IMAGINE YOUR STORY
Community Members,

What can I say that hasn’t already been said? This spring has been like no other. Walking through the Library without any employees or patrons has been surreal.

During the quarantine, even though the Library has been closed, I continue to go to work. At home I shower and put on a dress shirt and slacks just to feel normal. My wife makes a lunch for me to minimize contact with others. Even my commute--all of a three-minute drive--is quiet. There are hardly any cars on 95th Street.

I walk through the Youth Services Department, and there are no kids on computers or Miss Jen behind the desk. I walk through the AV section, and no one is searching for audiobooks or DVDs. I walk upstairs. All the books are shelved and the tables are cleared off, but no patrons are paging through magazines or assembling jigsaw puzzles. No one is in the quiet study rooms and no one is on the computers. The librarians are not answering questions and the phones are not ringing.

“It’s weird. It’s so weird.” How many times do I say that each day? “This is weird. This is crazy.”

Usually I am alone in the building (sometimes a staff member will visit to grab something to work more easily from home). I go downstairs to my office in the lower level. I respond to emails from patrons and staff members. I share the latest news with Trustees. Ang, one of our Adult Librarians, provides daily updates with links to informative articles. I read about how the virus spreads, about how to properly disinfect materials and how to share resources without causing harm. I call a few employees each day to check-in. I speak with Directors from nearby libraries, as well as administrators from our shared systems, the State Library and the Illinois Library Association about how we might safely open to the public.

My work and these visits are not the same as being here with you and the staff.

I look forward to having everyone back in the building--squealing children, tired parents, studying teenagers, patrons checking-out new fiction or searching for answers on the Internet. I am discussing and planning options with the management team and the Board of Trustees. We want to make your return as safe as it can be.

I hope that each of you and your loved ones have been spared from the virus. I hope you are finding ways to keep in touch with your family and friends from afar. I hope that all of you are staying busy with meaningful endeavors and that each of you are staying positive by focusing on the days ahead when we can be together again.

All my best,

Jim
Summers at OLPL are our busiest time of year, with lively programs for all ages, the Farmer’s Market and of course, our Summer Reading Program. Year after year, our goal is to make the summer fun for all of our patrons, and our staff has a blast doing so. Although the future is unclear because of Covid-19, our goal remains the same, as this newsletter will illustrate.

Our Summer Reading Program theme, Imagine Your Story, is certainly poignant during these times. Who would have imagined a global pandemic that would require us to shelter in place? And yet it is a story we do not need to imagine. This summer, we embrace stories, whether imagined and experienced. The Youth Services Department is collecting stories, both real and imagined, from our young storytellers. They can send their written or drawn story to youthservices@olpl.org and may even see them featured on our website and social media. Our Local History Librarian is seeking Covid-19 stories from Oak Lawn residents to be preserved as part of our living history. Send your experiences to kkorst@olpl.org.

Our virtual programs emphasize the love of stories that surges through us. In Youth Services, we will learn how to draw mythological, fantasy and fairytale creatures that is sure to inspire all participants. We will also learn about constellation folklore while learning how to identify these wondrous marvels. Remember you can track your little one’s reading for our Summer Reading Program AND 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, both on the Beanstack app.

Teens can also appreciate stories by reading at least four nominees for the 2021 Teen Readers’ Choice Awards to win a free personal pan pizza from Lou Malnati’s. Lovers of anime can join us for our monthly Virtual Anime Club. Sign up for reminders and more information at remind.com/join/olplanime.

Two of our Adult Book Clubs will meet virtually this summer: Refreshing Reads and 20|30ish Book Club. Our popular Make and Take Crafts and jazz concert will go virtual this summer.

We cannot wait to see you at our virtual programs this summer!
Summer Reading Program: Imagine Your Story
(All Ages)
Wednesday, July 1 - Saturday, Aug. 15

Online pre-registration begins Saturday, June 13

Read every day and log your reading for a chance to win prizes! For every FIVE days of reading you log, you'll receive a virtual badge and a ticket for a gift card drawing from local businesses. Twenty days of reading completes the program, but you can keep reading until Aug. 15 to earn even more tickets!

