

February 2026

From the Director's Desk: Gratitude and Grand Events in 2026

A Heartfelt Thank You: First and foremost, we want to extend a sincere thank you to our incredible community. Your generosity during our year-end appeal has been truly inspiring. Because of your kindness and support, the North Wales Area Library can continue to be a vibrant, free resource for learning and connection. We simply could not write our story without you.

Save the Date:

6th Annual Taste of Montgomery:

Before the curtain rises on our gala, join us for a local favorite! **The 6th Annual Taste of Montgomery** returns to **St. Rose of Lima** on **April 9th**. Come sip, sample, and socialize with the best local vendors while supporting a great cause.

<https://givebutter.com/c/tUZStc>

2026 Page to Broadway Gala: Get ready for a standing ovation! We are thrilled to announce our 2026 signature event, the **Page to Broadway Gala**, taking place on **September 24th** at the historic **Joseph Ambler Inn**. We are bringing the magic of the "Great White Way" right to North Wales and are looking to partner with talented community members to provide dazzling entertainment for the evening.

<https://givebutter.com/c/BroadwayBoud>

Sponsorships: Opportunities are available now for businesses and individuals who want to take center stage in supporting the library.

Tickets are on sale NOW! Don't wait to secure your spot at the table.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at The North Wales Area Library in 2026!



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/>



LEADERSHIP - & - LEGACY

Hi there,

The Friends of the North Wales Library is a dedicated group of volunteers who help support library programs, collections, and special events through fundraising and advocacy. Our efforts make a meaningful difference for patrons of all ages. We invite community members to join the Friends of North Wales Library, attend meetings, or volunteer at upcoming events like the Used Book Sale, Hoagie Sale and Dine & Donate. Together, we help the library thrive.

For more information about the Friends of the Library Group, please contact Yvette Loftus, Secretary at besita@verizon.net

**From,
The Friends of NWAL Group**

We love & thank our local vendors who support the NWAL! Please check them out!



**STONE&KEY
CELLARS**



ten7brewing

Hello,

Serving as President of the North Wales Area Library has been a true honor and a role for which I am deeply grateful. Reflecting on my tenure, I feel a strong sense of pride in having been part of an institution that continues to be such a vital and welcoming presence in our community.

Over the course of my term, I gained a deeper appreciation for the many ways a library supports its patrons beyond lending books. The NWAL is a place of learning, connections, and belonging and its impact is felt across all ages and backgrounds. I was continually inspired by the dedication, flexibility, and professionalism of our library staff and volunteers, whose commitment ensured that the library remains responsive to community needs.

One of the most significant and rewarding accomplishments of my presidency was participating in the search for and selection of our new Library Director Jennifer Koch. Finding the right leader was a critical step for the future of the library, and I am confident that Jenn brings the vision, experience and enthusiasm needed to guide the NWAL forward.

I am especially thankful to my fellow board members for their collaboration, thoughtful discussion, and shared dedication to the library's mission. The progress we made together was the result of teamwork, mutual respect, and a genuine desire to serve our community well.

As I conclude my term as President, I am grateful to have had the opportunity to help move our library forward. I remain a committed supporter of the library and its continued growth.

Fondly,

Suzan Leonard, President, NWAL



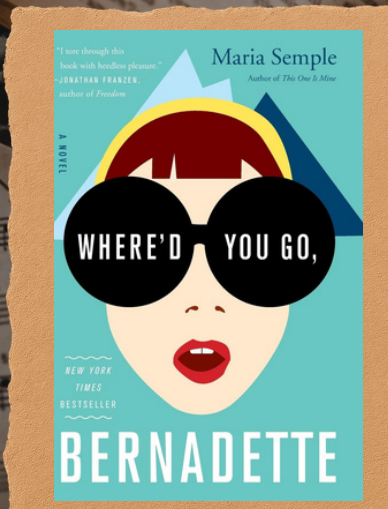


CIVIC AND SOCIAL LITERACY

FEBRUARY 2026

Book Clubs

BOOKS CAN BE PURCHASED STARTING AT \$10.

