That special kind of stir crazy is setting in at this time of year: Summer is almost here.

We long for those picture-perfect summer days when we can break free and head outside to feel the sun on our faces and wind in our hair. We long for summer vacations when we have free time to explore and go on adventures.

Adventure Begins at Your Library. How apropos it is that this is the theme of Summer Reading Club for 2024.

We’ll have special performances and a sing-a-thon, highlight the best summer hiking spots in Kane County, host a writer’s group, have animals in the Library, feature an Art Adventure, and head outside for Bingo and crafts in local parks. And to launch our big summer of adventures, we’ll throw an incredible Kick-Off bash with giant games, ice cream, a roving juggler and face painting.

Now that’s summertime.

Between Friday, May 24, and Monday, Aug. 5, you may read or listen to any book, regardless of whether it’s online, checked out from the Library, pulled from your own bookshelves, or borrowed from a friend.

Simply log your books as you complete them, either on paper logs available on our website or in the Library, or via the Beanstack app. Each completed reading log will earn adults and teens the chance for Summer Reading Club prizes. Children ranging in age from babies through 8th grade may earn the chance for rewards by reading or doing special activities.

It’s going to be a great summer.

BORN TO READ
What if you could give a truly one-of-a-kind present to a family member or a friend’s new baby? You could give the gift of literacy through the Born to Read program.

Born to Read was initiated by the Batavia Public Library and developed by community members to encourage reading aloud to children. Through this program, families with a baby ages 12 months and younger – who also live in the Batavia Public Library District, Batavia School District 101, or city of Batavia – are eligible to receive a book bag containing new board books for their baby and early literacy information for parents.

Book bags are available in English and Spanish.

Born to Read book bags may be purchased at the Batavia Public Library Check Out Desk for $35. They make great new baby gifts.

Because a child’s success in life is important to you and our community, you may sponsor a bag for someone in Batavia. This program is made possible through the generous support of sponsors.

If families would like a book bag, they may stop by the Youth Services Desk on the Library’s lower level to register for one.

For more information, visit the Library’s website at bataviapubliclibrary.org/born-to-read or contact the Youth Services Department at 630-879-1393, ext. 500.
Happy spring, Batavia!
The beautiful weather has given us a “spring in our step” as we prepare for May and June. We have so many wonderful resources and fun programs to share with you.

- New Programs for Active Adults – Over What Hill? and The Sweet Life After 50 – our Outreach Specialist, Misty Jump, started these two new program series to keep you fit and fabulous, as well as to tap into your creative side with fun craft projects and activities. Come join the fun!
- Our Seed Library is back for the second year. We have veggie, herb and flower seeds waiting to be planted all over Batavia. Come pick some up!
- We are very excited about our new Memory Care Kits, designed for anyone living with dementia or other cognitive impairments. These kits, carefully assembled by staff members, contain hands-on activities and books to help promote mental and emotional stimulation. Come check one out!

- Get creative in our MakerZone space with ongoing activities and new programs.

For kids and families, we have all sorts of fun things to enjoy:
- Bingo at Big Woods Park
- Jim Gill’s Sing-a-thon of Celebrated Songs
- Free Comic Book Day
- Candy Sushi
- Read with Rover

And don’t forget our annual Summer Reading Club for all ages. This year’s theme is Adventure Begins at Your Library and the kick-off event is Monday, June 3. We will feature a juggler, face painting, ice cream and fun games.

There is something for everyone at Batavia Public Library. Come join us for some adventures this summer!

Josephine “Jo” Tucci
Library Executive Director

Friends’ Evening Book Sales
Wednesday, May 8
from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Friends of the Batavia Public Library will host its new, monthly Evening Book Sale from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8, in the FriendSpace. The FriendSpace is located on the Library’s lower level. Credit cards are accepted. If Saturdays are too hectic for you to shop the Saturday monthly book sales, these Wednesday evening sales might be the perfect option. Please note: There won’t be a sale in June.

