



Fall for Your Library

Saturday, September 20, 2024

"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 20, 6:00—10:00 p.m. at Celebrations, which is located at 8110 Steubenville Pike, Imperial, PA. Tickets 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!



This Book Donated in Honor of

by



WESTERN ALLEGHENY
COMMUNITY LIBRARY
Inspire • Engage • Educate



WESTERN ALLEGHENY
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

News

Summer 2025

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!

WHAT'S INSIDE:

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

SUMMER HOURS (starting May 25):

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 @WACLibrary
& @WACKidsAndTeens



Summer Reading returns @ the Library!

Join us in our summer-long celebration with a special theme of "**Color Our World.**" 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 17

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 17 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.



Adult Programs

Please register online for all programs.

SUMMER READING FINALE:

“COLOR OUR WORLD”

TINY ART SHOW

Saturday, August 2

As readers complete their summer reading challenge on Beanstack, they'll be offered a blank tiny canvas to enter our Color Our World Tiny Art Show! More information will be emailed to summer readers as they complete their challenge, including a special painting day in July. Whether you have a piece in our Tiny Art Show or not, stop by during open hours to admire our readers' creativity! Please register online if you would like a reminder email.

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 2025

Saturday, May 17

Summer registration for all ages opens on Saturday, May 17. 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!

Look through this newsletter for your preview of programs so you are ready for kickoff day. Please thoroughly read all descriptions for age ranges, registration requirements, occasional location changes, and other information. We look forward to spending our summer with you!

Summer Reading Challenge

We're back with Beanstack! Using the Beanstack app or logging in at the Beanstack website, all ages (including adults!) 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 from June 1—July 25; pre-register starting May 17. 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! Our librarian Heather Auman 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 2025!

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:

- ★ Bushy Run Battlefield
- ★ Captain William Vicary Mansion
- ★ Depreciation Lands Museum
- ★ Duncan & Miller Glass Museum
- ★ Gibson House Manor (Mark Twain Manor)
- ★ Harmony Museum
- ★ Historic Fort Steuben

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



COLOR OUR WORLD

with  **Beanstack**

Sunday, June 1 - Friday, July 25

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? Ask Lexi at mulvihilla2@westernalleghenylibrary.org

School Age

Grades 3—5

DIAMOND ART BOOKMARKS

Tuesday, June 3, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Get ready to dazzle and be bedazzled with these rocking diamond art bookmarks. You will get to choose and bead your very own bookmark to take with you, that is sure to shimmer today and shine tomorrow! For kids entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

SHARPIE SCIENCE WITH ALCOSAN

Tuesday, June 10, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Look sharp with ALCOSAN! Experiment with solubility, color mixing, and the movement of molecules by using hydrophobic markers and rubbing alcohol. For kids entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

TASTE MAKERS: UNDER THE SEA GRAHAM CRACKERS

Tuesday, June 17, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

I carrot wait to get cooking with the Taste Makers! Learn basic cooking skills while making tasty treats. This month will be a splash with Under The Sea Graham Crackers. Recommended for kids without food allergies. For kids entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

ELECTRICITY WITH MAD SCIENCE

Tuesday, June 24, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Excite electrons as you construct some serious circuits during this program all about electricity! Test various materials for conductivity with space-age plasma balls, then create and play a buzz-making electric game. For kids entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

OBSTACLE COURSE FOR GRADES 3-5

Tuesday, July 1, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

This cardio wont be hardio because being fit is lit! Test your fitness with this obstacle course by running the course alone then relay race with your friends. For children entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

MICROSCOPE EXPLORATION AT RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

Tuesday, July 8, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Enjoy the little things at Raccoon Creek State Park! You'll be looking at different samples of things in nature: pond water, moss, lichen, etc. under a microscope and drawing/talking about your observations. A caregiver must be in attendance. For grades 3-5; register online.

