

THE WHOLE STORY

THE HUNTLEY AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

TURNING THE PAGE: HAPL ICON TO RETIRE IN 2025

PEACHES & BASEBALL - A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN PG. 4

COLLEGE PLANNING PG. 5

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER PG. 7



PLUS! LIBRARY LOVERS EXPEDITION BEGINS FEBRUARY 1, 2025

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Huntley Area
Community,

Welcome to the
first issue of 2025
and the new
version of our
Huntley Area

Public Library *The Whole Story* Newsletter!
We're thrilled to launch this updated and
expanded version, now featuring 12 pages
of stories, programs, and updates.

We're excited to introduce new feature
stories and profiles, offering a closer look
at the remarkable people, programs, and
opportunities that make our library a vital
part of the community.

Our goal is to create a newsletter that not
only informs but also connects and
celebrates our community. As you flip
through these pages, we hope you feel
inspired to participate, explore, and
engage with all the Huntley Area Public
Library has to offer.

Let us tell you The Whole Story.

Warmly,

Cris Sherwood

Head of Marketing

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HUNTLEY AREA PUBLIC
LIBRARY
EXPLORE ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES



HUNTLEY AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY
11000 Ruth Road • Huntley, IL 60142
Phone: 847.669.5386

PHONE EXTENSIONS
Dial 847.669.5386

Children's Library: Press 4
Circulation Desk: Press 1
Information Desk: Press 3
Library2Go (Homebound Delivery): Press 3

ONLINE

Main: www.huntleylibrary.org
Local History: lh.huntleylibrary.org
Friends: www.huntleylibraryfriends.org

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: facebook.com/HuntleyLibrary
Twitter: twitter.com/HuntleyLibrary
Instagram: instagram.com/huntleyareapl
YouTube: youtube.com/huntleylibrary

HOURS/CLOSINGS

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday-Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed: Wednesday, Jan. 1 (New Year's Day)
Late Opening: Thursday, Jan. 9: 1 p.m.
(Staff Training)

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Chris Budzynski - President
Leslie Threadgill-Smith - Vice President
Kathleen Kunde - Treasurer
Shannon McKibben - Secretary
Sandy Domagalski - Trustee
Stephanie Duncan - Trustee
Stephanie Weil - Trustee

EMAIL

Information: reference@huntleylibrary.org
Circulation: circulation@huntleylibrary.org
Youth Services: youth@huntleylibrary.org

ACCOMMODATIONS

Any person needing accommodations for a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act in order to access library meetings, services, programs, or activities can contact a member of the library staff five days prior to the event in writing or by telephone at 847.669.5386 & press 3.



Library -LOVERS-

EXPEDITION



FEBRUARY 1-MARCH, 31 2025

Love the library? Looking for your next adventure? Join the McHenry County Libraries in the 2025 Library Lovers Expedition! Make the journey to 12 or more participating libraries for unique activities, brag tag bragging rights, and a chance to win a gift basket to McHenry County businesses. There are 15 total libraries open for exploration. Start your adventure at Huntley Area Public Library to register and pick up your official guide. Participation is open to explorers of all ages.

GET COZY & READ

WINTER READING 24-25

Adults



Adults (18 and up)

Participate for chances to win one of our grand prizes—a \$25 gift card to a local business. Choose either:

Online Reading Program: Sign up at huntleylibrary.beanstack.com

Paper Log Program: Download your paper log from the library's website or pick one up at the Information Desk.

Teens

Take some time this winter to get cozy with a good book – the library's fireplace or Teen Space provide some excellent reading locations! Pick up a reading log at the Information Desk or participate online through

For teens/ages 12-18

Beanstack

(huntleylibrary.beanstack.com) for chances to win prizes.



Youth



For ages 0-12

Join us and get cozy reading with our winter reading program. Stop by the Children's Desk to pick up your reading log today or visit

huntleylibrary.beanstack.com for our online program.

NOW-January 31, 2025

huntleylibrary.org/getcozy

ADULT EVENTS

Ancestry.com Workshop

Monday, January 6, 20 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Monday, February 3, 17 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Adults

Location: Tech Lab

This is not an introduction to Ancestry.com class.

Michele May, author and past president of the Genealogy Club in Sun City Huntley, will be here to provide individualized help with Ancestry.com.

This class is for researchers who need help with a specific stumbling block they have encountered using Ancestry. Limited to 5 per class.

Registration required.

Your Turn: Game Night for Adults

Tuesday, January 7 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Registration begins December 3

Tuesday, February 4 | 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Registration begins January 7

Adults

Location: Program Room 3

Come take your turn at game night for adults featuring a variety of trivia, word, and board games.