Friends’ Book Sales
Saturday, May 11
from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Friends of the Batavia Public Library will host its monthly Book Sale from 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, in the FriendSpace. The FriendSpace is located on the Library’s lower level. Credit cards are accepted. Year-round book coupons will be for sale, redeemable for a free children’s book, young adult book, or small, Mass Market paperback book.

Please note: There won’t be a sale in June.

The Friends of the Batavia Public Library is dedicated to promoting, improving, and assisting the Batavia Public Library. We are a 501(c)(3) organization, with all donations fully tax-deductible. If your employer has set up a Matching Funds Program, we are legally qualified to accept these funds. This is a way to double your donation to the Friends of the Batavia Public Library.
PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS AND TEENS

Registration information: Registration is required for some programs; please call the Reference Desk, 630-879-1393, ext. 200, or register online at BataviaPublicLibrary.org.

Advance registration is required for programs designated 🅱️.

FEATURE PROGRAMS

Volunteer Fair
Thursday, May 9, 2-7 p.m.
In person
Join us at the Volunteer Fair in partnership with the Batavia Chamber of Commerce. Connect with organizations dedicated to making a difference and discover how you can lend your time and talents to meaningful causes. There will be a wide range of rewarding opportunities for all ages that match your interests and skills. Don’t miss the chance to be part of something special – visit the Volunteer Fair at the Batavia Public Library, 10 S. Batavia Ave. This event is free.

The Windy City on the Air: Chicago and the Golden Age of Radio 🅱️
Thursday, June 13, 7 p.m.
In person
Chicago was a major radio epicenter during the medium’s early years. Steve Darnall, publisher of Nostalgia Digest magazine, explores Chicago’s many groundbreaking contributions to the medium, including soap operas, juvenile adventure serials, early morning radio shows and local legends that became national sensations.

HOW-TO COMMUNITY

Composting for Everyone! 🅱️
Wednesday, May 8, 7 p.m.
In person
We will take a quick look at the science behind composting and the environmental benefits of this earth-friendly practice. Attendees will learn many ways they can compost, both by participating in county programs and by establishing composting systems at home. We’ll learn the pros and cons of various outdoor and indoor (think worms!) composters and leave with the knowledge needed to get started.

Bad Actors Targeting Veterans: How to Spot Them & What to Do 🅱️
Wednesday, May 15, 7 p.m.
In person
Randall L. Tyner, senior assistant attorney general for the Military and Veterans Rights Bureau, will cover common frauds and scams targeting veterans.

Best Seasonal Hikes in Kane County Forest Preserves 🅱️
Thursday, May 30, 7 p.m.
In person
Learn about the ephemeral beauty of spring and summer wildflowers and some of the folklore behind species native to our region. Our naturalist also will share some of the best forest preserve hikes for enjoying nature’s woodland wildflower display.

Summer Writers’ Group 🅱️
Wednesdays, June 12, July 10 & Aug. 14, 7 p.m.
In person
Have you always wanted to write? What’s holding you back? If you don’t know where to begin or suffer from writer’s block, this may be the writer’s group for you. Rebecca Kohles has been a ghostwriter for the last four years, and she will lead a group that is supportive of each other and emphasizes how to craft an outline, whether your work is fiction or nonfiction.

NEW PROGRAMS FOR ACTIVE ADULTS

The Sweet Life After 50 🅱️
Mondays, May 13, June 10 & 24, 1:30-3 p.m.
In person
Visit the Library for social time and a relaxed craft or activity. This program is designed for individuals 50 and older who enjoy working fun and easy crafts, games and puzzles while socializing with other active adults. Crafts and activities change routinely so there’s always something fresh and exciting to try.

