

VOL 15 ISSUE 1



Matheson Memorial Library

NEWSLETTER

Library Closed:

Monday, January 1st

Tuesday, January 2nd

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2024

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Chad Robinson, Director
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The holiday season has come and gone, and what a season it was! We hope all of you enjoyed a great time with family and friends, and that more than a few holiday wishes were granted.

Speaking of holiday wishes, thank you for all your generosity with our annual Giving Tree donation campaign; thanks to you we were able to fund some amazing materials and services that we'll put to good use in the coming year.

With the holidays past and long winter months ahead, this can be a hard time of year for many of us. However, we've planned lots of activities to shake you out of these winter doldrums. Our adult and youth services librarians have a full slate of programs that we're sure you'll enjoy, not to mention our regular programs like our various Storytimes, Dungeons & Dragons, and all of our book discussion groups. Read on for more information on our programs, including how to get involved. We're definitely going to warm things up for you this winter! In addition, drop by and check out our new book displays, and don't be shy about asking our staff for book recommendations...we're very good at helping you discover your next great read. If you just don't know what to read next, why not try out Tailored Titles, our book recommendation service? We've already made some great recommendations our patrons have told us they love, and our book specialists are standing by to do the same for you!

Our Friends of the Library group has also been very busy; not only with plans for the March BIG BOOK SALE, but with some exciting programs of their own, including our first ever Games Day this January, and a very, very special guest in March...stay tuned! Of course, you'd have all this inside information if you were a Friends member, so why not join? It's a great way to support the library while having fun with some great people.

As always, please contact me with any questions or concerns about your library.
Stay warm and keep reading!

BOOK CLUBS

PAGE TURNERS EVENING BOOK CLUB

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



Wednesday, January 3rd: *Hang the Moon* by Jeannette Walls

A riveting new novel about an indomitable young woman in Virginia during Prohibition. Most folk thought Sallie Kincaid was a nobody who'd amount to nothing. Sallie had other plans.



Wednesday, February 7th: *Dust Child* by Nguyen Pahn Que Mai

Immersive, moving, and lyrical, *Dust Child* tells an unforgettable story of how those who inherited tragedy can redefine their destinies with hard-won wisdom, compassion, courage, and joy.

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

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



Tuesday, January 16th: *The Fragile Nature of Things* by Susan Meissner

April 18, 1906: A massive earthquake rocks San Francisco just before daybreak, igniting a devouring inferno. Lives are lost, lives are shattered, but some rise from the ashes forever changed.



Tuesday, February 20th: *The Matchmaker's Gift* by Lynda Cohen Loigman

A heartwarming story of two extraordinary women from two different eras who defy expectations to utilize their unique gift of seeing soulmates in the most unexpected places in *The Matchmaker's Gift*.

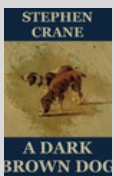
THE SHORT STORY BOOK CLUB

Meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7 PM in the Friends Meeting Room



Tuesday, January 23rd: *An Equal Share of the Bone* by Karen Osborn

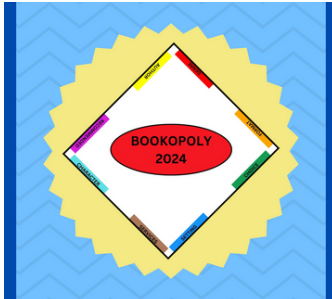
Hoping to make their fortune (or at least climb out of debt), a trio of space traders travel on a dangerous hunt for a space whale.



Tuesday, February 27th: *A Dark Brown Dog* by Stephen Crane

A Dark Brown Dog is an allegorical 1893 short story by Stephen Crane about a dog who is adopted and mistreated by a young boy's family.

ADULT PROGRAMS



BOOKOPOLY

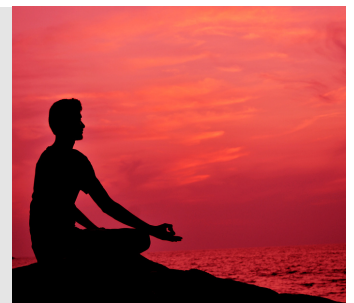
Monday, January 15th - Saturday, March 30th

Bookopoly is back! Pick up your winter reading program game board at the front desk on or after Monday, January 15th and read for a chance to win a gift certificate to a local business! Prize winners will be notified the first week of April.