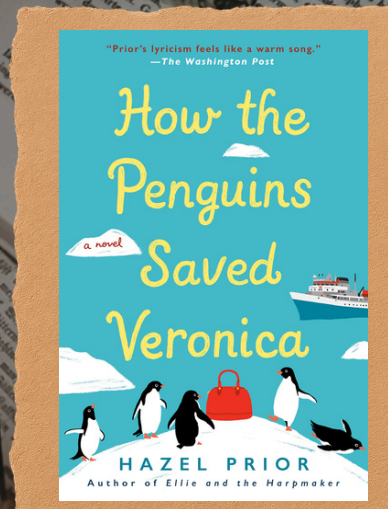


EVENING BOOK CLUB

WHERE'D YOU GO, BERNADETTE

BY MARIA SEMPLE

FEBRUARY 17TH @ 7:00PM

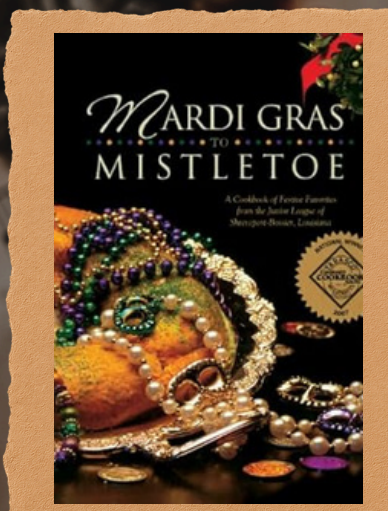


DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

HOW THE PENGUINS SAVED VERONICA

BY HAZEL PRIOR

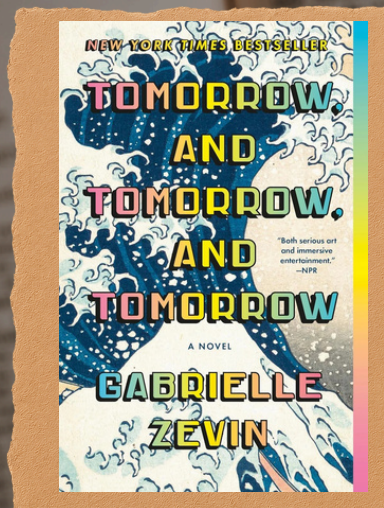
FEBRUARY 18TH @ 2:00PM



COOKBOOK CLUB

**MARDI GRAS TO MISTLETOE
(COMPILED RECIPES)**

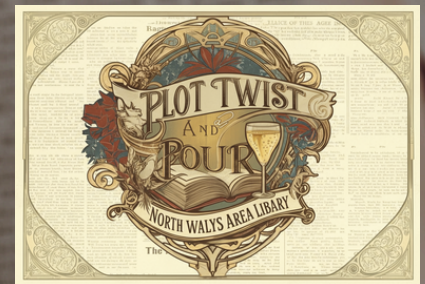
FEBRUARY 23RD @ 6:30PM



TOMORROW, TOMORROW, AND TOMORROW

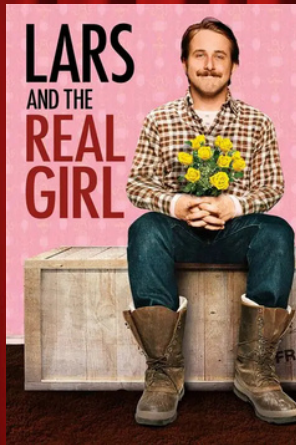
BY GABRIELLE ZEVIN

FEBRUARY 26TH @ 6:00PM



MOVIE MATINEE

FRIDAYS IN FEBRUARY



LARS AND THE REAL GIRL

February 6th
PG-13, 1 hr 46 min



DEAR JOHN

February 13th
PG-13, 1 hr 48 min



LETTERS TO JULIET

February 20th
PG, 1 hr 45 min



THE NOTEBOOK

February 27th
PG-13, 2 hr 3 min

Library staff share their favorite reads with the perfect drink to match
This month, our Director, Jennifer pairs a haunting folk horror tale
with two moody beverages that capture the book's chilling atmosphere.

The Pairing Shelf At NWAL



The Book: *Dark Sisters*
by Kristi DeMeester



In this unsettling exploration of sisterhood and survival, DeMeester weaves a dark tale of family secrets, cult rituals, and the dangerous bonds between women. When sisters are drawn into a mysterious community with sinister intentions, the line between devotion and destruction blurs. Perfect for fans of folk horror and atmospheric literary fiction, *Dark Sisters* will leave you questioning the price of belonging.