Over What Hill? 🅱️
Tuesdays, May 14 & 28, June 11 & 25, 1:30-3 p.m.
In person
This program is designed for individuals 50 and older who enjoy learning something new that keeps them moving and active.
**Questions & Ancestors**

**Genealogy at the Library**

**QUESTIONS & ANCESTORS GENEALOGY SERIES**

**DNA No. 1: Beginning Genetic Genealogy**
Monday, May 20, 7 p.m.
Hybrid - in person & online via Zoom
Since DNA has become the latest technique in our genealogy toolbox, it’s important to understand what this means for your own research. This presentation covers some DNA basic training and helps you develop a DNA research question based on your own personal testing strategy. Which test? Which company? Explore some answers. Register at tinyurl.com/yc2j7c2n.

**DNA No. 2: What Do I Do With It Now That I Have It? Working With DNA Test Results**
Monday, June 3, 7 p.m.
Hybrid - in person & online via Zoom
Once you get your DNA test results back, how can you best understand and utilize them? This presentation covers tips on transferring raw DNA results to other companies, creating a skeleton digital family tree to link to your test results, working with family members’ tests and more. Register at tinyurl.com/ynxfhn3r.

**DNA No. 3: Going the Extra Mile: Additional Sites, Tools & Techniques**
Monday, June 17, 7 p.m.
Hybrid - in person & online via Zoom
After learning the basics and making the most of our DNA tests, this third installment looks at analyzing those results using DNA tools like shared matches and chromosome browsers, plus an introduction to GEDmatch, visual phasing, DNA Painter and more. Register at tinyurl.com/n6mnn2dd.

**Genealogy: HeritageQuest & HeritageHub**
Thursday, May 9, 9 a.m.

**Genealogy: Ancestry Library Edition**
Wednesday, May 15, 9 a.m.

**Genealogy: FamilySearch.org**
Wednesday, May 22, 9 a.m.

**Genealogy: Free Websites**
Wednesday, May 29, 9 a.m.

**Surprise Me Bundles**
Ongoing
Adults and teens – Do you need something new to read or watch, but you’re not sure what to choose from the Library’s collection? We can help. Fill out our Surprise Me Bundle form, and librarians will search for up to five items and set them aside for you to pick up. Fill out the form here: tinyurl.com/yyxgy67h.

**Adult Book Subscription Bags**
June, July, and August
Love surprises? Looking for fresh reading ideas? Sign up for a three-month subscription to a Book Subscription Bag filled with a library book selected especially for you, as well as a few surprise goodies to keep. We’ll notify you when your bag is ready. Registration required by May 15. Limit: 15. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/adultsum24.

**SUNDAES ON STAGE**

The Batavia Public Library Foundation is the 2024 season sponsor.

**Eleanor Roosevelt: On Discovering How to Be Useful**
Sunday, May 19, 2 p.m.
In person
A reluctant first lady, Eleanor Roosevelt faced great backlash as she sought to change the world. With ready humor and relentless activism, Roosevelt overcame her introversion and shyness to embrace her role as Mrs. Roosevelt. Join nationally acclaimed playwright and historical impersonator, Megan Wells, as she brings the conversational warmth of Roosevelt to life.

**Heatwave! Vintage Songs of Summer**
Sunday, June 30, 2 p.m.
In person
Matt and Cynthia Gruel of Nostalgia Entertainment present a one-hour musical show capturing the essence of summer with “Heatwave,” “Summer in the City,” “Summertime Blues,” “California Girls,” “Cruel Summer,” “Hot Stuff,” “Too Darn Hot” and many more.
**ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT**

**The Many Lives of Kal Penn**

Tuesday, May 7, 7 p.m. | Online via Zoom

The son of Indian immigrants, Kal Penn discusses his many lives: writer, producer, former White House staff member, starring actor of “Harold & Kumar” and much more.

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com.

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**MONTHLY PROGRAMS**

**Book Discussion**

Tuesday, May 14, 7:30 p.m.

“Vesper Flights” by Helen MacDonald

MacDonald’s collection of more than three dozen essays and observations of birds, insects and other animals will appeal to readers seeking a thoughtful examination of how humans interact with the natural world. This beautifully written, poignant, and sobering collection will inspire you to get outside, now.

Tuesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.

