



the ORLA  
newsletter.

SEPTEMBER 2023

Fall  
Leaves  
**AND BOOKS,  
PLEASE.**



**WHAT IF?**

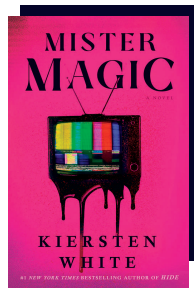
RANDALL MUNROE

"Have you ever wondered what would happen if we put a giant drain in the middle of ocean? Or what would happen if your DNA disappeared? Or what consequences we would face if the moon suddenly went away? If any of these questions piqued your

curiosity, then *What if?* is for you! This book of 'serious scientific answers to absurd hypothetical questions' is full of just that. It *really* explains what would happen using scientific explanations, equations, and illustrations. I'm not sure if there's a use for any of the information I learned from this book, but I definitely feel smarter after reading it! Munroe explores complex topics like physics, genetics, chemistry, probability, quantum technology & much more that is way beyond anything I'd normally read. I actually ended up learning a lot about several topics I never thought I'd even remotely care about. Literary trickery for the win!" – *Natalie Cubbon, Oil Region Library Association*

**WHAT WE'RE READING**
 Also Available on Libby!
**MISTER MAGIC**

KIERSTEN WHITE



"Thirty years after a tragic accident ended one of the longest running children's shows in history, the cast of the last show has joined together again for a reunion. But none of them can quite remember what happened on that last show...or anything about a crew or production filming it. There also is no record of it online or even a physical tape or recording. Still, everyone remembers the show and its title character Mister Magic! Nothing could go wrong at this meet-up! I enjoyed this horror book quite a bit. It was a fun fast read, and while it did lose its thread at the end, I still recommend it to people who want something quick and dirty." – *Amanda Barker, Franklin & Cooperstown Libraries*

**THE HIDDEN DRAGON**

MELISSA MARR

"Otter is the most comfortable at sea with her fathers on their ship 'Tempest', where they do secret work for the Queen. The kingdom is not at rest, though; there is a growing society of homeless children underneath the surface of the cities, and they are blaming the Queen. When street kid London stows away on the Tempest, he gets caught up in the political turmoil coming to a head. The prologue sets up the fantasy aspects of the book, with the first chapters grounded in a society that feels more 'normal' until everything is fully integrated. Otter and London are both likable characters who have great people around

them. The characters feel like people - they have fully realized lives, even if we only see snippets of them. There is a lot of richness here that could expand into more books set in this universe. 'The Hidden Dragon' is somewhat slower paced than other middle-grade titles. It wasn't boring, but the tension wasn't at a fever pitch the entire story. In other words, I could put it down, but not for long." – *Erin Joyce, Oil Creek Library District*

**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!

# Cooperstown Library Welcomes New Staff

Recently, the Cooperstown Public Library welcomed Deb, a new Library Assistant, to our team. Deb has a background in early childhood education & she will serve as the main employee at our Cooperstown branch. She's currently very active in the Cooperstown community & volunteers frequently for local events. She is doing amazingly & we're so happy to have her on staff! If you see Deb around, please make sure to give her a warm welcome!

# 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 Wednesdays in September:

## SEP 14 Beginner Home Brewing with Dan Flaherty 5-6PM

Dan Flaherty is the Executive Director of the Oil Region Library Association (and home brewing enthusiast!). Join him in a discussion on the basics of home brewing, including what materials you need to get started, common set-backs and typical costs.

## SEP 21 Using Poetry for Social Justice with Patricia Thrushart 6-7PM

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.

## SEP 28 Difficult Conversations Around Racism Part 2 with Barbara Rumore 5-6PM

Barbara Rumore invites attendees to join in a continued discussion on racism. Participants will be encouraged to examine their own attitudes and feelings, as well as debate them.

*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)*



# PICTURE THIS

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.



The Evening News had its beginnings in the back rooms of offices where it was headquartered and the type was set. The young men who started the newspaper in 1878 would then take their type forms to an existing newspaper's shop to finish the job. One of those men, James Borland, remained here in the newspaper business until his death. As the city of Franklin flourished, a new building was constructed on the corner of 12th and Liberty Streets to house all of the paper's operations. The building opened in 1911 and was home to Franklin newspapers for the next 50 years.