Puzzle Club

Thursdays, January 9 and February 6 | 2 to 4 p.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 3

Are you a jigsaw puzzle enthusiast?

If you answered yes, come to Puzzle Club! We'll socialize while we work on putting together 300-piece puzzles. Sometimes, we even go for the challenge of a 500-piece puzzle! **Registration required.**

Coloring Club

Thursdays, January 16 & February 13 | 2 to 4 p.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 3

Come relax and color your stress away! We'll provide a limited supply of coloring pencils, markers, and coloring pages, but you are welcome to bring your own materials. **Registration required.**

Peaches and Baseball - A

League of Their Own

Tuesday, February 11 | 1 to 2 p.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 3

"There's no crying in baseball!"

The 1992 film, *A League of Their Own*, introduced modern America to the Women of the Greatest Generation who played professional baseball to keep up the morale on the American home front during WW2. The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League was so successful that it continued for nearly a decade after the war ended. Who were the real women who joined the league that inspired the film? Join us when Rebecca Tulloch, a modern Rockford Peach and manager of the "League of Our Own" vintage softball team, traces the truth and fiction about the film, *A League of Their Own*. **Registration required.**



The Fray: Stitchery Club

Tuesdays, January 14 and February 11

5:45 to 7:45 p.m.

Tuesdays, January 28 and February 25

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Adults

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.**

Heart Health

Wednesday, February 19 | 10 to 11:00 a.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 3

Understanding heart health and the importance of taking proper care of yourself and loved ones is one of the best ways to prevent heart disease. A support specialist from Northwestern Memorial Healthcare will teach us the basics on how the heart works, risk factors, what to do if you're experiencing symptoms, and ways to prevent heart disease with healthy lifestyle habits. **Registration required.**

Where Did I Put Great-Grandpa?

Organizing for Genealogists

Sunday, January 19 | 2 to 3 p.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

Caron Primas Brennan will provide tips on how to keep and organize records in digital and print-based formats so that you can find what you want when you want it. **Registration required.**

McHenry County Treasurer: Property Tax

Workshop

Tuesday, January 21 | 10:00 a.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

McHenry County Treasurer Donna Kurtz will discuss property tax exemptions available, convenient, and safe ways to pay McHenry County property taxes, and ways to protect property deeds. This forum will give taxpayers tools to ensure that they receive all their eligible exemptions. Specific tax relief programs for Seniors will also be presented along with sign up forms and assistance. **Registration required.**

Foreign Policy Roundtable Discussion

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

Adults

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

Learn about and discuss current critical foreign policy issues facing America in a discussion led by Professor Gary Midkiff. An article selected for discussion will be emailed to all registrants in advance of the meeting—please provide an email address at registration. Sponsored by the Carol Donahue Memorial Programming Fund. **Registration begins December 17.**

Great Decisions Discussion Group

Tuesday, February 18 | 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Ages 18 and up

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

Join us for a guided discussion of topical world affairs. The Great Decisions program highlights eight critical foreign policy challenges facing Americans each year.

This group meets from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Each month the group will read a chapter from the Great Decisions Briefing Book, then attend the meeting with a short video introduction and a guided discussion.

This month's topic is *Chapter 1: American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads*.

Discussion materials will be available to review at the library in advance of each discussion.

Sponsored by the Carol Donahue Memorial Programming Fund. **Registration required.**

Blood Drive

Thursday, February 20 | 1 to 6 p.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 1 & 2

Giving warms the heart! Sign up now to give the gift of life with Versiti Blood Center of Illinois.

Giving is fast, easy, and greatly appreciated.

Register in advance at

<https://tinyurl.com/feb-blooddrive> or call the

Information Desk at 847.669.5386 and press 3.

Walk-ins are welcome as the schedule permits.

Registration required.

Stomp the Prairie: Songs of Summer

Sunday, February 23 | 2 to 3 p.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

Beat the winter blues with a folk-based story songs of summer from award winning Midwestern singer/songwriter, and storyteller, Dave Martin.

Registration required.



Get Cozy and Read

Through January 31

Adults (18 and up)

It's not too late! Participate for chances to win one of our grand prizes—a \$25 gift card to a local business.

Library Question of the Week



Continues through February 9

Adults

Answer our question of the week to be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card to a local business and \$3 in Corner Books Coupons. Pick up your question/entry at the Information Desk. Limit one entry per week.

TEEN EVENTS



Get Cozy & Read

Now - January 31, 2025

Teens/ages 12-18

There's still time to participate! Get cozy with a good book - the library's fireplace or Teen Space provide some excellent reading locations! Pick up a reading log at the Information Desk or participate online through Beanstack (huntleylibrary.beanstack.com) for chances to win prizes.