Because social distancing may still be in place this summer, our Summer Reading Program schedule is different. We are starting and stopping later, offering only virtual programming, and Youth Services will offer only virtual logging. Adult and Teen participants may use either paper logs or virtual logging.

USING BEANSTACK TO LOG YOUR SUMMER READING

Beanstack is our reading management system, available online at opl.beanstack.org or as the Beanstack Tracker app for your smartphone. Please use the Ask a Librarian button or the chat icon at opl.org for questions or troubleshooting.

If you’ve used Beanstack before, click on Sign In to log into your account and then click Register for our summer reading program!

If you were in last year’s summer reading program or are in another OLPL reading program, but don’t have a password, sign in with your email address or phone number, click “I forgot my password,” and choose a password. Then click Register for our summer reading program.

Never used Beanstack before? Here’s how to get started.

To register for the program:
● Visit opl.beanstack.org.
● Click Register an Individual or Family.
● Click I am registering myself and fill out the form.
● Click Next and follow the prompts to add additional family members.
● Register for Imagine Your Story (choose the right age group for each family member).

To log reading:
● Access your account by logging in to Beanstack with the username and password that you created.
● Click on Log Reading and Activities at the top of the page.
● Click on Days and click on the calendar each day that you read.
● Hit the Log button.
● Click on Switch Reader to view and log reading for each member under your account.
U.S. families are adapting to the evolving changes caused by COVID-19. With schools and many businesses closed, parents and caregivers can help their families adjust by keeping youth with disabilities occupied, feeling safe and staying current with their schoolwork. This difficult task will provide control, reassurance and a sense of hope for children. Youth with disabilities look to adults for guidance in stressful times. Expressing concern without panic is important, and results in risk-reducing actions. We need to teach our youth positive preventive measures, talk with them about their fears and give them a sense of control. All of these actions will help reduce their anxiety.

The following tips will help adults demonstrate problem-solving, flexibility and compassion as we work through daily schedules and activities, process new information and connect and support our friends and family members:

**Step 1 - Get the Facts**
Get the facts and help youth understand them. Stick with one or two trusted resources. Choose well-respected national medical groups like the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP). Or use other trusted resources like your family doctor’s website. Facts reduce stress, especially for children with anxiety disorders. For example, children can be reminded that people are staying home to stop the virus from spreading to others.

**Step 2 - Establish a Routine**
COVID-19 is disrupting in many ways, but creating a daily family routine helps both children and adults cope and regain a new sense of normal.

**Step 3 - Practice Self-Care**
It is critical to get enough sleep, eat healthy food, exercise and manage medication.

**Step 4 - Stay Connected**
Social distancing keeps people healthy. Children may feel sad or angry about limited exposure to friends, classmates and family. To keep them from feeling alone, we can help them stay connected by using technology such as Skype, Zoom, phone calls, texting and other digital technologies.

**Step 5 - Stay Positive**
Children are especially impacted by outside threats and tend to magnify the danger. It takes longer for their bodies to "turn off" the stress. Reassurance goes a long way toward calming them. Assure them that capable adults are working hard to solve the problem and not to worry. Stay positive. Talk about helpful and kind things people are doing to stay healthy. This conversation will need constant repeating and reinforcement, but making time to talk is essential.
VIRTUAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

With the goal of safety, all youth programs this summer will be virtual. Information on accessing these programs will be available on our website calendar and on the Library’s Facebook page.

Virtual: 1000 Books Before Kindergarten (Ages birth until kindergarten)
Reading aloud is the most important way parents can foster reading readiness in their children. Join the other families who are part of this national initiative and make reading time easy, productive and fun. If you read one book a night, you’ll meet the goal in less than three years. You can register and log your reading activities online at olpl.beanstack.org.

8th Annual ATLAS Multi-Library Geocaching Competition (R)
Monday, June 1 – Saturday, Aug. 1 (All Ages)
Use clues and geographic coordinates to find our geocache. This year’s hidden object has nothing physical to touch and no container to find. Instead, it will be a hidden QR code you can scan with a smartphone. To see if your device will scan a QR code, you can test it with the one here. More information about the geocache will be released on social media after Memorial Day.

