

# MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2022

Messenger Public Library  
**SUMMER  
CHALLENGE**  
Explore • Discover • S'more  
June 1-July 31, 2022

Ages 0-100+. North Aurora, take the summer challenge to read and participate in fun activities! Everyone is invited to join the fun and earn prizes with challenges for every age.

Children and teens can pick up badge books and log reading/activities online at [messengerpl.beanstack.org](http://messengerpl.beanstack.org) or via the Beanstack Tracker app.

Visit the Library or [messengerpl.org/readingchallenge](http://messengerpl.org/readingchallenge) to get started. Stop by the Library all summer to enjoy trivia, scavenger hunts, guessing games, the Literacy Investigation Station, special prize drawings, and more!



### Summer Challenge Kickoff

Sunday, June 5 **Jim Gill Family Concert: 2:00 p.m. Bingo: 3:00 p.m.**

All ages. Kick off the summer with an afternoon of fun! Enjoy a family concert with the always amazing Jim Gill, then stick around for games, crafts, bingo, and bags (aka cornhole)! See the online calendar for details.

### Summer Lunch Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, June 6-August 15 • 11:00-11:30 a.m.

Ages 0-18. We invite children and teens to enjoy complimentary boxed lunches! Lunches must be eaten at the Library. Plan to picnic on the back lawn when the weather is clear. First come, first served. See the online calendar to coordinate staying for lunch after storytimes and other programs. *Funded by the USDA and ISBE. No registration is required.*

## MUSIC AT MESSENGER

Bring your lawn chair and picnic to the back of the Library for a relaxed and early evening of music from the rich local culture of the Fox River Valley region. Evenings will feature a local singer/songwriter, book giveaways, library card registrations, and swag to take home!

### Jim Green Tuesday, June 7 • 6:30p.m.

Having performed throughout the U.S., *Billboard* has hailed Jim Green as “one of the best independent artists in the Midwest.” His unique style of guitar, (even winning a Guitar Idol competition), and use of percussive techniques with carefully crafted vocals provide for a unique and enjoyable listening experience. A former resident of North Aurora, we are happy to “bring him home” for a local performance.



### The Heels Thursday, July 21 • 6:30p.m.

Get ready to enjoy all sorts of piano, congas, and shaky shenanigans with the high-energy duo of The Heels. The vocals of Kathleen Dooley and Sherry Winchester Schultz have graced stages all throughout the region, and they will bring their musical mix to perform an entertaining show.



### The League of Eric's Tuesday, August 16 • 6:30p.m.

These two talented Fox Valley musicians play all over the region individually and as a duo, with numerous albums to their credit. With a mix of covers, uniquely thoughtful songs, and the combined dynamic of guitars, the audience will have an enjoyable time hearing the harmony of “The Eric’s.”



JUNE ► JULY ► AUGUST

# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Call or check our online Events Calendar for more details, up-to-date information, and registration for adult programs. In-house programming may be presented on Zoom or rescheduled when health and safety concerns require changes. Register in advance. Teens are always welcome to register. Please note: Art Club requires a registered adult as well as teen.

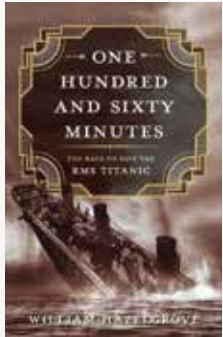
## Virtual Transgender 101

Tuesday, June 7 • 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Award winning speaker Nikk Selik will discuss concepts and terminology related to transgender identity, share practical information, and answer questions in a non-judgmental setting. Additionally, we will be discussing special considerations for different age groups.

*This program will take place over Zoom.*

## One Hundred & Sixty Minutes: The Race to Save the Titanic



Tuesday, June 21 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Join us as we welcome William Hazelgrove to present a harrowing and heroic story of the world's most famous shipwreck. He will tell the tale of two young Marconi operators whose efforts would save 710 people.

## From Emancipation to Inauguration: Chicago's Black Experience

Thursday, June 30 • 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

African-American History in Chicago is rich and deep, from our first settler to POTUS 44. To learn more about this fascinating timeline, please join us as we bring back speaker Clarence Goodman.



1891 Portrait of Ida B. Wells



## The History of Simon & Garfunkel: Together & Apart

Wednesday, July 13 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

If you took the rich harmonies of the Everly Brothers and matched it with the lyricism of Bob Dylan, the result might be Simon & Garfunkel. Often considered the thinking person's rock 'n' rollers they were also one of the most successful musical acts of the 1960s. Using audio and visual content Gary Wenstrup will trace the arc of Simon & Garfunkel's careers.

