

**JANUARY**

**2026**

**FEBRUARY**

THE HUNTLEY AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

# NEWSLETTER

**LIBRARY NEWS PAGE 3**

**ADULT EVENTS PAGE 4**

**TECH TALKS PAGE 6**

**TEENS CORNER PAGE 7**

**KIDS EVENTS PAGE 8**

**ALL AGES PAGE 11**

# A NOTE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

**I FRANK NOVAK**



Happy New Year! As we begin January & February, the library is buzzing with activities for readers, learners, and explorers of all ages. From storytimes and crafts to book clubs and technology workshops, there is something for everyone to enjoy this winter.

We are also excited to invite you to take part in the Library Lovers Expedition starting February 1st. Visit participating McHenry County Libraries and be sure to stop by ours to pick up your first brag tag and clue. Each visit to a library earns you brag tags and clues for our new mystery game, and collecting all 15 sets gives you a chance to win the Mystery and Grand Prize baskets featuring local businesses.

Participation is free and open to all. Come explore, learn, and have fun with us this winter. We look forward to seeing you at the library!

Warmly,  
Frank Novak

## CONTENTS

### FEATURES

**03** Special Events

### PROGRAMS

**04** Adults

**06** Technology

**07** Teens

**08** Youth

**12** Friends Foundation

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**f** [facebook.com/HuntleyLibrary](https://facebook.com/HuntleyLibrary)

**@** [instagram.com/huntleyareapl](https://instagram.com/huntleyareapl)

**y** [youtube.com/huntleylibrary](https://youtube.com/huntleylibrary)

**x** [x.com/HuntleyLibrary](https://x.com/HuntleyLibrary)

## BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

**President** Leslie Threadgill-Smith

**Vice President** Sandy Domagalski

**Treasurer** Kathleen Kunde

**Secretary** Stephanie Weil

**Trustee** Linda Benigno

**Trustee** Jerry Reedy

**Trustee** John Schmelzer

## HOURS

Monday - Thursday **9AM - 8PM**

Friday - Saturday **9AM - 5PM**

Sunday **12PM - 5PM**

## CLOSING

**January 1**  
New Years - Closed all day

## ONLINE

**Huntley Library:**  
[huntleylibrary.org](https://huntleylibrary.org)

**Local History:**  
[lh.huntleylibrary.org](https://lh.huntleylibrary.org)

**Friends:**  
[huntleylibraryfriends.org](https://huntleylibraryfriends.org)

## PHONE EXTENSIONS

**DIAL 847.669.5386**

**PRESS 1** CIRCULATION DESK  
[circulation@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:circulation@huntleylibrary.org)

**PRESS 3** INFORMATION DESK  
[reference@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:reference@huntleylibrary.org)

**PRESS 3** LIBRARY2GO (HOMEBOUND)  
[homebound@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:homebound@huntleylibrary.org)

**PRESS 4** CHILDREN'S LIBRARY  
[youth@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:youth@huntleylibrary.org)

## ASSISTANCE

For ADA accommodations, contact library staff 5 days in advance at **847.669.5386, press 3** or in writing.

BEGINS FEBRUARY 1  
**2026**



**YOU CAN'T MISS THE**

# LIBRARY LOVERS EXPEDITION

**VISIT US AND CLAIM A BRAG TAG AND CLUE!**

**It's back!** Join the Library Lovers Expedition. Visit at least 12 participating McHenry County Libraries for fun activities and a chance to win a gift basket featuring local businesses.

Visit all 15 libraries to collect brag tags and clues for our new mystery game. Solve the mystery for a chance to win the Mystery and Grand Prize baskets!

Register at the Children's or Information Desk at Huntley Area Public Library to get your guide, first brag tag, and clue. Free and open to all ages.

## CHECK OUT OUR NEW EV CAR CHARGING STATION

**ON THE AUTEL APP**

## CHICAGO TRIBUNE NOW AVAILABLE

**ON OUR DIGITAL NEWSSTAND**

Visit our Digital Newsstand and use your HAPL library card to read image editions of the Northwest Herald, Daily Herald, Chicago Sun-Times, and USA Today. You can also access website editions of the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and our newest addition, the Chicago Tribune.

[huntleylibrary.org/digital-newsstand](http://huntleylibrary.org/digital-newsstand)

## ART ON DISPLAY MARILUZ WELVERS



Display your work in our 2-month gallery exhibit. Contact Samantha at [sandersen@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:sandersen@huntleylibrary.org) or 847-669-5386 ext. 225.

## HUNTLEY 158 WELLNESS & HEALTH FAIR

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21 | 11 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.**

**ALL AGES**

A sensory-friendly session for Special Services families will run from 10:00–11:00 AM, followed by the public event from 11:00 AM–1:30 PM. All D158 families and community members are welcome.

HUNTLEY AREA PUBLIC  
**LIBRARY**  
EXPLORE ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



# ADULT EVENTS

## REOCCURRING PROGRAMS

### Library Genealogy Resources Workshop

**Monday, January 5 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Monday, January 19 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Monday, February 2 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Monday, February 16 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Location:** Tech Lab

This program is to help with research stumbling blocks or problems you may have encountered. Michele May, author and past president of the Genealogy Club in Sun City Huntley, will be here to provide individualized help with the various genealogical websites available at our library. Limited to 8 per class. **Registration required.**

### Your Turn: Game Play for Adults

**Tuesday, January 6 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

Registration begins December 2

**Tuesday, January 13 | 2 to 3:30 p.m.**

Registration begins December 2

**Tuesday, February 3 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

Registration begins January 6

**Tuesday, February 10 | 2 to 3:30 p.m.**

Registration begins January 6

**Location:** Program Room 3

Come take your turn at game play featuring a variety of trivia, word, and board games.

