

EX LIBRIS

Volume 22 ~ Issue 5 ~ Early Winter 2024

Reminders

Neighbors Read books available December 17

Story Times resume January 13

Scan the code below for many more events at the Library



The Library will be **CLOSED**

Tuesday and Wednesday December 24 and 25

Tuesday and Wednesday December 31 and January 1, 2025

Warm Up with Mini Golf

It will be cold outside, but we have a fun weekend of **Mini Golf at the Library** when we take over the Lower Level Meeting Room and set up the course on **Friday, January 24 from 1 pm to 5 pm** and again on **Saturday, January 25 from 10 am to 2 pm**. Children of all ages can drop in any time and play a round.



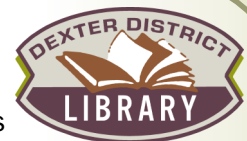
Test your skill and take a swing at our 9-hole mini-golf course. We'll provide the putters and golf balls, you provide the talent and the fun.

Everyone is welcome, whether you are a kid or a kid at heart. Registration is not required, but

there may be a short wait at times. Our course is provided by Hopper's Houses Rentals of Dexter.



Neighbors Read



Chelsea and Dexter District Libraries have a long history of community reading programs and for good reason. Even as a solitary act, reading has been shown to build empathy. When we read as a community, we can spread that empathy to our family, friends, and neighbors.

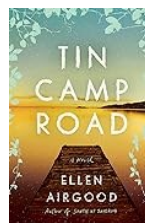
For over a decade, both libraries have hosted community reading programs; first, through the 5 Healthy Towns Community Read and then through the now disbanded Washtenaw Reads, the countywide reading program.

This year, the Chelsea District Library, the Dexter District

Library, and Serendipity Books decided to keep

the conversation going with our first annual **Neighbors Read**. Neighbors Read will bring together readers from western Washtenaw County in the Dexter and Chelsea library service areas. We will focus specifically on books set in our beautiful state of Michigan or books by Michigan authors. This year's selection is *Tin*

Camp Road by Ellen Airgood. *Tin Camp Road* is set in Michigan's Upper Peninsula in a fictional but realistic small town on the shores of Lake Superior. Single mother Laurel loves the lake and



(Continued on page 6)

Winter Youth and Family Fun



Story Times return to the Library in January.

Drop-In Story Times will be held in the Lower Level Meeting Room with **Combined Story Time for Ages 5 and Younger** on **Monday & Thursday mornings at 11 am**. There will be **Toddler Story Time** (ages 18 months to three years) on **Tuesdays at 10 am** and **Pre-**

school Story Time (ages three to five years-old) on **Tuesday mornings at 11 am**. This season will run from **January 13 through February 27**.

Small Group Story Times will be held in the Youth Program room on the main floor and require registration. This is a more intimate presentation. **Toddler Small Group Story Times** will be offered on **Wednesday mornings at 10 am** and **Preschool Small Group Story Time** on **Wednesday mornings at 11 am**. This season will run from **January 15 through February 26**.

The Library will offer a **Winter Reading Bingo Challenge** from **Monday, December 2 through Friday, January 3**. Kids and Teens can complete a variety of reading challenges on



Beanstack this December. Sign up on the Beanstack web site or app starting on Monday, December 2. Complete 5 activity badges in a row to get a bingo and win a small prize, then complete all 25 badges to fill your bingo card and get a free book. Check in at the Youth Reference Desk to claim your reward.



Drop-In Holiday Crafts will be offered on **Friday, December 13 from 1 to 2 pm**. Children of all ages can join us for a festive afternoon of making simple holiday crafts for yourself or to give as a gift. Registration is not required.

Preschool Seasonal Crafts comes to the Library on **Tuesday, December 17 from 11 am to 12 pm**.

Children ages five and younger can celebrate the season by making a variety of seasonal crafts including your own reindeer antlers. Registration is not required.



A **Drop-in New Year's Hat & Noisemaker Crafts**

event will be held **Saturday, December 30 from 11 am to 12 pm**. Children of all ages and their families are invited to create hats and noisemakers to ring in the New Year. Registration is not required.

If you are looking for something fun to do during the Winter break, join us for a **Minecraft Party Thursday, January 2 from 2 to 3:30 pm**.



All Minecraft fans in grades K-8 can spend an afternoon celebrating your favorite building game. Unplug and take part in Minecraft-inspired games and crafts in real life. Creep on in anytime during this drop-in event. Registration is not required.



The Library will offer a **DIY Wood Sign Craft Program** on **Friday, January 3 from 11 am to 12 pm**.