## Ransom: Solve a Mystery at Messenger Library

Tuesday, July 19 OR Tuesday, July 26 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Socialite Sasha Millington has been kidnapped, and it's up to you to find the culprit! Join us for an evening of puzzle solving and deduction.

*Space is extremely limited, so please register in advance.*

## Forensic DNA Testing: Cold Cases Solved

Tuesday, August 16 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

A criminal case becomes "cold" when all available information has been exhausted. Decades old cold cases can now be solved using sophisticated forensic DNA Testing.

Welcome back Hal Tinberg, and learn how this technology, along with the work of dedicated police detectives, has solved baffling cases such as the Southland Strangler and Grim Sleeper murders.

*This program will be held on Zoom.*

# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS & TEENS

## The Why & How of Car Maintenance

Monday, July 25 • 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For teens and adults. Automotive educator Chaya Milchtein will be back to present a program over Zoom.

Class covers foundational maintenance items and topics like the owner's manual, specific systems and preventive maintenance.

## Escape Room: Trapped in the 1980s

Register for ONE: Saturday, July 16 • 1:30 p.m. OR 3:00 p.m.  
Sunday, July 17 • 1:30 p.m. OR 3:00 p.m.

For teens and adults. Escape the 1980s in this fun, interactive escape room. Solve puzzles and complete challenges to return to 2022 and exit the room. You have one hour!

## Take a Book. Share a Book.

Visit either of the Messenger Little Free Libraries located close to the gazebo in North Aurora Riverfront Park and 2201 Tanner Trail Road (by the North Aurora Fire Department, Station #2) to find free books for all ages.





**Saturday, August 6 • 3:00-4:30 p.m.**

Join the Library at the main stage for a brief Storytime and show from Grammy-nominated children's musician and songwriter Ralph Covert. Ralph is the star of the children's show, *Ralph's World*, and TV *Treehouse* and has produced multiple albums and beloved favorite songs for children of all ages. Come dance with Ralph and your Librarians! Visit our booth for the latest news and give-away goodies.



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Register in advance and receive the Zoom link. Copies of discussion titles may be available on hoopla, Overdrive Libby, or Axis360. Print copies of book discussion titles are available for checkout at the User Services Desk.

### Narrative Nonfiction Book Group (Zoom)

Meets second Monday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

June 13: *Priceless: How I Went Undercover to Rescue the World's Stolen Treasures* by Robert K. Wittman

July 11: *When Books Went to War: The Stories That Helped Us Win WWII* by Molly Guptill Manning

August 8: *The Secret History of Home Economics: How Trailblazing Women Harnessed the Power of Home and Changed the Way We Live* by Danielle Dreilinger

### Midweek Murder Mystery Club (Zoom)

Meets third Wednesday of the month • 2:00-3:00 p.m.

June 15: *The Sentence is Death* by Anthony Horowitz

July 20: *Cremains of the Day* by Misty Simon

August 17: *Tart of Darkness* by Denise Swanson

### Messenger Evening Book Discussion Group (In Person)

Meets first Thursday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

June 2: *Once Upon a Wardrobe* by Patti Callahan

July 7: *The Paris Library* by Jane Skeslien Charles

August 4: *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell

### TED Ideas worth spreading Talks (In Person)

Meets first Saturday of the month • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us each month as we watch and discuss two *Ted Talks* related by an inspiring theme.

June 4: **All About Introverts**

July 2: **The Evolution of Music**

August 6: **Are We Alone in the Universe?**

## ART CLUB FOR ADULTS

Second Saturday of the month • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Beginners welcome! Space is limited. Register in advance. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).

### Painting Inspirations: Abstract Watercolor Resist Saturday, June 11 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Learn a cool watercolor trick that will help you to make abstract watercolor artwork for yourself! No drawing/artistic skills necessary, except for choosing colors. *Registration starts May 1.*

### Clay Pot Fairy Gardens

Saturday, July 9 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

With Shari Pontillo's instruction you can create your own Fairy Garden House with a clay pot! These lovely little "houses" will add a touch of whimsy to your home.

*Registration starts June 1.*

### Paper Quilled Sunflowers

Saturday, August 13 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Make a quilled sunflower sure to brighten any room. You'll learn important basic quilling techniques such as coiling, tension, and shaping the individual pieces.

*Registration starts July 1.*

### The Give & Take Seed Library

Through a new partnership with the North Aurora Garden Club, we will be founding a seed lending library at the Messenger Public Library. This project is expected to kick off in mid-late summer, so please watch our social media channels for announcements. Take, give and grow! Seed lending libraries support food security and sustainability and honor the Kane County agricultural traditions while connecting you to the Library in a unique way. Please contact the Director if you are interested in donating seeds to the program.