**Please register for one session per month.**

**Registration required.**



### The Puzzled Colorists Club

**Thursday, January 8 | 2 to 4 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Rooms 2 & 3

Celebrate the New Year with Puzzle Club and Coloring Club! Enjoy jigsaw puzzles or relaxing coloring while socializing. **Registration required.**

### The Fray: Stitchery Club

**Monday, January 12 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Tuesday, January 27 | 10 to noon**

**Monday, February 9 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Tuesday, February 24 | 10 to noon**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Join the Fray! Whether you knit, crochet, cross-stitch, or work another needlecraft, come to share and socialize. Bring your own supplies and projects.

**Registration required.**



### Foreign Policy Roundtable Discussion

**Tuesday, January 20 | 1:30 to 3 p.m.**

Registration begins December 16

**Location:** Program Room 3

Learn about and discuss current critical foreign policy issues facing America in a discussion led by Professor Gary Midkiff. An article selected for discussion will be emailed to all registrants in advance of the meeting— please provide an email address at registration. **Registration required.**

### A Sound Healing Experience with the Poetry of Walt Whitman, with Sven Hansen - \$10.00/person

**Thursday, January 22 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 26 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

This program offers a meditative experience where timeless poetry blends with the healing power of sounds. Sven, a certified sound healer, uses various instruments and memorized poetry to guide participants through a calming journey. Please bring cash at the start of program. **Registration required.**



### Puzzle Club

**Thursday, February 5 | 2 to 4 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Love jigsaw puzzles? Come to Puzzle Club where we work on putting together 300-to-500-piece puzzles. **Registration required.**



### Coloring Club

**Thursday, February 12 | 2 to 4 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Come relax and color! Coloring sheets and supplies provided or bring your own. **Registration required.**



### Great Decisions Discussion Group

**Tuesday, February 17 | 1:30 to 3 p.m.**

Registration begins January 20.

**Location:** Program Room 3

Join us for a guided discussion of topical world affairs. The Great Decisions program highlights eight critical foreign policy challenges facing Americans each year.

This group meets from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Each month the group will read a chapter from the Great Decisions Briefing Book, then attend the meeting with a short video introduction and a guided discussion.

This month's topic is Chapter 1: America and the World: Trump 2.0 Foreign Policy

Discussion materials will be available to review at the library in advance of each discussion.

**Registration required.**

### DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution)

**First Sunday of the month**

**Sunday, January 4 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Sunday, February 1 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Volunteer genealogists from the Fox River Valley Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution will be available to work one-on-one with prospective members and others with genealogical questions.

The DAR is a women's service organization established in 1890. Their mission is dedicated to patriotism, historic preservation, and education. For more information, please email us at: frvdar@gmail.com. **Registration required.**

### Kraft Club

**Wednesday, January 7 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Wednesday, January 21 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Tuesday, February 10 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Tuesday, February 17 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Do you miss art class? Do you want to mingle and meet other people? Join instructors Lizzie and Abby for some fun, chill crafts! Projects range from abstract construction paper portraits, to name pennants, to zentangles. Our focus for this class is self love and mindfulness through artwork. Use our supplies or bring your own! **Registration required.**



### Kevin Aguilar's Journaling Workshop

**Thursday, January 8 |**

**6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, January 15 |**

**6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program

Room 2

This journal workshop offers a dedicated space to pause, reflect, and celebrate your experiences from 2025. You'll have the opportunity to explore your accomplishments, lessons learned, and moments of growth, creating a meaningful reflection on the past year. Then, with guided prompts and thoughtful exercises, you can set clear intentions and goals for 2026, envisioning the year ahead with purpose and clarity. Start the new year feeling focused, inspired, and equipped with a roadmap to lead your life with intention and direction. **Registration required.**





### Organizing for Everyone

**Saturday, January 10 | 2 to 3 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

Beth Randall of Joe Organizer LLC, will show a step-by-step process of how to organize any space and tips for controlling paper clutter, and organizing closets and kitchens. **Registration required.**

### Medicare 101

**Wednesday, January 14 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program room 3

Learn the basics of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D, including coverage, costs, and enrollment, to make informed healthcare choices for yourself or loved ones. **Registration required.**

### Exploring Hummingbirds

**Thursday, January 15 | 1 to 2 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Learn about hummingbirds with PhD candidate Alyssa Sargent, a specialist who researches these colorful birds. Discover more about them as we await their spring return. **Registration required.**

### "Hands On" Winter Sowing Program with Ann Min & Doug Moore

**Tuesday, January 20 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 1

Join Master Gardeners Ann and Doug for a hands-on seed-starting workshop. Bring a gallon sized plastic container. All other materials are provided and you'll leave with a complete winter sowing container. **Registration required.**



### An Evening with Paul Lisnek

**Tuesday, January 27 | 7 to 8 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Lisnek will speak about Illinois politics as well as help prepare participants for the upcoming Midterm Elections in November. **Registration required.**

**Register at**

[schaumburglibrary.org/events?id=14562827#](https://schaumburglibrary.org/events?id=14562827#).