Drop-in and create your own decorative wood sign using paint markers, buttons, and other embellishments. Registration is not required.

Music & Movement with Dancer's Edge visits the Library on **Wednesday, January 8 from 10 to 10:30 am**. Children ages 2 and up, along with their caregivers, are invited to participate in a special dance class with Jennifer Smith of the Dancer's Edge. Filled with music, playful interaction and movement, get ready to wiggle, jump and move to music. Registration is not required.

KinderConcert! returns on **Saturday, January 18 from Noon to 12:30 pm.** Children

ages five and younger and their caregivers will find that music comes alive during this 30-minute concert. January's program will feature the violin. Don't worry about wiggly tots sitting still for a concert, they will be encouraged to dance and move while listening to the music and hearing a story being told with musical accompaniment. Registration is not required.



On **Monday, January 20 at 1:00 pm**, join us for **Movie & Popcorn for Kids.** Kids of all ages are invited to stop by the Library and watch *The Wild Robot* (2024—

Rated PG) on the big screen while enjoying a free bag of popcorn. After a shipwreck, an intelligent robot called Roz is stranded on an uninhabited island. To survive the harsh environment, Roz bonds with the island's animals. Registration is not required.



Join us for a **Lantern-Making Workshop with Doodles Academy on Monday, February 17 from 1 pm to 2 pm.** Children in grades K-4 are invited to explore the magic of tessellations and then put creativity to work to craft a stunning

paper lantern. Using watercolors, oil pastels, and paper piercing techniques, design a lantern that casts colorful, intricate light displays—perfect for lighting up those winter nights! Don't miss this chance to get creative and shine! Registration is required and opens on January 20.

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

Recurring Favorites



Perennial Library favorites continue at the Library. Children and caregivers are invited to participate in these programs. Please check each event for registration requirements. To register, stop by the Youth Reference Desk or call 734-426-4477 or sign up through the Library's online events calendar.

The **Super Stories Book Club for Young Fives and Kindergarteners** is a story and craft program for kids transitioning out of story times and into book clubs. This 45-minute program will meet on **Tuesdays, December 10, January 14, February 11 and March 11** with all meetings held at **4:30 pm.** Adults should attend this program with their children. Each month, Miss Ruth will read a book related to a theme and then the kids will do a theme related craft or activity. Registration is required.

The **Club Create Book Club** is a 45-minute, independent book club for first and second graders. Each month Ms. Krista will read longer picture books centered on a theme and the group will participate in activities and crafts related to the theme. The group will meet on **Thursdays, December 12, January 9, February 20 and March 13** with all meetings beginning at **4:30 pm.** Registration is required. Check our events calendar for upcoming themes.

The **All Star Readers Book Club** is a one hour, independent book club program for third and fourth graders. Each month we will play an icebreaker game, have a book discussion, and do an activity related to the book we discuss. Books will be available to pick up at the Library after you register. All Star Readers meets on **Thursdays, December 19, January 16, February 27 and March 20** starting at **4:30 pm** each day.

Our popular **Makerspace** for children in grades K – 8 is a drop-in program where children can make, build, craft and explore. Participate in a variety of open-ended activities. This group meets on **Friday, December 27 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm; Thursday, January 23 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm, Saturday, February 22 from 11 am to 12 pm and Thursday, March 27 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm.**

Our drop-in **LEGO Club** is for kids in grades K-8. You are invited to spend an afternoon making LEGO creations while visiting with old friends and making new ones. Legos will be provided by the Library. LEGO Club meets **Tuesdays, January 7, February 4 and March 4** with all meetings starting at **4:30 pm.**

Winter Programs for Tweens and Teens



Join us for **Hot Cocoa & Crafts on Saturday, December 14 from 1:30 to 3 pm.** Students in grades 5 through 12 will enjoy a hot cocoa bar and snacks, then make some simple and fun crafts that could be great gifts for friends and loved ones.

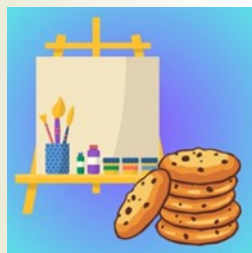
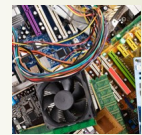
Registration is required and is currently open.

A **Winter Fantasy Book Nook Craft** will be offered for students in grades 5 through 12 on **Saturday, February 8 at 2 pm.** Make a bookshelf diorama for your home bookshelf and create a magical mini world between your favorite books. Construct a winter-themed fantasy landscape with our craft supplies. Registration is required and opens on January 8.

