

DIMMICK DIGEST

Official Newsletter of the Dimmick Memorial Library

August/September 2023

From The Director's Desk

BY KARA EDMONDS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

We have so much to share with you in this edition of the Dimmick Digest. There is always something happening at the library!

As a proponent of life-long learning, Dimmick and Penn Kidder libraries are incredibly proud to have received substantial grant and education opportunities over the last few months. We have partnered with the SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem in the award and implementation of a \$500,000 PAsmart Advancing Computer Science and STEM Education Grant.

Along with 13 other libraries and community centers from Carbon, Schuylkill, Luzerne, Wayne, Pike, Monroe, and Lehigh counties, we will be building a 21st Century Learning Hub to include over \$20,000 of devices and supplies to allow members of our community to engage in STEM-based learning. We will work with the SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem to expand STEM learning capacity in the community, receive professional development opportunities for our program staff, and explore ways to continue to support the learning efforts of the children and their families in our community.

We will offer learning and use of robotics, coding, electronic building sets, engineering challenge materials from prestigious companies such as Ozobot, STEAM, Apple, MakeyMakey, BrickLab, KEVA, and Strawbees. We look forward to working closely with our SHINEonPA STEM Ecosystem colleagues and offer incredible opportunities to students of all ages in our community!

What's Happening at the Dimmick??

We have some exciting new things happening at the library this summer! The Friends of the Library are excited to announce new merch! We have restocked our Tshirts, and we're also introducing our brand new baseball hats! The hats come in four colors: Red, Blue, Khaki, and Green, and are \$20 each. The logo is embroidered and they have a really nice metal adjuster in the back--definitely worth checking out!

We've also just set out more 3D pens! Our 3D pens have been a favorite all summer among both kids (and adults!) and are a great way to let your creativity shine! Make your own jewelry, creatures, and doodads, or whatever your heart desires. We love checking out your creations, so be sure to stop by the Circ desk and show us what you've made!



Dimmick Library Events:

STORYTIME

Every Tuesday at 10AM

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

2nd Tuesday of every month at 5:30PM

READER'S CIRCLE

3rd Thursday of every month
from 6:00-7:30PM

DIMMICK BOOK CLUB

2nd Wednesday of every month
at 2PM @ Stabin Museum

COALTOWN CRAFTERS

2nd Thursday of every month at 6PM

LEGO CLUB

Last Tuesday of every month at 4PM

LGBTQ MEETING

1st Thursday of every month at 6PM

Penn Kidder Events:

STORYTIME FOR AGES 0-5

Every Wednesday at 11AM

Book Sales:

September 9th

September 16th

September 30th

Antique Book Sale October 5-7

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR
MORE UP TO DATE INFORMATION!



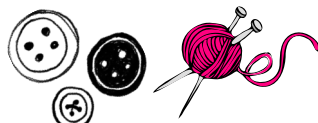
September is National Library Card Sign Up Month!

Did you know that September is National Library Card Sign Up Month? Library Card Month has been around since 1987, in response to William Bennett, the Secretary of Education at the time, who said "Every child should have a library card and use it." This prompted a campaign to popularize the usage of library cards, especially during the beginning of the school year, when children were most likely to sign up for services. Since then, September has become the month that libraries across the nation campaign to get cards into the hands of as many new patrons as possible.

Don't have a library card yet? or, already have one and know someone that could use one? Here's a few reasons why libraries are an integral part of the community:

- **Libraries can save you BIG money.** Libraries gives patrons access to hundreds of thousands of books and DVDs. Rather than buying these materials, which can cost anywhere from \$8-30 a piece, you can borrow them free of charge. Plus, we don't have late fines at the Dimmick, so you can read at your own pace.
- **Programming provides a safe space for families to go.** At the library, we have several recurring groups, but we also provide weekly Storytime for children, and unique monthly programs where patrons can de-stress, regardless of their age or ability.
- **Our resources are out of this world!** Most people don't realize that libraries provide so much more than just books! We also have museum passes for local historical sites patrons can check out, and hotspots that patrons can borrow. Plus, we have a microfiche on site and access to genealogical resources! Not to mention, we can also print color images, and even laminate items for you!

Come into the library during the month of September and take a photo with our giant library card to be entered in our raffle to win a prize!



Reoccurring Events: How You Can Get Involved!