Virtual: Andertoons: Myth, Magic & Monsters - Online (R)
Thursday, June 25, 6:30-7:30pm (Families of children ages 5-14)
Families of children ages 5-14 can learn to draw mythological, fantasy and fairytale characters, then draw in your own stories! Presented online by Mark Anderson of Andertoons.

Virtual: Fourth of July Crafting (All Ages)
Wednesday, July 1, 10-10:20am
Prepare for the Fourth by joining us online with a story and a craft to make using items from around the house!

Virtual: Miss Jamie’s Farm (R)
Saturday, July 11, 10-10:45am (Ages 0-8)
Sing and dance down on the farm with Miss Jamie and friends! Miss Jamie’s online musical storytelling program is like a real cartoon or book come to life. Enjoy catchy songs both familiar and new about healthy eating, using your imagination, and of course, the farm!

Virtual: Jim Gill’s Sing-a-Thon of Celebrated Songs! (R)
Saturday, June 13, 10-10:45am (All Ages)
Get ready to sing, clap, dance and spin along during this remote show by award-winning musician and author Jim Gill. Jim Gill’s distinctive music play creates the spirit of a family room and is an invitation to children, parents and grandparents to sing and play together!

Virtual: DIY Geodesic Dome
Wednesday, June 17, 11-11:30am (Ages 5-Adult)
Do you have newspaper and tape? That’s all you’ll need to build your very own geodesic dome. Start saving your sale papers now and we will show you online how to create this mathematical wonder in your own home.

StoryWalk:
“My Awesome Summer by P. Mantis”
Starting Saturday, July 11
Head over to Lake Shore Park, 9610 E. Shore Drive, to read “My Awesome Summer by P. Mantis” by Paul Meisel on the StoryWalk Trail.

Where noted, (R) register online 10 days before each individual event at www.olpl.org, in person at the Youth Services Desk or call 708-422-4990. Email addresses are required so that links to virtual content may be sent to registered participants.
Tell-Your-Story Showcase
We all have stories, and we want to hear yours! Whether it’s a true story about something that happened to you or something from your imagination, write or draw your story and send it to us at youthservices@olpl.org. We’ll share some of those stories throughout the summer on our website.

Virtual: How to Draw Dragons *(R)*
(Ages 7-12)
Monday, July 13, 3-4pm
Learn about these amazing beings and how to draw them. Dragons can be friendly or terrifying, beautiful or ugly, but they’re always magical. Christine Thornton of Hello Art Studio will demonstrate how to draw them, then let your creativity loose as you create your own dragon with an optional background scene.

Virtual: Imagine Your Story in the Stars
Thursday, July 16, 6-7pm
(All Ages)
Many cultures have origin myths for the constellations we see at night. You will hear a few of the stories while learning where to look for constellations in the night sky. Create your own constellation and learn about light pollution all from the comfort of your own home.

Virtual: Week of Sharks 2.0
Sunday, July 19 - Saturday, July 25
Join us as we sink our teeth into some exciting, shark-tastic online activities.

Virtual: Happy Birthday, Harry Potter!
Monday, July 27 - Friday, July 31
Expecto a lot of fun as we celebrate Harry Potter’s birthday all week with online crafts, trivia and more!
TEEN PROGRAMS
OPEN TO INCOMING FRESHMEN THROUGH SENIORS

Virtual Anime Club
Thursdays, June 18, July 16, and Aug. 20, 5pm
Watch anime with your library friends from the comfort of your own home. New fans and anime experts welcome. Open to incoming freshmen through graduating seniors (class of 2020-2024).
Sign up for more info on remind.com/join/olplanime

Virtual Volunteering
Do you need community service hours to graduate? Fill out a HS Volunteer Application at olpl.org/content/hs-volunteer-app. Eligible teens will receive an email with information about virtual volunteering opportunities.

