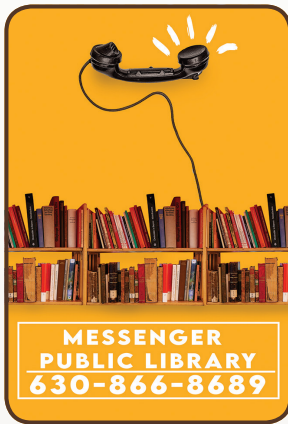


MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2021

creativebug®

Creativebug offers online arts and crafts classes for all ages, led by artists and crafting enthusiasts. Watch videos, and download patterns and templates about everything from drawing, painting, knitting, quilting, sewing, baking and more. Classes are designed for all experience levels, and because access is unlimited and classes do not expire, you can watch and learn at your leisure. Just grab your Messenger Public Library card, go to the Digital Branch on the Library's website, and get creative!



Dial A Story (630) 866-8689

Dial-A-Story is a new reading resource for all ages (children, teens and adults). Listen to stories and poems read by our library staff and LibriVox volunteers over the phone. You'll find new stories every month, so be sure to give us a call at 630-866-8689.



NICHE ACADEMY

Messenger Public Library cardholders can now explore how-to tutorials on a wide range of topics such as using Hoopla, Libby/Overdrive, Kanopy, Ancestry Library Edition, Microsoft Excel, and more. Go to the Digital Branch on the Library's website for a complete list of what's available, and start learning today. If you don't yet have a Messenger Library card, sign up for a 24/7 temporary digital access card to use all of the many streaming and downloadable eResources the Library has to offer.



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK APRIL 4-10, 2021



Libraries extend far beyond the four walls of a building – everyone is welcome to use the Library. We encourage North Aurora residents to use your Library and renew or register your library card during National Library Week.

Personalized Book Recommendations

Looking for something new to read? Browse our special webpage to find books on a variety of topics and age groups. Or, fill out our online forms to have library staff choose books just for you or your family. Once notified your holds are ready, stop by the Library to check out your items. Visit messengerpl.org/get-book-recs.



Free for Checkout: Wi-Fi Hotspots

North Aurora residents can now check out and have access at home or office to the Internet. The Library has several Wi-Fi hot spots to check out to North Aurora residents. This service will come in handy for students, business people, and those who work or need streaming access, but do not have internet service. Please contact the Library for further information.

► MARCH ► APRIL ► MAY

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Please stop in, call, or check our online calendar for more information and registration for adult programs. Register in advance to receive a Zoom link. Teens are always welcome to register.



Identity Theft Workshop

Tuesday March 2 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Learn how to identify potential scams or fraud, protect yourself against identity theft, and address some concerns about being a victim of identity theft. Understand the importance of securing your personal information.

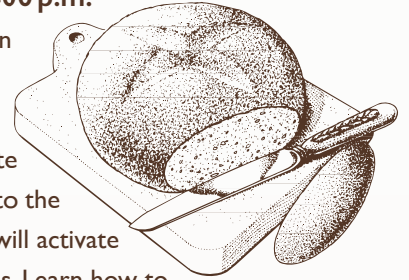
This program will take place over Zoom.

Please register for the link.

Sourdough Starter Class

Monday, March 22 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Join Andrea Pracht of My Kitchen Clatter and learn how to get started with sourdough. Prior to class, the Library will distribute dehydrated sourdough starters to the first twenty registrants, and we will activate the starters together during class. Learn how to care for your starter while Andrea demonstrates baking with sourdough.



Register in advance for the Zoom link and recipe handouts.

Movie Music Romance

Monday, April 5 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Get on board for a live guided tour through 100 years of film history as John LeGear shares his favorite music moments and memories. From Fred and Ginger to *West Side Story* and *La La Land*, you will love the inside stories about the greatest songs ever made for film.

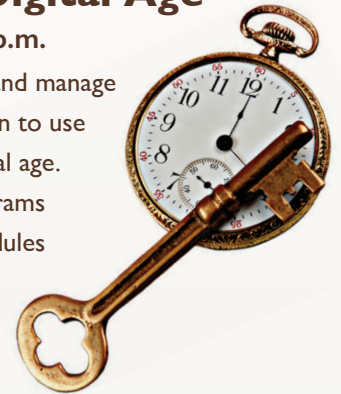


Register in advance to receive the Zoom link.

