

# MCL Notes

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 1

JUNE / JULY / AUGUST 2026

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

It will be another busy summer at the Manchester City Library! Staff have amazing summer programs planned for all ages which is laid out in this edition of the newsletter in great detail!

And in case you didn't notice we are still under construction, which has been quite the adventure for you and the staff!

The roof construction timeline is still being finalized but should start in June, so be prepared for our library parking lot to be closed for the duration of that project. We have arranged with our colleagues in the parking division for free parking in the Hartnett Lot, those space are the ones that are nose in (perpendicular) to Concord Street. There are signs up in that area!

The Lead Paint Abatement Project continues at a steady pace and the second floor hallway that was being worked on will be finished in early June. So, access to the New Hampshire Room will be reinstated. Our Foundation purchased a new digital microfilm reader printer which has been setup for the room's reopening!

The first floor construction area will continue through the summer as funds permit. I want to thank our Circulation and Information/Technology Division staff members for how well they are handling their shared desk space in the Rotunda during the current phase of the project.

And finally on a more serious note I want to say thank you for all the support the community has provided to the library over my 21 years as Director. I will be retiring on August 1st of 2026 after many decades working in libraries, to start a new adventure. I leave with many happy memories of my time here at MCL. It has been an honor to lead such a great cultural institution. I am proud of the work both past and present employees and Trustees have given over the years to make the library into the organization it is today.

I do have to admit I am looking forward to using the library instead of patching the buildings back together again!

Warm regards,  
Denise van Zanten  
Library Director



Manchester City Library

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## NEW FICTION COMING SOON!

Here's a sneak peek at some of the new fiction coming out over the next few months. It's not too early to get yourself on the waiting list for these hot titles:

Colgan, Jenny – *Meet me at the Seaside Cottages*

Janey Carter has a lot to be grateful for--a home by the sea in the Scottish isles, a job that she loves, two kids who have successfully launched, and a network of kind and supportive friends. And then, out of the blue, her thirty-year-old daughter Essie announces she's moving back home. Janey loves Essie dearly, but she was never the easiest to live with, and Janey has been enjoying the empty nest life. No sooner is Essie back under her mother's roof than an unusual opportunity pops up: the shabby and unloved Seaside Cottages next door come up for sale. Janey has some experience renovating the island's famous stone fisherman's cottages, Essie needs something to do, and they could both use a little Air B&B income to warm their pockets. Mother and daughter slowly bond over the shared challenge, which delivers some much-needed revelations for Essie, and offers Janey a surprise second chance at love as well. *June 16*

Benedict, Marie – *A pair of aces*

Eunice Carter, assistant district attorney for the City of New York and Manhattan's first Black female prosecutor, has her sights set on the one and only Lucky Luciano, head of New York City's five largest organized crime families. Other prosecutors have tried to bring down Lucky, but they've all focused on the crime syndicate's traditional businesses. No one has thought to approach the mob through its role in prostitution. Until Eunice. With the help of Polly Adler, owner of a high-class brothel, Eunice fashions a case utilizing a network of women. Bridging the enormous divide between them and risking their own lives, they assemble evidence bit by bit, under the nose of the man they're trying to convict. It is this very alliance--of two women from vastly different worlds--that launches the most sensational trial New York City has ever seen. *June 23*

Gray, Shelley Shepard – *D is for Daisy*

After a lifetime in Millersburg, where Mervin Miller worked at a furniture and shed factory and his wife Ruthie helped out at a fabric store, they have exciting plans: They're going to become "Amish Gentlemen Farmers." That means buying a 30-acre, ramshackle farm, and all that comes with it--no matter what their grown children, friends, and aching muscles think . . . Their son Aaron is worried about his parents, and is grateful when his childhood friend, Kyle Burkholder, makes a heaven-sent offer: he'll move in with Aaron's parents to teach them about raising cows and chickens, and even give weekly reports to Aaron. The arrangement is going well--until Kyle stumbles upon Daisy Lapp who's just been in a bicycle accident. When he visits her in the hospital, he knows there's something special between them. So does Daisy. But her something special is the fact that Kyle lives on the farm she'd always dreamed of buying one day. *June 30*

Hurwitz, Gregg Andrew – *The delivery*

Rebecca and Mark Higgins are doing their best to hold their family together. So when a cutting-edge tech company offers the perfect solution, they jump at the chance. And they welcome "Mr. Man"--a humanoid AI companion--into their home. Designed to anticipate their needs, he's like a miracle at first. But when inexplicable tragedies start to strike the neighborhood, Rebecca glimpses a darker pattern at play. *July 1*

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)

