



Fall for Your Library

Saturday, September 19, 2026

“Fall for Your Library” is our largest fundraiser and the community’s premier food and beverage tasting event, featuring special food and wine/beer pairings, games, auctions, and music. FFYL will take place on Saturday, September 19, 6:00—9:00 p.m. at Celebrations, which is located at 8110 Steubenville Pike, Imperial, PA. Tickets are \$45 each and will be available for purchase starting in June.

Incentives for sponsors may include free tickets, advertising, and more! Contact Mackenzie Partyka at 724-695-8150 option 6 or partykam@westernallegHENYlibrary.org.

Tech Talk: Yes, there's an **App** for that!

The **Allegheny County Libraries App**, available free for Android or iOS, is one-stop-shopping for all the library has to offer. Check your account, request an item, and so much more—all with an easy tap on your mobile device!

- ★ Access your current checkouts, holds, and reading history
- ★ Search the catalog and request items
- ★ Find links to popular resources, including eBooks and databases
- ★ Show your digital library card at checkout
- ★ Link a child or other family card for convenient access to multiple accounts
- ★ See local library information and events
- ★ Get in-app notification about library closures or announcements

Search for "**Allegheny County Libraries**" in your Apple iOS or Google Play store, or visit our website to get started today!



Need a good gift idea? **Give the gift of reading!**



Need a graduation gift? Stuck on the perfect present for Mother’s or Father’s Day? Give the Gift of Reading!

Gift of Reading is a lasting way to remember a loved one, celebrate the accomplishment of

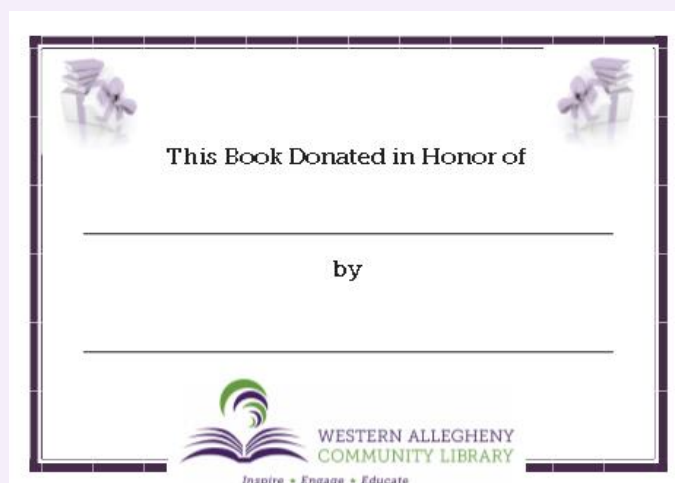
someone special, or just to acknowledge a friend's passion for reading.

With a tax-deductible contribution of \$25, you may choose a **Tribute** gift book, an **Honor** gift book, or a **Memorial** gift book. Additionally, you may indicate an age level and area of interest for the item. The library will then select the actual title to be purchased according to our Collection Development Policy.

Once the completed form and payment are received, we will purchase the book and insert a **personalized**

bookplate, and it will become part of our circulating collection. We will then notify the honoree (or next of kin) of your gift and invite them to be first to check the item out, or you can if you so request.

You can find **Gift of Reading** forms at the Front Desk or on our website under “Get Involved.” Ask any of our staff for more information. The library and all our readers thank you for your generous gift of reading!





WESTERN ALLEGHENY
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

News

Summer 2026

A Publication of Western Allegheny Community Library



Want the latest
**Library
news?**

Our **newsletters** are great, but if you aren't getting our **emails**, you're missing out! Here are just some of the things that will hit your inbox:

- Announcements (like closings)
- New programs & special events
- Reading ideas, and more!

We promise not to inundate you with emails—we only send a couple a week! You can also pick which topics you're interested in and opt out of others.

To sign up, go to our website and scroll down to the sign-up box underneath "**Library News.**" And be sure to add our email address (westallegHENY@westernallegHENYlibrary.org) to your safe senders so we won't land in spam!

Summer Reading returns @ the Library!

Join us in our summer-long celebration with a special theme of "**Unearth a Story.**" Take a look through this newsletter for all the programs we have planned for all ages, plus how to track your reading & activities on Beanstack for a chance to win great prizes!

SUMMER PROGRAM REGISTRATION



SATURDAY, MAY 16

Starting at 9:00 a.m., new summer programs for youth and adults will open for registration every hour on our website's Event Calendar to help give more community members a chance to register for programs. Don't be afraid of the waitlist; people cancel all the time!

Stop by the library for our newsletter, access the PDF online, or view the online calendar prior to May 16 to see what's in store for the summer.

Please thoroughly read all programming descriptions for age/grade ranges, occasional location changes, and other information.

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Programs for All Ages
Summer Reading Challenge
Special Events & Fundraisers
Tech Talk

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Sunday: CLOSED

Western Allegheny Community Library
181 Bateman Road
Oakdale, PA 15071
www.westernallegHENYlibrary.org
724-695-8150

FOLLOW US @WACLlibrary
& @WACLKidsAndTeens



Adult Programs

Please register online for all programs.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, May 30, 9:00 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Vitalant is once again holding a Blood Drive at the library. Appointments recommended! Check our website for details on donor eligibility & to sign up to participate in this worthy cause.

