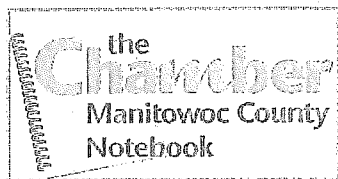


business



Manitowoc Public Library

FOR USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Summer reading programs, whether organized by schools or by public libraries, can be found in almost every city or town across the country.

Each year, Public Library Development, under the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, coordinates a summer reading program on behalf of Wisconsin public libraries.

Wisconsin is a member of the Collaborative Summer Library Program, which is a consortium of states working together to provide high-quality summer reading program materials for children, teens and adults.

CSLP began in 1987 when 10 Minnesota regional library systems developed a summer library program for children, choosing a theme, creating artwork and selecting incentives that public libraries in the regions could purchase and use.

State libraries and systems continue to join and CSLP continues to evolve, but its guiding principle remains the same — librarians sharing ideas, expertise and costs to produce a high-quality summer reading program for all.

This year's summer library program theme at Manitowoc Public Library is all about architecture/building/community. Its slogan is "Build a Better World."

"Build a Better World" this summer by heading down to the Manitowoc Public Library for its summer reading program. The library has something for everyone, whether you are two months old or 92.

ture/building/community. Its slogan is "Build a Better World."

"Build a Better World" this summer by heading down to the Manitowoc Public Library for its summer reading program. The library has something for everyone, whether you are two months old or 92.

From coding to catapults, the summer reading program is packed with fun events, programs and activities for children and families, teens and adults.

Starting June 12, all age groups can sign up for a summer reading program. Children can earn up to three free books by completing eight weeks of a reading challenge (books awarded after the third, sixth and eighth weeks with prizes donated by local businesses for the weeks in between).

Kick-off event will be juggling with Jason Kollum at 2 p.m. June 16. This show is interactive and high-energy.

Children aren't the only ones having fun this summer. The Manitowoc Public Library has a Teen Summer Reading Program filled with innovative programming for teens ages 13-18. Teen programs will be at 3 p.m. every Tuesday and include an acting workshop with the Peter Quince Performing Company, building (and launching) motorized rockets with 4-H, henna tattoos and a meeperBot rally.

Teens who complete their weekly raffle ticket challenges can enter into one of six grand-prize drawings each week.

Events for the Adult Summer Reading Program include adult coloring club, book discussions, computer classes, genealogy workshops and tech help.

An author visit by Leslie Kagen will take place at 6 p.m. June 14. Leslie will discuss her latest novel, *The Mutual Admiration Society*. She will also have books available for purchase.

Weekly adult prizes include gift certificates, Chamber Bucks, car chargers, cord wraps, coloring journals, chip clips and more. In addition, 12 area businesses donated gift baskets for those adults hoping for a chance to win after partici-

pating in the adult program.

The Summer Reading Program begins June 12 and wraps up with a Family Carnival Day from 1 to 4 p.m. Aug. 4.

The Chamber of Manitowoc County, with its publishing of *The Chamber Notebook*, provides space for Chamber members to present information about their business. The publishing of this information is in no way intended to show preference for that business by The Chamber.

Get rewards for reading in library's summer program June 4, 2017

KRISTIN STOEGER
FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

The first official day of summer may be weeks away, but

Manitowoc Public Library is already in full summer mode and ready to kick off our Summer Reading



Stoeger

during summer. These programs initially targeted children's out-of-school months and worked diligently to combat "Summer Slide" — the tendency for students to lose some of the academic gains made during their previous school year.

In addition, MPL's summer reading program goal is to motivate everyone — children through adults — to read and develop positive attitudes toward reading, books and the library.

By maintaining and building reading skills, MPL provides access to experiences that further a sense of discovery and present an opportunity to work cooperatively. Our summer reading program is a great way to build our community.

This year's theme is "Build a Better World." We offer an array of fun events, programs and activities for kids and families, teens and adults. And you get rewards for reading during the sum-

mer!

Sounds too good to be true? Check out some of these great highlights and decide for yourself:

Children's events

Starting June 12, kids who sign up for our Summer Reading Program can earn up to three free books by completing eight weeks of our reading challenge.

Books will be awarded after the third, sixth and eighth weeks.

And additional prizes — donated by local businesses — will be handed out during the weeks in between.

Our featured kids' kick-off event is "Juggling with Jason Kollum" at 2 p.m. June 16. This show is high-energy and interactive — and one you will not want to miss!

We'll also feature Makerspace Mondays. Every Monday, from 1 to 3 p.m., we'll be hosting cool drop-in STEM-based (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) projects designed for elementary-aged kids that challenge their creativity and problem solving. From Lego Balloon Cars to Marshmallow Catapults and Newspaper Forts, these programs are 100 percent hands-on and 100 percent fun!

