

# ALLEGANY COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Fall 2021 LIBRARY GUIDE



**It's Your Lucky Day!**  
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**STAY CONNECTED**



## Message from the Executive Director

**W**elcome to our Fall 2021 Library Guide! In looking at my letter from the summer, I should have taken my advice to have a “fun, restful, and restorative summer” more seriously. We had a boatload of fun at all our Summer Reading Events, but the library staff were busier than ever this summer!

We were able to host 67 Summer Reading Events all around the county and online. Our partners and sponsors helped us with donations and healthy activities that allowed us to give out books and crafts to families and kids to ward off the summer reading slump. No matter the temperature, there was always a good crowd at our “Creepy Crawlers and Critters”, storybook strolls, and Storytime in the Park events. I also wish to say Congratulations! to all our Summer Reading Prize Winners, and note that as long as you keep reading and learning, you will come out a winner.

As the school year starts up again, I wanted to remind you of all the databases, resources, like online tutors, the library has to offer as your partner in your educational success. For those of you out of school but still wish to stay connected, stop in and borrow one of our Chromebooks or Wi-Fi Hotspots. These devices are perfect for most types of work or play and are available at all our libraries.

For our library visitors, we have also gotten extra copies of best sellers and our most popular titles to create Lucky Day Collections. Every library has Lucky Day Collections and since users cannot request them, every visit to the library may be your Lucky Day when you find a new and unexpected treasure!



I am excited to announce that we will continue taking advantage of our lovely fall weather and bringing the library to your community with Pop-Up Libraries. Starting in September, we will bring selections to local parks and businesses for you to browse and borrow. All you need is your library card! See the enclosed schedule for a Pop-Up Library near you! Progress continues on the expansion and renovation of the LaVale Library. The project remains on budget and on schedule as we plan for a September 2022 ribbon cutting. On behalf of the Library Board and Staff, I wish you and your families a successful school year and a happy, healthy fall.

Front: September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, a time when the ACLS joins the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries nationwide to remind our communities that a library card gives you the tools you need to succeed & provides opportunities to pursue your dreams & passions.



Best regards,

**John Taube**

Executive Director



## Lucky Day Collection



Looking to cozy up with a new book this weekend? How about a couple of movies to binge during a staycation? The library has two new collections that are ideal for the chilly months to come.

This fall, checkout the two new collections in the Allegany County Libraries: Lucky Day and Binge Boxes!

Lucky Day collections hit the shelves in early July 2021. Each library has a unique collection of Lucky Day books, audiobooks, and DVDs that consist of new releases, bestsellers, and blockbuster hits.

The Lucky Day items cannot be placed on request or sent to another library, they are truly 'luck' of the draw -or browse- checkouts.

Waiting on the new James Patterson or Nora Roberts?

You just may spot it on the Lucky Day shelf and snag it a couple weeks early, lucky you!



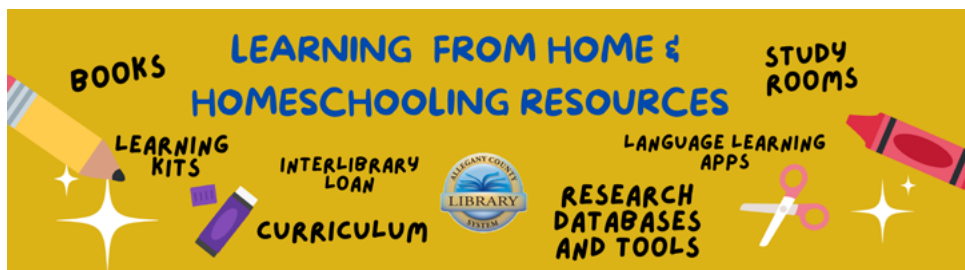
Binge Boxes are perfect for a weekend, or night in, depending on your binge rate... that is, how fast you're watching back to back. Binge Boxes feature four to five movies centered around a theme, like "Can you smell what the Rock is cookin'?" a set featuring Dwayne Johnson action films, and "Comedy Network Presents" with network favorites such as Ben 10 and Teen Titans Go!

Search "Binge Box" on the library catalog to view Binge Box themes and visit your local library to see what will make your day a lucky one!

