

EX LIBRIS

Volume 22 ~ Issue 2 ~ Spring 2024

Reminders

All spring
events are in-
person at the
Library

Story Times
Resume
March 25

Eclipse Party
April 8

KinderConcert!
May 11

The Library will
be **CLOSED**

Sunday
March 31

Sunday and
Monday May 26
and 27

Story Times Resume March 25

After a short, mid-winter break, Story Time at the Library resumes this spring. We will offer both Drop-In sessions as well as small group sessions requiring registration.

Drop-In Story Times will be offered on Monday & Thursday mornings at 11:00 am for combined toddler and pre-school ages. Drop-In Toddler Story Time will be held on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am and Drop-In Preschool Story Time on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 am. These sessions



will run from March 25 through May 9 and will be held in the Lower Level Meeting Room.

Registered Small Group Story Time will be held in the First Floor Youth Program Room. Toddler Small Group Story Time is held on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am and Preschool Small Group Story Time is held on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 am. These sessions will run from March 27 through May 8. Registration for the small group sessions

(Continued on page 2)

Eclipse Events

Cross your fingers for clear skies and no rain on **Monday, April 8 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm** when the Library will be hosting a **Drop-In Solar Eclipse Viewing Party**. A near total solar eclipse will happen this day. In Dexter, the eclipse will begin at 1:57 pm with the maximum occurring at 3:13 pm. These rare events only occur when the Earth, Moon, and Sun align just right. Weather permitting, gather on the terrace behind the Library, adjacent to Mill Creek Park North, to view the progression of the eclipse. Please remember it is never safe to directly view the Sun without special equipment. Eclipse glasses

will be available and a live stream of the eclipse will show in our Lower Level Meeting Room. Registration is not required.

The Library will also offer two sessions of a **Solar Eclipse Program presented by Longway Planetarium on Wednesday, March 27**. Children in grades K - 4 can register for one, hour-long session starting at 1:00 pm or at 2:30 pm. Get ready for the April 8th solar eclipse while making a simple eclipse viewer, using a pair of sun viewing glasses (weather permitting), making a piece of eclipse art and other fun activities. Registration is required and currently open on our website.



Spring Youth and Family Fun

Story Times

(Continued from page 1)

is required and opens on Monday, March 4. Space is limited. Parents or caregivers of children may register on our website through our calendar of events, at the Youth Service Desk or by calling 734-426-4477. Children may only be registered for one 7-week session. Registration will be on a first come first served basis.

Toddler Story Times are structured for children 18 months to 3 years of age. Preschool Story Times are geared for children 3 to 5 years old. Children under 18 months may attend, however books and activities are geared for toddlers and preschoolers. Infants are welcome at story times with their siblings. Parents or caregivers are required to attend.

Each program lasts approximately 30 minutes. Our story times include picture, pop-up and interactive books, flannel-board stories, songs, puppets, finger plays and other activities that encourage a love of reading.

The Library will host a **Drop-In Petting Farm** on **Saturday, April 13 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**. Farm animals visit the Library at this petting zoo program for children of all ages, presented by Chamberlin Pony Rides. A wonderful assortment of small and medium-sized farm animals will be present for children to see and pet. Stop by any time during this two-hour program. Registration is not required.



Drop-In Spring Crafts will be offered on **Saturday, April 20 at 11:00 am**. Celebrate the season by making a variety of spring crafts to decorate your home. Registration is not required.



Children of all ages are invited to **Make an Activity Bag for Spring Break** on **Tuesday, March 19 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm**. Drop-in and put together your own craft and activity bag to take with you on your travels or use at home during spring break. Registration is not required.



Paint a Mini Canvas Craft will be offered on **Saturday, March 23 at 11:00 am**. Children of all ages can create their own miniature masterpiece with a little paint and a lot of imagination during this hour-long program. Registration is not required.

A **Drop-In Sticker Swap** will be offered on **Monday, March 25 at 2:00 pm**. Children of all ages love stickers. Each child will receive a notebook to decorate with stickers. We have lots of stickers to choose from and you can even bring stickers from home to trade with others. Registration is not required.

A **Drop-In Mother's Day Craft** will be offered on **Saturday, May 4 at 11:00 am**. Stop by the Library and make a card and a special suncatcher craft for your mom. Registration is not required.



Preschool Makerspace returns on **Friday, May 31 from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**. Make, try, create and play at the Library. Young children will explore a variety of stations with open-ended creative activities designed to encourage early learning. Children need an active adult partner to help them. This is a drop-in program for children ages 5 and younger and no registration is necessary.