### AARP Smart Driver Course

**Tuesday, February 10 | 10 to 2 p.m.**

**Wednesday, February 11 | 10 to 2 p.m.**

**Ages 50+**

**Location:** Program Room 3

This 8-hour, 2-day AARP safety course requires pre-registration and full attendance to receive a certificate for a potential auto insurance discount. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for nonmembers. Bring snacks or lunch. Register and pay using this link (<https://aarp.info/c43449>). **Registration required.**



### Medicare Made Easy Q&A Session: "Meet the Experts"

**Wednesday, February 11 | 5 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Drop by our informal Q&A to get your Medicare questions answered. Stephanie Villanueva and Lisa Schumacher will help with enrollment, coverage options, and understanding your healthcare choices. **Drop-in.**

### Blood Drive

**Thursday, February 19 | 1 to 6 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Rooms 1 & 2

Become a blood donor and give the gift of life with Versiti Blood Center of Illinois.

Fast, easy, and appreciated. Register at

[tinyurl.com/hapl-feb-drive](https://tinyurl.com/hapl-feb-drive)

or call 847.669.5386 ext. 3.

Walk-ins welcome as schedule allows.

### Huntley 158 Wellness & Health Fair

**Saturday, February 21 | 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Rooms 1, 2, & 3

A sensory-friendly session for Special Services families will run from 10:00-11:00 AM, followed by the public event from 11:00 AM-1:30 PM. All D158 families and community members are welcome.

### Using Tax Records to Locate Genealogy Information

**Sunday, February 22 | 2 to 3:15 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Learn to locate and use local, state, and federal tax records to trace ancestors' lives, locations, and economic history. **Registration required.**

## THE BUSINESS CORNER

### Chuck Passarelli Former CEO



Chuck's experience as an executive in both large and small companies as well as in national and international environments, gives him keen insight into what employers look for when hiring new talent.

### Career Coaching by former CEO Chuck Passarelli: Resume and Interview Preparation

**Wednesday, January 7 | 10:30 a.m. to noon**

**Tuesday, January 20 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 19 | 10:30 a.m. to noon**

**Tuesday, February 24 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Tech Lab

Join former CEO

Chuck Passarelli for

an in-depth look

into preparing for a

job search focusing

on proper resume

development and

interviewing

competencies. This session will give you a decided edge in searching and obtaining the right job for you.

Further personal career counseling sessions will also be made available by appointment to all attendees. Do not miss this great opportunity!

**Registration required.**



### Project Management 101: Part 1

**Thursday, January 22 | 7 to 8 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Join Michael Spilg, PMI-certified instructor, for a beginner-friendly overview of project management.

Explore Traditional, Agile, and Hybrid methods, key roles, tools, and resources for certifications like PMP, ACP, and CAPM. No prior experience needed.

This session is informational and does not offer PDUs. Go to [tinyurl.com/bdzjj4vr](https://tinyurl.com/bdzjj4vr) to register.

**Registration required.**

### Project Management 101: Part 2

**Tuesday, February 3 | 7 to 8 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Join part 2 of our project management series with Michael Spilg to learn how AI tools like ChatGPT can enhance productivity. No experience needed. This informational session does not offer PDUs. Register with a valid email for the Zoom link. Go to

[tinyurl.com/2juecpsv](https://tinyurl.com/2juecpsv) to register.

**Registration required.**



### Genealogy One-on-One Appointments

Don't know where to start with your family tree? Feeling too overwhelmed or shy to join the Library's Genealogy biweekly workshop? Or are you just wanting a bit of one-on-one help? No matter the reason, you are welcome to schedule an appointment with Jennie at 847.669.5386 ext. 241 or [jclark-moran@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:jclark-moran@huntleylibrary.org).

**Everyday AI for Personal Life:****Learn · Try · Refine****Wednesday, January 7 | 6 to 7 p.m.****Wednesday, January 21 | 6 to 7 p.m.****Wednesday, February 11 | 6 to 7 p.m.****Location:** Tech Lab

A three-session series covering AI basics, practical hands-on use, and workflow refinement. Learn what AI can do, build and refine prompts for personal tasks, explore safe and ethical use, and take home resources to continue practicing. **Registration required.**

**Podcasting Workshop:****How to Start Your Own Podcast****Tuesday, January 13 | 6 to 7 p.m.****Location:** Program Room 3

Interested in starting a podcast? This workshop will guide you through the tools and resources needed to launch your own show. For a great companion session, check

out the Tech Talk on January 27, The Basics of Digital Audio Workstations

(DAWs). **Registration required.**

**What's New Digitally****Monday January 19 | 5 to 6 p.m.****Location:** Tech Lab

Learn about the library's (coming soon) e-reader, Palace. With the Palace app, you can access ebooks and audiobooks from eRead Illinois plus thousands of free titles in the Palace Bookshelf. Then explore the library's Digital Newsstand, including the newly added Chicago Tribune. Finally, discover updates to the library app, including support for multiple family cards and improved access to your account, programs, and services.

**Registration required.****The Basics of Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)****Tuesday, January 27 | 6 to 7 p.m.****Location:** Tech Lab

Do you want to learn more about Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)? Experience a hands-on workshop using a free DAW called Reaper. You will explore using the software, how to use the basic tools, how to edit audio, file management, exporting audio, and more.

**Registration required.**

## TECH LAB

**Help with Word, Excel or PowerPoint****Wednesdays, January & February | 1 to 2 p.m.****Adults****Location:** Tech Lab

Register for a session and select one topic from the drop-down menu. Limit to one session and one topic per week. **Registration required.**

**Basic 3D Modeling in TinkerCAD****Tuesday, January 6 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, January 8 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, January 10 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Tuesday, January 13 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, January 15 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, January 17 | 10 to 11 a.m.****10 & up****Location:** Tech Lab

Learn the basics of 3D modeling in TinkerCAD.