Genre: Folk Horror, Literary Fiction
Mood: Dark, atmospheric, unsettling
Content Note: Contains mature themes

🍷 **Blackberry Bramble Ritual**

A dark, earthy cocktail with a mysterious edge

Ingredients:

2 oz gin, 1 oz fresh lemon juice, ½ oz simple syrup, 1 oz blackberry liqueur

(Chambord), Fresh blackberries and a sprig of rosemary for garnish

Instructions:

Fill a rocks glass with crushed ice. Shake gin, lemon juice, and simple syrup with ice, then strain over the crushed ice. Slowly pour blackberry liqueur over the top to create a dark, layered effect. Garnish with blackberries and rosemary.

Why this pairing: The dark berry tones mirror the book's ominous atmosphere, while the herbal rosemary nods to the folk magic and ritual elements woven throughout the story.

Midnight Garden Spritz

A refreshing yet moody mocktail

Ingredients:

3 oz black tea (chilled), 2 oz grape juice, 1 oz fresh lemon juice, Sparkling water, Fresh thyme and frozen grapes for garnish

Instructions:

Combine chilled black tea, grape juice, and lemon juice in a glass with ice. Top with sparkling water. Garnish with a sprig of thyme and frozen grapes.

Why this pairing: The deep, dark color reflects the book's shadowy themes, while the herbal thyme connects to the natural, earthy folk horror elements that make this story so haunting.

— READ — THIS NEXT...



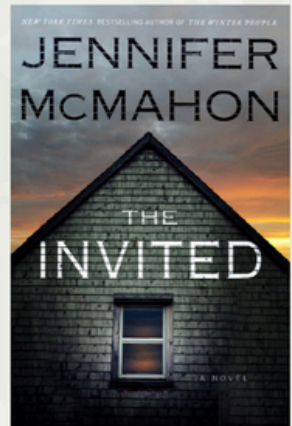
Some suggested next reads for you.

Loved *Dark Sisters* by Kristi DeMeester?

If the haunting folk horror and complex sisterhood in *Dark Sisters* captivated you, try this read next:

The Invited by Jennifer McMahon

A couple building their dream home on land with a dark history finds themselves haunted by the ghosts of accused witches. Like *Dark Sisters*, this novel weaves folk magic, female persecution, and supernatural dread into an atmospheric tale. Why you'll love it: Folk horror roots, historical witch trials, and women's stories demanding to be heard.

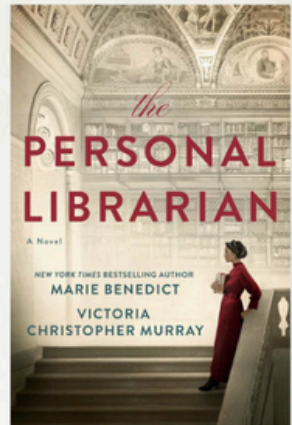


Loved *The Stolen Queen* by Fiona Davis?

A modern-day curator at the Met Cloisters investigates the mysterious disappearance of an Egyptian artifact while uncovering the dangerous secrets of the female pharaoh female Pharaoh Hathor-Kare. try this next:

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray

Follow Belle da Costa Greene, J.P. Morgan's personal librarian, who hid her African American heritage to become one of the most powerful women in New York's art world. Like *The Stolen Queen*, this novel combines art history, secrets, and a woman navigating a world that underestimates her. Why you'll love it: Art world intrigue, hidden identities, and a fierce woman protecting what she's built.



Love Letters & Legacy

Discovering family history, one story at a time.

A Monthly Series with our Director...using her own family history

My grandmother passed this year and I was gifted their early love notes.

This Month's Letter: March & April 1947 - Young Love

What I Learned: Even small details in family letter reveal so much about daily life, relationships, and the values of previous generations. This letter showed me.

This Month's Challenge: Use Ancestry at NWAL

Simple genealogy task -"Find one ancestor's military record" or "Discover where your grandparents were in 1947"

In 1947, as the world moved out of the shadow of World War II and into the uncertainty of the Cold War, a quiet love story began to unfold through the mail. My grandfather, an 18-year-recruit, was being transferred between Naval bases across the United States, while my grandmother, just 15 years old, waited back home.