Billingham, Mark – *The shadow step*

A perfectly executed shadow step demonstrates synchronized elegance. It showcases a couple in near telepathic harmony with one another. It does not normally end with someone stone-dead in a lake. DS Declan Miller is a magnet for strange cases, but an innocent man confessing to the crime? That's a first. Things rapidly escalate when the murder that isn't really a murder attracts the unwanted attention of a drug Queenpin, a deranged ex-squaddie, and a lovesick gangland enforcer. And when a real murder follows - and a student is kidnapped - all evidence points back to the same innocent man. Throw in a wobbly dog, a pair of ceramic leopards, and the distracting smell from a biscuit factory, and Miller's only option to save a young man's life is to waltz all the way into the shadows. *July 21*

Thompson, Victoria – *City of promises*

Famed former police detective turned private investigator Frank Malloy and his wife, Sarah, come to Gideon Bates desperate for legal guidance. The Malloys' adopted daughter, Catherine, a burgeoning star of the stage, has announced her engagement to a man she barely knows. Catherine has recently gained access to her trust fund, and Sebastian Talbot appears very eager to marry her as quickly as possible. As Gideon and his wife, Elizabeth, investigate, it becomes all the clearer that Talbot may not be who he says he is. As a former con artist herself, Elizabeth suspects one may be in their midst. Undeterred by her pregnancy, she must pull out all the stops to out swindle a swindler and save another woman from ruin. *July 28*

Cabot, Meg – *The magic we made*

A trained therapist, Francesca Giovanni knows there's a scientific explanation for everything. Unfortunately, she lives in West Harbor, CT, a town that's recently exploded in popularity thanks to "witch tourism." Suddenly, witches are everywhere, offering locals their psychic services. Frankie's fine with this...until aspiring teenage witches begin to disappear, and strange things start happening in the lake house next door. Frankie suspects not all newcomers to West Harbor have the good of the community in mind--especially not her new neighbor, Ash Merit. *August 11*

MacBride, Stuart – *Blood, rust and steel*

Acting Detective Inspector Roberta Steel has never been shy, but she's finally retiring. After thirty years of policing Aberdeen's underbelly, she's all set for her twilight years to feature gardening gloves, afternoon tea, crosswords puzzles, and shouting at the telly. So, when a body turns up in a wheelie bin, it looks like an excellent way to round off her career and go out with a bang. With only her Queen Street Irregulars for backup, and the top brass desperate to get shot of her, these final few weeks might just be the death of her... *August 18*

Moriarty, Liane – *Big little truths*

The last time we saw the women of Big Little Lies--Madeline, Celeste, Jane, Renata, and Bonnie--their children were five years old. If someone wasn't invited to a birthday party, feelings were hurt. But ten years have passed and the kids are in high school, navigating all of the drama that accompanies teendom (goodbye playdates, hello drugs, sex, and alcohol). When a stranger begins lurking around the school asking supposedly innocent questions, this tightly connected group of women must finally face the full repercussions of the big little truths they have and haven't shared with their kids. Because the stakes are now much higher than not being invited to an ice-skating party--and the ice has never been thinner for any of them. *August 25*

# Adult Programs

**Signups are appreciated!** To sign up for any of the following programs, use the links provided with the program description, or visit [www.manchesterlibrary.org](http://www.manchesterlibrary.org) and click on "Upcoming Events" to view the library calendar. You can also call us at 603-624-6550 x7620.

Signing up lets us know how many people to expect for a program, allows us to send you any handouts, follow-up emails with a program recording (if being recorded), and notify you of any unexpected changes. We'll send you reminder emails, as well as any zoom links for the program.

# Library Challenges!

## NYT Crossword Puzzles

### Daily at Main and West

There are many reasons to enjoy crossword puzzles. They offer a chance to relax, keep your mind engaged, and just have fun! We are now offering daily crossword puzzles from the New York Times at both the Main and West library branches. Pick up a puzzle during our normal business hours and challenge yourself! Monday's puzzle is always the easiest, and they get harder as the week goes on. See how you do Monday to Sunday! Answers are also provided, if you want to see how you did!



### MCL Seed Library: April – August 2026

#### Main Library, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Manchester Seed Library is back for its 4rd year! Interested in starting a garden? What about trying out a new type of produce? Whether you are a beginner or experienced gardener, the Manchester Seed Library will be a wonderful resource for many different varieties of seed options to try in your own garden each season. Seeds are available to check out on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the library in the old card catalog. Browse available seeds in the binder, grab what you need and go home to plant! Seeds are limited to ten (10) packets per family and two (2) packets of each seed type. If you have a successful growing season, return any extra or new seeds to the Seed Library to help us keep this going!

### Main Adult DIY

Stop by the Information Desk in the Rotunda for an Adult craft kit. These kits are released every other month and are available while supplies last. Due to limited supplies, kits cannot be reserved and are available on a first-come-first-served basis at staggered times throughout the week. One kit per person. View all upcoming Adult Crafts [in our calendar](#).