Pizza and Games comes to the Library during school break on **Thursday, December 26 from 1:30 to 3 pm.** Tweens and teens in grades 5 through 12 are invited to eat pizza and play games with friends. We'll have ping pong, foosball, and a variety of board and card games available to play. Registration is required and is currently open.



Teen Tech Take-Apart comes to the Library on **Monday, February 17 at 2 pm.** Do you like learning how things work? Ever wanted to take something apart? This is your chance. Students in grades 7 through 12 can join us and use tools to deconstruct small electronics to see what makes them tick. After disassembly, we'll use the pieces to create art. Registration is required and opens on January 17.



Join us for **Cookies and Canvas on Saturday, January 4 from 1:30 - 2:30 pm.** Students in grades 5 through 12 are invited to have a sweet treat while painting to your heart's content. We'll supply the paint, brushes, canvases, and cookies - you bring your creativity. Registration is required and is currently open.

Registration is required and is currently open.



Satisfy your taste buds and your competitive side at our **Oreo Cookie Challenge on Saturday, March 8 at 1:30 pm.** Students in grades 5 through 12 can sample a variety of

Oreo flavors and determine the best one, plus compete in Minute to Win It games using cookies. Registration is required and opens on February 7.

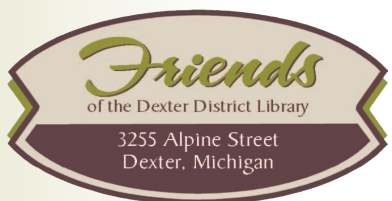
The Library will host a **Teen/Tween Crochet Crafternoon on Monday, January 20 from 1:30 to 3 pm.**

Join us for a chance to learn crochet or practice your skills. Beginners and more advanced teen and tween crocheters are welcome. Start a new project or bring in something that you have been working on at home. Basic instructions will help anyone get started. This is a great opportunity to meet up with friends and make new ones. Registration is required and opens on December 16.



Tweens and teens are also invited to participate in our **Winter Reading Challenge** throughout the month of December, as well as attend our **Minecraft Party on January 2 at 2 pm.** See page 2 of this newsletter for more details. Also, check out the back page for more Tween and Teen events.





The Friends of the Dexter District Library had two recent successful used book sales. The October 5 sale brought in \$1,366.01 and the November 2 sale earned \$1,347.25. Both book sales showed increases over previous years. Congratulations to all the Friends who helped sort, set up and conduct the Book Sales. Funds raised through the Book Sales help support important Library programs and collections as well as giving generous support to both adult and youth reading events.



Pictured above are some of the Friends volunteers who helped during the October 5 Sale (left to right): Jean Bradish, Dale and Patsy Klassen, and Barb Hagan.



From the November 2 Sale, volunteers included (left to right): Jim Hutton, Barb Hagan, Book Sale Coordinator Cortney Ophoff, and Jean Bradish.

Mark your calendar for the next Friends Used Book Sale, coming up on **January 4, 2025** from **9 am to 3 pm**.

Library Technology Classes



Join us at the Library to explore a variety of technology related topics in small group settings this winter. 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.

Learn to **Start Digitizing** on **Tuesday, January 21 at 9 am** or **Thursday, January 23 at 6 pm**. Get hands-on practice using the Library's equipment to digitize various media formats, including VHS tapes, slides, negatives, and print photos. Preserve your memories from deterioration and convert them into easily shareable formats.

The popular **iPhone, iPad, and Apple Watch** class returns on **Tuesday, February 11 at 9 am** or **Thursday, February 13 at 6 pm**. Learn how to organize apps, bookmark websites, close non-responsive apps, and various other beginner's topics. We will also discuss the Apple Watch apps and features. Please bring your own device for practice.

Android Phones & Tablets returns on **Tuesday, February 18 at 9 am** or **Thursday, February 20 at 6 pm**. Learn how to organize apps, bookmark websites, close non-responsive apps, and various other beginner's topics. Please bring your own device for practice.

Getting the Most out of Your Smart Phone will be presented on **Tuesday, March 4 at 9 am** or **Thursday, March 6 at 6 pm**. This is a follow-up class to the iPhone/Android classes. In this class, you will be shown more advanced topics like backing up your photos/videos, subscribing to podcasts, and using your app store to the fullest (Library apps, how to buy apps without using a credit card, and some of our favorite apps.)