PUZZLE EXCHANGE

Wednesday, June 3

Bring a puzzle, take a puzzle! Bring in a gently used, complete puzzle and take one from our stack to share. Drop in any time 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. to make your trade, and then let the puzzle fun begin!

By Appointment

TECH TUTORING

By Appointment

Need help accessing our online resources? Having trouble with a specific software or mobile device? Request a one-on-one tech tutoring session! These classes typically last about 30 minutes and are available on a flexible schedule. Visit our website under "Programs & Services" or call 724-695-8150 x2 to request an appointment. Who needs the "Geeks" or "Geniuses" when you have a tech-savvy librarian?

Summer Reading Kickoff 2026

Saturday, May 16

Summer program registration opens on Saturday, May 16. Beginning at 9:00 a.m. on our Event Calendar on our website, programs will open up every hour to give more participants a chance to register. Make sure to check the calendar throughout the day, because some programs will fill up FAST. And don't be afraid of the waitlist; people cancel all the time!

Registration is required for all storytimes and events.

Look through this newsletter for your preview of programs so you are ready for kickoff day.

Please thoroughly read all programming descriptions for age/grade ranges, occasional location changes, and other information. We look forward to spending our summer with you!

Summer programs run June 1—August 7.

Summer Reading Challenge

We're back with Beanstack! Using the Beanstack app or logging in at the Beanstack website, you can track your reading and summer activities to earn tickets for the chance to win great prizes. Choose the challenge for your age group and get reading this summer!

The Summer Reading Challenge runs June 1—August 1, but you can pre-register starting May 16. See our website under "Books & More" for details on how to get started on Beanstack and get ready for summer reading!

EXAM PROCTORING

By Appointment

Did you know your library offers free exam proctoring? Students should submit their request at least two weeks in advance of the desired date, depending on the requirements of the school or testing entity. See our website under "Programs & Services" for details and fill out the form online or call 724-695-8150 x2 to request an appointment. There is no fee for this service, but a donation to the library would be appreciated!

NOTARY SERVICES

By Appointment

Notary services are now available at the library! One of our librarians is a registered Notary Public and can perform notary services by appointment only during open library hours. Please fill out the form on our website under "Programs & Services" or call 724-695-8150 x2 for an appointment. All parties to the transaction must have proper identification and be prepared to pay the required standard fees. See our website for more information and pricing.

Check out an experience with our Experience Passes!

Have you checked out an EXPERIENCE?

Thanks to partnerships with Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, and Heinz History Center Affiliates, we have been lending special experience passes for free admission to local attractions and museums. Check out our lineup—some are returning, and some are new for 2026!

Please Note: Experience passes are available on a first come, first served basis and check out for ONE week, NO renewals. Call the library or check the online catalog for availability and enjoy your adventures in the library—and beyond!

- ★ Heinz History Center (includes Fort Pitt Museum & Meadowcroft Rock Shelter)
- ★ Mattress Factory Museum
- ★ Pittsburgh Botanic Garden

New Passes Available June 1:

- ★ Beaver Area Heritage Museum, Fort McIntosh & 1802 Log House
- ★ Bradford House & Whiskey Rebellion Visitor Center
- ★ Gibson House a.k.a. Mark Twain Manor
- ★ Historic Fort Steuben
- ★ Lincoln Highway Experience
- ★ McKeesport Regional History & Heritage Center

**Attention Readers of ALL Ages:
Track your summer reading and activities
for the chance to win great prizes!**

UNEARTH A STORY™

with  **Beanstack**

Monday, June 1 - Saturday, August 1

Register for Beanstack by downloading the Beanstack Tracker app or going to waclibrary.beanstack.org

If registering on the app, choose School, Library, or Bookstore, and search for Western Allegheny Community Library (PA). Then tap Sign Up at the bottom of the screen.

**Questions? Contact Heather at
aumanh@westernalleghenylibrary.org**

School Age cont.

Grades 3—5

FAUX AGATE COASTERS

Tuesday, July 14

2:00—3:00 p.m.

We will use mod podge and other supplies to craft our own faux looking agate coasters. Create something unique and colorful for your space!

FAIRY LIGHT JARS

Tuesday, July 21, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Light up your nights with these fairy light mason jars! Use them to store your trinkets or simply bring you some light in the dark.

STEM ROBOT PINWHEEL INTERACTIVE CARDS

Tuesday, July 28, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Join us during this STEM program as we create a paper electronic card of a robot with an interactive spinning pinwheel!

STEP BY STEP PAINTING

Tuesday, August 4

2:00—3:00 p.m.

I scream, you scream we all scream for rainbow ice cream! We will follow along with Tracy Kiernan as we celebrate the last days of summer with a colorful painting of ice cream!

Teen Programs

Grades 6—12

DINOSAUR EYE SCULPTURES FOR TEENS

Monday, June 1, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Dinosaur eyes, they are watching you! Create a cool, textured, 3-D dinosaur eye with model magic!