Need an easy way to get to the library? Anyone age 17 and younger can ride the city bus to the library free every Wednesday

during the summer just by showing their library card.

Teen events

Kids aren't the only ones having fun this summer! Manitowoc Public Library has a Teen Summer Reading Program filled with innovative programming for teens ages 13-18. We'll have teen programs every Tuesday at 3 p.m. that include an Acting Workshop with the Peter Quince Performing Company, building (and launching!) motorized rockets with 4-H, Henna Tattoos and a MeeperBot Rally.

In addition to our regular teen programming, Manitowoc Public Library is again partnering with the Rahr-West Art Museum to offer our free Digital Arts Program June 13-Aug. 29. For full details and registration, head to www.manitowoclibrary.org/dap/.

Know any teens who love to read? Battle of the Books is back! Join MPL's team as we compete against other libraries in our system for the trophy and bragging rights by testing your knowledge of our eight specially-chosen books. Registration begins June 12.

Adult events

We would never forget our adults! Starting June 12, every adult who signs up for "Build a Better World" receives a punch card. After you read a book, you'll receive a punch on your card. Five punches are all it takes to get entered into the spectacular Gift Basket Drawing. You choose which baskets you want most.

Our gift baskets have generously been donated by local businesses. All baskets will be on display on the first floor. You can also win additional entries by attending any adult program throughout the summer.

Manitowoc Public Library is the place to be this summer. And these are just the highlights.

Find out more at www.manitowoclibrary.org or stop in to pick up an event calendar. Don't miss your chance to read and get rewarded for it!

Kristin Stoeger is library director at Manitowoc Public Library.

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Lesley Kagen talk kicks off Manitowoc summer program

MEREDITH MEIER

FOR USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Listening to authors speak about the process of writing their books and getting them published is one of my favorite parts of my job. I always want to go home and read all of the books the author talks about, even when it is not my typical genre.

I leave author talks feeling like I know the author after hearing their life story weaved in and out of what it is like to write a book and have it be published.

Hearing an author share his or her experiences is an entertainingly magical and informative experience you won't want

to miss. We are providing one such unforgettable experience this upcoming Wednesday when we welcome Lesley Kagen to Manitowoc.

Lesley Kagen is an actress, voice-over talent, speaker and award-winning *New York Times* bestselling author of eight novels. She will be at Manitowoc Public Library at 6 p.m. Wednesday to kick off the Adult Summer Library Reading program.

Kagen was born and raised in Milwaukee in neighborhoods similar to the ones where *Whistling in the Dark*, *Good Graces* and *The Mutual Admiration Society* take place. Her first novel, *Whistling in the Dark*, made the *New York Times* bestselling list, and 10 years later is currently in its 17th printing.

Kagen's latest book, *A Mutual Admiration Society*, is set

in Milwaukee in the 1950s. The story is told from the point of view of 11-year-old Tessie Finely, who has a lot on her plate at home. She sees a mysterious man carrying a body in the cemetery behind her house at night and decides she is going to solve this mystery with her sister Birdie, and Charlie "Cue Ball" Garfield.

Did a murder take place in the local cemetery? You will have to read the book to find out.

This novel has lovable and funny characters. It is both a coming-of-age story and a mystery that will make you laugh and warm your heart.

Manitowoc Public Library is only able to provide author visits, such as this one, through the generous support of the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library. In fact, a lot of library programming is made

possible through the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library.

The Friends focus public attention on the library and its needs; provide volunteer services and help fund library projects, programs and materials.

Other programs the Friends of the Library sponsor are summer library reading programs for children, teens and adults; National Library Week events; Book and Film Discussion series; Great Decisions discussion series; and more.

The library could not provide these wonderful programs without the support of the Friends of the Library. Thank you!

Joining the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library has its perks. You will receive updates on special events, get first chance at great bargains

during the Friends preview of the Big Book Sales, dues and donations are tax deductible, and attend the annual Friends program.

If you want more information about the Friends, or if you want to join the Friends of the Library, stop by the service desk at Manitowoc Public Library or click on "support the Friends" icon on the MPL's homepage.

You would be able to be part of bringing bestselling authors such as Kagen to Manitowoc Public Library.

Please join us at the library Wednesday to hear Kagen speak. It is an opportunity you will not want to miss. Books will be available for sale and Kagen will be available to sign books.

Meredith Meier is adult services associate at Manitowoc Public Library.



Meier

Paint the library red, white and blue June 28

JULIA LEE
FOR USA TODAY
NETWORK-WISCONSIN

The annual family favorite event is back.



Lee

At 2 p.m. June 28, we'll paint our ground-level library windows red, white and blue to celebrate

Independence Day.