Looking to make some friends that enjoy crafting? Or maybe you want to 'buddy read' a book with someone new? Do you enjoy low maintenance clubs where you can just come and chat? We have so many reoccurring groups now at the library--it's impossible to pick just one! Whatever you might be looking for, we have something for everyone. Here are a few of our reoccurring groups that happen monthly at the Dimmick.

LGBTQ Meeting: Our monthly LGBTQ Meeting meets the first Thursday of every month at 6PM! Whether you're already a part of the community, questioning, or in support of someone else--all are welcome. Come chat with us, participate in a variety of activities, and hang out! All ages are welcome.

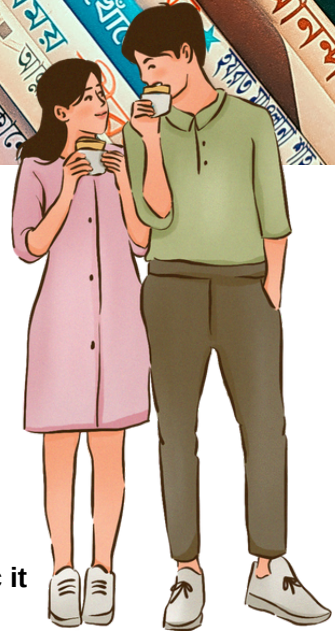
Coaltown Crafters: If you love DIY projects and need some ideas to cook up your next craft, you'll definitely want to check out Coaltown Crafters. This chill group is perfect for DIY-ers who just want a low maintenance group to chat, craft, and share ideas! Bring your current project, and show us what you've been busy making! Coaltown Crafters meets every second Thursday of the month at 6PM.

Reader's Circle: Do you read as much as a librarian? Come find out! Every third Wednesday at 6PM, come to the library and talk books with us! We'll swap plotlines, share what books we read this month, and talk about what books we recommend! No matter what genre you're reading, we want to know--and of course, new members are *always* welcome!

Lego Club: Let your creativity shine! Come build with us every last Tuesday of the month at 4 PM at Lego Club. Build out one of our themed ideas, or come up with one of your own! This group is available to all ages of builders.

For more information about recurring clubs, call the Dimmick Circ Desk at 570-325-2131.

August is 'Read A Romance' Month

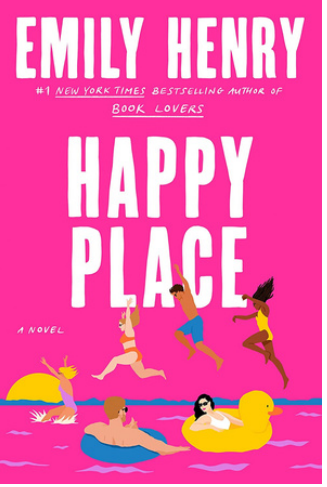


Don't wait for February to pick up a Romance novel--this August, celebrate National Read A Romance Month by picking up one of your favorite tropes just in time for your last minute summer vacay plans. Not sure what to pick? We've got you covered. Here's a few popular tropes and a book recommendation to match!

"Second Chance Romance"

Second Chance Romance is all about the love that didn't work out the first time. Maybe it wasn't the right place or the right time. Maybe the heartbreak made the couple re-think about their priorities. Second Chance Romances lead to happy endings--however *slightly* unreleastic it may be.

If you're a huge fan of Second Chance Romance, or maybe you'd like to try it for the first time--we definitely recommend checking out Emily Henry's latest release, *Happy Place*.



Harriet and Wyn have been together for forever. Until, they're not. Breaking up just six months before their annual trip with friends, they decide to go anyway...as a couple. If they don't tell anyone, maybe everyone can have one more trip that feels "normal" before things change. That's what they tell themselves anyway. But, when they get there, they'll find that they have a lot of unresolved feelings, and only one shared bedroom to work them out in. They won't be able to avoid each other, or anyone else for that matter. This Second Chance Romance will have you on the edge of your seat while you read back and forth between past and present to learn about the characters and their shared history.

"Grumpy/Sunshine"

The Grumpy/Sunshine trope is pretty much exactly what it sounds like--the two in this couple are polar opposites. The characters are usually on extreme ends of the spectrum, with one character's disposition being SO optimistically sunny that it infiltrates the grumpy character's avoidant exterior and the banter is **chefs kiss** on point.

