

# MARSHALL DISTRICT LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT 2025

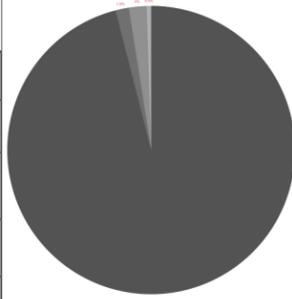


## 2024-2025 STATISTICS

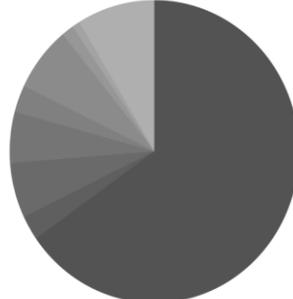
Library Cards: 4,736	Website Visits: 68,144
Library Visits: 106,985	Library Computer Use: 16,523
Library Circulation: 126,755	Number of Programs: 551
Library Collection: 56,579	Program Attendance: 9,906
Questions Answered: 48,463	Study Room Use: 878
Interlibrary Loan Books Received: 6,027	Wireless Use: 98,750
Interlibrary Loan Books Sent: 6,397	One-on-One Technology Sessions: 1,462
E-Books Downloaded: 27,850	

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

OPERATING REVENUES	
Property Taxes	\$1,378,595
State Funds	\$21,091
County Penal Funds	\$23,011
Fines & Fees	\$22,435
Other Funds	\$29,732
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,474,864</b>



OPERATING EXPENDITURES	
Salary & Benefits	\$1,001,615
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$56,692
Contracted Services	\$78,211
Building & Equipment	\$128,911
Utilities	\$52,553
Books & Materials	\$71,798
Programs	\$24,681
Technology	\$14,155
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,428,576</b>



**Operating Fund Balance as of 6/30/2025**  
\$375,390

**Gifts & Grants Fund Balance as of 6/30/2025**  
\$501,816

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2024-2025

President: Ann Fitzpatrick, City of Marshall  
 Vice-President: Jerry Marshall, City of Marshall  
 Secretary: Joanne Davis, Marshall Township  
 Treasurer: Carol Bagi, Eckford Township

Trustee: Mary Fountain, Marengo Township  
 Trustee: MJ Harting-Minkwic, City of Marshall  
 Trustee: Kara Boughton, Fredonia Township



The mission of Marshall District Library is to be a leader in our community, fostering collaborative partnerships, providing educational, recreational, & technological services in a safe & welcoming environment.

### TAX SUPPORTED BY

CITY OF MARSHALL ^ ECKFORD TOWNSHIP ^ FREDONIA TOWNSHIP  
 MARENGO TOWNSHIP ^ MARSHALL TOWNSHIP

## 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

Thanks to a generous donation from Laura R. (Withee) Bliss, Marshall District Library constructed the MDL History Center.



Held our first "If These Stones Could Talk" living history portrayal event at Oakridge Cemetery in partnership with the City of Marshall.

Collaborated with Marshall Area Garden Club to hold "A Palette of Blooms" Flower Show during our Summer Reading Program.

Held our fifth annual "Happy Camp" winter reading program focused on "Comfy Cozy Season." This included a celebration of the 80th anniversary for Smokey Bear, "Books & Breakfast with Pastrami Joe's, and programs on "Isle Royale", "Valentine's Cookie Decorating", and "Tour the Hub @ 128."

Continued to provide weekly children's crafts along with three weekly early learning programs for children.



Developed parent connection programs including "Baby & Me: Caregiver Connection," "Cookies & Cocoa," & "Stroller Social."

Continued monthly Teen Loot Box, which includes take-home kits filled with books, activities, & snacks for teens.

Started "Books on Tap" adult book club at Dark Horse Brewing Company.

Offered bi-weekly Drop-In History Center hours with local history librarians.

Updated online program registration system.

Library staff members presented at statewide library conferences.



Celebrated our annual Summer Reading Program for all ages with the theme "Color Our World" as we focused on fine arts, performing arts, & the beauty of nature. Events were held in partnership with:

- Calhoun County Fairgrounds
- Capitol Hill School
- Wilder Creek Conservation Club
- Marshall Area Farmers Market
- Northfield Mandolin Workshop
- Marshall Area Garden Club
- Schuler's (19Zero9)
- Maria's Uncorked
- West Prospect Pictures
- Schell Games
- True North Ice Cream
- Bosserd Family Farm
- Marshall Parks & Recreation
- Calhoun County Wellness Wagon
- EastEnd Studio & Gallery



Partnered with local businesses & organizations for a "Marshall's Mini Museum of Fine Art" Summer Scavenger Hunt. Participants picked up a museum guide at the library & found unique cards at more than 40 Marshall locations.