Teen Take Home Kit: Fingerless Glove

Month of January (while supplies last)

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Information Desk

Learn how to make these low-sew, hand-warming, fingerless gloves (great for leaving your fingers free for typing or swiping) from a pair of socks. Available at the Information Desk starting January 2, while supplies last. 1 kit/teen.

Girls Click Bricks

Thursdays, January 2 and February 6
4 to 5:30 p.m.

Middle school and high school girls

Location: Program Room 2

Do you love LEGO? Come build with us!

Join us for an afternoon of creativity, snacks, and laughs. **Registration required.**

Red Cross Babysitter's Training Course -

\$65/person

Saturday, January 4 | 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Ages 11-15

Location: Program Room 1

Learn to safely and responsibly provide care for children and infants (including basic childcare and first aid), develop leadership skills, start a babysitting business, keep yourself and others safe, and help children behave. This class includes a participant workbook, training materials, and a Red Cross training certificate. Class fee: \$65 - pay by cash or check (checks made out to "Be Prepared") at the library's Information Desk prior to the start of class.

Special Instructions: Participants should bring a lunch on the day of class. Registration required.

ACT

ACT Practice Test - \$25/person

Saturday, January 4 | 12 to 4:30 p.m.

High school sophomores and juniors

Location: Program Rooms 2 & 3

Practice taking the ACT. This paper practice test will include English/reading, math, and science portions (no essay), and will be proctored by the Huntington Learning Center of Lake in the Hills. Test takers may bring a TI-84 calculator and snacks/water bottles. Pencils and scratch paper will be provided. Please arrive on time to complete necessary pre-test paperwork. Test will begin promptly at 12:30 p.m. **Registration required.**

Register in person by December 28 at the library's Information Desk. Test fee is payable by cash or check ONLY (make checks out to: Huntington Learning Center).

Color Shift Potions

Monday, January 13 | 4 to 5 p.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Creative Studio

We'll be making bottled potions that change color when agitated.

Registration required.



Middle School Readers

Tuesdays, January 14 and February 11 | 4 to 5 p.m.

Grades 6-8

Location: Program Room 2

Get together with other middle school kids to talk about books. The library's teen librarian will also share some titles to help you find your next read!

Registration required.

Weird (and Wonderful) Animals: Canines of McHenry County

Thursday, January 16 | 4 to 5 p.m.

Ages 10-Adults

Location: Program Room 3

Join us in our exploration of different animals. This month a visitor from the McHenry County Conservation District will tell us about the different species of canines that live in our area, noting similarities and differences with hands-on artifacts. Bring any questions you have! **Registration required.**



Fleece Ear Warmers

Tuesday, January 21 | 6 to 7 p.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Creative Studio

Keep your ears warm with this machine-sewn, fleece ear warmer. We'll show you how to make this toasty headband from start to finish. **Registration required.**

CREATE

Thursdays, January 30 and February 27 | 4 to 5 p.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Program Room 3

Bring your own project or create something wonderful with our supplies (we'll have something new to try each month). **Registration required.**

Teen Take Home Kit: Birdseed Cakes

Month of February (while supplies last)

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Information Desk

Bring all the birds to your yard when you offer up these delicious birdseed cakes. Available at the Information Desk starting February 1, while supplies last. 1 kit/teen.



Cryptid Hunt

Month of February

Teens/grades 6-12 (and anyone else who wants to search for cryptids)

Location: Information Desk

Big Foot, Nessie, Mothman and more are hiding around the library. Pick up a Cryptid Field Guide at the Information Desk to begin your hunt! When you have found all of the cryptids, return to the desk to receive a prize.

Make a Valentine

Saturday, February 1 | 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Ages 10+

Location: Program Room

Make a Valentine for someone you love. Stop by between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. We'll provide some examples, supplies, and instructions to help you create your own. **Please plan to arrive BEFORE 11:45 a.m. to have time to make something.**

Registration required.

No-Sew Felt Fox Cup Cozy

Monday, February 10 | 5 to 6 p.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Creative Studio

This adorable fox cup cozy will insulate your hands from whatever beverage it's wrapped around. Create your own no-sew felt fox cozy in this workshop. **Registration required.**

Love Yourself: Yoga for Teens

Friday, February 14 | 2 to 3 p.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Program Room 3

Do something nice for yourself! Relax and enjoy a beginner-friendly class led by Lorrie Palczynski. Lorrie has a background teaching yoga and meditation classes to all ages, and currently teaches at Northwestern Medicine Health & Fitness Center in Huntley. Yoga mats and props will be available for participants, or you may bring your own. **Registration and signed waiver required to participate.**

Dragon Eggs

Monday, February 17 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Creative Studio

Make your own dragon egg! We'll create metallic, scaled dragon eggs using foam eggs and thumb-tacks. **Registration required.**



Weird (and Wonderful) Animals: Groundhogs

Thursday, February 20 | 4 to 5 p.m.

