



# 2023 Annual Report

610-759-4932 nazarethlibrary.org

295 East Center Street Nazareth, PA 18064

# Our Mission:

To inspire and enrich the lives of the residents in our supporting municipalities by offering valuable lifetime literacies and a community centric service approach.

### **Our** Vision:

The library will be the community center of the municipalities we serve, where members of the community share experiences and information and cultivate relationships.

What is the purpose of the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity? The answer is to provide books, story times, and Internet access. However, our library offers more than that. The library provides a variety of services and access to many resources. These include:

- Programming for children and adults
- A clean, safe place to read, work, study, and collaborate
- Written materials in a wide variety of formats including print, large print, audio, and electronic
- Public access computers
- Wi-Fi capabilities
- Online resources

It is not our mission to provide these services and resources. It is through these services and resources that the library strives to fulfill its mission; this is our unique reason to exist. The methods of how we accomplish our mission are fluid, but the relevance of our mission continues.

### Stay Connected

@memorialnazarethlibrary



@nazarethlibrary









@mlnvteens

# Our Staff:

#### Holly Bennett, Executive Director

Jennifer Avitabile, Circulation Assistant Stephanie Boozer, Circulation Assistant Mary Friel, Circulation Assistant Donna Hartman, Reference and Acquisitions Librarian Kevin Hopf, Library Digital Services Assistant Jo Ann Kelly, Reference and ILL Librarian Lauren "Kerby" Kerbein, Technology Services Alyssa Krom, Circulation Assistant Marsha Piazza, Circulation Assistant Michael Schott, Circulation Assistant Jill Silvius, Bookkeeper Berry Steiner, Children's Librarian Catherine Stewart, Senior Library Associate Melanie Strouse, Circulation Assistant Anneliese Warnke, Archive Specialist and Teen Coordinator

Library Pages: Genevieve Burke, Sean Gorman, Hassaan Naveed, Akif Turk, Viktoria Vosseller

### Our 2023 Library Board of Directors:

President, Jeff Shepherd, Lower Nazareth Township Vice President, Mary Reichel-Knecht, Nazareth Borough Treasurer, Len Fodera, Nazareth Borough Secretary, Julie Bender, Bushkill Township

#### Appointed Representatives:

Amy Templeton, Lower Nazareth Township Barbara Fischl, Nazareth Borough James Cunningham, Upper Nazareth Township Teresa Sayago, Upper Nazareth Township Becky Bartlett, Upper Nazareth Township Christopher Crook, Liason Nazareth Borough

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# A Letter From Our Director

I am excited to reflect on the journey the library had in 2023! Last year was a year of growth and great success, and we could not have done it without the support of this community, our patrons, sponsors, and donors.

We reached a record-high participation in our summer reading program for youth and adults. The community enjoyed a summer with programs, services, social gatherings, and learning opportunities. All year, the library connects our patrons to the world of ideas and encourages a love of reading for all ages.

Funding from our supporting municipalities, grants, and donors allowed us to start a community ukulele orchestra, install a dynamic interactive Everbright wall, host amazing authors, and offer unique programs that encouraged exploring the outdoors, trying new foods, and learning about healthy living.

Programs were offered in each of the four supporting municipalities which extended library services to all areas of our community. The library is a proud partner with community organizations including but not limited to, Wingate Farm and Equine Spa, Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center, 4-H, Klein Farms, Nazareth Area High School, Nazareth Fidelity Bank, and Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center.

Patrons are the heart of the library, and as our community continues to grow, so do the services the library offers. The library is dedicated to offering a place of discovery, creation, connection, and reflection.

Looking ahead to 2024, the library will further develop its service and program offerings. We hope to expand the ways we reach the community and focus on providing resources that will assist with daily life skills, personal growth, and community relationships.

The Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity hosted **over 400** individual events for people of all ages in 2023



# **Facilities**

Our library building is a special community landmark. It boasts a historical presence and provides a safe place for the community to learn and gather.

Two deteriorating chimneys on the nearly 100-year-old building were rebuilt in 2023. In

addition, the library's exterior was painted. Both capital projects were funded through a Northampton County NORCO grant and a generous contribution from the Nazareth Borough Council.

The beautiful flowers, landscapes, grass, parking lots, and sidewalks are maintained year-round by public works departments of Nazareth Borough, Bushkill Township, Lower Nazareth Township, and library volunteers. All of these entities contribute to ensuring the library grounds are lovely.