“How to Know a Person” by David Brooks

There is one thing we as humans are not good at, and that is knowing a person and being able to make them feel seen. New York Times columnist David Brooks creatively guides anyone searching for connection and yearning to be understood.

**Books Between Bites**

Thursday, May 16, Noon

In person

Sears Kit Houses in Batavia, Geneva and Beyond, presented by Karl Bruhn.

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**INDIVIDUAL COACHING SESSIONS**

Batavia Public Library card required. Call the Reference Desk, 630-879-1393, ext. 200, to schedule a session.

**Technology Coaching**

Schedule an appointment with a technology assistant for a one-hour, one-on-one coaching session based on your individual needs. Available Monday-Thursday by appointment.

**Genealogy Research**

Whether you’re just starting or would like help overcoming obstacles, a librarian will guide you in your genealogy research during a one-hour, one-on-one session. Available Monday-Friday by appointment.

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**COMMUNITY CHECK-IN**

Check out the Library on social media

Check in with staff members from Batavia Public Library. Catch us on our social media pages chatting with local and famous authors and showing you cool things you can do and check out at your Library. You will need a personal Instagram, Facebook or TikTok account to interact with us. Follow our accounts and turn on notifications so you don’t miss our posts.

- Instagram: www.instagram.com/bataviapubliclibrary
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/BataviaPublicLibrary
- TikTok: www.tiktok.com/@bataviapubliclibrary
TEEN PROGRAMS

Advance registration is required for programs designated 📅. For volunteer opportunities, look for the 🔄.

Volunteer Opportunities 🔄
Ongoing
Looking to earn volunteer hours? The Library needs you!
• Inclusion Game Night is going strong, and volunteers are welcome to join in the fun (see below).
• We also have free tug toy craft kits you can make and return to the Library for volunteer credit. Visit the Reference Desk for a kit or ask for a kit to be held for curbside pickup.
• For more ideas and monthly volunteering suggestions, sign up for the Teen Volunteering Challenge on the Beanstack app.

Inclusion Game Night 🔄 🔄
Tuesday, May 7 & June 4
6:30-8:15 p.m.
In person
Teens and young adults of all abilities, their families and friends are welcome to play board games and card games together. We need to limit registration for safety, so please register.

Dungeons & Dragons 📅
Thursday, May 16 & June 20
4-5:30 p.m.
In person
Dungeons & Dragons
Calling all Young Dragon Slayers, join us to build a character and talk all things D&D. Please see further description on page 30.

Adulting 101 – How to Sew a Button 🔄
Tuesday, May 28, 4-5 p.m.
Wednesday, June 26, 6-7 p.m.
In person
Missing buttons on your favorite shirt? Never fear...the Library will help you learn how to mend a button. This program is for teens and adults. Materials will be provided. Limit: 10.

Teen Nintendo Switch
Super Smash Bros.
Ultimate Tournament 📅
Thursday, May 30, 3-4:30 p.m.
In person
Grab your friends and unwind after school playing Super Smash Bros. Ultimate on the Nintendo Switch. Four people can play at one time. Grades 6-12. Limit: 12.

Finals Study Week – Exam Cram Monday-Wednesday, May 20-22
4-9 p.m.
Drop in
Head to the Library to study alone or with friends. Food deliveries are allowed and welcomed in the Newton Room.

Express Teen Book Bag – Summer Edition 📅
June, July, and August
All the benefits of our Teen Subscription Book Bags with none of the pressure. Choose a month (or two or three), then a mood, and we'll select a YA book for your summer reading enjoyment. You also will receive a food item or other goodies each month. Limit: 10. Sign up here: tinyurl.com/teensum24.

ACT/SAT Prep
Tutor.com provides on-demand tutoring, homework help, test preparation and writing assistance in more than 60 subjects seven days a week, from noon to midnight. You also may use their drop-off reviews, practice quizzes, video lessons, and The Princeton Review SAT/ACT Essentials. For practice tests, visit Testing & Education Reference Center to practice taking the ACT, SAT, GED, AP placement exams and more. This database also provides information about scholarships and colleges.