Teens/grades 6-12

Location: Program Room 3

Join us in our exploration of different animal species. This month we'll be researching groundhogs - fact and fiction! Are these large rodents really meteorologists? Bring any questions you have! **Registration required.**



College Planning

Tuesday, February 25 | 6 to 7 p.m.

High school teens + parents/adults

Location: Program Room 3

Start planning for college now! Laura Martens, College and Career Counselor at Huntley High School will describe the college planning process - laying out the steps so you can organize your search, applications, financial aid, and more! **Registration required.**

kids EVENTS



Get Cozy & Read!

December 1 – January 31

For Ages 0-12

Location: Children's Desk

Join us and get cozy reading with our winter reading program. **See page 2 for details.**

Love at the Library! Valentine's Day Party

Friday, February 14 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages 3-6 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 1

Join us for Valentine's Day books, crafts and games. **Registration required.**



Love at the Library! Make a Friendship Bracelet

Friday, February 14 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages 8-12

Location: Program Room 2

Let's celebrate our friends on Valentine's Day! Join us to make friendship bracelets to give to your friends and family. We will teach you how to make bracelets using beads, cord, and floss. **Registration required.**



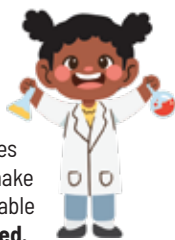
Wacky Science

Monday, February 17 | 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Grades K-5

Location: Program Room 1, 2, & 3

Kooky? Nutty? Educational? Yup! Get ready to laugh-out-loud during this show that makes science easy to understand. It mixes unexpected twists and humor to make learning elementary science enjoyable and engaging. **Registration required.**



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.

Handcrafted Lip Balm

Friday, January 3 | 1 to 2 p.m.

Ages 9-12

Location: Program Room 1

Learn how to make your own all-natural lip balm.

(Please note that we will be using coconut oil and beeswax).

Registration required.



Creative Kids 1

Saturday, January 11 | 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 1 | 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

For ages 6-8

Location: Program Room 1

Find your creativity exploring various artists, art techniques, and artistic mediums with Miss Julie. Dress for mess! **Registration required.**

Creative Kids 2

Saturday, January 11 | 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

Saturday, February 1 | 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

For ages 9-12

Location: Program Rooms 1

Find your creativity exploring various artists, art techniques, and artistic mediums with Miss Julie.

Dress for mess! **Registration required.**

Music Together

Monday, January 13 | 9:30 to 10 a.m. OR

10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

Ages 0-6

Location: Program Room 1

Children and their caregivers are invited to join Amy Nell for a program full of music and motion fun-for-all! Please choose one session only.

Registration required.

Preschool Art Explorers

Thursday, January 16 | 12 to 12:45 p.m.

Thursday, February 6 | 12 to 12:45 p.m.

For ages 3-5 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 1

Come explore art and artists, and enjoy being creative. Dress for mess! **Registration required.**

The Great Pool Pony Derby

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

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Rooms 1 & 2

Participate in Huntley Library's Pool Pony Derby! Make your pool noodle pony and see if your pony is the fastest to run the obstacle course.

Registration required.



Invasion of the Unicorns

Wednesday, January 22 | 4:30 to

5:15 p.m.

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Room 1

Listen to the Monarch Award nominee *The Invasion of Unicorns* by David Biedrzycki. After the story, we will make fun unicorn crafts. Dress for mess.



Registration required.

Sketch Skool 1

Wednesday, January 29 | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Ages 5-8

Location: Program Room 1

Join Mr. Dolton for drawing FUN and let your creativity soar! **Registration required.**

Sketch Skool 2

Wednesday, January 29 | 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

Ages 9-12

Location: Program Room 1

Join Mr. Dolton for drawing FUN and let your creativity soar! **Registration required.**



AT THE LIBRARY

BabyPalooza

Mondays | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

January 6, 27

February 3, 10, 24

For ages birth-23 months

Location: Program Room 3

Stories, songs, and playtime with Miss Nora!

Weekly registration required.

Family Storytime

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

January 7, 8, 14, 15, 28, 29

February 4, 5, 11, 12, 25, 26

For 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 grownups are encouraged to actively engage and participate during the program. Register for either Tuesday or Wednesday each week. **Weekly registration required.**

Saturday Family Storytime

Saturday, January 25 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 22 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

For 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.**

Yoga Storytime

Thursday, January 23 | 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Thursday, February 20 | 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 a towel to use. **Registration required.**

Stories for School Kids

Tuesday, January 28 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Thursday, February 25 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Ages 6-9

Location: Program Room 2

Join us for longer stories, more complex crafts, and fun activities. **Registration required.**

Pajamarama

Tuesday, February 11 | 6:30 to 7 p.m.