# TEENS

Registration is required for all teen and kids programs, unless noted.

Register online at [messengerpl.org](http://messengerpl.org), by phone (630) 801-4340, or in person. Registration begins Monday, May 23.

## Teen Ukulele Class

Monday, June 20 • 3:30-4:30 p.m. OR 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Join us for a fun, hands-on introduction to the ukulele. Learn basic chords, rhythm, a little ukulele history, and have lots of fun.

*Ukuleles provided during the program: no experience necessary.*

*Space is limited. Have your own ukulele? Bring it!*



## Teen DIY

Tuesdays • 2:00-3:00 p.m.

June 14: Paper Flower Wall Art

July 12: Tie-Dye

Grades 6-12. Create with your friends this summer! In June, we'll create beautiful wall art with paper flowers. In July, get your creativity on with tie-dye. Bring a white cotton shirt, shoes, bag, etc. to dye. We will provide the rest.

*Tie-Dye will be outdoors, weather permitting.*

## Teen Volunteers

Students entering grades 7-12 are welcome to volunteer at the Library!

Visit [messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers](http://messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers) for applications and details.

## Murder Mystery Book Club: Truly Devious Series

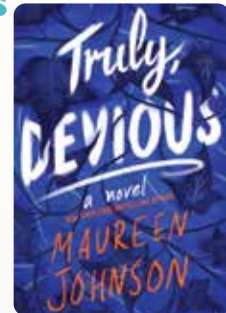
Wednesdays • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

June 22, July 20, August 24

Grades 6-12. When Stevie started at Ellingham Academy, she planned to solve the 1940s Ellingham case. She did not plan on solving the murders of her classmates, too.

Join us each month to tackle another book in the *Truly Devious* trilogy by Maureen Johnson.

*Registration required. The first five to register will receive free copies of the books.*



## creativebug® Kits for Teens

June 15: Felt Pennants

July 15: Paper Fans

August 15: Beginning Watercolor

Grades 6-12. Learn a new skill while completing a fun craft kit. Creativebug is a craft database that you can access online for free through the Library! Register to reserve a kit.

# KIDS & TEENS

## Summer Book Subscriptions

Picture Book Bags (Ages 0-8)

Elementary Boxes (Kindergarten-Grade 5)

Teen Boxes (Grades 6-12)

Pick up a box/bag on the tenth of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box/bag to be eligible for next month's books.

*Space is limited: registration and a Messenger Library card required.*

## STEAM Activities & Teen Take Out

June-July: Weekly • August: Monthly

All ages. New take-home kits every Monday.

*Available while supplies last.*

*Register for a reminder email or text.*

# WONDER CAMPS WITH DUPAGE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Spark children's curiosity and open a world of wonder with hands-on STEAM learning experiences inspired by Andrea Beaty's *Questioners* book series. Participating families will be eligible for a free trip to the DuPage Children's Museum on July 30.

*Wonder Camps will be outdoors, weather permitting.*

*Registration required for each date.*

## Iggy Peck's Design Workshop

PRE-K-KINDERGARTEN

Saturday, June 11 & July 9 • 9:30-10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 21 & July 19 • 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Monday, June 27 & July 25 • 9:30-10:00 a.m.

## Ada Twist's Experiment Lab

GRADES 1-3

Friday, June 10 & July 15 • 2:00-2:45 p.m.

Wednesday, June 15 & July 27 • 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Saturday, June 25 & July 9 • 10:30-11:15 a.m.

## Aaron Slater's Art Studio

GRADES 4-5

Saturday, June 4 & July 23 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 14 & July 12 • 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 24 & July 8 • 2:00-3:00 p.m.



# KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration is required for kids and families programs, unless noted.

Register online at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 801-4340, or in person. Registration begins Monday, May 23.

## Natural Storytellers With Tom Lichtenheld

Saturday, June 18 • 10:00 a.m.

Grades 1-5. Join us for a special event with author/illustrator Tom Lichtenheld. We are all natural storytellers, so let's use natural objects in our stories!

Program includes interactive presentation and drawing workshop.

Rain date is June 25. Space is limited.



Monday, July 11 • 10:00 a.m.

All ages. Looking for a magical escape? Artist Dan Gogh will be our guide for engaging camp activities, including searching for magical survival equipment, and amazing nature discoveries.

Explore s'more and join Dan Gogh

where magic, comedy, and art are all part of the adventure!

## Laugh Out Loud Club: Back to School

Wednesday, August 3 • 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Kindergarten-grade 2. Explore the silly world of picture books! Create funny crafts, sing silly songs, and laugh out loud.

