



## **Peters Township Library Report – February 2025**

### **Teen & Tween Writing Contest**

The library is holding its fourth annual Tween & Teen Writing Contest this spring with the theme, “Unearth.” Whether writers want to explore “unearth” as a literal action (to dig up out of the earth or bring to light after burial) or as a figurative discovery (to find or reveal something that has been hidden, lost, or forgotten) — entrants can get creative in how they craft an original work that relates to the theme. From uncovering prehistoric fossils and ancient relics to exposing long-buried secrets, forgotten memories, or hidden truths, we invite writers to dig deep and show us what lies beneath the surface! Winners will be announced at a reception on April 16th at 6 p.m. at the library. Families and friends are encouraged to attend this event, which will include light refreshments and recognition of all contest participants.

### **Youth Services**

The weather may be cold, but the Youth Services Department is always bustling with activity. We took advantage of the PTSD in-service day on February 13 and offered five youth programs, including tween and teen Cricut Creations, video game tournaments, and a new Rubik’s Cube Club facilitated by teen volunteers.

Our winter session of storytimes concluded in the first week of March. The Youth Services Department hosted seven storytimes per week for eight weeks, including Toddler Tales, Bodies in Motion, Tiny Tunes, Preschool Storytime, Mother Goose, Kindergarten Readiness, and Book Babies. We also host a monthly Saturday storytime program – First Steps, First Stories. Almost 1,400 littles and caregivers attended storytime programs during the winter session. Spring session launches on April 6.

The Department wrapped up February with a new family event, Cardboard Fort Night! 13 different families, totaling 36 participants, created unique cardboard forts with boxes, slipsheets, tubes, duct tape, and cardboard tools. This program was a great example of cross-generational family engagement.

### **Open Book Store**

The biannual “Fill-a-Bag Sale” was hosted by the Library Foundation the weekend of February 19. Thank you to everyone who donated or shopped, as well as to our 40+ volunteers who helped make this sale happen. 488 bags of books and 130 library tote bags were sold, and 82 free bags of books went out at the end of the sale. Books that remained were sent to local nonprofits, Washington County Jail, Pittsburgh Prison Book Project, and Southwood Hospital. All proceeds from The Open Book Store benefit the library.