

VOL 16 ISSUE 1



NEWSLETTER

Library Closed:

Wednesday, January 1st

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2025

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Chad Robinson, Director
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Hello and Happy New Year! I hope your 2025 will be filled with success, good times, and more than a little reading. Here at the library, we're very excited for what the new year holds, especially as we continue to work through our Flexible Facilities grant. We're looking forward to working with Dimension IV, our selected architectural/design/construction firm, and really believe that you're going to love what they design for us. Stay tuned for much more information in the coming months...we can't wait to share more with you.

In addition to the grant, 2024 was filled with many blessing for us, all made possible by YOU. We achieved our circulation goal of checking out 210,000 materials, and thanks to you, we exceeded this number by over 600! Your generosity made this year's Giving Tree a huge success, with over \$1400 worth of gifts we'll use to buy new equipment and materials. And for our year-end annual giving campaign to raise funds for our Library Foundation, you donated over \$8100. Thank you so much, we are overjoyed by your support!

The New Year will no doubt bring challenges, but we're so happy to begin 2025 with such a great start. We have many things planned for you this year, including the return of AARP Tax Aide free tax preparation, and a number of new programs for all ages. Make sure you read further to get all the details, and you don't miss anything we have coming up.

As always, please let me know how we're doing, and any suggestions you have for library services in the New Year. This is your library, and we love being a part of your lives!

BOOK CLUBS

PAGE TURNERS EVENING BOOK CLUB

Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm



Wednesday, January 8th: *First Lie Wins* by Ashley Elston

First Lie Wins is a riveting thriller that follows Evie Potter as she navigates a web of deceit, past identities, and dangerous secrets.



Wednesday, February 5th: *Home Is Where the Bodies Are* by Jeneva Rose

Home Is Where the Bodies Are is a chilling family thriller about the (sometimes literal) skeletons in the closet.

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 2 pm



Tuesday, January 21st: *Go As a River* by Shelley Read

Inspired by true events surrounding the destruction of the town of Iola in the 1960s, *Go As a River* is a story of deeply held love in the face of hardship and loss, but also of finding courage, resilience, friendship, and, finally, home—where least expected.



Tuesday, February 18th: *The Paris Daughter* by Kristin Harmel

A gripping historical novel about two mothers who must make unthinkable choices in the face of the Nazi occupation.

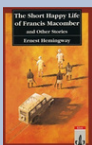
THE SHORT STORY BOOK CLUB

Meets on the 4th Tuesday at 7 pm at Station 20 Pub



Tuesday, January 28th: *The Basement Room* by Graham Greene

A young boy learns about the darkness of growing up when he is left alone at a large mansion.



Tuesday, February 25th: *The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber* by Ernest Hemingway

A couple on safari in Africa face disappointment, betrayal, and ultimately fear.

ADULT PROGRAMS



MATINEES AT MATHESON: AN AMERICAN IN PARIS Friday, January 3rd at 1 pm

The first selection of 2025 for our monthly movie club is *An American in Paris*! Free popcorn, candy, and soda is provided by the Friends of the Library.

MEDITATION WITH MELANIE Every Wednesday at 12 pm in the Friends Room

Meditation can help with stress reduction, self-awareness, patience, and inner peace among many other benefits. All are welcome whether you are new to meditation and want to find out more or already have a practice.

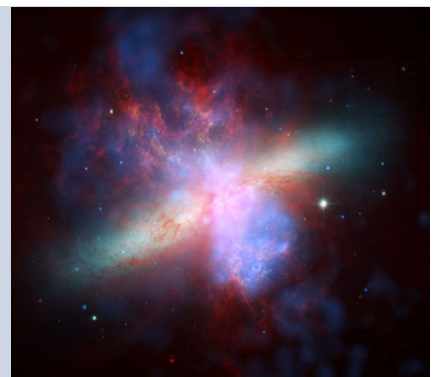


SEWING SOS Tuesday, January 21st at 1 pm

Have some sewing questions? Sewing SOS can help you with that! Some sewing machines are available, but please bring your own if you have one.

ILLUMINATING THE UNIVERSE Thursday, January 23rd at 6 pm

Lights, stars, our galaxy, and the universe: what can it teach us? Learn about light's role in astronomy with retired UWW professor Juliana Constantinescu!



ADULT PROGRAMS



UNDERSTANDING IMMIGRATION LAWS AND RIGHTS

Thursday, January 30th at 6 pm

Learn about immigration rights and protections with Attorney Brigette Kutschma of Soberalski Immigration Law.

MATINEES AT MATHESON: ROMAN HOLIDAY Friday, February 7th at 1 pm

Our February movie pick is the 1953 classic *Roman Holiday*! Free popcorn, candy, and soda is provided by the Friends of the Library.



CLASSICAL GUITAR WITH BRAD CONROY

Thursday, February 13th at 6 pm

Come enjoy the romantic sounds of classical guitar played by Brad Conroy just in time for Valentine's Day!

WISCONSIN'S GANGSTER PAST WITH CHAD LEWIS

Saturday, February 22nd at 10 am

Put on your zoot suit and follow in the footsteps of America's most infamous gangsters in a presentation filled with deadly bank robberies, explosive shootouts and brutal murders!