One-on-One Technology Help will be presented monthly. In half-hour sessions, you will receive individualized help with your technology questions. Potential topics may include help with computer basics, tablets, smart phones, eBooks and eAudiobooks, Microsoft Office, photo editing, or social media. Please be sure to bring your own device for practice. While we are eager to help you learn, we cannot repair your device, remove spyware/viruses, or perform installations/upgrades. One-on-One help sessions are available **Thursdays January 30, February 27 and March 20** with time slots available between **9 to 11 am** and **1 to 3 pm**.

Winter Events for Adults

(Continued from page 1)

NEIGHBORS READ

Dexter-Chelsea Community Read

the town her family has resided in for generations, but the lack of job opportunities and housing starts affecting her daughter, Skye. As she struggles with rural poverty, Laurel learns that you need more than grit and determination to survive: you need community.

Complementary copies of *Tin Camp Road* will be available starting December 17 at the Dexter District Library. Get a copy while supplies last, read the book and pass it along to a neighbor or friend to keep the conversation going. Additional copies will be available to borrow through the Library in both print and electronic formats.

On **Thursday, February 6 at 6 pm** the Library will host **Shelter Association of Washtenaw County** for an informative program associated with the Neighbors Read community reading program.

Last year, the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County celebrated 40 years since its inception. The State of Michigan is in a housing crisis now and in some counties in Michigan, homelessness has increased by as much as 50%. Many shelters in Michigan are either running at capacity or have become overcrowded. Join Dawn Gemler, Community Partnership & Volunteer Specialist for the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC) for this informative program on homelessness in our area.



The Library will be hosting the author of *Tin Camp Road* for **Neighbors Read: A Conversation with Ellen Airgood on Thursday, February 13 at 7 pm**. Serendipity Books owner Michelle Tuplin will interview Ellen Airgood, there will be time for audience questions and a

book signing will round out the evening. Support for Neighbors Read is made possible through funding from the Friends of the Chelsea District Library and the Friends of the Dexter District Library.



VIRTUAL EVENT

Virtual Programs On Zoom

Darkness comes early in the winter months, to say nothing of slippery road conditions. To help everyone enjoy Library programming, the Library will offer a variety of virtual events over Zoom. Curl up on the couch with your laptop and enjoy these events from home. Registration is required. Register on the Library's events calendar at <https://dexter.lib.mi.us/events/> or call 734-426-4477. A Zoom link will be emailed the day before the event.

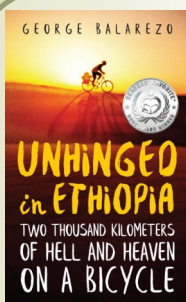
On **Thursday, January 23 at 7 pm** the Library will offer **Make 'Em Laugh: A History of Movie Comedy from Charlie Chaplin to Mel Brooks**. Brian Rose, professor emeritus at Fordham University, discusses the evolution of comedy in film, highlighting the work of comedians like Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd, W.C. Fields and Mel Brooks.

Chinese New Year Cooking with Mary Spencer will be streamed on **Wednesday, January 29 at 7 pm**. Welcome in the Year of the Snake by joining Mary Spencer as she prepares wonton soup along with other traditional Chinese dishes. Spencer has been a culinary instructor for over 20 years.

On **Monday, February 17 at 7 pm**, **Moroccan Cooking with Mary Spencer** will be offered online. Moroccan cuisine can be described as a mix of Arab, Berber, Andalusia, and Mediterranean cuisines. Spencer will prepare spiced skillet chicken and couscous.

The Golden Age of Hollywood will be presented on **Tuesday, February 25 at 7 pm**. Professor Brian Rose returns to discuss the heyday of studios like MGM, Warner Bros, 20th Century Fox, Paramount, and RKO studios.

On **Tuesday, March 11 at 7 pm**, the Library presents **The Great British Baking Tour**. United Kingdom travel consultant Claire Evans presents a culinary tour of the UK inspired by "The Great British Baking Show" television series. Learn to make a proper cup of tea and regional specialties from different parts of the UK.

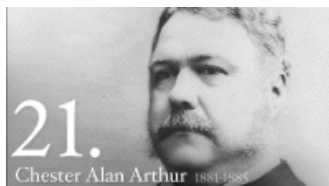


Join us at the Library on **Tuesday, January 7 at 7 pm** for **A Cycling Expedition Across Ethiopia**. Embark on an extraordinary journey as George Balarezo talks about his award-winning book "Unhinged in Ethiopia: Two Thousand Kilometers of Hell and Heaven on a Bicycle." From ancient rock-hewn churches to stunning landscapes, this presentation unveils the beauty and rich culture of an incredible nation.

