

BIPOLAR BEAR AND THE TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, NO GOOD, VERY BAD HEALTH INSURANCE

KATHLEEN FOUNDS

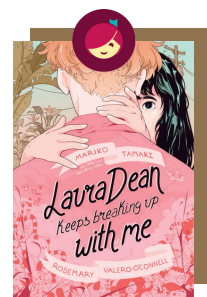
"Theodore was a bear. Theodore was prone to mood swings. When he was up, he performed tragicomic monologues before a captive audience of trees. When he was down, he drew sad faces on rocks and turtle shells.' In this satirical graphic novel, Kathleen Founds shows the battle between those that struggle with mental and medical health and our all too lacking health insurance system. I found it comical, cute, and extremely sad all at once. Sometimes increasing the absurdity of a subject helps those that have never related to the matters at hand see the severity of these issues, and I'm all for it!" – Daidre Green, Oil City & Franklin Libraries



 Also Available on Libby!

LAURA DEAN KEEPS BREAKING UP WITH ME

MARIKO TAMAKI & ROSEMARY VALERO-O'CONNELL



"Freddy's girlfriend Laura Dean is perfect. She's popular, beautiful, charming and the life of the party. She's also thoughtless, kind of mean and keeps breaking up with Freddy whenever it's convenient. So maybe she isn't perfect after all. Their on-again, off-again relationship has Freddy's head spinning — and Freddy's friends can't understand why she keeps going back. Following Freddy as she navigates this high school romantic relationship and the effect it has on her friendships made for a good story. It gets into some pretty deep topics (abortion, toxic relationships) but still manages to be a fun and engaging read. I would recommend this graphic novel to anyone who likes romantic drama or wants some good LGBTQ+ representation. The artwork is gorgeous too." – Amanda Barker, Franklin & Cooperstown Libraries



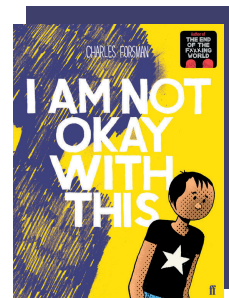
GENDER QUEER: A MEMOIR

MAIA KOBABE

"Yes, it's that book - one of the most banned books of 2021 and 2022. I can see why people are upset about it: Maia, who uses the pronouns e/em/eir, does not shy away from eir body and sexual experiences. This is a graphic novel, so there are pictures that would make some people angry, but that is the entire point of the memoir! It is one person's exploration of eir gender and sexuality and it's a good one. There is nothing erotic about it. Maia states eir experiences and how they shaped eir into the person em is today. While I don't think this book is for everyone, I encourage people to read it despite the bad press. If nothing else, it gives you a window into another person's world that you might never experience, but you might relate too." – Amanda Barker, Franklin & Cooperstown Libraries

I AM NOT OKAY WITH THIS

CHARLES FORSMAN



"This graphic novel was not something I'd usually read, but I'm glad I did! While it is brief (clocking in at about 175 pages & not very heavy on the text), there's a lot going on in this story. It follows Sydney, a teenager who struggles with her self-esteem, sexuality & everything else that comes with being an adolescent in today's world. There's something particularly interesting about Sydney, though: she can physically harm people without actually touching them. As she navigates how to use & control this power, she comes to a tragic conclusion that will affect everyone around her. If you like coming-of-age stories & don't mind a major plot twist, I recommend trying this!" – Natalie Cubbon, Oil Region Library Association



WANNA SUBMIT YOUR OWN BOOK REVIEW?

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

'Storytime on the Steps' Happening in Oil City

The Oil City Curb Market, formerly known as the Farmer's Market, is officially back for the season in the Central Avenue Plaza in front of the Oil City Library. The market operates on Thursdays from 11 am - 5 pm & features locally grown fresh fruits & veggies, plants & flowers, homemade baked goods, original art, handcrafted items, and much more! The Oil City Library will be featuring Pop-Up Storytimes on the front steps on July 13 & August 17 during the Curb Market at 11:30 am.

The Oil City Curb Market is still looking for vendors! Are you or your business interested in becoming a Curb Market vendor? Call (814) 677-3152 for more information!



Cooperstown Branch Manager Assumes New Position

We're excited to announce that Amanda Barker, Branch Manager of the Cooperstown Public Library, has assumed a new position at ORLA as Branch Manager of both Franklin & Cooperstown Libraries. She will now oversee all general operations at both branch library locations. Amanda holds an MLIS (Master's degree of Library & Information Science) from PennWest University & is ORLA's most recent graduate of the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce's *Leadership Venango* program. We're excited to support her in this new role & are incredibly grateful to have her on staff!

Library Assistant Position Available at Cooperstown

WE'RE HIRING at the Cooperstown Public Library! We're looking for a friendly, team-oriented individual to fill the position of Part-Time Library Assistant. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: assisting library patrons, performing circulation desk duties, providing technology support, sorting & shelving materials, assisting with library programs, & more!

- \$9.50/hour
- 22 Weekly Hours

Pick up an application & job description at the Cooperstown Public Library, or email manager@oilregionlibraries.org for more information. When complete, drop off applications & resumes at the Cooperstown Public Library front desk or email to manager@oilregionlibraries.org.



