



PROGRAM & EVENT GUIDE



SPRING 2024

FEBRUARY - APRIL

TAKE A TOUR OF MCHENRY COUNTY LIBRARIES IN THE

Library
• LOVERS •
EXPEDITION

2024

February 1 - March 30

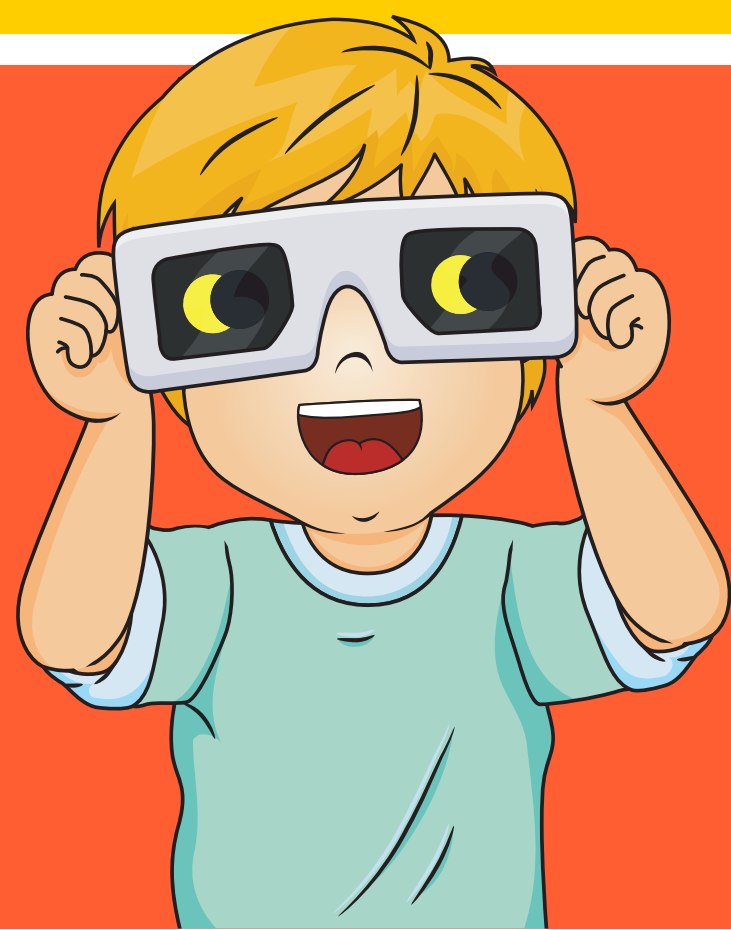
Visit all 14 participating libraries and be entered in a drawing for the chance to win a gift basket valued at \$140, or, visit at least 12 libraries to be entered to win a gift basket valued at \$50

All ages. No library card required.
Sign up at any participating library.

Collect souvenir brag tags from
each library along the way!



Harvard Diggins Library • Algonquin Area Public Library District • Barrington Area Library • Cary Area Public Library • Crystal Lake Public Library • Fox Lake District Library • Fox River Grove Memorial Library • Huntley Area Public Library • Johnsburg Public Library • Marengo-Union Library District • McHenry Public Library District • River East Public Library • Wauconda Area Public Library • Woodstock Public Library



Solar Eclipse Glasses Giveaway

Week of April 1 during regular hours

The Library will be giving away solar eclipse glasses while supplies last. The eclipse glasses are the safest way to view the solar eclipse that will occur on Monday, April 8. Limit one pair of glasses per person. Individuals must be present to receive glasses.

LITTLE FREE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS DONATIONS

During regular open hours only

The Library's Little Free Pantry located in the foyer of the building needs your help! If you are able to give, consider donating any unexpired, non-perishable foods or personal care products to keep the shelf stocked. Popular items include cereal, dry pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat or fish, ready-to-eat canned items like soup, chili, or stews, cooking oils, spices, personal care items, coffee, granola bars, canned fruit, toilet paper, and peanut butter. In the spring and summer, shelf-stable garden produce is accepted. Please only donate what will fit on the shelf. Larger donations may be directed to Trinity Lutheran Church at 504 E. Diggins St. in Harvard, where they will disperse donations to the various Little Free Pantries in Harvard. Thank you in advance for your help!