TEEN TEST KITCHEN: DINO CHEESECAKE FLUFF

Monday, June 8

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Teen Test Kitchen is perfect for aspiring teen chefs and foodies, as well as complete novices who don't know how to boil water. This month we will be making dinosaur cheesecake fluff. Recommended for teens without food allergies.

JUNK JOURNAL WORKSHOP PART 1

Monday, June 15,

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Let's turn trash into treasure! In part 1 of this workshop, we will be transforming BORING composition notebooks into BIN-fluencer worthy journals! Notebooks and some materials will be provided, but we encourage you to bring your own "junk," photos, stickers, and anything you may want to fill your journal with. Anything goes!

SPARKLING DINOSAUR EGGS

Monday, June 22

6:00—7:00 p.m.

You don't need to know many TACK-tics to make these sparkling dinosaur eggs!

SCENT-SATIONAL FOSSILS

Monday, June 29

6:00—7:00 p.m.

We'll be making two scent-based crafts, if that doesn't BUG you! Between Amber Bug Soap and Clay Diffuser Disks, your space will smell like anything BUT coprolite.

BLOOMING POEMS

Monday, July 6

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Come SEER your poems blossom! We'll be using the popular origami fortune tellers to make bouquets of interchangeable poetry.

JUNK JOURNAL WORKSHOP PART 2

Monday, July 13, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Let's turn trash into treasure! In part 2 of this workshop, bring your journals from part 1, or your own journal or notebook if you missed out, as we go over how to make your first junk journal page! We encourage you to bring your own "junk," photos, stickers, and anything you want to fill your journal with.

TEEN TEST KITCHEN: CHOCOLATE ROCKS

Monday, July 20, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Teen Test Kitchen is perfect for aspiring teen chefs and foodies, as well as complete novices who don't know how to boil water. This month we will be making no-bake chocolate rocks. Recommended for teens without food allergies.

PEBBLE ART

Monday, July 27, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

This activity is anything but SEDIMENTARY! Use a variety of rocks and pebbles to create your own earthy masterpiece.

CLAY BEAN MOSAICS

Monday, August 3, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

It's BEAN real, but summer is almost over! Let's use air dry clay and beans to make some mosaics to remember the season by.

ADOPT-A-DINO MEME CONTEST

June 1—August 1

6 7! Does your dinosaur look like they're doing that pose? Or maybe they're particularly great at a TikTok dance? For teens only, use your dinosaur from Adopt-A-Dino to take pictures and create a meme, short story, or TikTok-style short video. Post them on Facebook with the hashtag #WACLDinoMemes and tag us @WACLKidsAndTeens for the chance to win a prize! One entry per post.

Need Volunteer hours? We need Volunteers!

Are you in need of volunteer hours or just want to help out at the library? We are currently accepting Volunteer applications for Summer 2026 for teens ages 13-17. Fill out a registration form on our website under "Youth Services—Teen Volunteering" and we will let you know if we have any openings! Questions? Contact Ollie at wiesenbacho2@westernallegHENYlibrary.org.

Adult Programs

25 WAYS TO STAY HEALTHY

Tuesday, June 2

3:30—4:30 p.m.

Discover how small, simple changes can lead to a healthier, more energized you. This engaging presentation explores easy, realistic ways to improve your daily habits and overall well-being—without overwhelming your routine. Presented by AmeriHealth Caritas.

CAREGIVING BANKING

Thursday, June 4

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Huntington Bank will be joining us to discuss their Caregiving Banking program. Caregiver Banking is designed for anyone who could use a little extra support with their finances, like aging adults, people in recovery, and adults with disabilities—helping you protect your loved ones while preserving their independence.

DIGITAL PATHWAYS: ONLINE HEALTH LITERACY PROGRAMMING

Tuesday, June 9

6:00—7:00 p.m.

This interactive introduction to the Library's Online Health Literacy resources will introduce you to the new services and "Library of Things" items that are part of Digital Pathways: Online Health Literacy Programming for Adults, a grant-funded initiative made possible through support from the American Library Association and UnitedHealthcare, designed to help adults build confidence in navigating online health information.

MAHJONG MEETUP

Wednesday, June 10

3:30—4:30 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon of strategy and friendly competition at our Mahjong Meetup. We have a Mahjong set or you are welcome to bring your own. Whether you're new or experienced, come play, learn, and connect with fellow enthusiasts.

FATHER'S DAY BREWS, BBQ, & BOOKS BASH

Thursday, June 11, 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Celebrate Father's Day with a relaxed evening of BBQ bites, brews, and great reads. Discover book recommendations, enjoy good food and drinks, and connect with others in a casual, social setting. Perfect for anyone looking to unwind and enjoy a fun night at the library. For adults only; age 21 & up.

AMERICAN RIVER CRUISES: TRAVEL, HISTORY, AND SCENERY

Tuesday, June 16

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Discover the unique experience of river cruising in the United States, exploring iconic waterways like the Mississippi, Columbia, and Ohio. Learn about routes, ship styles, onboard amenities, and what makes these scenic journeys special. Perfect for beginners or anyone looking to learn more about domestic river travel.

GARDENING EXCHANGE

Wednesday, June 17

3:30—4:30 p.m.