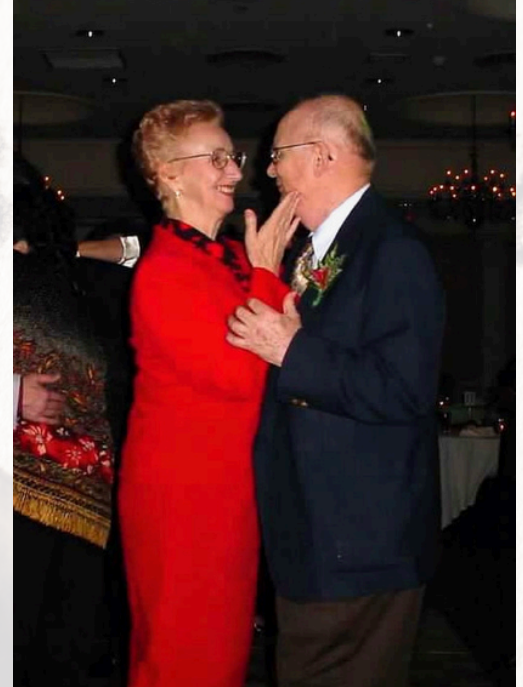
Pouring over their letters has revealed small, intimate details I never knew. I discovered that my grandmother, whom I'd always known as "Jean", originally spelled her name "Jeanne". Likewise, my grandfather, "Edmund" or "Ed" to our family, was called "Eddie" or "Edge" by his sweetheart. Their deep affection was evident even in the earliest days of their relationship. In March of 1947, he wrote to his :

"My Dearest Jeanne,

I'm writing this letter because I seem to have you on my mind all the time.

Even though you are only 15 and I have only been out with you twice I get to like you more and more. In a couple of more weeks I can truthfully say that I love you and mean it."

She was just as captivated, writing back to her:



cont. pg. 8

Love Letters & Legacy

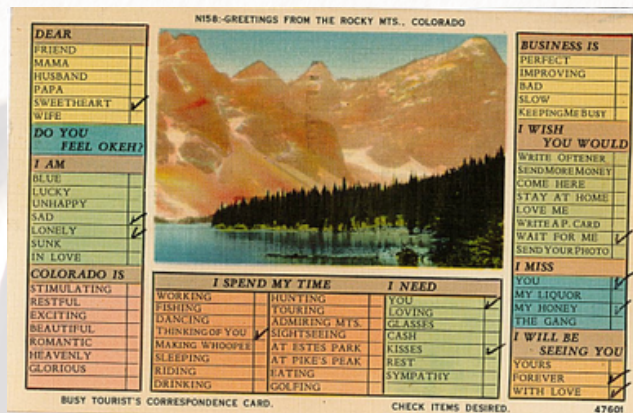
Discovering family history, one story at a time.

“Eddie Darling,

I just finished reading your letter Honey and I'm getting lonesome for you again, although that is nothing queer to me. I don't know if you'll believe me or not but I was lonesome for you already after the first night we met.”

Beyond their budding romance, the letters have unearthed other fascinating family history. I can trace my grandfather's journey across the country, and I learned that my grandmother attended Reading High School—the very same school my paternal grandparents attended! It gives me pause to imagine them all walking the same hallways, a realization that adds a tantalizing layer of potential drama to our family story.

The letters also paint a vivid, and relatable, picture of teenage life at the time. Despite the passionate words flying back and forth, Jeanne was still a fifteen-year-old with strict parents and was often grounded—a feeling I remember all too well from my own youth.



Postcard sent by E.K. to J. R. stationed in Colorado, June 1947.

Monday April 28, 1947

Eddie Darling,
I just finished reading your letter Honey and I'm getting lonesome for you again. Although that's nothing queer to me, I don't know if you'll believe me or not but I was lonesome for you already after the first night we met.

