



THE HUNTLEY AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
**NEWSLETTER**  
MARCH APRIL 2026



# PERKS OF A HUNTLEY LIBRARY CARD

## 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 TECH HELP

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

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](http://huntleylibrary.org/creative-studio-appointments).

## BRING IT TO DIGITAL

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).**

### Appointment Times:

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

## RECORDING STUDIO

Record interviews, podcasts, music, or use our greenscreen in the library's studio. Contact Recording Studio Technician, Owen, to get started at **[OMisterovich@huntleylibrary.org](mailto:OMisterovich@huntleylibrary.org) or 847.669.5386 ext. 275.**

### Appointment Times:

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

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# SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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

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

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

# 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 delivery)

**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.

# HOURS

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

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

Sunday **12PM - 5PM**

# CLOSING

### March 5

Staff Training - Closed 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### April 5

Easter - Closed All Day

### April 27 - May 2

Maintenance - Only Children's Area, Program Rooms, and Vending Machine Area Closed

# ONLINE

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

### Local History:

[lh.huntleylibrary.org](http://lh.huntleylibrary.org)

### Friends:

[huntleylibraryfriends.org](http://huntleylibraryfriends.org)

# 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

SPRING BREAK EVENTS  
**FOR KIDS**

# SPRING BREAK

## LIBRARY PROGRAMS

**MARCH 23 | 10 AM**

**OPTICAL ILLUSIONS**

**MARCH 23 | 4:30 PM**

**KOOL KIDS GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB**

**MARCH 24 | 10 AM**

**SPY TRAINING ACADEMY**

**MARCH 24 | 4:30 PM**

**STORIES FOR SCHOOL KIDS**

**MARCH 25 | 10:30 AM**

**MORRIS, THE MAGIC MAN**

**MARCH 26 | 10 AM & 1 PM**

**ONCE UPON A BINGO**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27 | 10 AM**

**CRAFTY KIDS: ZOETROPE**

**HEAR AMERICA'S FOUNDING UNFOLD IN  
DESIGNING A NATION WITH  
BEN FRANKLIN**

**APRIL 11 | 1 TO 2:30 PM**

**ALL AGES**

Step back in time as Benjamin Franklin himself brings history to life. As the only founder to help shape all five documents that established the United States, Franklin's influence on the nation's birth was unmatched. Through sharp wit, inventive thinking, and masterful diplomacy, he played a pivotal role in the bold experiment of creating a new nation.

## PAINT PARTY

**APRIL 16 | 6 TO 8 PM**



Unleash your creativity in this Spring-themed painting workshop! Paint solo or with friends, enjoy snacks and drinks, and take home your own artwork. Water and soda provided.

## LIBRARY LOVERS

**FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31**

**ALL AGES**

**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.

# ADULT EVENTS

## REOCCURRING PROGRAMS

### **YourTurn: Game Play for Adults**

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

Registration begins February 3

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

Registration begins February 3

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

Registration begins March 3

**Tuesday, April 14 | 2 to 3:30 p.m.**

Registration begins March 3

**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.**



### **Kraft Club with Abby & Lizzie**

**Tuesday, March 3 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

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

**Tuesday, April 7 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Tuesday, April 21 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2

Miss art class? Join Lizzie & Abby for fun, relaxing crafts—from zentangles to name pennants—focusing on self-love and mindfulness. Supplies provided or bring your own! **Registration required.**

### **The Puzzled Colorists Club**

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

**Thursday, April 9 | 2 to 4 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Rooms 2 & 3

Socialize while working on jigsaw puzzles or enjoying a soothing coloring sheet.

**Registration required.**

### **Film Screening of The Librarians**

**Thursday, March 5 | 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Luecht Auditorium McHenry County College

Participate in an Indie Lens Pop-Up screening of the powerful movie, *The Librarians*, at MCC's Luecht Auditorium! There will be a brief introduction and discussion following the film with Kelly Jensen and Kristin Pekoll. **Registration required.**

### **Intro to AI**

**Thursday, March 5 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Join this Tech Talk with Ted Hill for a clear, beginner-friendly introduction to Artificial Intelligence. In a 30-minute presentation followed by Q&A, you'll learn what AI is, key concepts like machine learning and generative AI, why it matters, practical use cases for individuals and businesses, important considerations such as privacy and accuracy, and what to expect in the future.