Held daily Spring Break programs for students in grades 2+.

Continued to expand online digital local history archive to include photographs, church records, & city directories in addition to yearbooks.

Created youth community events 49068 online calendar.



Held creative contests including an "Around the World in 80 Ducks: Duck-O-Rating Contest" and "Project Makeover: Skeleton Edition."

Staff members participated in a number of community groups & events including Marshall Rotary Club, Marshall Historical Society, Marshall Network, Exchange Club of Marshall, Calhoun County Broadband Task Force, Marshall Area Garden Club, Marshall Chamber, & Marshall Lions Club.

Continued outreach services including visits to schools, day care centers, & preschools.



Library technology staff assisted 1,462 patrons with one-on-one technology appointments.

Held "Santa & Singing" event with our House Band, The Long Overdues.

Partnered with The Merry Mile at Calhoun County Fairgrounds to provide craft projects during the Egg Nog Jog.

Held daily drop-in programs during winter break.

Subscribed to Educate Station lesson plan and activity service.

Continued to provide services such as test proctoring, homebound delivery, notary services, & resume assistance to the community.

MDL's Dolly Parton's Imagination Library for the Marshall area delivered books to more than 500 children. This includes children in zip codes 49068, 49033, 49029, 49092.

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

*While Marshall District Library has always served the community in a variety of ways, this year we have been especially fortunate to be able to focus on the preservation of & celebration of our Marshall area history.*

*Thanks to a generous donation from Laura R. (Withee) Bliss, Marshall District Library constructed the MDL History Center, a room in the library for conducting family research, seeking local history information, & starting digitization projects. This center contains materials from the Marshall area & surrounding communities. We are grateful that she provided the funding through the Laura R. Bliss Trust for the development & enhancement of the MDL History Center, which will be enjoyed for generations to come.*

*Thanks to this generous donation we are also excited to expand access to historical information across Calhoun County, particularly in the rural areas we serve. In 2025 we partnered with Albion District Library & Tekonsha Historical Society to add their area newspapers to our online newspaper archive. We have several other projects in the works to expand access to local history information such as township records & we look forward to working with other organizations in the Marshall area over the next few years.*

*One of the events we were most excited about planning was "If These Stones Could Talk," the return of the much-loved living history portrayal at historic Oakridge Cemetery. In 2003, an amazing group of volunteers in Marshall created a "Living History" steering committee, a partnership of the Marshall Historical Society & the Marshall Civic Players. For a decade, more than a hundred local volunteers gave of their time: conducting research, writing scripts, acting as tour guides, portraying characters, & working behind the scenes. In 2019, Marshall District Library was fortunate enough to work with a steering committee of volunteers to try & revive this event. That event was very successful & showed how much interest there still was in the community, but we were unable to continue in 2020. In 2023, the Steering Committee decided that Marshall District Library would serve as an archive for materials & take the lead on bringing a new, free version of "If These Stones Could Talk" to our community. We are honored to continue this work & we are delighted to continue working with many organizations, donors, & volunteers to bring Marshall History to life.*

*If you have any suggestions or questions about library services, please contact me at 269.781.7821 x 1100 or [semiferoa@YourMDL.org](mailto:semiferoa@YourMDL.org).*

*-Angela Semifero, Library Director*

### Library Administration

Angela Semifero, Library Director

Nate Palmer, Assistant Director/Head of Systems

Shauna Swantek, Head of Programming & Community Engagement

Doreen Boyer, Bookkeeper

### Systems & Facilities Department

Cade Carver, Library Assistant

Melanie Crawford, Library Clerk

Amanda Freberg, Library Assistant

Chelsea Heisler, Librarian

Emma Kassim, Library Clerk

Chris Love, Library Caretaker

Joe Nevius, Library Cleaner

Melissa Rzepczynski, Librarian

Chela VanSickle, Senior Library Assistant

### Programming & Community Engagement Department

Kessy Cook, Library Assistant

Kelly Dykwell, Librarian

Becky Hall, Library Assistant

Melanie Sheperd, Library Assistant

Andrea Stafford, Senior Library Assistant

### Information Technology Department

Matt Harmon, Head of Information Technology

Josh Heisler, Senior Technology Assistant

Zack Langford, Technology Assistant

## MEET THE STAFF