We certainly had fun last Sunday, didn't we? Every time I think of it, I start to cry. I never thought my father could be that mean. I meant what I said when I told you to take another girl out because there's no sense in your wasting your short time at home here by sitting at home moping over me when



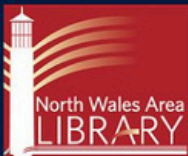
Jeanne R. 1947

3/17/41

My dearest Jeanne
I'm writing this letter because I seem to have you on my mind all the time.
Even though you are only 15 and I have only been out with you twice I get to like you more and more. In a couple more weeks I think I can truthfully say that I love you and mean it.
I would like to go steady with you as long as I can but as you know ~~that~~ what will come a day when I'll have to say goodbye for a couple of years if you go to be very hard to find and I wish that time would never come.
In my letter here after I'm going to try to make it something that I can always remember and I hope you will remember them too.
That little phrase I put on your picture isn't quite complete maybe someday you will get to see the rest of it. I think I'll have to say
all my love
Ed

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 4TH @ 5:15PM



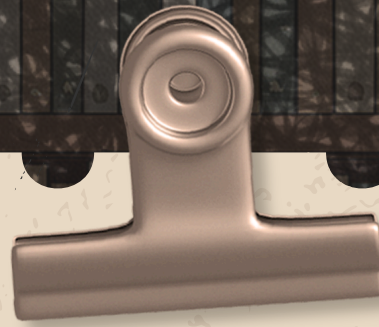
PA **FORWARD**[®]
GOLD LEVEL LIBRARY
STAR PROGRAM

CIVIC AND SOCIAL
LITERACY

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.



● REGISTRATION REQUIRED ●



WE ARE CLOSED

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH
RENOVATIONS**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH
RENOVATIONS**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH
PRESIDENT'S DAY**



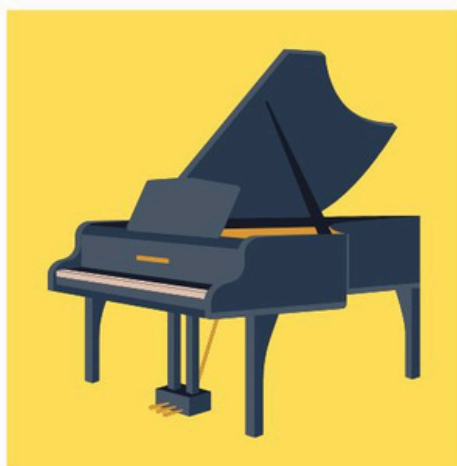
Get into the Mardi Gras spirit at North Wales Area Library and learn all about the musical traditions of the Crescent City and their influence on popular music around the world!

NEW ORLEANS:

AMERICA'S MOST IMPORTANT MUSICAL CITY

AN INTERACTIVE CONCERT LECTURE PRESENTED BY NORTH WALES AREA LIBRARY

Through musical analysis, live musical performance, and audience participation, the Patrick Kerssen Trio will help bring some Mardi Gras up to Pennsylvania!



FEATURING THE PATRICK KERSSSEN TRIO

**FEBRUARY 13TH,
2026 6:00-7:15**

**MORE INFORMATION AT
[HTTPS://WWW.NORTHWALESLIBRARY.ORG](https://www.northwaleslibrary.org) AND
PATRICKKERSSENPIANO.COM**



THOUGHTFUL THURSDAY

2ND OF A SIX MONTH SERIES

🇺🇸 IT'S THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICA! 🇺🇸



DO YOU HAVE AN ANCESTOR WHO FOUGHT IN THE
REVOLUTIONARY WAR?

✦ HISTORY BUFF? ✦ GENEALOGY ENTHUSIAST? ✦ LOVED
KEN BURNS' AMERICAN REVOLUTION SERIES?

 SESSION: FEBRUARY 19, 2026

④6:30 PM IN OUR COMMUNITY ROOM

TOPIC 2: REDISCOVERED PATRIOTS

TOO OFTEN THE STORIES WE HEAR ABOUT THE SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR ONLY INCLUDE THE WHITE MAN. DID BLACKS, NATIVE AMERICANS, AND MELUNGEON'S FIGHT IN THE WAR? WHY? LEARN HOW THEY WERE TREATED. DISCOVER WHICH SIDE THEY FOUGHT FOR. UNCOVER STORIES OF SOME EXCEPTIONAL BLACKS, MULATTO'S, NATIVE AMERICANS AND MELUNGEON'S WHO SERVED IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

PRESENTED BY DR. SUSANNE JOHNSTON

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE \$20 DR. JOHNSTON'S HANDY
REVOLUTIONARY GUIDE

STEP BACK IN TIME AND RELIVE
HISTORY LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

WWW.NORTHWALESLIBRARY.ORG

NORTH WALES AREA LIBRARY

LOVE & PASSION

NOT HERE!!!