MEDITATION WITH MELANIE

Every Tuesday 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.



MATINEES AT MATHESON

Friday, January 5th at 1 PM

We will be continuing our monthly movie series with the 1952 musical classic *Singin' in the Rain* on Friday, January 5th! Free popcorn and soda provided by the Friends of the Library!

TABLETOP ROLEPLAYING FOR GROWN-UPS

Wednesday, January 17th from 6 PM - 8 PM

Saturday, January 20th from 9 AM - 12 PM

Join us on one Wednesday and Saturday per month for Adult Roleplaying Games! No prior experience, dice, or character sheets required - just be ready for fun!



PAINT-INS AT THE LIBRARY

Thursday, January 25th at 6 PM & Friday, January 26th at 10 AM

Enjoy a relaxing painting session at the library! Space is limited, and registration opens Monday, January 8th. Contact the library at 262-723-2678 for more information.

ADULT PROGRAMS



MATINEES AT MATHESON

Friday, February 2nd at 1 PM

Enjoy another classic movie with *Casablanca* on Friday, February 2nd! Free popcorn and soda provided by the Friends of the Library!

CLASSICAL GUITAR WITH BRAD CONROY

Thursday, February 8th at 6 PM

An evening of classical guitar with Brad Conroy. Come and enjoy an intimate performance of music which spans centuries and continents, as well as some original compositions.



PREPPING 101 WITH JIM COBB

Thursday, February 15th at 6 PM

Join nationally recognized instructor Jim Cobb for helpful information on getting you and your family better prepared for emergencies.

TECHSTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, February 24th at 10 AM

Unsure how to use the device you got for Christmas? Join library staff for hands-on technology tutoring and a presentation by UW-Whitewater!



TEEN PROGRAMS

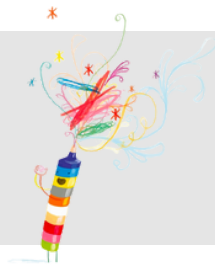


TEEN MAKE IT!

Monthly on Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 PM: Jan. 30 & Feb. 20
Do you like to make things? Want to create with your friends? This program is for you!

YOUNG FIBER ARTISTS

Monthly on Friday from 6:30-7:30 PM: Feb. 2
Tween and teen knitters, crocheters, and other fiber artists are invited to drop in for a social hour of fiber fun!

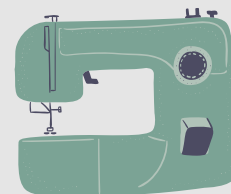


PROJECT EXPLORE

Wednesday from 3:30-5:30 PM: Feb 7
Do you like to make things? Families, kids, and teens are invited to drop by our pop-up Makerspace in the Storyroom.

SEWING WORKSHOP

Thursday from 3:30-5:30 PM: Feb. 8 & 22
Kids and teens are invited to drop in to learn and practice sewing skills.



DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS

Monthly on Wednesday from 6-7:30 PM: Jan. 24 & Feb. 21
Get your dice and come join in the classic game of Dungeons and Dragons!
Kids younger than 8 must have an adult with them.

VOLUNTEER FUN

Monthly on Friday from 3:30-4:30 PM: Jan. 26 & Feb. 23
Calling all past, present, and future junior and teen volunteers, it's time for fun!



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)

Monthly on Friday from 4-5 PM: Jan. 19 & Feb. 9
Need volunteer hours? Want scholarship opportunities?
Join TAB and make a difference in YOUR library!

KID'S EVENTS

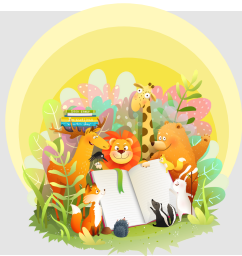


PAWS TO READ

Weekly on Mondays at 4:15 PM: Jan. 22, 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, & 26
Join some special furry friends and volunteers from the Lakeland Animal Shelter. All ages are welcome to interact and play, listen to stories, and read to the animals. Live animals will be present and confined to the Storyroom.

HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT

Monthly on Monday from 1 - 3 PM: Jan. 29 & Feb. 26
Homeschool families are invited to a casual drop-in program.



FAMILY STORYTIME

Weekly on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM: Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, & 27
Weekly on Thursdays at 9:30 AM: Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
Children of all ages are invited, from babies to movers and groovers, to join Miss Esther for songs, stories, and more!

POKEMON CLUB

Monthly on Tuesday from 4-5 PM: Jan. 23 & Feb. 6
Bring your friends for an hour of crafts, cards, and movies in the Community Room. Kids are welcome to bring their own cards to play or share, but staff cannot supervise trading.



WINTER WIGGLERS

Weekly on Wednesdays at 10 AM: Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 7, 21, & 28
Get out your winter wiggles in a fun, interactive program for all ages!

PROJECT EXPLORE

Wednesday from 3:30-5:30 PM: Feb. 7
Do you like to make things? Families, kids, and teens are invited to drop by our pop-up Makerspace in the Storyroom.



KID'S EVENTS

BOOKANEERS

Monthly on Wednesday at 5 PM: Jan. 31 & Feb. 28
Become a Bookaneer and get started on an exciting journey into the world of reading!

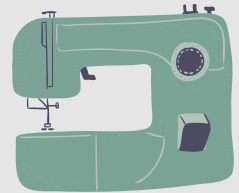


FACT FINDERS

Monthly on Thursday at 5 PM: Feb. 1
Do you love facts? Join our nonfiction book club and become an expert!

SEWING WORKSHOP

Thursdays from 3:30-5:30 PM: Feb. 8 & 22
Kids and teens are invited to drop in to learn and practice sewing skills.



LET'S GLOW READ

Wednesday, January 10 at 6 PM
Dive into a glowing good book with fun literacy activities and fabulous 4K teachers who will light up your love for reading.



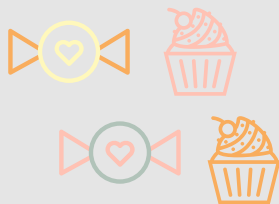
LAND OF STORIES

Saturday, Jan. 13 from 9-2 PM & Monday, Jan. 15 from 9-12 PM
Kids of all ages and their families are invited to walk the board game to get treats and prizes and visit some of your favorite story characters!



ITTY-BITTY BOPPIN' BAKERS

Monday, January 22 at 10 AM
Get boppin' with Miss Esther and bakin' with the chefs from Seeds of Hope!



ART WITH HEART

Wednesday, February 14 at 10-12 PM & 3:30-5:30 PM
Kids of all ages are invited for a fun, hands-on art experience in the Storyroom. Drop by in the morning or after school to create some art with paint, paper, and more!



Notes from the Friends of the Library



A recap of activities at the end of the year included: the Jigsaw Puzzle Contest on November 4, 2023, which was a success with 11 teams competing to complete a 500 piece puzzle, and for the Elkhorn Christmas Parade on December 5, 2023, the Friends provided cookies (made by several Friends members) and hot chocolate (prepared by Sandy Douglas) to viewers who came into the library to watch from the windows facing Court Street.

The Friends of Matheson Memorial Library will sponsor a Game Afternoon on Saturday, January 20th, from 1:00 - 4:00 PM in the Community Center. Please bring your favorite game to play with other Friends Members. Watch the bulletin board for future upcoming events: a Friends Mixer on March 7, which is open to the public and local businesses, the March Book and Bake Sale on March 21 through March 23, and an author visit on Friday, March 22nd.

Please join the Friends of the Library at the next General Meeting on Wednesday, February 28th at 6:30 PM in the Community Center to help plan upcoming events for later in the spring and summer. We hope to see you there. If you need babysitting, please let us know in advance of the meeting so that it can be arranged. Have a happy New Year!