Time & Information Management: Organizing in the Digital Age

Tuesday, April 20 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Discover how we look at, receive, and manage our time and information, then learn to use the tools available to us in the digital age. Learn about the top apps and programs for managing everything from schedules and tasks, to projects and teams.



Please register in advance to receive the Zoom link.



Struggle for Freedom

Tuesday, May 4 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

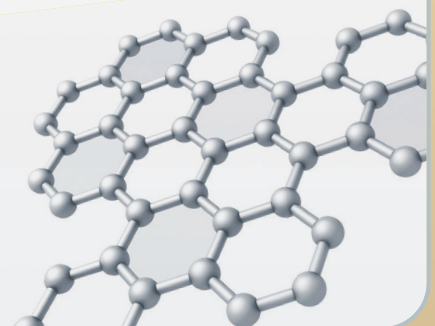
Mandela, the exhibit, traces the history of the apartheid in South Africa, with Nelson Mandela as the central character. With immersive environments, such as a recreation of Mandela's cell on Robben Island, *Mandela* promotes human rights with the central message: all people deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. We are excited to be presenting this virtual tour in conjunction with the Illinois Holocaust Museum. *Please register in advance to receive the Zoom link.*

Nanotechnology: The Next Big (Really Small) Thing

Tuesday, May 25 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Dr. Richard Jarman will describe the recent development of nanotechnology and prospects for the future, with an overview of some of its more important and unusual applications.

Please register in advance for the Zoom link.



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Love to read and discuss books? Join one of the Library's book groups on Zoom, and enjoy lively discussions of fiction and non-fiction titles. Register in advance for a Zoom link and more information. EBooks and eAudiobooks may be available on Hoopla, Overdrive Libby, or Axis360. Print copies and audiobooks may be available for checkout. Contact the Help Desk for assistance.

Narrative Nonfiction Book Group

Meets 2nd Monday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 8: *In a Sunburned Country* by Bill Bryson

April 12: *The Five: The Untold Lives of the Women Killed By Jack the Ripper* by Hallie Rubenhold

May 10: *Education of an Idealist: A Memoir* by Samantha Power

Romance Online Book Club

Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 9: *99 Percent Mine* by Sally Thorne

April 13: *Tempest* by Beverly Jenkins

May 11: *Love Lettering* by Kate Clayborn



Midweek Murder Mystery Club

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

March 17: *Silent in the Grave* by Deanna Raybourn

April 21: *The Body in the Boudoir* by Katherine Hall Page

May 19: *The Cutting Season* by Attica Locke

Messenger Evening Book Discussion Group

Meets 1st Thursday of the month • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

March 4: *The Orphan Collector* by Ellen Marie Wiseman

April 1: *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz

May 6: *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

MONTHLY GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Family History Help (One-On-One Zoom)

Meets 3rd Saturday of the month

March 20, April 17, May 15

2:00-3:00 p.m. OR 3:30-4:30 p.m.

We'll focus on your specific genealogy questions, or help you get started with your family history research.

Register in advance for one of two sessions, and we will send you the Zoom link. When you register, let us know what topic interests you, and we will prepare resources to share. Beginners welcome!

Fox Valley Writers Group

Meets regularly online via Google Duo.

Adults can share positive, constructive feedback with other writers of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry.

For more information, contact foxvalleywriters@gmail.com.



ARTS & CRAFTS

Art Club for Grownups (Zoom) 2nd Saturday of the month • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Looking for a fun, artistic opportunity? Look no further! Art Club programs provide an opportunity for adults to explore their artistic spirit. Each month we explore a different art medium.

Beginners welcome! Space is limited. Please register in advance to receive a Zoom link. Most supplies will be available to pick up before class. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).

March 13: **Book Page Poetry Collage** April 10: **Scrapbook Paper Spring Wreath** May 8: **Fairy Jar Light**

Monthly Take-Home Craft

Stop by the Help Desk and pick up supplies each month for a small craft.

