

The Library Link

◆ NORTHERN TIER LIBRARY
JUNE & JULY 2026



Both our Richland & Pine locations will be closed on Saturday, July 4 in observance of the Fourth of July.

SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM

We're excited to dig into this year's Summer Learning Program, *Unearth a Story*. Be ready to explore this year's theme with earthy crafts, dazzling dinosaur programs & lots of underground activities.

A wide variety of events will be offered this summer to encourage discovery & strengthen our community, including makerspace kits to enjoy at home, drop-in crafts available anytime you visit the library, & spaces to engage with technology, building, & creating. Storytimes, cooking classes, community events, & fun challenges will also be available!



JURASSIC TRAINING: KICKOFF PARTY Saturday, June 6 @ 11 AM

Join us for our Summer Learning Program kickoff event featuring fossil making & dinosaur finding activities! STEM learning, artistic exploration, fun games including our bouncy castle, & snacks will be available for paleontologists of all ages.

This event is for all members of the community & will be hosted on the lower level of the library.

EXPERIENCE KITS

This summer, Allegheny County libraries are offering Experience Kits that provide up to four people with free admission to local museums & historical sites. Check out a kit at your local library starting June 1! Participating museums for 2026 include:

- Heinz History Center (+Fort Pitt Museum & Meadowcroft)
- Bradford House & Whiskey Rebellion Education & Visitor Center
- Fort McIntosh
- Gibson House Manor
- Historic Fort Steuben
- Lincoln Highway Experience
- McKeesport Regional History & Heritage Center

The Experience Kit program is coordinated through the Heinz History Center's Affiliates Program (HCAP), which includes more than 125 regional historical societies & organizations dedicated to preserving local history. The Affiliate Program members include history, genealogy, & library organizations located primarily within the counties of Western Pennsylvania.

RADPASS

RADPass is a program for library cardholders in Allegheny County to reserve free or discounted tickets to cultural organizations in Pittsburgh. Go to radpass.org for current offers & more information.

Northern Tier Library Richland Center

4015 Dickey Rd
Gibsonia PA 15044
724-449-2665
northerntierlibrary.org

Mon - Wed: 9 am - 7 pm
Thu - Sat: 9 am - 5 pm

Northern Tier Library Pine Center

100 Pine Park Dr
Wexford PA 15090
724-449-2665 ext. 35

Mon & Wed: 9 am - 5 pm
Thu: 11 am - 7 pm
Fri & Sat: 9 am - 2 pm

Mission Statement

To provide resources that inspire, inform, educate & entertain the public.

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United Way Donations

Did you know that you can donate to your library through United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania?

Use agency code **#1601**

Summer Kids Programs



WEEKLY DROP-IN

Each of these activities will be available at both our Pine & Richland locations during library hours! There will be a new activity every week for the whole family to enjoy.

COLORING PAGES

June 8 - June 13

Enjoy a selection of coloring pages, pens & markers to spend some time coloring.

FOLDED DINOSAUR

June 15 - June 20

Use a stencil & cardstock to create a self-standing dino.

UNDISCOVERED DINOSAUR

June 22 - June 27

Make a drawing or tell us about the new variety of dinosaur you discovered!

MAKE YOUR OWN COMIC

June 29 - July 3

Create a three-panel comic featuring vibrant dinosaurs!

ORIGAMI DINOSAUR

July 6 - July 11

Follow instructions & fold a dinosaur using your origami skills.

DOTTED DINOSAUR

July 13 - July 18

Use dot markers to color a dinosaur of your choice.

CUPCAKE DINOSAUR

July 20 - July 25

Create a dinosaur body from cupcake liners.

THUMBPRINT ART

July 27 - August 1

Use your thumbprint to make a fun dinosaur.

COMMUNITY ART PROJECTS

Every week, all day, June 8 - August 1

Every week the library will set up a different community-created art installation. Library visitors will have the chance to add an element to every project when they visit.