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**Back to School** is looking much different from years past for many students. With so many COVID-19 unknowns still lurking, there are a record number of students still learning from home. With the growing number of homeschooled students, the needs of the learning community are shifting, and the library is ready to pivot with them!



The ACLS library staff quickly went to work creating a home learning team to develop and gather information about all the resources available for those learning at home. Toni from the South Cumberland Library and Caitlin (see Meet Caitlin on page 8) from the Frostburg Library worked together to create a resource list of learning kits and curriculum books that are available from the library system.

Many families that have used the kits, love checking them out often, like the Simmons family. Audrey Simmons states that “we get one every month or so.” Simmons says they really enjoy the kits with the hands-on games, like their favorite, the Gravity Kit. The Marks family also enjoys the extra activities included in the kits. Christina Marks says her daughter’s favorite kit is the Greek Mythology kit because of the card game, ‘Zeus on the Loose.’ South Cumberland staff member Toni adds that she loves the Tongue Drum Kit, “it’s so much fun to play the drum using the included songbook. If you can match numbers, you can play a song on this drum. I love this Kit as a supplement to learning about music and cultures around the world.”





Prior to the learning kits, many homeschooling families utilized the numerous traditional library services to supplement their curriculum. Wendy Strawderman, homeschooling mother of four, credits using the library, and particularly interlibrary loan system (Marina) to help “dive deeper into topics during unit studies,” to help save money, and enrich their learning. Her eldest is preparing to graduate in May 2022 and is now using resources from the library to study and prepare for the ACT college entrance exam.



Emily Cerda, mother of two homeschoolers, also uses interlibrary loan as well as the Mango app for language learning. The Cerda family also enjoys simply using the library tables and study rooms as alternative spaces when they're feeling "cooped up at home."




Library staff, Toni and Caitlin worked to compile a complete list of homeschooling and learning from home resources available from the library. These resources can be found on our new webpage, [www.alleganycountylibrary.info/learningkits](http://www.alleganycountylibrary.info/learningkits). Toni says the team "wanted to create something that would be helpful to our community and relates to how they've been serving our patrons in our libraries." My co-workers know how much I love assisting our kids and families (whether homeschooled or not) as it relates to anything educational and enriching!"



# Virtual Write-In

JOIN LIVE FOR WRITING SPRINTS





**LIVE •**

National Novel Writing Month began in 1999 as a daunting but straightforward challenge: to write 50,000 words of a novel in thirty days. Now, each year on November 1, hundreds of thousands of people around the world begin to write, determined to end the month with 50,000 words of a brand-new novel. See [nanowrimo.org](http://nanowrimo.org)

Join Ali for these popular virtual write-ins, beginning in November. Check our YouTube and events page for dates. Ali will be Live, welcoming writers to work on their novels in these short sprints!

OverDrive

## Read Banned Books on Libby.





# POP-UP LIBRARY



BRINGING THE LIBRARY TO YOU!

**Fridays 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

**10/01 YMCA at Riverside**

**10/08 Constitution Park in Cumberland**

**10/15 Cresaptown Park**

**10/22 Creekside Park in Westernport**

**10/29 Hope Station in Cumberland**

**11/05 YMCA at Riverside**

**11/12 Constitution Park in Cumberland**

**11/19 Cresaptown Park**



- Check out new material including adult books, DVDs and audiobooks
- Sign up for a library card
- Get more information about library services and events
- Score some library swagg!

**OMG**

*Weather permitting and subject to change*



## POP UP YOGA! GENTLE YOGA FOR ALL 12:15 PM - 12:45 PM

**JOIN COURTNEY IN THE PARK !**

**10/8 - Constitution Park**

**10/22 - Creekside Park  
in Westernport**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN MAT & PLENTY OF  
WATER & WEAR YOUR COMFIEST CLOTHES!**

Questions? Call 301-777-1200 ext 1009

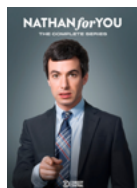
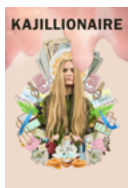
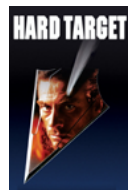
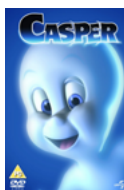
## BRINGING THE LIBRARY TO YOU!