**Registration required.**

### **Library Genealogy Resources Workshop**

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

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

**Monday, April 6 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Monday, April 20 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

**Location:** Tech Lab

Michele May, author and former president of the Sun City Huntley Genealogy Club, will offer individualized help with genealogical research and the library's genealogy websites. Limited to 8 per class.

**Registration required.**

### **DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution)**

**First Sunday of the month**

**Sunday, March 8 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Sunday, April 12 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Volunteer genealogists from the Fox River Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will offer one-on-one help with genealogical questions. For more information, email frvdar@gmail.com. **Drop-in.**

### **The Fray: Stitchery Club**

**Mondays, March 9 and April 13 | 1 to 3 p.m.**

**Tuesdays, March 31 and April 21 | 10 a.m. 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.**

### **Medicare Medicaid - Dual Special Needs Plan**

**Thursday, March 5 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2

This educational seminar explains Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs) for those who qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid, including eligibility, how benefits are coordinated, and ways to lower out-of-pocket costs. No obligation to enroll.

**Registration required.**

### **Household Cleaning 101**

**Saturday, March 7 | 2 to 3 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2

Beth Randall, Joe Organizer, will discuss how to clean just about anything in your house, cleaning routines, motivation, de-cluttering and other great tips for getting and keeping your house clean!

**Registration required.**

### **The Sandwich Generation Caregiver**

**Tuesday, March 10 | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2

Caring for both a child or grandchild and an aging parent? You may be part of the Sandwich Generation. Join Dr. Amarish Dave, Aileen Zee, and local community partners to learn about your caregiving role and available resources. **Registration required.**

### **Great Decisions Discussion Group**

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

Registration begins February 17.

**Tuesday, April 21 | 1:30 to 3 p.m.**

Registration begins March 17.

**Location:** Program Room 3

Join us for Great Decisions, a guided discussion of world affairs, with March's focus on Trump tariffs and the global economy and April's discussion on U.S.–China relations. Materials will be available at the library in advance. **Registration required.**

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

**Tuesday, March 17 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 19 | 10:30 a.m. to noon**

**Location:** Tech Lab

Join former CEO Chuck Passarelli for an in-depth session on job search preparation, focusing on effective resumes and interview skills. Attendees will gain a competitive edge and may schedule personal career counseling sessions by appointment. **Registration required.**

### **A Sound Healing Experience with the Poetry of Walt Whitman: Sven Hansen**

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

**Wednesday, April 22 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2

This program offers a meditative blend of timeless poetry and healing sound, led by certified sound healer Sven using various instruments.

**Registration required.**

### **Puzzle Exchange**

**Accepting Puzzles: March 11 to March 13**

**Exchange: Saturday, March 14 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**Sale: Sunday, March 15 | Noon to 4 p.m.**

**Location:** Drop off at Information Desk;

Exchange in Program Room 1

Trade in puzzles of any difficulty for "new" ones! Drop off a puzzle at the Information Desk starting March 11 and receive a coupon for a "new" puzzle; puzzles may also be purchased without a coupon on March 15. **No missing pieces, and please tape or rubber-band puzzle boxes.**

### **Take A Journey Learning More About Improvised Synthesizers: Demonstration, Q & A, and more!**

**Tuesday, March 24 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Electronic musician, Owen Misterovich, will take you on an improvised sound journey using synthesizers and samplers. Watch a live demonstration of the process of creating improvised synth music. **Registration required.**

**Chuck's History Discussion: The Roman Empire**  
**Wednesday, March 25 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Please join us for lively discussions centered on historical times and events. Our first discussion group will focus on the Roman Empire, specifically during the time of Caesar. How did an almost 500-year-old republic turn into an empire in 15 years? If you like interesting and entertaining thoughts about history, you'll love these open conversations! **Registration required.**

**Increasing Connectedness in an Increasing Disconnected World**  
**Tuesday, April 7 | 1 to 2 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

Celebrate National Library Week with a lively author panel featuring Christina Clancy, Sonali Dev, Nancy Johnson, Sara Maurer, and Rachel Swearingen, with books available for purchase and signing from Read Between the Lynes. **Registration required.**

**Christine from Universal Script: Your Inner Poet**  
**Tuesday, April 7 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Monday, April 20 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Ages 13 and up**