DISPLAY YOUR COLLECTION AT THE LIBRARY!

Do you have an interesting collection of items that you'd like to show off at the Library? Perhaps its Elvis Presley memorabilia, vintage Barbie dolls, or even a collection of cuckoo clocks? Whatever it may be, you could showcase it at the Library for up to one month in one of the Library's display cases. If you are interested in this opportunity, contact library staff via email at harpgeneral@harvard-diggins.org or call 815-943-4671 to ask about reserving one of the display cases to set up an exhibit for your collection.



SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO MAINTAIN GARDEN PLANTERS

Love to garden? The library is in need of volunteers to help maintain the concrete planters in the front and rear of the library. Maintenance involves watering at least three times a week as well as fall cleanup. All equipment needed for maintenance will be provided. If interested, please see Library Director Karen Sutera or email karens@harvard-diggins.org.

READER LEADER BOOK CLUB

Every other Tuesday at 11:00am beginning Feb 6 **R**

Our book club for homeschool students in grades 5–9 continues into the new year. We will read and discuss titles from the 2024 Rebecca Caudill list and other selections. Meetings will be every other week through March 2024. For more information about this program, please contact Karen at ilovestories@harvard-diggins.org

JERRY CRAFT

AUTHOR EVENT WATCH PARTY

Tuesday Feb 6, 7pm **R**



Jerry Craft writes and illustrates award-winning graphic novels for middle-grade readers. In 2020, Jerry's first graphic novel, "New Kid", won the 2020 Newberry Medal and the Coretta Scott King Medal. Together we'll view this virtual live interview of Jerry discussing his work and a drawing lesson. Open to all ages, but of special interest to students in 4th grade and older.



PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Tuesdays at 10:00am beginning Feb 6 **R**

Join us every week for stories, songs, and a craft with Mrs. Karen. For children ages 3-5 and their caregivers. No storytime Tues Feb 20.



LEGO BUILD IT! NIGHT

Thurs Feb 1, Mar 7, & Apr 4, 6:00pm **R**

Join us for an evening of LEGO building fun with a unique building challenge! Pre-K-5th.

KIDS CRAFTERNOON

Harvard District #50 students have an early release day! Join us this afternoon for some crafting fun. Please register for each session separately. Pre-K-5th.



Wed Feb 14, 1:30pm-5pm - Heart Wreath **R**

Wed Mar 13, 1:30pm-5pm - Glow-in-the-Dark Rock Painting **R**

Wed Apr 10, 1:30pm-5pm - Spring in a Jar Terrarium **R**

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Ongoing **R**

The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program is open to Harvard Diggins Library cardholders and their child or children who are not yet in Kindergarten.

For each book you read together, record it on your paper reading log or in our Beanstack app and receive stickers and prizes for your reading milestones.

Visit the Library to sign up and receive your 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten packet.





ILLINOIS JUNIOR CHEFS CLASS

Begins Tuesday February 6, 3:00pm **R**

Illinois Junior Chefs is a five-week series of cooking classes for youth ages 8-13. With 10 hours of cooking and nutrition education, youth will learn basic cooking skills while having fun. ***This session meets on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 3:00pm for five weeks.*** The class will be led by an instructor from the University of Illinois Extension. Class size is limited. Participants may register online, but should visit the Library prior to the first class to complete the required registration and participation waiver forms.

TEEN CUISINE

Begins Tuesday March 12, 3:00pm **R**

Teen Cuisine is a five-week cooking series that teaches healthy eating habits and cooking skills in engaging, hands-on lessons for middle and high school students. A student workbook with recipes is provided to students. ***Meets on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 3:00pm for five weeks (no class the week of March 25).*** The class will be led by an instructor from the University of Illinois Extension. Class size is limited. Participants may register online, but should visit the Library prior to the first class to complete the required registration and participation waiver forms.

TEEN CRAFT ACTIVITIES

Mini Secret Garden Tin - Friday February 9, 3:00pm **R**

Repurpose a tin and create a secret garden. All supplies provided.