The doors of the libraries may be closed on Fridays, but the library staff are going beyond the books.... into a community location near you! Modeled after the successful Story Time in the Park event series, the Allegany County Library System staff are bringing a mini library to several parks and community locations throughout the county on Fridays from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

These mini, moving, libraries are called, Pop-Up Libraries, because of their flexibility to “pop-up” anywhere. This fall, Pop-Up Libraries will be visiting Constitution Park, PVAA Fields in Cresaptown, Creekside Park in Westernport, HOPE Station in Cumberland, and the Riverside YMCA. At the Pop-Up Libraries, patrons can check out new material including adult books, DVDs and audiobooks, sign up for a library card, get more information about library services and events, and of course, score some library swag! There will even be some Pop-Up Gentle Yoga sessions at the October 8 and October 22 events!

The library staff hopes to expand the Pop-Up Library series to include more locations to serve those that cannot visit one of the library branches easily. Staff also hope to add more programming to accompany the Pop-Up Library with plans for computer classes and Story Times!

## What to watch!





## Meet Caitlin Molter

### Service Specialist at Frostburg Library

**Favorite genre to read:** Historical Fiction and Chick lit (and great picture books too!)

**Number of books read in 2020:** 16 adult books (and countless picture and board books)

**What was your favorite read of 2020?** I really got in the groove with digital audiobooks in 2020 so it's hard to choose! The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes and Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid topped my list.

**Have you ever started a book and not finished?** All the time! Especially listening to audiobooks, some are hard to follow so I just move on to the next one.

**Do you read more than one book at a time?** Sometimes. I mostly listen to digital audiobooks and I sometimes have a hard copy of another book that I read during my lunch break.

**What are you currently using as a bookmark?** A checkout receipt

**What is your favorite thing about working at the library?**

As a resident of Frostburg, I really enjoy working in the community where I live. I love helping people find the right books and learning how to use new technology.

- Take a test
- Fill out Job Applications
- Watch a movie on Kanopy

HAVE YOU HEARD?

# UNLIMITED COMPUTER USAGE

Unlimited Computer Sessions!

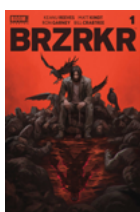
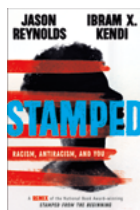
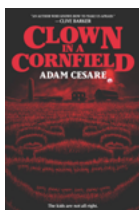
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*\*Subject to change based on availability*





## Book suggestions for teens



# Story Time in the Park

Every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00 AM  
Suitable for families and all ages

10/5 Iron Furnace Park in Lonaconing  
10/7 Cresaptown Sports Complex  
10/12 Constitution Park Amphitheater  
10/14 Creekside Park in Westernport  
10/19 Holly Field in LaVale  
10/21 Glendening Park in Frostburg  
10/26 Canal Place in Cumberland  
10/28 Iron Furnace Park in Lonaconing  
11/2 Cresaptown Sports Complex  
11/4 Constitution Park Amphitheater  
11/9 Creekside Park in Westernport  
11/11 Holly Field in LaVale  
11/16 Glendening Park in Frostburg  
11/18 Canal Place in Cumberland  
11/30 Iron Furnace Park in Lonaconing  
12/2 Cresaptown Sports Complex  
12/7 Constitution Park Amphitheater  
12/9 Creekside Park in Westernport  
12/14 Holly Field in LaVale  
12/16 Glendening Park in Frostburg

Schedule subject to change and  
weather permitting



## Story Time Live!

Your favorite Story Time librarians will be broadcasting Story Time LIVE for you on Zoom. Each event will have a unique URL that will be posted on the Allegany County Library System's [Facebook page](#) 10 minutes before each LIVE event! The live Story Times will use Zoom Webinar, which will only show the friendly faces of Miss Kate, Miss Stacy, and Miss Misty!