Kits are available at the beginning of each month, while supplies last. One kit per person, no registration necessary. For adults and teens over 16.

March 1: **Felt & Foam Egg Hedgehogs** April 1: **Paper Flower Garlands** May 1: **Geometric Paper Collage**

TEENS

Teen Take Out

Grades 6-12. Stop by the Library each week to pick up a fun craft, scavenger hunt, or activity you can take home and complete on your own time. New kits are available every Monday, so grab one before they disappear! *While supplies last.*

Spring Teen Book Subscription Box

Pick Up Dates: March 10, April 10, May 10

Grades 6-12. Register for our Winter Teen Book Subscription Box! Pick up your box every month for two books staff selected based off your preferences. Each box includes some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box each month to be eligible for the next month's box. *Space is limited; registration is required. A Messenger Library card is required.*

Fandom Support Group

Mondays, March 15, April 12, May 17 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Excited about a new movie or show coming out? Wish you had a space to express your geekiness? Come to Fandom Support Group! Here we come together to discuss what is making us excited in the entertainment world. *Registration is required for the Zoom link.*

Teen Volunteer & Job Packet

Pick-Up Dates: March 1-30

Teens, stop by the Library to pick up a packet to learn about volunteer and paid job opportunities for the summer and beyond in Batavia, Geneva, North Aurora, and St. Charles.

Teen Volunteers

Spring • Grades 6-12

Summer • Entering grades 7-12

Students in grades 6-12 are welcome to volunteer at the Library! We will have in-library prep shifts (as long as the Library is open) and volunteer at home options available.

Applications are available online or at the Youth Services Desk.

Visit messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers for an application and more details.



KIDS & FAMILIES



Visit Youth Services to pick up a take-home activity kit!

We'll have three kits to choose from, aimed at families (with young children), Kindergarten-Grade 5, and Grades 6-12 (Teen Takeout). Follow the Library on Facebook to be notified if additional projects are added to the schedule.

Register online if you'd like to receive a reminder email or text.

New kits available on the first of each month, while supplies last.

Curious Families

March 1: Coding Secret Messages

April 1: Water Pollution Solutions

May 1: Potato Oobleck



Kindergarten-grade 5 and families. Explore and learn with each month's kit! Adult assistance is often helpful, so we encourage families to enjoy the projects together. If you registered for winter, you are already registered for spring! Pickup begins on the first of each month. Contact Youth Services to check or update your status.

Registration required.

Family Storytime & Craft Kit

March 15: Folklore & Fairy Tales

April 15: Weather All Around

May 15: The Great Outdoors

Ages 2-5 and families. Explore and create with books, crafts and activities perfect for an interactive DIY storytime.

Pickup begins on the 15th of each month.

Registration required.

Ready-Made Meal Pickup Mondays 3:30-4:30 p.m. & Thursdays 5:30-6:30 p.m.

For ages 0-18. Busy? We can help take some cooking off your to do list! Save time and a little money with free meals and snacks. On Mondays and Thursdays, pick up two ready-made meals per minor in your household. Dinner is ready... or maybe lunch: pre-packaged and ready for a remote learning lunch break! *See the online calendar for menus and pickup instructions.*

KIDS & FAMILIES



Babies-Preschool and caregivers. Read 1000 books with your children before kindergarten! Reading together every day encourages learning, healthy brain development, and family bonding. Any child who has not yet entered kindergarten

and has a Messenger Public Library card can participate (year-round). Pick up a 1000 Books packet from Youth Services and track your progress via the Beanstack Tracker app or messengerpl.beanstack.org.



Ages 0-5. Build literacy with daily activity suggestions! Based

on the Every Child Ready to Read® practices of reading, writing, singing, talking, playing and counting, each month includes learning activities, nursery rhymes, and more. Check off your activities using the Beanstack app, at messengerpl.beanstack.org, or visit Youth Services to pick up each month's printed activity calendar.

SCHOOL YEAR CHALLENGES

We challenge you to READ this school year. Register online to see if you can take down one (or more!) of these challenges. Visit messengerpl.beanstack.org or use the Beanstack Tracker app to participate. Printed trackers available at the Library.