FOR BABIES, TOTS AND PRESCHOOLERS

Truck Tales
Tuesday, May 21, 10 a.m.
Ages 2-6
Love trucks? Celebrate Public Works Week with truck stories shared by Library and Batavia Public Works staff, then climb aboard one of Batavia's big trucks.

Babies Explore Summer Reading
Friday, May 24, 10 a.m.
Babies through 23 months with a caregiver
Enjoy interactive songs, rhymes, and stories about summer and talk about the upcoming summer reading program for babies.

Sensory Play: Ocean Friends 📅
Thursday, June 6, 9:30 a.m.
Ages 2-6 with a caregiver
Have a fun playtime with our ocean friends sensory stations. May be messy.

Youth programs continued on page 30
American Red Cross
Babysitter’s Training Course* 🎓 Without CPR & First Aid
Tuesday, June 4, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Ages 11-15
This 7.5-hour training course helps students learn basic babysitting skills and how to deal with emergencies. Please note: It does NOT include CPR/ first aid certification. Participants must attend the entire day. Due to the popularity of this program, a lottery drawing will be held. Registration begins May 1. Lottery drawing will be May 21. Call the Youth Services Desk to register. Priority will be given to Batavia Public Library cardholders.

With CPR & First Aid
Thursday, June 13 & Friday, June 14, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
OR Wednesday, July 10 & Thursday, July 11, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Ages 11-15
These two-day training courses help students learn basic babysitting skills PLUS CPR and first aid. Participants will earn CPR certificates upon successful participation and demonstration of skills. Registrants must attend both days in full. Registration begins May 1. Lottery drawings will be held May 31 for the June classes and June 26 for the July classes. Call the Youth Services Desk to register. Priority will be given to Batavia Public Library cardholders.

*These programs are funded by the Friends of Batavia Public Library.

Chess Knight 🎪
Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m.
Ages 6 -14
Participants should have a basic knowledge of the game of chess.

Perler Beads 🎮
Wednesday, June 5, 1:30 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.
Grades 3-5
Choose from an amazing assortment of bead colors and templates to develop your own creation.

Babes Explore Music
Monday, June 10, 10 a.m.
Babies through 23 months with a caregiver
Enjoy interactive songs, rhymes, and stories featuring music. Learn how to incorporate music into your baby’s life every day while you enjoy a special storyline.

Storytime at the Caboose
Thursday, June 13, 10:30 a.m.
Ages 2-6
Enjoy your favorite books, rhymes and songs with a Youth Services staff member at the Batavia Depot Museum Caboose, weather permitting. Co-sponsored by Batavia Depot Museum and Batavia Park District.

Stroller Fitness in the Reading Garden
Tuesday, June 25, 9:30 a.m.
Babies through 23 months with a caregiver
Meet in the Reading Garden where we’ll engage our cores and strengthen our bodies by doing body weight exercises, then do cardio with laps around the Library. Please bring a stroller, towel, and water bottle, and wear clothing and shoes for working out.

FOR STUDENTS
Middle School Take ‘N’ Make Kits
May & June
Grades 6-8
Visit the Junior Fiction bookshelves for a take-home craft kit for middle schoolers. Kits are rotated at the end of the month and available on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last.

Free Comic Book Day
Saturday, May 4
Children may stop by the Youth Services Desk for a free comic book today, while supplies last.

Dungeons & Dragons
Thursday, May 16, 3:30 pm
Character Creation 101: Learn how to build your character by choosing class, skills, spells, and more.
Thursday, June 20, 3:30 pm
Let the Game Begin: Take your character on its first journey.
Grades 6-12
Middle and high school students are invited to hang out at the Library as we build characters and start a new campaign while playing Dungeons & Dragons. Registration is requested, but walk-ins are welcome.

Chess Knight 🎪
Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m.
Ages 6 -14
Participants should have a basic knowledge of the game of chess.