If you like the Grumpy/Sunshine trope, you **HAVE** to check out *It Happened One Summer*. This is one of our most popular romances here at the library, and probably with good reason. It's loosely based on the TV show, *Schitt's Creek*, and follows Piper Bellinger, an up and coming socialite who gets herself into a 'bit' of trouble when she throws an illegal party on a rooftop, landing herself in jail. Her stepfather has had enough of her antics, and decides to send Piper to the small town of Westport, with her sister, to learn some responsibility by running her late father's bar.



Piper isn't in town for five minutes before she meets gruff local sea captain, Brendan, who definitely lets her know that she doesn't belong. But, even with LA calling her name, the sea is speaking to her (and maybe Brendan is now, too?) and Piper will have to decide whether she's going to stay or go at the end of her probation.

"Fake Dating"

What would inspire two people to pretend to date? The reasoning may vary, but the outcome is always the same. In the Fake Dating trope, two people *pretend* to be head over heels for each other for the short-term, but they probably don't get on too well. Or at least, it seems that way. Until they actually start having feelings for each other in real life...



Boyfriend Material by Alexis Hall is all about Fake Dating. In this contemporary romance, Luc O'Donnell is the famous child of an infamous rock star couple. Now that his alcoholic dad is back in the picture, Luc needs to clean up his public image. The best way to do that? Oliver Blackwood. Oliver is refreshingly...normal. He's a barrister, a vegetarian, and...he has nothing in common with Luc, which makes him the perfect fake boyfriend. So, the two strike a deal to be publicity fake-boyfriends until the dust has settled, and then they can each go their separate ways and pretend nothing ever happened.

But, the thing about fake dating is that it feels a lot like real dating, and it's just too easy to fall for someone.

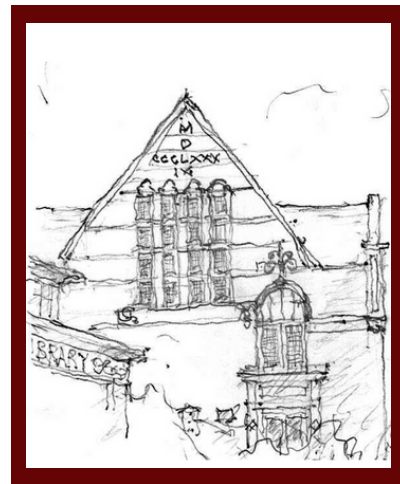
Historic Homes Tour Comes to Library

The Friends of the Dimmick are proud to present our Historic Homes Tour, coming soon on September 17th! We're so excited to share this with our patrons and the public--it's certainly been a long time coming!

The house tour will feature ten historic homes, most of which are located on Broadway and West Broadway streets, as well as the Dimmick Library and the Mauch Chunk Opera House.

Tickets are available for sale on our website, www.dimmicklibrary.org. Each ticket is \$30 and only 300 tickets will be sold. Additionally, no children under the age of 12 are admitted to the tour, and everyone on the tour does need a ticket to participate.

For more information about the tour, be sure to contact the library Circ Desk, or you can purchase your ticket directly online. We can't wait to show you our historic town!



Beloved Long-Time Volunteer Leaves Dimmick Friend Group

If you've ever been to the Dimmick on a Saturday, you might have seen our great group of Friends running the library book sales, and if you've ever been to a book sale--you HAVE to have met Janet. Janet Hermann has been with the Friends of the Dimmick for going on fifteen years, since her retirement working as a social worker.

Janet has worked on various projects for the Dimmick. As the President of the Friends Group, she was in charge of scheduling and communication, and Friend Carol O'Brien says 'she's the glue that held us together.' Janet also helped with ordering our Dimmick merch, Chili Cook Offs, and she helped out at the Friends House, before it was sold.

In her free time, she enjoys plants and reading--she's been a part of the Dimmick Book Club at the Stabin Museum for many years and she enjoys Contemporary and Historical Fiction. Janet will be leaving our Friend group to move to Allentown and we will miss her dearly. We wish her well and hope that this new chapter brings her many new adventures!

Do you have an hour or two free on Saturdays? Do you enjoy hilarious conversations with THE best group of people there ever was? Join our Friend group! For more information, email us at friendsofthedimmick@gmail.com.

