

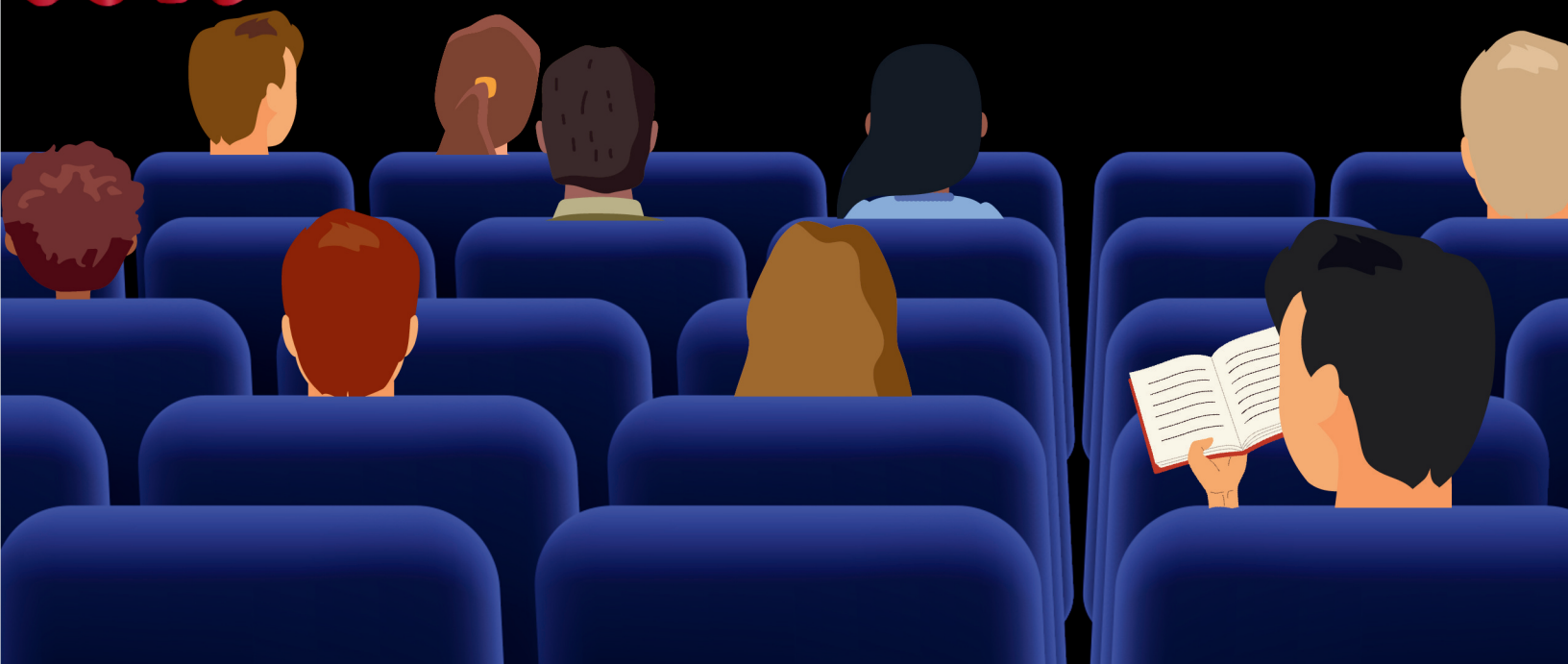


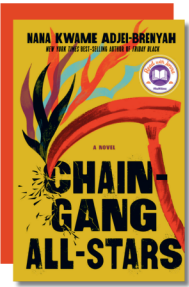
# the **ORLA** newsletter.