Classes are about 1 hour. Bring a flash drive to save your project. **Registration required.**

**How to Build a Desktop Computer****Tuesday, January 20 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, January 22 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, January 24 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Tuesday, January 27 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, January 29 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, January 31 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Adults****Location:** Tech Lab

Learn how to build a computer in this 1-hour demo.

**Registration required.****Cricut Valentine's Day Tote Bag****Saturday, January 24 | 12 to 3 p.m.****Saturday, January 31 | 12 to 3 p.m.****Teens and Adults****Location:** Creative Studio

Create your very own themed Valentine's day tote bag, all materials will be provided.

**Huntley Library card required for registration.****Registration required.****3D Printed Heart Puzzle****Saturday, February 7 | 1 to 3 p.m.****Kids 10 & up****Saturday, February 14 | 1 to 3 p.m.****Adults****Location:** Creative Studio

It's a toy! It's a puzzle! Stop by Creative Studio and try your luck in assembling a 3D printed Heart puzzle.

**Huntley Library card required for registration. Registration required.**

## MINECRAFT

**Minecraft for Beginners Free Play****Thursdays | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.****January 8, 15, 22, & 29****February 5, 12, 19, & 26****Ages 7 and up****Location:** Tech Lab

Play Minecraft in the Tech Lab. Our Technology Trainer will be on hand to get players started and monitor the play. **Registration required.**

**Minecraft Free Play****Fridays | 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.****January 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30****February 6, 13, 20, & 27****Ages 10 and up****Location:** Tech Lab

Play Minecraft in Survival Mode.

Staff monitored. **Registration required.**

**Make a Minecraft Skin****Tuesday, February 3 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, February 5 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, February 7 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Tuesday, February 10 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, February 12 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, February 14 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Tuesday, February 17 | 10 to 11 a.m.****Thursday, February 19 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.****Saturday, February 21 | 10 to 11 a.m.****7 and up****Location:** Tech Lab

Create your own Minecraft skin for Java Edition in this 1-hour program. Bring a flash drive if you'd like to save your project.

**Registration required.****Dungeons and Dragons - Monday Quest****Mondays | 5 to 7:30 p.m.****January 5, 19****February 2, 16****For Teens and Adults****Location:** Program Room 3

Players may join the quest at any time. Please register for only one of the quests.

**Registration required.****Dungeons and Dragons - Wednesday Quest****Wednesday | 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.****January 7, 14, 21, & 28****February 4, 11, 18, & 25****Ages 12 & up****Location:** Program Room 2

Players may join the quest at any time. Please register for only one of the quests.

**Registration required.**

## Read It and Rate It

Ongoing/monthly

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Write and share your book reviews for a chance to win the monthly prize drawing (\$10 Amazon gift card). Fill out a Read It and Rate It form and submit it before the end of the month. Paper forms are available at the library's Information Desk, or online: [www.huntleylibrary.org/riri](http://www.huntleylibrary.org/riri).

## HAPL Teen BookMatch

Ongoing/monthly

Teens/grades 6 – 12

(and adults who enjoy teen books!)

If you're looking for book/author recommendations, try out our teen book matching service. Fill out the online form and our YA librarian will create a list of up to 5 book recommendations just for you. Try it out here: [www.huntleylibrary.org/tbm/](http://www.huntleylibrary.org/tbm/).

## Teen Take Home Kit: Beaded Bracelets

Month of January (while supplies last)

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Information Desk

Make a beaded bracelet with the materials supplied in this kit. Available at the Information Desk starting January 2, while supplies last. 1 kit per teen.

## Teen Photo Challenge

Month of January

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Information Desk

Share an original "winter" photo (taken by you) for a chance to win a gift card prize. A winner will be selected from the submissions received. Submit your photos using the forms available at the Information Desk or online ([www.huntleylibrary.org/teenphotochallenge](http://www.huntleylibrary.org/teenphotochallenge)) by January 31, 2026.



## Birds of a Feather Read Together: Teen Challenge

Now through January 31, 2026

Ages 12 – 18

Our winter reading challenge continues – are you signed up? There's still time to participate (and win some prizes)! Pick up a paper log at the Information Desk (or download a copy from our website), or participate online through Beanstack ([www.huntleylibrary.beanstack.com](http://www.huntleylibrary.beanstack.com)).

## College Planning

Thursday, January 15 | 6 to 7 p.m.

High school students + parents/adults

Location: Program Room 3

Start planning for college now! Laura Martens, College and Career Counselor at Huntley High School, will describe the college planning process – laying out the steps so you can organize your search, applications, financial aid, and more! Registration required.

## Meet an Astrophysicist

Saturday, January 17 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Ages 6 – 12

Location: Program Room 3

Jay Kalinani, a researcher in astrophysics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, will join us virtually (via Zoom/through the Skype a Scientist program) to talk about the life cycle of stars, black holes, and his path to becoming a scientist. We'll have time for Q&A at the end of his talk. Please join us if you're interested in science, astronomy, physics, or exploring careers in these fields. Registration required.

## Art After Dark: Charcoal & Pastel Owls

Thursday, January 22 | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Program Room 1

Whoow will you draw? We'll sketch owls with charcoal pencil, adding dramatic pastel accents. Registration required.



## Girls Who Code

Mondays, January 26 through April 26

1st Session Beginners | 5 to 6 p.m.