For families of 2-8 year olds

Location: Program Room 1

Grab a stuffed friend and join Miss Michelle for stories, songs, and a craft at the library! Come in your pajamas and slippers if you like. **Registration required.**

kids EVENTS

Builders' Challenge: Candyland Gumdrop Tower Monday, January 6 | 1 to 1:45 p.m.

For ages 6-9

How high can you build a tower with only candy and toothpicks? Check out this sweet engineering challenge where we learn about structural integrity.



Registration required.

Builders' Challenge: Makey Makey for Beginners Wednesday, January 8 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Ages 8-12

Location: Tech Lab

Join us to have fun learning about circuits while exploring with *Makey Makey!* *Makey Makey* is an electrical kit that turns everyday objects into touchpads to control computer programs.

Registration required.

Builders' Challenge: Lego

Thursday, January 16 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 13 | 6:30 to 7:30 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.

Make a Wild Robot

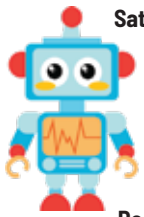
Saturday, January 18 | 10 to 11:15 a.m.

Ages 8-12

Location: Program Room 1

Design and construct your own robot out of cardboard, markers, and screws. Add a small motor and watch your robot dance!

Registration required.



Little STEAMers

Friday, January 31 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Friday, February 28 | 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Ages 3-5 with caregiver

Location: Program Room 1

Preschoolers are naturally curious and introducing them to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) at an early age can be both fun and educational. Join us every month with your preschooler to discover a new STEM activity.

Registration required.

Coding Concepts with Ozobots

Saturday, February 15 | 10 to 10:45 a.m.

Grades 3-6

Location: Program Room 2

Learn to arrange color commands to get your team's Ozobot to the finish line first.

Registration required.

Builders' Challenge: Snap Circuits

Tuesday, February 18 | 4:30 to 5 p.m.

Grades K-3

Location: Program Room 1

Build a snap-together safe electric current to make a light bulb light up or a fan spin.

Registration required.

The Meet Up

Monday, January 6 | 5 to 5:45 p.m.

Monday, February 3 | 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.

Kool Kids' Graphic Novel Club

Thursday, January 9 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Thursday, February 6 | 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Ages 7-12

Location: Program Room 1

Share your favorite graphic novel and maybe find a new one! Draw your own graphics and decide what books we want to read for our next meeting.

Registration required.



Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Saturday, January 11 to

Tuesday, January 14

Ages 2-8

Location: Children's Desk

Drop off a stuffed animal for a sleepover at the library! Bring your stuffed friend beginning Saturday, January 11 and no later than 2 p.m. on Monday, January 13. Then join us for special storytime on Tuesday, January 14, 6:30-7 p.m.

Children receive a photo collage of the sleepover at storytime. Limit one stuffed animal per child.

Registration required.



Chess Club

Wednesday, January 15 | 6:15 to 7:15 p.m.

Wednesdays, February 5, 19 | 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.

Homeschool Hive

Friday, January 24 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Friday, February 21 | 10 to 11 a.m.

Ages 5-12 with families

Location: Program Room

Join us to explore rotating science and arts activities. Depending on child's age, some activities may require the assistance of a caregiver.

Registration required.

Read to a Dog

Saturday, February 8

9:30 to 11 a.m.

Early Readers

Location: Program Room 3

Make a 15-minute reservation for your child to practice their reading skills by reading to Simon, a patient and lovable dog. Register 1 family with up to 2 children per session. **Registration required.**



Puzzles & Games Get-Together

Thursday, February 13 | 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Grades K-5

Location: Program Room 3

Join us for a casual get-together to meet friends or make new ones! Play games and put together fun puzzles. **Drop-in.**

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.

Genre Quest!

Ongoing

Elementary School Readers

Location: Children's Desk

Looking for your next reading adventure? Then join us for Genre Quest, our newest 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?

CREATIVE STUDIO

An HAPL Card is required for Creative Studio Programs

Bouncing Frog Paper Craft

Saturday, January 18 | 1 to 3:00 p.m.

Ages 10 and up

Location: Creative Studio

Hip hop into the new year with this fun interactive paper craft that bounces with paper. **Registration required.**

3D Printed Heart Puzzle

Saturday, January 25 | 1 to 3:00 p.m.

