



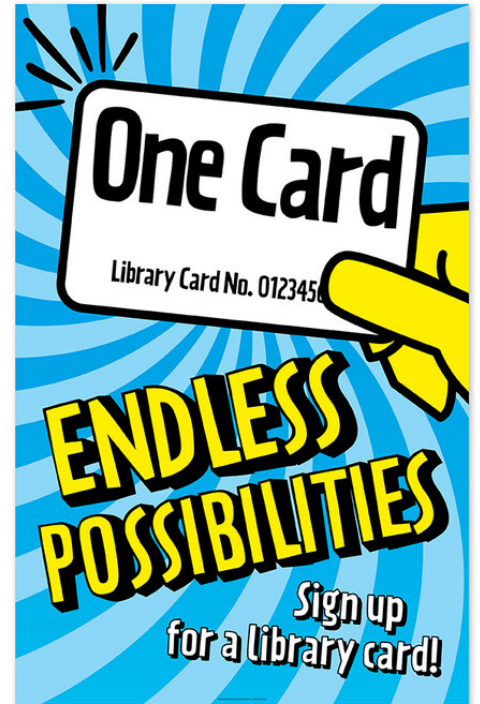
MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA NEWSLETTER

Futures Planning Focus Groups

Tuesday, September 16 • 6-8 pm

Wednesday, September 17 • 10 am-12 pm

As part of MPL's strategic plan, we have dedicated time to identifying adaptations and improvements needed for our physical building. Building safety, accessibility, parking, and prudent improvements are key concerns. We engaged an expert architectural firm to assist us and would like to hear from our patrons. We will be devoting time this fall to discussions and surveys to capture your thoughts. Please look for announcements about survey opportunities, and join us for a personal discussion with refreshments.




September Is National Library Card Sign-Up Month

A library card packs a mighty punch! Borrow museum passes, musical instruments, and even a DIY tool kit from the library's collection. Enjoy book clubs, art club, food programs, and lectures. Access technology, databases, and career resources. It's one card with endless possibilities! Get your library card now. Fun activities and prizes all month.

PUZZLE PALOOZA NOVEMBER 1



Jigsaw Puzzle Competition 
For Families • 9:30-10:30 am
For Teens and Adults
11:30 am-12:30 pm

How fast can you and your friends or family assemble a puzzle? Show off your skills at this friendly puzzle competition! Please arrive a few minutes early so we can begin promptly. Registration required for individuals or groups.

Jigsaw Puzzle Swap
9 am-4 pm

Do you have a stockpile of puzzles? Are you interested in trading them in for someone else's? Drop off gently used jigsaw puzzles in excellent condition (box intact, no missing pieces), pick up a new-to-you puzzle, or make a swap.

Illinois Prairie Weavers Guild

November 15 • 1-4 pm

Meet members of the Illinois Prairie Weavers Guild and their looms! We'll tell you about the art and craft of weaving. Adults and children will each have an opportunity to weave, and make their own small woven piece.

Gingerbread House Challenge

November 22-December 5

Put your gingerbread house making skills to the test: design your own gingerbread creation and bring it to the library from November 22-December 5. Enter as a family team or individually! Pick up a copy of the rules and entry form at any library service desk. Public voting and award presentation will be at our Holiday Open House on December 7.



YOUTH SERVICES

Registration ^R is required for all programs beginning on August 20, via the online events calendar at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 801-4340, or in person. For drop-in program reminders, use the **Remind Me** or **Add to My Calendar** buttons on the calendar.

BABIES-PRESCHOOL

STORYTIMES

Sept 2 - Nov 20 ^R

No storytimes week of Oct 13.

Baby Storytime

Tuesdays • 9:30-10 am OR 10:15-10:45 am

Ages 0-24 months with caregiver. Enjoy stories, songs, and movement to help foster early literacy skills.

Family Storytime

Thursdays • 10-10:30 am

Ages 2-5 with caregiver. Enjoy stories and songs with your family while building pre-literacy skills and learning about the world around us.

Family Storytime with NAMI KDK

Thursday, September 4 10-10:30 am

Ages 2-5 with caregiver. Guests from NAMI KDK join us to kick off Family Storytime with stories and a craft to support mental wellness and emotional resilience.