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)

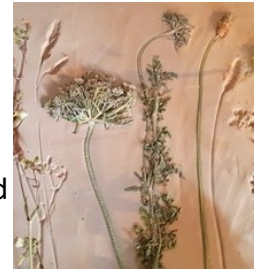
### June 9 – Penny Rug Bookmarks

Join us in June as we celebrate America's 250th Anniversary with vintage inspired penny rug bookmarks! Penny rugs are a unique and colorful American craft. They are decorative mats made of stitched wool circles, often featuring appliquéd designs like farmhouses, animals, and flowers. The craft originated when homemakers repurposed scraps of wool or felt from old clothing, creating durable and practical mats. The name "penny rugs" comes from the use of pennies as templates for measuring the top layer of circles. Over time, crafters added decorative edgings and began incorporating folk stories into their designs.



### August 11 – Botanical Painted Clay Tiles

It's high summer and the weather is beautiful, so let's get out! Join us in August as we create lovely clay tile décor using air drying clay, foraged botanicals and watercolor paints. Go outside to forage in your yard, gardens or the forest for special leaves, flowers, seeds, bark, roots, twigs, or other natural botanical parts to press into your clay tiles. Then grab your kit supplies, your amazing creativity and create your clay masterpiece. Tiles can be hung, propped up around the house, used as paperweights or any decoration that tickles your fancy.



For more information, please contact Yvonne at [yloomis@manchesternh.gov](mailto:yloomis@manchesternh.gov) or call the Information Desk at 603-624-6550 ext. 7620.

Happy Crafting!

## Adult Book Clubs

### Wednesday Evening Book Club

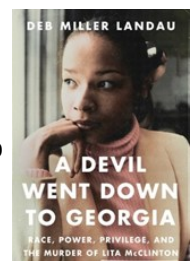
Do you like talking about books as much you enjoy reading them? Consider joining our monthly book club! We meet in the Winchell Room on the second Wednesday of the month, September through June. Meetings are held 6:30-7:30 PM and you can attend either in person or via Zoom. Selections include fiction, nonfiction and biographies, both recent and classic.

For more information, or to make a recommendation, contact Steve Viggiano at [sviggiano@manchesternh.gov](mailto:sviggiano@manchesternh.gov). Call (603) 624-6550 x 7620 to reserve a print copy of the book. To view all upcoming Book Club meetings, [click here](#).

#### June 10

**Landau, Deb Miller. *A Devil Went Down to Georgia: Race, Power, Privilege, and the Murder of Lita McClinton*. Nonfiction**

The 1987 murder of Lita McClinton Sullivan sent shockwaves through the affluent Atlanta suburb of Buckhead, Georgia like few other crimes before it. The neighborhood was simply not the kind of place where women were gunned down in cold blood in broad daylight.



Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)

## Brown Bag Book Club

The Brown Bag Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month from 12:15-1:30 PM in the Hunt Room. For more information, contact David Basora at [dbasora@manchesternh.gov](mailto:dbasora@manchesternh.gov). To view all upcoming Book Club meetings, [click here](#).



**June 30**

**Burks, Ruth Coker. *All the Young Men*. 2020, 304p. Nonfiction**

A gripping and triumphant tale of human compassion follows a young single mother in Hot Springs, Arkansas, who was driven to the forefront of the AIDS crisis, becoming a pivotal activist in America's fight against AIDS.

**Writers Group | [Sign Up Here!](#)**

**Wednesdays in the Hunt Room or Virtual at 6:00 PM**

**June 17 | July 15 | August 19**

Join the Manchester City Library on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM for our writer's group! Meet with other writers and discuss what you're writing, critique others work, and give feedback. This group is open to writers of all abilities, aged teen and up. Please sign up to participate.



For questions, call Tess at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [tkimsey@manchesternh.gov](mailto:tkimsey@manchesternh.gov).

**Remembering Together | [Sign Up Here!](#)**

**Mondays at 10:30 AM In-Person at the Senior Center, or Virtually via Zoom**

**June 8 & 22, July 13 & 27, August 10 & 24**

Our lives are made up of stories. The Remembering Together program offers seniors a unique opportunity to share with one another some of their memorable life stories. These stories are often a source of encouragement, mutual appreciation, perspective, and a sense of connection. Of course, there are also times when a story gives everyone a good laugh.



Please join The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester and the Manchester City Library for a conversational group at the Senior Center on Mondays at 10:30 AM, June 8 & 22, July 13 & 27, and August 10 & 24. Virtual attendance is also available!

For questions, call Susan Harmon at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [sharmon@manchesternh.gov](mailto:sharmon@manchesternh.gov)

**Coffee Explorer**

**Tuesday, August 11 at 9 AM (1 PM at West)**



If you are like me and love your coffee, this is the perfect program for you! Coffee Explorer will provide you with opportunities to try new coffee flavors with a paired snack and sweet treat in the comfort of your own home! All you need is a mug and hot water as Coffee Explorer has you covered! Each kit will include an individual pour-over coffee packet, creamer singles, sugar packets, a paired snack and treat. Kits will be available at the Manchester City Library at 9:00 am or the West Manchester Branch Library at 1:00 pm, while supplies last!