Ages 10 and up

Location: Creative Studio

It's a toy! It's a puzzle! Try your luck in assembling a 3D printed Heart puzzle. **Registration required.**

Hogwarts House Banners

Saturday, February 8 | 1 to 3:00 p.m. or

Saturday, February 22 | 1 to 3:00 p.m.

For Teens and adults

Location: Creative Studio

Join us for a magical crafting session! In this program, you'll learn how to use the Cricut Heat Press to create your own Hogwarts house banner.

Whether you're a brave Gryffindor, clever Ravenclaw, loyal Hufflepuff, or ambitious Slytherin, take home a custom banner that proudly displays your house pride. For teens and adults. All materials provided—just bring your creativity! Register for only one Saturday. **Registration required.**



“ INCH BY INCH , BELOVED HEAD OF PROGRAMMING & OUTREACH



Pamela Kampwerth, Head of Programming & Outreach who is set to retire in 2025, poses in front of the Art on Display Hallway.

By Aris Sherwood, Head of Marketing

When Pamela Kampwerth first started at the Huntley Area Public Library, she worked part-time in the Youth-Services Department, mostly working at the reference desk and helping with programs and Storytimes. Now, 21 years later, she currently serves as the Head of Programming and Outreach, overseeing programming and the local history department, as well as the Friends Foundation staff liaison, and volunteer program coordinator.

Soon, Kampwerth will add 'retiree' to her bio, as she is set to retire in February of 2025.

"I have very mixed feelings about it, because I love the library and I love the people," said Kampwerth during an interview in early October, which just so happened to be the day the job posting for the new Head of Programming went live. "I like the interaction every day with staff and with patrons. I enjoy that, so I will miss some of that."

Kampwerth was born and raised in a small town in Iowa, and found herself living in Omaha (Nebraska), Minneapolis (Minnesota), and Woodstock (Illinois), where she met her husband, Darrell, and eventually settled in Huntley, Illinois, and has lived here since 1986, living on Hamilton Farms and raising two kids.

She loves to garden, hike, paddle board, and "walk and talk" - going for a walk with a friend and chatting. She is also a volunteer for the McHenry County

Emergency Management Agency, where she specifically helps with ground search and rescue.

But most of the time, you can find her at the Huntley Area Public Library, helping with the Friends Foundation book sales, giving tours to new Volunteers, assisting with programs, or aiding the local history department.

"It varies," Kampwerth said, when asked about her day-to-day schedule. "Like today, I already answered a question about volunteering at the library, and I responded to somebody who had a donation for a holiday basket. So, the day varies."

And varies it does. At the time of writing, the Friends Foundation are working on their Holiday Basket fundraiser, so Kampwerth is assisting with that. There was a Halloween Party earlier in the day, so she checked in to make sure the programmers had everything they needed and made sure the AV equipment worked, which she does every day. Her office is nestled right in the Volunteer office, which sees different volunteers in-and-out throughout the day, so she'll check in with them and respond to any Volunteering inquiries. The day before, she assisted with two Local History presentations, one at the library, and one at one of Del Webb's Sun City neighborhoods.

For 21 years, Kampwerth has worn many hats. In 2009, after working part-time in the youth department, she was hired full-time as the Volunteer Coordinator and Friends Liaison, where she helped the Friends, Foundation become a 501(c)(3) charity and eventually started overseeing the Local History department.

Right before the COVID-19 pandemic, she became Head of Circulation for a period, before finally becoming the Head of Programming & Outreach in 2022, where she still serves as the Friends Foundation liaison, Volunteer Coordinator, and supervises the Local History Department.

"I became Head of Programming when the library expanded during the building project, when we expanded to the three program rooms, and the Tech Lab, Creative Studio, and Recording Studio were added," she notes.

While reflecting on her career here at the library and her current duties, she has many favorite parts, like seeing the stats at the end of every month of how many people have come into the library to go into a program and seeing how many people in our community we reach and offer a program that they are interested in. She also enjoys meeting all the community members, from communicating with outside groups that use the library's program rooms and meeting Volunteers, to travelling across Huntley to give library presentations with the Local History & Marketing departments, respectively.

LIFE'S A CINCH™

SET TO RETIRE IN 2025 AFTER YEARS OF DEDICATION



Kampwerth tends to Corner Books.

tenure at the library. One event that stands out the most was a Harry Potter event held at a local church. "That was a lot of fun to be a part of that, so that was a highlight" she remarks.

She also mentions when the library celebrated its 20th and 25th anniversaries and getting to participate in the building project and helping to review all the furniture choices.

