

June 4, 2020

Dear WCDPL Library Patrons,

I am amazed that we are in June. It feels like the library just hosted a visit by astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison. However, that happened on March 9 – right before everything closed. Since that time, the library has been re-inventing itself in order to provide library services in the time of a global pandemic.

Our online content has expanded across several platforms such as Libby and Hoopla. We are seeing growing usage of e-books, e-audiobooks, and digital music and movies. We are working to meet local demand by acquiring additional online resources and platforms.

Library programs and story times have moved into the digital realm. Just go to the library webpage or Facebook page to see all of the amazing Fun-Size story times and other videos created by library staff. The team has created a suite of online opportunities for individuals and families to learn and explore.

Our Summer Reading Program, "Imagine Your Story," has also gone online. Please submit a short video recommending a favorite children's book. More information is available on the webpage.

On May 18, curbside service began at both the Bowling Green and Walbridge libraries. In the first two weeks of the service, over 700 patrons have borrowed close to 4,000 physical items. We hope the statewide delivery service that shuttles items from library to library will resume delivery in late June.

On June 8, both buildings will begin offering contact-free home delivery of books and other items. This experimental service will run from 1:00pm to 4:00pm weekdays.

The team continues working to prepare the buildings to welcome visitors. We hope to be able to do so at some point in early July. Until then, we will continue to acquire PPE and proper cleaning materials, moving furniture to ensure social distancing, maintaining and expanding digital resources and services, performing enhanced cleaning of facilities, etc.

We thank you for your patience. We also thank you for the many kind words of encouragement shared over the past months via cards, posts, email, and phone. Your support and understanding really help!

Sincerely, Michael Penrod, Director

We're Your Library.