Teen Advisory Board
The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) is a group of dedicated teens who meet monthly with the Young Adult Associate to plan programs and share ideas to make the Library a better place for teens. TAB members will select one service project and one program to work on throughout the year and receive at least 10 service hours from Sept.-May.
High School students (class of 2021-2024) are invited to complete an application for TAB by Aug. 15. Selected members for the 2020-2021 school year will be notified on Sept. 1. Apply online at olpl.org/content/tab-2021

READ 4 PIZZA
Read books and get free pizza! Read at least four nominees for the 2021 Teen Readers’ Choice Award by March 2021 to receive a free personal pan pizza from Lou Malnati’s. Keep reading and write reviews for more prizes.
Sign up at olpl.beanstack.org.
Here are some of our favorite books from the 2021 Nominees:

"Patron Saints of Nothing" by Randy Ribay
"Heroine" by Mindy McGinnis
"Hey, Kiddo" by Jarrett J. Krosoczka
"Internment" by Samira Ahmed

Check out all of the titles on the list of nominees as eBooks. Download the Libby app or go to mediaondemand.org to check them out.

VIRTUAL TEEN ROOM
Join us on Discord: discord.gg/pHCgH3q
Get text reminders: remind.com/join/olpl
**SUMMER BOOK CLUBS TO MEET VIRTUALLY**
This summer, two OLPL book clubs will meet at their regular times, but they will meet virtually! The summer reading theme is Imagine your Story, so all book club titles address the concepts of owning who you are, who you are becoming, or where you come from.

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**REFRESHING READS BOOK CLUB**
*Meets at 7:30pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month*

- **"Be Frank with Me"** by Julia Claiborne Johnson
  - June 23

- **"Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love"** by Dani Shapiro
  - July 28

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**20|30 ISH BOOK CLUB**
*Meets at 7:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month*

- **"Ninth House"** by Leigh Bardugo
  - June 11

- **"Patron Saints of Nothing"** by Randy Ribay
  - July 9

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**2020 FALL BOOK CLUBS**
OLPL’s seven staff-led book clubs are among our most popular services. Because we are uncertain about 2020 meeting times, we recommend that patrons visit the website and social media pages for updates as fall approaches. We also encourage you to sign up for our new eNewsletter, coming soon. You can sign up at: lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/ef4vaGA

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**THE SKY’S THE LIMIT: SCI-FI/FANTASY BOOK CLUB**
Did you know that OLPL has a Sci-Fi/Fantasy book club? Saturday Morning Sci-Fi launched just last fall and we read everything from time travel sci-fi to murderbots or necromancers in space. We missed our April meeting but we hope to see everyone again in August! In the meantime, we have a short survey about when people would like to meet and some great sci-fi/fantasy book recs to keep you going.


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**A FEW SCI-FI/FANTASY BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOU:**

- **"Gideon the Ninth"** by Tamsyn Muir
  - (2020 Hugo Award Nominee – Best Novel)

- **"The Haunting of Tram Car 015"** by P. Djèlí Clark
  - (2020 Hugo Award Nominee – Best Novel)

- **"A Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet"** by Becky Chambers

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Note: Presently it is uncertain if print copies will be available. These books are available as eBooks on Overdrive (Libby app) or Hoopla. Please reference the article on eBooks for instructions or more information.

For more details, and to find out how to get a copy of the book, please refer to the date your book club will meet on our Library Calendar on the Library’s website.
Virtual Adult Programs

OLPL wants our patrons to stay safe in these uncertain times. So, our summer programs for adults will all be offered online! Please check the website, online event calendar and social media for additional programs and activities you can enjoy this summer from your home.

Virtual Trivia Night

**Thursdays, June 18 and July 16, 7pm**

Grab a favorite beverage and join us online for virtual trivia on a variety of topics.

*Smart device required to play.*

Identifying Misinformation and Disinformation in Today’s Media

**Monday, June 22, 6:30pm**

Learn the differences between misinformation and disinformation. Kristin Lansdown will present strategies for how to evaluate media sources, and explain why it matters to know the difference.

Making the Most out of Your Food and Funds

**Wednesday, June 24 at 7 p.m.**

During this time of quarantine, shopping and saving properly has never been more important. Presenter Jez Layman will cover the how-tos of buying the best produce, storing your food properly, lowering your grocery bills and finding help if you need it.

Make and Take Craft: The Virtual Edition

**Tuesday, July 7, 7pm**

Stop in to the Library beginning July 1 to pick up a craft kit to complete at home. Then, join Holly live as she gives step-by-step instructions on how to do the craft. Kits available while supplies last. A list of supplies will be provided.

