JULY READING CHALLENGES

KIDS
Take the Smokey Bear Reading Challenge!
Help Smokey celebrate his 80th birthday by learning how to prevent wildfires and help the environment.
Beginning July 1, read three books and earn four badges to complete the challenge. Badges are earned by completing at least one activity in each section.
Pick up the Reading Challenge worksheet at the library!
Turn in completed challenges by August 31 for a prize.

TEENS
Try the Summer of Scares Challenge, if you dare!
Read one book from each of our six themes.
Turn in completed challenges by August 31 for a prize.
Pick up your Summer of Scares challenge worksheet at the library. Begins July 1!
YOUTH SERVICES

Email aedgar@dunlaplibrary.org for Zoom meeting invites to youth programs or with any questions. Requests for registration links will be accepted until 60 minutes before program begins. *Reservation required at circulation desk or call 309.243.5716.

**KIDS**

**Book Babies**
Mondays, 9:30a

_No Book Babies on July 8 or 15._
This is a short storytime designed for parents and caregivers with babies 0-23 months old. Join us for some gentle baby bounces, songs, and rhymes. L

**Storytime with Ms. Amy!**
Wednesdays, 10:00a

_No storytime on July 10._
Join us at the library each week for a new storytime theme with books, songs, rhymes, playtime, and a craft. Special storytime with Mr. Owen on July 17! L

**LEGO Club**
Wednesdays, 2:30-4:00p
Join us in the Children's Area where we will put out our collection of LEGOs! Free build or take our building challenge. L

**Sign & Sing with Communication Junction**
Tuesday, July 2 & 16, 11:30a
Join Communication Junction for an in-person storytime at the library that is designed to engage your child and encourage their love of books. Each Sign & Sing is created around a theme and filled with stories, songs, movements, and new signs. L

**Instrument Petting Zoo**
Tuesday, July 2, 2:00p
Get hands-on with some string instruments from Suzuki School of Music from Youth Music Illinois. L

**Children's Opera: “My Best Friend's a Pirate!”**
Wednesday, July 24, 2:00p
The Children's Opera Outreach Program is presenting a series of special opera performances for young audiences at libraries, schools, and other community locations across Central Illinois. The 2024 outreach opera is a comedy performance called “My Best Friend's a Pirate!” This interactive production features the music of Rossini, Mozart, Verdi, and many more. The performance lasts about 30 minutes with time for children to talk to the performer. The goal of the outreach performances is to introduce children and families to the joy and magic of opera. L

**Storytime at Wheels O’ Time**
Thursday, July 25, 11:30a
Join us for a special storytime at the Wheels O’ Time Museum (1710 W Woodside Drive) in Dunlap. Meet at the gazebo in front of the museum and we will enjoy our storytime at a different spot each month in the museum. Meets May-September. L

**The Pokemon Project**
Thursday, July 25, 3:00-5:00p
Meet up with other Pokemon fans to trade your cards and do Pokemon activities while watching a Pokemon movie! L

**Robotics Show and Tell**
Saturday, July 27, 9:30-11:30a
Come meet the First Tech Challenge Robotics Team “Fast but not Furious!” This group of 7th-12th graders will be on hand to show kids of all ages how to design, build, program, and operate robots! The FTC Robotics Team aims to inspire young kids in the community to be interested in the STEM field. L

**TWEEN & TEEN**

**“Cruel Summer” Party**
Tuesday, July 9, 1:00-2:30p
Are you a Swiftie who loves mastermind level puzzles, making the friendship bracelets, trivia that leaves you lost in the labyrinth, and listening to music forever and evermore? Then come to our Cruel Summer Party! It’s nice to have a friend, so bring them along! L

*Harry Potter Escape Room*  
Friday, July 26, 10:00a-Noon  
See if you and your friends can solve the puzzles and brainteasers to break out of the Harry Potter Escape Room! Sign up for a time slot with a group. *Reservation required.*
ADULT SERVICES
Email mweyeneth@dunlaplibrary.org for Zoom meeting invites to adult programs or with any questions.
Requests for registration links will be accepted until 60 minutes before program begins.
Reservation required at circulation desk or call 309.243.5716.