Drip Dried Eggs - Friday March 8, 3:00pm **R**

Level up your egg dying skills with this cool technique.

Galaxy Painted Pots - Friday April 5, 3:00pm **R**

Get ready for the next solar eclipse and gardening season with a galaxy painted plant pot.



THE HARVARD COMMUNITY STORYWALK

UPCOMING BOOK SELECTIONS

WOLF IN THE SNOW

February

GOODBYE WINTER. HELLO SPRING

March & April

¡Los libros también están en Español!

Scan here to learn how you can sponsor the next StoryWalk book!

SENIOR TAX DEFERRAL

Wednesday February 7, 3:00pm **R**

Join us at Harvard Diggins Library with the McHenry County Treasurer Donna Kurtz to learn about the new Senior Deferral Program that will provide tax relief for qualified senior citizens with a NEW lower 3% loan to pay up to \$7,500 for a senior’s property tax bill. Attendees will be able to have their questions answered on how to submit the application for this program.



THE LIFE CYCLE OF CLOTHING IN THE 19TH CENTURY

Monday March 18, 6:30pm **R**

Americans invested a tremendous amount of labor into making and maintaining their wardrobes during the 19th century. Erika Holst, Curator of History at the Illinois State Museum, will join us to explore the life cycle of clothing during the 1800s: how it was created, mended, remade, washed, and ultimately recycled. Erika will also highlight examples of garments and artifacts from the Illinois State Museum’s collections. This program is sponsored by the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau.



FROM WRITER TO AUTHOR

Monday February 26, 6:00pm **R**

D. M. Needom, award-winning author of the *Better To Burn Out* series, will discuss what it takes to turn your dream of writing into the reality of being a published author. She will discuss the tools you need to make your dream a reality, and the pitfalls and things to try and avoid in the process. Recommended for ages 14 and up.

STAMP COLLECTING BASICS

Monday March 25, 6:30pm **R**

Are you curious about stamp collecting? Join us at the Library for this one-time class to learn the basics of building a stamp collection and what to look out for with guest speaker Jeff Magnus.



HOW TO FIND THE GENEALOGY OF A HOUSE AND THOSE WHO LIVED IN IT

Monday April 22, 6:00pm **R**

Join us at Harvard Diggins Library with guest speaker Vicki Ruthe Hahn of the Stateline Genealogy Club to learn the basics of researching your home’s history using genealogy techniques of house architectural clues, local history, legal documents, maps, and stories, and learn more about a building and all of its occupants.



MIND AND MUSCLE: EXPLORING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN MENTAL HEALTH AND EXERCISE

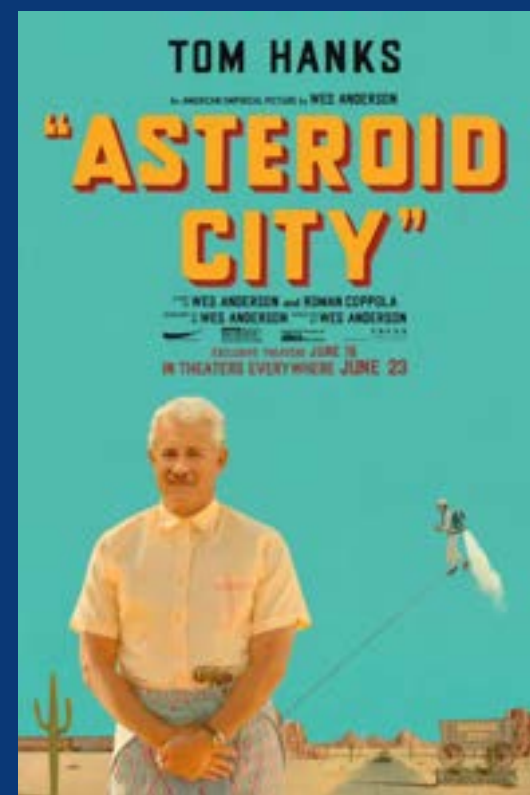
Monday April 29, 6:00pm **R**

Join us to discover the powerful link between physical activity and mental wellness. Uncover the science behind how exercise combats anxiety, depression, and stress, and learn practical and easy ways to integrate fitness into your daily life for a healthier mind. Join us for an engaging, informative session complete with real-life examples and interactive elements. Presented by Jesse Golliher, owner of Harvard’s own Rewire Fitness and Nationally Certified Personal Trainer and Fitness Nutrition Specialist through the American Council on Exercise.