TASTE MAKERS: BEACH BEAR SAND

Tuesday, July 15, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

I carrot wait to get cooking with the Taste Makers! Learn basic cooking skills while making tasty treats. This month will be just beachy with Beach Bear Sand. Recommended for children without food allergies. For kids entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

TAPE RESIST ART FOR GRADES 3—5

Tuesday, July 22, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

Art-thusiasts are invited to celebrate color and negative space with this easy and fun process art project! For kids entering grades 3-5. Please register child online; limited space.

Teen Programs

Grades 6—12

STEP BY STEP PAINTING: ICE CREAM CONE

Monday, June 2, 5:45-7:15 p.m.

You'll melt over this delightful art night using Step-by-Step Painting by Tracie Kiernan and acrylic paints to create a cute and fun ice cream cone. For teens entering grades 6-12. Please register teen online; limited space.

TEEN TEST KITCHEN: LO MEIN WITH CHEF SOFYA

Monday, June 9, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Calling all chefs to join Chef Sofya for a cooking lesson in Lo Mein, making a dish from scratch and "traveling" to the Far East! Teen Test Kitchen is perfect for aspiring teen chefs and foodies, as well as complete novices who don't know how to boil water. Recommended for teens without food allergies. For grades 6-12. Please register teen online; limited space.

BUBBLE ART

Monday, June 16, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Soap up the excitement, you're in for a bubbly ride! You'll be making different colored bubbles, blowing them, and then transferring them to paper to make beautiful artwork. For grades 6-12. Register online; limited space.

STENCILED TOTE BAGS

Monday, June 23, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Today is about to be tote-ally awesome! Get ready to show off your new tote with your own specially designed stencil. For teens entering grades 6-12. Register online; limited space.

FISHING 101 AT RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

Monday, June 30, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

It is oh-fish-ial, you're going to have a fin-tastic time at Raccoon Creek State Park! Learn how to fish including knot-tying, fish identification, and fishing techniques. A caregiver must be in attendance. For grades 6-12. Register online; limited space.

TEEN TEST KITCHEN: FRUIT PIZZA

Monday, July 7, 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 you will make a colorful and tasty fruit pizza. Recommended for teens without food allergies. For grades 6-12. Please register teen online; limited space.

JEWELRY MAKING

Monday, July 14, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Wrist assured, this bracelet rocks! You and your friends will be able to make bracelets and jewelry to your heart's content. From sun beads to rainbow looms, friendship bracelets and more! Use our supplies or bring your own! For teens entering grades 6-12. Please register online; limited space.

TAPE RESIST ART FOR TEENS

Monday, July 21, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

This art piece really draws a crowd! Celebrate color and negative space with this easy and fun process art project. For grades 6-12. Please register teen online; limited space.



NEW 2025 HOURS

Beginning the week of May 25,
our library hours will be as follows:

Mon - Thurs	9:00am - 8:00pm
Friday	9:00am - 4:00pm
Saturday	9:00am - 4:00pm
Sunday	CLOSED



WESTERN ALLEGHENY
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

181 Bateman Rd, Oakdale PA | (724) 695-8150

Book Clubs

BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB

1st Wednesdays, June 4 & July 2
1:00—3:00 p.m.

If you love reading and connecting with fellow book lovers, the Bookworms Book Club is the place for you! As the longest-running book club at the Western Allegheny Community Library, we explore a new title each month across a variety of genres. Come share your thoughts, enjoy lively discussions, and make new friends in the process. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online only once for the whole summer season; limited space.
June: *Bellewether* by Susanna Kearsley
July: *Old Lion* by Jeff Shaara

WE BE BOOK'N

2nd Wednesdays, June 11 & July 9
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. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online only once for the whole summer season to "reserve" your book and for restaurant RSVP information.
June: *My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry* by Fredrik Backman, at Bahama Breeze in Robinson
July: *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone* by Benjamin Stevenson, at Bravo in Robinson

Don't forget:
**Summer Reading is
for ADULTS too! See
page 11 for how to
track your summer
reading and activities
to win prizes with
Beanstack.**

Adult Programs

Please register online for all programs.

PUZZLE EXCHANGE

Wednesday, June 4

9:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

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!

