

NWAL News from the Stacks

JULY

2026



Director's Letter: Help Shape the Future of the North Wales Area Library Take a 5-Minute Survey Today

Dear Friends of the North Wales Area Library,

As we look ahead to the future, we are beginning an important process: creating our next Strategic Plan. This plan will help guide our library's goals, services, programs, and priorities in the years to come — and we want your voice to be part of it.

Your opinion matters. Whether you visit the library every week, stop in occasionally, attend programs, borrow books, use digital resources, or simply value having a strong public library in our community, your feedback can help shape what comes next.

And the best part? It doesn't cost a thing — just about five minutes of your time.

We invite you to be our hero by scanning the QR code included on this page and sharing your thoughts with us. What do you love about the library? What could we improve?

What services, programs, or resources would you like to see in the future?

All submissions are anonymous, and every response helps us better understand the needs and hopes of our community. The North Wales Area Library belongs to all of us. With your help, we can make sure our future endeavors reflect the people we serve and the community we are proud to be part of.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to add your opinion to the mix. Your voice truly makes a difference.

Warmly,

Jennifer M. Koch

Director, North Wales Area Library

[Your Library, Your Voice: Strategic Planning Survey](#)

Have You Visited the North Wales Area Library Lately?

If you haven't stopped by the North Wales Area Library recently, you may be surprised by what you find. Spoiler alert: we are **more than books** — although we still love those too!

Since our renovations, the library has become an even cozier, livelier, and more welcoming place for the whole community. Looking for a comfy spot to curl up with a good book? We've got you. Need a peaceful corner to work on your memoir, your novel, your homework, or your master plan for world domination? Pull up a chair. Bring your coffee. Heck, bring us a latte — we certainly won't turn it down!

Need something extra quiet? Step into our **Zen Privacy Pod**, the perfect place to take a test, join a virtual meeting, study solo, or simply enjoy a little calm in your day.

And let's talk about our **Teen Scene** — because it has been jumping! Teens have been making great use of the big screen TV to work together on school projects, group presentations, creative ideas, and even small business plans. We love seeing that space filled with energy, collaboration, and big dreams.

Our **Children's Section** has also been buzzing with activity. Since the updates and the addition of some amazing new items for our youngest patrons, it has been full of little learners, readers, builders, explorers, and gigglers more often than not. And honestly? We wouldn't have it any other way.

So if it has been a while since your last visit, consider this your official invitation: come check out the improved North Wales Area Library today. Bring a friend, bring your family, bring your curiosity — and yes, bring your coffee.

We'll save you a cozy seat.



233 S Swartley St North Wales, PA 19454
215-699-5410



Visit our Website!

www.northwaleslibrary.org

Follow us on social media



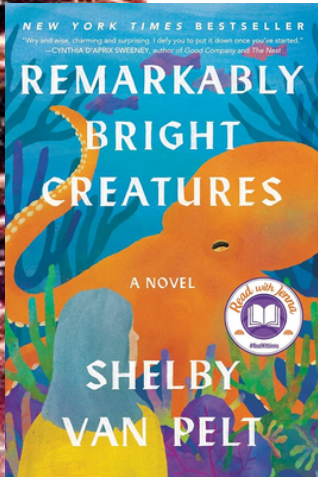
<https://www.facebook.com/NorthWalesAreaLibrary>



<https://www.instagram.com/northwalesarealibrary/>



If You Liked Remarkably Bright Creatures, Read...



If you loved *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt, you're not alone. This heartwarming favorite has charmed readers with its unforgettable characters, gentle humor, emotional depth, and, of course, one very wise octopus.

