



PAOLI LIBRARY

A TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP BRANCH LIBRARY

March-May 2020 Branch Manager's Report

Library Resources and Reopening Plans

I have been working closely with Valerie Green and Chris Kibler on plans for a gradual resumption of library services when appropriate, in accordance with the latest guidance from Governor Wolf and the Office of Commonwealth Libraries (additional details in the Director's report).

Ebooks and eaudiobooks are of course still available even with the stay-at-home order, and their use has skyrocketed. We have been focusing our resources accordingly, adding a wealth of new titles to those collections.

Personnel

Taylor Baugher has received her master's degree in library and information science and has accepted a job as instructional librarian at Bridgewater College in Virginia. She will be leaving her jobs here (Paoli, Tredyffrin, Easttown, and Penn libraries) next month. It is no exaggeration to say that while we may fill her position, we will never be able to replace her. She will be missed!

Paoli's part-time employees were furloughed as of April 15. Our two permanent part-time employees are continuing to work while the building is closed. Jenny Tang is continuing her office manager work (with reduced hours) attending to mail and deliveries, bank deposits, and invoices; Taylor Baugher is continuing programming activities as outlined below.

Library Programs

Children's Programs

Stephanie Bragg has become a YouTube star, with storytimes, science experiments, and other kid-friendly activities, including

- Interactive storytimes on Instagram Live, so Stephanie's fans can meet in real time.
- "Two Chapter Tuesdays," video programs where Stephanie reads the first two chapters of a favorite kids' title, so elementary school students get a taste of great books.
- Trivia nights, escape rooms, and scavenger hunts for teens and tweens.

Adult Programs

Taylor Baugher has created online tutorials that introduce patrons to Libby (the app for borrowing ebooks and eaudiobooks) and Flipster (the app for magazines). Taylor has also been very imaginative and energetic in moving other library programs and resources onto the web, hosting book club sessions via Zoom and continuing her individual appointments for tech instruction online. Tredyffrin library staff are offering trivia nights and other inventive programs. Of course all of these resources are equally available to patrons of both libraries, and some have even been drawing participants from outside the area.

Summer Programs

The Summer Reading programs for both children and adults are now undergoing final revisions on a new software platform called Beanstack. Participants will log reading time and complete themed challenges to receive raffle tickets for the end-of-summer drawing.

The GO WilMa outdoor adventure program held in conjunction with Willistown Parks and Rec department and Malvern Library is currently slated to take place in a smaller number of parks and preserves that are still open to visitors, with procedures in place to allow for social distancing.

Fundraising

I am working with Rachel Kramer on a combined June fundraising appeal. We decided that under current circumstances, it makes sense to have a single letter, as Paoli and Tredyffrin staff have been working together closely to promote online library resources and to create new online content.

Beverly Michaels, Branch Manager

May 21, 2020