Cool Jazz on a Hot Afternoon

**Sunday, July 12, 3pm**

Take a break from the heat and enjoy some seasonal jazz tunes of summer and sunshine with Petra van Nuis.

*Registration required. Please provide an email address so we can send the concert link to you.*
WHEN SUMMER READING ENDS

Did you know OLPL has a year-round adult reading program? Our LifeLawn Reading Program sets a goal to read 1,000 books, however long that takes. Prizes are awarded at 500 and 1,000 books — you’ll receive a book of your choice! (just about any book under certain price limits). Sign up at Beanstack -- olpl.beanstack.org -- and begin logging your books.

Hot tip: Summer reading books count toward both the Summer Reading Program AND LifeLawn!

GOODBYE BEACH READING, HELLO BACKYARD READING!

Reading in the sun with waves pounding the shore -- is there anything better on a summer day? We may not hit the beach this summer, but we can still read in the sun! Whether sitting on a blanket in your yard, on a lawn chair in your driveway, or a bench in a park, you can still pick up a good ol’ beach read this summer.

Here are some sunny summer reading authors to check out:

Don Winslow writes gritty thrillers that keep you captivated until the end. Don’t blame us if you stay up all night! Winslow’s stories are not for the faint of heart. Try “The Cartel” or “The Force.”

Laura Childs writes cozy mysteries that surround you with warmth. You’ll want to drink tea, cook and craft after reading these! Try “Death by Darjeeling” or “Eggs in Purgatory.”

Elin Hilderbrand writes sunny beachy Nantucket books. These will truly bring you to the beach. Try “Beautiful Day” or “Summer of ’69.”

Becky Chambers writes immersive, propulsive space operas. They’re like taking a vacation to space! Try “A Long Way to a Small Angry Planet.”

Jasmine Guillory writes fun and adorable contemporary romances. If you need a big helping of love in your summer, these are your go-to. Try “The Proposal” or “Royal Holiday.”
Imagine All Those DVDs – What’s the Story?

Where does OLPL get its DVDs? We purchase the majority, and some are donated. Most DVDs come from vendors who exclusively supply libraries. We also scour the Internet to find unique items. OLPL Audiovisual Librarian Julia orders most of the collection with help from a very knowledgeable and dedicated AV staff. We look at journals, websites and most importantly, listen to OLPL patrons to get what you want. New DVDs arrive every week, so there is always something new in AV!

We Are Listening:
Imagine Your Hallmark Story

Due to patron demand, the Audiovisual Department has separated and moved Hallmark movies and TV shows to their own space. We know you want to feel good, especially in a time like this. Stop by and we can show you where they are.

Go Retro with Vinyl Records – and Check Out a Record Player!

We used to have them, we got rid of them, and now we have them again. What? Vinyl records? Yes. Did you know that vinyl records now make up about 18% of all record sales? We have responded by starting our own collection for you to check out. And, you can even borrow one of our portable record players to take home to listen to the old time sound of the needle scratching the surface. Ask at the Audiovisual Desk.

You’ve Heard of Kanopy, But What Is It?

No, Kanopy is not misspelled. Kanopy is a popular streaming video service FREE to all OLPL patrons! It features many film genres for all age groups. Patrons can watch five films per month. Children may watch unlimited films on Kanopy Kids, after the parent has signed them in.

Children’s viewing counts as only one checkout for the parent. Anyone viewing one of Kanopy’s “The Great Courses” may view the course repeatedly and it counts for just one viewing. Parents may restrict access so children only see Kanopy Kids.

To access Kanopy, visit olpl.org and click on Resources>Digital Downloads. Scroll down to “Kanopy,” click on it, and sign up or watch the tutorial video. Over 30,000 films are waiting for you!

Can’t get in to the Library?
Imagine your Digital Possibilities...

Losing ourselves in a book is an easy way to escape what is going on around us. These stories can remind us of the adversities people overcome, trying moments they escape and stories characters create for themselves once they reached the other side.

During the closure, OLPL has a large collection of books still available to you. Our eBooks and audiobooks can be checked out 24/7 with simple, one-click returns -- and the best part is there are no overdue fees. Lack of physical access to the library doesn’t mean that your story doesn’t go on!