For your next great read, try one of these titles that offer the same blend of warmth, connection, healing, and memorable storytelling:

***A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman**

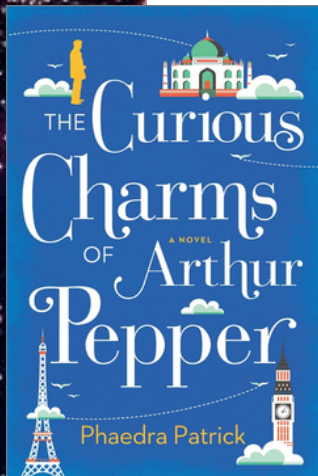
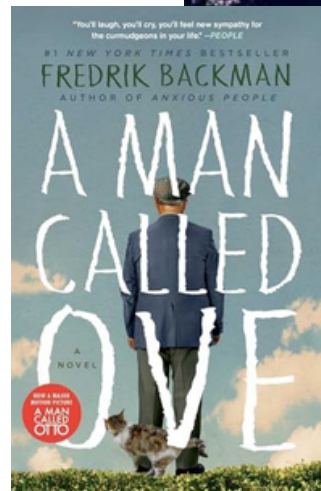
A grumpy widower's carefully ordered world is turned upside down by new neighbors in this funny, tender, and deeply human story about loneliness, love, and second chances.

Or

***The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick**

After discovering a mysterious charm bracelet that belonged to his late wife, Arthur Pepper sets off on a journey that reveals secrets, adventure, and a renewed sense of possibility.

We have both available at NWAL!





Sip & Read: A Drink Pairing for Remarkably Bright Creatures

This month's featured read, *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt, deserves a drink as charming, unexpected, and full of personality as Marcellus the octopus himself.

The Pairing: Blueberry Lemon "Ocean Breeze" Spritzer

Bright, refreshing, a little tart, and wonderfully blue, this drink is perfect for sipping while you dive into a story full of friendship, mystery, grief, healing, and one unforgettable eight-armed narrator.

Why It Works

The blueberry gives a nod to the deep blue sea, while lemon adds a sunny burst of hope — just like the novel's blend of tender emotion and gentle humor. The sparkling water brings a little fizz and fun, because let's be honest: Marcellus would never settle for boring.

How to Make It

Fill a glass with ice, then add:

- 2 tablespoons blueberry syrup or muddled blueberries
- A squeeze of fresh lemon juice
- Sparkling water or lemon-lime soda
- A few fresh blueberries
- Optional: a sprig of mint for garnish

Stir gently, sip slowly, and enjoy with a good book nearby.



Grown-Up Option

For readers 21 and older, add a splash of vodka, gin, or prosecco to turn your Ocean Breeze Spritzer into a book club-worthy cocktail.

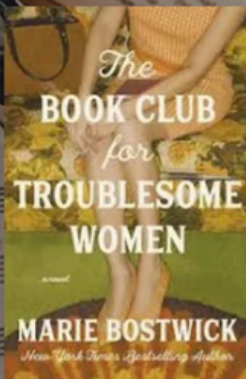


CIVIC AND SOCIAL
LITERACY

JULY 2026

Book Clubs

JOIN US. ALL ARE WELCOME.



AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

THE BOOK CLUB FOR TROUBLESOME WOMEN BY MARIE BOSTWICK - \$8.00

JULY 22ND @ 1 PM

EVENING BOOK CLUB

THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB BY RICHARD OSMAN \$8.00

JULY 21ST @ 7 PM



PLOT TWIST & POUR BOOK CLUB

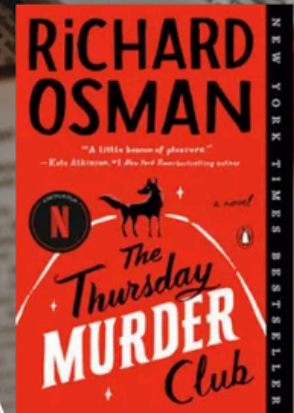
IT COULD HAVE BEEN HER BY LISA JEWELL

JULY 23RD - 6:00 PM

MYSTERY & MERLOT

THE IN CROWD BY CHARLOTTE VASSELL

JULY 9TH - 6:00 PM



Can You Decipher the Patriotic Message?

In 2026, the United States celebrates its 250th birthday! To honor this historic milestone, we've hidden a patriotic message using a simple number code.