Inside the library walls, Brenda Reinert, a devoted library volunteer, is working to care for our delicate and aging building. Brenda's attention in 2023 focused on maintaining and improving the library's heating and cooling systems. She also worked to improve energy efficiency throughout the building Additionally, the library plans on working to raise funds to replace the building heating system to ensure maintainability, sustainability, and efficiency. We also hope to begin a campaign to support the renovation of the library basement that will increase digital accessibility and workforce development and offer a designated space for teens.

It's an exciting expedition, and I am grateful to be on this journey with such talented and skilled library colleagues. We couldn't do this without the tremendous advocacy and support we receive from our Library Board, Friends of the Library, and supporting municipalities.

See you at the library!

Holly Trella Bennett Executive Director

by improving insulation and installing LED and sensor lighting in key areas of the building.

The library board is committed to preserving the historic characteristics of the library building. In 2024, the library plans to publish the 2024 - 2029 Strategic Plan that will prioritize the facility's maintainability, sustainability, and efficiency.

# Circulation of Library Materials

The library is proud to offer over 65,000 items in our collection of books, technology, and physical items. Our collection includes over 15,000 electronic E-Books, nearly 2,000 audiobooks, and 2,800 DVDs. With over 13,000 patrons registered in good standing, the library circulated over 128,000 items in 2023.

Twelve public workstations are available for public use, and we offer wireless internet connectivity and personal technology assistance to patrons. Patrons consult the library website to keep informed of all the services available. In 2023, there were nearly 50,000 visitors to the library website.

In 2023, the library offered a total of 447 programs for all ages including outreach opportunities in all of our supporting municipalities. Over 2,000 children, birth-age 5; 2,300 children, ages 6-11; and 323 young adults attended programs last year. Adults also engaged in the library programming, as 3,600 adults attended programs in 2023.

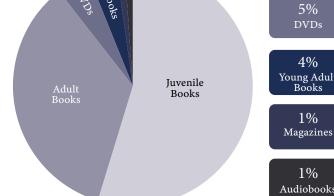
The library continues to listen to the community to cultivate a collection that meets community needs and offers beneficial programming and fun to all ages.