Play and Grow Project Brings New Developmental Equipment to Library

If you have visited the Children's space in the libraries lately, you may have seen some colorful changes!

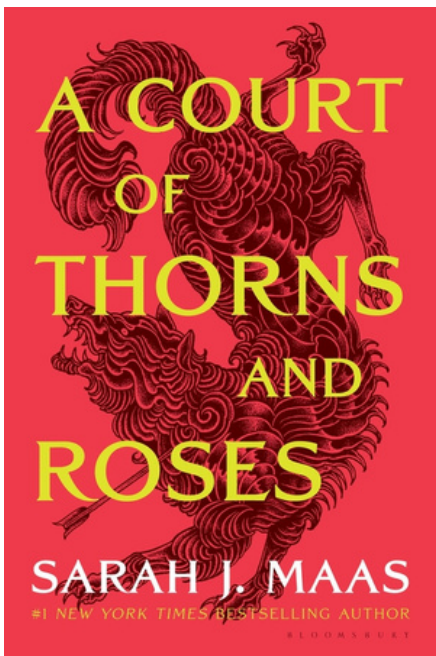
Our libraries were selected to be a part of the Play and Grow project funded by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The Play and Grow project provided extensive early childhood education to library staff. We learned about important skills and development areas which need to be stimulated early in a child's life.

The first three years of a child's life are the most crucial for early brain development. To support those important years, we will continue to develop our Children's spaces, by introducing opportunities for experiencing small and large motor activities, social/emotional skills, pre-literacy and pre-math skills, and many more. We hope you will join us as we develop our programs and early childhood spaces!!



Escaping Into A World of Fantasy: A Court Of Thorns And Roses

BY JACKIE MALLOY



I was standing at the Circ Desk the other day and a patron returned a mammoth of a book, slapped it down on the desk, and asked me if I'd read it? Of course, I hadn't read the acclaimed ACOTAR books. Why?

Last year, I devoted a significant amount of time (and reading goals) to reading popular books--you know the ones...the ones trending on Booktok that everyone just can't stop talking about. Yet, I found that despite the many recommendations, I struggled to connect with the writing. So, I was a *bit* skeptical when *A Court of Thorns and Roses* crossed my path. This book is the epitome of popular. Topping Goodreads charts at over 1 million ratings, and a nominee for a 2015 Goodreads choice award, this book is one of the most well-reviewed books on the popular platform. Not to mention, it's STILL on the Amazon bestseller charts, despite being released over five years ago now.

And, it's Fantasy. My least favorite genre. There was no way I was going to pick this book up, right? Wrong. I stood at the desk and read the first two pages of that book and was immediately hooked. And when I say immediately, I mean IMMEDIATELY. I seriously took that thing home and didn't eat dinner until almost ten o'clock that night.

The really intriguing thing about going in blind to *A Court of Thorns and Roses* is that everything hits so hard, I wanted to laugh and gasp aloud, while simultaneously skipping over entire paragraphs. I had no idea what was going to happen from one scene to the next and I had to work to slow myself down because the plotline was just that good. Which, I should probably at least explain instead of just ranting about how good the book is.

So the book starts with nineteen-year-old Feyre. She's living in this little tiny cottage with her father and her sisters. Her family used to have money, but her father got himself into some kind of trouble with his business and now they can barely afford to eat. Feyre's older sisters are struggling with this change--one's a little airheaded, and the other's definitely arrogant--neither seems to have the skills or the motivation to keep the family alive, so it's down to Feyre to hunt to keep the family fed. One day, Feyre comes across a wolf in the woods, killing it to provide for her family. Soon after, a terrifying creature comes to the family's door, demanding retribution for the wolf (who, ahem, was actually a faerie). Feyre has no choice but to go with this creature to the magical land she's only heard about in legends. There, she quickly learns that the beast that has broken her family apart is no creature, but instead one of the lethal, immortal faeries who used to rule the human world.