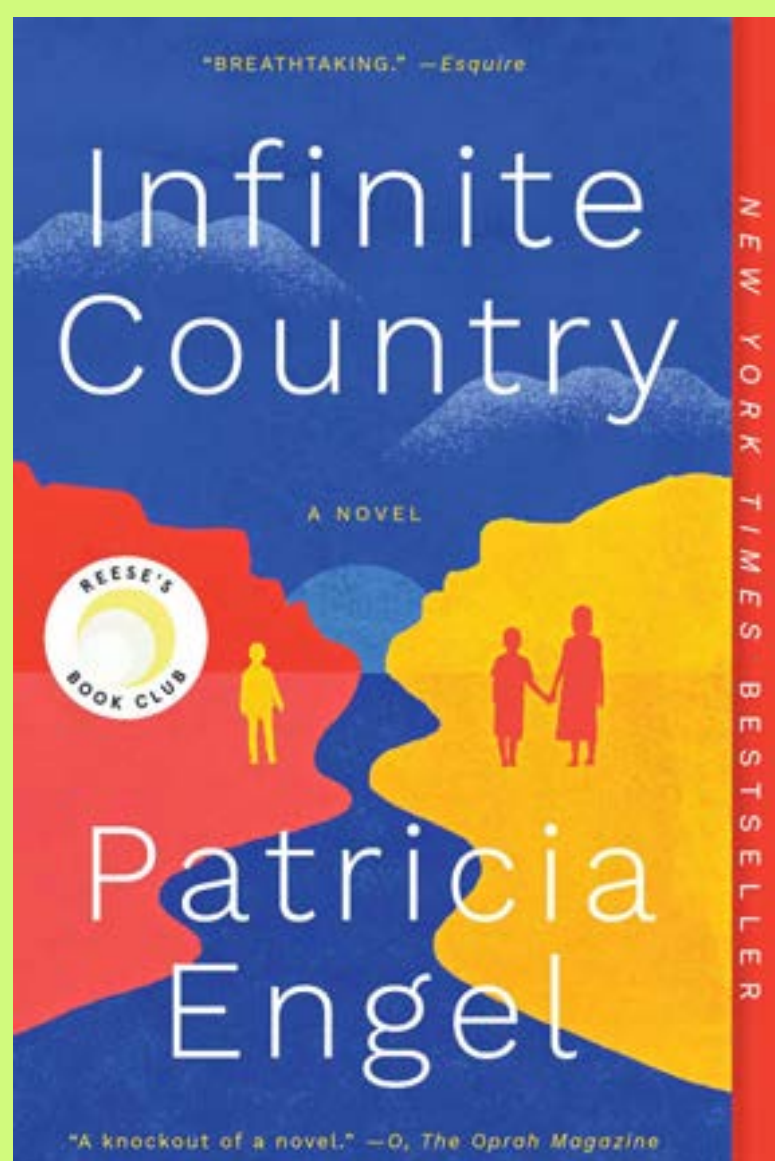


BROWN BAG MOVIE NIGHTS **R****Monday February 5, 5:30pm** - Barbie (2023, PG-13)**Monday March 4, 5:30pm** - Asteroid City (2023, PG-13)**Monday April 1, 5:30pm** - Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret (2023, PG-13)

Bring your dinner to the Library and join us for a movie night. All beverages must have a tightly secured lid. Please register in advance for each movie showing.



**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
for the
ARTS**
BIG READ
Managed by Arts Midwest
arts.gov/neabigread



You're invited to join us for **THE BIG READ**

Harvard Diggins Library joins several Illinois libraries for a program sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and Illinois Humanities to read and discuss important books for this year's theme of *Reconsidering the American Dream*. Participants can receive the books at the Library and join us for in-person discussions at offsite locations.