Hieroglyphics: *Week of June 8*

Dinosaur Herd: *Week of June 15*

Veggie Patch: *Week of June 22*

Circle Dinosaurs: *Week of June 29*

Fossil Discovery: *Week of July 6*

Paper Quilt: *Week of July 13*

Crystal Cave: *Week of July 20*

Paint with Stickers: *Week of July 27*

LITTLE LIBRARIAN

Mondays, June 8 - July 27 @ 1 PM

Each week, students ages 6 to 12 can learn a little about what it means to be a librarian & help with some library related tasks. Due to limited time slots, this program will run on an application basis & participation will be prescheduled.

MAKER MONDAYS

Mondays, June 8 - July 27 @ 3 PM or Lobby Pickup

Families can enjoy programming from our makerspace every Monday!

In-Person: Meets on the specified dates from 3 to 4 PM.

Take-Home: Call or register online to reserve a kit & note that each week is requested separately. Kits will be available for pickup inside the lobby.

Take-Home Kits:

Letter Tile Coaster: *June 8*

Fringe Wall Hanging: *June 22*

Hexagon Shelves: *July 6*

Beaded Lizard: *July 20*

In-Person Programs:

Paracord Zipper Pull: *June 15*

Perler Bead Pixel Art: *June 29*

Watercolor Bookmark: *July 13*

Hand-Sewn Dinosaur: *July 27*

WORLD CUP NIGHT

Monday, June 15 @ 5:30 PM

As the world turns its eyes to the football pitches of North America, help kick off the biggest sporting event on Earth with a celebration!

TERRIBLE LIZARDS

Monday, July 13 @ 5:30 PM

Ah yes, dinosaurs. The monstrously sized, near mythical beasts of the Mesozoic. Join us to make your own mini dinosaurs & enjoy other dinosaur-themed activities at this evening event.

PAPER ART PROJECTS

Tuesdays, June 9 - July 28 for Lobby Pickup

Fun, creative works of paper art that kids & families can all enjoy. This year, our projects will feature fossils! Each art kit includes instructions & paper supplies that will be available for weekly pickup inside the library's lobby. For ages 6 & up. Please call or register online to reserve a kit & note that each week is requested separately.

Woolly Mammoth: *June 9*

Tyrannosaurus Rex: *June 16*

Triceratops: *June 23*

Pterosaur: *June 30*

Ammonite: *July 7*

Fern Leaf: *July 14*

Shark Tooth: *July 21*

Trilobite: *July 28*

Summer Kids Programs

DISCOVERY TUESDAYS

Tuesdays, June 9 - July 28 @ 3 PM

Enjoy guest programming from Wild Birds Unlimited, Tree Pittsburgh, PPG, Master Gardeners, Lowe's & Home Depot! New for 2026: Build-It Kits can be assembled in person or requested as a take-home kit for pickup at our Richland or Pine locations. Ages 6 & up. Registration is required.

Build-It Kits: June 9

Build-It Kits: June 16

Wild Birds Unlimited: June 23

Build-It Kits: June 30

Tree Pittsburgh: July 7

Master Gardeners: July 14

PPG Science Discovery: July 21

Build-It Kits: July 28

STEAM STATION

Wednesdays, June 10 - July 29 @ 3 PM

Every Wednesday afternoon the library will offer a STEAM activity. This program is for ages 6 & up. Registration is required.

Stamp Printing: June 10

Play with PRIXEL Press & linoleum blocks to create stamps.

Macramé Holder: June 17

Use string & knots to create a hanging air plant holder.

Bath Bombs: June 24

Find your inner chemist to make fun bath bombs.

Wool Felting: July 1

Create a small sculpture with wool & felting needles.

Poured Resin: July 8

Use resin to encapsulate Perler beads into a coaster.

Heat Press: July 15

Transfer designs onto t-shirts with a heat press.

Paint Pouring: July 22

Make abstract art by pouring acrylic paints over a canvas.

Upcycling Art: July 29

Explore upcycling with different techniques to make art.

COOKING CLUB: FOOD UNDERGROUND

Thursdays, June 11 - July 30 @ 1 PM

Four earthy meals will be crafted this summer! Each module will have two dishes based on the same root vegetable. The same topic will be offered for two consecutive Thursdays & participants should register for the most convenient date of the two. Ages 7 & up.

Carrots: June 11 & 18

Potatoes: June 25 & July 2

Beets: July 9 & 16

Sweet Potatoes: July 23 & 30

I SURVIVED!