# Circulation of Materials by Type

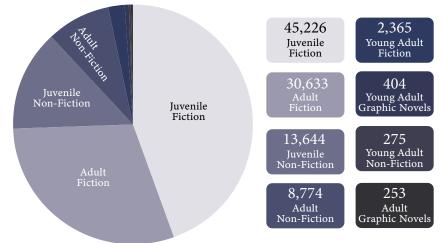
55% Juvenile

Books

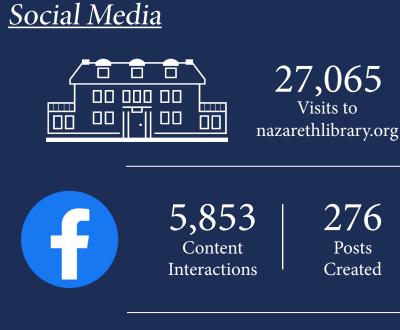
35% Adult Book<u>s</u>



### Circulation of Books by Category



# Technology



432 Teen Instagram Users Reached

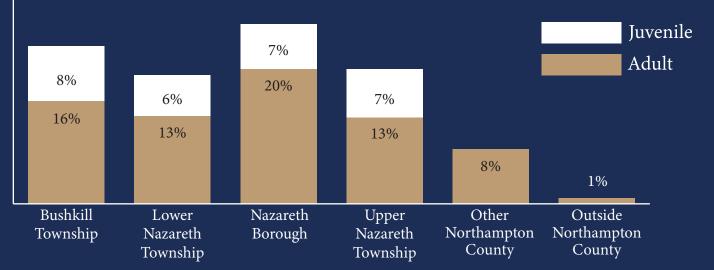
4,732 Instagram Users Reached

### **E-Resources**



hcopa

### Cardholders by Municipality and Age Group

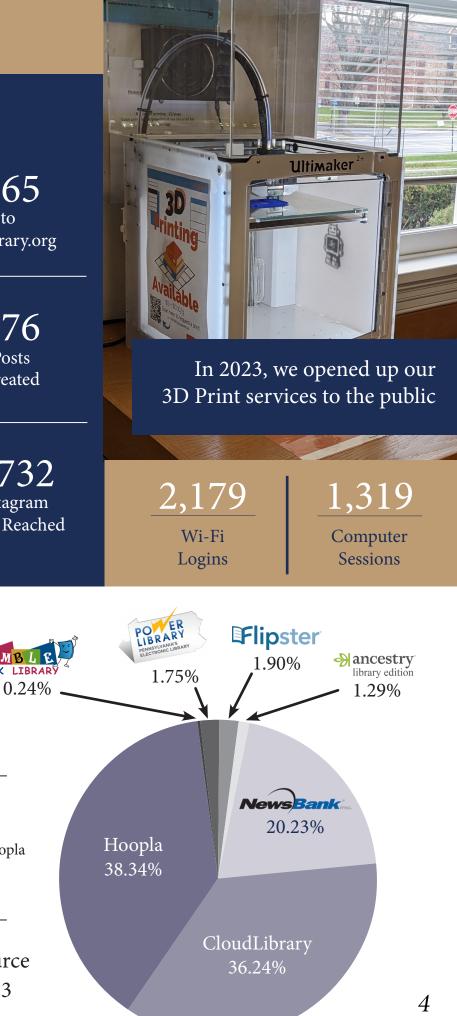


4,631 Hoopla Check Outs

280 Unique Hoopla Users

# kanopy

New E-Resource Added in 2023



# Donors

\$5,000+ Larry Stoudt

#### \$2,000-\$4,999

Anonymous Lawrence and Kathy Dildine East Lawn Supply Company, Inc. Steve and Cindy Lou Franke John and Cynthia Merritt Munch Bilheimer Foundation Inc. Ronald and Eleanor Nemeth Robert Targonski

#### \$1,000-\$1,999

Estate of Chris Abel Mario Andretti William and Becky Bartlett Brown-Daub Foundation C.F. Martin and Co., Inc. Christopher and Rebecca Crook James and Heather Cunningham East Lawn Supply Company, Inc. Kerra and Brett Field Lehigh Valley Health Network Linda F. Hess Carol A. Kelchner Tiffani Ketchen Nazareth Rotary Club Guinevere C. Ritter Thomas and Jocelyn Starner Edward and Tiffany Twiggar Visions of Eagles Brenda Reinert and Shawn Wright

### \$500 - \$999

A Furry Tail Come True Too Anonymous, in loving memory of Sue Cangelosi Fidelity Bank Friends of the Library Joanna and Nathaniel Golub John F. Little State Farm Insurance Co. Murante Auto Repair LLC Linda Mushlin Nazareth Veterinary Center Penn Quaker Site Contractors, Inc James, Virginia and Suzanne Peppell PNC Financial Services Group Craig and Carol Rohn Chelsea Saparito Margaret Sayago and Jesse O'Neill Robert and Anne Schaller Janet Mishkin and David Siebler Dennis Silvius Christine and Robert Simpson Gordon and Susan Sommers Eric and Katherine Tesoriero Whitetail Disposal, Inc.

#### \$400 - \$499 Stephanie Thatcher and Michael Cary

#### \$300 - \$399

John and Karissa Alexander John W. Beitel Shirley and John Heinsohn Nazareth Mutual Insurance Company Anthony and Luz Senneca

#### \$200 - \$299

Barbara Abel Raymond and Kim Beers Stephanie Bell Brian's Professional Cleaning Services, Inc. BSI Corporate Benefits, LLC Christine and Jonathan Burke Nicole and Nicholas Calantoni Emer and Sam Colalillo John and Judy Coughlin Margaret Coughlin Walter and Nancy Cramer Kevin and Susan Dellicker Deborah and Frank DeRosa Jeffrey and Cheryl Hawbecker Hoch Accounting Homestead Kennels and Cattery LLC Hope Lock Kennels Huth Insurance John and Alfreda Janitz Joseph F. Reichel Funeral Home Inc. David and Sundra Kline Suzane Krewson Randall and Maxine Marsh Marie Rissmiller and April Maule Janet Minnich Nazareth Army Navy Northampton Community College Jane and Steve Papelian Parlor Hair & Makeup Studio Todd and Rebecca Penchishen Edward and Lucy Perusse John and Helene Pierce Rita's Ice of Nazareth Kenneth and Barbara Saltern

Scott E. Marshall & Associates Norma Shriver Frederick and Marcia Squire Michael and Mary Anne Squyres Stehly's Bakery & Eats Bruce and Carla Thomas Vaughn's Talk of the Town Salon Willow Settlement Services