Every year, the Manitowoc Public Library brings the community together to show patriotic colors by painting the windows. The afternoon of fun includes painting windows and decorating sidewalks with chalk. The library

provides the paint and painting supplies, your family provides the artistry, creativity and fun!

This year, painting the windows with patriotic themes directly ties into our Summer Reading Program theme of "Build a Better World" by encouraging kids to think about how they can Build a Better Nation.

The Summer Reading Program, which started June 12, provides programs, activities and story times that all focus on the theme of how kids can help Build a Better World. Some programs, like Paint the Library, will have a specific focus on Building a Better Nation.

The library has a limited number of windows to paint. If your



USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Children and adults paint the windows of the Manitowoc Public Library with festive and patriotic themes in 2014.

family is interested in registering, come to the Children's Desk on the upper level of the Manitowoc Public Library.

We ask families only register immediate family members, as space is limited. Registration for Paint the Library is

in-person only (no phone call registration accepted).

When you register, your family will get a ticket with the street your window is located on (Quay, Franklin or South Eighth Street) and your window number(s). This ticket is your pass to paint, so it is very important you keep track of your ticket! The library cannot replace lost tickets, and only families with tickets will be able to paint.

We do ask that families come to claim their window promptly at 2 p.m. June 28. What do you paint on your window? Your family is welcome to paint any patriotic-themed images on the library windows — stars and stripes, eagles, fireworks or any other symbols that cele-

brate America. Because we're trying to keep with our patriotic theme, we do want to keep the colors red, white and blue.

Windows filled up before you could register? Don't despair! You can still be a part of the nation celebration! Everyone is welcome to attend June 28 and help fill the sidewalks with chalk art — no ticket necessary for sidewalk chalk.

There truly is fun for everyone at Manitowoc Public Library this summer! Help us Build a Better Nation on June 28 by painting our library red, white and blue.

See you at the library!

Julia Lee is Youth Services Manager at Manitowoc Public Library.

What do dandelions and books have in common?

ROXANNE STAVENESS

FOR USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

Dandelions. How much time is spent on the dandelion?

Most people I know spend lots of time weeding the yard to remove all dandelions. If dandelions are left alone, pretty soon they take over everything, even the pretty flowerbed you spent many hours planting and nurturing.

Librarians execute the same actions in the library, replacing books for blossoms. We nurture our collections. We work hard selecting books we hope our patrons will love.

As we bring more books into the library, all of a sud-

den, we start to run out of room. Then, it's "weeding" time for us. We look at titles we have multiple copies of and ask "Do we need more than one or two copies? Is it still circulating? Do we have a hold list?" If the answer is no, we remove all but a couple.

Remember: one dandelion is cute in May, but 100 in July — not so much.

We also print out our "grubby list," which contains books that have circulated well more than 40 times. Why 40? It's a starting point for us. Books on the grubby list are reviewed for the wear and tear and coffee stains that make a regular appearance in our books. We have found pictures, grocery lists, checks and a friend in Milwaukee once found \$50! Now that's quite a bookmark!

How do we make our decisions once we have a grubby list? Just like with lawn main-

tenance, we have to do some research.

First, we pull the books off the shelves. Each book must be inspected for damages (or \$50 bills).

Next, the librarian will check to see how many times it has been circulated and if it's part of a series or by a popular author.

The bottom line: how does it look?

Books that are crumpled, yellowed from time, have torn dust jackets and are decidedly not fresh (only kids like dandelions that are white puff balls ready to blow apart from the first strong wind) are the obvious considerations for replacement or weeding.

To replace a book, the librarian will compare prices between a new hardcover, a trade paperback (larger-sized paperback books) or mass-market paperbacks (small

paperbacks). We try to find the best price and stretch our dollar as far as possible.

Sometimes a book is out of print and we may not be able to replace it. Then, we have to decide if we really want to keep that title. Can we freshen it up a bit? Potentially. So, off to the book doctor in the tech department mending area it goes.

The books we decide to weed go to our Book Seller, unless they are in such bad shape we may have to — just like with a dandelion — remove them at the roots.

I know I am being lighthearted about dandelions and books. In my mind, our books are like that dandelion, which may be woven by a child into a crown for mom or used by grandma to make dandelion wine or that the neighbor chops into a salad. The point is that someone loves that dande-

lion as much as you love our books, dear patron. We don't take "weeding" lightly.

It's a good possibility that many of our books tell a story that someone has loved. Librarians also have to make hard choices about the books that we love.

It's also important to note that this is a gradual, ongoing process. It's not like you're going to show up at the library and suddenly tens of thousands of books will suddenly have disappeared.

Just like with a beautiful, dandelion-free lawn, our weeding takes time and attention.

So, when you hear the term "weeding," please know we are doing it with great care and we are not making our choices lightly.

Roxanne Staveness is materials manager at Manitowoc Public Library.



Staveness