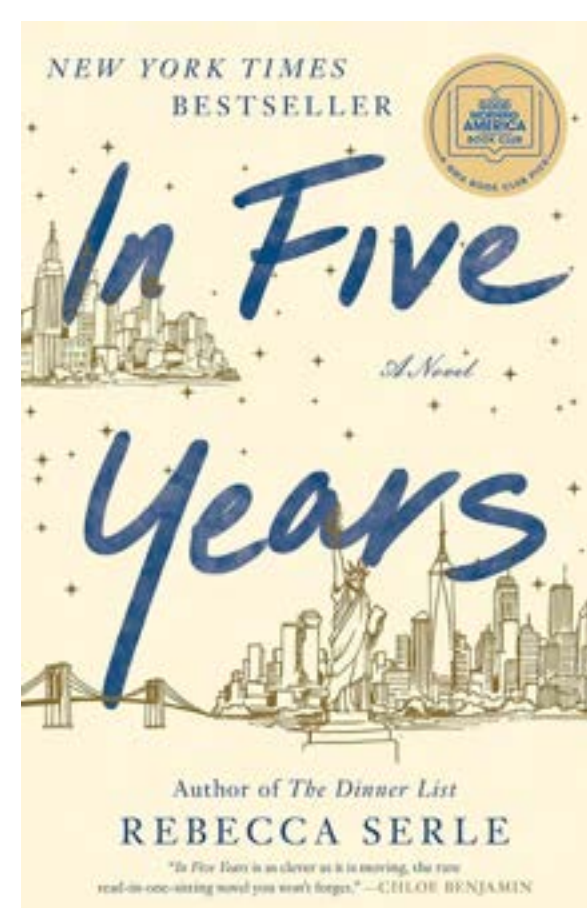
*If you are a participant in the Laid Back Book Club, these book selections coincide with the Laid Back Book Club picks!
You can participate in The Big Read and earn raffle entries towards the LBBC drawings at the end of 2024!*

INFINITE COUNTRY BY PATRICIA ENGEL **R****Wednesday February 7, 6:00pm, at the Greater Harvard Area Historical Society, 306 N. Hart Blvd.**

At this meeting of our second book selection, we will discuss *Infinite Country* by Patricia Engel. This fiction novel tells the powerful tale of a family divided. Set in Colombia and the United States and told through the shifting perspectives of each family member, Engel examines the beauty and cruelty of life in the diaspora, crafting "a breathtaking story of the unimaginable prices paid for a better life" (Esquire).

THE LAID-BACK BOOK CLUB**Ongoing**

No meetings, no deadlines, just good books! Do you want to get back into reading, but you don't have time for traditional book clubs? Jump in to the Laid-Back Book Club anytime and try the 12 book selections for 2024. Participate any way you'd like - discussion questions in our Facebook group, earning raffle tickets and recording your reading on the Beanstack app, or just reading any of the selections at your own pace! Each month's book selection will be available to check out at the Circulation Desk, but you are welcome to read off-schedule anytime by requesting books in your library account on PrairieCat. More information about this program is available on the Library's website at www.harvard-diggins.org.

**JOIN OUR
GROUP ON****February****March**



LIVE VIRTUAL EVENTS WITH ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Harvard Diggins Library offers free, live author events held virtually on Zoom courtesy of its participation in Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events.

ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email: illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com

A CONVERSATION WITH JERRY CRAFT: FROM “MAMA’S BOYZ” TO “NEW KID” AND BEYOND

Tuesday February 6, 7:00pm R

Learn about life, art, and telling your story with bestselling author, illustrator and syndicated cartoonist, Jerry Craft. Join us for a conversation about his works and journey to success, including a drawing demo that will be fun for the whole family! The Library will have an in-person watch party for this event. For more information, see page 3.

RUTH E. CARTER: INTERWEAVING TRADITION AND IMAGINATION THROUGH COSTUME DESIGN

Wednesday March 20, 7:00pm R

Join us for a special event with Ruth E. Carter, two-time Academy Award-winning costume designer. Carter made history as the first Black person to win an Academy Award in Best Costume Design for the film, Black Panther. She received a second Academy Award in the same category for Black Panther: Wakanda Forever.