AUGUST 2025

# BOOK TO SCREEN

Upcoming Releases Based on  
Bestselling Books





CHAIN-GANG ALL-STARS ★★★★★

NANA KWAME ADJEI-BRENYAH

Loretta Thurwar & Hamara "Hurricane Staxxx" Stacker are the stars of *Chain-Gang All-Stars*, the cornerstone of CAPE, or Criminal Action Penal Entertainment, a highly-popular, highly-controversial, profit-raising program in America's increasingly dominant private prison industry. It's the return of the gladiators & prisoners are competing for the ultimate prize: their freedom. In CAPE, prisoners travel as Links in Chain-Gangs, competing in death matches for packed arenas with righteous protestors at the gates. Thurwar & Staxxx, both teammates & lovers, are the fan favorites. And if all goes well, Thurwar will be free in just a few matches. As she prepares to leave her fellow Links, she considers how she might help preserve their humanity, in defiance of these so-called games. However, CAPE's corporate owners will stop at nothing to protect their status quo, & the obstacles they lay in Thurwar's path have devastating consequences. *Chain-Gang All-Stars* is a kaleidoscopic, excoriating look at the American prison system's unholy alliance of systemic racism, unchecked capitalism, & mass incarceration, & a clear-eyed reckoning with what freedom in this country means.

WHAT WE'RE READING

 Available on Libby

**"This book made me delve deeper into my thoughts on good & bad, black & white, killers being met with killing. It made me feel A LOT & wouldn't allow me to set it down until the last page. I highly recommend this title for all, but especially for those who want to explore the current state of our correctional system & the all-too-real place I hope it never reaches."** Daidre Green, Oil Region Library Association

★★★★★ THE MIDNIGHT FEAST

LUCY FOLEY



It's the opening night of The Manor, & no expense, small or large, has been spared. The infinity pool sparkles; crystal pouches for guests' healing have been placed in the Seaside Cottages & Woodland Hutches; the "Manor Mule" cocktail (grapefruit, ginger, vodka, & a dash of CBD oil) is being poured with a heavy hand. Everyone is wearing linen. And yet, outside The Manor's immaculately kept grounds, an ancient forest bristles with secrets. The local community resents what they see as The Manor's intrusion into the local woods & attempts to privatize the beach, & small skirmishes have erupted on the edges of the property between locals & the staff. And the whispers keep coming, about an old piece of pagan folklore – the Night Birds, an avenging force that can be called upon to make right wrongs that elude the law. On the Sunday morning of opening weekend, the local police are called. There's been a fire. A body's been discovered. Something's not right with the guests. What happened on the grounds of The Manor over the past 36 hours? And who--or what--is the cause?

**"I read this after seeing it appear on a lot of popular book lists. After doing so, I don't understand the popularity. Rather than unpacking details & developing characters, I felt the author just included different murder-mystery gimmicks for the sake of checking boxes. It felt random & fell flat. There was potential if some of the characters & details, especially around the secret bird society, were explored further & intertwined in ways that made me more empathetic."** Dan Flaherty, Oil Region Library Association



FAN SERVICE ★★★★★

ROSIE DANAN

The only place small-town outcast Alex Lawson fits in is the online fan forum she built for The Arcane Files, a long-running werewolf detective show. Her dedication to archiving fictional supernatural lore made her Internet-famous, even if she harbors a secret disdain for the show's star, Devin Ashwood. (Never meet your heroes—sometimes they turn out to be The Worst.) Ever since his show went off the air, Devin and his career have spiraled, but waking up naked in the woods outside his LA home with no memory of the night before is a new low. It must have been a coincidence that the once-in-a-century Wolf Blood Moon crested last night. The claws, fangs, and howling are a little more difficult to explain away. Desperate for answers, Devin finds Alex—the closest thing to an expert that exists. If only he could convince her to stop hating his guts long enough to help.... Once he makes her an offer she can't refuse, these reluctant allies lower their guards trying to wrangle his inner beast. Unfortunately, getting up close and personal quickly comes back to bite them.

**"Urban fantasy romance for people who were really into shows like Supernatural or X-files & wonder what would happen if a plot like that fell into their laps. A fun read. Our FMC was THE big name fan of a popular tv show about a werewolf who uses his powers to investigate supernatural events. One day, the now washed up male lead from the show shows up on her doorstep. He's having a hairy problem of his own, & she's the closest thing to an expert there is..."** Savannah L., Library Volunteer



# We're a circle participant. Vote for us.

We're honored & excited to announce that we have been chosen to participate in a special charitable giving campaign sponsored & funded by Target. And you have the chance to help direct a portion of Target's donation to us!