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays • 10:45-11:15 am

Ages 3-5. Stories, songs, and more for children to listen and participate without assistance from a caregiver.

Preschool Craft ^R

**Fridays, Sept 5 & Oct 3
Wednesday, November 5
10-10:30 am**

Ages 3-5 with caregiver.

Read a story together and then work on a fun craft to take home!



Baby Playtime

Mondays • 10-11 am

**September 15: Messy Art
November 17: Building Fun**

Ages 0-2 with caregiver. Enjoy playtime with your baby or young toddler as you learn and explore with new friends. Messy Art will be outdoors, weather permitting.



Preschool STEAM ^R

**Fridays • 10-10:30 am
September 19: Messy Art
October 17: Oobleck**

November 14: Leaf Sorting
Ages 3-5 with caregiver.

Let's explore activities based on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and/or Math. Dress for mess. Messy Art will be outdoors, weather permitting.

Toddler Playtime: Playdough Party

Monday, October 20 • 10-11 am

Ages 2-3 with caregiver. Enjoy playtime with your toddler as you explore fun stations with new friends.

Sensory Playtime

Mondays • 10-11 am

Sept 8, Oct 6 & Nov 3

Ages 0-4 with a caregiver. Enjoy sensory play experiences with your little ones. Stations are designed to stimulate your child's mind through sensory, discovery, and gross motor activities.

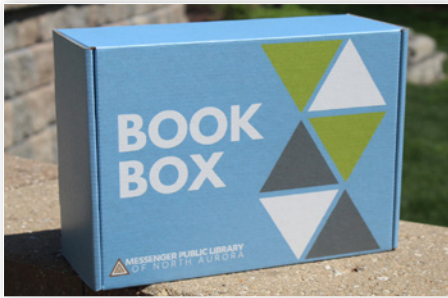


Halloween Storytime & Costume Parade ^R

**Friday, October 31
10-10:45 am**

Ages 0-5 with caregiver. Come to the library in your costume to enjoy spooky stories and songs. Show off your costume in our parade around the library!

ALL AGES



Fall Book Subscriptions

Ages 0-18. Enjoy a new selection of books every month! Pick up your books on September 10, October 10, and November 10. Messenger Library card required.

Lego Club

Thursdays • 6–7 pm
Sept 11, Oct 9 & Nov 13

All ages. Visit Youth Services to build a Lego creation to display for all to enjoy.



Soar & Sing with Nanny Nikki!

Saturday, Sept 27 • 10 am

Aimed at ages 0-6 with caregiver.

Nanny Nikki loves to sing and bring life to classic children's songs for early childhood as well as original music. Join us for a fun, high energy, and interactive fall-themed musical show including sing-along songs, dancing, puppets, and more! Outside, weather permitting.



Read With Rover

Sunday • 2-3 pm

Sept 21, Oct 19 & Nov 16

For readers. Love reading? Or dogs? Practice reading aloud with a licensed therapy dog from the Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club. Each attendee will get at least 10-15 minutes to read with a dog. Order will be determined by arrival at 2 pm.



Creativity Lab

Mondays • 6:30-7:30 pm

September 29: Secret Message Circuits

October 27: Spiral Art

November 24: Dino Museum Mystery

Ages 8-12. Art, science, and technology, oh my! Let's explore a hands-on STEAM activity together. Dress to get messy!

KIDS (AGES 5-12)

Programs with a  require advance registration.

Kidinary Cooking: Breakfast Tacos

Wednesday, October 22

Ages 4-7: 5:15-6:15 pm

Ages 8-12: 6:30-7:30 pm

Let your budding chef explore the culinary arts and discover their inner chef! This class accommodates nut, dairy, and gluten allergies.



Early Reader Book Club

Saturdays • 10-10:45 am

Sept 6, Oct 4 & Nov 8

Ages 5-7 with caregiver. Just starting to read or exploring early chapter books? Join us to read together, talk about books, and do crafts. Books provided for the first 6 registrants.

Books & Bites

Saturdays • 10:30-11:15 am

September 20, October 18, November 15

For ages 8-12. Let's learn how to make a tasty snack and chow down, listen to a short story or chapter book teaser, and talk books.