Each number below stands for a letter of the alphabet:
A = 1, B = 2, C = 3 ... Z = 26

Now crack the code!

Secret Message:

8-1-16-16-25 / 250th / 2-9-18-20-8-4-1-25 / 1-13-5-18-9-3-1

Fun Fact: The United States will celebrate its 250th birthday on July 4, 2026. This milestone is called the **Semiquincentennial** — now that's a word worth practicing!



RPG MEETUP

MEETS THE 1ST AND 3RD
WEDNESDAYS OF EVERY
MONTH

STARTS AT 6PM

FROM BEGINNERS TO
NOVICES

SNACKS WILL BE
PROVIDED

DICE & CHARACTER SHEETS
PROVIDED



LOCATION:
233 SWARTLEY ST,
NORTH WALES, PA
19454



READ TO A SEEING EYE PUPPY



Join us every Thursday at 11:30am
all summer long
June 18th – August 20th

Drop in to practice your summer reading
skills by reading aloud to a future seeing
eye dog! Children will also learn about
puppy training, service dogs, and the
amazing volunteer puppy raising
community.

Perfect for young readers, animal lovers,
and curious kids of all ages.
No registration required, just drop by!

CIVIC AND SOCIAL
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HEALTH
LITERACY

PA FORWARD
STAR PROGRAM

CIVIC AND SOCIAL
LITERACY

Toddler Movement Class



July 1st @ 11am

Registration required for
each class!

All of our children's programs are
designed to be inclusive, welcoming
participants of all abilities. If you require
any accommodations, please don't
hesitate to reach out to us at
ethompson@northwaleslibrary.org.



233 S Swartley St
North Wales PA 19454
215-699-5410

www.northwaleslibrary.org

PICNIC

and A

MOVIE

JULY 1ST @ 12PM



MAKERSPACE

JULY 6TH, 13TH, 20TH,
27TH @ 5PM (AGES 6+)

- MAKE YOUR OWN HIEROGLYPIC NAME (JULY 6TH)
- BUILD A GREEK TEMPLE (JULY 13TH)
- SHIP ENGINEERING (JULY 20TH)
- STICK HORSE (JULY 27TH)

LEGO CLUB TUESDAY

JULY 7TH, 14TH, 21ST,
28TH @ 12PM.

AGES 4+
CHALLENGES
FOR EACH WEEK

LEGO

STEAM Play Group

AGES 1-5

JULY 7TH, JULY 14TH, JULY
21ST, JULY 28TH
@ 10:30AM



All of our children's programs are designed to be inclusive, welcoming participants of all abilities. If you require any accommodations, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at ethompson@northwaleslibrary.org.

Read, Explore, & Play!

Summer Sprouts with Miss Nicole

Story Times, Songs & Crafts

Ages
2-6

Friday's at 10:30 come in through side door while the main library is closed! NO Sprouts on July 3rd and July 10th while Miss Nicole is on vacation



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WORKSHOP

SparkK Initiative in collaboration with North Wales Library

CURIOUS YOUNG MINDS CAN EXPLORE THE EXCITING WORLD OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THIS INTERACTIVE CLASS LED BY DEVESH WAGHMARE, VICE PRESIDENT OF NORTH PENN HIGH SCHOOL'S AI CLUB. STUDENTS WILL LEARN HOW AI SHAPES THE TECHNOLOGY AROUND THEM—FROM VOICE ASSISTANTS TO VIDEO GAMES—THROUGH FUN DEMONSTRATIONS AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES. DESIGNED FOR GRADES 4–8, THIS CLASS MAKES BIG IDEAS SIMPLE, CREATIVE, AND INSPIRING.



JULY 11TH & 25TH GRADES 4-8

PLEASE BRING A LAPTOP TO UTILIZE DURING PROGRAMMING



Register online!

