



**the ORLA  
newsletter.**

**APRIL 2023**

**THE  
RISE OF  
COLLEEN  
HOOVER**



## THE LONELY HEARTS BOOK CLUB

LUCY GILMORE

"If you're a sucker for found families, then this one is for you. Arthur is a grumpy old man, with a cutting wit that borders on nasty. Almost all of the library staff dislike him, except for Sloane, who is drawn to him.

When he doesn't show up at the library for several

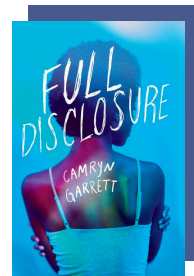
days straight, she puts her life as she knows it on the line to go find him. Unlike many books about book clubs, the titles aren't discussed at great length, and the majority of the character insights don't come from the books themselves but from the people sharing in the reading experience. There aren't sudden epiphanies, but realizations built through the course of their opening up to deeper friendships. The characters felt real, not contrived; just normally messy people in common situations. This is my first Lucy Gilmore, but I'll be checking out more." -- Erin Joyce, Oil Creek Library District

# WHAT WE'RE READING

YOUNG ADULT

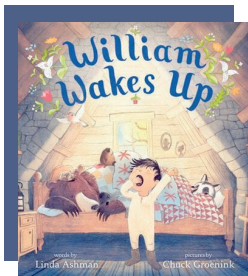
## FULL DISCLOSURE

CAMRYN GARRETT



\*This title is included on the Diversity Before University reading list available on our website. "Simone Garcia-Hampton always tries to fly under the radar. If being an HIV-positive teen has taught her anything, it's the more people that know about her illness, the more chaos ensues. Simone recently had to start over at a new high school after her secret was revealed at her previous one. Parents began demanding her expulsion, insisting that she was a threat to her peers. Students began wondering if just touching Simone had put them at risk. Friends no longer wanted anything to do with her. But now she has a fresh start, and things are going great! She's directing the musical at school, has two amazing new friends, and has immediately connected with a boy in her theater group. If only she knew for certain her new reality wouldn't come crumbling down again if the people she cares about know her truth. In this heartfelt portrayal of what it means to be an HIV-positive teen in today's society, Camryn Garrett gives her readers a look at the stigma that still exists surrounding HIV while also shedding light on medical actualities and the realistic liveability of this illness." -- Daidre Green, Oil City & Franklin Libraries

JUVENILE



## WILLIAM WAKES UP

WORDS BY LINDA ASHMAN; ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHUCK GROENINK

"*William Wakes Up* is the sequel to the story *William Takes a Nap*. Both of these picture books are a great resource for parents and teachers to teach children about hibernation and teamwork. Children love a story with a talking animal, and these two stories have a few! *William Wakes Up* is a story about animals waking up from their long winter nap. It illustrates specific animals that hibernate in the winter months and how they slowly rise to welcome spring. One at a time, each animal wakes up and does their part to help welcome a new friend back from the South. Not everyone is eager to wake up and help though!

When the last animal does finally rise from his bed, he also learns a lesson in teamwork. The illustrations are wonderful and you can make it fun by changing your voice to fit each animal!" -- LaResa Crockett, Franklin Public Library



## WANNA SUBMIT YOUR OWN BOOK REVIEW?

Email a review of a book you read recently (good or bad!) to [promotions@oilregionlibraries.org](mailto:promotions@oilregionlibraries.org) to be featured in a future issue of the ORLA Newsletter!





TUESDAY  
APRIL 11  
7PM

# RECLAIMING THE HUMAN BEING

A VIEW FROM INSIDE THE BARS

A FREE PRESENTATION WITH BRAD LENA AT THE OIL CITY LIBRARY

Join us on Tuesday, April 11th at 7PM for a free presentation with Brad Lena at the Oil City Library - *Reclaiming the Human Being: a View From Inside the Bars.*

Brad Lena was a volunteer instructor at Allegheny County Jail for eight years. In his presentation, he shares what he learned about the incarcerated & rehabilitation. He now conducts a class at Albion State Prison.

This program is free to attend & does not require registration. Questions? Call (814) 678-3072 or email [info@oilregionlibraries.org](mailto:info@oilregionlibraries.org).

## New Staff at the Oil City Library

Last month the Oil City Library welcomed Jan, a new Library Assistant, to our team. She is doing amazingly & we're so happy to have her on staff! If you see Jan around, please make sure to give her a warm welcome!