#### \$100 - \$199

Michael Abel Amy Acarlar **Timothy Adams** Caroline Ahearn Mark and Linda Atwood Susan Bahnick Patricia and Ned Barlieb Donna and Harrison Bauman Jr. Robert C. and Sandra E. Bayda Damian Beaman Jarred and Abby Bedoya Julianne Bender Frances K Bentkowski Glenn and Virginia Boerstler Candoli family Sharon and Charles Bonner Michael and Patti Borio Scott and Rebecca Brodt Kirk and Veronica Burley Tara and Donald Capecci Albert and Victoria Conti Veronica Creazzo Jeffrey and Karen Croft and Jodie Keller Ressler James and Catherine Cummins Glenn and Nora Danenhower

Elizabeth Dellers Robert and Jacqueline Dixon Charles and Georgette Donello Susan and Rev. Otto Dreydoppel Robert and Dawn Ellis Betty Engle Ronald Cahill and Anne Estabrook Adam and Andrea Faller Paul Felder Celia and Mateo Ferraro Carl and Barbara Fischl Brian and Gean Frack Susan Gerken Sheldon and Bonnie Golub Jennifer and Scott Hall Jodi and Jeffrey Hammel Deena and Kevin D. Hancharik Donna Hartman Norbert and Daun O. Hentschel Rosemary Hofford Jack A. Hommer Karen and Roger Huth Frank Impeciati Sharon and Robert Jarrow Esther Stefanik and Melissa Keeler Jo Ann M. Kelly Rodney and Lori Kirkchhofer Claire B Kleppinger Tracey Knauss-Warnke Brien and Kimberly Kocher Jared and Jacqueline Kohler Robert and Susan Krause Stephen and Margaret Krawiec Melvin and Laraine Kresge Cheryl and Bennett Kress Laura and Henry Kropf

# Grants

- John and Margaret Post Foundation
- Martin Guitar Charitable Foundation
- Nazareth Rotary Club/District 4120
- Wagner Family Foundation
- Trumbower Hospital Foundation



Meet Abby Hanlon at Nazareth Ambulance Corps Paid for with funds from the Wagner Family Foundation



Amy and Robert Krug John and Sally Kunkel Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians Donna and Michael Langston Robert and Anne Lawatsch Robyn Lawrence Maria Lerch Joseph Lichner Christa Linzey Karen Tinsley, LPC LLC David and Joelle Lubar Tracy Lynch Craig and Barbara Matheson Robert and Nancy Mertz David Mirro Moravian Historical Society Karen and John Morgan Lisa K. Moyer Kristin D. Mullen Linda Schultz and Kenneth Nickels Ruth O'Connor Seohyun Park Mark and Kathy Partis Dharendrasingh Mann and Megha Patel Jim and Irene Pennington Anne and Robert Peters Anthony and Polly Piergiovanni Robert and Sherron Quinn Sharon and James Rehrig Dennis and Noreen Reid Janet and Doug Reynolds **Rogue Crocheters** Drew, Isaiah, and Michelle Sack Olivia Carducci and John Salmento Barbara and Dean Sandbrook



Summer Reading Prizes Paid for with funds from FINRA

# **Donors Cont.** <u>\$50-\$99</u>

Peter and Mariellen Raymond Sands Brian Sayago John L. Schwartz Kenneth and Sandra Schwarz Andrea and Jason Smith Andrea and Jason Smith Steven and Kristie Smith Kimberly Snyder Christine Stofko Charles P. and Marilyn T. Sullivan Patricia and Michael Tallarico Nancy and Rachel Taras John and Regina Tauke Joseph and Alice Timko Tom and Linda Lee Trella Upper Nazareth Township Board of Supervisors Jessica and James Wagner Wednesday Night Book Group Timothy and Karen Widrick John and Carolyn Williams Alice Yeakel James and Kathleen Zulick