For questions, call Caitlin at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [cdionne@manchesternh.gov](mailto:cdionne@manchesternh.gov)

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)

**Adult Reading Challenge: 26 in '26! | [Sign Up Here!](#)**

The Manchester City Library is excited to be hosting a year-long adult reading challenge! This challenge can be as laid back or as challenging as you want. Readers will have the ability to log up to 26 Reader's Choice titles and up to 26 Challenge Books over the course of the year. Challenge books are to fit a specific theme, but readers can choose the title.

This program differs from our Summer Reading Program in that there are no minutes to log – points are earned by completing a book and logging the mission as complete. Points are used to purchase raffle tickets to our monthly raffles. Prizes consist of \$25 gift certificates to local businesses. The program runs all year and monthly missions are released on the first of the month.

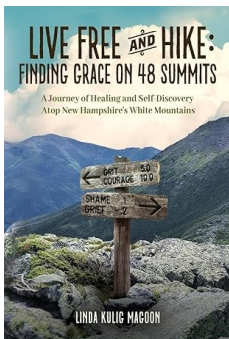
For more information, call Caitlin at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [cdionne@manchesternh.gov](mailto:cdionne@manchesternh.gov)



MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY  
26 IN 2026 READING PROGRAM

**Live Free and Hike: Finding Grace on 48 Summits with author Linda Magoon | [Sign Up Here!](#)**

**June 2 at 6 PM in the Auditorium**



Join author Linda Magoon for an inspiring and informative presentation about her journey to hike all 48 of New Hampshire's 4,000-foot mountains in her mid-50s. Linda weaves together stories of adventure, challenge, and healing, showing how the rugged White Mountains became a path to personal transformation. Hear behind-the-scenes tales from the trail, see photos of breathtaking summits, and discover lessons learned from her journey. Whether you're an avid hiker or armchair adventurer, this talk will leave you uplifted and ready for your own next summit.

For more information, contact Nic at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email

[nyoung3@manchesternh.gov](mailto:nyoung3@manchesternh.gov)

**The Red Menace - A Study of how Anticommunism was Reflected in American Popular Culture | [Sign Up Here!](#)**

**July 23 at 6 PM in the Auditorium**

The Manchester City Library is thrilled to host author Michael Barson. This program features a fascinating look at historical pop culture. He will also discuss his book, *The Red Menace*, which covers the history of how America's fear of Communist incursions from the 1940s through the 1960s was reflected in our popular culture - movies, television shows, radio programs, books, comic books, and even children's games.

For questions, call Nic at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [nyoung3@manchesternh.gov](mailto:nyoung3@manchesternh.gov)

**Summer Concert: The Alex Minasian Jazz Trio**

**August 8 at 12 PM in the Auditorium | [Sign Up Here!](#)**

To close out our summer reading program, enjoy an afternoon of jazz with the Alex Minasian Trio. Their musical selections will honor the legends of jazz music, including Charlie Parker and Thelonious Monk, as well as music from the Great American Songbook.



For questions, call David Basora at 603-624-6550 x7643 or email [dbasora@manchesternh.gov](mailto:dbasora@manchesternh.gov)

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)



These events are made possible by New Hampshire Humanities, in partnership with NHPBS, with additional support provided by Cogswell Benevolent Trust. By the People: Conversations Beyond 250 is a series of community driven programs created by humanities councils in collaboration with local partners. The initiative was developed by the Federation of State Humanities Councils and the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

**US@250: Why Democracy? With Dr. Joshua Duclos at the Manchester Millyard Museum | [Sign Up Here!](#)  
Wednesday, June 3 at 6 PM**

Meet us at the Manchester Millyard Museum to help observe the great American experiment! As part of our celebration of the nation's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary through the NH Humanities Council's US@250 program, the Manchester City Library has partnered with the Manchester Millyard Museum to host an examination of the concept of democracy, led by Dr. Joshua Duclos.

Democracy is taken to be an obvious good. It often seems like the one thing we can agree on in a political debate. After all, only dictators and fools question the value of democracy...right? For those who believe in the value of democracy, it is important to analyze, articulate, and explore the arguments in which democracy is grounded.

For questions, call David Basora at 603-624-6550 x7643 or email [dbasora@manchesternh.gov](mailto:dbasora@manchesternh.gov)

**US@250: Big Watch - The American Revolution - Presented by the NH Humanities Council | [Sign Up Here!](#)  
Saturday, June 27 at 10 AM**

Join us at the Manchester City Library to commemorate and reflect upon the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with a film screening and discussion! Together, we'll watch a short excerpt from THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, a new film directed by Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein and David Schmidt, followed by a community discussion led by Mary Adams. The featured segment, "The Spirit of Service," explores service as a core American value, from the nation's founding through to the present day – examining volunteerism, civic participation, public leadership, and more.