Connect with fellow gardeners at our Garden Exchange, a community event to swap plants, seeds, cuttings, gardening tools and gardening books. Donations may be dropped off starting June 15 or brought the day of the event—participation is welcome even if you don't donate. We especially appreciate contributions in good, usable condition to help expand the variety available.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Wednesday, June 24

& Tuesday, July 14

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Challenge your brain with fun, friendly trivia and a new theme each month. Play in teams of up to five—no team needed to register. Please register online for each night you plan to attend; limited space.
June: 80s & 90s Nostalgia Trivia
July: Ancient Wonders & Archaeological Enigmas Trivia

MANAGING YOUR MEDICATIONS

Thursday, June 18, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Join us for an insightful and empowering presentation by Dr. Elif Sonel, MD, MBA, as she explores the important topic of polypharmacy—when multiple medications become too much. In this engaging session, Dr. Sonel will explain what polypharmacy is, why it's so common among older adults, and the risks it can pose, including medication interactions, side effects, and increased fall risk. She will also introduce the concept of deprescribing, a thoughtful, patient-centered approach to reducing or eliminating unnecessary medications to improve overall health and quality of life. Attendees will walk away with practical tools and guidance on how to have meaningful conversations with their healthcare providers about their medications and care goals.

FOSTER PARENTING 101

Thursday, June 25, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Learn about becoming a foster parent at this informative session with a representative from Merakey Foster Care. Get an overview of the process and have your questions answered—perfect for anyone curious or ready to take the first step.

GARDENING & PLANT BINGO

Thursday, June 25, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Enjoy a laid-back afternoon of botanical-themed BINGO with flowers, herbs, and all things green. Win plant-themed prizes and join the fun with friendly competition. Suggested donation: a gardening-related item like seeds, books, tools, pots, or cuttings.

MILES, MORALE, AND MEMORIES: BOB HOPE AND WORLD WAR II

Thursday, July 2

3:30—4:30 p.m.

Join us for a screening of *Miles, Morale and Memories: Bob Hope and World War II*, narrated by Gary Sinise. This documentary highlights Bob Hope's efforts entertaining troops during World War II. Presented in conjunction with the World War II Foundation.

Adult Programs

Please register online for all programs.

WOMEN'S HEALTH

Tuesday, July 7, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Led by AmeriHealth Caritas, this session explores simple, effective steps to support a healthier lifestyle, including regular exercise and balanced nutrition. Participants will learn about heart disease prevention, mental health, breast and cervical cancer awareness, and how to communicate confidently with their doctor. Gain practical tools and guidance to better understand and manage your overall well-being.

ULYSSES S. GRANT: DEBUNKING LIES, MYTHS, & MISUNDERSTANDING

Thursday, July 9

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Popular myth in our age has distorted the truth about Ulysses S. Grant in many instances. This program is meant to give the guests a better understanding of who Grant really was by bringing him to life, where they can interact with him as a friend might and to learn more about who he really is. In this encounter, Ulysses S. Grant, aka Kenneth Serfass, will tell you how his reactions and decisions as a boy and young military officer shaped the man he became, and how those same incidents that led to those decisions were all part of a greater destiny than any of us could decide for ourselves to lead a "safe and good" life. Mr. Grant will be joining us virtually but attendees are to come to the library.

HER WAR, HER STORY:

WORLD WAR II

Thursday, July 16, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Join us for a screening of *Her War, Her Story: World War II*, highlighting the powerful experiences of women during the war—from the home front to the front lines. This documentary showcases stories of service, resilience, and sacrifice. Presented in conjunction with the World War II Foundation.

ADVENTURES IN ANTARCTICA AND SOUTH AMERICA

Thursday, July 23

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Travel the world without leaving your seat in this engaging presentation on South America and Antarctica. Enjoy stunning photos and personal stories featuring wildlife, culture, and unforgettable landscapes. Perfect for anyone who loves travel, nature, or photography.

SELF-PUBLISHING WORKSHOP

Monday, July 27

6:30—7:30 p.m.

"Indie" publishing has hit today's book market by storm, with many quality works and runaway bestsellers being generated by everyday self-published authors. Whether you have already tried traditional publishing or are just in the beginning stages of writing a novel, this workshop will go through the steps of print-on-demand and e-publishing via Amazon.com's Kindle Direct Publishing. Author H. L. Blake, who has self-published herself as well as assisted others, will demo this free, easy service followed by a Q&A.

THE ABC'S OF PITTSBURGH AVIATION

Tuesday, July 28

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Western Pennsylvania History magazine editor Brian Butko and public historian Sue Morris discuss the thrilling early days of flying in their new book, *Bettis: Where Pittsburgh Aviation Took Off*. Beginning in the 1920s, the daredevil women and men of West Mifflin's Bettis Field helped change the industry from barnstorming to passenger service in less than a decade.

SNACK BINGO

Thursday, July 30

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Enjoy a fun twist on a classic game with Snack BINGO, featuring tasty prizes from sweet to salty. Play multiple rounds in a relaxed, social setting—no supplies needed. Suggested donation: one snack.

