



Thomas Ford
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

THE
Ford
Connection

Fall 2024



The
Locked in the Library: HAUNTED Carnival

Adults & Families: Thursday, October 24, 5-8 p.m. * Teens & Tweens: Friday, October 25, 5-8 p.m.

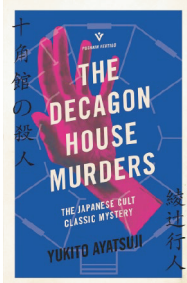
In our newest escape room, you've been trapped at a haunted carnival and need to find an enchanted ticket in order to leave! Teams will work together to find clues, solve puzzles, and discover who is haunting the carnival before time runs out. 20-minute time slots are available for up to 6 people. Puzzles are intended for grades 5 through adults. Sign up by calling or stopping by the Reference Desk!

800 Chestnut Street | fordlibrary.org | (708) 246-0520

books

Library book club discussion groups are open to anyone who enjoys good books! Extra copies are available at the Library one month before the discussion.

7:30 p.m. start time for all



Wednesday,
October 2

The Decagon House Murders

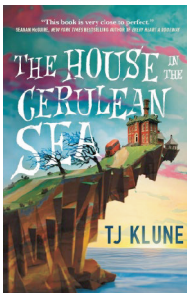
by Yukito Ayatsuji
Thriller & Suspense



Wednesday,
November 6

Foster and Small Things Like These

by Claire Keegan
Fiction

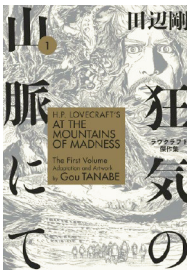


Wednesday,
December 4

The House in the Cerulean Sea

by TJ Klune
Fantasy

Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club



Monday,
October 28

H.P. Lovecraft's At the Mountains of Madness, Vols. 1 & 2

by Gou Tanabe

Spice of the Month

Feeling inspired by flavor? Pick up a Spice of the Month kit! Each kit will come with the necessary spice, a recipe to try, and cookbook recommendations that feature more meals with each month's theme. While supplies last.

September 24: Sesame Seeds
October 29: Poppy Seeds
November 26: Rosemary

JOIN THE CLUB!

GROUPS & DISCUSSIONS

These ongoing Library groups are free for all to attend. No registration required.

Knitting Circle

Every other Thursday: September 5, 19;
October 3, 17; November 7, 21
1 p.m.

Join us for knitting, conversation, and light refreshments.

Western Springs Writers' Society

Second & Fourth Thursdays: September 12, 26, October 10, 24, November 14
7 p.m.

Discuss and hone your craft with other writers from the community! Whether this is your career or hobby, writers of all levels and genres are invited. Questions in advance? Please contact Jim Swinehart at jrswinehart10@gmail.com.

Investment Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays: September 10,
October 8, November 12
7:15 p.m.

Amateur investors meet to discuss trends in stocks, bonds, and more.

films

A series of independent, foreign, and documentary films with optional discussion after each screening. Registration required.

6 p.m. start time for all



Thursday,
September 12 ^R

The Teacher's Lounge

Dir. Ilker Çatak
Drama



Thursday,
October 10 ^R

Raging Grace

Dir. Paris Zarcilla
Horror



Thursday,
November 14 ^R

American Fiction

Dir. Cord Jefferson
Comedy/Drama



Adult Crafts

First preference will be given to Western Springs residents. Please enter your Library card number when registering. Otherwise, you will be put on a waitlist. Note: All supplies will be provided for the crafts below.

Napkin Embroidery ^R

Monday, September 16, 7 p.m.
Learn to embroider a simple fall shape onto a cloth napkin.

Halloween Wreath ^R

Monday, September 30, 7 p.m.
Create a fun, festive piece of decor to celebrate the spooky season!

PAW-Casso Kit ^R

Tuesday, October 1

Pick up a kit for your furry friend to create their very own master-piece! Register your pet, and kindly indicate if you would like a cat or dog kit. Limit one per pet.