For questions, call David Basora at 603-624-6550 x7643 or email [dbasora@manchesternh.gov](mailto:dbasora@manchesternh.gov)

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)



HHMI Tangled Bank Studios and The Space Science Institute's STAR Library Education Network Celebrate 250 Years of American Scientific Innovation with the Launch of SCIENCE ACROSS AMERICA, a New Public Library Outreach Campaign that Shines a Light on the Past, Present and Future of Scientific Innovation in America

**The Comet Show! With the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center | [Sign Up Here!](#)  
Thursday, June 4 at 5 PM at Parkside Middle School**

Join us at Parkside Middle School for an interactive presentation on Comets with the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center. The Comet Show is an interactive program which discusses comets - how they form, what they're made of, where to find them, etc. It includes an extended demonstration using household ingredients to stand in for comet components and dry ice to create both a comet analogue and a comet nucleus. This program is targeted towards younger audiences and their families.



For questions, call Caitlin at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [cdionne@manchesternh.gov](mailto:cdionne@manchesternh.gov)



**New Hampshire Geology with the  
McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center | [Sign Up Here!](#)  
Wednesday, July 8 at 6 PM in the Auditorium**

Join us for an informative presentation on New Hampshire Geology with the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center on Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Auditorium. This program discusses basic topics in geology with a focus on the geology of New Hampshire. We will discuss what geology is and how to look at rocks and minerals like a scientist would. We will also talk about how to identify the most common rocks in NH, and the geologic history of our state stretching back 623 million years! This program also includes interactive sections and encourages audience participation.

For questions, call Caitlin at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email [cdionne@manchesternh.gov](mailto:cdionne@manchesternh.gov)

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)



## Adult Summer Reading Program

For the fifth year running, the Manchester City library is pleased to offer reading incentives for all adults, ages 18+! Registration can take place any time after June 1, and the program runs from June 22 to August 15. Keep reading for more information on how to register, participate, and win prizes!

### Registration

Paperless: Signup, log reading and activity, and exchange points for raffle tickets online at [manchesternh.readsquared.com](http://manchesternh.readsquared.com) or download the **ReadSquared** app from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.

Unplugged: Visit the Information Desk at the Library's Main Branch on Pine Street or at the West Branch! Keep track of your reading using the paper log sheets included in your welcome packet. Visit the Information Desk at either branch to submit your activity logs and exchange points for raffle tickets.

### Earn Points

- Keep track of the minutes you read!
- You can log up to 300 minutes per day.
- Complete Mission Activities for even more points!

### Win Prizes

- Use earned points to purchase raffle tickets for weekly prizes.
- 1 raffle ticket = 100 points.
- Participants are eligible to win one raffle prize each year, so purchase your tickets carefully!
- Raffle tickets will be drawn at 8:30 am on the posted date of the raffle. All tickets must be claimed by that time to qualify for entry.
- 21+ prizes require ID at pickup.



### Senior Scoop

*Get the Scoop about upcoming events and resources for older adults in Manchester.*

Starting on June 22nd, the Manchester Transit Authority (MTA) is launching a **new FREE FARE pilot bus route** from 356 Lincoln Street (Price Rite) to Elliot Senior Health Center, Northside Hannaford Plaza, Livingston Park and other nearby stops. There will be 8 trips per day, Monday- Saturday. Check out [mtbabus.org](http://mtbabus.org) or [manchesternh.gov/health](http://manchesternh.gov/health) for more information and departure times coming soon.

Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)

The Cashin Senior Center is a great way to stay connected to a 55+ community. It is **free** to join for Manchester residents and \$30/year for non-Manchester residents. The vibrant community offers dynamic health and wellness programs, social gatherings and educational workshops to help older adults lead rich active and inspired lives. Stop by the Senior Center at 151 Douglas Street to join or call 603-624-6533.



of Greater Manchester

The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester is committed to supporting the mental health needs of the older adult community. Walk-in intake assessments are available at 2 Wall Street, Monday through Thursday, 8 am – 3 pm. If you have any questions or concerns about the process, please call 603-668-4111, option #4. In a crisis, call or text 833-710-6477.

Learn more about Manchester's Age Friendly Action Plan. Questions? Contact the City of Manchester Health Department at 603-624-6466 or email [health@manchesternh.gov](mailto:health@manchesternh.gov)

## Teen Programs

### Teen Movie & Pizza Nights

**Wednesdays: June 24, July 19, and August 12**

**5:30–7:45 PM (approximate end time), Auditorium/Winchell Room**

**Sign Up Here: 6/24, 7/29, 8/12**

Come for a movie and pizza in the auditorium, where we'll watch a teen movie on the big screen. For teens in grades 6 – 12. Movies may be rated PG-13 or PG. Registration in advance is requested to help us plan. If you have food allergies or restrictions, let us know when you register or email Yvonne ahead of time at [mclouthservices@manchesternh.gov](mailto:mclouthservices@manchesternh.gov). Please feel free to also email with movie suggestions you would like to watch!