EVITCHKA: A TRUE STORY OF SURVIVAL, HOPE, AND LOVE

Thursday, June 5, 6:30—7:30 p.m.

Eva "Evitchka" Ritter has an incredible story. She and her family survived the Holocaust in Czechoslovakia. Stephanie Smartschan and Lawrence Levitt will be joining us virtually to discuss her life. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

UNEARTHING PENNSYLVANIA'S GEOLOGIC SECRETS WITH RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

Thursday, June 19, 6:00—7:00 p.m.

Get ready to dig into the fascinating world of geology in this hands-on program! Explore the mysteries of the three types of rock while uncovering the secrets of minerals and fossils including the process of fossil formation and how these relics tell the story of Earth's past. Raccoon Creek State Park will provide real rock and fossil samples from Pennsylvania, giving you a unique opportunity to touch and examine these ancient treasures. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

BIRDING IN THE BACKYARD WITH ALLEGHENY LAND TRUST

Wednesday, July 9, 2:30—3:30 p.m.

Curious about birds that you have seen or heard in your backyard? Allegheny Land Trust will be discussing identifying characteristics and calls of birds that might reside in your backyard. For adults only, age 18 & up. Register online; limited space.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Tuesday, July 15

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Get ready for a scoop of fun at our Ice Cream Social at the library! Meet new friends and socialize with old ones while enjoying a dish of ice cream with some fun fixins in the library backyard (weather permitting!). Music will be provided by the Steel City Ukeleles. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

PITTSBURGH'S HISTORIC BALLPARKS WITH MARK FATLA

Thursday, July 17

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Pittsburgh has an incredible baseball history with great players, teams, and historic moments, but few realize that Pittsburgh has often been in the lead in ballpark design and development. Mark Fatla, lifelong baseball fan and author of *Pittsburgh's Historic Ballparks* (Arcadia Press, 2023) chronicles the nine ballparks that hosted major league baseball in Pittsburgh between 1876 and the present, including the Negro Leagues. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

BEEKEEPING 101 WITH HANK "THE BEE GUY" BRINZER

Thursday, July 24

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Whether you know a lot about bees or are just curious to learn about beekeeping, this is the perfect place to step into the exciting world of beekeeping. Hank Brinzer, local beekeeper, will discuss the basics of bee care, hive management, and honey harvesting. You might even be able to sample some honey if nature allows! For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

HEALTHY LIVING FOR YOUR BODY & BRAIN

Thursday, August 7

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Aging doesn't have to be a pain. Learn how to age well! The Penn State Extension Office

will share information about current research on healthy aging and brain health, why you should take care of yourself as you age, and practical strategies involving cognitive activity, physical health and exercise, diet and nutrition, and social engagement. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

Ongoing Events

CARD CLUB

2nd & 4th Mondays

June 9, June 23, July 14, July 28

3:00—5:00 p.m.

What's your game? Whether it's hearts, rummy, sevens, or anything else you can play with a deck of cards, come to our card club and deal away. We'll make sure you won't have to play "solitaire!" For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online only once for the whole summer season; limited space.

TRIVIA NIGHT

2nd Tuesdays

June 10 & July 8

6:30—7:30 p.m.

Challenge your brain! Knowledge, fun, and friendly competition come together. The theme will change each month. Play trivia in teams of no more than five people. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online for each trivia night you wish to attend; limited space.

June: Food and Drink Trivia

July: History of America Trivia

BOARD GAME NIGHT

4th Wednesdays

June 25 & July 23

6:00—7:30 p.m.

Ready, set, roll the dice! Or deal the card! Or DON'T be sorry! Enjoy sharing your strategy, skill, and luck with others by choosing a game from our collection to play together or feel free to bring one from home. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online for each individual program; limited space.

School Age

Grades K—2

EXPLODING PAINT BOMBS

Monday, June 2

4:30—5:15 p.m.

Baby, you dropped a bomb on me during this fun and exciting art project! Using a chemical reaction with Alka-Seltzers, you will make explosive artwork. For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

CHEM IN A FLASH WITH MAD SCIENCE

Wednesday June 4

1:00—2:00 p.m.