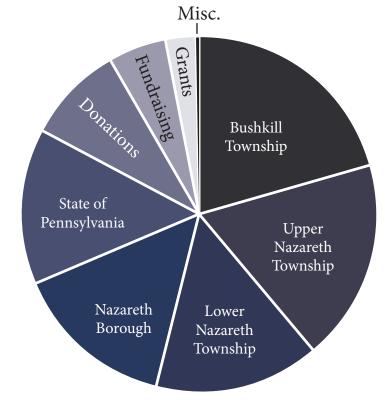
Beth Abruzzese Jennifer Ancker Eric and Michelle Angle Dominick Baker Stephen and Kathleen Barlow Jerry and Cindy Barndt Adrienne Bart Diane and Robert Batemarco Shirley and Edwin Batori Sharon Bell Robert and Barbara Bennett Barbara Berger Rita Bergstrom Errol and Sandra Betzenberger Kathleen and Leroy Bickert Joellen Bingener Michael and Eileen Bocich Elizabeth Borio Barry and Bonita Boyer Shaun Britton John and Dawn Brown **Richard Brown** Judith Moran-Burton and Douglas Burton Jeffrey and Kathy Carlton Linda and Nicholas Cascario

Michael and Iill Cirasella James and Beverly Clause Travis and Lindsey Cobb Sandra Cole Roger and Dorothy Congdon Gary and Patricia Cook Mary Lou and Jeffery Corby Patricia Corey Jeffrey and Cynthia Corpora Jacqueline Cressman Stephen and Jennifer Danner Mary Lee DeMarco Paulette Devo Anna and Andrzej Domagala Clint Dovle Jacquelynn G Ellenberger Ioan Erb Carolyn Evans Francis and Lynn Farris Michael and Linda Ferretti Nicole Fitzpatrick Douglas and Patricia Frey Jennifer Fujita Kirk and Beth Fuller Anu Gandotra Paul Garipoli Suzanne and David Getz

Deb and Gil Degenhart and Clem Gilio Rufina Gollatz Richard and JoAnn Gross Delmar and Diane Grube Beverly Hank Jane and Gordon Harter Brian Heard Alison Brewster and Ray Henderson Holly C. Hess L. Rick and Carol Hilborn Greg and Jill Hoch Geoffrey and Christine Holland Alfred and Peggy Horton Gary and Terri Horwath Karl Houtz Jennifer M Hudak Carol King Stephanie Kita Virginia P. Kleintop Dolores J. Klipple Michael and Susan Kresge Dolores Kresge Vicki Kroc Josephine and Alex LaRoche Elaine and Craig Lawrence Lehigh Valley Bin Cleaning Giuliano and Mary Ann Liberatore

# Finance & Budget

| Total Income          | \$ 557,056 |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Bushkill Township     | \$115,652  |
| Upper Naz Township    | \$101,000  |
| Lower Naz Township    | \$84,947   |
| Nazareth Borough      | \$81,406   |
| State of Pennsylvania | \$78,351   |
| Donations             | \$49,500   |
| Fundraising           | \$30,000   |
| Grants                | \$15,000   |
| Misc.                 | \$1,200    |

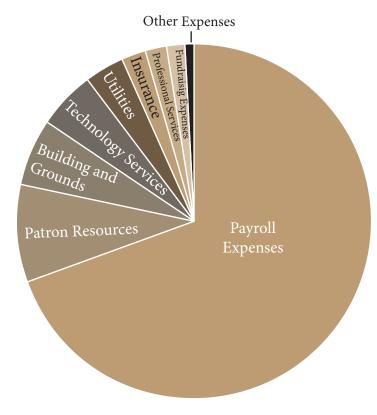


| Total Expense         | \$560,050 |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Payroll Expenses      | \$389,000 |
| Patron Resources      | \$50,000  |
| Building and Grounds  | \$34,000  |
| Technology Services   | \$30,000  |
| Utilities             | \$20,000  |
| Insurance             | \$12,500  |
| Professional Services | \$12,000  |
| Fundraising Expenses  | \$8,000   |
| Other Expenses        | \$4,550   |
| Programs              | \$0       |

Note: The figures represented are budgeted numbers set at the beginning of 2023. These are not the year-end totals, as the formal financial audit was not done at the time this document was published.

Alexandra and Mark Lischner Lower Nazareth Elementary faculty and staff Deborah Madonia Manna Food Center Cheryl and Kevin McFarland Thomas and Deborah McGill William I. and Marsha McGuire Keith McKeon John and Mary McLaughlin Joanne Messenlehner Michael K. Miller Glenn and Dorothy Miller Linda Moncur Ada Moreira Andrew Morgan Lynn and Denise Morris Tarl and Valerie Morton Charles Yellak and Barbara Mullen David and Donna Nemeth Jennifer and John Ostrowski Sharon and Kathleen Peters Lois Prytherch Glenn and Sheri Recker Sharon and Adam Rosko Mary Joan Roth Cynthia Sadowsky Kathryn Schultz