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 MIXER



Join us for food, drinks, door prizes, tours & networking!

**Wednesday, September 13th**  
**5:00-7:00 PM**

**RSVP** to Tessa Byham  
call (814) 676-8521  
or email [tbyham@venangochamber.org](mailto:tbyham@venangochamber.org)

Friends of the



Franklin Public Library

# QUILT-A-THON

**FRIDAY, SEPT. 15 / 12-5PM**  
+  
**SATURDAY, SEPT. 16 / 10-3PM**

The Friends of the Franklin Public Library will be hosting their annual Quilt-a-Thon fundraising event on September 15th & 16th during the Franklin Public Library's regular business hours - Friday 12-5PM and Saturday 10-3PM.

During this interactive event, volunteer quilters will demonstrate the craft. Sponsors can contribute in \$5 increments (or \$20 for 5) for chances to win one of the completed quilts. The winning sponsors are decided by a drawing in October.

There is no experience necessary to come and participate. Walk-in volunteers are encouraged to join the fun. We enjoy meeting and teaching folks the art of quilting! Those interested in getting sponsors can pick up information at the library's circulation desk or call (814) 432-5062.



**A SERIES EXPLORING HOW LIBRARIES CONTRIBUTE TO OUR DEMOCRACY & EXPAND OUR FREEDOMS**

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



**CONTRIBUTED BY DAN FLAHERTY**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OIL REGION LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

Last month, we outlined our stance on maximizing access for all library users. Now, we'll explain how we fulfill that mission: through connections.

Similar to other offerings, we attempt to make connections through multiple service options. Particular resources can fulfill multiple connection points. People are often surprised when they learn of specific resources and services we provide that may not fit their understanding of a library. In these cases, people are typically focused on the actual product provided while we are focused on WHY we would offer something. We'll focus our connection points out into several key areas:

### To Information & Resources

Here is where the classical understanding and expectations of public libraries generally resonates with just about everyone. When you think of libraries, "books" is almost certainly one of the first words that comes to mind. Books, along with digital resources, internet access, STEM kits, bus routes, & much more all connect our users with important information and resources. If something meets that criteria, regardless of format, we'll consider it for our services.

### To Each Other

Libraries play a critical role in connecting people to each other. In recent years, we've all witnessed first-hand how valuable it is to remain connected with one another and the loss that comes from being separated for significant periods of time. By providing public programs, informal gathering spaces, & backyard games (to name a few) we are encouraging human-to-human connections.


### To Your Local Community

Being engaged with your local community starts with being informed about it. We provide our space to other community groups, promote a wide array of area events and activities while also participating directly in a number of them. We also document and retain local history resources to provide access for future generations.

Reach out to let us know your favorite connections or for new ideas!

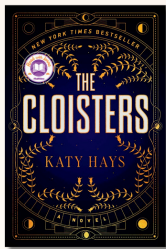
# Fall Leaves AND BOOKS, PLEASE.

Cozy Reads for the Cooler Months Ahead

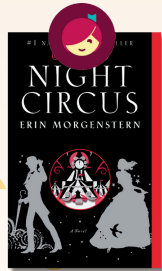
 Also Available on Libby!



**LITTLE EVE**  
CATRIONA WARD



**THE CLOISTERS**  
KATY HAYS



**THE NIGHT CIRCUS**  
ERIN MORGENSTERN



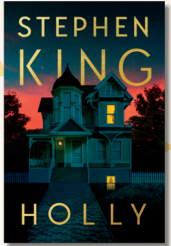
**THE HOUSEMAID**  
FREIDA MCFADDEN



**PRACTICAL MAGIC**  
ALICE HOFFMAN



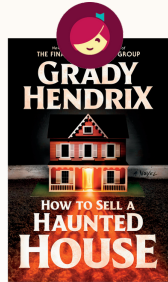
**THE ONCE AND FUTURE WITCHES**  
ALIX E. HARROW



**HOLLY**  
STEPHEN KING



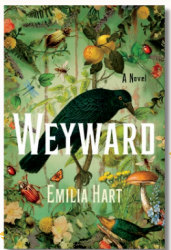
**THE VERY SECRET SOCIETY OF IRREGULAR WITCHES**  
SANGU MANDANNA



**HOW TO SELL A HAUNTED HOUSE**  
GRADY HENDRIX



**THE EX HEX**  
ERIN STERLING



**WEYWARD**  
EMILIA HART

ADULT  
CRAFT  
CLUB

Fall 2023



**Mushroom  
Wreaths**

September 27

Adult Craft Club at the Oil City Library is back starting in September! We're so excited to get back to crafting with you. Adult Craft Club is free to attend & all materials will be provided. On Wednesday, September 27th, we will be making mushroom wreaths.

