

MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2020-21

North Aurora: One Community, Many Voices December 1 - February 28

Take the challenge to explore and enjoy this winter! Join a reading and activity program for any age. Children, teens and adults can read, watch, listen or attend programs to complete their challenge and enter to win free books or prize drawings. Visit the library or messengerpl.org/readingchallenge for more details.

Operation Christmas

The North Aurora Mothers' Club annual Operation Christmas will have a fresh look this year! We invite everyone to continue helping bring holiday cheer and gifts to local families in need. New procedures will be in place to ensure health and safety. Visit namothersclub.org in November for information on how to participate and/or make monetary donations.

Create a Kids Kindness Hat *Brr! It's Getting Cold Outside* November 1 - January 31

For adults and teens. Knit or crochet a warm children's hat to be donated to local charities. Stop by the Adult Services Help Desk starting November 1 to pick up a kit with yarn, needles and patterns, or use your own materials. Please bring completed hats and any borrowed needles back to the Adult Services Help Desk by January 31.



Winter Is Coming: Let It Snow!

Families, teens and adults can pick up a snowflake to personalize and we'll display your creations in the Library. Call, stop in to the Library, or check our website for more details, starting December 15.



Celebrate Kwanzaa December 26 through January 1

Celebrate Kwanzaa with storytellers D. Kucha Brownlee & Baba Tony Brown. Enjoy African drumming, Shekere playing, and singing for all ages. Come learn and have a lot of fun! During Kwanzaa (First Fruits) we celebrate our first fruits (children) and begin to instill the Nguzo Saba (7 Principles). We'll learn about Nguzo Saba - unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, co-operative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. Register in advance and we'll send you the link to our YouTube presentation, viewable December 15, 2020 through January 2, 2021.

▶ **DECEMBER** ▶ **JANUARY** ▶ **FEBRUARY**

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Please call, check our online calendar or email askus@messengerpl.org for more information and registration for adult programs.

All programs are on Zoom or YouTube, unless otherwise noted, and registration is required to receive a program link.

Sign up for eNewsletters to discover more programs and updates. Teens over the age of 16 are welcome.

ASL interpreters may be available when requested two weeks in advance.



The CSI Phenomenon: Forensics and Television

Wednesday, December 2 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Starting in 2000, a new kind of program dominated the television landscape: The forensic procedural.

The show that started it all was *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation*, the most successful television franchise of the past decade. This lecture describes some of the shows that may have inspired the creation of the series as well as the talented people and remarkable series of events that led to *CSI*. This lecture also explores the “CSI Effect”: Are juries influenced by the public’s new awareness of forensic science?

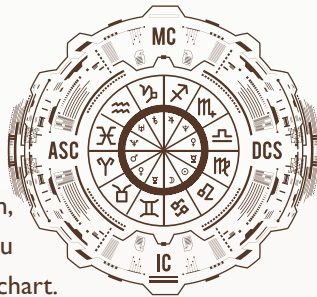
Astrology 101

Wednesday, January 14

7:00-8:00 p.m.

In this introduction to Astrology, you will learn about the sun, moon, rising signs, planets and houses. You may also learn to read your natal chart.

Can you avoid future problems, learn your strengths, and embrace your best self?



The Beatles: Their History In One Hour

Monday, January 18 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

As a musical entity The Beatles have not existed for 50 years. Yet their story, their personalities and most importantly their music continue to fascinate and resonate. With performance and interview clips we’ll trace the arc of The Beatles’ career, from their development in Liverpool through Beatlemania, into their psychedelic phase and finally their dissolution.



The Real Life of Laura Ingalls Wilder

Wednesday, February 10 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Have you met Laura Ingalls Wilder? Not the girl from the books, and not the woman from the television – this is the real Laura Ingalls Wilder. In this presentation you will hear the real history of Laura Ingalls Wilder, and discover the times, places, and people who inspired her wonderful books. *Laura Keyes will be delighting the audience with her presentation over Zoom.*

Systemic Racism In America: Understanding Our Racial Past and Present

Monday, February 22 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Dr. Robert Moorehead, professor of sociology at College of DuPage, will present a discussion on important issues that are in the news, as well as a historical perspective on racism.



