

# WDM LIBRARY

West Des Moines Public Library Monthly Newsletter



**REGULAR HOURS**  
*Labor Day - Memorial Day*  
 Monday - Thursday  
 9am - 9pm  
 Friday 9am - 6pm  
 Saturday 9am - 5pm  
 Sunday 2pm - 5pm

The DesMoiNTrak model trains display visited the library in August!

## Iowa Files Series Returns For 6th Year

For the past six years, the library has been proud to present the Iowa Files History Program with the West Des Moines Historical Society. We're excited to have them back again for a series running monthly from September 2024 - May 2025. This joint library-Historical Society event is free and open to the public thanks to the support of West Des Moines Historical Society Members, the West Des Moines Library Friends Foundation and Diana & Scott Hatfield.

All Iowa Files programs will be live streamed on the West Des Moines Historical Society's Facebook Page and all videos will be closed captioned. They will also be uploaded to their YouTube channel after the event takes place.



**NEXT UP: Iowa Files: Legacy Woods**  
*Sunday, September 8 - 2:30 - 3:30 PM*

There's an exciting new project on the corner of Grand and Fuller- Legacy Woods Nature Sanctuary. When completed, the nearly 30 acre site will include restored prairie and oak savannah, an arboretum and historical campus with the Jordan House, Bennett School and a new heritage center for the public! See the site plan and hear from Ryan Penning, Director of Parks and Recreation, Marco Alvarez, Superintendent of Parks, Allison Ullestad, Arts, Culture & Enrichment Supervisor and Gale Brubaker, Executive Director of the West Des Moines Historical Society.

[View all upcoming Iowa Files events](#)



## Library Closed 9/2 for Labor Day

The Library is Closed on Monday, September 2 for Labor Day. We will reopen at 9:00 AM on Tuesday. We will go back to Regular Hours on that day. Have a great holiday!

### IN THIS ISSUE

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# New Titles Added to the Collection

## Children's



## Young Adult



## Adult



## How do I...



## Q: Get recommendations on what to read next?

A: When you use our "Find Your Next Read" tool a friendly West Des Moines librarian will work with you to find your next best read! You'll tell us about the books you love (and hate!), which genres you tend to gravitate towards, and what format you'd like the book in and we'll get back to you soon with a list of suggestions along with instructions on how to access these titles digitally or pick them up from the library based on your preference. [Use Find My Next Read Now.](#)

Additionally, you can do your own comprehensive searching using the tool Novelist Plus! Novelist Plus is a reader's advisory tool for finding a great book to read! You can search by title, author, genre (mystery, sci-fi, romance) or series. Includes both Fiction and Non-Fiction (you can limit your search to either or both). [Access Novelist Plus.](#)

## Celebrate the 24-Hour Kiosk's New Look with FREE ICE CREAM!

Wednesday, September 25 | 4:30 - 6:30 PM  
@ 217 5th St. in Valley Junction

Visit us at the WDM Library 24-Hour Kiosk in Valley Junction to celebrate its new look! Each attendee will get free ice cream and an opportunity to learn more about the kiosk. Our Words on Wheels book truck will also be in attendance. No registration needed.

Please enter the parking lot behind the Valley Junction Activity Center (off of 4th Street) to locate our party! The Maps address to get you there is 217 5th St., West Des Moines, IA 50265.



## In This Day And Page is Back!

Our West Des Moines Public Library podcast, In This Day and Page, is BACK for season 3! To kick us off, we sat down with our Director, Traci Glass, to chat about her background in libraries and her ultimate vision for the WDM Public Library. This is one you won't want to miss.

[Listen to the podcast now.](#)



# September Adult Events at the WDM Library

## Do You Control Your Money or Does Your Money Control You?

**Thursday, September 5 - 10:30 - 11:30 AM**

This workshop is a budgeting and cash management workshop that aims to teach you how to understand your source(s) of income. No reg.



## Brick by Brick: Building Home Knowledge: Financing

**Monday, September 16 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM OR**

**Monday, September 30 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

Please join us for a series of programs to learn the ins-and-outs of real estate! Tonight's program is: Financing presented by Martha Lebron-Dykeman. No registration.



## Vote Smart: Non Partisan Voter Education for All

**Thursday, September 5 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM**

Representatives from Vote Smart will explain how look up candidates and elected officials – including how they voted on issues and who supports them. No reg.



## Hospice 101

**Tuesday, September 17 - 10:30 - 11:30 AM**

Melissa Wyatt, CMA will explain what hospice is, who makes up a hospice team, and how hospice supports patients and families through and even after the time of death. No reg.



## Tech One-On-One

**Saturday, September 7 & 21 - 10:00, 10:30, 11:00 AM**

Do you have a specific computer, mobile device, or other technology-related questions? We are here to help! Registration requested.