Take a trip through several fields of chemistry and discover the factors that can change the rate of a reaction! Observe a hands-on demonstration of oxidation is, experience a balloon-expanding experiment to test limiting reagents, and wrap up with a color-changing electrolysis demonstration. For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

ETIQUETTE WITH CHEF SOFYA

Monday, June 9

4:30—5:15 p.m.

Imagine you are invited to a High Tea by Prince Charles. Do you know the etiquette? Do you know how to sit, eat, and converse properly? How about the proper way to pass butter and preserves, what to do with a napkin, or how to enter and exit your chair? You'll learn how to dine like royalty in this class with Chef Sofya! For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

CREEK CRITTERS AT RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

Wednesday June 11, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

This program is going to be ribbiting! Join us at Raccoon Creek State Park for an informative and super fun program on our areas creek critters. We'll be getting hands on in streams to learn about the critters, so dress appropriately. A caregiver must be in attendance. For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

WIND CHIMES WITH AN ADULT

Monday, June 16

4:30—5:15 p.m.

This program is sure to be a breeze! Build and decorate a lovely wind chime with your favorite adult for outside your window. For children entering grades K-2 with an adult. Please register child online; limited space.

TIE-DYE BEARS

Wednesday June 18

1:00—2:00 p.m.

Drop, dribble, squirt, and scribble! Each Tie-Dye Teddy Bear will be as unique as its little creator. You will stuff and tie-dye your own special teddy bear to take home. For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

PH PHACTOR WITH MAD SCIENCE

Monday, June 23

4:30—5:15 p.m.

Explore the crazy chemistry of acids and bases in this fascinating program on the pH scale! The pH Phactors hydrogen and hydroxide give a colorful introduction, and the Phantastic pH test is applied to common household chemicals. You'll even be challenged to bring a mystery liquid to a perfect pH balance. For grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

OBSTACLE COURSE FOR GRADES K-2

Wednesday June 25, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

AND Monday, June 30, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

Feel the burn and earn your turn with an obstacle course then group parachute time! For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online for either session; limited space.

SCREEN PRINTING WITH CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH

Wednesday July 2

1:00—2:00 p.m.

Ink outside the box and explore the concept of positive and negative space to create your own screen print design with the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh! For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

PIGGY BANK PAINTING

Monday, July 7, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

I'm banking that you'll have a squealing good time and be able to save lots with a new piggy bank. Decorate and take home your very own piggy bank! For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

NOCTURNAL ADVENTURES WITH ALLEGHENY LAND TRUST

Wednesday July 9, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

Whoo whooo loves the creatures of the night? Allegheny Land Trust is here to teach about how animals of the night have very different eyes than daytime animals. How do their eyes see in the dark, where the only color is black?! For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

FLOWER POT DECORATING

Monday, July 14, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

Thistle be the best day ever when you paint and decorate your own flower pot! Then pick your very first plant for it to take home and care for. For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

ANCIENT AVIANS WITH THE CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Wednesday July 16, 1:30—2:00 p.m.

The Carnegie Museum of Natural History will visit to discuss Ancient Avians. We'll learn about everything from fossils to feathers! For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

TAPE RESIST ART FOR GRADES K-2

Monday, July 21, 4:30—5:15 p.m.

Art you ready for this?! Celebrate color and negative space with this easy and fun process art project. For children entering grades K-2. Please register child online; limited space.

MIXED COLOR GLASS MOSAIC WITH AN ADULT

Wednesday July 23, 1:00—2:00 p.m.

This program won't leave you in pieces. You and a favorite adult will create an exquisite mosaic that will last for ages! For children entering grades K-2 with an adult. Please register child online; limited space.

Summer Reading **Kickoff** 2025 Saturday, May 17

Summer Program Registration

Summer program registration opens on **Saturday, May 17**. 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!

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, registration requirements, occasional location changes, and other information. We look forward to spending our summer with you!

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, just like our summer programming, runs from June 1—July 25, but you can pre-register starting May 17. See our website under "Books & More" for details on how to get started on Beanstack and get ready for summer reading!