Patrons can access two digital platforms

Phone or tablet users can download the Libby by Overdrive apps, or the hoopla Digital app for easy reading or listening. No smart device -- No problem! You can use your laptop or desktop to access eBooks as well.

If you need assistance downloading eBook or audiobook versions of these books, please email Shannon at skazmierczak@olpl.org.

OLPL also has fantastic tutorials available on our Digital Downloads page: olpl.org/content/digital-downloads.
No Computer Classes?
Imagine Other Ways to Learn
Due to health and safety concerns, the Computer Center is unable to offer in-person computer classes through the summer months. But there’s still a lot to explore!

Looking for online tutorials and practice? Check out GCF Learn Free at edu.gcfglobal.org/en/ and DigitalLearn at digitallearn.org for free tutorials on everything from computer basics to online safety to job skills. Many of the tutorials on both sites offer instruction as well as practice activities. Move through tutorials at your own pace and focus on the skills that matter to you.

Computer Center Plus…
The Computer Center currently offers access to two document scanners, two flatbed scanners, a laminator, two copy machines and a free fax machine. Coming this fall, we’ll also have a Silhouette Cameo, a green screen and DSLR camera and a design computer featuring Adobe Creative Suite available to the public. Look for more info in our fall newsletter.

SuperCook
Looking for some new recipes or just not sure what to do for dinner? Check out SuperCook! The SuperCook app has loads of recipes and videos available. Search for a particular recipe or build your virtual pantry and find recipes based on what you have on hand.

5-Minute Yoga
Interested in yoga but not sure about committing to a class? Check out 5-Minute Yoga, a free app that will let you explore yoga in just 5 minutes a day. Learn new poses with clear and detailed instructions.

Pinterest
Looking for new ideas? Be it recipes, fashion design, home crafting ideas, or a new fitness routine, Pinterest has it all. Create boards to pin your favorite ideas, follow the OLPL Pinterest boards to get suggestions on new books and movies, fun craft ideas and find new reading challenges.

BEYOND BOOKS
OLPL offers patrons many unusual items to check out over the summer! Beyond Books are items not usually associated with libraries. Here’s a short list of items in the Beyond Books collection:
Projectors, phone chargers, telescopes, a karaoke system, knitting needles, selfie stick, bright light therapy lamp, phone chargers, human skull models, fishing poles, cake pans, graphing calculators, musical instruments (from ukuleles to electric guitars to an accordion).

Imagine this: A Free Public Phone!
If you forgot your phone, don’t have a phone, or your phone battery is depleted, don’t worry! OLPL has a free public phone located on the 2nd floor. Just visit the Adult Services Desk to use the phone, which is cleaned before each use.

For a full list of items, visit the OLPL online catalog. Search for Beyond Books, then limit the format to Equipment to see the list.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Imagine Your Own Civic Engagement Story
Although the coronavirus pandemic has altered the course of 2020, OLPL still strives to be your civic engagement resource. We have many titles related to civics in our collection, so please peruse our book displays this summer.

Here are some helpful online resources to guide you in understanding the U.S. Census, making informed decisions as a voter and ways you can get involved.

Voting
Online voter registration application/voter registration lookup: ova.elections.il.gov/
Your voter information: cookcountyclerk.com/service/your-voter-information
General voter information: usvotefoundation.org/vote/eoddomestic.htm

Ballot
Build your sample ballot: votersguide2020.bettergov.org
More info on the ballot: ballotpedia.org

Census
2020 Census information: 2020census.gov
Respond to the census: respond.census.gov/acs/#respond
Why it is important to be counted in the census: faircount.org/

Youth Civic Engagement
22 million teens will be eligible to vote in the 2020 election.
Learn more: 22x20.org/

ATTENTION PLEASE

Friends of the Oak Lawn Library
Friends Spring and Summer trips have been cancelled for 2020. The Annual Friends Dinner, originally scheduled for Thursday, June 4, is also cancelled. Please watch for mailings concerning Friends volunteering at the Library, and also an upcoming Fall luncheon or other event, once the Library is reopened.

OLPL Meeting & Study Rooms are Currently Unavailable
All public Meeting Room and Study Rooms are currently unavailable through the Summer of 2020. Please visit the website for updates and reopen date.