Email Nicole with questions at nskinner@northwaleslibrary.org

INFORMATION LITERACY

Kindergarten Prep Story Time

Play

Read Stories



Learn

Monday, July 13th, July 20th, and July 27th
at 11am (no class on July 6th)

registration required

Ages 3-6 only

Parents please stay in the library during storytime.
Any questions please contact Miss Nicole at nskinner@northwaleslibrary.org

All of our children's programs are designed to be inclusive, welcoming participants of all abilities. If you require any accommodations, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at ethompson@northwaleslibrary.org.



READ TO THE RESCUES

SATURDAY, JULY 11TH



1:30-3:30PM

This month we're working with Kitty Cottage

Kitty Cottage's Mission: We exist to rescue, nurture, and rehome cats while advocating for their well-being through education, community engagement, and compassionate care.

Come and read them your favorite book, this memory will live on forever.



Location: Community Room - 233 Swartley St, North Wales, PA 19454

Registration required, spots limited

They're accepting donations, anything helps;

- CARRIER SIZED BLANKETS
- LITTER
- CAT FOOD:
 - PURINA PRO PLAN KITTEN OR FANCY FEAST KITTEN WET AND DRY FOOD.



KITTY COTTAGE adoption center inc.



CIVIC AND SOCIAL LITERACY



Teen Plant & Bedazzle Night

July 17th - 6pm

Sign up Online!

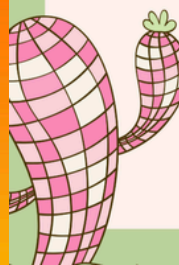
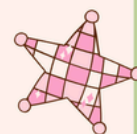
Limited to 10 kids

Join us for a fun and creative evening of plants, sparkle, and friends!

Bring your own item to bedazzle—or decorate one of our flower pots and take home a succulent to plant inside. Whether you're adding rhinestones to a water bottle, phone case, notebook, or creating a dazzling planter, there's plenty of room for creativity.

Special thanks to Holly Hill Health Foods for generously donating the succulents for this program!

Questions? Reach out to Nicole: nskinner@northwaleslibrary.org



July 21st @ 1pm UNEARTH A STORY

CRAFT SESSION FOR
KIDS 6-9 YEARS OLD
No registration
Necessary

233 SWARTLEY ST.
NORTH WALES, PA
19454



CIVIC AND SOCIAL
LITERACY



Read To A Goat

BASIC
LITERACY



PRACTICE YOUR SUMMER READING WITH A
GOAT! JOIN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY
4H GOAT CLUB ON JULY 24TH AT 11:30 TO
PRACTICE YOUR SUMMER READING! SIGN
UP ONLINE! SPOTS ARE LIMITED