Storytimes & More

Storytimes run June 1—July 25

BABY RHYME TIME

Wednesdays

9:30—10:00 a.m.

Enjoy the company of other babies and caregivers while we bounce, clap, sing, and fly! Best for babies ages birth-18 months with a caregiver. Please register child online only once for the whole season.

LITTLES STORYTIME

Wednesdays

10:30—11:00 a.m.

Read, sing, and shake your sillies out! Then make a new friend in our Play Room, and check out some books. Best for ages 18 months-5 years with a caregiver. Please register child online only once for the whole season. Littles will be **ONLY** on Wednesdays.

SENSORY FRIENDLY STORYTIME

Thursdays

10:30—11:15 a.m.

This dynamic and interactive experience is best for kiddos with sensory processing difficulties, autism, or other developmental differences. The design of the program allows children to participate at their own level with activities that strive to meet their sensory needs. Songs, movement, and stories will be followed by open exploration activities that promote socialization, motor skills, and more! Best for children requiring an inclusive storytime experience and their caregivers, but open to all children. Register child online only once for the whole season; limited space.

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; limited space.

June 5: Nature Faces

June 12: Cloud Watching Craft

June 19: Splatter Monster

June 26: Fruit Loop Rainbow

July 3: Music Day

July 10: Obstacle Course

July 17: Sun Bead Bracelets

July 24: Bubble Day

STORY STROLL

@ Donaldson Park & Clinton Park

Tuesdays

9:30—10:30 a.m.

Our Story Strolls at Donaldson Park and Clinton Park are a great way to let your kiddos burn off some energy, get some steps in, and enjoy a children's story in a different setting! Meet us promptly at 9:30 a.m. to enjoy the weekly story, then check out a picture book from the Book Bus. We will be alternating locations every week. Best for families with young children. Please register child online only once for the whole season.

June 3: Donaldson Park

June 10: Clinton Park

June 17: Donaldson Park

June 24: Clinton Park

July 1: Donaldson Park

July 8: Clinton Park

July 15: Donaldson Park

July 22: Clinton Park

Summer Reading returns June 1—July 25



WACL is once again participating in Beanstack Summer Reading with the special theme "Color Our World"! 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 17.

Tech Programs

AI INSIGHTS

Monday, June 9

6:30—7:30 p.m.

Join us for a discussion into the landscape of artificial intelligence (AI), where we'll explore recent advancements, as well as myriad opportunities and potential risks it presents. We'll discuss what AI actually is, trace its history from sci-fi dreams to present-day chatbots, and spotlight the latest "generative" AI models that can produce original content like images and poems. This talk aims to provide a primer on both the profound potential and possible pitfalls of ascribing intelligence to machines. No tech background required to attend. Presented by Aakash Gautam, assistant professor in the School of Computing and Information at the University of Pittsburgh.

LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE WITH MANGO

Tuesday, June 10

6:30—7:30 p.m.

Taking an overseas vacation and need to brush up on your conversational skills? Or just want to keep your brain sharp by learning a new language? Mango has you covered! With 71 languages from French to ESL, and even "pirate" - there's something for everyone! Bring your mobile device, and we'll get you started with this free library resource. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

Crafts & More

CRAFT NIGHT

First Tuesdays

June 3 & July 1

6:00—7:00 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. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online for each individual program; limited space.
June: 4th of July Wreath
July: Pressed Flowers Jar

CRAFTERNOON

3rd Wednesday of the Month

June 18 & July 16

11:30 a.m.—12:30 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! For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online for each individual program; limited space.
June: 4th of July Wreath
July: Pressed Flowers Jar

HERBS: POTTING WITH A PURPOSE

Tuesday, June 17

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Get your hands dirty and grow something green in this hands-on herb workshop! Each participant will plant their own herb in a biodegradable peat pot to take home, with guidance on how to care for it and use it in everyday life. No green thumb needed — just a love for learning and a little bit of dirt! For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

PAINT NIGHT: SPARKLERS IN A MASON JAR

Thursday, July 3

5:00—7:00 p.m.