PRESERVING MEMORIES

Wednesday, July 29

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Learn how to preserve your family's memories by digitizing 8mm films, VHS and VHS-C tapes, VideoDV, photographs, and slides. This presentation covers the basics of converting older formats to digital, helpful tools for editing and organizing, and reliable options for professional services. You'll also pick up tips for sharing your family history on platforms like YouTube and Instagram.

Book Clubs

BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB

1st Wednesdays

1:00—3:00 p.m.

If you love reading and connecting with fellow book lovers, the Bookworms Book Club is for you. As the library's longest-running club, we explore a new book each month across a variety of genres. Join us for lively discussions, share your thoughts, and make new friends. Please register online only once for the whole season; limited space.

June: *The Girl From Greenwich Street* by Lauren Willig

July: *The Blackbird Oracle* by Deborah Harkness

August: *Funny Story* by Emily Henry

WE BE BOOK'N

2nd Wednesdays

6:00—8:00 p.m.

Let's take reading on the road to some of our favorite local restaurants! Pick up a copy of the month's book from the circulation desk, read and jot down some questions, then make sure you RSVP for our book club evening out on the town. This is a "Dutch Treat" event. Please register online only once for the whole season to "reserve" your book and for restaurant RSVP information.

June: *From Potter's Field* by Patricia Cornwell, at Pepperoncini's Pub in Oakdale

July: *Sleep No More* by Jayne Ann Krentz, at Ava Mae's Bistro in Cuddy

August: *The Blue Hour* by Paula Hawkins, at Ya Fei in Robinson

MORE ADVANCED HAIR BRAIDING

Tuesday, July 28

3:00—4:00 p.m.

Carol Tague, an experienced stylist from Today's Hair, returns to teach more advanced braiding styles and techniques. You will have the chance to practice these new skills during the program.

POKÉMON CLUB

Saturday, June 13, Friday, June 26,

Saturday, July 11, Friday, July 24

1:00—2:00 p.m.

I choose you...to join our Pokémon Club! This is a time to trade, battle, or craft with fellow trainers, whether you're just beginning your journey, or have been here since Gen 1. All of the above will be available each of the four dates, and check out our planned events below.

June 13: Beginner Battle Class—Come learn how to play the trading card game using one of our TCG Battle Academy starter decks, or bring your own!

June 26: Pokémon Plush Show-and-Tell—Bring your own Pokémon plush to show others and tell us why it's so special to you!

July 11: Raid Battle—A co-operative battle format for more advanced players. Bring two of your strongest Pokémon (cards) or pick from two of our own, and battle with your friends to take down this Pokémon Boss!

July 24: Pokémon Origami—Learn to make various Pokémon from the Alolan region in Origami form!

School Age

Grades K—2

TAPE RESIST DINOSAUR ART

Monday, June 1, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

We put a T-REXcellent twist on this activity, because it's not extinct yet!

DINOSAUR SUNCATCHERS

Monday, June 8, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

We're STOMPING on sunshine with these dinosaur themed suncatchers! This is a colorful craft to make and leave on your window all summer long, sure to warm any cold-blooded dinos!

STEM-OSAURUS EXPLORERS

Monday, June 15

4:30—5:15 p.m.

Do you have what it takes to be a STEM-osaur? Try out our various dinosaur-themed STEM stations, from puzzles, to fossils, to volcanoes! Caregiver is required for the entirety of the program.

MAKE YOUR OWN DINOSAUR EGGS FOR GRADES K—2

Monday, June 22, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

Create a one of a kind dinosaur egg using clay, watercolors, and gems!

PASTA PALEONTOLOGY

Monday, June 29, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

There are so many PASTA-bilities when it comes to dinosaur skeletons—and now you can make your own! We'll be using various types of uncooked pasta to assemble our favorite dinosaurs in SPAGHELETON form!

ERUPTING DINOSAUR SLIME

Monday, July 6

4:30—5:15 p.m.

You'll LAVA this dino-mite slime! Just don't blow your top - this slime will do it for you!

THE FLOOR IS LAVA

Monday, July 13

4:30—5:15 p.m.

Watch out! The floor is lava! Jump through this volcano-themed obstacle course with your friends to find pieces of a mysterious artifact. Can you find all the pieces and put them together before the volcano explodes?

3D PAPER TURTLES

Monday, July 20

4:30—5:15 p.m.

What first comes to mind when thinking about 260 million years ago? Turtles! Well, maybe not, but let's make some 3D turtle art anyway!

MAKE YOUR OWN STICKERS

Monday, July 27

4:30—5:15 p.m.

Once you know how to do it, this technique will be stuck on you forever!

SUGAR AND GLUE GEODES

Monday, August 3, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

Don't take a geode for GRANITE! We'll be using sugar and food coloring to make these foil rocks shine!

School Age

Grades 3—5

DIY CANVAS TOTE BAGS

Tuesday, June 2, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

This is going to be a tote-ally fun program! We will provide the bags and the paint, you bring the talent and imagination!

DINOSAUR EYE SCULPTURES FOR GRADES 3—5

Tuesday, June 9, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Dinosaur eyes, they are watching you! Create a cool, textured, 3-D dinosaur eye with model magic!

