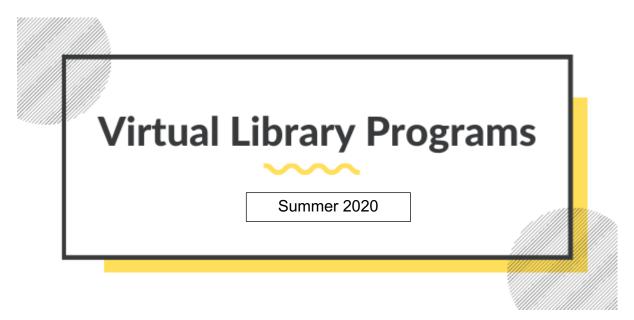
Is Library Virtual? Of Course!

If you are a cardholder of the Westmoreland Library Network, with a card issued to you by one of the 25 member public libraries in Westmoreland County, such as Murrysville Community Library, you have been receiving a weekly summer schedule of accessible programing at various WLN libraries. With specific dates and times omitted here, as summer programming is winding down, the e-mail blast looked something like this.





Our amazing libraries are hard at work creating virtual programs for you and your family.

A Daily Program Sampler

Page Turner Adventures, Murrysville Community Library

Wee Read with Miss Karen, Adams Memorial Library

Tuesday Tales at Home, Manor Public Library

Storytime with Miss B. and Marley, Jeannette Public Library

Published in the Penn-Franklin News August 12, 2020: "The Magic Library Card!"

Story Time with Miss Karen, Adams Memorial Library

Author's Corner: Girl on the Edge, Greensburg Hempfield Area Library

Some of our libraries are now accepting returns, offering curbside pickup and/or open. Please contact your <u>local library</u> to learn more about changes in library service. Items continue to be renewed automatically, and all fines and fees continue to be waived.

For more information about COVID-19, visit our COVID-19 Resource Guide at wln.fyi/covid.

WLN libraries have held over 450 programs like these since libraries were ordered to close in March. Even so, the above e-mail content is just one kind of resource from a WLN library in this time of COVID-19. Others include:

- Full access to WLN's whole nearly one million item collection
- In the case of Murrysville Community Library, browsing the local collection onsite for a limited scheduled time period during the day
- Access to Power Library on-line for all kinds of information, from how to repair an automobile to exhaustive STEM resources, about which I'll have more to say in a subsequent article
- Guidance to other free offerings on-line, local and global, from, for example, museums, other libraries, professional societies, theaters, and NASA

This is the second in a series, which began with "The Magic Library Card." It is meant to show you that public libraries are still "open," and they are about more than just books. They are also about programing with books, including even virtual programing in a time of crisis, and finding virtual entertainment and resources.

That is part of what modern libraries do. It is part of "informal" learning. More to come about public libraries: how they work and what they offer.

Charles B. Greenberg WLN Board President