This paint night will be a BANG! Celebrate Independence Day by painting a mason jar with sparklers and an American flag on a summer night. Design created by Step-By-Step Painting by Tracie Kiernan. For adults only, age 18 and up. Please register online; limited space.

CRAFT IT UP WITH CREATIVEBUG

Tuesday, July 8

6:30—7:30 p.m.

Want to learn a new craft but don't know where to get started? We do! Creativebug is your hub for art & craft inspiration & instruction, where you can access thousands of sewing, art, and craft classes tailor-made for a diverse community of makers. Bring your laptop or mobile device, and we'll get you started on this free library resource. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

Cooking Events

COOKBOOK CLUB

2nd Thursdays

June 12 & July 10

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Cookbook Club will leave your mouth watering and your recipe box full! Stop by the library to choose a recipe from the featured book and make a free photocopy of your chosen recipe. Prepare your dish at home, then bring it in to share with others, and enjoy a diverse array of homemade creations. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online for each individual program; limited space.
June: *Gooseberry Patch: Summer in the Country*
July: *Hungry Girl: Fast & Easy*

INSTANT POT 101

Tuesday, June 24

6:00—7:30 p.m.

If you haven't yet tried an instant pot or aren't sure if you want to invest in one, come get the run-down with a self-proclaimed instant pot fanatic! We'll cover how to (and how NOT to) use an electric pressure cooker, share some tips and tricks, look at some basic tools of the trade, and best of all — we'll sample what we make! Plus, attendees get a chance to check out the 6-quart model the library has for checkout in our Library of Things. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.

AIR FRYER 101

Tuesday, July 22

6:00—7:30 p.m.

It's faster - it's healthier - it's air frying! If you haven't yet tried it out, or aren't sure if you want to invest in one, get the basics of air frying in this fun (and delicious) program! We'll cover the how-to's of air frying, share some tips and tricks, and look at some basic tools of the trade. Best of all — we'll sample what we make! Plus, you'll get a chance to check out the "Instant Vortex" Air Fryer the library has for checkout in our Library of Things. For adults only, age 18 & up. Please register online; limited space.



WESTERN ALLEGHENY
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

April 1, 2025

Library
Giving
Day

Dear Library Friend,

Spring is a time of **growth, fresh opportunities, and new beginnings**—and at Western Allegheny Community Library, we are thrilled to welcome the season with you by our side! As we prepare for a vibrant spring and summer filled with engaging programs, we want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support of the library and the community we share.

At the heart of everything we do is our commitment to being a trusted, welcoming space—one that helps people learn, grow, and connect. From children's storytime to career workshops, and book clubs to wellness programs, we provide lifelong opportunities for everyone. This spring, we're excited to offer even **more programs and services that will strengthen our community and bring people together.**

These programs would not be possible without you. Your generosity ensures that the library continues to be a place where children discover a love of reading, job seekers find new opportunities and neighbors connect over shared interests. Every gift, no matter the size, **directly supports these life-changing programs.**

On Library Giving Day, April 1st, we are kicking off our Spring Appeal, and **we invite you to be a part of something truly meaningful.** Your donation today helps ensure that our library remains a vital resource, providing free access to knowledge, growth and connection for all.

To **make a donation**, visit www.westernalleghenylibrary.org, mail your gift using the enclosed remittance envelope or stop by the library. Every gift makes a difference!

Together we will make a lasting impact. Thank you for believing in the power of the library and for being an essential part of our community. We look forward to all we will accomplish together!

With warm thanks,

Mackenzie Partyka

Mackenzie Partyka
Western Allegheny Community Library



UPCOMING EVENTS

Community
Blood Drive
May 10

Suicide Awareness
& Prevention
May 12

Trivia Night
May 13

Evening Tea Party
May 15

Who Knew? Part 3:
Even More Odd &
Curious Places
Around Pittsburgh
May 19

Craftroom
May 21

Mark Your Calendars!

Our upcoming
Fundraising Event: Fall
For Your Library is
September 20, 2025
from 6 pm – 10 pm at
Celebrations!