### Teen Thursdays

**Thursdays: June 25 – August 13**

**3–4:30 PM, Winchell Room**

Teens in Grades 6-12 can drop by each Thursday during Summer Reading, come hang out in the Winchell Room, check out our summer reading craft/activity, and pick up the programming pin for the week. We'll also have snacks, arts and craft supplies, Nintendo Switch, and other games waiting for you when you are done! Registration Requested.

**6/25:** Design your own Dino—Choose a dino figure and decorate it with feathers, fabrics, paint, and more to create your perfect design.

**7/2:** T-Shirt Bag printing—make a no-sew bag from a t-shirt (use ours or bring your own) and then decorate it using fabric medium and paint.

**7/9:** Clay Diffuser Discs —Imprint, stamp, and carve a disc that you can hang, wear, or leave flat. Choose your favorite scent to add to it once dry.

**7/16:** Geode Smash jewelry—Smash a real geode and wrap your favorite pieces with wire to make decorations or jewelry.

**7/23:** Mosaic Tile Art—Decorate your chosen surface with glass and ceramic tiles before grouting them into place.

Questions on Youth Services Programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email [library@manchesternh.gov](mailto:library@manchesternh.gov)

**7/30:** Loom Beading—Learn how to design and make a bracelet with a cardboard loom and pony beads.

**8/6:** Tie Dye —Tie dye a bandana (provided) or bring your own cotton t-shirt or other item to tie dye.

**8/13:** Skeleton Soap Bars—Melt, color and mold your glycerin soap around a dino skeleton!

Visit the Teen Services website at [www.manchesterlibrary.org/teens](http://www.manchesterlibrary.org/teens) for event updates.

## Youth Services

### Storytime at the Mall

**Tuesday, June 9**

**11:30 AM, Mall of New Hampshire Play Area**



Manchester City Library Children's Room and the Mall of New Hampshire have teamed up for Storytime at the Mall. Our next Mall Storytime will be on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 beginning at 11:30 AM in the play area. We will be listening to fun dinosaur stories. Afterwards, there will be a cute dinosaur craft to make and take home. For ages 2-7 years old. Registration is not required.

### Storytime Science

**Wednesday, June 10**

**10-11 AM, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here!](#)**



The Children's Room staff are excited to announce our Storytime program with the SEE Science Center. Once a month, kids ages 2-6 years old are invited to join Ms. Katie and Ms. Amanda from the SEE Science Center for Storytime Science. This storytime is based on a STEM/STEAM theme with hands-on activities afterwards. Registration will be required to make sure that we have enough materials for everyone. Storytime Science is a program of the SEE Science Center's First Steps in Science Initiative presented by Dartmouth Health Children's. This program is a great way to introduce our youngest patrons to fun STEM/STEAM hands on activities.

### Unearth a Story@ Your Library Summer Reading Program



Readers of all ages will explore fun and exciting events this summer as Manchester and West Manchester City Library presents our "Unearth a Story @Your Library" summer library program. We will be traveling through time: visiting the Dinosaurs, Ice Age creatures, discovering fossils and relics from the Greeks, Romans and others early civilizations. We will also be discovering fun sites in our community and throughout the state.

Activities will include weekly Family Storytime, Baby Storytimes, Sing, Dance, & Play Mornings, Weekly Toddler parties, Escape Rooms, Afternoon Family Movies, Mall Storytimes, Lego Afternoons, Board Games Appreciation, Slime of the Month Club, Adventure Art, Mystery Wednesday programs, which will include a Back in Time Birthday Celebration, Percy Jackson Party, and STEM Wednesdays with Central's CHAOS Robotics' Team. There will be weekly scavenger hunts for Stanley, our 'missing' stapler and other fun activities in the children's room. All programs are free of charge. We will be having weekly raffle drawings. Each week, we

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will feature several different buckets that will include tickets to family attractions. When you turn in your weekly complete reading record, you will be given a raffle ticket that you can place into bucket of your choice to win prizes.

The 2026 kids Summer Reading Program is open to young people, preschool through 5th grade. Families are invited to join the Read to Me portion of the program. We have set a group goal of 3,000 hours read during the 8-week program. Will you help us meet our goal? Registration for "Unearth a Story" begins on Monday, June 1st. We will be using the online program READsquared to register, track your hours by entering minutes, earn pins and badges, and win prizes. You can register for an individual account or a family account at [manchesternh.readsquared.com](http://manchesternh.readsquared.com). Don't forget to pick up your summer reading bag which will include a lanyard with a registration pin, sticker, bookmark, a paper log, and a program calendar with READsquared app instructions.



### Summer Storytimes

Our summer storytimes will begin the week of June 17th. **Family Storytime** for 2-5 years will meet Thursday mornings at 10 AM & 11 AM. **Baby Storytime** for 6 months -2 years will be held on Friday mornings beginning at 10 AM. Both storytimes will be held in the Winchell Room. Registration is not required for either session.

### Youth Summer Crafts

During the *Unearth a Story @ Our Library* Summer reading program, we will have weekly take and make craft kits behind the children's reference desk. There will be two crafts; one for the younger kids (Preschool-Grade 2) and one for the older kids (Grades 3-5). There will be a new craft each week. We have a limited number of craft kits each week.

