

# Athens Community Library

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[www.athenscommunitylibrary.org](http://www.athenscommunitylibrary.org)

August/September 2023 Newsletter



## Books 'n Cooks Club for Adults Coming in October

Do you like to read and cook? Do we have the club for you! This is a potluck-style gathering, where participants make the food at home and bring it to the library to share with other participants. The club will meet one Thursday per month at the library. While we are enjoying our food, we will discuss the book of the month as well. Everyone will have an opportunity to choose a book. Participants must be at least 18 years of age. The following are the first few dates of the Books 'n Cooks Club:

**October 19, 5:30 –7:00p** Appetizer of Choice/Book Title Brainstorm

**November 16, 5:30-7:00p** Salads/Book 1

**December 21, 5:30-7:00** Cookie Exchange/  
Book 2

Sign up at the library or click on the QR Code with your phone camera to be directed to a form on our webpage!



## Athens Area Teen Solves the MiLibrary Summer 2023 Quest!

Keagan solved the MiLibrary Quest this summer and won a \$50 prize for critical thinking and problem solving skills.

MiLibraryQuest is series of statewide virtual quests for teens. A group of library staff work together to create innovative, fun, and competitive quests for teens in Michigan in collaboration with Library of Michigan and public libraries throughout the state. The Summer 2023 Quest "Survive Together Now" was set up like an escape room and participants virtually journeyed across the state to solve the mystery. Another quest is available this winter. Follow us on Facebook for more information.

## Athens Community Library Merchandise Now Available

Adult Tees \$17.00  
Youth Tees \$15.00  
Insulated Mugs  
\$20.00  
Stickers \$1.00



## Handicap Accessible Doors at the Ramp Entrance

We received an American Library Association Libraries Transforming Small Communities grant to install automatic door openers for the entry and foyer door of the ramp entrance. This enhancement will empower access for everyone with just the push of a button! The grant was made available to small and rural libraries only.

## Large Print and Audio Book Selection has Grown Thanks to the Athens Area Community Foundation

Several patrons have requested that we increase our large print selection as well as our audio book selection. Athens Area Community Foundation approved a grant to support this project, and we have been able to purchase several large or larger print books and audio books to meet the needs of our community.

We intend to continue growing this selection to include more titles. Stop in to see what we have available for you today!

**ACL CHECK US OUT**



## Athens Community Library Summer Library Camp a Success

The 2023 Reading Program theme was “All Together Now”, and twenty-five kindergarten through sixth grade children signed up to participate. Summer library camp consisted of seven weeks during the summer, where participants came to the library to create a craft, read a book, and participate in physical activity. Each week, they received an age-appropriate book to take home as well as a snack. The first week of camp, participants received a cinch sack filled with goodies, such as, pencils, a sticker book, a book, and a tee shirt.

Library Camp was made possible due to a Youth Literacy Grant from Dollar General.

## Calling All Patrons to Participate in Reading Counts

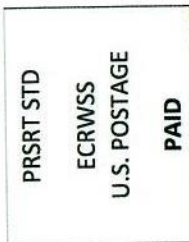
Reading Counts is a program that rewards you for reading. We have a program for children as well as adult over the age of 18.

Children’s activities are age appropriate with regard the final project in relation to the number of books and number of pages read. Children are not limited to the amount of prizes they may receive monthly. On average, our most dedicated participants receive one prize per week.

On the other hand, adults do not have a final project to submit. Instead, they submit it list of books they read over a two-month period.

If you are interested, information is available at the library or on our website.

**ACL Check Us Out!**



Athens Community Library  
PO BOX 216  
Athens, MI 49011

**Local Postal Customer**

## A Note from the Director...

Many patrons may not be aware of the establishment of the library. The Village of Athens owns the property the library sits on as well as the surrounding areas, such as the picnic tables and the marquee in front of the library. Athens Township owns the physical building, and Athens Community Library owns all of the contents of the building. This is truly a collaboration of our community to bring services to citizens.

Do you know the history of Athens Community Library? The building that houses the library was built in 1922 as a memorial to soldiers and sailors of all the wars. The “Community House”, as it was referred to at that time, housed not only the library but the village offices as well. When the building was dedicated in 1923, residents of the village presented a large wall clock, which still provides the time of day for patrons. A small oak library table and chair, donated by the residents at the same time, are still in use and serve as a reminder to the historic period of the library. The library went through an extensive remodel in 2008 with an addition to the building as well as the basement. Technology was also updated, and an area for computer use was created. During this period of library service to the community, there have been nine library directors: Nettie Miller from 1922 to 1947, followed by Mary Fox, Pat Auten, and June Eitniar, who retired in January 2002 after 40 years of service. June was succeeded by Rosemary Oberlin, Carol Sybesma, Diane Garlets, Nola Baker, and Missy Irons. The library serves the area of Athens Township and the entire Athens School district.

**ACL Check Us Out!**