Read Through the Decades Spring Challenge

Kindergarten-Grade 12. Read about the times past, present, and future this spring. We challenge you to read books from different decades and earn free books as you go!

Genre Challenge

Kindergarten-Grade 12. We challenge you to read adventure, family & friends, informational, poetry, and realistic books this spring. Earn free books for reading!

Monarch, Bluestem, Caudill and Abe Lincoln Award Challenge

Kindergarten-Grade 12. Read your way through the 2021 award nominees lists this year and earn free books as you go!



Super Stolie Music Show

Available March 1-31

Super Stolie's energetic and interactive show inspires the silliness in everyone and is inclusive of all ages, genders

and capacities. This virtual show features Stolie's most popular original kids' songs with engaging sing-along cues, dancing instruction, movement challenges, guessing games, history and science lessons and a dance party to bring us all together! Are you ready to bring the rock show to your house?

Register to receive a link to the show performance.

Spring Book Subscriptions

Pickup dates: March 10, April 10, May 10

Picture Book Subscription

Interested in a book subscription for your little ones who aren't ready for readers and chapter books? Sign up for our new Picture Book Subscription! Elementary ages may register for one: Picture Books OR Book Boxes.

Space is limited; registration is required.

A Messenger Library card is required.

Spring Kids Book Subscription Box

For kids in kindergarten-grade 5. Pick up your box every month for two books staff selected based off your preferences. Each box includes some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box each month to be eligible for the next month's box.

Space is limited; registration is required.

A Messenger Library card is required.

Live Family Storytime

Thursdays • 10:00 a.m. • March 11 & 25, April 8 & 22, May 6 & 20

Aimed at ages 2-5 and caregivers. Join Ms. Juliet for a live storytime every other week. We will read books and sing songs together from the comfort of your home! Registration required to receive Zoom link.

MESSENGER

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

113 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL 60542

(630) 896-0240

www.messengerpl.org

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LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday
1:00-7:00 p.m.

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

CURBSIDE PICKUP HOURS

Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Sundays: Closed

Spring Holiday
Saturday, April 3

Memorial Day
Monday, May 31

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Marguerite Treest, President

Mark Saperston, Vice-President

Corinn A. Sparks, Secretary

Tanya Berley, Treasurer

Adrien Aaron

James R. Hicks

Mary Steed

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATOR

G. Kevin Davis

Library Service COVID-19 Restrictions Continue into Spring of 2021

Library patrons are advised to check the Library website regarding library service hours and levels as we move into spring. Library services may be changing frequently as State of Illinois Health Department COVID-19 business restrictions continue to affect library service levels. We appreciate your patience and understanding during these challenging times and as the Library Staff and Library Board continue to assist in stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our North Aurora Community. Thanks for your ongoing support!

Vote April 6, 2021! Library Trustee Election

The following North Aurora residents will be running to fill four Messenger Public Library Board of Trustee seats (four year terms) during the Tuesday, April 6, 2021 Consolidated Elections: Tanya Berley, James Hicks, Mary Steed and Marguerite Treest. The Library will once again be a polling place for the April 6th Elections. Polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. Residents will also be voting for candidates in Village and local Kane County elections. For further information on how to register to vote and on the 2021 Election, visit the Kane County Elections Site at: kanecountyclerk.org/Elections.



Library Donations: Summer Challenge

Would you or your business like to sponsor and support literacy activities for the North Aurora community? For 2021, in lieu of soliciting incentives for our children and teen summer reading challenge prizes, we will accept monetary donations, program sponsorships, and coupons for local businesses.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Adult Services Manager Jessie Affelder or Youth & Teen Services Manager Michelle Kurczak at 630-896-0240. Tax deductible contributions to the Messenger Public Library Foundation may be made at cfrv.org/profile/messenger-library-fund.

Annual Kids Kindness Hat Project

This past winter, our crafting community brought warmth and cheer by knitting and crocheting over 200 hats that were donated to local charities. The Library supplied yarn, needles and patterns, and North Aurora supplied the creative kindness.