Mah Jongg Monday!
Mondays, 1:00-3:00p
Let’s play this ancient Chinese tile-based game! All skill levels welcome, including those who just wonder what Mah Jongg is and want to learn about it. **We are now playing the 2024 National Mah Jongg League card.** If you have a Mah Jongg set, please bring it along! **L**

Chair Yoga
Mondays, 3:30p and Wednesdays, 8:30a
Interested in trying yoga, but don't think you can do it? You may join us at the library OR from the comfort of your home using Zoom. In-person: chairs provided, no mat needed, no registration. Joining our class from home: grab an armless chair and your device. If you have a strap/belt, block/books, and a ball/round object, we may use them during our practice. Instructor led. **L Z**

Yoga
Tuesdays, 5:30p and Thursdays, 8:30a
*No yoga practice on July 4.*
Enjoy the diversity of yoga. Join our yogi masters for a live yoga practice! You may join us in the library OR from the comfort of your home using Zoom. **L Z**

Outdoor Yoga
Tuesdays, through August 13, 7:45-8:30a
Nature and yoga -- a perfect pair! We'll meet outside on the Library lawn near the trail. Bring your yoga mat or towel, and a water bottle. Instructor led. Weather and nature events/cicada invasion permitting. **L Z**

Using Essential Oils for Summer Fun
Tuesday, July 16, 7:00p
Come learn about the safe, effective, and affordable ways to use essential oils. We will be focusing on natural summer solutions for the midwest heat, sun, and bugs. Recipes will be provided. Presented by Beth Blackaby of doTERRA. **L**

Pottering Around the UK: Real Life Locations from the World of Harry Potter
Tuesday, July 23, 11:30a
Travel vicariously in this virtual presentation as Anglophile and former UK resident Claire Evans takes you on a historic, scenic, architectural and occasionally culinary tour of Harry Potter’s magical world. From London to Scotland and points in between, admire the amazing real-life locations film scouts picked throughout the best of the British Isles, and get tips if you’d like to visit the sights yourself one day. **Z**

Ensuring Election Integrity in Peoria County
Wednesday, July 24, 11:30a
The mission of the Peoria County Election Commission is to conduct accurate, secure, fair and accessible local, state and federal elections with the highest level of professionalism and integrity in a manner that fosters public trust and confidence in the democratic process. Learn what best practices and procedures the Peoria County Election Commission has in place to ensure the democratic process occurs with the utmost integrity in this virtual presentation. Discuss common myths about the voting process and what you can do to help debunk misinformation and increase voter confidence. Presented by Elizabeth Gannon, Executive Director of the Peoria County Election Commission. **Z**

Rigid Heddle Weaving Rabble
Thursday, July 25, 11:00a-12:30p
Get your loom, wind a warp, work on a project. If you don't know what all of this means, join us and we'll show you how we creatively use up our yarn stash. **L**
**Cozy Little Book Club**  
Wednesday, July 3, 11:00a  
Do you like a light and entertaining read? We do too! This month’s cozy book is *Mastering the Art of French Murder* by Colleen Cambridge. On August 7 we will discuss *First Degree* by David Rosenfelt. **M Z**

**“Who Picked This?” Book Club**  
Tuesday, July 16, 10:00a  
This month we will be discussing *The Swimmers* by Julie Otsuka. Our book for August 20 will be *The Lindbergh Nanny* by Mariah Fredericks. **M Z**

**An Hour to Kill Book Club**  
Monday, July 8, 6:30p  
Mystery, suspense, thriller - fiction or nonfiction! No cozy titles here! Join us to discuss *The Golden Spoon* by Jessa Maxwell. On August 12 our title will be *The Housekeepers* by Alex Hay. **K Z**

**Inside Out Book Chat**  
Wednesday, July 10, 10:00a  
What have you been reading? There are so many books out there - it's time to share! You'll have a chance to talk about your recent reads... good, bad, or mediocre. **M Z**

**Afternoon Delight Book Club**  
Wednesday, July 17, 1:00p  
Romance is the theme for this virtual book club. Our title this month will be *It Happened One Summer* by Tessa Bailey. On August 21 we will discuss *The Summer Book Club* by Susan Mallery. **M Z**

**Walk-n-Talk Book Club**  
Tuesday, July 23, 9:30a  
We will gather in the library parking lot and then walk the trail while we talk about what we’ve been reading, listening to, or watching...whatever comes to mind! Meets in June and July. **M L**

**Stranger Than Fiction**  
Thursday, July 25, 10:00a  
Let’s get down to the facts. Our next nonfiction title will be *Be Useful: Seven Tools for Life* by Arnold Schwarzenegger. On August 22 we will be talking about *In-Between: Unforgettable Encounters During Life’s Final Moments* by Hadley Vlahos. **M Z**

**Walk-n-Talk**

**Book Clubs for Kids, Tweens & Teens**

Will Return in the Fall!
A Note from the Friends of the Dunlap Public Library

Friends Meeting in July!