Perler Beads 🎮
Wednesday, June 5, 1:30 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.
Grades 3-5
Choose from an amazing assortment of bead colors and templates to develop your own creation.

Care of Small Pets 🐾
Friday, June 7, 10 a.m.
Grades K-2
Thinking of getting a small pet like a rabbit, guinea pig or hamster? Learn the essentials of proper pet care and build an obstacle course for a real rabbit, then watch it scurry through the maze. Presented by the University of Illinois Extension.

Read with Rover 🐶
Saturday, June 8, 10-11 a.m.
Saturday, June 22, 10-11 a.m.
Monday, July 8, 11 a.m.-noon
Grades 1-4
Children are invited to practice their reading skills by reading aloud to a trained therapy dog. Register for a 15-minute time slot by calling the Youth Services Desk. Presented by Fox Valley Therapy Dogs.

Art Adventures 🎨
Tuesday, June 11
Ages 6-9, 10 a.m.
Ages 10-14, 11 a.m.
 Writers often craft maps of the worlds they create. Follow artist Becka Davis as she guides you through reading maps and crafting your own unique world.

Make Your Own Bubble Tea 🍵
Wednesday, June 26, 2:30 pm
Grades 6-8
Tea aficionado or tea novice, visit the Library to learn how to make your own Bubble Tea!

Candy Sushi 🍱
Thursday, June 27, 3 p.m.
Grades 3-5
Nothing fishy going on here! Let’s turn sushi into a dessert – by making it from candy! Each participant will receive a tray of ingredients to create colorful and yummy sushi.

FOR FAMILIES
Weekly Wow Activities
All ages
Stop by Youth Services for a new special activity each week. Activities will be available Monday-Saturday beginning June 3.
Spin the Wheel for Reading!
Beginning Monday, May 13
Ages infant-14
Summer Reading Club is almost here! Don’t miss reading fun and rewards. Beanstack is the app-based digital reading and activity tracker you will use to record your summer reading accomplishments, and earn drawing entries and rewards. Whether you are new to Beanstack or you have completed several challenges already, show us you are registered for Summer Reading Club 2024 on the Beanstack app or register in-person at the Youth Services Desk and Spin the Wheel for a reward. One spin per person please.

Playground Passport
Friday, May 24-Tuesday, Aug. 13
All ages
Pick-up a Playground Passport from the Youth Services Desk, then spend your summer visiting, rating, and reviewing playgrounds. Draw a picture of your favorite part, then check in at the Youth Services Desk and we’ll stamp your passport. Visit enough playgrounds to win a prize!

Summer Reading Club Kick-Off
Monday, June 3, 11 a.m.-noon
Families
Let’s celebrate the start of Summer Reading Club together. Enjoy roving juggling from Andy Head, face painting, ice cream and giant games. The Lions Club will offer free vision screenings for all ages. Let the adventure begin. Sponsored by Friends of the Batavia Public Library.

LEGO Building Challenge
Sunday, June 9, 2 p.m.
Families
Drop in for a family LEGO challenge featuring a variety of challenge cards to test your building skills. Your family’s creation will be displayed in the Library. Program available while supplies last.

Bingo at Big Woods 🎲
Wednesday, June 12, 11 a.m.
Wednesday, July 3, 11 a.m.
Ages 3-14
Join us at Big Woods Park for outdoor Bingo, weather permitting. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. We’ll provide the Bingo cards and fun. Children must be accompanied by a caregiver. Co-sponsored by the Batavia Park District.

Fairytale Storytime
Monday, June 24, 11 a.m.
For families with children ages 2-6
You are cordially invited to dress in your favorite royal attire and join us for some stories about princesses, knights and dragons!

Sing & Dance with BroZone
Friday, June 28, 10:30 a.m.
All ages
Sing and dance along with Branch, Poppy, Viva, and the members of BroZone during this special movie showing at the Library. Snacks and crafts provided. No registration required.