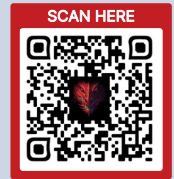


TEEN PROGRAMS

YOUTH DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Wednesday from 6-7:30 pm: Jan. 15 & Feb. 5

School-age kids and teens are invited to participate in Dungeons and Dragons. To reserve a place in the game, players must register by the deadline on the form.
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TEEN HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

Monday from 10-11 am: Jan. 27 & Feb. 24

Homeschooled students in middle and high school are invited for their own hangout at the library. Bring an art or craft project to work on or use our supplies to make something while chatting about books and connecting with other teens.

YOUTH SEWING WORKSHOP: QUILTS

Thursday from 3-5 pm: Feb. 13

Kids and teens are invited to register to make their own quilt. Basic sewing machine skills and the use of an iron are required for this project.

Space is limited and registration is required. Please register on our online calendar or by calling 262-723-2678



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

Wednesday from 4-5 pm: Feb. 26

Join TAB and make a difference in YOUR library! TAB members participate in planning and running programs, fundraisers, and more for teens at the library.

KIDS EVENTS



LET OFF STEAM

Tuesday at 9:30 am: Jan. 7 & 14

Thursday at 9:30 am: Jan. 9 & 16

Children of all ages are invited, from babies to movers and groovers, for songs, stories, and sensory interaction!

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT: SCIENCE WITH SCOTT DOUGLAS

Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 6 pm

Get ready to be wowed at this preschool physics science show! Interactive and fun for the whole family! Doors open at 6 pm.



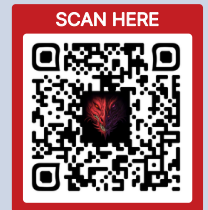
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LAND OF STORIES

Saturday, Jan. 18 from 9 am - 2 pm

Monday, Jan. 20 from 9 am - 3 pm

Kids of all ages and their families are invited to visit the Land of Stories! Walk the gameboard to get treats and prizes, and immerse yourself in the fantasy lands from different book series.

FAMILY STORYTIME

Weekly on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25

Weekly on Thursdays at 9:30 AM: Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27

Children of all ages are invited to join Miss Esther for songs, stories, and more!



POKEMON HANGOUT

Tuesdays from 6-7:30 pm: Jan 21 & Feb. 4

Kids are invited to hang out in the Storyroom for an hour of Pokemon fun. Crafts, games, and cards will be available. Kids are welcome to bring their own cards to play or share, but staff cannot supervise trading.

HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

Wednesdays from 9:30-12:30 pm: Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 12, 26

Families with homeschooled children of all ages are invited to drop in at the library for socializing, activities, crafts, and new books!



KIDS EVENTS



PAWS TO READ

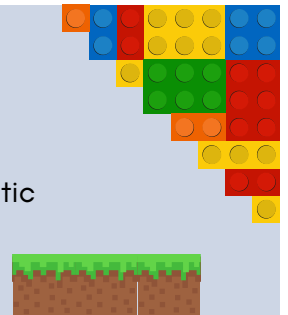
Mondays at 4:15 pm: Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 24

Families are welcome to interact and play, listen to stories, and read to the furry friends visiting us from the shelter. Live animals will be present and confined to the Storyroom. This program is sponsored by the Lakeland Animal Shelter.

CONSTRUCTION HANGOUT

Tuesdays from 4-5 pm: Jan. 28, Feb. 11, 25

Kids are invited to hang out in the Storyroom for an hour of building fun. Magnetic blocks, Lego, Magnatiles, and more will be available.



ITTY-BITTY BOPPIN' BAKERS

Monday from 10-11 am: Feb. 10 & Mar. 31



Come wiggle and bop to the music with Miss Esther. Catch your breath with a story, then join our special guest chefs from Seeds of Hope to cook up something special for your tummy!

PRESCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT: READING AROUND THE WORLD

Tuesday, Feb. 11 from 6-7 pm

Grab your passport and craft up your own world adventure!



YOUTH SEWING WORKSHOP: QUILTS

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School-age kids and teens are invited to register to make their own quilt. Basic sewing machine skills and the use of an iron are required for this project.

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Notes from the Friends of the Library

Happy New Year from the Friends of Matheson Memorial Library (FMML)! Make 2025 the year that you will join the FMML in both attending meetings and events as well as helping to plan events. This is a way to support the library, make new friends, gain new information, and share your ideas to make the FMML the best Friends group in the area.

Events for January

- Matinees at Matheson on Friday, January 3rd at 1 pm in the Community Center. Come and enjoy watching *An American in Paris*.

Events for February

- Creative Writing Workshop for the Public - Thursday, February 6th at 6:30 PM in the Community Center. Kelley Lynn, a publisher in East Troy, will give a short introduction to Creative Writing and then all participants will do some writing. Come and enjoy the art of writing.
- Game night for Friends to interact with other members while playing board or similar games will be on Friday, February 21st at 6:30 pm in the Community Center. A light catered meal will be served to attendees.

Future Events

Come to the meeting on February 26 at 6:30 pm in the Community Center to help plan future events for the spring and summer:

- Semi-annual Book and Bake Sale scheduled for March 27th-29th.
- Puzzle Contest scheduled for Saturday, April 5th from 10 am to noon.
- New Book Donation Policy goes into effect with the first collection on April 19th from 10 am - 1 pm in the Community Center.
- Antique Appraisal scheduled for Saturday, April 26th from 11 am to 2 pm.
- Brat Huts for July and August.