KinderConcert! returns on **Saturday, May 11 at 12:00 pm (noon)**. Children ages five and younger and their caregivers will find that music comes alive during this 30-minute concert. Don't worry about wiggly tots sitting still for a concert - they will be encouraged to dance and move while listening to the music, hearing a story being told with musical accompaniment and learning about a special orchestral instrument. Members of the A2SO lead children on a guided introduction to the instruments of the orchestra. Registration is not required.



The Library's **Chess Club** is not just for teens. Younger children are welcome as well. If you enjoy playing chess, join us for our monthly chess games this spring. A basic knowledge of chess gameplay is recommended. Chess sets will be provided by the Library to use during Chess Club. Registration is required and is available on our website. The Club will meet on **Wednesday, April 10; Wednesday, May 1 and Wednesday, June 5, all at 6:30 pm**.

The Library is now adding Blu-ray discs to our children's video collection. The selections for children's videos will be shelved interspersed with the standard DVDs. The staff will be purchasing the most popular titles in both Blu-ray and DVD when possible. We will not be replacing older titles on Blu-ray unless there is a reissue or anniversary edition.



There are many more events on our web site:
www.dexter.lib.mi.us/events

Recurring Programs



Lego Club will meet throughout the spring on the first Tuesday of the month: **April 2 and May 7, both beginning at 4:30 pm**. The programs last one hour. Kids in grades K - 8 are invited to make their own Lego creations while visiting with friends.

Drop-In Makerspace returns and children can make, build, craft and explore through a variety of open-ended activities. We supply the materials and you supply the imagination. Registration is not required. Events will be held on **Thursday, March 28 at 2:30 pm; Thursday, April 25 at 4:30 pm and Thursday, May 23 at 4:30 pm**.



The **Super Stories Book Club** for young fives and kindergartners presents a 45 minute story and craft program held in-person at the Library for kids transitioning out of story time and into book clubs. Adults should attend this program with their children. Each month, Miss Ruth will read a book and then the kids will do a theme-related craft or activity. Registration is required and is currently open for the April meeting. Super Stories will be held in the first floor Youth Programming Room on **Tuesday, April 9 and Tuesday, May 14 at 4:30 pm**.



Our next step up is the **Club Create Book Club** for children in grades 1 and 2. Each month, Miss Krista will read books and the group will participate in related activities and crafts. Club Create will meet on **Thursday, April 11 and Thursday, May 9 with both meetings starting at 4:30 pm**. Registration is required and opens for the April meeting on March 14.

The **All Star Readers Book Club** is for third and fourth grade independent readers. Each month we will play an icebreaker game, have a book discussion and do an activity related to a specific book. Books are provided at registration. All Star Readers will meet on **Thursday, March 21; Thursday, April 18 and Thursday, May 16 with all meetings starting at 4:30 pm**. Registration is required and opens on March 21 for the April meeting.



Spring Programs for Tweens and Teens



required and is currently open on our website.

Join us at the Library for a **Puzzle Race** on **Tuesday, March 26 at 1:30 pm**. All students in grades 5 - 12 are invited to race against the clock and other builders as you work as a team to complete a 300-piece puzzle. Teams will consist of up to 4 people. Prizes will be awarded to the winners. Registration is re-

Retro Remix Crafts comes to the Library on **Friday, March 29 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm**. Students in grades 5 - 12 are invited to join us for a blast from the past with retro-inspired crafts. Put your own spin on Perler beads, Shrinky Dinks, friendship bracelets, and more. Registration required and is currently open on our website.



This is a beginner paper-folding project and no prior experience is necessary. Students in grades 5 - 12 are invited to register and registration opens Friday, March 15 on our website.

DIY Book Hedgehogs comes to the Library on **Friday, April 19 from 2:30 - 3:45 pm**. Turn an old book into a work of art that you can proudly display in your room. Come and learn how to fold the pages of a paperback book to make an adorable hedgehog with googly eyes and any accessories you can

Make your own **Candy Sushi** at the Library on **Saturday, April 27 from 2:00 - 3:00 pm**. You might have had sushi with fish and rice, but how about a dessert version? Explore your culinary creativity and build your own sweet sushi with crispy rice treats and candy. Students in grades 5 - 12 can register for this tasty program beginning Monday, April 1.