The Friends will be hosting a General Membership Meeting July 11, 6-7 pm in the Dunlap Library community room with a virtual option. We welcome current Friends and those interested in learning more about the Friends of Dunlap Library. During our meeting, we’ll be voting on our next purchase for the library from the library wishlist! We’ll also be discussing possible community events hosted by the Friends and ideas for future fundraising opportunities. We want our members’ feedback and welcome everyone’s suggestions.

While we love to see our Friends, if you’re unable to attend the meeting in person, a Zoom option will be available. Email us at friends@dunlaplibrary.org to get a Zoom link and join us virtually.

Not a Friend yet? Curious about the Friends of the Dunlap Library? We’re a group of library lovers who provide support to the library through volunteering and fundraising. Throughout the country, non-profit library Friends groups provide funds for library needs not covered by our tax dollars. For example, the Friends recently purchased patron charging stations and children’s puzzles with funds raised through our book sale. Membership is only $15, and we gratefully accept additional donations of any amount.

The Friends of the Dunlap Public Library

Continuing with the introduction of members of the leadership team, this month we are chatting with **Celeste Restrepo, Board Member at Large.**

What brought you to Dunlap?
I’m a native Peorian, and 20 years ago I moved to our current home to be part of the Dunlap School District. When my children were young, we started going to the summer reading program at the Dunlap Public Library. I fell in love with this library, and I found myself arranging my work commitments to take advantage of the wonderful summer reading program events with my children.

Why are you interested in establishing the Friends of the Dunlap Library?
My entire life I’ve been passionate about libraries. My parents instilled a love of books and libraries, and some of my earliest memories are going to the main branch of the Peoria Public Library with my father. As I grew older, my love affair with libraries continued to grow. I realized that libraries are more than a place to get books. They are community centers and through the programming offered, patrons of all ages have the opportunity for education and personal growth. As costs rise, it is imperative that libraries have Friends groups to help support the costs of today’s multidimensional programs and offerings. I jumped at the chance to be part of the founding group of the Friends of the Dunlap Public Library because I believe so passionately in the need of a group such as ours to help the library fulfill its mission and goals.

What’s your favorite way to use our library?
Of course it goes without saying that I love to check out materials, but my favorite things are the activities like CACTUS (Creative Artists Tackle Unfinished Stuff), book discussion groups, and special programs. As a result of attending these programs at the library I have made some of my best friendships, and my business, Creative Soul Gallery, was a result of my involvement with CACTUS Club.
Country Fair Foods at Home
Thursday, August 8, 6:30p
If you've ever eaten your way down the midway of a county fair, this virtual program is for you. Join Father Dominic, the Bread Monk, and learn to make funnel cakes, corn dogs, elephant ears and other fried treats. We'll even discuss other goodies like caramel corn and hog bottom rolls. Z

The Lindbergh Baby Kidnapping
Tuesday, August 13, 11:30a
It is known as the crime of the (previous) century - the infamous kidnapping and murder of the infant son of Charles A. Lindbergh in 1932. Join us for this in-person presentation as we get to the heart of the mystery. We will review the facts of the case, the manhunt for the perpetrators, and the arrest, trial, conviction, and execution of Bruno Richard Hauptmann. Learn how Lindbergh’s actions could be considered an obstruction of justice. Discover how recent authors have all come to a similar conclusion: the real killer got away with it. Presented by Brad Keyes, amateur history buff. L

*Paws to Read
Saturday, September 7, 10:00a
Therapy dogs and their owners will be at the library, giving kids a chance to practice their reading skills! Presented with the Peoria Humane Society. *Registration will be required and available closer to the time of the event. L

Library News

- The Library will be closed on Thursday, July 4, for Independence Day.
- Thanks to a grant from Electrical And Electronic Engineers, IEEE-Region 4, SKPL Science Kits for Public Libraries, we have added more STEM kits to our collection this summer!