HISTORY IN BRICKS

Tuesday, June 16

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Create prehistoric landscapes and dinosaurs with LEGOs. Finished products will be displayed in the library for the summer!

TAPE RESIST ART

Tuesday, June 23

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Don't resist! Sign up to create a dinosaur themed (or theme of your choice) masterpiece!

MAKE YOUR OWN DINOSAUR EGGS FOR GRADES 3—5

Tuesday, June 30

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Create a one of a kind dinosaur egg using clay, watercolors and gems!

CRITTER BOTS

Tuesday, July 7

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Robot builders will use their creativity and dexterity skills to create unique vibrating critters that will move on their own!

Children & Family

Please register online for all programs.

ADOPT-A-DINO

June 1—13

"I wish I had a dinosaur as a pet..." Well now you can! We will have adoptable dinosaurs of various shapes, sizes, and colors hidden throughout the library. If you find one you like and it has an "adopt me" sign attached, take it to the Youth Services desk to receive your adoption certificate! Make sure you're a responsible owner though—you'll need your new pet if you want to enter one of our two dinosaur-themed contests! Only one dinosaur per person, while supplies last.

ADOPT-A-DINO PHOTO CONTEST

June 1—August 1

Would you take your dino to the pool or on vacation? Would you let them have a tea party with their other dinosaur friends? Take photos of your dinosaur from Adopt-a-Dino in the most mundane or absurd places as you enjoy your summer. Post them on Facebook with the hashtag #WACLDino and tag us @WACLKidsAndTeens for the chance to win a prize! One entry per post.

MULTIGENERATIONAL PROGRAM: DINO-RAMAS

Thursday, June 4, 4:00—5:00 p.m.

Bring a shoe box or similar container along with your creativity and create a dinosaur dino-rama to display at the library for our Summer Reading program, "Unearth A Story!" We will have limited supplies on hand, or you can bring your own. Adults are welcome and encouraged to join in on the fun! Young children will need to bring a caregiver with them. Please register each person who will need supplies.

MULTIGENERATIONAL STORYTIME WITH BOONE THE SERVICE DOG

Wednesday, June 10, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

Tanya Diable and her service dog, Bow Tie Boone, join us to read their book entitled *Bow Tie Boone!* Come listen to their story and meet Boone in person!

ADAM SWARTZ PUPPET SHOW

Thursday, June 18, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Set off on an adventure to find a missing archeologist! Leading the expedition is Joe Flashlight, puppet detective, who will use science and imagination to dig for clues, encounter new and different creatures, and need lots of help from the audience along the way. This noir-style story is sure to inspire creative & critical thinkers of all ages.

TEA-REX PARTY

Wednesday, June 24, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

A special storytime for our tea-loving T-Rex guest... And you all of course! There will be a story, some songs, light snacks and drinks, and a small craft. Open to all ages but best for children in preschool—Kindergarten.

ICEMAN REPTILES

Thursday, June 25, 4:00—5:00 p.m.

Scott Hollabaugh from Iceman Reptiles leads an exciting, interactive, and educational program with his reptiles! He promises if you don't love reptiles now, you will after attending this program!

HAIR BRAIDING FOR BEGINNERS

Tuesday, June 30, 3:00—4:00 p.m.

Carol Tague, an experienced stylist from Today's Hair, joins us to teach how to braid hair; whether you are braiding your own hair or the hair of a friend or loved one. You will have the chance to practice these new skills during the program.

TREE FAMILY PARTY PIGGIES

Thursday, July 9, 3:45—4:45 p.m.

The Tree Family Party Piggies will make you squeal with delight! Watch them do tricks, feed and pet them, and enjoy a photo op! For families of all ages; caregivers must attend with children. Please register all attendees of any age online; limited space.

FAMILY CANDY BINGO

Saturday, July 11

11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

B*I*N*G*O! Bring your family of all ages to play BINGO for candy prizes! Register each person who will be playing.

MULTIGEN. STORYTIME WITH BOONE THE SERVICE DOG, PART 2

Wednesday, July 15, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

Tanya Diable and her service dog, Bow Tie Boone, return to share their second story entitled *BowTie Boone Meets Gary the Shy Groundhog*. Come listen to their story and meet Boone in person!

THE BUG LADY

Thursday, July 16, 4:00—5:30 p.m.

Mary Gall "The Bug Lady" leads an exciting, interactive, informational program introducing attendees to the world of entomology by sharing interesting facts about various species of insects and arachnids as she walks through the attendees letting everyone see them up close! She will stay at the conclusion of the program for questions and holding or handling those insects that are safe to do so.

TRACKS & SCAT

Wednesday, July 22, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

Chloe Kalp, an Environmental Education Specialist from the PA Game Commission, will talk about identifying animal tracks and scat in our local area. Participants can make track stamps with mud!

AC PARKS & MR. MC SLITHERS

Sat. July 25, 11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Meet the Allegheny County Park Ranger's educational reptile, an Eastern Black Rat Snake named Mr. McSlithers. Learn about his habitat, diet and everyday life.

MULTIGEN. COLORING CLUB

Fridays, June 5—August 7

10:00—11:30 a.m.

