

HIGHLIGHTS

JAN. 3 — FEB. 25

Winter Read-A-Thon at the Fargo Public Library.

JAN. 15, 22, & 29

Three de-cluttering workshops with professional organizer Melissa Schmalenberger at the Main Library.

JAN. 16

Chess tournament and Hobby Day activities at the Main Library.

JAN. 17

"Winter Is for the Birds" event at the Main Library.

JAN. 24

Author visit with Rex Evans Wood at the Main Library.

FEB. 9 & 14

Two hardware jewelry craft workshops for teens.

FEB. 13

"Sweets for the Sweet" craft event for kids at the Northport Library.

FEB. 13

Two "Chemistry Matters!" Science events for kids at the Main Library.

FEB. 13 & 14

Two "eBooks & eAudiobooks" help sessions.

FEB. 27

Author visit with Nate Jorgenson at the Main Library.

FEB. 28

Star Wars event for kids and teens at the Main Library.

Three-part Series in January

De-Clutter with MS. Simplicity

Are you overwhelmed by the clutter in your office? Is your kitchen so messy that you find it difficult to cook and eat a meal? If your New Year's resolution is to "get rid of the clutter", the library has a series of workshops with you in mind. In January, the library is hosting a three-part series on de-cluttering led by professional organizer Melissa Schmalenberger. A specialist in organizing people's homes and offices, Schmalenberger, also known as MS. Simplicity, will provide proven tips and methods to effectively organize clutter "hotspots" in any office or home. The free sessions will be held in the community room at the downtown Main Library.

The first session, scheduled for **Sunday, Jan. 15 at 2 p.m.** at the **Main Library**, is titled "**De-Clutter Your Kitchen**". This workshop will teach you how to utilize space in your kitchen more efficiently and find creative ways to banish clutter from your kitchen.

The second session is scheduled for **Sunday, Jan. 22** starting at **2 p.m.** at the **Main Library** and centers on "**Clutter Hotspots**". This workshop covers effective ways to deal with laundry clutter, entry way clutter, paper clutter and clutter caused by kids.

The third session is scheduled for **Sunday, Jan. 29** starting at **2 p.m.** at the **Main Library** and is titled "**De-Clutter Your Office**". This session is designed to show you how to manage and eliminate clutter in your office or work station, making you more productive and less stressed.

Space is limited and pre-registration is required for these sessions. Register online or contact the Information Desk at the Main Library at 241-1492 or the Dr. James Carlson Library's Information Desk at 476-5980.

Fargo Public Library programs are free and open to the public.

Library's Food for Fines Event Runs January 3 to January 15

Do you have overdue books and library fines? The Fargo Public Library wants to help you start off the coming year with a clean slate. In an effort to help people clear some overdue fines and help feed hungry people in our community, the Fargo Public Library is holding a two-week **Food for Fines** event. The program runs **Tuesday, Jan. 3 through Sunday, Jan. 15, 2012**. To participate, library users should bring in any overdue library items along with unexpired, nonperishable food items to the Check-Out Desk at any Fargo Public Library location during regular library hours. One food item equals \$5 in library fines. Library staff will waive the appropriate fine amount and collect the food donation. Non-returned items or lost library items are not eligible for the library's Food for

Fines event. For details, contact the Check-Out Desk at (701) 241-1472.

All food collected during the event will be given to the Great Plains Food Bank for local distribution. Among the Food Bank's most needed items are soup, stew, chili, peanut butter, canned meat products, cereal, pancake mix, tomato-based products, boxed meals, canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, rice and instant potatoes.

For more information about the library's Food for Fines event, go to our website or call the Check-Out Desk at the Main Library at (701) 241-1472.

Library Notes...

Main Library

102 3rd St. N.

Monday–Thursday9–9
Friday11–6
Saturday9–6
Sunday1–6

Dr. James Carlson Library Branch

2801 32nd Ave. S.

Monday–Thursday ...10–8
Friday11–6
Saturday9–6
Sunday1–6

Northport Branch

2714 N. Broadway

Monday–Thursday ...10–8
Friday11–6
Saturday9–6
Sunday..... Closed

Telephone Numbers

Administration 241-8277
Carlson Branch 476-4040
Check-out Desk 241-1472
Children's Services 241-1495
Information Desk 241-1492
Northport Branch 476-4026
Outreach 241-8111

www.fargolibrary.org

WINTER READ-A-THON IS FOR EVERYONE

Put an end to those winter blues and warm up with some good books during our annual Winter Read-A-Thon reading program. With events and reading opportunities for all ages, the winter reading program can add a little excitement, adventure and mystery to dreary winter days; plus it also provides opportunities to win prizes for reading books.