### Dino Party

**Monday, June 22**

**10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Join us as we go on a hunt for dinosaurs on the library lawn. We will gather in the Winchell Room to listen to dinosaur stories. Afterwards, we will head outside with our magnifying glasses to look for dinosaurs and their bones. You will also be making a cool Dino Trax artwork to take home. Come dressed for outside activities. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

### Fun Family Flicks

**Mondays, June 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, 29, August 3, 10**

**2 PM, Auditorium**

Families are invited to stop by to enjoy a fun family movie in the library's air-condition auditorium. All ages are welcome.

### Escape Room Morning

**Tuesdays, June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 21, 28, August 4, & 11**

**10-11:30 AM, Children's Room**

How many scenarios can you escape from this summer? Each week will be a different situation with new clues to solve! Space is limited. Registration is required so everyone playing has a chance to contribute. You must be going into grades 2-12 to register. Registration will begin two weeks prior to the date of the program.

- 6/23 – Trapped in the Jurassic Era
- 6/30 – Cool Caves

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- 7/7 – Unlock the Chamber of King Tut OR Are You King Tut?
- 7/14 - Dig into the Earth's Crust
- 7/ 21 – Caesar's Ciphers! OR Light the Torch
- 7/28 – Exhibit Ransack
- 8/4 – Pirates in Peril
- 8/11- Finding Fossils from the Past



### **Dig Into Board Games**

**Tuesdays, June 23, July 7, 21, August 4  
3-4 PM Winchell Room**

Every other Tuesday, grades 3-12 can drop by the Winchell Room to dig into board games that you don't want to buy, but would really like to try! Be guided by librarians who have played (almost) all the games, and will get you set up quickly. There is no registration for this drop-in program.

### **Sing, Dance & Play Mornings**

**Wednesday Mornings, June 24 to August 12  
10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Join Ms. Katie for stories, songs, movement, and playful activities on Wednesday mornings this summer. Each week we will sing, dance, and play together as we focus on the weekly summer reading themes. Come join the fun and be ready for outdoor play, weather and time permitting! This program is for children 2-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

### **How to Track Animals and Creatures**

**Wednesday, June 24**

**3 PM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Families of all ages are invited to join Ms. Karyn and Ms. Amanda as we learn to identify what we may find as we travel through time this summer. We will explore NH Fish & Game's Tracking Education kit that has cool tracking activities. This is a drop-in program.

### **Lego Afternoons**

**Fridays, June 26, July 17, 31, August 14**

**3-4:30 PM Winchell Room**

Join us every other Friday afternoon for Lego Afternoon. Come meet, build, and make new Lego friends using the 10,000 Lego pieces donated by Lego Systems. Your creation will be on display in the children's room display cases. This program is for ages 3-12 years old.

### **Messy Cave Art Morning**

**Monday, June 29**

**10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Join us as we explore caves and art. Afterwards, there will be a messy art project for you to take home. We are creating cave paintings to take home. Come dressed for outside and painting activities. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

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**Slime of the Month Club****Tuesdays, June 30, July 14, 28, August 11****3-4 PM Winchell Room**

Every other Tuesday afternoon, we will be holding the Slime of the Month Club! Reserve a spot to make a bowl of your very own slime to take home. You must be going into grades 1-12 to register. Registration will begin two weeks prior to the date of the program Space is limited.

- 6/30 – Tar Pit Slime
- 7/14 – Rock Slime
- 7/28 – Gold Leaf Slime
- 8/11 – Bug in Amber Slime

**250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration****Wednesday, July 1****10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Families of all ages are invited to join Ms. Karyn, Ms. Amanda, and a special guest as we celebrate a milestone birthday; the 250<sup>th</sup> of the USA. There will be old time games such as Graces and sack races on our lawn, along with other fun birthday activities and crafts. There will be refreshments and, of course, birthday cake. This is a drop-in program.

**Dress Like an Egyptian Art Time****Monday, July 6****10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Join us as we explore art that you can wear like the Egyptians. Children will be creating Egyptian style crowns, bracelets and necklaces so they can walk like an Egyptian. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**STEM Afternoons****Wednesdays, July 8, 15, 29, and August 5****3 PM, Winchell Room**

Do you like doing fun STEM based activities and are in elementary school? Then these programs are for you. Over four different Wednesday afternoons during the summer, we will have special guests that will bring a fun 'mobile' science lab for you to take part in fun experiments and projects. Some weeks will require registration, which will begin two weeks prior to the date of the program.

**Let's Make Egyptian Art!****Friday, July 10****3 PM, Winchell Room**

Kids grades K-5 are invited to join Ms. Amanda in making sarcophaguses and mummies to channel your inner pharaoh. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Digging Party**  
**Monday, July 13**  
**10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Join us as we explore everything that is dirt. We will listen to fun construction stories. There will also be activities and crafts to make. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.