WRITTEN AND
CREATED BY **EMILY ANTKOWIAK**

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.



Are you ready for the Oil Heritage Festival? Check out this picture of the Oiler Marching Band from the 1996 OHF Parade. We're celebrating the 45th year of the OHF with the theme "Board Games"! Notice Osenider's Funeral Home in the background. Osenider's was established in the 1890s and was housed in the Masonic Hall on E. 1st Street before moving in the 1940s to the corner of West 1st and Petroleum Streets. Today, Northwest Bank stands at this location.

THEN



NOW

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



FREEDOM

READ A BOOK BY AN AUTHOR WITH A DISABILITY.

READ A BOOK OF SHORT STORIES.

READ A GRAPHIC NOVEL.

READ A BOOK OF POETRY.

READ A BOOK BY AN INDIGENOUS AUTHOR.

READ A BOOK SET IN AN IMPOVERISHED COUNTRY.

READ A BOOK BY A LOCAL AUTHOR.

READ A BOOK ABOUT ACTIVISM.

READ A BOOK THAT HAS BEEN BANNED OR CHALLENGED IN PA.

READ A BOOK BY A BLACK AUTHOR.

READ A BOOK ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS.

WHAT CAN I DO?

The average person can fight back against censorship and book banning by staying informed and vocal about these issues. They can support organizations like their public libraries that advocate for intellectual freedom and free speech, participate in community discussions and events focused on promoting diverse literature, and actively engage in conversations challenging attempts to restrict access to information. Additionally, individuals can encourage libraries, schools, and local institutions to maintain diverse and inclusive collections and defend the freedom to read as a fundamental right. Finally, individuals are encouraged to take an active role in elections, community fundraisers and connecting with elected officials to ensure these vital services are properly funded.

LIBRARIES CAN HELP!

Public libraries play a crucial role in advocating for the freedom to read and upholding its significance in today's society. As bastions of knowledge and information, libraries serve as inclusive spaces that embrace intellectual curiosity, diversity of thought, and the unrestricted access to literature. They recognize that the freedom to read fosters critical thinking, empathy, and a well-informed citizenry. Public libraries champion the right of individuals to explore a wide array of ideas, opinions, and perspectives, irrespective of societal norms or prevailing ideologies. They understand that a truly democratic society thrives when individuals are empowered to seek out and engage with a multitude of voices, challenging assumptions, expanding horizons, and ultimately, shaping a more enlightened and tolerant world. Through their commitment to providing open and equitable access to a rich collection of materials, public libraries not only safeguard the freedom to read but also ensure that it remains a fundamental pillar of our evolving society.

CHALLENGE YOURSELF

Want to confront your own reading habits & try to read outside your comfort zone? Try to complete some of the challenges at the top of this page. Reading a banned book or a book you wouldn't normally read can help you broaden your understanding of the world, confront preconceived notions, & develop your own informed opinions.

TUNE IN TO FUTURE EDITIONS AS WE LOOK TO INFORM OUR READERS ON HOW OUR LIBRARIES EMBRACE THESE DEMOCRATIC ROLES AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT THEM.

Community Conversations Continue at Franklin

The Franklin Public Library is continuing to host a series of seminars covering a vast array of topics by fellow community members. The following are scheduled for Thursdays in June from 6:00 - 7:00 PM:

JULY 6 How To Publish Your Writing *with Ray Bugay*

Raymond "Ray" Bugay is owner and principal editor of Quimby Pickford and Cheshire Publishers. The company actively advocates and promotes regional authors of poetry, children's books, memoir, and historical nonfiction. His musings and poetry appear in online blogs for various literary journals, and he occasionally performs as a street poet for charity. His next project is a fusion of poetry, memoir and fiction inspired by growing up in a Northwestern Pennsylvania coal town.

JULY 13 Using Poetry for Social Justice *with Patricia Thrushart*

Patricia Thrushart writes poetry and historical non-fiction. Her fourth and latest book, "Inspired by Their Voices: Poems from Underground Railroad Testimonies" was published by Mammoth Books. She is a co-founder of Poets Against Racism and Hate, where she facilitates events and manages their online presence.

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

Touch-A-Truck to Kick-Off Oil Heritage Festival in Oil City

Touch-A-Truck returns to the Central Avenue Plaza this summer in Oil City! On Thursday, July 20th from 11 am – 2 pm, the Central Avenue Plaza will be closed to traffic and will instead be filled with all kinds of trucks and heavy equipment! Following a special automotive-themed Storytime inside the library at 10 am, kids can explore the trucks right outside and even meet some of the people who operate them. This event is sure to be a ton of fun for kids of all ages and is free to the public. It's a great way to kick off the Oil Heritage Festival in Downtown Oil City!



JAMIE BASTELLO

LIVE OPERA



VIVA LA DIVA!!

JULY 3RD ~ 3:00PM

OIL CITY LIBRARY

Join us at the Oil City Library on Monday, July 3rd at 3:00PM for a LIVE opera performance by opera singer Jamie Bastello in the library's upstairs historic theater! The performance is sure to be unique, as the library's historic theater features curved walls for optimal acoustics.

