On February 4, 2020, we celebrate our first year of joining LCLC (Lehigh Carbon Library Cooperative)! And what a great but crazy year it has been for WTPL patrons! We have placed 3,789 items in transit to and from other LCLC libraries, and we have issued about 3,200 library cards. If we don’t have the item you want, we’ll get it from one of the other 11 libraries in the system. And with daily delivery 6 days a week, the item will be at WTPL in 1 or 2 days except for Sundays. If you don’t have a purple LCLC card, stop in and get yours today! All you need to get a card is proof of current address. Let us show you what the purple card can do to help you find resources.

You still have time to sign up for the Adult Winter Reading Program, which will run until Sat. February 22. Our theme this year is “Books Grow in the Snow”! Any adult 18 years and older may sign up at the front desk or online. To participate, you just need to register with your name and phone number, pick up a reading log, write your authors and titles and submit the reading log by February 22. We have an additional reading challenge attached to the log for those who want to play. We’ll have our wrap up party on Tues., February 25 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Prizes for anyone who reads one book or more!

WTPL now offers a community jigsaw puzzle table for adults. Patrons are invited to spend some time in the library and help complete the puzzle. The library currently seeks jigsaw puzzle donations for adults to work on. Puzzles with 300 to 1,000 pieces will be accepted at the front desk. Once a jigsaw puzzle has been completed at the library, a new puzzle will be in place. Donations of puzzles are accepted year-round at the library! Have some fun, and thank you to those who donated the puzzles. We have jigsaw puzzles on sale for $2 each if you want to take one home.

The Friends of the Library have changed their meeting schedule. They now meet every other month on the second Friday of that month. The dates are January 10, March 13, May 8, July 10, September 11 and November 13, 2020. The library board and staff would like to thank the FOL for all of the support and help over the years, and we appreciate their dedication to the library.

The Knitting Guild will meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from 6 - 8 p.m. Whether you knit, crochet, or do other kinds of needlework, the Lehigh Valley Knitting Guild could be a good opportunity for you to relax with your fellow crafters. Have fun chatting while practicing your techniques or trying new ones.
It can often brighten the bleak winter seasons when we turn our attention to the life around us. There are plenty of plants associated with this season, such as fir trees, poinsettias, holly, and mistletoe. You can find a lot if you look hard enough! You can also use this time to plan ahead for your spring garden.

That’s why the theme of our ongoing 2020 Adult Winter Reading Program is “Books Grow in the Snow.” Anyone 18 years and older can take part. You just have to register at the front desk or online and log in at least one book before Sat., February 22 at 5 p.m. (You also have that long to complete our optional reading challenge if you want to give it a try.)

We’ll have our program wrap-up on Tues., February 25 at two times: at 1 p.m. & 6 p.m., so you can pick whichever time is best for you. At this program, we all talk about what we read this winter, and anyone who logged at least one book gets a prize, with an additional prize for those who completed the challenge. Why not brighten up your winter with some books, plants, and fun?

Did You Know?

This is the first year that the Super Bowl falls on Groundhog Day, so on Sun., February 2, you can catch Punxsutawney Phil’s predictions for spring before getting ready for some football with Super Bowl LIV!

**Spring Story Time**

**Preschool Story Time (37 months - 6 years old):**
Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., February 25 – April 14 & Wednesdays, 1:00 p.m., February 26 – April 15

**Toddler Story Time (12 - 36 months old):**
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., March 5 – April 9

With spring on its way, we’re getting ready to read some stories fit for the season so you and your kids can start thinking green thoughts. This spring, we’ll have an 8-week session of story time for preschoolers and a 6-week session for toddlers. All children must register through our website, and our front desk staff can help you with that if you need help navigating it. Parents need to stay with their kids during Toddler Story Time.

**At the Movies: The Addams Family**

On the 3rd Tuesday of every month, the library has a Family Movie Night. This month’s movie is the 2019 animated film, *The Addams Family*. This creepy, kooky, mysterious, and spooky family has been in a lot of media, including several books and movies that you can borrow from our eleven-library system with one of our purple LCLC (Lehigh Carbon Library Cooperative) cards. Then you can check out their latest adventure here in the library on February 18 at 6 p.m. In this film, the Addams family moves to a bland suburb where Wednesday’s friendship with the daughter of a hostile and conformist local reality show host exacerbates conflict between the families.
Ongoing Programs

- **3rd Monday Open Mic/Jam**
  - 3rd Monday, 6:30 p.m.
  - We welcome both audience members and performers. If you want to perform, you can sign up for slots starting at 6:15 p.m., and you can play for up to 15 minutes or 3 pieces.