Dragon Egg Craft ^R

Monday, October 28, 7 p.m.
Excited for the new Rebecca Yarros book to come out, or just love all things fantasy? Learn to create your very own dragon egg!

DIY Cork Board ^R

Monday, November 18, 7 p.m.
Upcycle old wine corks in this craft where we'll make individual bulletin boards.

Registration opens on **Friday, August 30** for all Teen & Tween programs.

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted.

Teen programs are open to those in grades 5–12.

R Registration required

Watercolor Leaf Prints **R**

Wednesday, September 4, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Brighten your room and welcome the fall season with a fun and festive watercolor painting.

College Planning Webinar **R**

Thursday, September 12, 7 p.m.

2024 brings significant college planning changes. Join us to learn new strategies to give your student the best opportunity to be admitted and maximize scholarships. Great information for teens and parents!



Nintendo Switch

Nintendo Switch Open Play **R**

Friday, September 13, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Join us for multiplayer fun! Participants will choose which games to play. Snacks will be provided.

Mario Kart Tournament **R**

Friday, November 8, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Show off your driving skills in our Mario Kart Tournament! Snacks will be provided.

Teen Board

Third Thursdays: September 19, October 17, November 21; 7 p.m.

Do you have ideas for how the Library can better serve teens and tweens? Join us to share programming suggestions, recommend books, and give input for Library events. We also do a fun craft or activity every meeting. Open to students in grades 5-12. Meet in the Teen/Tween Room.

Thursday, November 7 at 3:45 p.m.

Join us for the first meeting of the Tween Book Club! We will discuss *Lasagna Means I Love You* by Kate O'Shaughnessy. Extra copies are available two months before the discussion. We'll also be making Oreo turkeys to eat while we chat!

FANTASY Map Making **R**

Wednesday, September 18 at 3:45 p.m.

Create your own fantasy world and put it on paper! Use your imagination to make your own fantasy book-style map with us.



Book Page Pumpkin Kit

Wednesday, September 25

You'll never have to throw out this pumpkin decoration! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Grilled Cheese Creations **R**

Monday, October 14, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Cheese lovers unite! Learn how to make grilled cheese sandwiches and try out some new cheese types and toppings.

Beaded Spider Kit

Monday, October 28

Make a spooky, sparkly beaded spider just in time for Halloween! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Modge Podge Mosaic **R**

Monday, November 11, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Put together a beautiful image out of colorful cut glass and mod podge!

Hand Sewn Hand Warmers Kit

Monday, November 26

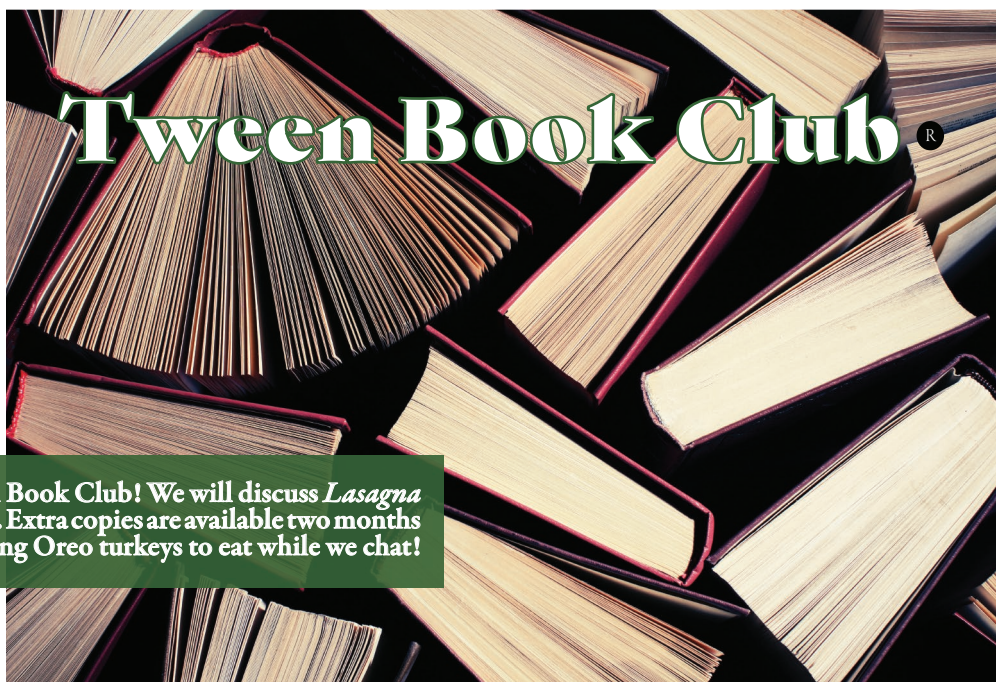
Prepare for the colder weather by sewing reusable leaf-shaped hand warmers! No sewing experience necessary. Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Friday's