Messy Art

Monday, September 22
10-10:45 am

Ages 5-8. Have you ever tried painting with a squeegee? Join us for a session of Messy Art where we will try this trendy technique to create your next masterpiece!



TEENS

Registration  is required for all programs beginning on **August 20**, via the online events calendar at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 801-4340, or in person. For drop-in program reminders, use the **Remind Me** or **Add to My Calendar** buttons on the calendar.

Teen Take Out

Stop by the Teen Space each month for a fun craft or activity to take home and make on your own time. New kits debut on the first of the month, so grab one before they disappear! While supplies last.



Murder Mystery Night Thursday, September 4 6:30-8 pm

Ages 11-18. Do you have what it takes to solve a mystery? Help look through clues and examine evidence to figure out who the culprit is.

Teen STEM with SciTech Thursday, September 25 7-8 pm

Ages 11-18. Come with your friends to explore different STEM topics with Sci-Tech!



Teen Yum Club: Mexico Thursday, October 2 • 7-8 pm *Ages 11-18.*

Like to try new things? Wish you could travel around the world? Yum Club is a place to explore new places through food. Teens chose Mexico for this month! *Space is limited.*



Teen Wicked Party Thursday, Nov 6 • 7-8 pm

Ages 11-18. Calling all Wicked musical fans! Come celebrate the upcoming *Wicked: For Good* movie with crafts, snacks, and trivia.



Financial Aid Process Thursday, Nov 20 • 7-8 pm

Grades 11-12 + adults. Come hear about your financial aid options for college and get your questions answered by an IL Student Assistance Commission instructor.



Teen Book Box Subscription

Grades 6-12. Enjoy a new selection of books and goodies every month! Pick up your books on September 10, October 10, and November 10. *Messenger Library card required.*

TEEN VOLUNTEERS

Students ages 11-18/grades 6-12 are welcome to volunteer at the library year-round! Visit messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers to apply.



Audible Arts: Ghost Painting Thursday, October 16 • 7-8 pm

Ages 11-18. Let's get crafty while listening to an audiobook!



ADULT PROGRAMS

Registration ^R is required for all programs, unless noted, beginning on August 20, via the online events calendar at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 896-0240, ext. 3, or in person. For drop-in program reminders, use the **Remind Me** or **Add to My Calendar** buttons on the calendar.



MPL Tech Tuesdays: Drop-In Technology Help

Tuesdays • 3-5 pm

September 9

October 7 and 14

November 4 and 11

Bring your device, passwords, and questions for a 15-30 minute one-on-one tech support session.

WCC AND YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY: FALL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

New dates coming soon!

Watch our website and social media for scheduling and registration details as they become available.



WCC Technology Help Drop-Ins

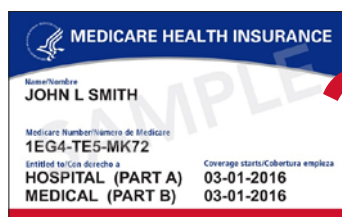
Wednesdays • 6-7 pm

Join Waubonsee Community College and other local libraries at any of these drop-in sessions for one-on-one help. Friendly staff assist in English or Spanish.

September 17 • Messenger Public Library of North Aurora

October 15 • Waubonsee Sugar Grove Campus, Todd Library

November 19 • Oswego Public Library



Medicare Basics ^R

Thursday, Sept 18 • 7-8 pm

David Wyly of Medicare Solutions Network details what Medicare covers and what it doesn't, plus supplements, Part D prescription, and other cost-saving strategies for the years ahead.

The Marvelous Prairie: A Nature Discovery Walk ^R

Saturday, Sept 20 • 10-11 am

Learn about the natural factors that created the prairie and why so little of it remains through guided hiking and nature games.



Air Fryer Cooking ^R

Monday, Sept 29 • 6:30-8 pm

Emily Paster demonstrates how an air fryer works, why it can do much more than just "fry" foods, and how it can help you in the kitchen.

Famous First Ladies ^R

Saturday, October 4 • 3-4 pm

Jenny Riddle brings to life the personal stories of three remarkable first ladies.

Illinois iCash: Discover What's Yours Today!

Tuesday, Oct 21 • 10 am-2 pm

Meet with a representative from the Illinois Treasurer's office to search the Illinois iCash program.