Sept. 29 through Dec. 15

Wednesdays

at 10:00 AM & at 2:00 PM



## STORY TIME LIVE

is starting soon!

click the Zoom link on this post to join



morning story times at 10am



Grow your reading skills or simply enjoy a good story with our

## CHAPTER A DAY

You can currently binge readalong with the following books on our YouTube channel:





youtube.com/alleganycountylibrary



## SUMMER WITH YOUR LIBRARY

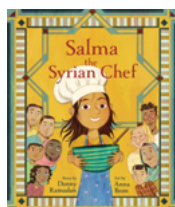
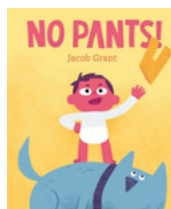
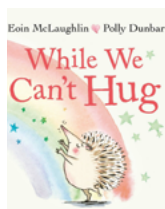
1,627 people attended events  
1,430 books given out to kids  
1,256 crafts given out to kids  
1,272 reading logs returned

over 12,520 books read

655 giftcards bought from local businesses

Did you miss a Story Time? Watch Story Times on-demand plus browse our virtual Story Time bookcase with titles read and recommended by your favorite Story Time librarians! Visit [www.alleganycountylibrary.info/storytime](http://www.alleganycountylibrary.info/storytime)

## Book suggestions for children



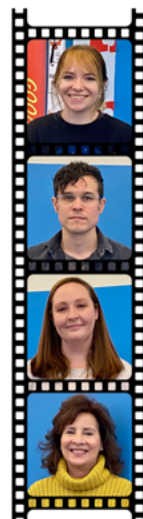


# LET'S GET LIT!

A video and podcast series where our staff give surefire recommendations, available to watch or listen to at your convenience!

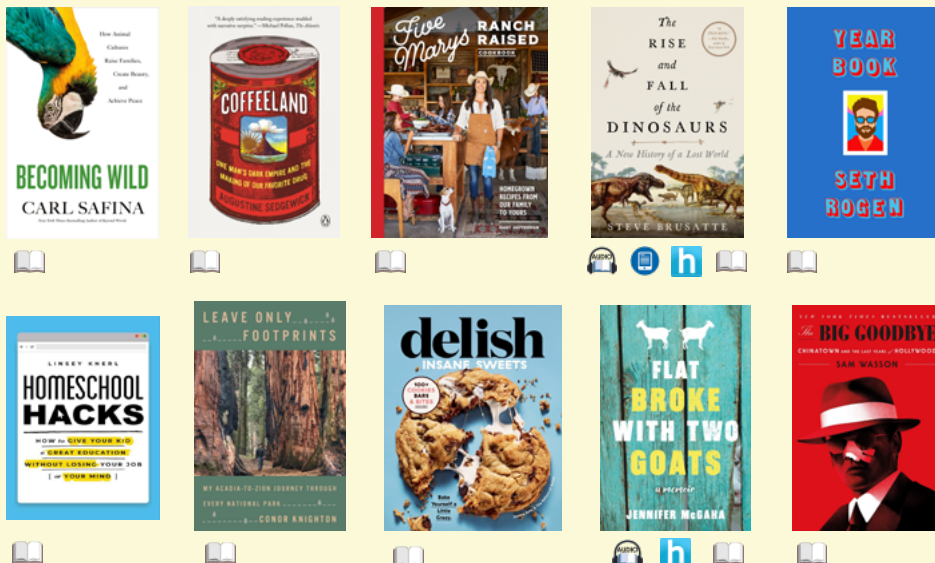
FIND US ON:

YouTube
 Listen on Apple Podcasts
 Spotify
 Google Podcasts



Look for videos & podcasts posted on the above list! While you are at it, check out our guests as we expand our themes & genres!

## See what NON-FICTION books library staff are reading!



## Cozy Reader's Book Group

Currently, discussions take place on Zoom on the second Saturday of each month from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm. A new book is selected each month for the group to discuss.

Please contact Cathy at the South Cumberland Library at 301-724-1607 if interested in a print book and for more information about how to join the online book discussion.