Admission is free & open to the public. The performance will be accompanied by a showing of slides from the Heritage Society of Oil City's archives depicting historical scenes of early Oil City, as well as presentations on the history of the library's theater. The Heritage Society will also have items for sale during the performance, including old Oil City newspapers, books, Grove Hill Cemetery memorabilia and the newest Hidden Heritage compendium.

This event will serve as the kick-off to a massive project that aims to raise funds to restore the library's upstairs theater, dubbed *Raising the Curtain on Act II: Oil City Library Hall Restoration Project*.

FREE TO THE PUBLIC & HELD IN THE HISTORIC THEATER

2023 ANNUAL
OIL REGION LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

LIBRARY LOTT

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

EACH TICKET
\$20
ONLY 1000 SOLD

JUNE WINNERS!



BILL F.
OIL CITY, PA



ANN R.
FRANKLIN, PA



MARTIN R.
FRANKLIN, 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!

ORLA Branch Manager Graduates Leadership Venango Program

We're proud to announce that Amanda Barker, ORLA Branch Manager of Franklin & Cooperstown Libraries, is ORLA's 5th graduate of the Leadership Venango program!

Leadership Venango is a nine-month program created by the Venango Area Chamber of Commerce designed to identify, educate, involve and motivate individuals who desire to become more effective leaders. The program engages citizens from a broad range of geographical, institutional and economic backgrounds, with the goal to ensure that new leadership will continuously be added to the community. During the nine months, the class seeks to better understand the problems and opportunities we face in creating the best future for Venango County.



Daidre Green, Natalie Cubbon, Amanda Barker, LaResa Crockett, Kelsey Harrah, & Dan Flaherty (not pictured) attended the Leadership Venango Graduation in May.

Congratulations to Amanda! If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Class of 2024, apply now at leadershipvenango.org



1968

OUR TOWN: OIL CITY, PA
OUR PEOPLE. OUR SCHOOLS. OUR DOWNTOWN

FILM SHOWING

WED. JULY 19TH • 6:00PM
OIL CITY LIBRARY
FREE ADMISSION
DVD SALES TO FOLLOW



The Time Capsule Film of Oil
City in 1968 Discovered at
the Drake Theater

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 July Sessions

BUDGETING & HANDLING MONEY

July 17th - Financial Advice with Amber Hughes and Roz Greggs from Top Tier Federal Credit Union

July 19th - Budget Challenge with Daidre

July 26th - Tour of Northwest Savings Bank

Register Now at
oilregionlibraries.org/teens

Upcoming Workshops



CAREER DEVELOPMENT
OIL CITY LIBRARY
3PM - 4PM
FREE



CAREER DEVELOPMENT
FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
3PM - 4PM
FREE

Join us at the Oil City Library on Tuesday, July 11th at 3PM for a Career Development Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! This workshop aims to give the job seeker the skills to effectively search for employment through assessing skills & personalities. It combines that information with Labor Market information to assist in making the right decision about what jobs in which to apply. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Oil City Library or by calling (814) 678-3072. Walk-ins are okay too!

Join us at the Franklin Public Library on Tuesday, July 18th at 3PM for a Career Development Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! This workshop aims to give the job seeker the skills to effectively search for employment through assessing skills & personalities. It combines that information with Labor Market information to assist in making the right decision about what jobs in which to apply. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Franklin Public Library or by calling (814) 432-5062. Walk-ins are okay too!

FEATURED RESOURCES

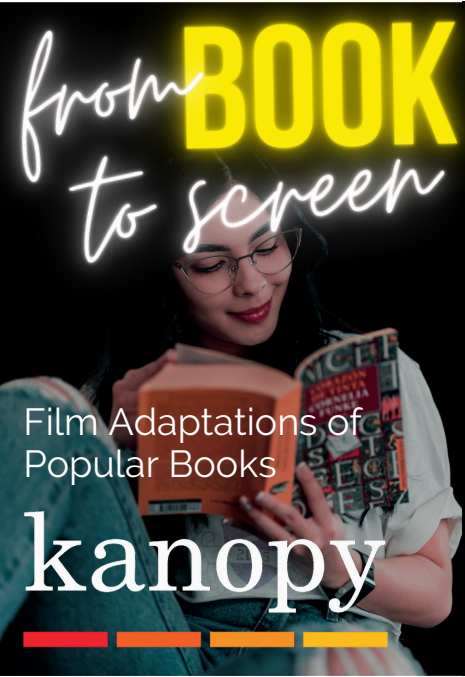


Battle Stations!
War Fiction & Nonfiction



NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE

Newspaper Archive is a great resource for historical & genealogical information. A compilation of Pennsylvania newspapers include access to articles from as early as the 1600's up to modern times. Local historic newspapers include "The Blizzard", "The News Herald", "The Derrick", "Oil City Register" & many more.



Film Adaptations of Popular Books



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

FIND US ONLINE

oilregionlibraries.org



Libby, Newspaper Archive, & Kanopy are available to you for FREE with your library card at oilregionlibraries.org