ROMANCE & REGENCY WITH BRIDGERTON’S JULIA QUINN

Tuesday February 20, 7:00pm R

Julia Quinn, the #1 New York Times bestselling and award-winning romance author, has written close to 40 novels including her popular series about the Bridgerton family which was adapted into an Emmy-nominated series on Netflix. Her newest novel, *Queen Charlotte*, is co-written with television pioneer Shonda Rhimes. It’s a powerful and romantic novel of Bridgerton’s Queen Charlotte and King George III’s great love story and how it sparked a societal shift.

THE HIDDEN GIFTS OF VISUAL THINKERS WITH DR. TEMPLE GRANDIN

Wednesday April 3, 7:00pm R

Join us for a special event with Dr. Grandin, one of the world’s most accomplished and well-known adults with autism. Dr. Grandin has been at the forefront of research and activism for autism and neurodiversity for decades. Her memoir, *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*, was published in 1986 and she has continued to write about autism and neurodivergence over the decades. Her most recent book is *Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People Who Think in Pictures, Patterns, and Abstractions*. Dr. Grandin’s research and understanding of animal behavior spearheaded a reform in the quality of life for agricultural animals worldwide.

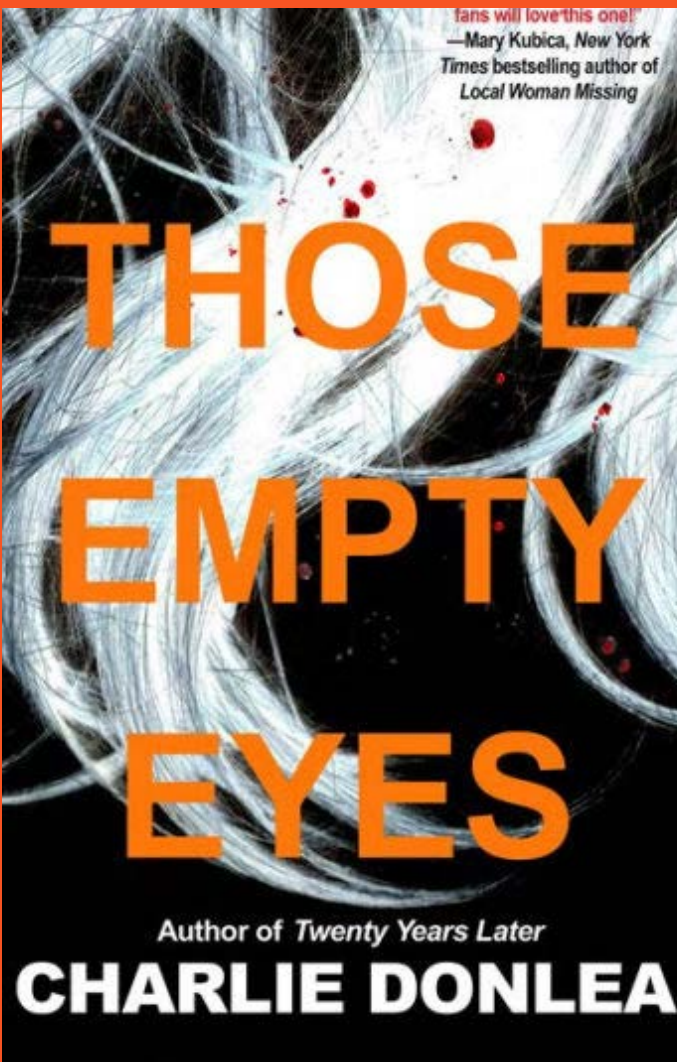
MEET AUTHOR CHARLIE DONLEA

Wed Apr 10, 7:00pm, at McHenry County College Luecht Auditorium, Room B170, 8900 US Hwy 14, Crystal Lake, IL

Mon Apr 8, 7:00pm - Online-only pre-event book discussion with Charlie. Visit the Library’s website to sign up for the Zoom link

Celebrate National Library Week at an in-person offsite event with other McHenry County libraries to meet Charlie Donlea, USA Today and #1 International bestselling author of several novels including *The Suicide House*. His eighth thriller, *Long Time Gone*, explores the science of forensic genealogy and will be released in June 2024. Books will be available to purchase at the event courtesy of Read Between the Lynes.