Fridays, June 12 - July 24 @ 1 PM

Based on the popular book series, *I Survived...* by Lauren Tarshis, compete in teams with a friend or family member in science-based challenges while testing your survival skills & knowledge to see who holds up in different disaster situations. Can you survive the summer? This program is for older children & tweens.

The Joplin Tornado: June 12

Hurricane Katrina: June 26

The Children's Blizzard: July 10

The Dust Bowl: July 24



Storytimes

BABY PLAYTIME

**Tuesdays,
June 9 - July 28
11 - 11:30 AM**

Enjoy half an hour of fun with your baby! Share songs, stories & rhymes. Meet other parents & their babies & enjoy some special time together.

This program is intended for babies ages 0-18 months & their parents. It will be held in the program room on the library's main level. Siblings are welcome & only one registration is required for the eight-week series, even if you cannot attend them all.

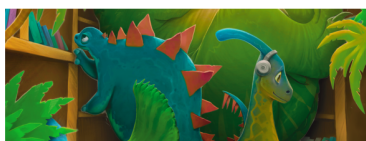
FRESH AIR STORY & PLAYTIME

**Wednesdays
& Thursdays,
June 10 - July 30
10:30 - 11 AM**

Come enjoy some toys & games before the start of our outside family storytime!

This program is an outdoor event & is weather permitting. Please bring a camping chair or blanket to sit on our side lawn & bring a rattle or noise making toy as well! In case of rain, the storytime will be moved to the program room. Only one registration is required for the eight-week series, even if you cannot attend them all.

Summer Teen & Adult Programs



Summer Activities for All Ages

DINOSAURS LOOSE IN THE LIBRARY

Wednesday, June 24 @ 2 PM

Calling all park rangers & paleontologists! Dinosaurs are loose in the library & the librarians need your help. Follow their trail & test your skills with six challenges to lure them back home. Both adults & children can participate in this event to earn a completion prize!

MOVIE NIGHT

Monday, July 27 @ 6:30 PM

Godzilla: The king of the monsters & perhaps the king of the summer. Join us for a showing of the original *Godzilla* film. For older children & adults. The movie is free to attend & refreshments are provided, so we ask for registration to account for supplies.

BOOKMARK CHALLENGE

Complete six tasks on your bookmark & receive a free book coupon for our Book Sale! Complete the whole bookmark & the library will add a book to our collection in your honor! Turn in your bookmark by the last day of the Summer Learning Program for credit.

SURPRISE BOOKS

Try out a new book, sight unseen! Borrow a closed envelope from the library that contains a Surprise Book inside to see what new & exciting reading adventure could be waiting for you.

BINGO NIGHTS

Mondays, June 22 & July 20 @ 5:30 PM

This program has a first name, it's B-I-N-G-O. This program has a last name, it's N-I-G-H-T. Have some fun & maybe even take home a prize at this evening of Bingo at the library. For adult contestants only & registration is required.

EVOLUTION OF DINOSAURS IN POP ART

Monday, June 29 @ 5:30 PM

Adults can join us at this program to learn the deep & rich history of dinosaurs in pop culture. From drawings, to stop motion, to gorgeous CGI T-rexes: dinosaurs have been a part of popular art from the moment they were discovered. At this event, local aspiring paleontologist Jackie Totin will talk about how dinosaurs have evolved through art as well as their impact in past & present entertainment.

BEGINNERS ONLY

Tuesdays, June 9 - July 21 @ 10 AM

Meet in the spirit of trying new things! This program is a relaxed environment, not a structured class with an instructor, & is for ages 13 & up. Registration is required & some weeks have a fee for material costs.

Handmade Pasta: June 9 (\$5 supply fee)

Fabric Painting: June 23

Paper Weaving: June 30

Dried Flower Frame: July 7 (\$5 supply fee)

Beginners Sourdough: July 14 (\$5 supply fee)

Negative Watercolor Painting: July 21

UNEARTH YOUR YARN STASH

Tuesdays, June 16 & July 21 @ 6:30 PM

Dig into your yarn stash & make a hat or scarf for someone in our community! These items will be collected throughout the summer into September for KnitHope. KnitHope is a Pittsburgh organization that distributes handmade knits to those in need. For more information, check out knithope.org.