Now adults can request books without even knowing the title!

Do you like romance, mystery, biography, or nonfiction? Large print?

Audiobooks? Just tell us what you have in mind, and we will pick out and place holds on three titles for you! There’s no limit to how often you can request titles, and we’ll make sure we don’t send you the same Masked Reads title twice.

Go online bit.ly/maskedreads to get started, or call the Help Desk.

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.

December 14: *The Santa Claus Man: The Rise and Fall of a Jazz Age Con Man and the Invention of Christmas in New York* by Alex Palmer

January 11: *Eighty Days: Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Bisland's History-Making Race Around the World* by Matthew Goodman

February 8: *Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History* by Erik Larson

Romance Online Book Club

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

December 8: *The Duchess Deal* by Tessa Dare

January 12: *Get a Life, Chloe Brown* by Talia Hibbert

February 9: *Boyfriend Material* by Alexis Hall

Midweek Murder Mystery Club

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

December 16: *A Highland Christmas (Hamish Macbeth)* by M. C. Beaton

January 20: *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* by Agatha Christie

February 17: *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield



Thursday Evening Book Discussion Group

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

December 3: *Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham

January 7: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn

February 4: *The Red Leather Diary* by Lily Koppel

MONTHLY GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Family History Help (One-On-One Zoom)

Meets 2nd Saturday of the month • December 12, January 9, February 13 • 2:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m.

We'll focus on your specific genealogy questions, tailored to research your family history.

Register in advance for one of two sessions, and you will be sent the Zoom link. Beginners welcome!



Fox Valley Writers Group

Meets on Facebook Live. Adults can share positive, constructive feedback with other writers of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. 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).

December 12: Modern Calligraphy With Brush Pens January 9: Beaded Mask Chain February 9: Valentine Button Art

New! 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. For adults and teens over 16.

December 1: Wood Slice String Ornaments January 2: Ribbon Book Marks February 1: Thumbprint Heart Magnets

TEENS

Registration for teen programs begins Monday, November 23 online, by phone, or in person.



Murder Mystery Monday (Zoom)

Mondays: December 7, January 11, February 8 • 7:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Do you have what it takes to solve a mystery? Help look through clues and examine evidence to figure out who the culprit is. Better come with your thinking cap on! *Registration is required to receive Zoom link.*

Winter Book Box Subscriptions for Teens

Pick-up dates: December 10, January 11, February 10

Grades 6-12. Register for our Winter Teen Book Box Subscription! On the 10th or 11th, you can pick up your box with two books that staff has selected based on your preferences. Each box also includes some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box each month to be eligible for the next month's box.

After registering, participants will receive confirmation and a survey to fill in personal preferences. Space is limited; registration is required. Messenger Library cardholders only.

Teen Takeout

December: **Hot Chocolate Slime**

January: **Paracord Bracelets**

February: **Smartphone Holograms**

Grades 6-12. Stop by the Library each month to pick up a fun craft or activity you can take home and make on your own time. New kits debut on the 1st of the month, so grab one before they disappear!

Register online for a reminder email or text. While supplies last.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration for kids programs begins Monday, November 23 online, by phone, or in person.

Winter Holidays Take & Make Craft December 1

Ages 3-6 and families. Visit Youth Services to pick up a craft kit and books about Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. Learn more about each holiday and its importance to those who celebrate it! *Available while supplies last.*

Family Storytime (Zoom)

Thursdays • 10:00 a.m.

December 3 & 17, January 14 & 28, February 11 & 25

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.

Caregiver Chat (Zoom)

Thursdays • 1:00 p.m.

