

October 13, 2026



A New Chapter for the Clelian Heights Library

Since officially opening last school year, the new Clelian Heights library has become a welcoming place to explore books, enjoy stories and learn together. With a cozy reading nook and organized shelves, it's a space Ms. Suzanne and her son, Alex, are proud to share with students.

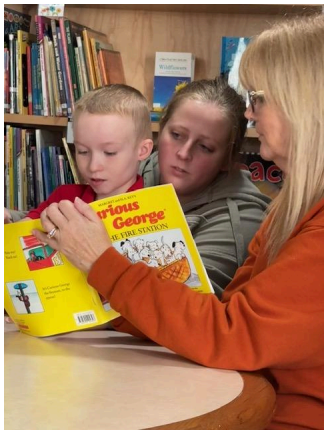
A former classroom teacher, Ms. Suzanne was surprised when she was asked to take on library classes a few years ago. Today, reading with the students is her favorite part of the role. Each class enjoys a song, a story and a related activity, with lessons adapted to students' ages, interests and individual needs.

For Alex, a Clelian Heights graduate and now library assistant, working here brings back fond memories. As a student, he helped former librarian Mrs. Clementi and organized book sales that raised money for the library, including the purchase of a Dr. Seuss clock that remains there today.

Now, Alex helps students choose books, checks books in and out, reshelves them and keeps the library organized. An enthusiastic reader himself, he especially enjoys fiction, including Harry Potter and Percy Jackson. His experience as a former student gives him a special connection with the students he assists.

One of the new library's greatest benefits is its accessibility. Every classroom can now visit, giving all students the opportunity to browse and choose their own books. Picture labels help students find what interests them, while seasonal displays invite them to discover something new.

Ms. Suzanne's goal was to create an organized, comfortable and calming space for everyone. Together, she and Alex have brought that vision to life—one book, one activity and one visit at a time.







Click to see Library Time with 108 & 201



Getting to Know our Community Helpers

A conversation about being a good neighbor sparked a new project at Clelian Center's ATF—one that is helping clients discover and appreciate the people who lend a hand every day.

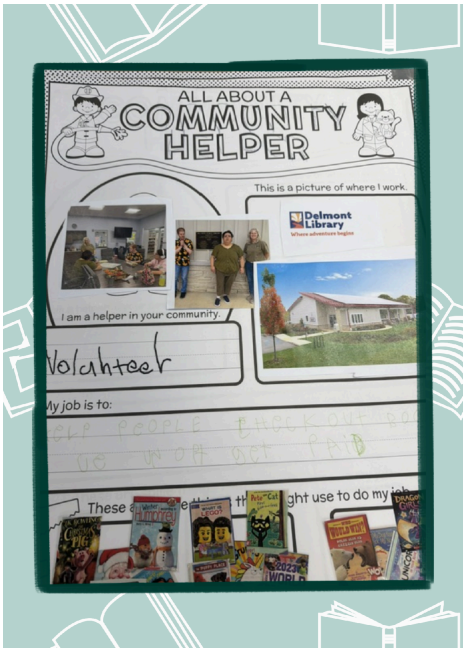
ATF Supervisor Lisa Campbell explained that the Community Helpers Project grew out of the program's daily recognition of national observances. In September, a discussion about National Good Neighbor Day led to talking about neighbors, their jobs, and the many ways people help one another.

Police officers and firefighters were familiar examples, but the conversation soon expanded to include librarians, volunteers, grocers, servers, and others whose work supports the people around them.

A visit to Chef Dato's Table brought that lesson to life. Their server, Jolee, demonstrated how kindness, attentiveness, and a welcoming approach can make a difference. For Lisa, it was a chance to show that community helpers are found in many occupations.

The project will continue through outings and opportunities to meet people and learn about their work. Ideas include visiting a farm and library. Lisa also hopes to welcome guest speakers to Clelian so clients who are unable to participate in outings can take part. A dental hygienist and someone who helps maintain the roads are among the possible visitors.

Above all, Lisa wants clients to better understand the work people do to help others. By recognizing those contributions, she hopes they will also feel encouraged to help others in their own everyday lives.







An Evening of Connection at Open House

Clelian Heights School welcomed families for Open House on September 24, 2026. It was a wonderful opportunity to visit classrooms, connect with teachers, staff, and therapists, and get a closer look at the learning and activities that fill our school days.

Families toured the building and explored its many features, including the pool, library, Clelian Café, and sensory room. Each stop offered a glimpse into the opportunities available to our students.

During a slide presentation, Dr. Melissa Fligger, Coordinator of Student Academics, shared school news and discussed FOCHO and the Transition to Work Program. Guests also enjoyed cookies, chips, and apples as they spent time together throughout the evening.

The night concluded with the Fall Home Event Drawing, with five winners each receiving $1,000. All proceeds benefited the construction of our new all-inclusive playground.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the evening special. We loved sharing what's happening at Clelian Heights and look forward to a wonderful school year together!











Our All-Inclusive Playground: One Step Closer!

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have raised enough money to purchase the equipment for our new all-inclusive playground! Delivery is expected before the end of 2026.

Our fundraising now continues for the next stages of the project: site grading, equipment installation, and rubber safety surfacing. We are also pursuing grants to help reach our goal of completing the capital campaign by summer 2027. With continued support, we hope to break ground in spring 2027 and complete the playground that summer.

This holiday season, your gift can go twice as far! Gifts made between now and New Year's Day will be matched dollar for dollar, up to $100,000, through our 2026 Holiday Matching Gift pledge.

Thank you for helping bring this all-inclusive playground closer to reality for our students and clients!



Click video to see our future playground!

-No Sound-



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