The Library's continuing programs for Tweens and Teens keep rolling this spring. Stop by the Library or visit our website and register for one of these upcoming events.



The Library's **Teen Advisory Group (TAG)** is open to students in grades 7 through 12 who meet monthly to brainstorm new programs, book selections, and how to make the Library an even better place. TAG members will also have a pizza lunch and do small service projects during meetings. Meetings will take place on **Saturdays April 20 and May 18 at 1:00 pm**.

The Library's **Tween Book Club** for kids in grades 5 through 7 has more spring meetings planned. Read the monthly book and join us for icebreakers, discussion and related activities. Get a copy of the book at the Youth Service Desk after you register. The Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, March 19** to discuss the genre 'Mysteries.' Choose any mystery title and share your reading. Additional meetings will be held on **Tuesday, April 16** and **Tuesday, May 21**. These hour-long programs start at **4:30 pm**.

Magic: The Gathering tournament-style play continues on **Fridays March 22, April 26 and May 17 at 6:00 pm**. Prizes awarded to top players. Everyone in grades 5 through 12 with knowledge of game play and rules is invited to attend.



The Library's **Chess Club** continues this spring. Join us on **Wednesday, April 10 at 6:30 pm**. Compete in tournament-style play or a casual game and improve your skills. All kids and teens with at least a basic knowledge of chess gameplay are welcome to attend. Additional meetings will take place on **Wednesday, May 1** and **Wednesday, June 5, at 6:30 pm**. Register on the Library website.

In-Person Program Tips

- Check our events calendar at: dexter.lib.mi.us/events
- Register ahead of time when registration is required
- Register the total number of members in your party who will attend
- Face coverings are optional, but highly encouraged



The Friends of the Library hosted another successful Book Sale on Saturday, February 3.

Friends of the Library Treasurer, Mary Tobin, reported \$1,187.45. This was a slight decrease since the previous February Sale, which took place in February 2023, but still robust.



The Board of the Friends of the Library welcomes Tempie Stahlin to her new, important role as Friends Volunteer Coordinator. Tempie's volunteer experience as a book sorter over the past ten years should prove helpful in this leadership position. Tempie was born in Belding, Michigan near Grand Rapids and moved to Dexter early in her life.

She has lived in the Dexter area for 50 years; raising four children with her husband. All four children attended Dexter schools. She ran a day care business in Dexter for 15 years. Tempie also volunteers with the Bird Center in Saline taking care of orphaned or injured songbirds and works as a volunteer recycling plastic film with Dexter High School's special education program. She also volunteers as a clerk with her church in Ann Arbor.

Library Technology Classes



One-on-One Technology Help offers an opportunity to get personalized help with different devices and software and will be held on **Thursday, March 21; Thursday, April 25 and Thursday, May 30**. Half-hour tutorials can be scheduled between 1:00 to 3:00 pm and 6:00 to 8:00 pm each day. Examples of potential topics include: computer basics, tablets, smart phones, eBooks and eAudiobooks, Microsoft Office, photo editing, and social media. Bring your own device for practice. While we are eager to help you learn technology, please note that we will not do the following: repair your device, remove spyware/viruses, or perform installations/upgrades.

iPhone, iPad, and Apple Watch will be offered on **Tuesday, April 9 at 9:00 am** and again on **Thursday, April 11 at 6:00 pm**. Organize apps, bookmark websites, close non-responsive apps, and other beginner topics will be covered. We will also discuss the Apple Watch apps and features. Please bring your own device for practice.

Join us for **Android Phones & Tablets** on **Tuesday, April 16 at 9:00 am** or on **Thursday, April 18 at 6:00 pm**. Learn how to organize apps, bookmark websites, close non-responsive apps, and various other beginner's topics. Please bring your own device for the best practice.

Get the Most out of Your Smart Phone will be offered on **Tuesday, May 7 at 9:00 am** or **Thursday, May 9 at 6:00 pm**. This is a follow-up class to the iPhone/Android class and covers more advanced topics like backing up your photos/videos, subscribing to podcasts, and using an app store to the fullest.

Microsoft Excel Part 1 will be offered on **Tuesday, May 14 at 9:00 am** and on **Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 pm**. Learn how to create workbook files, discover how to organize data more efficiently using spreadsheets and how to setup a workbook to meet your informational needs.

Microsoft Excel Part 2 builds on the introductory class and will be held on **Tuesday, May 21 at 9:00 am** and on **Thursday, May 23 at 6:00 pm**. Learn about mail merge, pivot tables, conditional formatting and filtering. You will also learn how to use macros to automate repetitive tasks.