Stay connected and up-to-date with current OLPL programs, events, news and services through email.

Visit: lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/ef4vaGA
Local History

Living through COVID-19
One of Local History’s most important responsibilities is preserving the experiences, whether ordinary or extraordinary, of Oak Lawn residents. This past year has proven to be a time of immense challenge and change, but also one of resiliency and adaptation. Years from now, future residents will learn about life during the pandemic by studying the enumerable stories that came from this period. Whether through social media, journaling, oral history, video, photography or other means, please take a moment to record your thoughts and capture how COVID-19 has impacted Oak Lawn, so future generations can discover and benefit from the experiences of today. If you would like to share any of this content with Local History, you can find us on Facebook or contact Local History Manager Kevin Korst at 708-422-4990, ext. 530 or kkorst@olpl.org.

Online Database
Did you know there are more than 20,000 items in the Local History online database? Photos, yearbooks, telephone books, artifacts and documents are included and cover topics such as the 1967 Tornado, Round-Up Days, schools, churches, businesses, military service, family history and more. View the Local History collection on the library’s website (olpl.org) and explore Oak Lawn’s past from home!

Help Expand Our Collection
Have you been using time at home to clean out and reorganize? Did you find items from Oak Lawn’s past? We are looking for historic artifacts related to local churches, schools, businesses, government, celebrations or just everyday life in the Village. Please contact us at 708-422-4990 ext. 530 or kkorst@olpl.org if you would like to donate or loan historic materials. Help us preserve Oak Lawn’s rich history and build our collection!

Collection Spotlight
The Library’s Local History collection is filled with thousands of unique and interesting items from the Village’s past. Just one example, this 1913 postcard features a section of 95th St. near 54th Ave. looking west. The home, just visible on the right, is believed to be the Chiappetta House formerly located at 5418 West 95th St. More than a century later, it is difficult to imagine 95th St. as a single lane dirt road with only a handful of structures!

Periodicals
Get Your Magazine Fix Online with Flipster
In 2019 we acquired the online magazine subscription service Flipster. This subscription consists of 44 magazines. All titles are available for you to read on your computer or Apple/Android devices when you download the Flipster app. Titles range from popular magazines like "People" and "Reader's Digest" to new titles such as "Artist's Magazine," "Bead & Button," "Catster," "Dogster," "Quilter's World" and "Watercolor Artist."

Do You Prefer the Physical Feel of a Magazine?
OLPL’s magazine section has something for everyone! People interested in business can read "Value Line," "Crain's Chicago Business," "Barron's and Financial Times." OLPL offers health-related titles such as the "Harvard Health Letter." Crafters and hobbyists can explore magazines like "Modern Airplane," "Modern Railroader," "Crochet World" and "Family Handyman." Back issues may be for three weeks. OLPL’s wonderful collection of newspapers and magazines offer something for everyone!

Older issues may be checked-out for three weeks.

Genealogy
Imagine Your Family's History
Ancestry, Library Edition, HeritageQuest and the "Chicago Tribune" (coverage beginning in 1849) are OLPL's online subscription databases that can help you research your family history. We also subscribe to the print magazines "FamilyTree" and "Internet Genealogy," both available for home check out. OLPL is a Family History Library Affiliate -- by logging into your familysearch account through the Library, you’ll enjoy 30% more search results than by accessing the same resource outside of the Library portal. So please take advantage of this valuable resource!
The Board meets Tuesdays, June 16, July 21 & August 18 at 6:45pm. Board meetings are typically held in the Oak Lawn Rotary Room but are now virtual Zoom meetings until further notice. Links will be provided on the website. The public is always welcome.

Library Hours
Reopening Hours will be announced soon. Please watch the OLPL website, eNews and Facebook page for reopening schedule.

The Library is closed . . .
Independence Day – Saturday, July 4

Director: Jim Deiters
Designer: Dan Mitchell
Editors: Joy Davis and Tom Javorcic

Photography
The Oak Lawn Public Library reserves the right for staff to photograph and videotape during programs to promote activities, collections and services.

The Americans with Disabilities Act
The Oak Lawn Public Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you plan to attend a program and need special accommodations, call 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven days prior to the event.

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