REACH OUT TO NICOLE WITH QUESTIONS:
NSKINNER@NORTHWALESlibrary.org



Toddler Art

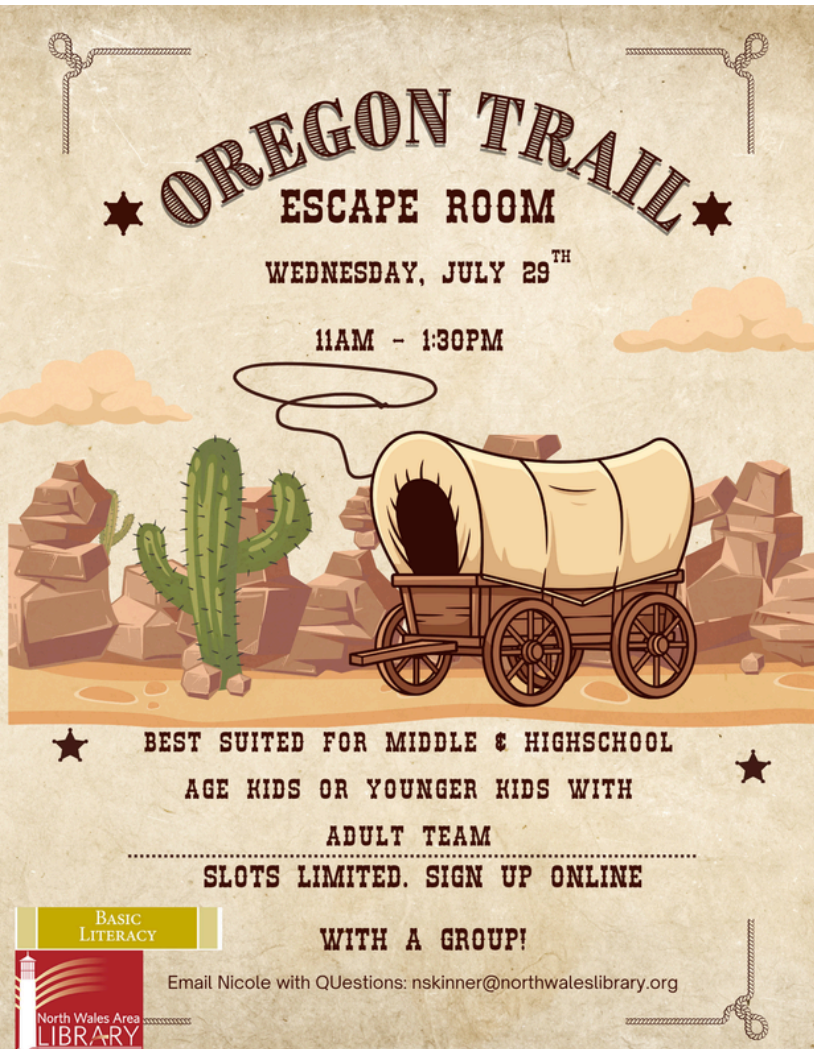
Ages 1-5
Wednesday, July
22nd @ 11am

North Wales Area
LIBRARY

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*Registration required
and will be posted on our
website below.
www.northwaleslibrary.org

Great Motor Skill
Craft for Toddlers!



OREGON TRAIL ESCAPE ROOM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29TH
11AM - 1:30PM

BEST SUITED FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL
AGE KIDS OR YOUNGER KIDS WITH
ADULT TEAM
SLOTS LIMITED. SIGN UP ONLINE

WITH A GROUP!

Email Nicole with Questions: nskinner@northwaleslibrary.org

North Wales Area
LIBRARY

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girl scouts
of eastern
pennsylvania

Your Year of Friendship

- ✓ Sing silly songs as new friendships blossom.
- ✓ Earn badges by learning new skills.
- ✓ Go camping and explore the outdoors.

Try and Explore.
Come and Learn
about Girl Scouts!

Get to Know the Girl Scouts

Friday, July 31st at 1:30 PM
North Wales Library
233 SwartleySt, NorthWales, PA 19454

Curious about Girl Scouts? Join us at the library for a fun introduction to Girl Scouting, including a hands-on craft and experiencing some Girl Scout traditions. Learn how your girl can make friends, try new things, and get started in a local troop!
email Ann at amumenthaler@gsep.org with questions

Scan to join



© 2025 Girl Scouts of the United State of America. All Rights Reserved.

Registration Required...

Sci-Fi Book Club

your Next Adventure Is
Just a Book Away.




August 20th @6:00 PM
North Wales Area Library
1st Read: 5th Season
by N.K. Jemisin

Book 1 of The Broken Earth Series

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=olZ2TGqj60aUpstTaL2DknPzSDaoqGpItAMnOWJcFaBUNFBUSVNSQk9OUzRG-MzVOU1NJVTNSOUIGVC4u>

www.northwalesarealibrary.org

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Adult Programming at North Wales Area Library

Genealogy

Climbing Your Family Tree: Genealogy for the beginner.