**Location:** Program Room 1

Using prompts, readings, and shared reflection, this class explores poetry as a tool for self-expression, observation, and connection. Whether you're new to poetry or returning to it, you'll leave with new writing and renewed confidence in your creative voice. **Registration required.**

**Paint Party with Alicia Londos!**

**Thursday, April 16 | 6 to 8 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

Unleash your creativity in this Spring-themed painting workshop! Paint solo or with friends, enjoy snacks and drinks, and take home your own artwork. Water and soda provided. **Registration required.**

**Medicare 101**

**Wednesday, April 22 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Room 2

Learn the basics of Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D—what they cover, costs, and how to enroll. Gain the knowledge you need to make informed healthcare choices for yourself or loved ones. **Registration required.**

**Chuck's History Discussion: American Revolution**  
**Thursday, April 23 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2

How and why did 13 separate colonies come together to form a country? If you enjoy fascinating and fun historical conversations, you'll love these discussions. **Registration required.**

**National Library Week Author Panel**  
**Thursday, April 23 | 7 to 8 p.m.**

**Location:** Luecht Auditorium McHenry County College

Celebrate National Library Week with a lively author panel featuring Christina Clancy, Sonali Dev, Nancy Johnson, Sara Maurer, and Rachel Swearingen, with

**Bobbin Lacemaking: Bookworm Bookmark**  
**Saturday, April 24 | 2 to 4 p.m.**

**Ages 8-Adult**

**Location:** Program Rooms 1

Learn lace making by creating a bookworm with versatile stitches. Supplies included.

**Registration required.**

**Connecting to the Land and the People of McHenry County**

**Sunday, April 26 | 1 to 2:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

Join Sarah Taylor at the Colonel Palmer House to explore Indigenous and early settler plant use and sustainable gardening in McHenry County.

**Registration required.**

**CRAFT SUPPLY SWAP**

**Accepting Craft Supplies: April 22 to April 24**  
**Swap: Saturday, April 25**

**Early entry ticket holders: 10 to 11 a.m.**

**Open to all: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Unlimited Selection: 1 to 2 p.m.**

**Drop off Location:** Information Desk;

**Swap location:** Program Rooms 2 & 3

Have craft supplies you no longer need or looking for new ones on a budget? Join us for our first Craft Supply Swap! The Swap opens to the public at 11 a.m., with early entry at 10 a.m. for advance donors; if supplies remain after 1 p.m., unlimited selections are allowed. Each attendee will receive **one** bag to fill upon arrival.

**Suggested Donation Items:**

Knitting needles, crochet hooks, fabric, buttons, trims, ribbons, clay, unopened paints, brushes, canvases, drawing supplies, jewelry-making tools and supplies, thread, beads, fancy hole punches, scrapbook paper, and yarn.

**Donation Guidelines:**

- All items should be clean and new or very gently used.
- If items have been exposed to pet hair (such as fabric or yarn), please label as such.
- Please keep small items, like buttons and beads, or sets of items, like markers and pencils, bagged.

**Please avoid donating the following items:**

- Partial bottles of glue, glue-type liquids, spray paint, or paint thinners or additives
- Items exposed to smoke
- Equipment (Sewing/Embroidery machines, Irons, etc.)
- Furniture (Cabinets/Tables, Chairs, Containers, Lamps, etc.)
- Large Miscellaneous Items
- Unfinished Projects
- Books and Magazines

**The library has the right to refuse or recycle items. Leftover items will be donated to donation centers.**

**FINANCIAL FITNESS 2026**

**Budgeting & Savings Basics**

**Thursday, April 9 | 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Dr. Ryan Decker, CFP® breaks down the basics of personal finance: budgeting and introductory saving and investment strategies. Learn which factors to consider for deciding when, where, and how to save, invest, or aggressively tackle debt. Resources and tools for learning more about these topics will be shared. **Registration required.**



**Buying a Home - The Basics**

**Monday, April 13 | 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Owning a home takes a lot of time, money, and energy, so not only is it important to be educated about the process, but also about home ownership. This course covers what a lender looks for in a loan application, credit basics, down payments, and the players in the home buying process. Presented by Open Communities. **Registration required.**



**Retirement Reality with Jill Schlesinger**

**Tuesday, April 21 | 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Zoom (online)

Are you thinking about retirement? Does it seem completely out of reach? CBS News Business Analyst Jill Schlesinger, CFP, will join us to walk through the specific steps necessary to get you where you want to go, whether you are just starting off in your career or ready to wind down. Join us as Jill takes the mystery out of your finances and helps you take control. **Registration required.**



**Genealogy One-on-One Appointments**

**Must Have a Huntley Area Public Library Card**

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**.

