$136,094
- Programming: \$27,304
- Other Services & Charges: \$305,033
- Capital Outlay: \$314,099



The Carnegie water remediation and brick restoration project made up a large percentage of the capital outlay expenditures. This project began during the 2024 fiscal year and was completed during the 2025 fiscal year.

2024 Donors & Partners

- Alpine Chocolat Haus
- Ann Madsen - Dyeing on the Inside
- Armory Youth Project
- Audrey Strouf - In Honor of Mike and Sue Richmond
- The Baca Agency
- Backstage Hobbies & Games
- Be Da Bin Behavioral Health
- Bear Lake Schools
- Ben Traverse
- Black Cap Farms
- Bob Downs
- Catherine Eubanks
- Centra Wellness
- City of Manistee Parks Commission
- Coastal Woods Vision
- Conservatory of Dance
- Consumers Energy Foundation
- Dairy Queen
- Diana Bradley
- Dublin General Store
- ECHO His Love
- Elizabeth Sutton
- Faye Backie
- Filer Credit Union
- The Frazier Family - In Memory of Kristine Johnson Malone
- The Friends of the Manistee County Library
- Gordys Skate Company Ludington
- Grand Rental Station of Manistee
- Great Beginnings Bear Lake
- GSRP Brethren
- GTB of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
- Homeward Bound Animal Shelter
- Howard Schaefer
- Iron Fish Distillery
- Jessica Rozga-Deboni
- Judith Tabaczka
- Julia Davidson
- Kaleva Garden Club
- Karen Gilbert
- Kay, Sam, & Heather Miller - In Memory of Sam H. Miller
- Keleher Law
- Keli Heckel
- Kimberly & Vera Hinmon
- Kristen & Steven Kimm
- The Lakeside Club of Manistee County
- Lauren Hanna
- League of Women Voters
- Linke's Body Shop Inc
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- LRBOI Princess Kateri Ceplina
- Manistee Area Chamber of Commerce
- Manistee Civic Players
- Manistee Conservation District
- Manistee County Community Foundation
- Manistee County Council on Aging
- Manistee County Historical Museum
- Manistee DDA
- Manistee Elks Club
- Manistee Fall Festival Committee
- Manistee Inn & Marina
- Manistee Lions Club
- Manistee Moose Lodge
- Maple Grove Community Center
- Maple Ridge Manor
- MARJDI
- Martin Marietta
- Mayor Jermaine Sullivan
- Michael & Virginia Szymanski
- Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
- Mid-Michigan Library League
- Morton Salt
- Music with Melinda
- Nancy & Will Bromley
- Neighborhood Forest
- Nora Pasman-Green & Teddy the Therapy Dog
- North Channel Brewing Company
- Northern Spice Company
- Northern Spirits Gifts
- Northwest Michigan Health Services
- Northwest Michigan Works
- Onekama Building Supply
- Onekama Consolidated Schools
- Onekama Township Parks & Recreation
- The Outsider
- P.E.O. International
- Packaging Corporation of America
- Pastor Liz Hoy, First Congregational
- Patti Bennett
- PFLAG
- Pleasanton Valley Greenhouses
- Pleasant Valley Community Center
- Port City Emporium
- Portage Lake Garden Club
- The Purple Paintbrush
- Raini Gilmore
- Ramsdell Regional Center for the Arts
- Rebel's Sanctuary Comic Books
- Redneck Yacht Club
- Richard & Caroline Kuczynski
- Richards & McDougall, P.C.
- Riverside Toys
- Robert & Doris Ostrander
- Rochelle Thomas
- Sarah Helge
- Seth Koehler - In Memory of Linda Koehler
- Sharron & Donn Lemmer
- Snyder's Shoes
- Spirit of the Woods Garden Club
- Steven & Linda Rogers
- Sylvia Duncan
- Telemon Michigan
- Tender Heart Childcare of Wellston
- Tom Quinn
- Trophies Cafe
- United Way of Manistee County
- US Forest Service
- Virginia Allinson
- The Vogue Theatre
- Wagoner Community Center
- Wesco
- WMMC Great Start Collaborative
- Zoscsak Logging & Trucking

MCL Staff



Welcome...

Alison Purgiel, Information Services Specialist
David Gillespie, Information Services Specialist

Thank You . . .

Kim Jankowiak, Information Services Specialist - 25 years
Angie Fischer, Youth Services Coordinator - 5 years
Michaelyn Crawford, Branch Services Specialist - 5 years
Jessica Hopkins, Branch Services Specialist - 5 years

Friends of the Manistee County Library

Thank you Friends of the Manistee County Library for your continued support throughout the year.

- Summer Reading Program funding
- Spring gardening programs
- Book Bingo programs
- Book sales
- Christmas book giveaways
- Christmas decorations
- Ongoing financial help all year



Arcadia Branch Library

3586 Glovers Lake Road
Arcadia, MI 49613

(231) 889 - 4230



Keddie Norconk Memorial Library - Bear Lake

12325 Virginia Street
Bear Lake, MI 49614

(231) 864 - 2700



Kaleva Branch Library

14618 Walta Street
Kaleva, MI 49645

(231) 362 - 3178



Manistee Main Library

95 Maple Street
Manistee, MI 49660

(231) 723 - 2519



Onekama Branch Library

5283 Main Street
Onekama, MI 49675

(231) 889 - 4041



Wellston Branch Library

1273 Seaman Road
Wellston, MI 49689

(231) 848 - 4013