## Adult Craft Night: "Stained Glass" Luminary

**Thursday, September 19 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

Come join us to create a fun craft for the adult crowd! We will have a variety of supplies to make "stained glass" luminaries. Registration is required and spots fill fast.



## Journaling to Heal

**Saturday, September 7 - 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Journaling to Heal© supports participants on their path to healing and recovery from life's challenges. Bring your own notebook/ journal, along with a photograph, image or object that has special meaning. Reg required.



## Step Back in Time: Historical Fiction Book Group

**Thursday, September 19 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM**

*Hosted at the Jordan House (2001 Fuller Road)*

This group discusses titles from a wide variety of time/places/people. Please join us for a discussion of The Long March Home by Marcus Brotherton. Reg required.

## Iowa Files: Legacy Woods

**Sunday, September 8 - 2:30 - 3:30 PM**

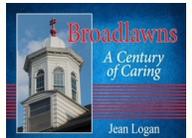
See the plans for the nearly 30 acre site that will include restored prairie and oak savannah, an arboretum and historical campus with the Jordan House, Bennett School and a new heritage center for the public! No reg.



## Broadlawns: A Century of Caring

**Monday, September 23 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM**

Broadlawns: A Century of Caring is believed to be the first comprehensive book about the healthcare facility. Author Jean Logan documents the rich history and curated stories from the last century. No reg.



## Club Read & Book Club Social: Hybrid Edition

**Monday, September 9 & 23 - 7:00 - 8:45 PM**

Join Alana and Amy for a hybrid book club meeting. We will be discussing Earth's the Right Place for Love by Elizabeth Berg. Join them on 9/23 to discuss what you've been reading for the month. Registration required.



## Author Event: Stephanie R. Caffrey

**Tuesday, September 24 - 6:45 - 8:00 PM**

The Friends Foundation is proud to present local author of romantic suspense, Stephanie R. Caffrey. The in-person event begins at 6:45 PM with wine and cheese, and the Zoom portion starts at 7:00 PM. No reg.

## Garden Talk: Beyond Tulips: Allium, Daffodils, Crocus and more...

**Tuesday, September 10 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM**

Come learn about soil prep, tips, techniques and some less-common bulb varieties. Whether you've been planting tulips and daffodils for years, or you're brand-new to it, you are welcome to attend! No reg.



## An Evening with Ruth Harkin: When My Husband Ran For President and Other Short Stories

**Thursday, September 26 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

The WDM Public Library is thrilled to host Ruth Harkin to discuss her recently published book. Beavertdale Books will be onsite selling copies. No registration.



## YA Not Club Read

**Thursday, September 12 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

YA Not Club Read is our non-traditional book club for "Grown ups" who like to read and talk about Young Adult books. This month we'll be discussing your choice of a title from the vault: a YA "Classic." Reg required.



## Final Friday Fiber Club

**Friday, September 27 - 10:00 - 11:30 AM**

All fiber artists are invited to join us for Final Friday Fiber Club, an informal opportunity to get together with other fiber artists to make new friends while creating your own handmade masterpieces. Reg required.



## WDM Writer's Group

**Saturday, September 14 & 28 - 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

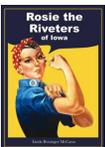
Open to aspiring authors of all experience levels. Each participant brings an approximately 1500-word excerpt of their work-in-progress to read aloud. No reg.



## Rosie the Riveters of Iowa

**Saturday, September 14 - 2:00 - 3:00 PM**

Author Linda Betsinger McCann will share about her research and newest book, Rosie the Riveters of Iowa. She'll share how she started writing books about Iowa history, as well as the research that went into this newest book. No reg.



## Paint a Watercolor Pumpkin

**Saturday, September 28 - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

With watercolor paint and easy techniques, participants will capture a colorful pumpkin that leaves you smiling. All supplies and materials will be provided. Reg required.



## Plant Swap: Fall Bulbs and Perennials

**Saturday, September 28 - 2:00 - 5:00 PM**

Bring your potted or bagged plants and bulbs to the Community Room and meet other local gardeners to browse and swap or just set your plants on the designated tables for trade. No reg.



## A Complete and Most Sensible Lady

**Sunday, September 15 - 2:00 - 3:30 PM**

Charlotte Brontë once said that "Jane Austen was a complete and most sensible lady, but a very incomplete and rather insensible woman." What did she mean? No reg.



**The WDM Library works hard to make every program enjoyable to all patrons. If you have specific accessibility or accommodation questions for an upcoming event, please email [library@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:library@wdm.iowa.gov) or call 515-222-3405.**

# Children & Teen September Events at the WDM Library

## Library Closed: Labor Day

**Monday, September 2 - All Day**

The Library is Closed on Monday for Labor Day.

We will reopen at 9 AM on Tuesday. Have a good holiday!