Boomerang Fu **R**

Friday, October 11, 3:45–4:45 p.m.

Join a crew of your favorite foods and throw boomerangs at your friends in the cutest combat game ever! Snacks will be provided.



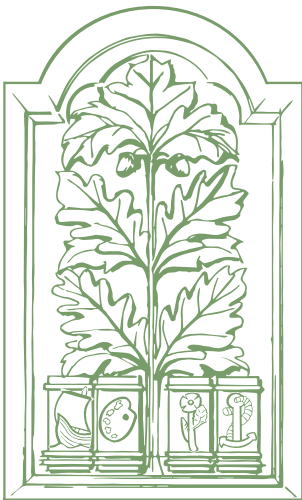
Introducing: Thomas Ford's Refresh!



We are thrilled to announce the upcoming launch of our new website!

This refreshed website design will feature our updated logo, easy-to-navigate menus, and dynamic, interactive content. Our programs and events will be fully integrated, making registration even easier. It will also include comprehensive accessibility features that will work seamlessly across devices for a reliable digital experience.

Keep an eye on fordlibrary.org for the big reveal later this fall!



Coming Soon to Mailboxes: The 2024 Annual Appeal

The Library Foundation's Annual Appeal is anticipated to reach Western Springs residents and businesses by mid-October. In collaboration with the Library staff and Board, the Foundation helps fund key improvements that keep Thomas Ford up-to-date and a pleasure to visit.

Thanks to your generous donations over the past several years, the Library Foundation was able to fund a complete revision of the Library's website in 2024. Debuting soon, we know you will be delighted by the changes that make accessing the Library's resources easier and faster. Plus, it looks beautiful, reflecting the grace and warmth of our beloved building.

Please consider donating by check or giving online at fordlibrary.org. Every donation truly helps the Foundation provide for our Library's future. Thank you for your consideration and support!



LIBRARY FRIENDS Farewell Book Sale

Saturday, November 2 & Sunday, November 3 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You're invited to the Western Springs Library Friends' final Fall Book Sale this November at Thomas Ford! The Library Friends have been generously supporting the Library since 1953, and we are extremely grateful to all of the many volunteers over the years who have made this historic organization such a success. Please join us to stock up and show your gratitude as we commemorate this important chapter in our Library's story.

All proceeds will go directly to support Thomas Ford Memorial Library.




Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise noted.

Storytime Registration begins on Tuesday, September 3 at 9:30 a.m. for Lapsit, Toddler Time, and Preschool Pals only.

For all other programs, Youth Program Registration begins on Wednesday, September 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Register online at fordlibrary.org. Have your library card ready to register online, in person, or by calling (708) 246-0520.

First preference will be given to Western Springs residents.

 Registration required

Sharing the Wonders of Magic!

Families Welcome
Wednesday, September 11
4:30–5:30 p.m.

Join us for a special magic show presented by award-winning magician and children's book author Terrence Hunter!

R.E.A.D. to a Therapaws Pet

Grades K-2
Tuesdays: September 17 OR October 15
6:30–7:30 p.m.