2nd Session Advanced | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens/grades 5 – 12

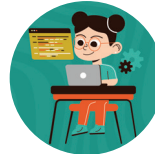
Location: Tech Lab

Mandatory parent meeting January 26

No Classes February 16 & March 23

Graduation April 27

A free program for 5th-12th grade students who wish to join a sisterhood of supportive peers and role models using computer science to change the world. Club Members build coding skills and community as they create a computer science impact project. Join us for this 13-week program! Space is limited. Questions? Contact Lisa Rossi-Moser at [lrossi-moser@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:lrossi-moser@huntleylibrary.org). Registration required.



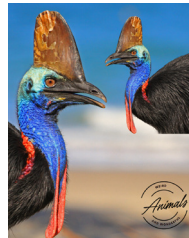
## Weird (and Wonderful) Animals: Cassowary

Tuesday, January 27 | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Program Room 3

Join us in our exploration of different animal species. This month we'll learn about cassowaries – big, weird, blue-headed, flightless birds that are native to Australia and New Guinea. Bring any facts you want to share or questions you have! Registration required.



## Teen Take Home Kit: Pocket Hugs

Month of February (while supplies last)

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Information Desk

Make a pocket-sized felt heart to keep or give to someone you love. Available at the Information Desk starting February 1, while supplies last. 1 kit per teen.

## Teen Photo Challenge

Month of February

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Information Desk

Share an original "pet" or "animal" photo (taken by you) for a chance to win a gift card prize. A winner will be selected from the submissions received. Submit your photos using the forms available at the Information Desk or online ([www.huntleylibrary.org/teenphotochallenge](http://www.huntleylibrary.org/teenphotochallenge)) by February 28, 2026.



## Healthy Relationships

Thursday, February 5 | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens and Parents

Location: Program Room 3

Join us for a workshop centered on forming healthy relationships, presented by Turning Point Domestic Violence Services of Woodstock, IL. This will include information about recognizing healthy and unhealthy behavior (green and red flags), different types of abuse, consent, and boundary-setting, with opportunities for discussion and productive conversations about these topics in a safe environment. Registration required.

## The Night Sky

Monday, February 16 | 4 to 5 p.m.

Adults & Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: McHenry County College, Planetarium (Liebman Science Center, second floor, room F206) Paul Hamill, Professor of Astronomy and Meteorology and Director of McHenry County College's Planetarium, will take us on a journey into the night sky, describing the zodiac constellations as well as what is currently visible. We'll also enjoy a dome screening of "Unseen Universe," which explores recent advances in astronomy that allow us to see much, much more. Registration required.

## Art After Dark:

Australian Aboriginal Dot Art

Thursday, February 19 | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Program Room 3

Learn about the origins of Australian Aboriginal Dot Art and create some of your own. Registration required.

## Weird (and Wonderful) Animals: Canada Lynx

Tuesday, February 24 | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens/grades 6 – 12

Location: Program Room 3

Join us in our exploration of different animal species. This month we'll learn about the Canada lynx, one of the cutest apex predators you'll ever meet. Bring any facts you want to share or questions you have! Registration required.





# Preschool AND BABIES

## Preschool Art Explorers

Thursday, January 8 | 12 to 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 5 | 12 to 12:30 p.m.

Ages 3-5 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 1

Come explore art and artists and enjoy being creative. Dress for mess!

Registration required.



## Sensory Shenanigans

Monday, January 26 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages Birth-23 months

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

Sensory time for babies stimulates their senses through various activities, aiding their motor skills, cognitive abilities, and social interactions in a fun environment. Registration required.

## Little STEAMers

Friday, January 30 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday REPEAT, January 31 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Friday, February 27 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages 3-5 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 1

Preschoolers are naturally curious, so jump into science, technology, engineering, and math with hands-on fun experiences and activities.

Registration required.

## Play Dough Time!

Monday, February 23 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages Birth-23 months

Location: Program Room 1

Sensory experience where babies can squish, poke and explore soft, colorful dough with their hands. Registration required.

## Little Bookworms Reading Challenge Ongoing

Infants through Pre-K

This program encourages all families and caregivers to read 1,000 books or more with their young children before entering kindergarten. Register and pick your log at the Children's Desk.



# STORYTIMES AT THE LIBRARY

## Supported Storytime

Saturday, January 3 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, February 11 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 3-7 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 2

An interactive story time for children of all abilities who prefer a small group setting. This program is structured with a visual schedule and includes picture books, songs, and movement activities under sensory-friendly lighting. Registration required.



## BabyPalooza

Mondays | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

January 5 & 12

February 2 & 9

Ages Birth-23 months

Location: Program Room 3

Stories, songs, and playtime.

Weekly registration required.



## Family Storytime

Tuesdays or Wednesdays | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

January 6, 7, 13, 14, 27, & 28

February 3, 4, 10, 11, 24, & 25

Ages 0-6

Location: Program Room 1

Storytime sessions are full of books, songs, and fun activities designed to be enjoyed by young children. Children and their caregivers are encouraged to actively participate during the program. Please choose Tuesday or Wednesday. Weekly registration required.



## Saturday Family Storytime

Saturday, January 10 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 28 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages 0-6

Location: Program Room 1

Stories, songs, and fun for young children and their families. Caregivers are expected to stay and participate in the program. Registration required.



## Monarch Monday

Monday, January 12 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Monday, February 9 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Grades K-3

Location: Program Room 1

Learn about the Monarch award, then hear two of the Monarch nominees read aloud along with some hands-on fun!

Registration required.