Registration is required for all technology classes. Sign up at <https://dexter.lib.mi.us/events>, call 734-426-4477, or stop by the Adult Reference Desk to register.

Spring Events for Adults

We Are Dexter Series Continues

In celebration of Dexter's Bicentennial, the **We Are Dexter** series continues this spring.

Join us on **Sunday, April 14, at 2:00 pm** for a performance by the **Dexter Community Orchestra**. In September of 2005, the Dexter Community Orchestra was officially chartered as a musical group dedicated to cultural enrichment through symphonic music. The Orchestra's mission is to create and maintain a non-profit community orchestra, offer musicians of all levels an opportunity to perform symphonic music, foster music education for both young people and adults and to contribute to the enhancement of performing arts in the Dexter community. Join us in welcoming members of the Dexter Community Orchestra for a relaxing Sunday afternoon concert at the Library.



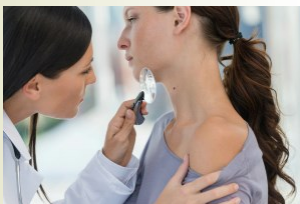
On **Wednesday, April 24 at 7:00 pm**, join us for **Sanam Aldag: Serving Your Community as a Councilmember**. Come along with Sanam Aldag, councilmember from the City of Dexter, for a conversation about the functions of various city officials including the Mayor, fellow Councilmembers, City staff, and members of City Committees & Commissions here in Dexter. You'll gain insights into Dexter's governing Charter, internal Council Rules, and strategies for embarking on your own journey to contribute to our community in these important roles.

Dexter & Ann Arbor – Pedigree vs. Scoundrels will be presented on **Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm**. Join us for this story of two cities bound by history and circumstance. Learn about the pedigree of Samuel Dexter, the founder of Dexter, who received Harvard undergrad and law degrees. Equal time will also be given to the scoundrels - John Allen, originally from Virginia, and Elisha Rumsey, originally from New York, who in February of 1824, staked out the site for "Annarbour" becoming the founders of Ann Arbor, Michigan. This program will be presented by Russell B. Collins who is the Executive Director of the Michigan Theater Foundation in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

These programs will be in the Library's Lower Level Meeting Room. Families are welcome to attend. Registration is appreciated, but not required. Register on the Library's events calendar or call 734-426-4477.

Gentle Restorative Yoga continues this spring, beginning **Thursday, March 21 at 9:30 am**. Relax and restore with this gentle, stress relieving yoga practice. Create harmony and balance of body and mind through physical postures, breathing techniques and an extended guided relaxation at the end of class. These events are suitable for most fitness and experience levels. Modifications are offered for both dialing back and going deeper into your practice. This class is a perfect introduction to yoga. Instructor Andrea Astley Dinsdale is a RYT Certified Yoga Instructor who has been practicing yoga for over 20 years. Sessions at the Library continue every Thursday morning at 9:30 am through May 23. Please note, there will be no session on March 28. Register online through the Library's events calendar or call the Adult Reference Desk at 734-426-4477.

On **Sunday, May 19 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm** join us for a **Forest Lawn Cemetery Tour: The History of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter and Their Families**. As part of the Dexter Bicentennial celebration, the Dexter District Library, the Dexter Area Historical Society and Forest Lawn Cemetery will be offering a walking tour of the historic Forest Lawn Cemetery, located on Grand Street. The free tours will include the history of the cemetery and actors portraying local historical figures, including Judge Dexter's family. The tour includes walking over uneven ground and tour group size will be limited. Registration is mandatory and space is limited. Participants will be in groups of 10 with a guide. Register on the Library's events calendar or call 734-426-4477. The cemetery tour is free. Donations will be accepted for the Forest Lawn Cemetery Tree Fund for those that wish to contribute.



With summer just around the corner, join us on **Wednesday, April 3 at 6:00 pm** for a program on **Skin Cancer Prevention and Detection**. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States. Anyone can get skin cancer, but some people are at a

higher risk. Dr. Ethan Sagher from Dermatology Specialists of Dexter will discuss this common but serious form of cancer. Learn about common benign spots, risk factors, skin cancers and pre-cancers, Actinic Keratoses, Basal Cell Carcinoma, Melanoma, prevention, detection and treatment methods. Dr. Sagher is a board-certified dermatologist and an Ann Arbor native. Registration is suggested, but not required. Register on the Library's Events Calendar or call 734-426-4477.