Maureen and Stephan Seidel Seiple Engraving Co. Kim Siedt Richard and Orthia T. Skripek Jeffery and Mary Smith Helen K. Snyder Linda and James Spinelli Carole Steckel Nancyanne and William H. Steckel Melanie and Jeffrey Strouse Sandra and Paul Swedar Peter and Cherry Topping Barbara Varcos Joseph and Gail Vasko Lindsley and Corinna Van der Veer Alyson Warner Gary and Bonnie Wexler Marian Whitesell Nancy, Maribeth, Matthew and Mark Wicoff Kara Wilev David and Katie Wilke Tadd and Megan Williams Joan and James Willis Anna Marie and Theresa Wilson Gary R. Wolf



# In the Community

**115** Outreach Events **2,865** Total Attendees



Summer Camp







# In Remembrance

### Terri Sayago 1949-2023



Terri Sayago, who was a devoted member of the Library Board of Directors for the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity, will always be remembered. She loved the library and was appointed to the board during the summer of 2007.

"Terri was a wonderful colleague and mentor and helped guide the library to serve the community in so many ways. Her leadership, passion, and friendship will be greatly missed," said Holly Bennett, Executive Director of the Library. "She was one of our strongest supporters and biggest advocates and I will miss her presence at the library."

Since 2007, Terri served on the Library Board continuously including in roles of the President and Vice President. Terri was instrumental in organizing and implementing the annual Touch a Truck fundraiser and doubling the representation of all townships on the Library Board.

Terri lived the words of Chandini Portteus, "You fight for what's right, you set that vision of where we could be and then you go after it yourself."

<image>

"I love that the library has expanded its role in our community by offering a music program through its Ukulele Orchestra. It has provided enjoyment to both its young and senior members, beginners and ukulele virtuosos, by increasing their playing ability but more importantly by developing new friendships."

-John Peeters, Ukulele Orchestra Member





Talking Bookdrop





Ukulele Orchestra





at the chance to go spend time at the there- truly part of the community. I *cannot say enough good things about* 

2-7: Valentine

Making Studio

270 Children's Events

46 **68** Teen Adult Events Events

8,511 Total Attendees



3-2: Dr. Seuss's Birthday







3-23: Read to the Pups 

everyone there is so friendly and amazing, especially Miss

1-28:

**Raising Rabbits** 





8-21: Countdown to Kindergarten

"I love going upstairs, and getting like participating in the fun events--David Carty



2-22: Action Karate 







"I love the Nazareth Library! It is a welcoming place. There are always



7-6: Live Action Oregon Trail

# **Teen Advisory Board and Young Adult Programming**

The Teen Advisory Board had an amazing year: we more than doubled the membership, planned tons of amazing programs, and reorganized the Teen Room into a cool and calm study and hang space.





Preparing for Forest of Shadows Escape Room

"I love coming to the library, because I'm a big nerd at heart. I love reading and hanging out with my friends here; it's a great working environment." -Praneetha Rayi



12-12: Medieval Yuletide Fete



8-4: Forest of Shadows Escape Room









### Jr. Friends

The Jr. Friends of the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity are a volunteer group of energetic and passionate third through sixth graders who plan and lead events for children at the library.

14

Summer Reading

627 Juvenile Participants **46** Teen Participants 61 Adult Participants

MLNV Summer Reading













### Thank You to Our Sponsors:

East Lawn Supply Co., A Furry Tail Come True, State Farm Insurance (John F. Little), Murante Auto Repair, Nazareth Veterinary Center, Stehly's Bakery & Eats, Brian's Professional Services, Homestead Kennels and Cattery LLC, Hope Lock Kennels, Huth Insurance, Nazareth Army & Navy, Parlor Hair & Makeup Studio, Rita's Italian Ice of Nazareth, Vaughn's Talk of the Town Salon, Willow Settlement Services, Inc.

MEMORIAL LIBRARY OF NAZARETH AND VICINITY







### Thank You to Our Sponsors:

Brian's Professional Cleaning Services Co., Inc., BSI Corporate Benefits, C.F. Martin and Co., East Lawn Supply Co., Inc., Fidelity Bank, Hoch Accounting, Huth Insurance, Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital, Mario Andretti, Northampton Community College, Penn Quaker Site Contractors, Inc., PNC, Whitetail Disposal





**47** Vehicles

631

Attendees











# Serving



Borough of Nazaroth



# <u>CommunityPartnerships</u>