# TECH EVENTS

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

## TECH LAB

### Canva Basics

Tuesday, March 3 | 10 a.m.  
Thursday, March 5 | 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, March 7 | 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, March 10 | 10 a.m.  
Thursday, March 12 | 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, March 14 | 10 a.m.  
10 & up

**Location:** Tech Lab

Learn the basics of how to use Canva. Classes will be approximately 1 hour long.

**Registration required.**

### Basic Photo editing in GIMP

Tuesday, March 17 | 10 a.m.  
Thursday, March 19 | 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, March 21 | 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, March 24 | 10 a.m.  
Thursday, March 26 | 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, March 28 | 10 a.m.

**Location:** Tech Lab

How to use and navigate GIMP. Classes will be approximately one hour long. You may bring a Flash drive with photos if you would like.

**Registration required.**

## DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

### Dungeons and Dragons - Monday Quest

March 2, 6, 16, & 20 | 5 to 7:30 p.m.  
April 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 | 5 to 7:30 p.m.  
Teens & Adults

**Location:** Program Room 2

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.  
March 4, 11, 18, & 25  
April 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

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.**

## CREATIVE STUDIO

### Paper Spring Wreath Craft

Saturday, March 21 | 1 to 3 p.m.  
Saturday, March 28 | 1 to 3 p.m.  
Teens & Adults

**Location:** Creative Studio

Let it bloom with this fun paper craft that takes different shades of pink to mimic a blooming flower. **Huntley Library card required for registration. Registration required.**

### Intro to VR Headsets

Saturday, April 11 | 1 to 3 p.m.  
Teens & Adults

**Location:** Program Room 1

Explore virtual reality in our Intro to VR Headsets program. Learn how VR headsets work, enjoy live demos, and discover real-world applications.

### Cricut Tote Bag

Saturday, April 18 | 12 to 3 p.m.  
Teens & Adults

**Location:** Creative Studio

Customize your very own tote bag using the cricut and cricut easy press. Tote bag and vinyl will be provided. **Huntley Library card required for registration. Registration required.**

## MINECRAFT

### Minecraft for Beginners Free Play

Thursdays | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
March 5, 12, 19, & 26  
April 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30  
Ages 7 & up

**Location:** Tech Lab

Play Minecraft with guidance from our Tech Trainer. **Registration required.**

### Minecraft Free Play

Fridays | 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.  
March 6, 13, 20, & 27  
April 3, 10, 17, & 24  
Ages 10 and up

**Location:** Tech Lab

Play Minecraft in Survival Mode.

Staff monitored. **Registration required.**

### How to make a custom resource pack for Minecraft Java edition

Tuesday, April 7 | 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 9 | 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 11 | 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, April 14 | 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 16 | 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 18 | 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, April 21 | 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, April 23 | 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, April 25 | 10 a.m.

7 & up

**Location:** Tech Lab

Create a Minecraft Java resource pack. 2-hour program. Bring a flash drive. **Registration required.**

## TECH TALKS

### Intro to Excel: Everyday Skills for Your Personal Life with Ted Hill

**Location:** Tech Lab

Join us for a three-part session, hands-on introduction to Microsoft Excel designed for beginners. No prior experience required.

**Registration required in sequence.**

**Session 1:** Excel Basics & Building Confidence  
**March 4 | 6 to 7 pm**

- Navigating the Excel workspace
- Understanding rows, columns, cells, and worksheets
- Entering and formatting data
- Using Autofill and basic layout tools
- Saving and organizing Excel files

**Session 2:** Working with Data & Letting Excel Do the Math

**March 18 | 6 to 7 pm**

- Introduction to formulas and functions
- Essential functions (SUM, AVERAGE, MIN/MAX, COUNT)
- Sorting and filtering information
- Freezing rows and columns
- Creating simple charts