P.S. A \$25 gift can provide a month of early literacy programming, while \$100 helps bring in guest speakers and workshops for all ages. Your gift—at any level—makes a lasting impact!

Children & Family

Please register online for all programs.

FAMILY AFTERNOON: TREE FAMILY PARTY PIGGIES

**Tuesday, June 3
12:15—1:15 p.m.**

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

FAMILY NIGHT: PUPPET SHOW WITH ADAM SWARTZ PUPPETS

**Thursday, June 12
5:00—6:00 p.m.**

Adam Swartz Puppets presents Joe Flashlight and the Secret of the Old Sock! Something sneaky is afoot at the museum, and Detective Joe Flashlight is on the case! Help Joe and a crew of colorful characters explore art galleries and learn the secret of the old sock puppet. There's more to this mystery than meets the eye in this creative conundrum for our puppet gumshoe! This program is great for families of all ages. Please register all attendees of any age online; limited space.



Don't forget to register!
Registration is required for
all storytimes and events.

FAMILY NIGHT: BE CREATIVE AND COLOR OUR WORLD MAGIC SHOW

**Thursday, June 26
5:00—6:00 p.m.**

The Be Creative and Color Our World magic show is lots of fun! With a mix of magic, imagination, and creativity it will be a good time for everyone. So put on your artist hat, grab your crayons, colored pencils and imagination; and get ready to create a colorful world! Presented by Mr. Steve of 13th Hour Entertainment. For families of all ages; caregivers must attend with children. Register all attendees of any age online.

TONIEBOX TRIAL

**Saturday, June 28
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**

You're going to be all ears for these great stories while trying our new Tonieboxes! The Toniebox is an innovative audio player for kids designed to bring audio stories, music, and learning to life for kids of all ages. Whether at home or on the go, kids can enjoy endless engaging entertainment while sparking their imagination screen-free! For families of all ages. Drop in anytime between 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Please register online if you would like a reminder email.

FAMILY NIGHT: FIREFLY WALK AT RACCOON CREEK STATE PARK

**Thursday, July 3
8:30—9:30 p.m.**

Stay up late with us at Raccoon Creek State Park! Learn about how and why fireflies glow, then explore the Park to find some firefly friends. Dress for the weather and bring a red lens flashlight if you have one. Location will be emailed to registrants prior to the program. For families of all ages; caregivers must attend. Register all attendees of any age; limited space.

FAMILY NIGHT: MARIE EXOTICS REPTILE RESCUE

**Thursday, July 10
5:00—6:00 p.m.**

Slither your way into this program that might leave you scaling the walls! Marie Exotics Reptile Rescue, a local non-profit, will offer a hands-on experience with a variety of animals, sharing health, care, and other needs for reptiles in addition to some fun facts about the different species they bring. This program is great for families of all ages; caregivers must attend with children. Please register all attendees of any age online; limited space.

FAMILY NIGHT: THE WITCHES OF OZ

**Thursday, July 17
5:00—6:00 p.m.**

Defy gravity with the Witches of Oz! Enjoy a meet & greet and photo op with your favorite green and pink witches, plus maybe a little extra magic. Themed outfits are absolutely encouraged. For families of all ages; caregivers must attend with children. Please register children only online; limited space.

SUMMER READING FINALE: "COLOR OUR WORLD"

**TINY ART SHOW
Saturday, August 2**

As readers complete their summer reading challenge on Beanstack, they'll be offered a blank tiny canvas to enter our Color Our World Tiny Art Show! More information will be emailed to summer readers as they complete their challenge, including a special painting day in July. Whether you have a piece in our Tiny Art Show or not, stop by during open hours to admire our readers' creativity! Please register online if you would like a reminder email.

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 2025 for teens ages 13-17. Applications received by May 23 at 11:59 p.m. are guaranteed hours starting in June; all others after that are on an as-needed basis. Fill out our Teen Volunteer Application on our website under "Get Involved." Questions? Contact Lexi at mulvihilla2@westernalleghenylibrary.org.