Do you enjoy coloring or doodling? This is a *new* multigenerational program to sit and enjoy coloring with people of all ages in your community. We will provide the supplies and you supply the talent! Of course, you can bring your own coloring supplies if you prefer! For our younger attendees, we ask that a caregiver stay present as the program is open to all ages. Register so we know how many people to expect. You may drop in anytime during the program.

Crafts & More

CRAFT NIGHT

First Tuesdays

June 2 & July 7

5:30—7:30 p.m.

On craft night, your creativity can run wild! Each month we'll provide all the supplies & know-how needed to create various simple & fun decorative craft projects.

June: Teacup Bird Feeder

July: American Flag Cork Trivet

CRAFTERNOON

3rd Wednesday of the Month

June 17 & July 15

11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Can't make it to our Craft Night? Try Crafternoon! The same craft will be provided as Craft Night each month. All materials will be provided, but you need to bring the creativity!

June: Teacup Bird Feeder

July: American Flag Cork Trivet

NO-SEW JUNK JOURNALING

Wednesday, June 3

10:30—11:30 a.m.

Unleash your creativity in this hands-on junk journaling workshop, where you'll turn everyday scraps into a personalized journal. Explore self-expression and storytelling using mixed media in a relaxed, welcoming environment—no experience needed. Basic materials are provided, but feel free to bring meaningful items to include such as photos, tickets and other memorable items.

PAINT NIGHT: DESERT GOLDEN HOUR

Thursday, June 4 OR July 2

5:30—7:30 p.m.

Spend a creative evening painting a desert scene at the golden hour, perfect for welcoming the Summer season. The featured design is by Step-by-Step Painting artist Tracie Kiernan. To allow more community members to participate, this program is offered on two dates; please register for only ONE session.

ZENTANGLE TILE ART

Tuesday, June 9, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Discover the relaxing art of Zentangle® in this hands-on workshop. Learn to draw simple, repetitive patterns on ceramic tiles in a calming, beginner-friendly environment—no experience needed.

HOOKED ON CROCHET

Tuesday, June 23, 5:30—7:30 p.m.

Learn to crochet classic granny squares in this workshop—perfect for all skill levels. Your squares will be combined into a community quilt or blanket. Come craft and connect.

HOOKED ON CROCHET

BEGINNER CLASS

Tuesday, June 30, 5:30—7:30 p.m.

Curious about crochet? Join this beginner-friendly class to learn basic stitches and start a simple project. No experience needed—just come relax, get creative, and build confidence in a welcoming environment.

CRICUT CREATIONS

Tuesday, July 21, 4:00—7:00 p.m.

Curious about Cricut or looking to build your skills? Join this hands-on workshop to learn Cricut Design Space, materials, and machine basics while creating a simple take-home project using the library's equipment.

POP ART PET PORTRAIT PAINTING

Wednesday, July 22, 5:30—7:30 p.m.

Create a vibrant pop art—style portrait of your pet in this fun, beginner-friendly painting class. All supplies and guidance are provided—just email a photo of your pet at least one week in advance to have it ready. Leave with a colorful masterpiece celebrating your furry (or feathered or scaly) friend!



Summer Reading is for ADULTS too! See page 11 for how to track your reading and activities to win prizes with Beanstack.

Cooking Events

COOKBOOK CLUB

3rd Thursdays, June 18 & July 16

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Cookbook Club will leave your mouth watering and your recipe box full. Choose a recipe from the featured book at the library, prepare it at home, and bring it to share. Don't forget a container for any leftovers! Please register online for each individual program; limited space.

June: *Summer in the Country* and *The Beach House Cookbook*

July: *The American Diner Cookbook* and *The Official Dollywood Cookbook*

FOCACCIA BREAD ART

Tuesday, June 23, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

Create an edible masterpiece with Amy Ziegler in this fun, hands-on focaccia bread art class. Use fresh veggies and herbs to design a garden-inspired creation—no experience needed. Take home your one-of-a-kind focaccia ready to bake and enjoy!

Tech Programs

YOUR LIBRARY...ONLINE!

Monday, June 15

6:30—7:15 p.m.

Need help navigating the online public access catalog (OPAC)? We'll run through an overview of the Bibliocommons catalog including creating an account, accessing your history, finding items, placing holds, and viewing & renewing checked out items.

YOUR LIBRARY...ON THE GO!

Monday, July 13

6:30—7:15 p.m.

Yes, there's an app for that! The Allegheny County Libraries app, available free for Android or iOS, is a one-stop-shopping spot for all the library has to offer. Check your online account, request an item, or find an eBook—on the go, anytime, anywhere. Bring in your smartphone or other device and we'll get you started, and you'll never be without your library again!



WESTERN ALLEGHENY
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

April 1, 2026



Dear Library Friend,

At Western Allegheny Community Library, **each day is filled with meaningful moments**. Children discover a love of reading, teens give their time through volunteer service, and neighbors connect through shared interests and new skills. For many, the library is more than a building. It is a place to feel welcome, supported, and inspired. **Those moments happen because of you.**

Your generosity helps ensure that everyone in our community has access to books, programs, technology, and a space where they can learn and belong.