"Probably the two biggest highlights were when the Friends (Foundation) reached \$1 million, and when the new building opened," she said. "When we made the connection, and we were able to open - everything into the new and the old was done. That ribbon cutting, I was very excited to be able to do that for the new building. And then when the Recording Studio opened, that was a major part of that project, and that also felt good"

Frank Novak, Director of the Huntley Area Public Library, is especially going to miss Kampwerth.

"Throughout the time that I have known Pamela, I have found her to be thoughtful, conscientious, and proactive," said Novak. "Her work ethic is unparalleled, and she leads by example. While driven in the workplace, she continually upholds the values associated with the library's family-first culture. I know I speak for many when I say that Pamela will be missed after she retires. She has been a positive force as a library employee, and her departure will leave a hole in the fabric of all that we do here."

There is no denying that Kampwerth has made her mark on the Huntley Area Public Library. So, what makes now the right time to retire?

But she does enjoy working with the Friends Foundation a lot.

"I was very proud when we reached the \$1 million milestone last November," she said. "And that we continue to raise funds, raising about \$60,000 a year for the library...half of that comes from Corner Books and book sales."

And, of course, she's had some especially favorite moments throughout her



Kampwerth in front of the fireplace with decorations placed by her.

"Because I'm old," she jokes. "No, it's because my husband is retiring also, and we're looking forward to spending time with our grandchildren and traveling. I think that's what every retiree says."

She will still be involved in the library in some capacity - this is her home library, after all.

"I will still be here. I am a lifetime Friends member; I can attend programs... and I don't have to worry about it. Just walk in and sit down."

Before she officially retires, she will be helping the next Head of Programming & Outreach in the training and onboarding process, teaching a role that, in truth, Kampwerth created herself. While the search continues to find the next person to fill Kampwerth's ridiculously large shoes, she has some advice - a lesson that she is going to take with her when she leaves.

"I've always said, if I've learned anything here, it's 'inch by inch, life's a cinch,'" she said. "I think what I've learned is, when there's a big project, just break it down and work at the steps. That goes for programming, for Local History, for Friends, Volunteers, everything. Just look at the big picture and take little steps to get to where you need to be."

Minecraft Free Play

Fridays | 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

February 7, 14, 21, 28

Ages 10 and up

Location: Tech Lab

Play Minecraft in Survival Mode Staff monitored.

Registration required.

Minecraft for Beginners Free Play

Thursdays | 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

January 9, 16, 23, 30

February 6, 13, 20, 27

Ages 7 and up

Location: Tech Lab

Play Minecraft in the Tech Lab. Our Technology Trainer will be on

hand to get players started and monitor the play. **Registration**

required.

Help with Word, Excel or PowerPoint

Wednesdays in January and December | 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Adults

Location: Tech Lab

Register for the session and indicate what topic you would like help with by choosing from the drop-down menu. Please register for only one session per week and choose only one topic per session.

Registration required.

3D Modeling

Tuesday, January 7 | 10 a.m.

Thursday, January 9 | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 11 | 10 a.m.

Tuesday, January 14 | 10 a.m.

Thursday, January 16 | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 18 | 10 a.m.

Ages 10 and up

Location: Tech Lab

Learn how to do basic 3D modeling using the free program,

Tinkercad. Classes will be approximately one hour long. **Registration**

required.

Photo Editing with GIMP

Tuesday, January 21 | 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 23 | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 25 | 10 a.m.

Tuesday, January 28 | 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 31 | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 1 | 10 a.m.

Adults

Location: Tech Lab

Learn how to edit photos using the free software GIMP. **Registration**

required.

Photo Editing with Snapseed (Smartphone App)

Tuesday, February 4 | 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 6 | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 8 | 10 a.m.

Tuesday, February 11 | 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 13 | 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 15 | 10 a.m.

Adults

Location: Tech Lab

Learn how to edit photos using the free software Snapseed. You must have the app downloaded to your phone (iPhone or Android) before class. **Registration**

required.

10-Jan/Feb 2025-The Whole Story

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT

An HAPL Card is required to book an appointment

Book a Librarian

Need some help using library resources on your laptop, tablet, or smartphone? Book a one-to-one session and we will help you download eBooks, eAudiobooks, magazines, music, or movies from our library collections. We can also demonstrate our online catalog and other digital resources. Please call the Information Desk at 847.669.5386 and press 3 to schedule an appointment.

Adult one-on-one Computer Classes

Learn mouse skills, computer basics, internet basics, or email (one-hour sessions). Please call 847.669.5386 & press 3 to make an appointment.

Creative Studio Appointments

Need to laminate something? Have a 3D printer project you want to print? Make an appointment with Alex to use the studio equipment to complete a project. Contact Alex at: 847.669.5386 ext. 268 or awyman@huntleylibrary.org. For a list of the equipment, you will have access to during your appointment please visit huntleylibrary.org/creative-studio-appointments.