*Roses are Red &
Violets are Blue*

I'd Still Rather Play Trivia than Date You!

TRIVIA W/QUIZZO GUYS!

FRIDAY

20TH

FEB, 2026

BYOB

**LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED
TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED**

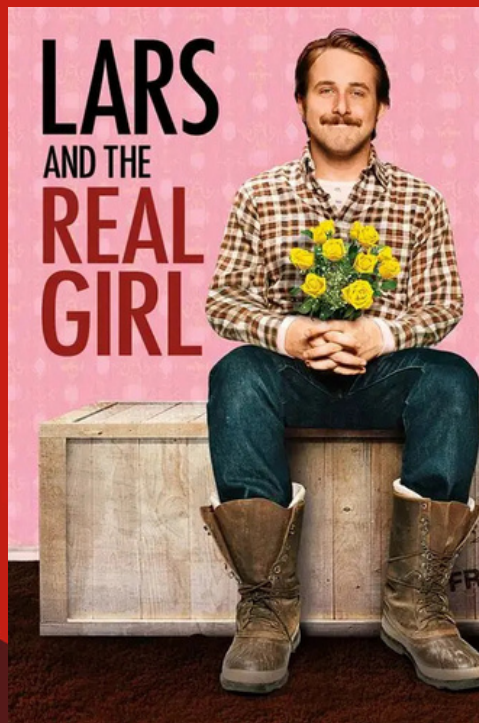
FREE PARKING AREA, DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

NWAL - 233 S. SWARTLEY ST. NORTH WALES

<https://givebutter.com/LcgTwf>

TEEN MOVIE NIGHT

FEATURED FILM:



FREE
ENTRY

CIVIC AND SOCIAL
LITERACY

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 21ST – 6PM

REGISTER ONLINE CONTACT NICOLE FOR
QUESTIONS –
NSKINNER@NORTHWALES LIBRARY.ORG

WOMEN'S CENTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB

SCAN THE QR CODE
TO REGISTER!!



WOMEN'S
CENTER
of Montgomery County

In coordination with the Montgomery County Public Library System (MCLINC), High School District Librarians, and community bookstores, WCMC will lead a county wide book club, featuring the book *Stay* by Author Deb Caletti.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month. In February the center will be making it's way through the county to conduct "Talk Sessions". *Stay* is a story about a young girl names Claire who is in an abusive relationship.

The goal is to help teens understand that all decisions that young adults make can shape their future selves, including understanding healthy versus unhealthy relationships. Learning about power and control in relationships at this stage of their dating experience can aid students in recognizing the warning signs or red flags of an abusive relationship.

Monday, February 23rd - 4pm - 5pm

North Wales Area Library

Email Nicole with questions:

[niskinner@northwalesarealibrary.org](mailto:nskinner@northwalesarealibrary.org)



SHOWING PAW PATROL

**Fun
time for kids
movie**

**FEBRUARY 27TH
@ 11:15AM**

**MOVIE
AND A
PICNIC**

**Fun for kids to
play, eat and
watch a movie**

TEEN
LASER TAG
NIGHT

FEBRUARY 27TH

5:30PM-7PM

After
hours

snacks
and
drinks
provided

REGISTRATION
REQUIRED



STORY ENGINEERS

BUILDING TOMORROWS TALES

\$175.00 PER CHILD
1ST - 6TH GRADE
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM



JULY 6-10 & 13-17
@ NORTH WALES AREA LIBRARY

REGISTRATION IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!
TO ENROLL, USE LINK:
WEEK #1 - [HTTPS://GIVEBUTTER.COM/2BK9SE](https://givebutter.com/2BK9SE)
WEEK #2 - [HTTPS://GIVEBUTTER.COM/LRUEL1](https://givebutter.com/LRUEL1)

Each of the two weeks will have different curriculum, if you wish to register a child for both weeks, please use each link to register.