**Session 3:** Excel for Personal Use

**March 25 | 6 to 7 pm**

- Creating simple household budgets
- Building personal lists and trackers (pantry, medications, tasks, etc.)
- Designing easy calendars and habit trackers
- Intro to lookups for everyday use
- Helpful tips & tricks for staying organized

### Everyday AI for Personal Life: Learn · Try · Refine with Ted Hill

**Location:** Tech Lab

**Registration required in sequence.**

**Session 1:** Intro to AI for Everyday Life  
**Wednesday, April 1 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

- Plain-English overview of AI/LLMs and what they can (and can't) do
- Everyday examples (home admin, travel planning, learning, budgeting, wellness)
- Safe/ethical use, good prompts, and quick wins to get started

**Session 2:** Hands-On Use Cases

**Wednesday, April 8 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

- Bring one real personal task; define success and pick the right tool
- Guided prompt-building, iteration, and troubleshooting
- Capture "recipes" for repeatable workflows (summaries, trip plans, email drafts, spreadsheets)

**Session 3:** Tune-Up & Next Steps

**Wednesday, April 15 | 6 to 7 p.m.**

- Show & tell: review outcomes and refine prompts/workflows
- Light automation options and guardrails for accuracy/privacy
- Take-home resources and a practice plan

**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: [huntleylibrary.org/riri](http://huntleylibrary.org/riri).

**HAPL Teen BookMatch**  
Ongoing/monthly

**Teens/grades 6-12 (& 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: [huntleylibrary.org/tbm/](http://huntleylibrary.org/tbm/).

**Teen Take Home Kit: Napkin Bunnies**  
Month of March (while supplies last)  
Teens/grades 6 - 12

**Location:** Information Desk  
Make a cloth napkin bunny from the materials supplied in this kit. Available at the Information Desk starting March 1, while supplies last. 1 kit/teen.

**Teen Photo Challenge: Macro**  
Month of March  
Teens/grades 6 - 12

**Location:** Information Desk/Online  
Share an original "macro" photo (taken by you) for a chance to win a gift card prize. Zoom in, get up close, and magnify something tiny! A winner will be selected from the submissions received. Submit your photos using the forms available at the Information Desk or online by March 31, 2026. [huntleylibrary.org/teenphotochallenge](http://huntleylibrary.org/teenphotochallenge)



**Spring Challenge**  
March 20 - May 1  
Ages 12+ (and adults)

**Location:** Information Desk/Online (Beanstack)  
[huntleylibrary.beanstack.com/reader365](http://huntleylibrary.beanstack.com/reader365)  
Welcome the return of spring with this challenge (includes activities and reading suggestions to celebrate spring).

Pick up a paper form at the Information Desk or participate online. Return your completed form to the Information Desk to receive a prize for participating!



**Red Cross Babysitter's Training Course**  
\$65/person

**Monday, March 23 | 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**  
Ages 11-15

**Location:** Program Room 1  
Learn safe and responsible babysitting skills, including basic childcare, first aid, leadership, and how to start a babysitting business. Participants receive a workbook, training materials, and a Red Cross certificate. **Registration required.**

- Class fee: \$65 fee, payable by cash or check to Be Prepared at the Information Desk before class.
- Special Instructions: Please bring a lunch on the day of class.

**CPR for Teens**  
\$25/person

**Tuesday, March 24 | 12 to approx. 3 p.m.**  
Grades 6-12

**Location:** Huntley Fire Station  
This American Heart Association certified course will teach Heartsaver CPR/AED training, along with Stop the Bleed and how to prepare for emergencies. Training will be provided by the Huntley Fire Protection District. We will meet at the fire station (located across the street from the library at 11118 Main Street, Huntley, IL 60142). Please make arrangements for pick up at the end of class. **\$25 class fee may be paid by cash or check (made out to Huntley Fire Protection District) and will need to be made prior to the start of class. Registration required.**

**Art After Dark: Diamond Art Bookmark**  
Thursday, March 26 | 6 to 7 p.m.

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Program Room 3  
Try your hand at diamond art painting with a small project (materials provided). **Registration required.**

**Potato Chip Science + Taste Testing**  
Saturday, March 28 | 2 to 3 p.m.

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Program Room 1  
Celebrate National Potato Chip Day (belated) with science! We'll do some experiments and taste testing and learn more about one of America's all-time favorite snacks. **Registration required.**