## Franklin Friends Sponsor Spring Wreath Raffle

The Friends of the Franklin Public Library are sponsoring a Spring Lottery Ticket Wreath Raffle this month! Purchase a ticket at the Franklin Public Library for a chance to win a beautiful spring wreath loaded with lottery tickets.

All proceeds benefit Friends of the Library projects. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00 and are available at the Front Desk until Saturday, May 6th. The winner will be drawn on Monday, May 8th at 4PM.



# PICTURE THIS

WRITTEN AND CREATED BY EMILY ANTKOWIAK

Welcome to a new local history column, exclusive to the ORLA newsletter! Each month, I take one historical image & photograph it superimposed over the same area as it appears today. This allows you to see what Venango County looked like in the past with a modern reference. My hope is to share neat photos from the library's archives to make them and their history more attainable.



This month we're taking a look at McConnell's Peanut Wagon. This photo taken in 1902 shows the Peanut Wagon on the south side of Liberty Street where it stood for many years, in front of where The Olive Vault and DC Salon are today. Behind the wagon and across the street you can see the Printz store and the old Princess movie theater.



THEN

NOW



Do you have an image or location you'd like to see featured? Email [eantkowiak@oilregionlibraries.org](mailto:eantkowiak@oilregionlibraries.org) with your suggestions!

# LIBRARY LOTT

Tickets are still available!  
Library Lotto tickets are  
good for the entire 2023  
year.



## MARCH WINNERS!



**LARESA C.**  
FRANKLIN, PA



**MICHELE A.**  
FRANKLIN, PA



**JESSICA S.**  
RENO, PA

A total of 36 winners will be determined by the **Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3** evening drawing at 7:00PM on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of each month in 2023. One additional winner will win \$500 determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing on July 25th, 2023!

## Franklin Continues Community Conversation Series

The Franklin Public Library is continuing to host a series of Community Conversations covering a vast array of topics by fellow community members. The following Community Conversations are scheduled for Thursdays from 6PM - 7PM:

• April 13th - **Autism Stands** with *Brandy Hinojosa*

Brandy Hinojosa, Founder and President of Autism Stands, will share about the many services available in Venango County for those on the autism spectrum ranging from childhood to adulthood.

• April 20th - **Community Gardens** with *Warren Thomas*

The Venango Area Community Gardens' purpose is to act as a conduit to our respective communities; explaining and encouraging those interested in the many positive aspects of shared gardening. Join this workshop to learn how to garden and enjoy the results of your labors and efforts, all while being engaged in outdoor activities with your family and neighbors.

• April 27th - **A Night at the Theater: John Wilkes Booth & Larua Keene in the Oil Region** with *Margo Mong*

In 1864, Booth was one of many oil speculators living in Franklin. In 1865 Laura Keene, an actress at Ford's Theater the night Booth assassinated Lincoln, cradled the bloody head of the dying president in her lap. In 1873, she toured the Oil Region with "the bloody dress" and gave the final performance of her life at Tidioute. Join Margo Mong as she walks us through the time Wilkes & Keene spent in the Oil Region.

*If there is a topic you would like to present at a Community Conversation session, please contact the Franklin Public Library at (814) 432-5062 or [info@oilregionlibraries.org](mailto:info@oilregionlibraries.org)*

## Northwestern Legal Services to Hold Legal Outreach Programs

What is custody? How do you file? What do you need to file? All good questions that can be answered at an educational presentation put on by Northwestern Legal Services where you'll learn what it takes to pursue custody.

Join us this April at your local ORLA branch on the following dates for a free information session on **Custody Filing Basics**:

- ✓ Friday, April 14th at 3:00PM - Cooperstown Public Library
- ✓ Tuesday, April 18th at 3:00PM - Franklin Public Library
- ✓ Tuesday, April 18th at 6:00PM - Oil City Library

Note: No personal advice will be given during these presentations. To get those questions answered, you are encouraged to apply for services through NWLS. Learn more at <https://www.nwls.org/>

## Franklin Celebrates International Children's Book Day

Sunday, April 2nd is International Children's Book Day. To celebrate, the Franklin Public Library will be giving away a free book to every child (ages 0-12) who visits the library on Monday, April 3rd. Just stop by any desk in the library and ask a staff member for your free book!





# give to the FOUNDERS FUND

for the Preservation of Oil Region Library Services

In the absence of Week of Giving, we are inviting you to continue your generous support during National Library Week, April 23-29. Eight years ago, ORLA was founded with a dream of uniting all three Venango County libraries to offer and preserve quality services across our region. ORLA seeks to continue enhancing cooperation, creativity and generous community spirit through our new Founders Fund.