October 9  
1:30 PM

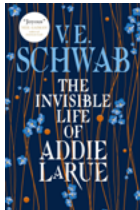


November 13  
1:30 PM



# See what FICTION library staff are reading!

# SEE WHAT THE LIBRARY STAFF ARE READING



**Ariadne** by Jennifer Saint follows the lives of Crete princesses, Ariadne & Phaedra, sisters to the famed Minotaur. Explores a new perspective of classic mythology and the “forgotten” women. – Sierra

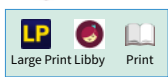
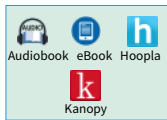
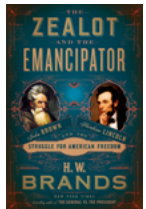
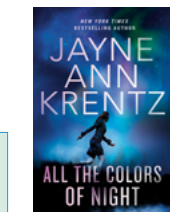
**The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue** by V.E. Schwab  
A woman makes a deal with the devil to live forever, but no one will remember her from one day to the next. She meets a man one day 300 years later who does remember her! – Caitlin

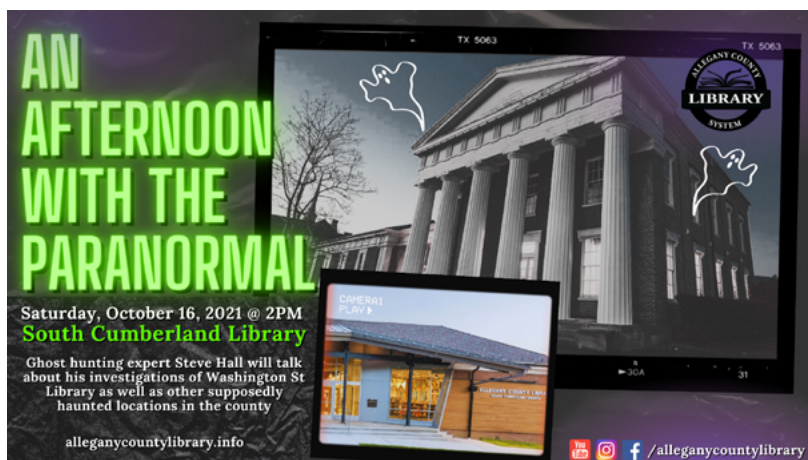
**The Museum of Extraordinary Things** by Alice Hoffman - Set in early 20th century New York, this novel tells the story of Coralie, whose father runs a freak show museum. Coralie is an extraordinary swimmer who performs as a mermaid in the show. This novel combines historical fiction, romance, and mystery. – Linda

**Sleeping Giants** by Sylvain Neuvel - Fantastic on audio! Scientists on the edge of unraveling history’s most perplexing discovery of a mysterious artifact and figuring out what it portends for humanity and if it’s a weapon of mass destruction. – Ali

**Those Who are Saved** by Alexis Landau  
historical fiction about a woman who never gives up hope searching for her daughter after WWII. – Regina

**The Zealot and the Emancipator: John Brown, Abraham Lincoln and the Struggle for American Freedom** by H. W. Brands - A fascinating exploration of Brown and Lincoln and their efforts to end slavery in America. – Kristin



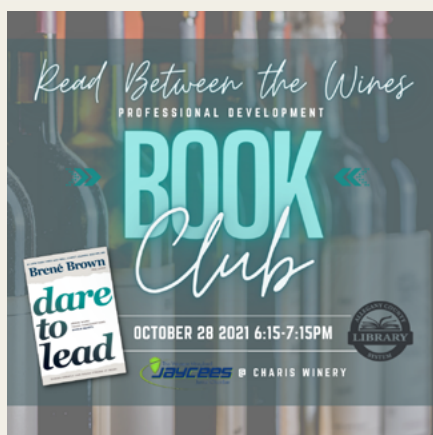


## Ghosts and Souls and Spirits, oh my!

Paranormal investigator Steve Hall will discuss the investigation he conducted at the historic Washington Street Library branch as well as other locations around the county. Hall had been invited to conduct a ghost search after several staff at the Washington Street branch claimed paranormal occurrences. The library, being over 170 years old, is rife with history. The building was once an Academy turned into a Civil War hospital, among other rumors of being connected to the Underground Railroad and once having gallows.