Program will take place outside, weather permitting. Registration required.

## Graphic Novel Book Club

Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

June 27: *Swan Lake: Quest for the Kingdoms*

August 22: *Mr. Wolf's Class 1*

Aimed at grades 3-5. Love graphic novels? Join us to talk about what you liked – and didn't like – about new and popular graphic novels! The first five to register will receive a free copy of the book. Registration required.



Thursdays: June 9,  
July 14 & August 11  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

All ages. Build a creation to display at the Library!  
Register online for a reminder via email or text.

## Reading Buddies

Fridays, June 17-August 12 • 10:30-11:00 a.m.

Aimed at kindergarten-grade 3. Keep up reading skills over the summer! Build confidence and fluency by reading aloud with a teen book buddy. Bring a favorite book or come to the Library early to choose something new. Registration required.

## Curious Families

Tie Dye: Saturday, July 2 • 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Backyard Wilderness with  
Creek Bend Nature Center:

Saturday, July 30 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Aimed at kindergarten-grade 5, with families. It's time to explore and experiment with all things STEAM! Find more details and registration instructions on our online calendar. Program will take place outside, weather permitting.

# STORYTIMES

Visit the online calendar for program details, more registration information, and weather accommodations.

## OUTDOOR STORYTIMES June 6 - August 8 (No storytimes July 4, 5 & 6)

<b>Baby Storytime</b>	0-1 year (with caregiver)	Tuesdays: June 14-July 26	9:30-10:00 a.m.
<b>Messy Sensory Playtime*</b>	2-5 years (with caregiver)	Mondays: June 13 & August 8	10:00-10:45 a.m.
<b>Stories in the Sun*</b>	2-5 years (with caregiver)	Wednesdays: June 15-July 27	10:30-11:00 a.m.
<b>Family Storytime &amp; Craft</b>	3-6 years (with caregiver)	Mondays: June 13, July 18 & August 1	6:15-7:00 p.m.
<b>Wonder Camp</b>	3-6 years (with caregiver)	June 11, 21, 27 & July 9, 19, 25	Times Vary

Registration required, unless noted. \*Registration preferred.

## INDOOR STORYTIMES

<b>Sensory Playtime</b>	0-4 year (with caregiver)	Tuesday, July 5	10:00-10:45 a.m.
<b>Stories &amp; Songs</b>	2-5 years (with caregiver)	Mondays: June 20 & July 18	10:00-10:30 a.m.

# MESSENGER

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

113 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL 60542

(630) 896-0240

www.messengerpl.org

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## LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Shannon Halikias

# RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

## LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday  
9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday  
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sunday  
1:00-5:00 p.m.

## LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Independence Day Holiday  
Sunday, July 3 & Monday, July 4

## MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Welcome summer! It seems like we anxiously await this season for far too many months in the Midwest, and then pack in a good deal of living while the sun is shining. This season at the Library will feature a little bit of everything for everybody in the community. Learning opportunities, cultural events, crafting, book discussions, and the launch of our Summer Reading Challenge. Storytimes a'plenty are featured for your littles both indoors and outdoors. We're even launching outdoor music nights, Music at Messenger. Bring your picnic and lawn chair, and listen to talented performers selected from the Fox Valley region.

One of the first large-scale tasks in my service to MPL will be to facilitate the next Strategic Plan, guiding our operations for the next four years. Please make sure you look for survey announcements (both online and in paper form), be available to participate in a Listening Session, and share your thoughts. With our supportive Board, we will make critical decisions about programming, collection, technology, use of resources, and how to continually update our building. Our direction will be defined by our priorities, as we work to support all the diverse needs of our patrons.

Make sure you swing by our booth at North Aurora Days. I will be there along with other staff members to shake our patron's hands, register folks for library cards, and chat about what is happening at the Library.

Yes, it IS a full-on return to FUN at the Library as we serve as the cultural heart of a community.



Shannon Halikias, Library Director

## STRATEGIC PLANNING SURVEY & LISTENING SESSIONS

Our Library will engage in the process to write the next strategic plan guiding our operations, facilities, collection, technology updates, and programming for the next four years. We will be assessing community needs, changing demographics, and determining what upgrades and adaptations are needed for our building. A brief public survey will be available in June, both online and in paper form, and your information will help us craft the right plan.

Listening Sessions will be offered on selected dates for patrons wishing to share thoughts, answer questions, and provide input. Patrons of all ages are invited to attend one session per person.

- Tuesday, June 14 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, June 23 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 25 @ 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 28 @ 6:00 p.m.

You may attend the meeting in person or join in via Zoom. Please see our events calendar to register.