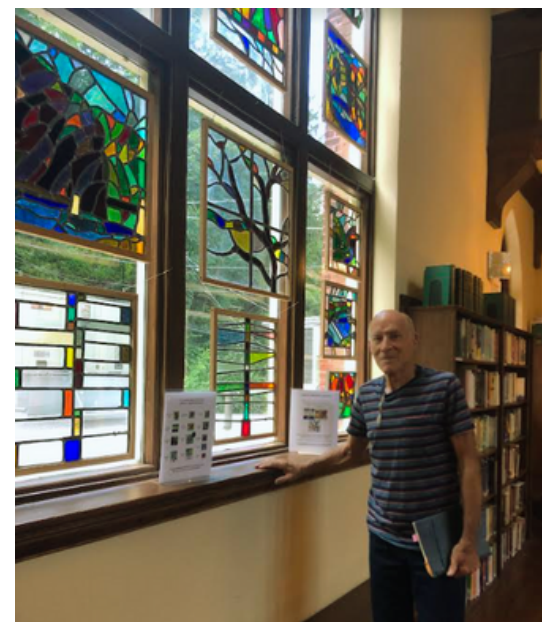
With no choice but a lifetime imprisoned in the fairy realm, Feyre adjusts to her new reality, and her feelings for the creature that took her from his home, Tamlin, turn from icy hostility into a fiery passion. But something else is happening in the faerie lands. A wicked shadow has been cast over Tamlin's home, and it might be up to Feyre to figure out how to help Tamlin and his crew. Even if she's only human.

When I tell you I FLEW THROUGH THIS BOOK. The entire first novel is a little over 400 pages, which goes remarkably fast. In fact, my biggest recommendation is to check out *A Court of Mist and Fury* at the same time as *A Court of Thorns and Roses*. That way, you can read right through to the sequel! I had the entire first three books finished within a week and it was totally worth losing my social life for seven days to escape into the world of the spring court.

John H. Bushnell's "A Conversation in Color" Returns to the Dimmick

Our summer art shows are well underway, and our August showing features "A Conversation in Color" by John H. Bushnell. This presentation showcases one-of-a-kind stained glass that is handmade by local artist, Bushnell, and depicts environmental scenes found in the area. There are twelve pieces for sale, available for viewing in the large balcony window overlooking the library's Circ Desk.

This August, also enjoy the picturesque oil paintings and pastels of John Bushnell, gracing our library walls throughout the end of the month. Proceeds from the artwork will directly benefit the Dimmick Memorial library. Be sure to stop in, check out these unique pieces, and maybe even take one home for your own collection!



What Do You Need To Be A Librarian?

BY CHEYENNE MECKES



What many people do not know is that while anyone working in a library can be called a librarian, a true librarian is someone with a Master's degree in Library and Information Science. This can be a shock to many people who have never thought that higher education was necessary for working in a library. The behind the scenes work within a library is usually unknown from a patron's view, but I hope to shed some light on it.

Library and Information Science degrees truly are that: a science. There are many factors that correlate with each other that are important to be able to comprehend how a library works, what its true purpose is, and how to get that done. A large percentage of the public view libraries as just a place for books, and if you ask them, they believe that libraries are becoming a thing of the past. For librarians, and library users, *this is completely wrong*. Libraries are safe places for communities, they are holders of information, and most importantly protectors of rights.

Historically, libraries have been neutral places, aware of politics and current events, but a place where all can gather. In today's political environment, this is even more important. Librarians must be familiar with Constitutional laws as well as the Library Bill of Rights to properly gauge themselves in conversations and situations. Learning how material is cataloged, used, and protected is another one of the many tasks, but is not the most important. Librarians are also tasked with writing grants, handling money, and doing the true running of the business end of the building.

The main point I want to get across is that deciding to get a masters degree to become a librarian is not to get a job, it is to become a part of a large professional field. With a knowledge of the many aspects of what supports, creates, and allows a library, librarians are prepared for any and all situations within the library world. Deciding to go further in your education usually comes from a place of great care and love for the community the library serves. Next time you come into the library, thank whoever you see for being the active cause for the many opportunities the library offers.



**We're looking
for artists!**

Hold An Art Show With Us At The Library!

Whether you paint, draw, or experiment with different materials, we'd love to have YOUR art on our library walls! Our art shows are a great way to gain exposure, sell some pieces, and even network with locals.

Art shows are typically one month long, unless otherwise specified. Artists can bring as little or as many pieces as they like, depending on the size or preference of the show--though we find 10-20 pieces tend to be the norm!

Each artist is welcome have an reception held at the library, and we are happy to also advertise both the art show and the reception on social media and on our library's website!