STEAM Adventure

PA FORWARD



PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARIES



March 21, 2026

THE
Human Element
WOMEN LEADING THROUGH
CHANGE & INNOVATION

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

North Wales Arts & Cultural Center

\$60.00 PER REGISTRATION

<https://givebutter.com/Om9emP>



Support NORTH WALES AREA
LIBRARY

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR
code below



Or visit:

<https://givebutter.com/Om9emP>

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
NORTH WALES AREA LIBRARY

In honor of Women's History Month

Event Highlights:

10:00 AM | Panel Discussion:

- Hear from a distinguished panel of local leaders as they explore today's most pressing topics:
 - **Leadership Across Generations: Connecting the histories of influential women to the challenges leaders face today.**
 - **Balancing Advocacy and Action: Turning societal challenges into tangible, community-based solutions.**

12:30 PM | Catered Lunch:

Connect with panelists and fellow attendees over a delicious lunch, included with your ticket.

1:30 PM | AI for Positive Impact Workshop:

- Join Dr. Ewa J. Kleczyk for an engaging workshop on harnessing the power of artificial intelligence to create positive change in our professional and community lives.



CIVIC AND SOCIAL
LITERACY



Monthly Calendars



BLACK HISTORY MONTH FEBRUARY 2026

General Calendar
See other side for
Children/Teen Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 Mahjong 1pm	3 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm	4	5	6 Canasta 12pm Movie Matinee 1pm	7 Love your Library
8	9 Mahjong 1pm Fiber Arts 1pm Swedesford Garden Club 6:30pm	10 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm Liz Hanbidge Mobile Office 11:30am Friends Meeting Zoom 6pm	11 Library Closed for Renovations	12 Library Closed for Renovations Upper Gwynedd Democrats 6:30pm	13 Canasta 12pm Rhythms of Resilience @ 5pm	14 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY AI Program 3pm*
15	16 Library Closed for Presidents' Day 	17 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm Jayne's Evening Book Club 7pm	18 Jayne's Daytime Book Club 2pm	19 Blood Drive 1-5pm Thoughtful Thursday 6:30pm	20 Canasta 12pm Movie Matinee 1pm Anti-Valentine's Day Trivia @ 6pm	21 Board Game 12pm
22	23 Mahjong 1pm Jayne's Cookbook Club 6:30pm	24 Mahjong/Canasta 12pm	25 North Wales Library Board Meeting 6:30pm	26 Plot Twist & Pour 6pm	27 Canasta 12pm Movie Matinee 1pm	28

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



BLACK HISTORY MONTH FEBRUARY 2026

Children/Teen Calendar
See other side for
General Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 *Kindergarten Prep 11am	3 Miss Vicki's Story Time 10am STEAM 10:30am	4 *Family Bingo 5:15pm *Girls Who Code -5pm	5 Miss Erin's Story Time 11am	6 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am	7 Take Your Child To The Library Day 1pm *TAB - 12pm *One in Math 11am-12pm
8 	9 *Kindergarten Prep 11am	10 Miss Vicki's Story Time 10am *Toddler Sing Sing 11am	11 Library Closed for Renovations	12 Library Closed for Renovations	13 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am	14 *One in Math 11am-12pm *Chess Club 12pm AI program* 3pm
15	16 Library Closed for Presidents' Day 	17 Miss Vicki's Story Time 10am STEAM 10:30am	18 Homeschool Lunch Bunch 12:30pm *Toddler Movement 11am *Girls Who Code -5pm	19 Miss Erin's Story Time 11am	20 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am *Toddler Sing Sing 11am	21 *One in Math 11am-12pm *Teen Movie Night 6pm
22	23 *Kindergarten Prep 11am *YA Book Club 4pm	24 Miss Vicki's Story Time 10am	25 Montgomery Twp Storytime 10am *Toddler Art 11:30am	26 Miss Erin's Story Time 11am *Power of the Pen 6pm	27 Storybook Sprouts 10:30am Movie and a Picnic 11:15am *Teen Laser Tag @ 5:30-7pm	28 *One in Math 11am-12pm *Chess Club 12pm *AI Program* 3pm

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



Click a
calendar
to
download
a printable
copy!