Tuesday, April 30 at 7:00 pm finds **Plant-Based Vegan Made Easy** coming to the Library. Join us for a live cooking demonstration presented by Vicki Brett-Gach, a Certified Personal Chef, Master-Certified Vegan Lifestyle Coach, Plant-Based Culinary Instructor, and the author of "The Plant-Based for Life Cookbook: Deliciously Simple Recipes to Nourish, Comfort, Energize and Renew." She will be showing us how to make Red Lentil Soup plus No-Bake Mocha Brownies...both perfect all year long. Guests will have an opportunity to sample the recipes. For those interested, copies of her cookbook will be available for purchase and signing following the presentation. Registration is required.



The **Chelsea Amateur (Ham) Radio Club: Circumventing the Globe** comes to the Library on **Wednesday, June 12 at 7:00 pm**. With over 700,000 Amateur Radio operators in the US and over 3 million worldwide, this is a popular hobby. Learn what it takes to get started, licensed and talking with other operators across the globe. See Ham Radio equipment and speak with members of the Chelsea Amateur Radio Club. Both licensed amateur radio operators and those interested in amateur radio are encouraged to join the club. Membership opens the door for learning, advancement in knowledge, and most certainly, fun. Registration is appreciated. Register on the Library's events calendar or call 734-426-4477.

We have many more programs scheduled for Spring 2024.
Check our events calendar at:
dexter.lib.mi.us/events/
for program listings and registration.

Movies at the Library

The Library continues to present movie screenings on a regular basis.



Join us on **Friday, April 12 at 6:00 pm** for a screening of **The Old Man and the Gun** starring Robert Redford and Casey Affleck. Rated PG-13. Runtime is 93 minutes.

On **Friday, April 19 at 1:00 pm**, we will be showing **The Holdovers** starring Paul Giamatti. Rated R. Runtime is 2 hours, 13 minutes.



Check the Library's events calendars for more monthly movie selections.

Card Making Workshops

Card Making with Katherine Willson continues this spring. These popular programs allow attendees to create beautiful handmade greeting cards to remind someone they are special or commemorate special occasions.

Sessions will be offered **Wednesday, April 10 at 9:30 am; Monday, April 22 at 6:00 pm; Wednesday, May 8 at 9:30 am; Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 pm and Tuesday, June 4 at 7:00 pm**. The June date will feature a special Dexter Bicentennial Card. All materials will be supplied. The programs will be in the Library's Lower Level Meeting Room. Registration is required and space is limited. Please register online at the Library's events calendar, at the Adult Service Desk or call the Library at 734-426-4477.

Dexter District Library
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Open Hours:
Mon-Fri: 9 AM - 9 PM
Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun: 1 PM - 5 PM

Visit us on the
Web

www.dexter.lib.mi.us

Vision:

*A pathway of discovery -
empowering minds and
connecting community*

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Director's Corner by Paul McCann



It has been a busy winter at the Library. At the February Library Board meeting, the Board accepted the Library's new Strategic Plan produced by our consultants at Fast Forward Libraries. The Plan is available on the Library's website dexter.lib.mi.us/about/strategic-plan/. The next step will be for staff to prioritize and schedule the specific tasks outlined in the document and begin working toward completion.

Magazines

Over the last year, the Library has seen many changes in the magazine industry. Whether titles migrate to digital only subscriptions, reduce the number of issues published each year, increase prices or cease publication, the challenges continue. The Library will continue to provide magazines for browsing and borrowing, but some titles may disappear in the coming years.

Blu-ray Movies

The Library is now including Blu-ray discs as part of our new additions to our video collection. On the whole,

checkout of movies has declined since the start of the pandemic. The explosion of streaming services and improved Internet availability provides an alternative to borrowing movies from the Library. The more popular titles will be duplicated in DVD and Blu-ray for the time being. We will be monitoring comparative checkout levels between the two formats. The Blu-rays in the adult collection will be shelved separately while those in the children's collection will be interfiled with standard DVDs.

In Memoria

Early in February, we were saddened to learn of the passing of our former Teen Librarian, Diane Alson. Diane worked for the Library in various roles from when we opened the current building in 2009 through 2022 and implemented the ukulele collection, the teen graphic novel collection, our teen book clubs and the Library's Teen Advisory Group (TAG.) While she recently retired, her presence will be missed at the Library.