December 10, January 14, February 11

Do you miss Lapsit Storytime and Read & Play Baby as much as we do? We know these gatherings are just as important and helpful for caregivers as they are for babies and toddlers. Join us to reconnect and share some adult conversation and tips via Zoom. *Registration required.*

Winter Book Box Subscriptions for Kids

Pick-up dates: December 10, January 11, February 10

Kindergarten-Grade 5. Register for our Winter Kids Book Subscription Box! On the 10th or 11th, you can pick up your box with two books staff selected just for you. Plus each box includes some treats for you to keep! Turn in your box by the end of the month to be eligible for the next month's box. After registering, participants will receive confirmation and a survey to fill in personal preferences.

Space is limited; registration is required. Messenger Library cardholders only.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration for kids programs begins Monday, November 23 online, by phone, or in person.

School Year Challenge: Winter Edition

Challenge yourself to read outside your comfort zone this year. Join North Aurora: One Community, Many Voices. Explore new genres, or read the Illinois Children's and Teen Choice nominees. Complete all three! Find the challenges on the Beanstack app, at messengerpl.beanstack.org, or visit Youth Services to pick up a paper tracker. Earn FREE books for reading!



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.



Activity Kits

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

Personalized Book Recommendations!

Looking for new books to read with your kids? Fill out our online form to have library staff choose books just for you and your family. Once notified your holds are ready for you, pop by the Library to pick up your items and check them out. Visit messengerpl.org/get-book-recs to get started.

Storytime & Craft Kit

Tuesday, December 15: **Winter**

Friday, January 15: **Silly Stories**

Monday, February 15: **Togetherness**

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

Registration required.

Curious Families

Tuesday, December 1: **Gingerbread Geometry**

Saturday, January 2: **Snowy Night Skies**

Monday, February 1: **Valen-SLIME Party**

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 books and projects together.

Registration required.



**Student Meal Distribution
coming this winter!**

Check our website for updates!

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

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

Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

CURBSIDE PICKUP HOURS

Tuesday: 1:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Wednesdays & Sundays: Closed

Thanksgiving
Thursday, November 26

Christmas Eve & Day
Thursday, December 24
Friday, December 25

New Year's Eve & Day
Thursday, December 31
Friday, January 1, 2021

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

COMMUNITY OF NORTH AURORA UPDATES

Four Messenger Library Board Trustee Seats On The Ballot In Spring 2021 Election

The Messenger Public Library of North Aurora announces the following library trustee seats to be elected during the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election: four full-term, four-year seats. Candidate information packets were made available on Monday, September 14, at the Library's administrative offices, 113 Oak Street, in North Aurora. Stop by during the Library's open hours. Petitions could be circulated beginning Tuesday, September 22.

Candidates must file completed forms and petitions with the Village Clerk at the Village of North Aurora Village Hall during the filing period beginning December 14 at 8:00 a.m. through December 21 at 5:00 p.m. Filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, December 14 through Friday, December 18, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21. Questions about the elected position of library trustee for the Messenger Public Library of North Aurora can be directed to Kevin Davis at (630) 896-0240 or by email, director@messengerpl.org. More information about the Library is available at messengerpl.org.



Eagle Scout Tristan Diekman Builds Little Free Library Box

Eagle Scout candidate and North Aurora resident, Tristan Diekman, has been working this past year to build a Little Free Library Box for North Aurora community residents. The Little Free Library Box contains used books that North Aurora residents can take and read. Tristan and his fellow Scouts from the Boy Scouts of America Troop 111 built the box this past fall as part of Tristan's final service project to earn his Eagle Scout status. Tristan and other scouts collected 6,223 books that will be used to keep the box filled. The project was a cooperative project with the Messenger Public Library and the North Aurora Fire District. The new box is installed near the west side Fire Station #2 along Tanner Road.

▶ INFORM ▶ CONNECT ▶ ENRICH