In July's meetup, share your handmade items for KnitHope! Place your project in a Ziploc bag with a label that states whether it is adult or child sized & the group's name: *Knit Lit at Northern Tier Library*. If you haven't finished yet, don't worry! Items will be collected until Wednesday, September 30.

CRUMB & GET IT KITS

Lobby pickup every other Friday, June 19 - July 31

Explore different decades of history through food with this sweet treat take-home kit! Kits include history facts, a recipe, & all ingredients needed except you & your kitchen. This program is for teens & adults. All kits must be picked up by 7 PM the following Monday due to perishable ingredients.

Pasta Chips: June 19

Brownie Cups: July 3

Rice Cakes: July 17

Shrub Syrup: July 31

Summer Teen & Adult Programs

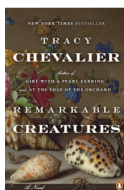
ADULT SUMMER LEARNING

Wednesdays, June 10 - July 29 @ 6:30 PM or Lobby Pickup

Adult programming (for ages 13 & up) will be offered every Wednesday! In-person programming meets at 6:30 PM in the evenings & take-home kits can be picked up inside the library's front lobby after 12 PM. Advance registration is required for all programs except for both sessions of Bridget's Book Club.

Bridget's Book Club: June 10

A historical novel about Mary Anning, a working-class woman in 19th century England who becomes a pioneering fossil hunter & her unlikely friendship with middle-class spinster Elizabeth Philpot, as they navigate social prejudice, scientific skepticism, & personal challenges. Join us for a discussion of *Remarkable Creatures* by Tracy Chevalier.



Botanical "Jarden" Take-Home Kit: June 17

Use a recycled jar, pressed flowers, and glue to make a tealight holder or a small vase with this take-home kit. *Registration is required by Monday, June 15 to account for supplies.*

Folding Tomes: June 24

Make a one-of-a-kind decoration for America's 250th anniversary by folding a book into the shape of a star.

Stars & Stripes Take-Home Kit: July 1

Celebrate America's 250th anniversary with this patriotic take-home kit. *Registration is required by Monday, June 29 to account for supplies.*

Bridget's Book Club: July 8

On a remote archeological site in Greece, four women discover an unusual artifact that challenges historical narratives about ancient athletics. The book follows their personal struggles & professional conflicts as they must work together against their egotistical supervisor to uncover the truth. Join us for a discussion of *Excavations* by Kate Myers.



Chaos Embroidery: July 15

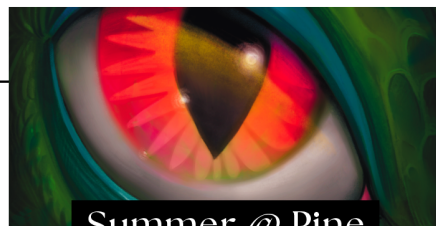
Chaos embroidery is a "slow stitching" approach to textile art that intentionally ignores traditional rigid rules, patterns & structure. It focuses on building texture, layering colors & expressing emotion through stitching, often resulting in complex & whimsical designs. Make a unique embroidery project with beads & felt at this event.

Unearth Your Story Zine Kit: July 22

Reveal your creativity with a zine about yourself! This take-home kit will include paper, prompts, & some other embellishments to decorate your pages. *Registration is required by Monday, July 20 to account for supplies.*

Botanical Bookmarks: July 29

Make a leaf or feather bookmark with colorful "diamonds" that are placed on a pre-printed adhesive design.



Any summer program offered as a take-home kit, including select *Maker Mondays*, *Paper Art Projects*, *Build-It Kits*, *Crumb & Get It*, & *Adult Learning* can be picked up at our Pine Center.

Weekly DROP-IN

Each of these activities will be available at both our Pine & Richland locations during library hours! There will be a new activity every week for the whole family to enjoy.

LITTLE LIBRARIAN

Fridays, June 12 - July 31 @ 10 AM

Each week, students age 6 to 12 can learn a little about what it means to be a librarian & help with some library related tasks. Due to limited time slots this program will run on an application basis & participation will be prescheduled.