## Pajamarama

Tuesday, January 13 | 6:30 to 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 10 | 6:30 to 7 p.m.

Ages 2-8 with families

Location: Program Room 1

Grab a stuffed friend and join us for stories, songs, and a craft at the library! Come in your pajamas and slippers if you like.

Registration required.



## Yoga Storytime

Thursday, January 22 | 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Thursday, February 19 | 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Ages 3-6 to attend on their own

Location: Program Room 2

Thirty minutes of story and movement fun!

Please bring a yoga mat or a towel to use.

Registration required.



## Stories for School Kids

Tuesday, January 27 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 24 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 5-10

Location: Program Room 1

Join us for longer stories, more complex crafts, and fun activities.

Registration required.



# kids EVENTS

REGISTER AT [HUNTLEYPUB.ORG/EVENTS](https://huntleypub.org/events)





### Junior Readers Book Club

Thursday, January 8 | 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, February 5 | 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Grades K-3 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 1

Calling all chapter book readers and their grown-up sidekicks! Join us as we explore our Junior Fiction collection together. We'll read and chat about books and have a hands-on activity. **Registration required.**



### Amazing Animals: Octopuses

Tuesday, January 20 | 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Room 1

Join us to learn about this amazing animal! We will read a short book, playfully learn facts, and make a craft.

**Registration required.**



### Read to a Dog

Saturday, January 24 | 9:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m., 10 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., & 10:45 a.m.

Early Readers

Location: Program Room 3

Make a 15-minute reservation for your child to practice their reading skills by reading to Simon, a patient and lovable dog. Register 1 family with up to 2 children per session. **Registration required.**



### Little Miss Ann!

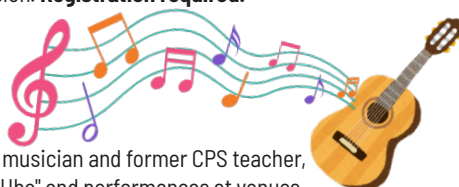
Monday, February 16 | 3 to 3:45 p.m.

Ages 8 and under with families

Location: Program Room 1, 2, & 3

Join Little Miss Ann, award-winning Filipina American kids musician and former CPS teacher, for a fun, interactive folk rock performance. With hits like "Ube" and performances at venues nationwide, she inspires kids to shine their own lights through music and song.

**Registration required for every attendee.**



## ARTS & MUSIC

### Creative Kids 1

Thursday, January 29 | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Ages 6-8

Location: Program Room 1

Find your creativity exploring various artists, art techniques, and artistic mediums. Dress for mess!

**Registration required.**



### Builders' Challenge: Snap Circuits

Wednesday, January 14 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Room 1

Build a snap-together safe electric current to make a light bulb light up or a fan spin. **Registration required.**

### Coding Club: Unplugged

Tuesday, February 3 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Room 2

Join us as we playfully explore the fundamentals of coding without actually using devices. **Registration required.**

### Stories & STEM

Wednesday, February 25 | 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Room 1

Can you build a structure to help your favorite animal stay safe? We will read the book *Crossings: Extraordinary Structures for Extraordinary Animals* and then use Lego pieces to build. **Registration required.**

## kids EVENTS

REGISTER AT [HUNTLEYLIBRARY.ORG/EVENTS](http://HUNTLEYLIBRARY.ORG/EVENTS)



### Ongoing

#### Elementary School Readers

Location: Children's Desk

Looking for your next reading adventure?

Then join us for Genre Quest, our youth reading program! Expand your reading horizons by exploring new genres and earn some sweet prizes along the way. Are you ready to accept the Genre Quest?

## Book BUDDIES

### Book Buddies

Practice Reading with an Adult Volunteer

Ages 5 and up

Location: Children's Library

Library volunteers are available to read with your child at the library once a week. Let your child practice reading while encouraging a lifelong, positive connection to the library - a place where endless opportunities await your child! Beginner readers are welcome.

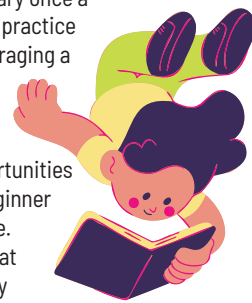
Pick up information at

the Children's Library

Desk or contact Lisa Rossi-Moser at

[Lisa.Rossi-Moser@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:Lisa.Rossi-Moser@huntleylibrary.org) or

847.669.5386 ext. 228.



# Multi-Age and family

## Monthly Grab & Go Craft

Begins the first of each month,  
while supplies last

Ages 5-12

**Location:** Children's Desk

Stop by the Children's Desk to pick up your  
take-home craft.

## Homeschool Hive

Friday, January 9 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Friday, February 6 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Ages 5-12 with families

**Location:** Program Room 1 & 2

Explore rotating science and arts activities.

Depending on the child's age, some activities may  
require the assistance of a caregiver.

**Registration required.**



## Learn About Winter Birds

Saturday, January 10 | 2 to 3 p.m.

Ages 6-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

What sort of birds live in the area during winter,  
and how do they survive? Come join Education  
Staff from McHenry County Conservation District  
to learn and explore more about winter birds!

**Registration required.**



## Get Crafty!

Monday, January 19 | 10 to 11 a.m. OR

Monday, January 19 | 2 to 3 p.m.