The Silver Linings Series ^R Fridays

September 12 • 10:30-Noon
Blue Zone Documentary, Part 2

October 10 • 10:30-11:30 am
Vintage Candy Taste Test

**Those with allergies should proceed with caution.*

November 14
10:30 am-12:30 pm

Brain Games

Designed for seniors, this series promotes physical and mental well-being and social interaction.

The App Trap (Virtual Program) ^R

Thursday, October 23
7-8:15 pm

Join us on Zoom to explore digital overload, AI's impact, and tips for staying organized in a fast-paced digital world.



Haunted Aurora Ghost Tour

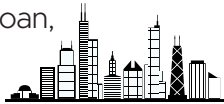
Monday, October 27 • 6-8 pm

Join *Haunted Aurora* author Diane Ladley for a guided tour of Aurora's cursed sites and haunted history. Starts at the Aurora Regional Fire Museum.

What Should We Do This Weekend? (Chicago Edition)

Monday, November 10 • 7-8 pm

Molly Page shares tips for your Chicago staycation, ideas for your next date night, and a few hidden gems for the whole family. Whether you're new to the city or a lifelong Chicagoan, you're sure to be inspired to explore.



Yum Club

Monday, Nov 24 • 7-8:30 pm

Travel the world without leaving the library! Foodies come together to taste snacks and treats from a different country. Those with food allergies should proceed with caution.



STITCH BY STITCH

Beginning Crochet

Tuesday, Sept 16 • 10am-Noon

OR Thursday, Sept 25 • 6-8 pm

Instructor Candi Rakow is back to demonstrate some of the basics of crochet. All materials are provided.

Drop-In Crochet and Knit Club

Thursdays • 6-8 pm

September 18, October 16, November 20

Experienced crafters, come relax and create something cozy with fellow fiber art enthusiasts. Bring your own materials and projects.

Kindness Hats

Nov 1-Dec 30



Keep our community warm this winter by donating homemade hats to local charities. Check out a yarn and needle kit or use your own materials. See website for more info. Bring completed hats to the library by December 30.

Crochet a Kindness Hat

Thursday, Nov 6 • 10am-Noon

OR Wednesday, Nov 12 • 6-8 pm

Instructor Candi Rakow leads an intermediate-level class on how to crochet a winter hat. Basic crochet skills required.



AARP Driver Safety (2 Sessions)

Wednesday, Nov 19 • 12:15-4:30 pm

AND Thursday, Nov 20 • 12:30-4:30 pm

Complete both sessions to qualify for your insurance carrier's discount. Cost: \$25 (AARP members \$20). Classroom program only, no on-road driving.

Music @ Messenger

Select Dates
6:30 - 8 pm

Robbie Grabowski
Wednesday,
September 17

Robbie brings a mix of keyboards, guitar, and great vocals as he sings meaningful songs from every era.



The Music @ Messenger concert series

wraps up for the season with two shows. Bring your picnic and lawn chair to enjoy local talent from the Fox River Valley area.

Flatlands Americana Duo
Tuesday,
September 23

This talented duo brings folks, country, and Americana sounds to life with guitars, vocals, and flute.



NORTH AURORA Community Group MEETINGS

North Aurora Garden Club

1st Monday/month • 6:30 pm
Gail Wilke (630) 618-6467

North Aurora Lions Club

2nd Tuesday/month • 7 pm
Join their next Knit-A-Thon on October 18
northauroralions@gmail.com

Toastmasters: Timely Talkers

1st & 3rd Wednesday/month • 7-8:30 pm
Dan Velasco at danvelasco123@gmail.com

Toastmasters: Advanced Expressives

4th Saturday/month • 10:15 am-Noon
John Jerrard (630) 688-8438

ART CLUB FOR ADULTS

Beginners welcome! Register **R** in advance. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).

Stenciled Book Edges **R**

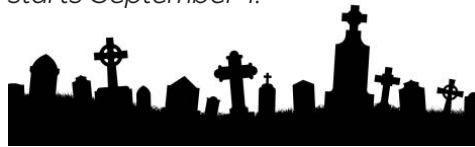
Saturday, September 13
10 am-Noon OR
Tuesday, September 16
6:30-8:30 pm

Transform your favorite book into a unique, personalized edition using decorative stenciling techniques on the page edges. You bring the book, we supply the stenciling supplies. Registration starts August 1.