**Now through September 30, 2025, vote for us through the Target Circle program to help determine how Target's donation will be divvied up.** Find out more about Target Circle at [www.target.com/circle](http://www.target.com/circle).

We're asking our supporters to help us make the most of this incredible opportunity. Every vote counts to help us receive a portion of the available Target funds as we continue our mission to enrich the lives of our community, encourage lifelong learning, & provide access to information and resources.

Don't forget, as you earn more votes, you can keep voting multiple times during the campaign!

Thank you for your support, & we encourage you to share your support for us (& your thanks to Target) on social media throughout the voting!

We're a circle participant  
and here's how you can vote for us.



**1** Choose  
My Target



**2** Tap  
Cast votes



**3** Find us &  
vote



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.



Did you know that before residing at River Ridge, Joseph Sibley lived on Elk Street in Franklin? His home was located where the Franklin Post Office stands today. The house was moved from Elk Street to Otter Street in the 1930s. Some of you might remember seeing the "haunted house" on Otter Street!

THEN



NOW

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





**Libby.**  
The library reading app



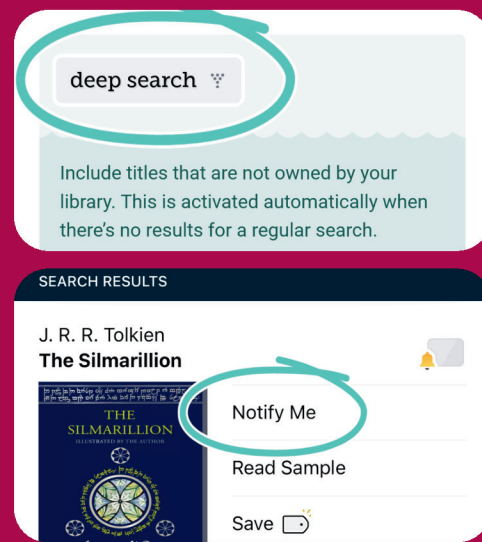
**TIP OF THE MONTH**

## Using Deep Search

When you search for a book title or author, the immediate results will be the options your library has available at that time. However, there's always a chance the library could add more titles at a later date. Or, if you're searching for a book that isn't published yet, it may not be a part of the database quite yet. Enter **Deep Search!**

When you search, scroll down to the end of the results, and you'll see a button called **Deep Search**. After you click on it, you may see your book pop up and a **Notify Me** button appear. You can click **Notify Me** so you'll get a notification if/when the library acquires any copies of the book.

This is a great way to stay on top of new book releases, so you can put an upcoming book on hold as soon as it's available on Libby!



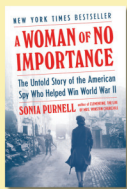
## Next Month's **BOOK CLUB** Selections

SEPTEMBER 2025

### Oil City Library Book Club

*Oil City Library*

Meets First Thursday  
of the Month at 10:30 AM



**A Woman of No Importance**  
Sonia Purnell



Also Available  
on Libby!

### The Bookmarkers Book Club

*Franklin Public Library*

Meets Second Tuesday  
of the Month at 12:00 PM



**The Forgotten Garden**  
Kate Morton



Also Available  
on Libby!

### Thursday Evening Book Club

*Franklin Public Library*

Meets Third Thursday  
of the Month at 5:00 PM



**The Women**  
Kristin Hannah



Also Available  
on Libby!

## Franklin Welcomes New Library Assistant

We're excited to welcome a new employee to ORLA! **Jacob Daugherty** has joined the Franklin Public Library's staff as our newest Library Assistant.

Jacob recently got his Master's Degree in Library Information Science (MLIS) from PennWest Clarion & has previous experience working in libraries.

Jacob assists patrons at the Front Desk, so we're sure you'll see him around if you visit! Make sure to give him a warm welcome when you see him.

**WELCOME  
TO THE TEAM!**







# SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

## 10:00AM – 2:00PM

### CENTRAL AVE. PLAZA | OIL CITY, PA

Celebrate local stories & the power of reading at Oil City's **5th Annual Oil Region Festival of the Book!** This vibrant community event brings together local & regional authors to share, sell, & sign their works. Enjoy a day filled with author meet-&-greet, engaging speakers, food vendors, children's activities, book sales, & library card sign-ups.

