

Spring 2021

ADL NEWSLETTER

PROGRAMS

Storytime LIVE on Facebook

THURSDAYS | 10:30 AM

We are pleased to announce the continuation of our weekly virtual storytime program! We will be going live on Facebook every Thursday at 10:30 AM to share stories, rhymes and literacy activities. Live streams will be saved to the Allegan District Library Facebook page, so if you are unable to join us live, you can still watch at a later time. Don't forget to check out the Storytime at Home resources on our website to enhance your virtual storytime experience!



TAILS & TALES



Allegan District Library is calling on our patrons to create original designs to celebrate the 2021 Summer Learning Program: Tails & Tales (animal theme). We are running two different contests: a coloring page design contest and a sticker/button design contest. Designs will be used to make either stickers and button badges, or coloring pages, all of which will be used for giveaways, to represent the library in the community and to promote our 2021 Summer Learning Program. For more information, check out the posts on our website and Facebook page, or stop by the library to pick up a list of guidelines.

Take & Create Kits

Our popular curbside program, Take and Create, is continuing through spring! New kits for children are released every Monday, while kits for teens and adults are released every other week. Kits vary from open-ended art projects, to science experiments, to DIY projects. All kits are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and we ask that each individual takes just one kit to allow others the opportunity to participate too!



Looking for a Notary Public?

Notary Public services are available at the library!

The best way to make sure our Notary is available is to call us and ask about making an appointment.

See our website for more information.

Tween & Teen Volunteers

We're looking for volunteers ages 11-18 to help put together our curbside programming kits and assist with other projects leading up to and throughout our Summer Learning Program.



Opportunities are currently available on weekdays during regular library hours. Interested tweens and teens can call us or email Melissa: mosickey@alleganlibrary.org

BOARD GAMES

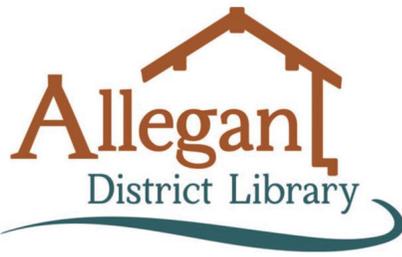


Board games are now available for checkout! Look for your favorites or browse the entire selection by searching "board games" in our catalog.

331 Hubbard Street, Allegan, MI 49010

www.alleganlibrary.org

269-637-4625



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ALLEGAN, MI 49010

Please Note: Programs, events and spaces may be photographed or videotaped to be utilized in the library's print and online publications. Please, notify library staff if you prefer not to be photographed.

CURRENT RESIDENT
ALLEGAN, MI 49010

Allegan District Library President's Remarks

A year ago we had just inked a plan for Assistant Director, Devin Erlandson, to serve as library Interim Director following Ryan Deery's resignation when the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic arrived in Allegan. This wasn't in our plan. It wasn't in anyone's plan. Yet, it provided the opportunity to demonstrate the resilience and professionalism of our entire team.

Our national search for a new library director got underway and applications from highly qualified candidates came rolling in. With thoughtfulness and diligence, the trustees arrived at a final candidate pool.

Travel restrictions prolonged the in-person interview process, and still, by mid-July we were pleased to bring Pamela Armstrong on board to be the next library Director. She was at her desk by mid-August, which is a major step toward "normal". The trustees remain grateful for Devin's expertise and leadership, guiding the library through nearly eight months of uncertainty.

Now, the operational leadership team—Pam and Devin, are working together with us and we are poised to create the next Strategic Plan to focus the energy and resources at the library for the benefit of you, our patrons. The trustees couldn't be happier!

The trustees look forward with excitement to reopening the library to full service in the prescribed stages that will protect both our staff and patrons. To hurry that process or skip steps is unconscionable. Please be patient while we remain compliant to the MDHHS requirements for tiered reopening. Make no mistake—the past is history, we are looking to the future.

We survived this last year together, and together we will return to a full-service, Gold Standard library in well thought-out steps. We will continue our journey in service to you—we are almost there.
—Michael Kiella, President of the Trustees

A Far Cry

I have worked in libraries for over 30 years. Never would I believe we would limit access to the library's physical building. What is a library, but a destination for information, entertainment and a meeting space? During the height of the pandemic, Allegan District Library adapted to create a new model of service, to provide access to material, computers use, fax, scan and copies, and have created online library card signup. We will gather a bag of books, movies or games for you to pick up based upon you or your child's interests if you do not feel comfortable browsing. We continue to provide "Take and Make" kits to enable families to provide children with fun, hands on learning activities in a safe way.

More of the budget was dedicated to digital products to keep up with demand. We sought out and obtained grants to have laptops and Wi-Fi hotspots available for checkout. We received grants for PPE. We are looking to increase our outside Wi-Fi strength.

While visits to the library feel more like a visit to the grocery store, with a clear intention and for a short duration; we are still here to support your needs for information, entertainment and digital services. Until the day we are able to greet each other with a smile, we will still be here for our community.



Pamela Armstrong,
Director

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