## Tween Club Read: Ground Zero

**Tuesday, September 3 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM**

(Ages 11-14)

If you like to talk about books (but you're getting too old for our other book clubs), this club is for you. Join us for discussion and activities related to this month's book Ground Zero by Alan Gratz! Register online or at the Children's Desk. Get a copy at the Children's Desk.



## Family Storytime

**Wednesdays (6:30 - 7:30 PM) Thursdays (10:30 - 11:30 AM) and Fridays (10:30 - 11:30 AM) Dates: 9/11, 9/12, 9/13, 9/18, 9/19, 9/20, 9/25, 9/26, 9/28**

(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Join us for this class featuring stories, songs, and rhymes followed by gross and fine motor play all with an early literacy focus! No registration.



## Teen Nintendo Switch Free-Play

**Thursday, September 12 - 5:30 - 7:30 PM**

(Grades 6-12)

Teens! Take a study break and play some games with friends. We're bringing out the Nintendo Switch for an evening of gaming. No registration required



## Lapsit Storytime

**Mondays (9/9, 9/16, 9/23) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM**

**OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM**

(Ages 1 mo. - 18 mo. w/ adult)

Using puppets, rhymes, songs, and short stories, we will engage baby and caregiver in language-rich activities designed for pre-walking babies. No registration required.



## Saturday Storytime

**Saturdays (9/14, 9/21, 9/28) -**

**9:30 - 10:00 AM OR 10:30 - 11:30 AM**

(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Drop in and join us in the storyroom for Saturday Storytime! Build a lifetime love of books and reading as we share stories, songs, and interactive rhymes with an early literacy focus. No registration.



## Family Night at the Library: Kindness Rocks!

**Monday, September 9 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM**

(All Ages)

August is over. School has started. It's (hopefully) cooler outside. Let's paint some kindness rocks together! Please register each person attending (children and adults).



## Group Service Project (Teens)

**Wednesday, September 25 - 3:00 - 5:00 PM**

(Grades 9-12)

Are you looking for a few Silver Cord, Community Service, or other volunteer hours? The Library is looking for volunteers to help with a monthly group service project. No experience or training necessary! Registration required.

## Toddler Storytime

**Tuesdays (9/10, 9/17, 9/24) 9:30 - 10:00 AM**

**OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM**

(Ages 6 mo. - 2 yrs w/ adult)

Simple stories, gentle tunes, flannel boards, and nursery rhymes. Each week we will incorporate activities that emphasize and reinforce body part identification, counting, rhythm, sensory stimulation, fine and gross motor skills, and animal sounds. No registration.



## WDM Library Kiosk Grand Reopening Ice Cream Party!

**Wednesday, September 25 - 4:30 - 6:30 PM**

**Hosted at the Library Kiosk (217 5th St)**

(All Ages)

Visit us at the WDM Library 24-Hour Kiosk in Valley Junction to celebrate it's new look! Each attendee will get free ice cream and an opportunity to learn more about the kiosk. No reg.



## Kids Club Read: I Survived the Attacks of September 11, 2001

**Tuesday, September 10 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM**

(Ages 7-10)

Join us for discussion and activities related to this month's book, I Survived the Attacks of September 11, 2001 by Lauren Tarshis. If you need a copy of the book, please come to the Children's Desk and check out a book club copy! Registration required.



## Kids Graphic Novel Club Read: The Moth Keeper

**Thursday, September 26 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM**

(Ages 8-12)

Join us for discussion and activities related to this month's book, The Moth Keeper by Kay O'Neill. If you need a copy of the book, please come to the Children's Desk and check out a book club copy! Reg required.



## Baby Doll Storytime

**Wednesdays (9/11, 9/18, 9/25) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM**

**OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM**

(Ages 18 mo. - 3 yrs w/ adult)

Bring a favorite doll or stuffed animal and join us for Baby Doll Storytime. Children will participate in songs, rhymes, and stories while interacting with their baby doll. An opportunity for social, emotional and literacy learning through play! No registration.



## Amphitheater Readers

**Friday, September 27 - 6:00 - 8:00 PM**

**Hosted at Jamie Hurd Amphitheater (4100 Mills Civic Pkwy)**

(All Ages)

Get ready for a magical night of stories at Amphitheater Readers! Dive into your favorite tales with read-aloud sessions on stage or find a cozy spot on the grass for some quiet reading time. Don't forget your blanket and flashlight! No reg.



## After School Adventures: Lego Club!

**Wednesday, September 11 - 3:45 - 4:30 PM**

(Ages 5-12)

Join us in the Community Room after school to embark on an adventure! Sign up this month and participate in a building challenge using everyone's favorite interlocking brick system. Registration required.



**The WDM Library works hard to make every program enjoyable to all patrons. If you have specific accessibility or accommodation questions for an upcoming event, please email [library@wdm.iowa.gov](mailto:library@wdm.iowa.gov) or call 515-222-3405.**