September 10 - 1:00 PM

Using library FREE resources like
Ancestry and Heritage Quest you will:

- Learn to build a family tree
- Research vital statistics
- Organize your documents

@northwalesarealibrary



North Wales Area LIBRARY CIVIC AND SOCIAL LITERACY

CIVIC AND SOCIAL LITERACY

North Wales Area LIBRARY

Join us for Library Quest: Time Travelers Edition

Travelers Edition — Benjamin Franklin and the Secret Powers of the Library, an interactive adventure where kids will complete challenges, solve clues, explore hidden library powers, and help a visitor from history discover what today's library can do.

Participants will:

- Solve a time-travel mystery
- Complete hands-on activity stations
- Discover library resources beyond books
- Unlock secret clue words
- Earn their first official Library Quest badge

Your mission: Explore. Learn. Discover.

Registration:
<https://genius.com/go/10C0A4FABAC2FA3FEC07-64641009-library>

Create. Connect.
Date: September 19
Time: 1:00 - 2:15 PM
Location: North Wales Area Library
Ages: 8-12



CALENDAR

Children/Teen Calendar

See other side for General Calendar

July 2026

** Events with an asterisk next time them require registration which can be found on our website

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 *Toddler Movement 11am *Movie and a Picnic 12pm	2 *Sensory time for all abilities children 10am Read to A Seeing Eye Pup 11:30am	3	4 th of July Library Closed
5 *NWAL SummerCamp Egyptian Week	6 * Makerspace 5pm	7 Miss Vicki's Storytime 10am STEAM 10:30am Lego Club 12pm	8	9 Miss Erin's Story Time 11am Read to A Seeing Eye Pup 11:30am	10	11 Read to the Rescue 1:30pm *AI Program 3-4pm
12 *NWAL SummerCamp Greek Week Storytime at North Wales Farmers Market @ 9:15am	13 *Kindergarten Prep 11am * Makerspace 5pm	14 Miss Vicki's Storytime 10am STEAM 10:30am Lego Club 12pm	15	16 *Sensory time for all abilities children 10am Miss Erin's Story Time 11am Read to A Seeing Eye Pup 11:30am	17 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am *Teen Bedazzle/Plant night 6pm	18
19 Age of Exploration/Pirate Week	20 *Kindergarten Prep 11am * Makerspace 5pm	21 Miss Vicki's Storytime 10am STEAM 10:30am Lego Club 12pm Unearth A Story craft @ 1pm	22 *Toddler Art 11am	23 Miss Nicole's Story Time 11am Read to A Seeing Eye Pup 11:30am *Power of the Pen 6pm	24 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am *Read to A Goat 11:30am	25 *AI Program 3-4pm
26 Wild West Week	27 *Kindergarten Prep 11am * Makerspace 5pm	28 Miss Vicki's Storytime 10am STEAM 11am Lego Club 12pm	29 *Oregon Trail Escape Room 11-1pm	30 Miss Erin's Story Time 11am Read to A Seeing Eye Pup 11:30am	31 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am Get to Know GirlScouts 1:30pm	

General Calendar

See other side for Children/Teen

July 2026

** Events with an asterisk next time them require registration which can be found on our website

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Adult Sensory cinema and craft @ 1pm-3pm RPG Meet-up 6pm	2 Blood Drive 1-5pm	3 Canasta 12pm	4 th of July Library Closed
5	6 Mahjong 1pm	7 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm	8 Friends of the Library 6pm	9 Mystery & Merlot Book Club 6pm Upper Gwynedd Democrats 7pm	10 Canasta 12pm	11
12 Fiber Arts 1pm Mahjong 1pm	13	14 Liz Hanbidge Mobile Office 11:30am Mahjong/Canasta 12pm	15 RPG Meet-up 6pm	16	17 Canasta 12pm	18
19 Jayne's Cookbook Club 6pm Mahjong 1pm	20	21 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm Jayne's Evening Book Club 7pm	22 Adult Sensory cinema and craft @ 1pm-3pm Jayne's Daytime Book Club 1pm North Wales Library Board Meeting 6:30pm	23 Plot Twist & Pour 6pm	24 Canasta 12pm	25
26 Mahjong 1pm	27 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm	28	29	30	31 Canasta 12pm	