Registration is **OPEN NOW** & you can choose between a 5:30PM or 6:30PM time slot. Visit the Oil City Library or call (814) 678-3072 to register.

2023 ANNUAL  
OIL REGION LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

# LIBRARY LOTT

2024 Library Lotto tickets  
are COMING SOON! Inquire at  
your local ORLA branch for  
more details.

EACH TICKET  
**\$20**  
ONLY 1000 SOLD

## AUGUST WINNERS!



**SUSAN W.**  
ROUSEVILLE, PA



**BILL C.**  
FRANKLIN, PA



**KAREN G.**  
OIL CITY, 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.

## Franklin Library's Next Cycle of Teen Reading Lounge Starts This Month

A new 5-week cycle of Teen Reading Lounge will begin at the Franklin Public Library on Tuesday, September 12th. Our teens from last year decided on our focus, and we're excited to not only talk about different mental health issues affecting teens, but also try our hand at different art forms each week. We will end this session with a community outreach program designed by our participants!



We hope to see you there! Registration is required, and you can do so by calling the Franklin Public Library at (814) 432-5062 or visiting us online at [www.oilregionlibraries.org/teens](http://www.oilregionlibraries.org/teens).

## OIL CITY'S VICTORIAN HOMES WALKING TOUR

with Neil & Lois McElwee

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 • 1:30 PM  
TOUR BEGINS AT THE BELLES LETTRES CLUB  
405 W. 1ST ST., OIL CITY, PA

REGISTER AT THE OIL CITY LIBRARY

**\$30**  
PER PERSON  
**\$50**  
PER COUPLE



FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT THE OIL CITY LIBRARY THEATER RESTORATION PROJECT

# 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 September Sessions

## CONNECTING TO THE ARTS & COMMUNITY

- Drawing Workshop with Kira Lavrich
- Tour of the DC Salon in downtown Franklin
- Journalism & Volunteering with Jill Harry
- Tour of Tattoo Parlor with 13th Street Tattoo Co.
- Graphic Eyeliner Demonstration with Daidre Green

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

## Upcoming Workshops



**RESUME DO'S & DON'TS**  
OIL CITY LIBRARY  
3PM - 4PM  
FREE



**RESUME DO'S & DON'TS**  
FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
3PM - 4PM  
FREE

Join us at the Oil City Library on Tuesday, September 5th at 3PM for a Resume Do's & Don'ts Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! This workshop teaches the basics of resume writing & is an information session only; however, appointments can be scheduled at a later date and time for individual resume assistance. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Oil City Library or by calling (814) 678-3072. Walk-ins are okay too!

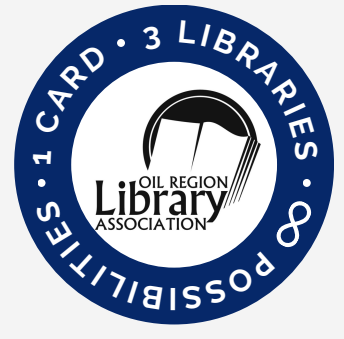
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# FEATURED RESOURCES

**libby**  
The library reading app.

## Whodunnit?! 🔍

Cozy mysteries to devour during a crisp autumn evening.



**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**  
182 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

## cisco networking academy

Are you ready to use technology to make the world a better place? These self-paced, online courses include the same content taught by Cisco experts in classrooms around the world. The Networking Academy offers a comprehensive learning experience that includes online curriculum, assessments, case studies, games and simulations that are all delivered through their cloud-based learning and collaboration platform.

Visit [oilregionlibraries.org](http://oilregionlibraries.org) & select a course to get started today for free!

## Indie MUST-SEE

Highly Rated Independent Films

## kanopy

# FIND US ONLINE

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



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