**Weird (and Wonderful) Animals: Veterinarians**  
Tuesday, March 31 | 6 to 7 p.m.

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Program Room 3  
This month we'll learn about animals from a different perspective. Dr. Elizabeth Houston, veterinarian, will connect with us virtually via Zoom (through the Skype a Scientist program), sharing what it's like to be a veterinarian, steps involved in becoming a veterinarian, and different career paths in veterinary medicine. If you have an interest in working with animals you won't want to miss this! Bring any questions you have. **Registration required.**

**Teen Take Home Kit: Repurposed Plastic + Wire Bonsai Trees**  
Month of April (while supplies last)

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Information Desk  
Repurpose a plastic bottle and create a bonsai tree you'll never have to trim! Available at the Information Desk starting April 1, while supplies last. 1 kit/teen.

**Teen Photo Challenge: Storms**  
Month of April

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Information Desk/Online  
Share an original "storm" photo (taken by you) for a chance to win a gift card prize. Rain, snow, sleet, stormy skies! 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 April 30, 2026.

**Huntr/x vs Saja Boys**  
Friday, April 3 | 1 to 2:30 p.m.

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Program Room 1  
Join us for trivia, music, moves, and more fun activities (and snacks!) based on the award-winning movie, "K-Pop Demon Hunters." See you on the couch!couch!couch!couch! **Registration required.**

**Getting Started at MCC**  
Thursday, April 9 | 6 to 7 p.m.

**High School students + parents/adults**  
**Location:** Program Room 3  
MCC staff will share all that the college has to offer incoming students and the community including certificates, degrees, non-credit programs, career services, and more. Be sure to bring any questions you have. **Registration required.**

**Weird (and Wonderful) Animals: Oriental Magpie**  
Tuesday, April 21 | 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 Oriental magpie - the bird that Sussie is based on. We'll also look at how this bird is featured in Korean art and culture. Bring any facts you want to share or questions you have. **Registration required.**



**Art After Dark: Oil Pastel Resist Paintings**  
Thursday, April 23 | 6 to 7 p.m.

**Teens/grades 6-12**  
**Location:** Program Room 1  
We'll use oil pastels to create an image, leaving open areas for black paint. The finished artwork will resemble batik! **Registration required.**



# STORY TIMES

## AT THE LIBRARY

### BabyPalooza

**Mondays | 10 to 10:30 a.m.**

**March 2, 9, 30**

**April 6, 13, 20**

*Ages Birth-23 months with caregiver*

**Location:** Program Room 3

Stories, songs, and playtime. **Weekly registration required.**



### Monarch Monday

**Monday, March 16 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.**

**Monday, April 13 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.**

*Grades K-3*

**Location:** Program Room 1

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



### Family Storytime

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

**March 3, 4, 10, 11, 31**

**April 1, 7, 8, 14, 15**

*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.**



### Yoga Storytime

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

**Thursday, April 23 | 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 towel to use. **Registration required.**



### Supported Storytime

**Saturday, March 7 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday, April 8 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.**

*Ages 3-7 with caregiver*

**Location:** Program Room 2

An interactive storytime 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.**



### Saturday Family Storytime

**Saturday, March 21 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Saturday, April 18 | 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.**



### Pajamarama

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

**Tuesday, April 14 | 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.**



### Stories for School Kids

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

**Tuesday, April 21 | 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.**





# Preschool AND BABIES

## Preschool Art Explorers

Monday, March 9 | 12 to 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 9 | 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.**



## Baby Builders

Monday, March 16 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages 1-3

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

Even babies can build! Join us for socializing and fun times playing with blocks and boxes and learning spatial awareness.

**Registration required.**

## Little STEAMers

Friday, March 20 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Friday, April 24 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday REPEAT, April 25 | 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.**

## Potty Party

Tuesday, April 21 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Potty trainees and their caregiver

**Location:** Program Room 1

Celebrating and reinforcing potty training with stories, songs, and activities.

**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.



## Junior Readers Book Club

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

Thursday, April 2 | 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Grades K-3 with caregiver

**Location:** Program Room 1

Join us as we explore our Junior Fiction collection together. We'll introduce and read books, chat about the characters, and dive into a hands-on activity.