When you give to the Founders Fund you are supporting:

- **1 Library Across 3 Communities** – Oil City, Franklin & Cooperstown - Experience the same quality service at any location to access over 150,000 shared items. Pick up and drop off at any location with most resources provided free of charge and no late fees. In the future, we seek to become more involved within our region via a traveling bookmobile.
- **Community Centers** – We are centers of wit, insight and collective wisdom. In an average year, your libraries offer approximately 1,000 free educational and community programs.
- **Centers of Democracy** – In a polarized world, drown out the noise by researching ideas on your own through accessible resources representing views from all sides of the aisle.

Thanks to the support of the ORLA Board, ORLA Committee members and the Oil City and Franklin Friends groups, there are matching funds that will allow for all donations to receive a partial match!

Donate online at <https://oilregionlibraries.org/founders-fund/>, or in person at your library! Please make all checks payable to: ORLA, 2 Central Ave. Oil City, PA 16301.

We thank you in advance for your support! You are helping to maintain ORLA's status as your community centers throughout our county while paving the way for future growth and development.

**ALL DONATIONS WILL  
RECEIVE A PARTIAL MATCH!**



**NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - APRIL 23-29**

# ADULTING 101

Adulting 101 is a new program at the Franklin Public Library targeted for teens between the ages of 12-18 and will provide useful tips and career options on a vast amount of topics. Each month will focus on a new theme and will hold several workshops, including informational presentations, outreach tours of businesses, and hands-on activities that coincide with the theme.

Participants can attend one of these workshops or all of them!

This program is free to attend & does not require a library card. Registration will need to be completed at the beginning of each month for the current theme.

## ADULTING 101



### MONTHLY THEMES

- March - Cooking Essentials
- April - Mending & Caring for Clothing
- May - Car Maintenance
- June - Knowing Your Body & Communication  
(Learning about vitals, CPR, and the correct way to communicate with your peers)
- July - Budgeting and Handling Money
- August - Lawn Care & Power Tool Safety
- September - Connecting to the Arts & Your Community
- October - IT & Technology
- November - Electricity  
+ Plumbing
- December - Safety



Register for April Sessions

## MENDING & CARING FOR CLOTHING

- **April 19th** - Sewing Basics - Mending Holes, Attaching a Button, Simple Stitches
- **April 21st** - Visit to a Laundramat & How to Use Laundry Appliances
- **April 26th** - How to Tie a Necktie

Register Now at  
[oilregionlibraries.org/teens](http://oilregionlibraries.org/teens)



## Upcoming Workshops



**COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP**  
OIL CITY LIBRARY  
3PM - 4PM  
FREE

Join us at the Oil City Library on Tuesday, April 4th at 3PM for a Computer Basics Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! Almost all workplaces require some computer skills. Learn to confidently navigate your way through basic systems, including the desktop environment, internet searching, emailing, and Microsoft word. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Oil City Library or by calling (814) 678-3072. Walk-ins are okay too!



**COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP**  
FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3PM - 4PM  
FREE

Join us at the Franklin Public Library on Tuesday, April 11th at 3PM for a Computer Basics Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! Almost all workplaces require some computer skills. Learn to confidently navigate your way through basic systems, including the desktop environment, internet searching, emailing, and Microsoft word. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Franklin Public Library or by calling (814) 432-5062. Walk-ins are okay too!



# for fans of COLLEEN HOOVER



## WHO IS COLLEEN HOOVER & WHY IS SHE SUDDENLY EVERYWHERE?

You've most likely heard her name at some point – probably at the library, bookstore or somewhere random on the Internet. She has risen to book-fame incredibly quickly, starting out as a self-published romance writer who wrote stories as a hobby while working pursuing a career in Social Services.

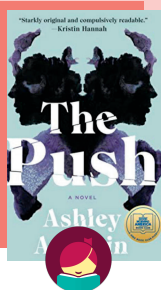
Her first novel, *Slammed*, was self-published in 2012. Ten years later, she dominated the USA Today's Best Selling Books list with 15 of her titles in a single week during the summer of 2022. Blowing up on TikTok within the #booktok subculture has contributed immensely to her success with young adults. Three of her novels even took the No. 1 spot last year. She currently has written 24 novels & novellas and doesn't show signs of stopping – even partnering with popular suspense fiction author Tarryn Fisher to write her most recent title *Never Never*.