Digital Conversion Appointments

Digital Conversion Appointment Equipment available: Audio Cassette and LP to a digital format. Kodak Scanza Film scanner, and Epson Photo Scanner. VHS converter as well. Smaller VHS is possible, however, if you still have your camcorder and cords that will make it easier. It is also possible to convert 8mm reels. Bring your own USB drive 16-32gb. Matthew will be available to help you start your digital conversion. There is a two-hour time limit for the conversions. Make an appointment by contacting Matthew at: 847.669.5386 ext. 269 or mwhisenhunt@huntleylibrary.org. Appointments are AVAILABLE at these times: Thursday | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays | 1 to 3 p.m.

Recording Studio

The library's recording studio offers you the opportunity to record interviews or a podcast, record music, take photos using the greenscreen, or a variety of other possibilities.

Talk to our Recording Studio Technician, Joe, about your project.

jklaw@huntleylibrary.org or 847.669.5386 ext. 274

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Dungeons and Dragons: Monday Quest

Every Other Monday

Monday, January 6, 20 | 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Monday, February 3, 17 | 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

For teens and adults

Location: Program Room 3

Players may join the quest at any time. Please register for only one of the quests. **Registration**

Dungeons and Dragons: Wednesday Quests

January 8, 15, 22, 29 | 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

February 5, 12, 19, 26 | 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For 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.



General Meetings

No January General Meeting

Friday, February 21 | 11 a.m.

Adults

Location: Program Room 2 & 3

Program: Trivia!

Chocolate Treats for all who attend. Please register for the program so we know how many to expect.

Baubles & Bling Fundraiser

Saturday, February 8

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ages 5 and up

Location: Program Room 1

Like new jewelry, purses and bling! Prices start at \$2.00

Shop for vintage, costume and trendy accessories.

Sale will include jewelry, purses and bags, and scarves.



March Book Sale

Saturday, March 15

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 16

Noon to 4 p.m.

Sunday Only • \$10 Bag Sale or 2 for \$15

All Ages

Location: Program Rooms 2 & 3

Friends Members Only Sale: Friday, March 14, 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.

Make it Your New Year's

Resolution to Join the Friends in 2025

Remember, lifetime members don't need to renew! Not a member? Join us in 2025 and be a part of this dynamic organization that supports the library. Complete the membership application form available at the library or visit our website at: www.huntleylibraryfriends.org.

Individuals, \$10; Family Membership, \$15; Book Lovers, \$50; Lifetime Membership, \$100; Corporate Lifetime Membership, \$250

BOOK DONATIONS

Best time to Drop-off Items:
Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

We encourage patrons who would like assistance unloading donations to please call ahead.

Contact Pamela Kampwerth: 847.669.5386 ext. 228
We accept donations of gently used books, CDs and DVDs in their original packaging, new textbooks (within the last five years) and new magazines in good condition.

Please do not include other items with your donations!

Due to the current marketplace, we are no longer able to accept:

- Cassette tapes, VHS tapes, electronics, or LPs
- Moldy or wet books or books that have been stored in damp areas
- Encyclopedias
- Magazines or textbooks older than five years
- Newspapers
- Journals, used coloring or activity books, etc.



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.

Learn More about the Friends
huntleylibraryfriends.org

Information about book sales, meeting dates, fundraisers, membership forms, donation forms, and more can be found on our website.



Thank you for helping the Friends raise \$4,500 during our 2024 Holiday Basket Raffle!

Tickets sales were amazing this year, and the Friends appreciate your support in our mission to raise funds for the library.

Special thanks to the following sponsors who generously donated items for the holiday baskets.

- Brunch Cafe', Huntley*
- Butcher on the Block*
- Copper Barrel on State, Hampshire*
- DeFiore Funeral and Cremation Service*
- Faubl Family Dentistry*
- FNBO, Huntley*
- Jameson's Charhouse, Del Webb*
- Jewel of Huntley*
- Meijer of Algonquin*
- Morkes Chocolates*
- Patrick Michael Jewelers*
- Rookies, Huntley*
- Sew Hop'd Brewery and Taproom*
- Trader Joe's of Algonquin*
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ART ON DISPLAY

The Art on Display Gallery features artwork by local artists. The exhibits are on display for one month.



**LOCAL ARTISTS ARE WELCOME TO DISPLAY THEIR ARTWORK. IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW
WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SHARING THEIR ART WITH US, PLEASE CONTACT SAMANTHA AT
SANDERSON@HUNTLEYLIBRARY.ORG OR 847.669.5386 EXT. 225 FOR MORE INFORMATION.**