- **Adult Coloring Club**
  - 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
  - The library’s coloring club meets twice a month to give members a place to unwind.

- **Creation Station**
  - 1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
  - Kids can exercise their creative sides with this activity on the first Tuesday of the month. Every month, we challenge kids to build with different materials, such as Legos or Duplos. It’s recommended for Grades 2 – 6, but all are welcome.

- **Family Movie Night**
  - 3rd Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. (see pg. 2)

- **Lehigh Valley Knitting Guild**
  - 1st & 3rd Thursday, 6 - 8 p.m.
  - Whether you knit, crochet, or do other kinds of needlework, this could be a good opportunity for you to relax with your fellow crafters. Have fun chatting while practicing your techniques or trying new ones.

- **Teen Advisory Board Meeting**
  - 1:30-3 p.m., once a month on a Saturday (see library for dates; this month, it’s February 29)
  - Any teens from grades 7 - 12 who want to volunteer at the library can feel free to check out our Teen Advisory Board. TAB helps the library plan and run different events and projects throughout the year. We’re always looking for more members, so whether you love libraries, you need community service hours for school, or you’re just looking for something new to do, feel free to stop by any upcoming meeting to see if it’s the right fit for you.

- **What Are You Reading Now?: Adult Book Talks**
  - 4th Tuesday, 1 - 2 p.m.
  - Adults can talk about whatever books they read this month. Share what you read and get more ideas for your list! [This month’s book talk will be the wrap-up party for our Adult Winter Reading Program (see pg. 2)].

Feeling Puzzled?

We’re always looking for ways to make the library a fun, community-oriented place. One new thing we’re trying is that we’re leaving a puzzle out by the front window for adults to work on. These puzzles are generally 300-1,000 pieces, and you can put a few together or a lot, as you have time. Think of it as a way to connect with other patrons! Besides that, puzzles have a lot of great benefits on their own. Studies show that doing jigsaw puzzles can help lower stress and improve your mood and mental abilities. It keeps your mind active and challenges your problem-solving skills, visual-special abilities, memory, attention to detail, and more! Whether you enjoy puzzles on your own or not, think about trying to fit a few pieces here. Who knows? You may find a new hobby that you love.
Board in the Library

Since people enjoyed our January board game nights, we’re bringing them back for one more month. You can be Board in the Library on Wednesday nights from 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. The dates will be February 5, 12, 19, and 26, and you can come to any or all of them. This game time gives you a chance to dust off some old games or try something new. The library has a collection of games, though you’re welcome to bring your own as well. We welcome adults and kids alike, though we ask that parents stay with children under age 12.

Book Nook

Every month is designated to raise awareness for several causes. This month, let’s recognize “Plant the Seeds of Greatness”. The title fits with our winter reading theme “Books Grow in the Snow”. It really means to follow your dream(s) - just the nudge we need when our New Year resolutions are starting to flag. Browse these areas of our nonfiction collection for help: self-improvement (158); finances (332.024); health (613); gardening (635); cooking (641.5+); career (650s) home improvement (690s); hobbies (700s).

Here’s a new Find-A-Word feature with a secret message. Let us know if you like it!

~ Chris Andrews
Database Overview

The library has databases on a variety of subjects. You can find them on our website (www.whitehallpl.org/research-learn/) and use them for fun and education. You can use all of them on our computers, and you can use all but two (ABC Mouse & Ancestry) at home as long as you have a valid library card number and password. (See our front desk for help getting those.) Here's what we have to offer:

Books & Magazines
- **NovelList Plus**: personalized book recommendations
- **OverDrive**: eBooks & eAudiobooks
- **POWER Library**: authoritative resources on health, science, literature, and more
- **RBDigital**: digital magazines

Genealogy
- **Ancestry**: census information and other historical documents to help you trace your family tree
- **Fold3**: military records
- **Heritage Quest**: more historical records