#### **NEW** AUTHOR Q+A PANEL

New this year will be a panel of authors who will discuss this year's topic, **"The Writing & Publishing Process"**.

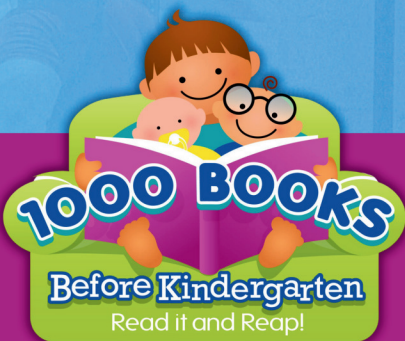
Join us inside the library at 12:00 PM to hear the discussion & get all your questions answered from this year's panelists!



Whether you're a lifelong reader or just discovering the joy of books, there's something for everyone. Come out & support local authors, your public library, and a love of literacy in the heart of the Oil Region! The event is free to attend & all ages are welcome.

# FOOD, FUN, & MOST IMPORTANTLY, BOOKS.

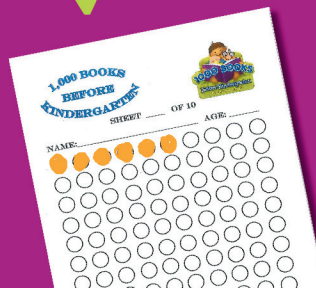
Learn more at [OILREGIONLIBRARIES.ORG/FOTB](http://OILREGIONLIBRARIES.ORG/FOTB)



Keep track of the books you read with the library's easy color-the-shapes log!



These readers hit milestones last month!



#### Why Participate?

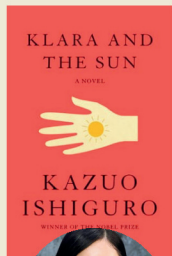
There's no better time to lay the groundwork for independent learning than early childhood. Reading 1,000 books before kindergarten is a low pressure way to close the vocabulary gap & develop the early literacy skills so crucial to success in school. Any child can participate as long as they are not yet in kindergarten.

Register your child in person at your library or online at [www.oilregionlibraries.org/youth/1000-books-before-kindergarten/](http://www.oilregionlibraries.org/youth/1000-books-before-kindergarten/)



# BOOK TO SCREEN

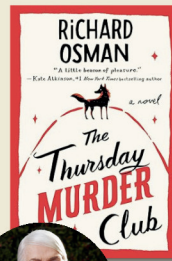
## Upcoming Releases Based on Bestselling Books



### KLARA AND THE SUN

Kazuo Ishiguro 🍷

Nobel Prize-winning author Kazuo Ishiguro explores the nature of humanity in his futuristic novel through the eyes of Klara, a solar-powered Artificial Friend who cares for Josie, a genetically modified 14-year-old. As Klara tries to support her ailing companion, she turns to the sun—her source of energy—in hopes of saving Josie, in a tender tale of love, hope, & connection. Jenna Ortega takes on the role of Klara in the upcoming film adaptation, though a release date has yet to be announced.



### THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB

Richard Osman 🍷

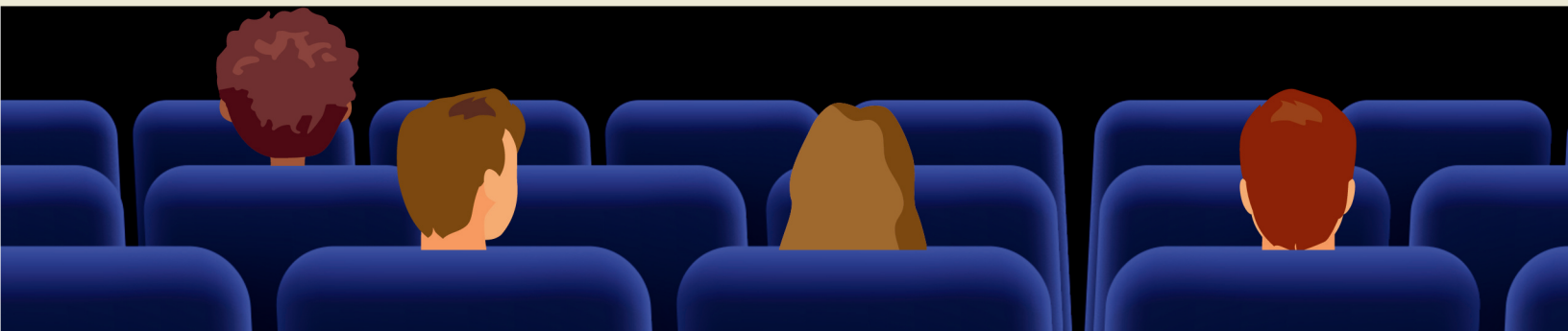
British writer Richard Osman's bestselling cozy mystery series centers on a group of amateur detectives living in a high-end retirement community, where they spend their time solving cold cases. The debut novel follows the team's first live murder investigation & is being adapted into a Netflix film, set to premiere on August 28. The adaptation boasts an impressive cast, including Helen Mirren, Sir Ben Kingsley, Pierce Brosnan, & Celia Imrie.



### THE HOUSEMAID

Freida McFadden 🍷

Adapted from Freida McFadden's bestselling book series, the psychological thriller *The Housemaid*—featuring Sydney Sweeney & Amanda Seyfried—is set to premiere in theaters on December 25. The story follows Millie, an ex-con with a complicated past, who takes a job as a live-in maid for the mysterious Winchester family. Nina, the lady of the house, may be recovering from a psychotic episode—or something far more unsettling. Not every mess can be tidied up.



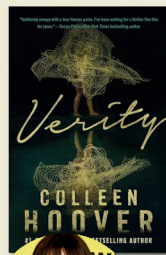




## PROJECT HAIL MARY

Andy Weir 🌈

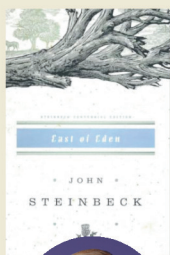
Andy Weir's 2021 sci-fi epic *Project Hail Mary* shares the sharp, science-driven tone of his breakout hit *The Martian*, delivering another gripping tale of survival rooted in real-world physics. This time, the lone astronaut isn't just trying to save himself—he's racing to prevent humanity's extinction. The highly anticipated film adaptation, starring Ryan Gosling, is set for release on March 20, 2026.



## VERITY

Colleen Hoover 🌈

Things take a dark turn when a writer becomes entangled in the lives of bestselling author Verity Crawford & her enigmatic husband. What starts as a professional opportunity quickly spirals into something far more dangerous. Colleen Hoover's twisty 2018 psychological thriller became a book club favorite, & its film adaptation—starring Dakota Johnson, Anne Hathaway, & Josh Hartnett—is set to hit theaters on May 15, 2026.



## EAST OF EDEN

John Steinbeck 🌈

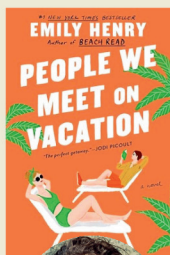
John Steinbeck's enduring masterpiece *East of Eden* follows the intertwined lives of two families in early 20th-century California & was considered by the author to be his finest work. The novel was first brought to the screen in 1955 by acclaimed director Elia Kazan. Now, a new Netflix adaptation is on the way—set for early 2026—written & directed by Kazan's granddaughter, Zoe Kazan, & starring Florence Pugh.



