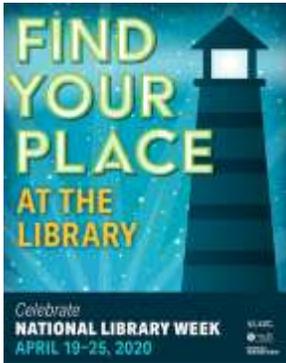


## May Library Director's Report for April 2020

Library Director's "Library Workers Day" Tribute <https://animoto.com/play/NlCAtC337WxSKSJ4gyDV1w>

From researching thermometers for taking staff temperatures to taking measurements for plexiglass protective shields it has been an unusual April to say the least. Information continued to change rapidly about the Coronavirus and our small but mighty staff of six learned to use Zoom, WebEx and BlueJeans platforms to stay informed on many



different levels. We regularly attended national, state and local webinars, chats, tutorials and meetings to learn from experts as we all try to navigate through these rough waters as a team. The PA Library Association has been hosting weekly meetings for library directors and these have been especially helpful as we learn from one another across the Commonwealth.



We have also been sharing information, coordinating programming and clarifying logistics during our own weekly PTPL team meetings, in daily emails, phone calls and texts. We are already making plans for the day when we receive permission to transition back to safe, limited service beginning with curbside pickup. Despite our many meetings we did find time to plan, rehearse, record and host 66 programs. The American Library Association even had to change their slogan for National Library Week in the midst of this pandemic to reflect new nationwide #stayhome orders and to "Find the Library at Your Place" instead. I created an Animoto video to honor our entire library staff for Library Workers Day and mailed thank-you cards to our nearly 100 volunteers to celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week. Despite these strange times of social distancing it is



important that we remember to appreciate our co-workers and volunteers and the times we've shared.

Ed Wolf has continued to support our efforts by offering quick fixes to patron library card problems and providing answers remotely to our many tech-related questions as we work apart in our digital world. Ed has also been very valuable to our WAGGIN libraries as a leader in coordinating a new local Chat with a Librarian network.

April was National Poetry Month and Assistant

Director, Sue Miller, celebrated by recording five local poets reading their original poems. She then created an iMovie from their selections and Carrie Weaver included it in one of her many informative weekly e-newsletters. We also posted it to Facebook with a link to our YouTube Channel. It was a lovely way to celebrate the arts and we received many positive comments. Sue also used her new-found iMovie skills to create a clever craft tutorial to engage our adult patrons and then shared her movie-making skills with Youth Services who are eager to learn as they continue to produce lots of new virtual programming content for our younger viewers each week.



Speaking of our younger patrons, Shannon Pauley, Head of PTPL Youth Services, and Library Assistant, Sydney Krawiec, have been working very hard together to offer a wide new menu of programming for the



youth of our community. The newly launched PTPL Youth Services Facebook page will serve our young library users from babies through teens for years to come. They already have 430 people who have “Liked” their page. They are offering calendar time, virtual story times, links to learning with library resources, STEM fun, boredom busters, a photography challenge, trivia nights, plenty of e-book recommendations and so much more!



Carrie Weaver e-mailed a survey to our 8551 e-newsletter subscribers to ask what they missed most about the library and received 700 responses. Their answers have given us valuable information which we have taken into consideration as we planned for these programs and future ones. The number one response was for virtual programming for adults that entertain and engage. In response, Ed Wolf will be hosting Online



Genealogy Basics and I'll be hosting our first Virtual 3R's Zoom meeting of educators to share our wealth of library resources in their Google Classrooms. We offered virtual World Affairs Wednesday, Get Organized for Good, Senior Memories and continued our Afternoon Tunes with Harry Funk. We are currently planning for a Vitalant Blood Drive, participating in a Memorial Day tribute with The Veterans Breakfast Club and creating a Spring Art Slideshow with the McMurray Art League in May.

We continued to engage our patrons with e-learning opportunities and our digital circulation of Freegal, Kanopy, Overdrive and digital magazines/newspapers reached 6550 in April. The Great Courses, Gale Courses and Mango Languages also provide new ways to learn. Ms. Sydney even presented a LIVE national webinar hosted by the Nebraska Library Commission to teach and answer questions about creating a Virtual Escape Room. Her Hogwarts Virtual Escape Room has already been translated into five different languages.