A ghost expert and instructor for Introduction to Paranormal Investigations at Allegany College of Maryland, Hall tries to find reasonable explanations to why some things go bump in the night. Using ghost hunting equipment and logic, he can present sensible findings to what may be happening in some of our most seemingly haunted places.

*Are you ready to spend an afternoon with the paranormal?*



The Allegany County Library System and Western Maryland Jaycees will host a professional development book discussion on "Dare to Lead" by Brené Brown at Charis Winery on **October 28**. All are welcome to participate and network during this professional development book discussion. Copies of the book are available through the library both in our catalog and online through the Maryland Digital Library.

**6:15 to 7:15 PM at**  **Charis Winery**

The Western Maryland Jaycees is a local volunteer organization of active citizens ages 21-40, dedicated to Western Maryland, sharing the belief that in order to create positive change we must take collective action to improve ourselves and the world. Members gain leadership experience and improve professional skills through community projects, individual training, and local and international connections.

## Western Maryland Watercolor Society Donates to Library



The Western Maryland Watercolor Society donated \$180.00 to the Allegany County Library System to support library art programs. Funds are raised with the sales of 5 by 7 inch paintings that are created and donated by members of the Society. The financial support helps with the Summer@Your Library art programs and with the Young Artists' Studio series at your library.

Pictured are Anita Teter, Nancy Biggs, Mary Biery, Lita Havens, President - Western Maryland Watercolor Society, Cathy Glessner, Secretary- Western Maryland Watercolor Society, Laura Thornburg, Treasurer - Western Maryland Watercolor Society, Renee Mason, Arts & Graphics Coordinator – Allegany County Library System, Barry Winters, Marcy Brack, and Jill Baldinger.

### DO YOU KNOW WE HAVE A **NEW CREDIT CARD SYSTEM?**

*A better, more secure system for you!*

- Equipped with a chip reader
- Accepts PayPal and Venmo
- Offers contactless transactions
- Email receipts available
- \$1.00 minimum transaction

*Want to know more?  
Ask a circulation assistant!*

### Four-Legged Friends Food For Fines Day Thursday, October 21

**Help the  
Allegany County Animal Shelter!**

Have fines waived from your library account! All branches of the Allegany County Library System will accept donations of dog or cat food in exchange for library fines.



### Did you know?

Our meeting rooms and study room are now available for public use reservations! The Frostburg Library will remain closed for staff use.

Please recycle 

## Hours Open

**Monday – Thursday:**  
**11:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

**Saturday Hours at  
Frostburg and South  
Cumberland from**  
**11:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

### Frostburg

65 E. Main Street  
Frostburg, MD 21532  
301 – 687 – 0790

### George's Creek

76 Main Street  
Lonaconing, MD 21539  
301 – 463 – 2629

### South Cumberland

100 Seymour Street  
Cumberland, MD 21502  
301 – 724 – 1607

### Washington Street

31 Washington Street  
Cumberland, MD 21502  
301 – 777 – 1200

### Westernport

66 Main Street  
Westernport, MD 21562  
301 – 359 – 0455

***The LaVale Library  
is closed for renovation.***

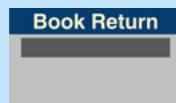
## Enhanced Safety Measures



Masks required  
at all times



Practice social  
distancing



All returns go to  
the book drop

**Learn more at**

[www.alleganycountylibrary.info/coronavirus](http://www.alleganycountylibrary.info/coronavirus)

## Library Board of Trustees

Terry Michels–President  
Deborah Hendrickson–Treasurer  
William Bingman–Secretary  
Renee Kniseley  
Stephanie Marchbank  
John Persons  
Sue Rudd



4:00 p.m. meetings  
are open to the public.  
October 12 and November 9

The Library Guide is published three  
times a year by the Allegany County  
Library System © 2021

John Taube, Executive Director  
Renee Mason, Arts & Graphics Coordinator  
Ashley Swinford, Director of Marketing

All the library branches will be closed on

- Monday, October 11 for Staff Day
- Thursday, November 25,  
Friday, November 26, and  
Saturday, November 27 for Thanksgiving
- Friday, December 24 and  
Saturday, December 25 for Christmas
- Friday, December 31 and  
Saturday, January 1 for New Year's

***“Enhanced safety, exceptional service”***