## THE WOMAN IN CABIN 10

Ruth Ware 🌈

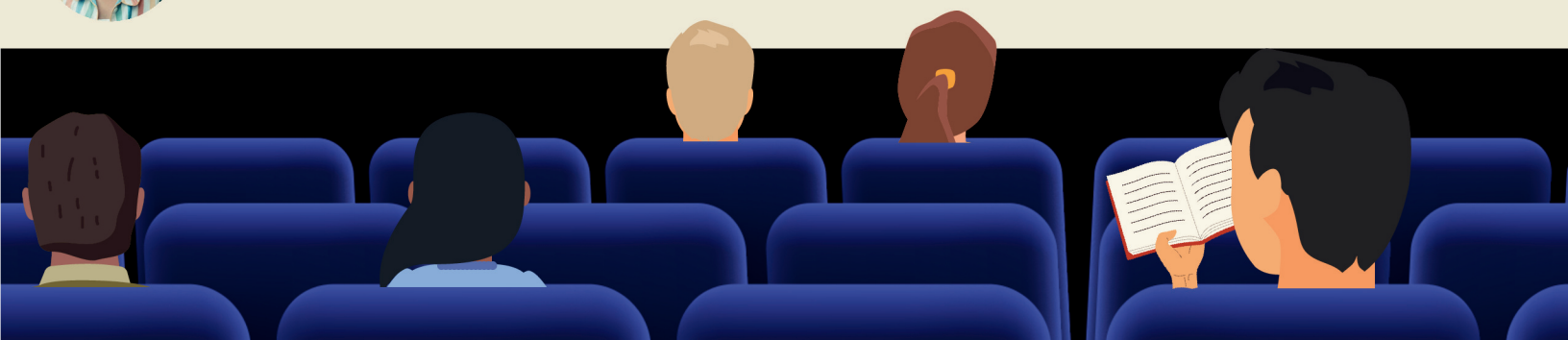
Ruth Ware's gripping 2016 mystery-thriller made waves with readers & critics alike, centering on a travel writer, a luxury cruise in the North Sea, & a chilling disappearance that defies explanation. The upcoming British film adaptation—starring Keira Knightley, Guy Pearce, Art Malik, & Gugu Mbatha-Raw—is set to arrive on Netflix this fall.



## PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION

Emily Henry 🌈

Emily Henry's 2021 hit *People We Meet on Vacation* gives a modern twist to *When Harry Met Sally*, exploring whether lifelong friends can become something more. Poppy & Alex are opposites who've shared years of travel adventures—until a rift drives them apart. Told through a series of past & present moments, the story follows Poppy's attempt to reconnect with Alex on one last trip that could change everything. Starring Emily Bader as Poppy, the film adaptation arrives on Netflix later this year.



# LIBRARY LOTT

2025 tickets are  
available now! Inquire at  
your local branch to  
purchase yours today!

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

## JULY WINNERS!



**ZACHARY C.**  
CLARION, PA



**KATHY B.**  
OIL CITY, PA



**MARK D.**  
ERIE, PA

CHRISTMAS  
IN JULY



WINNER!

**DOT M.**  
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 2025.

# COMMUNITY Baby & Family Shower

For expecting parents &  
caregivers of children up to age 2

This free event for expecting parents and caregivers of children up to age 2 offers a variety of resources, educational materials, and essential supplies to support you and your little ones. Connect with local organizations, gather helpful information, and take home useful items for your family!

FRI. AUG 22 | 2:00-6:00PM

**FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY**



**RSVP** to Keirstin Gregory  
(814) 518-2055  
gregoryk5@upmc.edu

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award 100% funded by HRSA/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

## LIBRARY HALL PRESENTS THE GATSBY BALL



Step into the roaring 1920s at The Gatsby Ball, a glamorous evening filled with curated cocktails, decadent hors d'oeuvres, thrilling games of chance, & lively jazz-era entertainment. Dress to impress in your best 1920s attire & enjoy themed experiences like shoe shining, a silent auction, & even an ostrich headband station. Luxury admission includes early access to an exclusive speakeasy & 10 special event tokens; general admission includes 5 tokens. Tokens are redeemable at the event for various activities, & additional tokens may be purchased throughout the night.

