

The Library will be closed Saturday, April 11th (Easter) & Monday, May 25th (Memorial Day)

New Reading and Activity Courtyard

Have you ever noticed the courtyard next to the library? Hopefully you will soon!

While we are fortunate to continually expand our programming and collections to match our growing community, space is more of a premium than ever before. This spring we are teaming up with South Fayette Township, the Friends of the South Fayette Township Library, and local businesses to refurbish our adjoining outdoor space, which is currently underutilized, to create a new Reading and Activity Courtyard.

The courtyard will serve as the library’s outdoor environmental education hub and provide quiet reading and working space for our library patrons. Exciting components of the new space include a pergola, rain barrel, refurbished beds filled with native plants, comfortable furniture, and a gated fence. Our Youth Services Staff is especially excited because they are going to be able to increase our environmental education programs and bring some of our existing programs outside when the weather is nice.



3D rendering courtesy of Dave Pencoock, Artisan Landscape Designs



Refurbishing is already underway!

The Library has earmarked some of the revenue raised at our fall fundraiser, Beer for Books, for the project, but South Fayette Township, Friends, and local businesses are also chipping in.

Jeff Bourg, of Premier Landscape Services, was selected as the landscape company that will be completing the bulk of the work. Jeff and his family are South Fayette residents and library users. He is not only donating some of his costs, but he has also volunteered to provide semi-annual maintenance on the beds.

Cavanaugh’s Nursery and Supply is donating the plants and landscaping materials while the Friends of the South Fayette Township Library are providing the furniture. Truly a community effort!

As we continue to plan for the long term future of the library, we also recognize there are many individuals and young children who will immediately benefit from additional space gained through modest improvements. The projected completion is late spring/early summer. We will make an announcement when the Reading and Activity Courtyard is officially open!



The support of our community allows us to offer a variety of STEM programs, such as this one, where not just kids, but their families can come and try out different science experiments.

If you missed our February program, no worries! **Family Science Night is happening again on April 1st!** (That is no joke)

Register online and join us to see things that shouldn't happen, but do with science!



Science at the Library!

A fun evening of mayhem with science! South Fayette Township Library Scientists and their families gathered to try out a variety of experiments, including making slime worms, on February 5th.



Want to learn some science on your own? Use your library card to access the Science Reference Center.

Find science articles, pictures and videos to learn about how things work, how scientists work, and biographies about scientists. There are even lesson plans for teachers southfayetlibrary.org/ereference

Memory Support Activities Helps Bring People Together

In January, Maureen Sirianni, a Memory Care Outreach Specialist at Country Meadows Retirement Community, began her monthly "Memory Support Activities for the Community and their Caregivers" at the South Fayette Township Library. Each month those living with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and their caregivers are invited to join her to "meet the neighbors" and enjoy fun, engaging, and interactive activities. Maureen describes this program as being there to support not only those living with Alzheimer's disease but their caregivers as well.



March 2nd program attendees participating in a sing-along

"Self-isolation occurs in the early stages of dementia because people are worried about making mistakes." Maureen explained, "Caregivers also end up experiencing isolation as well while taking care of their loved one."

This program is an opportunity for everyone to relax and brighten up their spirits. Each month there is a different theme for the program. These themes always involve socialization and cognition, which helps to challenge the attendees to think about the answers they want to give and help stimulate their brain.

March's program was a sing-along. Audra Allen, the Memory Care Coordinator at Country Meadows Retirement Community, was at the keyboard. She played a few notes, and everyone would try to guess what the song was before playing the entire song for everyone to sing to.

"Country Meadows Retirement Community is housed in South Fayette Township," Maureen continued, "It's us being good neighbors. We want to support the community and share our talents. The Library allows us a way to do that."

The Memory Support Activities Program typically meets on the first Monday of the month from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Visit our website for details and to register.

Community Member Spotlight: Tim Anderson

Tim and his wife, Darlene (former Library Board member), have a tradition of going to the main library in Oakland about three times a year to spend a few hours browsing the stacks. Darlene heads to the gardening section, and Tim heads to photography. In the Spring of 2018, Tim picked up a book about lumen printing and was intrigued. Fast forward to this past February, and Tim had a full exhibit of his own lumen prints on display at the Bridgeville Public Library. Tim is a life-long library lover and a “regular” here at South Fayette. We thought it would be fun to take some time to get to know him a little bit better.

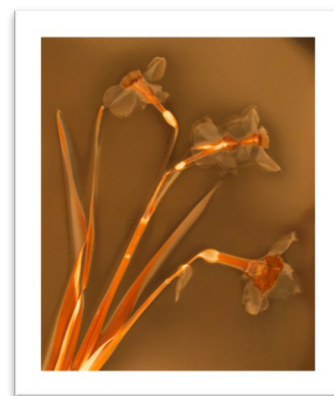
When did you first start coming to the library? When I was growing up in Ingram, my mom would take me to the West End Carnegie Library branch. As soon as I was old enough, I would take the bus there myself. I started coming to the South Fayette Township Library almost as soon as we moved here in 1990, but it wasn't until I took retirement from Penn Dot (April 2016), that I came here as regularly as I do now. After I retired, I wanted to do something to keep my mental and physical activity up, so I started walking to the library three days a week (about 3 mi round trip). I read the Wall Street Journal and pick up movies from time to time.

Do you have any favorite events or memories? I enjoy some of the programs that Sarah puts together -- recently there was one on decluttering and one on orchids that I liked.

What is your favorite book? There are a couple. I read the *Bible* from Genesis through Revelations every other year, and I have always loved *Looking at Ansel Adams: The Photographs and the Man*, by Andrea G. Stillman. Adams is kind of an inspiration.



Tim Anderson, standing with pieces from his exhibit at the Bridgeville Public Library.



Daffodil lumen art piece

Celebrate the South Fayette Township Library during National Library Week

National Library Week (April 19-25, 2020) serves as a time to celebrate the contributions of our library and library workers to the South Fayette community and to highlight the role the library plays in transforming lives and strengthening our community.

This year as a fundraiser and community partnership, the library is collaborating with **Bend the Bridge Yoga Studio** to offer a full day of donation based (donate any amount) yoga. The Studio, located on 3249 Washington Pike, will be offering four yoga classes on Thursday, April 23rd. The classes are for adults 18+, and participants can register on bendthebridge.yoga. All proceeds benefit the library and participants may register for more than one class.

You can also show your support for South Fayette Township Library during this special week in the following ways:

- **Tues, April 21, National Library Workers Day:** stop by the library and say thank you to the library staff for all that they do!
- **Thurs, April 23 is Library Giving Day:** consider an online donation in support of the library. Your donation helps us offer quality programming and community outreach to schools and purchase new materials and online resources.

Spread the word! Tell your friends and neighbors about all of the exciting resources and programs that the library has to offer.

A banner for National Library Week. On the left, it says "FIND YOUR PLACE AT THE LIBRARY" in large, stylized letters. In the center is a silhouette of a lighthouse. On the right, it says "Celebrate NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 19-25, 2020". At the bottom right are the logos for ALA (American Library Association) and "LIBRARIES TRANSFORM".



515 Millers Run Road
 South Fayette, PA 15064
 (412) 257-8660
 southfayettelibrary.org

Ben Hornfeck
 Library Director

Erin Weaver
 Assistant Library Director

Leslie Riker
 Development Coordinator

Nicole Harding
 Youth Services Librarian

Carrie Lowery
 Youth Services Library Specialist

Sarah Grebinoski
 Adult Programming Coordinator

Juli Morneweck
 Circulation Supervisor

Layout/Design: Cassandra Morris

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