Ages 3-12 (5 & under with caregivers)

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

Enjoy being creative and having fun with a variety  
of craft stations. **Registration required.**

## Zines!

Saturday, February 7 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Ages 6-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

Learn the art and background of zines and create  
your own. **Registration required.**

## Valentine's Day Card & Craft Workshop

Friday, February 13 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Grades K-6

**Location:** Program Room 1 & 2

Create cards and crafts, including a fancy wand,  
for loved ones or yourself. **Registration required.**

## Little Miss Ann!

Monday, February 16 | 3 to 3:45 p.m.

Ages 8 and under with families

**Location:** Program Room 1, 2, & 3

Join Little Miss Ann, award-winning Filipina  
American kids musician and former CPS teacher,  
for a fun, interactive folk rock performance.

With hits like "Ube" and performances at  
venues nationwide, she inspires kids  
to shine their own lights through  
music and song. **Registration**

**required for every attendee.**



# KIDS OLDER



## The Meet Up

Monday, January 5 | 5 to 5:45 p.m.

Monday, February 2 | 5 to 5:45 p.m.

Ages 8-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

Each month, we will gather together and connect with others by exploring new topics or developing skills  
through engaging games, creative crafts, captivating stories, or fun activities. **Registration required.**

## Page Masters Fantasy Book Club

Tuesday, January 6 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, February 3 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Grades 3-6

**Location:** Program Room 1

Step into a world of magic, dragons, and adventure-join our newest book club  
and let the stories come to life! Each month, we'll explore magical worlds, meet  
mythical creatures, and share our favorite moments through fun activities and games. **Registration required.**



## Chess Club

Wednesdays, January 7 & 21 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

Wednesdays, February 4 & 18 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

Ages 8-14

**Location:** Program Rooms 1 & 2

Chess players of any skill level meet to play and strategize. Beginners  
are welcome. **Registration required.**



## Kool Kids Graphic Novel Club

Monday, January 26 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Monday, February 23 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Ages 7-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

Discuss a graphic novel, do an activity that goes along with the  
book & decide what book to read next month. **Registration required.**



## Builders' Challenge: Lego

Thursday, January 15 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, February 26 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

Ages 8-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

Put your Lego skills to the test and join us for Lego  
building challenges. **Registration required.**

## Coding Club: Scratch

Wednesday, January 28 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Ages 8-12

**Location:** Tech Lab

Join us to learn how to create your own fun game  
using Scratch, a coding platform using block  
codes. **Registration required.**

## Builders' Challenge: 3Doodler

Saturday, February 14 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Ages 8-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

Learn to build and create a small object to keep  
with a temperature-safe 3D plastic melting pen.  
**Registration required.**



## Clothespin Bird Feeder

Thursday, January 22 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 7-12

**Location:** Program Room 3

Get crafty and make your own clothespin bird  
feeder. It's fun, easy and perfect for bringing  
feathered friends to your yard!

**Registration required.**

## Creative Kids 2

Thursday, January 29 | 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

Ages 9-12

**Location:** Program Room 1

Find your creativity exploring various  
artists, art techniques, and artistic  
mediums. Dress for mess!

**Registration required.**





## Birds of a Feather Read Together

Through January 31

All ages or families

**Location:** Information Desk or Children's Desk

Enter for a chance to win grand prizes! Sign up online at <https://huntleylibrary.beanstack.com/> or pick up a log at the Information Desk for adults and teens, or the Children's Desk for kids.

## Library Question of the Week

Through February 8

All ages or families

**Location:** Information Desk

Answer our question of the week to be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card to a local business—a new question each Monday at the Information Desk. Limit one entry per week.

## Dakotah Henn's Reptiles and Adventures

Saturday, January 17 | 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. OR

Saturday, January 17 | 10:15 to 11 a.m. OR

Saturday, January 17 | 11 to 11:45 a.m.

All ages or families

**Location:** Program Room 1 or 2

Come meet iguanas, frogs, snakes, tarantulas, and a tortoise. Dakotah will share photos, research and hands on experiences. **Please register every attendee for one session only.**



## Library Lovers Expedition 2026

February through March 31

All ages

**Location:** Information Desk or Children's Desk

It's back! Are you looking for a fun winter adventure? Visit 12 or more participating McHenry County Libraries in the Library Lovers Expedition for fun activities and a chance to win a gift basket of your choice featuring local McHenry County businesses.



Each visit to one of the 15 participating libraries earns you a unique brag tag and a clue in our brand new mystery game! Visit all 15 libraries, collect the clues and solve the mystery for a chance to win the special Mystery and Grand Prize baskets.

Start your adventure at the Children's Desk or the Information Desk at the Huntley Area Public Library to register and pick up your official guide and first brag tag and clue. Participation is free and open to explorers of all ages.



**A Huntley Area Public Library Card is required to book an appointment.**

### Book a Librarian

Need help using library resources on your laptop, tablet, or smartphone? Book a one-on-one session to get assistance with downloading eBooks, eAudiobooks, magazines, music, or movies. We can also show you how to use our online catalog and other digital resources. **Call the Information Desk at 847.669.5386, press 3, to schedule your appointment.**

### Adult One-on-One Computer Classes

Learn mouse skills, computer basics, Internet basics, or email in one-hour sessions. Schedule an appointment with **Matthew at 847.669.5386 ext. 269 or [mwhisenhunt@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:mwhisenhunt@huntleylibrary.org).**

### Creative Studio Appointments

Need to laminate or print a 3D project? Book time with Alex to use the studio equipment. Contact **Alex at 847.669.5386 ext. 268 or [awyman@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:awyman@huntleylibrary.org).** See the full list of available equipment at [huntleylibrary.org/creative-studio-appointments](https://huntleylibrary.org/creative-studio-appointments).