Cemeterarium Jars **R**

Saturday, October 11
10 am-Noon OR
Tuesday, October 21
6:30-8:30 pm

What's a cemeterarium, you ask? It's a terrarium and a cemetery in one, just in time for spooky season! Registration starts September 1.



Graffiti Name Art **R**

Saturday, Nov 8 • 10 am-Noon OR
Tuesday, Nov 18 • 6:30-8:30 pm

Learn how to create graffiti-style name art starting with basic tag lines and progressing to more complex 3D lettering techniques. Registration starts October 1.

December Art Club **R**

Saturday, Dec 13 • 10:00 am-12 pm
Tuesday, Dec 16 • 6:30-8:30 pm
Project TBA. Registration starts November 1.

ADULT BOOK CLUBS

Digital copies of book club titles may be available on Hoopla, Libby, or Boundless; print copies are available for checkout at the User Services Desk.

Book Club is Our Alibi **R**

Monday, October 20 • 7-8:15 pm

Join us at Crema Coffee Roasters for our quarterly thriller book club. This session, we discuss *Listen for the Lie* by Amy Tintera.



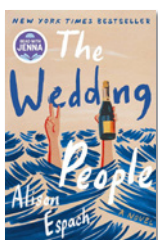
Morning Book Club **R** Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 am



SEPTEMBER 3
Is She Really Going Out With Him? by Sophie Cousens

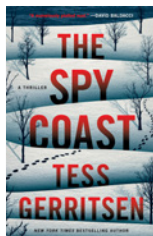


OCTOBER 1
The Sun Down Motel by Simone St. James



NOVEMBER 5
The Wedding People by Alison Espach

Evening Book Club **R** Thursdays • 7-8 pm



SEPTEMBER 4
The Spy Coast by Tess Gerritsen



OCTOBER 2
The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

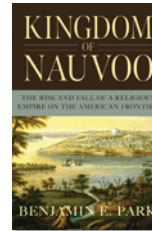


NOVEMBER 6
The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan

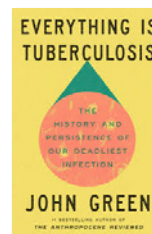
Narrative Nonfiction Book Club **R** Mondays • 7-8 pm



SEPTEMBER 8
The Wilder Life: My Adventures in the Lost World of "Little House on the Prairie" by Wendy McClure



OCTOBER 13
Kingdom of Nauvoo: The Rise and Fall of a Religious Empire on the American Frontier by Benjamin E. Park



NOVEMBER 10
Everything Is Tuberculosis: The History and Persistence of Our Deadliest Infection by John Green



RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA | FALL 2025: SEPT, OCT, NOV

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9 am–9 pm

Friday-Saturday **Sunday**
9 am–5 pm 1–5 pm

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark Saperston, President
Darlene Bailey
Tanya Berley
Katherine Bogle
Peggy Carlson
Elizabeth Cranford
Laura McCoy

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Thursdays • 7–8 pm
September 11, October 9, November 13

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

August 31
September 1
October 24
November 26 (close at 5 pm)
November 27



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

We've officially entered our twenty-second year of service in this beloved Library building, and we're committed to making the necessary adaptations while continuing to care for the structure we have. Like tending to your own home, we must plan for replacements and repairs and act as responsible stewards of our resources. Some facility features require thoughtful attention—such as parking limitations, the book drop location, and long uphill entrances that pose challenges for patrons.

To guide this effort, we've engaged Wight and Company, a highly respected design firm experienced in library projects. Their team is helping to update our capital plan—an essential roadmap for repairing and replacing mechanical systems, addressing structural needs, and planning future improvements. These are substantial decisions that require more than quick fixes. We must

consider both immediate needs and how the facility can serve our community over the next twenty years.

We encourage patrons to share their insights and suggestions by participating in surveys and focus groups. Your feedback—on what works well and where we can improve—is vital. Please check the info on our front page, and our website for meeting dates and updates. Thank you for your time and engagement. We want YOUR Library to reflect the community it serves, because it truly belongs to all of us.



Shannon Halikias
LIBRARY DIRECTOR

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