FAMILY STORYTIME

Fridays, June 12 - July 31 @ 11 AM

Come to the Pine Center for an all-ages storytime! Sing, move, read books & practice rhymes. A one-time registration is required for the series. We understand that you might not attend every session. This program is for children of all ages & registration is required.

SUMMER STORYWALK®

Enjoy nature while growing family literacy with StoryWalk® locations at Bakerstown Park & Pine Community Center!

StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson & developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier, Vermont. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark by the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.



A GREAT DEAL GAME GROUP

Join us June 2 - July 29 at 1 PM to play Pinochle on Tuesdays or American Mahjong on Wednesdays!

TECHNOLOGY HELP

Register for a 30-minute session between 2 & 4 PM on Wednesdays, June 3 - July 29 to get help with a technology-related topic.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON GAMES

Play tabletop games at the library on Fridays, June 5, 19, July 3 & 17 at 1 PM!

YARNS N'AT

This fiber arts group will meet on Saturdays, June 6, June 20, & July 18 at 10 AM to practice their preferred style of fiber art.

CONVERSATION GROUP

Stop by on Thursday, June 11 & July 9 at 1 PM to share ideas & hear what others have to say.

GERMAN CONVERSATION GROUP

Practice your German & learn about the German culture with others on Thursdays, June 25 & July 30 at 3:30 PM.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

The Friends sponsor our annual Book Sale & other programs in support of the library. Current and new members are welcome to join on Tuesday, July 7 at 10 AM.

PUZZLE SWAP

Do you have a puzzle or two you've completed & are ready to start something new? Instead of purchasing a new one, Pittsburgh Puzzle Exchange is hosting a swap on Saturday, August 1 at 11 AM! Bring as many puzzles as you wish to swap & take as many "new" ones as you brought. Registration is requested.

SERENITY: ADULT DESTRESS KITS

Grab a free packet for adults filled with puzzles, a craft & some fun community tidbits.

Monthly Richland Programs

POKÉMON + NINTENDO

June 2 & July 6 @ 5:30 PM

Bring your Nintendo Switch & copy of Pokémon or Animal Crossing to play with others at the library! Boards will be present for Pokémon's card game & a host island will be available for making new friends in Animal Crossing. This event is self-directed & open to children, teens & their families.

NATUREOLOGY: REPTILES

Tuesday, June 9 @ 5:30 PM

With scutes, shells, & sometimes "third eyes," these creatures were the first to leave ocean life behind. Turtles, snakes, lizards & crocodiles survived the age of dinosaurs & still live today much as they did millions of years ago. Learn more about reptiles at this month's Natureology with Tony Palermo.

LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY: MEMORY CAFE

Mondays, June 15, 29, July 13 & 27 @ 12:30 PM

Memory cafes offer individuals with cognitive impairment & their caregivers the opportunity to socialize together & with others in the group. Come for a respite from stress & enjoy a light lunch with activity. This is a drop-in program, so feel free to stop in for as little or long as you like. Registration is required at least three days prior to account for food.

This program is presented in partnership with Arden Courts & thanks to a grant from ACLA. Dementia Friend trained library staff & memory care reference materials will be on hand.

PLANT-BASED PITTSBURGH NORTH

Wednesday, June 24 @ 5:30 PM

In June, the Plant-Based Pittsburgh-North gathering will NOT be held at the library. Instead, it will feature a special plant-based guided tour at Trader Joe's in McCandless Crossing! Bring your curiosity & maybe a notepad for your shopping list because they have more than 100 vegan products. Of course, attendees will have to pay for any snacks that they would like to take home. There is a limit of 20 attendees so you must register in advance. The group will initially meet outside the store's main entrance & begin promptly at 5:30 PM.

Wednesday, July 22 @ 5:30 PM

Come share your favorite plant-based dish, discover new ones & connect with others who share your passion for healthy, plant-powered meals. Bring your ready-to-eat dish & recipe to share. Plates & utensils will be provided. A microwave & electric outlets are available for warming. A donation of \$5 per person is requested with proceeds benefiting the library.

Richland Book Clubs

NONFICTION DISCUSSION

A monthly book club featuring nonfiction titles.

Tuesday, June 16 @ 1 PM

- *Dinosaurs at the Dinner Party* by Edward Dolnick

A scientific adventure of how the Victorian world stumbled upon fossilized dinosaur bones & changed human understanding of everything.