**Registration required.**



## Amazing Animals: Skunks

Tuesday, March 31 | 4:30 to 5 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.**

# ARTS & MUSIC

## Creative Kids 1

Tuesday, March 17 | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 4 | 9:30 to 10:30 a.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: Pixel Fun

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

Ages 5-8

**Location:** Program Room 1

Graph fun images using colorful foam cubes and simple instructions. **Registration required.**

## Stories & STEM

Friday, April 3 | 1 to 1:45 p.m.

Ages 5-8

**Location:** Program Room 1

How tall can you build a house using Keva Planks?

We will read the book *Too Tall Houses* & use Keva Planks to build. **Registration required.**

## Coding Club: Unplugged

Wednesday, April 22 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 5-8

**Location:** Program Room 1

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

# kids EVENTS

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



# kids EVENTS

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

## The Meet Up

**Monday, March 2 | 5 to 5:45 p.m.**

**Monday, April 6 | 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.**

## Dragons Unite: The Hybrid Prince Release Day Party

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

**Ages 7-12**

**Location:** Program Rooms 1

Celebrate *The Hybrid Prince*, the long-awaited 16th book in the *Wings of Fire* series, with fun activities and a chance to win the book! **Registration required.**

## Chess Club

**Wednesdays, March 4, 18 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.**

**Wednesdays, April 1, 15 | 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.**

## Page Masters Fantasy Book Club

**Tuesday, March 10 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.**

**Tuesday, April 7 | 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.**

## Kool Kids Graphic Novel Club

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

**Monday, April 20 | 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 and decide what book to read next month. **Registration required.**

## Spy Training Academy

**Tuesday, March 24 | 10 to 11 a.m.**

**Ages 9-12**

**Location:** Program Room 1 & 2

Crack codes, solve puzzles, and complete missions while learning teamwork and problem-solving skills. **Registration required.**

# ARTS & MUSIC

## Creative Kids 2

**Tuesday, March 17 | 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 4 | 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Ages 9-12**

**Location:** Program Room 1

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

**Registration required.**



## Flower Art

**Thursday, April 23 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.**

**Ages 8-12**

**Location:** Program Room 2

Make your own bouquet of flowers on a mini canvas using buttons, string and other art materials.

**Registration required.**



## Coding Club: Scratch

**Wednesday, March 11 | 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: Lego

**Monday, March 30 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.**

**Thursday, April 16 | 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.**

## Builders' Challenge: 3Doodler

**Saturday, April 11 | 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.**

# GENRE QUEST

**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?

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

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



## **Fred Cantu; The Modern Crooner performing: "Come Spring with Me"**

**Thursday, March 19 | 5 to 7:30 p.m.**

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

Join trumpeter, bandleader, and composer Fred Cantu and his trio for a tribute to classic crooners and spring tunes. Fred appears weekly on WGN's Singsation and has recorded and performed across Chicago, New York, and Las Vegas. **Drop-in.**

## **Peeps Contest**

**Dropoff: March 20 to 22**

**Display and Voting: March 23 to 29**

**Winners Announced: March 30**

**Pickup: March 30 to April 4**

**Ages 12 and under**

**Location:** Entry forms at the Children's Desk or online

Participate in our Peeps Diorama Contest and create your own Peep scene in a shoebox! Entries will be displayed in the Children's Department and Peep prizes will be awarded to the winning entry in three categories: Youth (ages 12 and under), Teen/Adult, and Family.



## **Once Upon a Bingo**

**Thursday, March 26 | 10 to 10:45 a.m. OR**

**Thursday, March 26 | 1 to 1:45 p.m.**

**All ages or families**

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

The entire family can play a fun bingo game featuring fairy tale characters and magical items with prizes. **Please register every attendee for one session only.**



## **Ben Franklin America 250 Designing a Nation**

**Saturday, April 11 | 1 to 2:30 p.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 2 & 3

Step back in time as Benjamin Franklin himself brings history to life. As the only founder to help shape all five documents that established the United States, Franklin's influence on the nation's birth was unmatched. Through sharp wit, inventive thinking, and masterful diplomacy, he played a pivotal role in the bold experiment of creating a new nation.