### Digital Conversion Appointments

Convert audio and video to digital with Matthew's help. Equipment includes: cassettes, LPs, VHS, 8mm reels, and film/photo scanners. Bring a 16-32 GB USB drive. Sessions are two hours. Talk with **Matthew at 847.669.5386 ext. 269 or [mwhisenhunt@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:mwhisenhunt@huntleylibrary.org).**

### Available Times:

Thursday | 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Saturday | 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

### Recording Studio

The library's recording studio lets you record interviews, podcasts, music, or take photos with the greenscreen. Talk to our Recording Studio Technician, **Owen**, about your project at **[OMisterovich@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:OMisterovich@huntleylibrary.org) or 847.669.5386 ext. 275.**

### Available times for appointments:

Tuesday & Thursday | 1:00 to 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday | 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Huntley Public Library**  
11000 Ruth Road  
Huntley, IL 60142

Questions or need accommodations?  
contact:  
[klatur@district158.org](mailto:klatur@district158.org) 847-659-6137

**Huntley 158**  
INTERACTIVE  
**Wellness & Health Fair**

**Saturday**  
**February 21, 2026**  
**11:00am-1:30pm**

Join us for a community & family day of exploring local health and wellbeing services!

**Hitch N' Post**

**Harmony Falls Massage Clinic & Spa**

**Macyn Jars**

**Rockin' the Spectrum**

**Irie Tea Cup**

**Warp Corps**

**Senior Services**

**NW Medicine Sleep Health Center**

**Chiro One**

**Happy & Healthy**

**Sensory Friendly Event**  
The Special Services Department at Huntley 158 welcomes individuals who prefer a calmer, less crowded environment to join us from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

**Self-care**  
Fitness  
Destress  
Nutrition  
Gardening

**Animal Therapy**  
Games  
Self-help  
Medical  
Social Support

**Hands-on fun for everyone!**

**McHenry County Department of Health**  
Mobile Health Unit  
Blood Pressure, Body Composition, "heart age test"



## Library District Box Holder

Socialize with us:



THIS NEWSLETTER AND OTHER MATERIALS ARE PRINTED LOCALLY BY  
SERVICE PRINT, THE LIBRARY'S GO-TO PROVIDER FOR HIGH-QUALITY PRINTING.



### service printing corporation

11960 Oak Creek Parkway • Huntley, Illinois 60142  
Phone: 847-669-9620 • Fax: 847-669-9630  
[serviceprintingcorp.com](http://serviceprintingcorp.com)

THIS AD IS UNDERWRITTEN IN PART BY A PROMOTIONAL DISCOUNT.



JOIN AT [HUNTLEYLIBRARYFRIENDS.ORG](http://HUNTLEYLIBRARYFRIENDS.ORG)

**General Meeting**  
**Friday, January 2026**  
No Meeting.

**Vito Benigno 2nd Annual Trivia**  
**Friday, February 20 | 11 a.m.**

**Location:** Program Rooms 2 & 3  
Chocolate Treats for all who attend. Please register for the program so we know how many to expect. **Registration required.**

**Baubles & Bling Fundraiser**  
**Saturday, February 7 | 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
Accepting items January 2nd through January 16  
**Ages 5 and up**  
**Location:** Program Room 3  
Prices start at \$2.00  
Shop for vintage, costume and trendy accessories. Sale will include lightly used jewelry, purses and bags, and scarves. **Registration required.**

**March Book Sale**  
**Saturday, March 14 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**Sunday, March 15 | Noon to 4 p.m.**  
**Sunday Only • \$10 Bag Sale or 2 for \$15**  
**All Ages**  
**Location:** Program Rooms 2 & 3  
Friends Members Only Sale:  
Friday, March 13, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

If you are not a Friend and would like to become a member, visit the library for a membership form or download a membership form at [huntleylibraryfriends.org](http://huntleylibraryfriends.org). **Registration required.**  
**Make it Your New Year's Resolution to**

**Join the Friends in 2026**  
Remember, lifetime members don't need to renew!

**Support the library by becoming a Friends Foundation Member**  
Not a member? Join us in 2026 and be a part of this dynamic organization that supports the library. Complete the membership application form available at the library or visit our website at: [huntleylibraryfriends.org](http://huntleylibraryfriends.org).

Individuals, \$10  
Family Membership, \$15  
Book Lovers, \$50  
Lifetime Membership, \$100  
Corporate Lifetime Membership, \$250

**Corner Books – Always Available, Refreshed Daily**  
A great selection of gently used books, CDs, and DVDs for sale. This fundraiser benefits the Friends year-round and helps us fulfill our mission to support the Huntley Area Public Library.



**Best time to Drop-off Items:**  
**Monday through Friday | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
We encourage patrons who would like assistance unloading donations to please call ahead.

**Contact Lisa Rossi-Moser: 847.669.5386 ext. 228**

We accept donations of gently used books, CDs and DVDs in their original packaging, new textbooks (within the last five years), and new magazines in good condition.

Please do not include other items with your donations!

**Due to the current marketplace, we are no longer able to accept:**

- Cassette tapes, VHS tapes, electronics, or LPs
- Moldy or wet books, or books that have been stored in damp areas
- Encyclopedias
- Magazines or textbooks older than five years
- Newspapers
- Journals, used coloring or activity books, etc.

**Learn More about the Friends**  
[huntleylibraryfriends.org](http://huntleylibraryfriends.org)  
Information about book sales, meeting dates, fundraisers, membership forms, donation forms, and more can be found on our website.