Praised for his "soaring pace, teasing plot twists" (BookPage) and talent for writing an ending that "makes your jaw drop" (The New York Times Book Review), Donlea has been called a "bold new writer...on his way to becoming a major figure in the world of suspense" (Publishers Weekly). He resides in Chicago with his wife and two children.





Thurs Feb 8, Mar 14, & Apr 11, 6:00pm R

Calling all crafters! Got a stash of UFO's (Unfinished Objects)? Spend an evening with fellow crafters getting those UFO's closer to completion. All who knit, crochet, cross stitch, embroider, sew, and paper craft are invited. Light refreshments will be provided. Registration is required. All ages.



Craft Night for Adults

CANDY HEART HAND WARMERS

Monday February 12, 6:30pm R

EGG CARTON BOUQUETS

Monday March 11, 6:30pm R

WISHING WELLS

Monday April 15, 6:00pm R



FRIENDS OF HARVARD DIGGINS LIBRARY

FEBRUARY - APRIL

SPRING TEA PARTY FUNDRAISER R \$

Sunday April 21, 1:00pm at the Starline Factory, 300 W. Front St.

Tickets are on sale for the 4th annual Spring Tea Party hosted by the Friends of Harvard Diggins Library and the Greater Harvard Area Historial Society. Join us for a lovely afternoon tea with hors d'oeuvres, raffles, photo opportunities, and more. Entertainment will be provided by Leslie Goddard presenting *Barbie: The History of America's Most Famous Doll*. Tickets are \$60 each, available to purchase at the Library during regular hours. Tables of 8 people may be reserved on a first-come-first-serve basis. Questions? Contact Library staff, or any member of the Historical Society or Friends volunteer group.



JOIN THE FRIENDS OF HARVARD DIGGINS LIBRARY

Be our friend! The Friends of Harvard Diggins Library welcomes dedicated volunteers who are willing to help in planning fundraisers, organizing the ongoing used book sale, and being the voice and advocates of the Library. For more information on how you can join, contact Library Director Karen Sutera at 815-943-4671.



THE USED BOOK SALE RETURNS

The ongoing used book sale organized by the Friends of Harvard Diggins Library has returned, including space for free magazines. Stop by the Library during regular hours to see the current selection available. Proceeds benefit Library projects. Donations in good condition are also being accepted at this time. Please do not donate: books with odors, water damage, mold, mildew, encyclopedias, text books, or books with excessive highlighting/writing. Do NOT leave donations in book drops or outdoors - donations of one bag or box at a time will be accepted only at the Circulation Desk during regular hours. Do you have Nintendo Switch games or board games that might be beneficial to these growing collections at the Library? Contact Library Director Karen Sutera before donating at: 815-943-4671.

FEBRUARY 2024

Children | Teens | Adult | Family/Mixed-Age

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<div><div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Library</div><div>• LOVERS •</div></div><div>EXPEDITION</div><div>2024</div></div></div><div><i>It's time to start the Expedition!</i></div></div></div>						
4	5 Brown Bag Movie Night, 5:30pm	6 Preschool Storytime, 10am Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm Jerry Craft Watch Party, 7pm	7 Senior Tax Deferral, 3pm The Big Read, 6pm	8 Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm Crafter's UFO Night, 6pm	9 Mini Secret Garden Tin Craft, 3pm	10
11	12 Make & Mingle, 6:30pm	13 Preschool Storytime, 10am Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm	14 Kids Crafternoon, 1:30pm-5pm	15 Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm	16	17
18	19 Library Closed	20 Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm Julia Quinn Author Event, 7pm	21	22 Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm	23	24
25	26 From Writer to Author, 6pm	27 Preschool Storytime, 10am Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm	28	29 Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm		