THIS IS WHAT YOUR SUPPORT MAKES POSSIBLE

A Library Full of Life

71,000+ visits each year

Every visit represents someone finding a place to learn, connect, and feel welcome.

A Community of Readers

13,000+ active cardholders

Your support keeps our library at the heart of the community, serving thousands of neighbors.

Learning That Brings People Together

700+ programs offered | 16,000+ attendees

From storytime to workshops, these programs foster connection and discovery.

Access to Books, Media & More

150,000+ items checked out annually

Free access to books, movies, and materials ensures everyone can explore, learn, and grow.

As we launch our Spring Appeal, we invite you to **make a gift** to help sustain and expand these opportunities. No matter the size, your contribution directly supports the programs and services that bring our community together.

You can give online at www.westernalleghenylibrary.org, by scanning the below QR code, or in person at the library. **Every gift truly makes a difference.**

Thank you for being such an important part of our library community. Your support ensures that these moments continue for years to come.

With gratitude,

Mackenzie Partyka
Library Director



P.S. Every gift, no matter the size, helps us continue serving our community each day.

Children & Family

Please register online for all programs.

Summer Reading Kickoff Saturday, May 16

Summer Program Registration

Summer program registration opens on **Saturday, May 16**. Beginning at 9:00 a.m. on our Event Calendar on our website, programs will open up every hour to give more participants a chance to register. Make sure to check the calendar throughout the day, because some programs will fill up FAST. And don't be afraid of the waitlist; people cancel all the time! **Registration is required for all storytimes and events.**

Look through this newsletter for your preview of programs so you are ready for kickoff day. Please thoroughly read all programming descriptions for age/grade ranges, occasional location changes, and other information. We look forward to spending our summer with you! **Summer programs run June 1—August 7.**

Summer Reading Challenge

We're back with **Beanstack!** Using the Beanstack app or logging in at the Beanstack website, you can track your reading and summer activities to earn tickets for the chance to win great prizes. Choose the challenge for your age group and get reading this summer!

The Summer Reading Challenge runs June 1—August 1, but you can pre-register starting May 16. See our website under "Books & More" for details on how to get started on Beanstack and get ready for summer reading!

In addition this year, children can also track their reading with a form available in Youth Services to qualify for small weekly prizes upon completion. You are welcome to track both ways, but please note that tickets for raffle prizes are exclusively online through Beanstack.

Storytimes & More

Storytimes run June 1—August 7

BABY RHYME TIME

Wednesdays

9:30—10:00 a.m.

Enjoy the company of other babies and caregivers while we bounce, sing and read a story! Best for babies ages 3-24 months with a caregiver. Please register child online only once for the whole season.

LITTLES STORYTIME

Tuesdays OR Wednesdays

10:30—11:00 a.m.

Welcome back to storytime where we shake our sillies out, sing songs, and read stories! Great for toddlers to preschool aged children. Please register child online only once for the whole season. NOTE: Please register to attend either Tuesdays OR Wednesdays.

SENSORY FRIENDLY STORYTIME

Thursdays, 10:30—11:00 a.m.

This inclusive storytime is designed for autistic and neurodivergent children, as well as those with other developmental differences. Our sensory-friendly experience includes a visual schedule, consistent songs and movement that change every month instead of every week, and interactive books for those who may be sensory-seeking or sensory-avoidant. This will be followed by open exploration activities that promote socialization and motor skills. Fidget toys, noise-cancelling headphones, and weighted lap blankets are provided if desired, but your own are just as welcome! Please register for every storytime you plan to attend.

BOOKS & BUDDIES

Thursdays

12:00—12:30 p.m.

Listen to a story, then do an activity with your preschool friends! Every week is a different activity. Register for each individual session. For preschool aged children with a caregiver. Please register child online for each week you want to attend; limited space.

June 4: Dinosaur Resist Art

June 11: Dino Dance Party

June 18: Stegosaurus Hand Prints

June 25: Dino Discovery Eggs

July 2: Patriotic Suncatchers

July 9: Wet-on-Wet Watercolor Dinosaurs

July 16: Playdough Fossils

July 23: Worm Painting

July 30: The Floor is Lava

Aug 6: Paper Plate Flowers

STORY STROLL@ Clinton Park

Fridays, June 5 & 19, July 17 & 31

9:30—10:30 a.m.

Get your strollers and walking shoes ready! Guided story strolls will happen Friday mornings beginning at 9:30 a.m. with a visit to the Book Bus at the end! Please register in case the story stroll is cancelled due to bad weather (too rainy or too hot!).

STORY STROLL@ Donaldson Park

Fridays, June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24

9:30—10:30 a.m.

Get your strollers and walking shoes ready! Guided story strolls will happen Friday mornings beginning at 9:30 a.m. with a visit to the Book Bus at the end! Please register in case the story stroll is cancelled due to bad weather (too rainy or too hot!).

Summer Reading returns June 1—August 1



WACL is once again participating in Beanstack Summer Reading with the special theme "Unearth a Story"! Visit our website for the link to Beanstack to record your **reading**, complete **challenges**, & earn **rewards**, including chances to win prizes! Pre-register starting May 16.