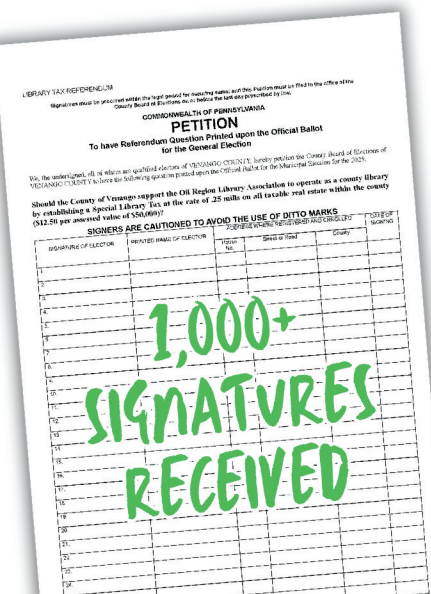
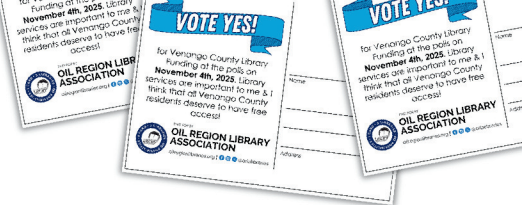
**TICKETS  
ON SALE NOW!**

at the Oil City Library & Franklin Public Library





# Petition Signature Goal Reached for Library Referendum Campaign



For the past few months, we've been gathering signatures for a petition to place a vital library referendum on the November 4, 2025 general election ballot. We are thrilled to report that we have well-surpassed the number of signatures needed to place our question on the ballot! Thank you to all who signed, circulated & spread the word about our petition - we couldn't have done it without you!

## What are the next steps?

Our next goal is to spread the word about the campaign as much as possible. If you'd like to help us accomplish this, please consider:

- Filling out a *Pledge to Vote Yes* postcard
- Distributing & displaying yard signs **COMING SOON!**
- Spreading the word to others & hand out campaign literature
- **Voting YES! on November 4th!**



## OIL CITY TEEN AFTER HOURS



**SAT. AUG 23**  **5:00PM**

Join us for another Teen After Hours Event at the Oil City Library - a Pokémon Card Tournament!

Official TCG rules will apply, & a rundown of gameplay will take place before the tournament begins! You can choose to bring your own deck or use one of our premade decks.

This FREE tournament will take place at the Oil City Library on August 23rd from 5:00-7:00PM. This event is open to ages 12-18. Please stop in or call the library to register at **(814) 678-3072**. Please email [dgreen@oilregionlibraries.org](mailto:dgreen@oilregionlibraries.org) with any questions.

tech help  
**TUESDAYS**



at the  
**OIL CITY  
LIBRARY**

**DROP-IN HOURS**  
most tuesdays **11:00AM-2:00PM**

## UPCOMING DATES:

Aug. 12 | Aug. 19 | Aug. 26 | Sep. 9

## GET FREE HELP WITH:



### Tech Devices

Find confidence & empowerment through learning new tech skills on any tech device, including smartphones, laptops, tablets & more.



### Navigating the Internet

Get personalized guidance on browsing safely, finding reliable information, setting up accounts, & more. Whether you're just getting started or want to improve your skills, we'll help you explore the web with confidence.



### Email & Software Programs

Need to create an email account, recover a password, or send attachments? We'll walk you through the basics! We also offer support for software programs like Microsoft Word, Excel, Google Docs, & more.



# FEATURED RESOURCES



## Oil City Library

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

Monday	9:00am-7:30pm
Tuesday	9:00am-7:30pm
Wednesday	9:00am-7:30pm
Thursday	9:00am-5:00pm
Friday	9:00am-5:00pm
Saturday	9:00am-3:00pm
Sunday	CLOSED

## Franklin Public Library

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

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

## Cooperstown Public Library

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

Monday	12:00pm-6:00pm
Tuesday	12:00pm-6:00pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	12:00pm-6:00pm
Friday	12:00pm-6:00pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	CLOSED



Thanks to the ARC Inclusion Library, there are plenty of ways for you to have fun outside this summer with items checked out for free with your library card! Some available items include:

- Football
- Telescope
- Disc Golf Set
- Cornhole Boards
- Bird Viewing Kit
- Geocaching Kit
- Basketball
- Pickleball Set
- Tennis Set
- Fishing Poles
- Golf Clubs
- Croquet
- Bocce Ball
- Kan Jam
- Ladder Toss
- Horseshoes
- Lawn Darts
- & more!



# FIND US ONLINE

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



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