MARCH 2024

Children | Teens | Adult | Family/Mixed-Age

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<div><div><div><div><div><div></div><div>Library</div><div>• LOVERS •</div></div><div>EXPEDITION</div><div>2024</div></div></div><div><div>Last chance! Expedition ends March 30</div></div></div></div>						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Brown Bag Movie Night, 5:30pm	Preschool Storytime, 10am Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm		Illinois Junior Chefs, 3pm LEGO Build It! Night, 6pm	Drip Dried Eggs, 3pm	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Make & Mingle, 6:30pm	Preschool Storytime, 10am Teen Cuisine, 3pm	Kids Crafternoon, 1:30pm-5pm	Teen Cuisine, 3pm Crafter's UFO Night, 6pm	Library opens at 12:00pm	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	The Life Cycle of Clothing, 6:30pm	Preschool Storytime, 10am Teen Cuisine, 3pm	Ruth E. Carter Virtual Event, 7pm	Teen Cuisine, 3pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Stamp Collecting Basics, 6:30pm				Library Closed	Last day for Library Lovers Expedition

APRIL 2024

Children | Teens | Adult | Family/Mixed-Age

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<div><div></div><div>Solar Eclipse Glasses Giveaway All Week</div></div>	<div>1</div> <div>Brown Bag Movie Night, 5:30pm</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Preschool Storytime, 10am Teen Cuisine, 3pm</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Temple Grandin Online Event, 7pm</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Teen Cuisine, 3pm LEGO Build It! Night, 6pm</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Galaxy Painted Pots, 3pm</div> <div>6</div>	
<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Charlie Donlea Online Book Discussion, 7pm</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Preschool Storytime, 10am Teen Cuisine, 3pm</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Kids Crafternoon, 1:30pm-5pm Charlie Donlea Author Event @ MCC, 7pm</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Teen Cuisine, 3pm Crafter's UFO Night, 6pm</div>	<div>12</div> <div>13</div>	
<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Make & Mingle, 6:00pm</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Preschool Storytime, 10am Teen Cuisine, 3pm</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Teen Cuisine, 3pm</div>	<div>19</div> <div>20</div>	
<div>21</div> <div>Spring Tea Party Fundraiser at the Starline Factory, 1pm</div>	<div>22</div> <div>House Genealogy Class, 6:00pm</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Preschool Storytime, 10am</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div> <div>27</div>	
<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Mind & Muscle, 6:00pm</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Preschool Storytime, 10am</div>				

FIND YOUR NEXT
GREAT PICK WITH THE
NEW CATALOG

The old Library catalog for searching for materials, “Encore”, has officially migrated to “Vega”. Now, you can enjoy:

- Easier searching with different formats of a book shown in one page
- Series information
- Discovering more of what you like with Read-A-Likes
- Use “My Bookshelf” to opt in and save reading history, add favorites, create and share custom lists, save searches, and easily manage your account.

*If you have any questions,
scan here with your
smartphone to view
PrarieCat’s New Catalog Help
Page, or ask Library staff.*



900 E. McKinley St.
Harvard, IL 60033

LIBRARY HOURS:

M-Th 9:00am - 8:00pm
F-Sa 9:00am - 5:00pm
Closed Sundays

UPCOMING CLOSINGS:

Mon Feb 19 - President’s Day
Fri Mar 15 - Opening at
12:00pm for Staff Training
Fri Mar 29 - Good Friday

CONTACT US:

P: 815-943-4671
F: 815-943-2312
E: harpgeneral@harvard-diggins.org

FIND US ON:  

IT’S TIME TO START PLANNING
FOR YOUR GARDEN!

Save money by “borrowing” a variety of floral,
plant, fruit, and vegetable seeds from the
Harvard Diggins Library “Seed Library”

HARVARD DIGGINS LIBRARY'S
SEED LIBRARY



Visit the Circulation Desk to view the spreadsheet of available seeds to choose from. Each person may receive up to 8 packets of seeds per calendar year - no library card is required. Keep an eye on the program calendar for more events in the Seed Library program series later in the year.

ALL PROGRAMS MARKED WITH **R**
REQUIRE ADVANCE REGISTRATION



We have a NEW way to register for
Library programs and events!

Visit our website at:
www.harvard-diggins.org/events
or scan the QR code to the left with your
smartphone's camera to visit the event
calendar and register for an event.