Tuesday, July 21 @ 1 PM

- *Dinner with King Tut* by Sam Kean

Each chapter takes place within a historical (or prehistorical) context & are hybrids of fiction & nonfiction, in which short stories & expositions are woven together.



Monthly Pine Programs

STEM TAKE-HOME CRAFT

Every month in conjunction with our children's display, the Pine Center library will offer a free STEM take-home craft available for pickup while supplies last!

Pine Book Clubs

PINING FOR BOOKS

A book club to explore genres & literary themes.

Monday, June 8 @ 2 PM

- *Detective Aunty* by Uzma Jalaluddin

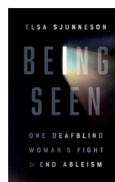
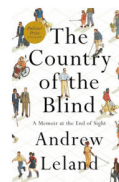
After her husband's unexpected death eighteen months ago, Kausar Khan never thought she'd receive another phone call as heartbreaking—until her daughter, Sana, phones to say that she's been arrested. But as this clever amateur sleuth digs deeper, even Kausar can't predict the secrets, lies & betrayals she finds along the way.



Monday, July 13 @ 2 PM

Celebrate Disability Pride Month by choosing one of these titles to read:

- *Being Heumann* by Judith Heumann
- *The Country of the Blind* by Andrew Leland
- *Being Seen* by Elsa Sjunneson



THE PINE NEEDLES

Thursdays, June 4 & July 2 @ 4 PM

All yarn enthusiasts, both beginners & experienced crafters, can join us at our Pine Center to talk about life, discuss books they're reading & share the fiber art projects they're working on. Registration is requested.

AMERICAN MAHJONG

Thursday, June 4 @ 5 PM & June 18 & July 16 @ 6:30 PM

Experienced players are welcome at these sessions of American Mahjong! Please bring your own game board along if you have one.

COFFEE & CRIME

A book club for mysteries, procedurals & true crime.

Thursday, June 25 @ 5:30 PM

- *The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith

The first in Galbraith's series following veteran turned PI, Cormoran Strike, as he investigates the suspicious death of a famous London supermodel.



Thursday, July 23 @ 5:30 PM

- *There Is No Ethan* by Anna Akbari

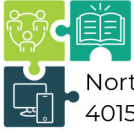
The online deception & emotional manipulation within this nonfiction novel will make your blood boil as it follows the victims of a serial emotional catfish & their quest to reveal the truth.



LEARN MAHJONG

Tuesdays, June 9 & July 14 @ 5 PM

Want to learn to play Mahjong? Register for this class to learn the tiles, rules & strategies involved with this centuries old game. This class is for beginners only.



Northern Tier Regional Library
4015 Dickey Road, Gibsonia PA 15044

Upcoming Fall Programs

ADULT BATTLE OF THE BOOKS: FALL EDITION *Thursday, September 17 @ 6:30 PM*

Get ready for another night of literary trivia, friendly competition & team spirit at the Adult Battle of the Books hosted by North Region Libraries! Form a team of 4-5 friends or book lovers to battle it out for bookish glory.

Teams will compete by answering questions based on a carefully curated reading list of librarian-selected books. Titles will cover a variety of genres & themes, providing a fun challenge for avid readers. Test your knowledge of these books & work together with your team to score points & claim victory. Prizes, snacks, & a great time await!

Registration opens on Monday, July 6 for this event. For more information & to register, please visit battleofthenorth.com.

MURDER IN THE STACKS: A 1920s MYSTERY *Saturday, September 19 @ 6 PM*

Psstt...
What's the password?
Dust off your glad rags, don your finest threads, & come ready to rub elbows with a most suspicious crowd. There'll be secrets, scandal, & enough twists to make your head spin like a Charleston dancer.

Northern Tier Regional Library will present "Murder in the Stacks: A 1920s Mystery" this fall on Saturday, September 19 at 6 PM.

Come alone or bring a cohort—but remember: trust no one... not even your dance partner.



eLibrary resources to use at home, including Libby & Hoopla, can be found at elibrary.einetwork.net



[Libby.](http://libby.com) [hoopla](http://hoopla.com)