## **Library Lovers Expedition 2026**

**February through March 31**

**All ages**

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

It's back! Looking for a fun winter adventure? Visit

12 or more McHenry County libraries during the Library

Lovers Expedition to enjoy activities and earn a chance to win

a gift basket featuring local businesses. Each visit to one of the 15 participating libraries earns a brag

tag and a clue in a new mystery game—visit all 15, solve the mystery, and you could win special Mystery

and Grand Prize baskets. Start at the Children's or Information Desk at the Huntley Area Public Library

to register, pick up your guide, and receive your first brag tag and clue. Free and open to all ages!



# Book BUDDIES



**Practice Reading with an Adult Volunteer**

**Ages 5 and up**

**Location:** Children's Library

Library volunteers read with children once a week, helping beginner readers build skills and a love of reading. Pick up info at the Children's Desk.

# Multi-Age

## **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, March 6 | 10 to 11 a.m.**

**Friday, April 17 | 10 to 11 a.m.**

**Ages 5-12 with families**

**Location:** Program Room 1 or 2

Explore rotating science and arts activities.

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



## **Optical Illusions**

**Monday, March 23 | 10 to 10:45 a.m.**

**Ages 6-12**

**Location:** Program Room 1

Learn about how optical illusions work and make your own. **Registration required.**

## **Morris, The Magic Man**

**Wednesday, March 25 | 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.**

**Ages 8 and under with families**

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

Come to a show featuring Morris Taylor the magician and magic the entire family can enjoy, including effects for the youngest members as well as baffling tricks to entertain mom, dad, and all the siblings.

**Registration required for every attendee.**



## **Crafty Kids: Zoetrope**

**Friday, March 27 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.**

**Ages 5-12**

**Location:** Program Room 1

Join us to make your very own zoetrope! A zoetrope is an optical illusion toy that looks like animation.

**Registration required.**

## **Crafty Kids: Pressed Flower Bookmark**

**Friday, April 3 | 10 to 10:45 a.m.**

**Ages 6-12**

**Location:** Program Room 1

Make a bookmark with our pressed flowers and contact paper. **Registration required.**



## Library District Box Holder

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### General Meetings

**Friday, March 20 | 11 a.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

**Program:** Library Game Show by Rob Aavang

Please register for the program so we know how many to expect.

**Friday, April 17 | 11 a.m.**

**Location:** Program Room 3

**Program:** The Fragrant Garden by Kathleen Carr, The Growing Scene, Inc.

Please register for the program so we know how many to expect.

### 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

Sale includes books, DVDs, and CDs!

### Friends Members Only Book 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).

### Culver's Fundraising Night

**Tuesday, April 7 | 4 to 8 p.m.**

**Location:** Culver's of Huntley

Friends members earn a percentage of all sales.

50/50 Cash Raffle in the

Dining Room: Tickets \$1 each or 6 for \$5

All funds raised by the Friends Foundation support the many programs and services available at the Huntley Area Public Library.



### May Annual Luncheon Fundraiser

**Program:** Todd Hunt's The Making of I Love Lucy

**Friday, May 15 | 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

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

**Tickets:** \$40 per person includes program & lunch

**Lunch:** Charcuterie Box Lunch from Fork It!

Tickets go on sale April 1, 2026 to May 7, 2026

**Purchase with Cash or Check:** Register at the library's Information Desk and pay for your tickets.

**Purchase with Credit Card:**

1. Register online at <https://huntley.libnet.info/event/15711540>
2. Then, visit [huntleylibraryfriends.org](http://huntleylibraryfriends.org) to purchase your tickets. Click on the Donate or Purchase Tickets button. Follow the instructions. In directions to seller type: Luncheon

### Support the library by becoming a Friends Foundation Member

Not a member? Join us and support the library.

Apply 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.

### BOOK DONATIONS

**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. Please do not include other items with your donations!

### 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.

**Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets for our Holiday Basket Fundraiser. Special thanks to these generous donors who helped make this fundraiser a success!**

- Ace of Huntley
- Brunch Café
- Carol David
- DeFiore Funeral & Cremation Service
- The Domagalski Family
- Faubl Family Dentistry
- First Watch
- FNBO Bank of Huntley
- The Friends
- Heartland Bank
- Jameson's
- Marge Smith
- Meijer
- Morkes
- Nancy Hardy
- Papa Saverio's
- Patrick Michael Jewelers
- Rookies
- Sew Hop'd
- Tom's Market
- Trader Joe's
- Vito and Linda Benigno
- Woodman's
- Yummy Subs and Boards