For more information, or to set up your art show, contact us at dimmickevents@gmail.com

Book Club

Love discussing books with others? Come to Book Club! Book Club is the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 2pm at Cafe Arielle at the Stabin Museum.

Sept: My Name is Lucy Barton by Elizabeth Strout
Oct: Pig Earth by John Burger
Nov: Growing up Bank Street by Donna Florio

To borrow a copy of the book, be sure to call the Circ Desk!

September Storytime Themes

Join us on Tuesdays at 10AM at the Dimmick for Storytime!

September 5th: Sunflowers
September 12th: Superheros
September 19th: Space
September 26th: School



Match The Selfie to the Shelfie!



CHRIS



ATLAS



CHEYENNE



MARY



JACKIE



MEGAN



KARA



Which bookshelf belongs to which library worker?

- SELFIE**
- CHRIS
 - ATLAS
 - CHEYENNE
 - MARY
 - JACKIE
 - MEGAN
 - KARA

SHELFIE



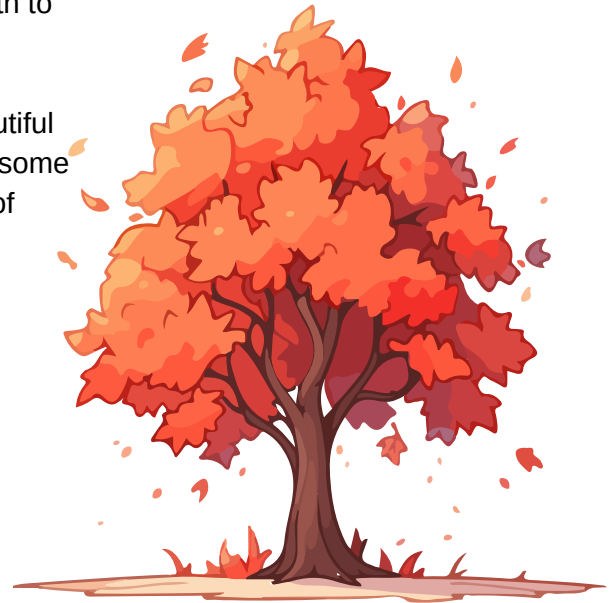
Fall Foliage Comes to the Dimmick

Fall foliage is coming back to Jim Thorpe! On weekends through October 8th to 29th, you can take scenic train rides on the Pocono Railway, enjoy free live music, or check out spooky local ghost tours.

At the Dimmick Library, join us for weekend book sales, and check out beautiful art by local creators, displayed in our historic building! Plus, we're planning some exciting upcoming *spooky* events that you won't want to miss. Here's a list of some of the events our team has in the works, so you can pencil them in!

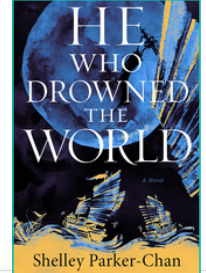
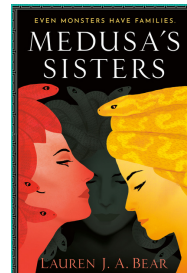
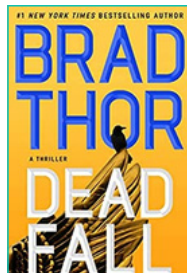
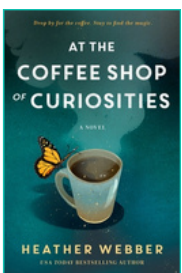
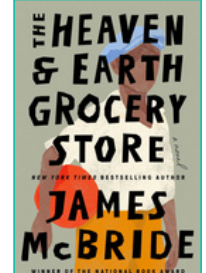
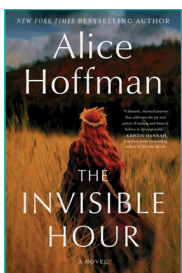
Repurposed Ghost Painting: October 16th

Kid's Spooky Movie Night: October 20th



New High Demand Books Available

Check out some of the new titles we have available on our High Demand shelves!



Support the Library Through Venmo!

Scan the QR code to the left with your phone or mobile device to donate directly to the library!

To use Paypal, you can donate by sending to @dimmickmemoriallibrary.

Want to donate directly to Penn Kidder? Leave us a note when you donate, so we know!

If you need help with electronic donations, please call the circulation desk at either the Dimmick or Penn Kidder or email us at dimmickevents@gmail.com



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