Beginning or independent readers can practice reading aloud to one of the dogs from Hinsdale Humane Society's Therapaws Program. Each child will have a 10-minute slot during the hour. We will advise you of your time slot via email prior to the session, which is allotted on a first come, first served basis. *Due to the popularity of this program, we request that you register your child on one day only.*

ABC's of Magic Class

Grades 2-4
Thursday, September 19
4:30–5:30 p.m.

Led by professional magician Terrence Hunter, this class will guide children through a series of entry-level magic tricks with everyday objects like money, paper, rubber bands, playing cards, wands and more! All materials are provided.



Read & Create: A Big Mooncake for Little Star

Grades K-4
Thursday, September 26
4:30–5 p.m.

In honor of Banned Books Week 2024, we will be reading *A Big Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin. The Caldecott Honor award-winning book was removed from some schools in Pennsylvania in 2021 for featuring diverse characters. We will celebrate the book by creating beautiful moon art!

LEGO Family Night

Families Welcome
Thursday, October 3
6–7 p.m.

Families of LEGO enthusiasts are invited to join us each month to practice and learn LEGO building techniques. Using teamwork and your imagination, build a creation that will be on display in the Youth Services Department for one month. LEGOs will be provided by the Library for this program.

Animals Around the World

Families Welcome
Wednesday, October 16
4:30–5:30 p.m.

Incredible Bats, Inc. will bring various animals to learn about, such as fruit bats, sugar gliders, a wooly opossum, hedgehog, rabbit, armadillo, fennec fox and skunk. We may also have the chance to see reptiles like a gecko, bearded dragon, ball python, or even an Amazon parrot!

Spooky Bingo

Grades K-4
Thursday, October 24
4:30–5:15 p.m.

B-I-N-G-Ooooh! Enjoy the classic game of Bingo with a spooky spin. Participants are welcome to wear their costumes, but it is not required.

Ocean Life Pastels

Grades 1-4
Thursday, October 2
4:30-6 p.m.

Terri Murphy, a children's book and media illustrator and part-time youth librarian, will work with young artists to render their favorite sea creature in oil pastels. Add a simple or complex background for your own special deep-sea design in all its glory!

Building on a Dream

Families Welcome
Wednesday, November 6
4:30–5:15 p.m.

Presented by Steve Belliveau, *Getting Excited About Science* highlights the machines and inventions that helped Chicago grow: bridges, skyscrapers, locks and dams, electricity, and the Tesla Coil. Plus, a tower-building contest!

LEGO Inventors

Grades K-4
Thursday, November 7
4:30–5:15 p.m.

Bring your ideas and imagination to the Library to create a model invention that we will put on display! LEGOs will be provided by the Library for this program.

Thanksgiving Turkey Craft

Grades PreK-1
Thursday, November 21
4–4:30 p.m.

Gobble Gobble! Participants will be turning their handprints into turkeys. We provide the supplies, you make the art, and we will clean up the mess while you leave with your creation.





It's SeptemBERT

September 1–30

Visit the Youth Department and find Bert the cat! Bert loves roaming the stacks at night and finds a new hiding place each day. Tell us what Bert is imagining his cardboard box turned into that day and get a small prize!

Scavenger Hunt: Trick-or-Treat Winnie the Pooh

October 1–31

Winnie the Pooh is trick-or-treating every day in October! Search the Youth Services Department to see which treat he has received. Report which kind of candy Winnie the Pooh is holding, and receive a prize of your own!



DINOVember Scavenger Hunt

November 1–30

The dinosaurs are back for another edition of DINOVember! Stop by the Youth Services Department and try to find them. All brave explorers who find the dinosaurs will be rewarded with a sticker!



Storytimes! *September 23–November 1*

® Registration required

Registration is required for all storytimes and begins on **Tuesday, September 3 at 9:30 a.m.** online at fordlibrary.org. First preference will be given to Western Springs residents.