Colleen Hoover's novels can usually be characterized by a certain group of elements: heartpounding & steamy romances, emotionally tense situations, and some sort of dysfunctional family dynamic. If that's your jam, we've put together a short list of read-alikes for you to devour while you're awaiting Colleen Hoover's next groundbreaking novel. Check out these similar titles, all available through your local ORLA branch!



### seven days in june TIA WILLIAMS

- Brooklyn, NY
- Single mothers
- Erotic fiction authors
- Steamy romance



### the push ASHLEY AUDRAIN

- Dysfunctional families
- Motherhood
- Dark themes
- Grief & trauma



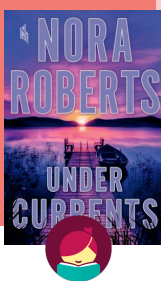
### part of your world ABBY JIMENEZ

- Forbidden love
- Steamy romance
- One-night stands
- Baby goats



### the wife between us GREER HENDRICKS & SARAH PEKKANEN

- Affairs
- Suspenseful
- Plot twists
- Love triangles



### under currents NORA ROBERTS

- Homecoming
- Blue Ridge Mountains
- Multiple POV's
- Trauma



### the kiss quotient HELEN HOANG

- Mathematicians
- Escorts
- Unexpected romance
- Diverse characters



### things we never got over LUCY SCORE

- Hopeless romantics
- Small Virginia towns
- Steamy romance
- Dysfunctional families



### in five years REBECCA SERLE

- Fate & destiny
- Time travel
- Friendship
- Tearjerker



### queenie CANDICE CARTY-WILLIAMS

- Jamaican women
- Political
- Messy breakups
- Rebounds



also available on Libby

# FEATURED RESOURCES



# libby

The one-tap reading app from your library.



## Local Book Clubs 2023

a collection of titles hand-picked by local book clubs.



### Oil City Library

2 Central Ave.  
Oil City, PA 16301  
(814) 678-3072

Monday	8:30am-8:30pm
Tuesday	8:30am-8:30pm
Wednesday	8:30am-8:30pm
Thursday	8:30am-5:00pm
Friday	8:30am-5:00pm
Saturday	8:30am-3:30pm
Sunday	CLOSED

### Franklin Public Library

421 12th St.  
Franklin, PA 16323  
(814) 432-5062

Monday	12:00pm-5:00pm
Tuesday	10:00am-6:00pm
Wednesday	10:00am-6:00pm
Thursday	10:00am-6:00pm
Friday	12:00pm-5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am-3:00pm
Sunday	CLOSED

### Cooperstown Public Library

187 N. Main St.  
Cooperstown, PA 16317  
(814) 374-4605

Monday	2:00pm-7:00pm
Tuesday	10:00am-4:00pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	2:00pm-7:00pm
Friday	10:00am-4:00pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED

# KOVELS'

**NEW!** Do you have antiques or collectibles, but have no idea what they're worth? Kovels' is the go-to source for expert information, pricing, and trends on antiques and collectibles. You can access Kovels' through Libby, similar to LawDepot.

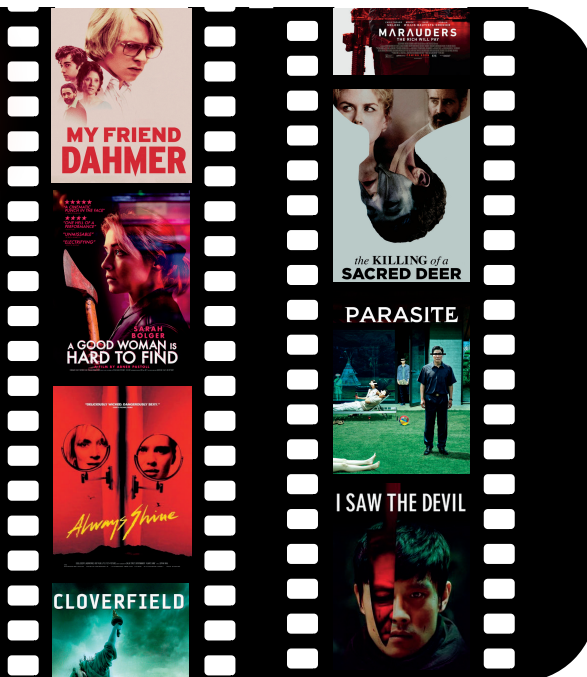


# THRILLS and chills



Popular Suspense & Thriller Films

# kanopy



# FIND US ONLINE

[oilregionlibraries.org](http://oilregionlibraries.org)



Libby, Kovels', & Kanopy are available to you for FREE with your library card at [oilregionlibraries.org](http://oilregionlibraries.org)