**Storytime at the Mall**  
**Tuesday Mornings, July 14 and August 11**  
**11:30 AM, Mall of New Hampshire Food Court Play Area**

Manchester City Library Children's Room and the Mall of New Hampshire are pleased to announce Storytime at the Mall. Once per month, families with children ages 1-6 years old are invited to join Ms. Karyn in the play area for fun summer stories. There will be a craft afterwards for the kids to make and take home.

**Read to AJ**  
**Saturdays, July 18 & August 15**  
**10 AM-12 PM, Children's Room**

Did you know that we have a Reading dog that comes to the Children's Room some Saturdays to listen to stories read by kids? Children of all reading levels are invited to read to a specially trained dog who loves books just as much as you do. You can bring your favorite book, or choose one of ours. For more information or to sign up for a 10-minute reading session, please call 603-624-6550 ext. 7628



**Greek Hero Camp**  
**Monday, July 20**  
**10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Join us as we head to Greece. Kids will become a mighty Herculean hero as we listen to hero stories, play games, and make a craft to take home. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.



**Percy Jackson Party**  
**Wednesday, July 22**  
**3 PM, Winchell Room**

Kids in grades 3-8 are invited to join Ms. Amanda and others by becoming a member of Camp Half-Blood with games and crafts inspired by the books. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Greek Art Fun**  
**Friday, July 24**  
**3 PM, Winchell Room**

Kids grades K-5 are invited to join Ms. Katie as you take a trip to Greece where you will construct the Parthenon with a variety of colored paper to take home. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Dora the Explorer Party****Monday, July 27****10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Come on everyone, let's go! Join us as we take a trip with Dora. There will be adventure stories, games, crafts, and a treasure hunt. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Mermaid Tea Party****Monday, August 3****10 AM, Winchell Room**

Join us for a fun and amazing Mermaid Tea party. There will 'tea' (actually juice), with cookies, stories, and under the sea fun! This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**High Sea's Origami****Friday, August 7****3 PM, Winchell Room**

Kids grades K-5 are invited to join Ms. Amanda to try your hand at the art of Origami. You will be creating paper pirate hats, ocean animals such as fish and crabs, and other fun ocean themed origami. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Fossil Party****Monday, August 10****10 AM, Winchell Room**

Join us for a fun adventure as we look for fossils. We will listen to some prehistoric stories and make some fossils with air-dry clay for you to take home. This program is for children 1-5 years old. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Dinosaur Detectives****Wednesday, August 12****3 PM, Winchell Room**

Kids in grades K-5 are invited to join Ms. Amanda and others in becoming Dino Detectives. There will be Paleontology activities and games that will let you explore and learn about our giant friends of long ago. Registration is required; and will begin 2 weeks prior to the program date.

**Unearth a Story @ Your Library Summer Finale – Morphs and Milestones****Saturday, August 15****11 AM – 1 PM, Auditorium**

In celebration of a fantastic journey through time meeting creatures and friends from a long ago, we will be meeting new creature friends when Nate and Brenda from Morphs and Milestones bring snakes, turtles, and other reptiles from around the world. After an hour presentation, there will be hands-on opportunities where kids will learn about the environments the animals live in, what they eat, and other fun and interesting facts.

**Beach Bubble Party  
Wednesday, August 19**

**10 AM, Winchell Room/Library Lawn**

Before we head back to school, let's take on last trip to the beach! We will listen to fun stories about playing in the sand and sun. Don't forget the sunglasses! There will be activities outside on the side lawn with bubbles and sand painting. This program is for 1-6 years old. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone.



**The Bookmobile is back!**



The Manchester City Library and the Manchester School District is pleased to announce that the **Driven to Read Bookmobile** will be on the road again this summer. It will be making stops throughout the city from July 6 until August 7. There will be storytimes with special guest readers, community groups with special kid activities, or a fun craft to make while they choose a free book to take home. Keep an eye on our Facebook and blog for special

stops on the weekends throughout the city. Remember to update your READSquared account that you attended this program to earn points towards raffle tickets and badges.

**The schedule is below:**

Mondays, July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3	Livingston Park/Playground Area	10:30-11:30 AM
Wednesdays, July 8, 15, 22, 29, August 5	City Hall	10:30-11:30 AM
Thursdays, July 9, 23, August 6	Elmwood Gardens	1-2 PM
Thursdays, July 16, 30	Kelley Falls	1-2 PM

**Manchester City Library**

405 Pine Street  
Manchester, NH 03104

**Monday & Friday**  
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**  
9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

**Saturday**  
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**West Manchester  
Branch Library**

76 North Main Street  
Manchester, NH 03102

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday and Friday**  
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

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**Main Library**

Friday-June 19  
Friday-July 3  
Saturday- July 4  
Wednesday-August 26

**West Branch Library**

Friday-June 19  
Friday-July 3  
Wednesday-August 26

*As the library renovation and roofing projects continue, there may be rolling closures to prepare the building for renovations.*