Due to the popularity of our storytimes, we request that you register your child for one session only.

Lapsit Storytime ®

Birth–23 months w/ adult

Wednesdays or Thursdays or Fridays
10–10:30 a.m.

Help your baby grow up to love books! Share stories, songs, and rhymes with your little one in this lapsit program and introduce them to a lifetime of reading and language enjoyment.

Toddler Time ®

2–3.5 years w/ adult

Mondays: 10–10:30 a.m.
or Mondays: 11–11:30 a.m.
or Tuesdays: 10–10:30 a.m.

Introduce your toddler to early literacy and help build a foundation of reading. We pair short books with songs and rhymes to engage them. Toddlers love to wander and listen during our time together.

Preschool Pals ®

3.5–5 years

Mondays or Tuesdays
1–1:30 p.m.

Hear stories, sing songs, and have fun with your friends! Storytime will highlight early literacy skills that children need to learn before they can read independently. Children attend this storytime **without** their grown-ups so that they can practice being independent.



Summer Library Challenge Sponsors

Thank you to the following sponsors for generously supporting the Library's 2024 Summer Library Challenge!

Chicago Fire | Chicago Red Stars | Chick-fil-A | Chipotle
Dupage County Children's Museum | Field Museum
Kane County Cougars | Kirschbaum's | Kohl Children's Museum
Lost Mountain Adventure Golf | Lou Malnati's Pizzeria
Mattix Music Studio | Museum of Science and Industry
Northern Illinois University | Oberweis | Portillo's
Theatre of Western Springs | Western Springs Library Friends
Thomas Ford Library Foundation

**Thomas Ford
Memorial Library**

800 Chestnut Street
Western Springs, IL 60558
(708) 246-0520
fordlibrary.org

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
9:30 a.m - 5 p.m.
Sunday
1 p.m - 5 p.m.

Library Closings

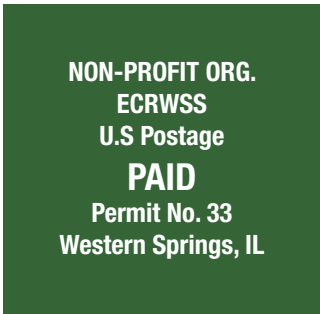
The Library will be closed on Monday, September 2 for Labor Day and Thursday, November 28 for Thanksgiving.

Board of Trustee Meeting Dates

The Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Fall 2024 dates: September 24, October 22, November 26

*****ECRWSSEDDM****

POSTAL CUSTOMER
Western Springs, IL 60558



Ted Bodewes, Library Director

Library Board of Trustees

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Everyday Resources

Thomas Ford Memorial Library offers so much more beyond books and community programming!

From high-speed internet, computer, and printing access to meeting room reservations and more, we're here to be your convenient one-stop destination for all things learning, connecting, and growing. Ask us about our services any time to take advantage of everything!

Library of Things

We have a variety of cool and useful tools available for checkout in our Library of Things collection, including:

- Roku with Apple TV, Disney +, etc.
- LED Therapy Lamp
- GoPro Camera
- Travel Accessories
- Metal Detector
- Collapsible Projection Screen
- Memory Kits for Dementia
- ...and so much more!



Special Virtual Programming

The following virtual events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration between public libraries offering high-quality events. ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com. View full program details at fordlibrary.org.

Being Imperfect with Erika Sánchez [®]

Wednesday, October 9
7 p.m.
Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with Erika Sánchez, award-winning author of *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*, joined in conversation by Cynthia Pelayo.

Raise Your Voice with Jason Reynolds [®]

Tuesday, October 22
7 p.m.
Welcome award-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling author Jason Reynolds as he discusses his life and work as a writer, advocate, and mentor.

Holiday Tips & Tricks with Chef Art Smith [®]

Wednesday, November 20
7 p.m.
Join two-time James Beard Foundation award winner Chef Art Smith to learn about his culinary journey and bring some appetizing inspiration into your holiday season.

you
belong
here