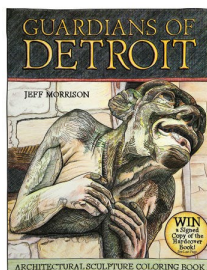
Balarezo shares tales of hardship, personal growth, and the transformative power of pushing beyond our limits. Host of the Intrepid Global Citizen podcast, Balarezo is an adventurer, author, and university lecturer who has gone on unsupported, solo cycling journeys in Oman, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Mongolia and many other places.

On **Monday, January 27 at 7 pm**, join Andrew Kercher at the Library for **Remember Us? Forgotten Presidents**.

There have been 46 Presidents of the United States, but how many do you really know? We are all familiar with Washington and Lincoln, but how about Fillmore or Arthur? Pull these former leaders from the dustbin of history and find out what makes these men interesting and how they helped to shape the nation we have today. Kercher has a degree in History and Philosophy from Albion College and a MS in Historic Preservation from Eastern Michigan University. He has worked at museums around the state, living in the Straits of Mackinac for nearly a decade. He is currently the Community Engagement Manager in his home town of Port Huron.



Guardians of Michigan: Architectural Sculpture of the Pleasant Peninsulas comes to the Library on **Wednesday, February 12 at 6 pm**. Award-winning photographer and historian Jeff Morrison will present a visual tour of Detroit's treasure trove of architectural sculpture. See many photos of sculpture from Detroit's most iconic buildings and discover several overlooked gems. Hear the stories of the artists, entrepreneurs and architects that created these buildings. Morrison is a photographer and author of *Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City*, a 2020 Michigan Notable Book, awarded by the Library of Michigan.



On **Tuesday, March 4 at 7 pm**, the Library will present **The Sun Is Shining In Dexter**. Are you curious about why solar panels are appearing on roofs? Do they really make sense in Michigan with its cloudy days? Why are so many households deciding that solar is for them? Come and learn more about solar power, how it works and whether it's right for your home. Whether you are seriously considering solar power or just curious about how it works with traditional power supply, this program will offer something for everyone. Presented by Larry Kerber, of Homeland Solar, this program will offer both information and ample time for questions.

Just in time for St. Patrick's Day, **The Magic of the Celtic Harp** comes to the Library on **Saturday, March 15 at 1 pm**.



Harpers Carol Kappus and Roberto Warren explore new arrangements and compositions that will delight you with the magic of the Celtic harp. Kappus plays and sings traditional songs, the songs of Robert Burns, and songs in Scots Gaelic. She teaches and performs in the Midwest and Scotland. Warren is a retired Professional Ballet Dancer, musician specializing in Harp and Percussion, and Multimedia Artist. This is definitely not your grandmother's harp concert! Come join us to see what magical things the Celtic harp can do.

Families are welcome.

Dexter District Library
3255 Alpine Street
Dexter, MI 48130

Phone: 734-426-4477
Fax: 734-426-1217
E-Mail:
pmccann@dexter.lib.mi.us

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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More Winter Tween and Teen Events



The Library's **Teen Advisory Group (TAG)**, for students in grades 7 through 12, will meet throughout the winter. Enjoy a pizza lunch then work on projects to make the Library a better place. TAG members also have the opportunity to help out at Library events throughout the year. This is a fun way to earn volunteer hours. TAG will meet on **Saturdays, January 18, February 15 and March 15**, with all meetings starting at **1 pm** and lasting about an hour.

The Library's **Tween Book Club** is for students in grades 5 through 7. Read this month's book or theme and then join us for icebreakers, a snack, discussion, and a related activity. Programs last approximately one hour. When a specific title is selected, free copies will be available at the Youth Reference desk upon registration. Registration is required and opens at the previous meeting. The group will meet on the following days to discuss the themes or books listed.

On **Tuesday, December 17 at 4:30 pm** the group will discuss

Graphic Novels and comics. Read a comic or graphic novel of your choice to discuss. On **Tuesday, January 28 at 4:30 pm**, the book will be *Dog Driven* by Terry Lynn Johnson. **Tuesday, February 25 at 4:30 pm** will find the group discussing *The Doughnut Fix* by Jessie Janowitz. And on **Tuesday, March 18 at 4:30 pm**, the book will be *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh.

Our **Magic: the Gathering** gaming nights for students in grades 5 through 12 continue. The group will meet on **Fridays, January 17, February 7 and March 7**, with all meetings starting at **6 pm**. Registration is required.



And don't forget about our **Chess Club**. Kids and Teens are welcome to compete in tournament style play or have a casual game. A basic knowledge of chess is needed. This hour long program will meet on **Wednesdays, December 18, January 8, February 5 and March 5 all at 6:30 pm**. Registration is required and opens at the prior meeting.