Kids
- **ABC Mouse**: early learning program with educational books, games, puzzles, and songs
- **Teen BookCloud**: eBooks for middle & high school
- **TumbleBook Library**: animated read-along eBooks

Learning
- **Brainfuse Help Now**: study resources & live tutors
- **Brainfuse Learn Now**: practice quizzes & lessons

- **LearningExpress Library**: study guides & practice exams for tests like SAT, GED, NCLEX, & PRAXIS
- **LibGuides**: resources on a variety of topics

World & Travel
- **AtoZ Food America**: recipes & articles on ingredients and food culture in the US
- **AtoZ Maps Online**: US & world maps showing geography, ecology, climate, topography & more
- **AtoZ the USA**: general country information
- **AtoZ the World**: language, culture, history, & more
- **AtoZ World Food**: recipes & food information from around the world
- **Rosetta Stone**: language learning

Other
- **Ask Here PA**: online chat with a librarian
- **LawDepot**: create legal documents
- **Morning Call News Bank**: old Morning Call issues
- **PAForward**: library support
- **ReferenceUSA**: find information on businesses, jobs, & people

Database Spotlight: NovelList Plus

Want a romance book for Valentine’s Day? Our database NovelList Plus has lists of books in different romance sub-genres, or you can get a personalized book recommendation through various browsing and searching features. (See above for access information.) Here are some ways you can search:

- **Recommended Reading Lists** - On the left side of the NovelList homepage, they have recommendations by genre. Some of the sub-genres in the romance section include Christian Romances, Holiday Romances, Romantic Comedies, Royal Romance, and Spooky Love.

- **Browse By Appeal** - Make a personalized search here. You can search by different categories like the Writing Style and Pace to find something that you’re in the mood for right now. For instance, if you search for books with a romantic tone, a likeable character, and a fast pace, you get search results with a variety of books by authors including Meg Cabot, Stephanie Evanovich, and Elin Hilderbrand.

- **Browse By Themes** - For a quicker search, you can go to the Romance section of the themes page, and you can browse theme lists like “Childhood Sweethearts”, “Hating to Dating”, “Love in Disguise”, “Opposites Attract”, and more!

- **Quick Links: Author Read-Alikes** - If you go to this page, you can search for an author (like Nora Roberts) or a book (like The Fault in Our Stars). Here you can get information about them and a list of read-alikes (similar authors or works).
Director’s Desk (cont’d)

(Continued from page 1)

Mark your calendars for March 21 and 26 to learn about genealogy. **Intro to Genealogy** will be held on Sat., March 21 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and repeated on Thurs., March 26 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Let us help you figure out where your family came from! We’ll show you how to use our Ancestry and Heritage Quest databases and other resources to search for records and documents. You may attend one or both sessions. If you cannot attend, handouts will be available at the desk.

**Board in the Library!** We’ll be doing family board game nights on Wednesdays Feb. 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Turn off the electronics, come on in and play some old-fashioned board games with other patrons. We will have the board games and you’ll make the fun! We’ll meet at the tables in the reference area, so come join us! All ages are welcome, though we ask that parents stay with children under the age of 12 years. We want everyone to enjoy some good, old-fashioned fun this winter, so stop in, and let the games begin!

The 1st Tuesday of every month we have **Creation Station** for school-aged children. The kids work together, share ideas and help build the project of the day. We have the fun materials and the kids supply the energy to complete the task. We meet from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the community room on February 4, March 3, and April 7.

See the info on our website or newsletter and call the library for more information on any of our programs. We have the newsletter and calendar on our website (www.whitehallpl.org) and copies at the front circulation desk. You can also call us at 610-432-4339.

~ Patty Vahey

**Last Month**

In January, we started some fun winter activities that are ongoing this month. We kicked off our **Adult Winter Reading Program** (see pg. 2) and held some game nights called **Board in the Library** (see pg. 3).

The Teen Advisory Board also had their annual **Gingerbread House Building Competition** (pictures courtesy of Sean Lin & Lorraine Santaliz). Congratulations to TAB members Ariana, Gabriel, Kaila, Marielina, and Misbah on their winning project (top photo). We look forward to seeing more of our patrons for some extra indoor winter fun this February.