To participate, stop by any Fargo Public Library location beginning **Tuesday, Jan. 3** or visit our website for details. Readers of every age can participate. Book logs are available for children and teens to fill out. Adults are encouraged to read by entering our "Winter Reading Picks" contest. Adults, 18 and older, who participate in the "winter reading picks" program are eligible to enter a drawing for a chance to win a NOOK Color eReader device.

All ages are encouraged to read to earn chances to enter prize drawings. Book logs and winter reading picks' entries are due on or before **Saturday, Feb. 25** to be eligible for prizes and prize drawings.

"PREDICT THE OSCAR" CONTEST STARTS JANUARY 25

This year the library is holding a **"Predict the Oscar" Contest**. The contest starts **Wednesday, Jan. 25** and runs through **Saturday, Feb. 25**. To participate, pick up an entry form at any Fargo Public Library location starting January 25 and choose your favorite for each category. Categories for the contest include: Best Picture, Actor in a Leading Role, Actress in a Leading Role, Actor in a Supporting Role, Actress in a Supporting Role, Best Director, Best Animated Feature Film, Best Original Song, Best Documentary, and Best Foreign Language Film. Anyone age 16 or older is eligible to play. **Entries must be turned in no later than 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 25**. The prize goes to the person who predicts the winner of the most Oscar categories. In the case of a tie, names will go into a drawing and the winner will be drawn from there. The prize for the contest is a gift certificate for dinner and a movie (\$25 movie theatre gift card; \$25 local restaurant gift card). For further details, visit fargolibrary.org or call Amber at 241-1495.

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES @ YOUR LIBRARY

Winter is the perfect time to brush up on your technology skills. The library is offering residents several free technology classes this winter. Upcoming topics include Computer Basics I and II, and eBook and eAudiobook help sessions. All classes are taught by library staff. Check the library's calendar of events for specific dates and times. A complete schedule of computer/technology classes is also available at www.fargolibrary.org. *Space is limited; pre-registration is required for most computer classes.* To register for a class or for more information about upcoming classes, contact the Main Library's Information Desk at 241-1492 or the Dr. James Carlson Library's Information Desk at 476-5980. Registration is also available online at www.fargolibrary.org.

A VISIT WITH AUTHOR REX EVANS WOOD JANUARY 24

The library welcomes regional author Rex (Skip) Evans Wood to the downtown **Main Library** for a visit and book signing. Wood will discuss his science fiction novel *Truitt's Fix* on **Tuesday, Jan. 24** starting at **7 p.m.** in the Main Library's Community Room. Books will be available for purchase at this event. For further details, visit the library's website or contact Melisa at 476-4076.



Library Notes...

REGISTRATION OPENS FOR STORYTIME SERIES

The winter session of the Fargo Public Library's *Storytime for Preschoolers and Toddlers* begins **Monday, Feb. 6** and continues through **Wednesday, April 11**. Registration for this ongoing, weekly program begins Monday, Jan. 9. Storytime will be offered at all three library locations. For a complete schedule, visit the library's website or contact the Children's Librarian. ***Space is limited; pre-registration is required for this free program.*** Register online or call the Children's Librarian at 241-1495. All weekly storytime events count as punch card events.

BABY RHYME TIME

The library provides lap sit storytimes (storytimes for infants) on the **first Thursday of the month**. Babies from birth through 18 months, along with their caregivers, are invited to experience songs, finger plays, short books, rhythms and rhymes. Baby Rhyme Time is offered at **10 a.m.** at the **Dr. James Carlson Library** and at **6:30 p.m.** at the **Main Library**. Upcoming dates are **Jan. 5** and **Feb. 2**. Each session will conclude with open play time. Lap sits are a wonderful way to introduce books and the library to your baby, along with helping your baby develop a love of language and reading. No registration is required. One child per grown-up lap, please. For a complete list of all storytime sessions available at the Fargo Public Library, visit our website or contact the Children's Librarian at 241-1495.

SEARCHING FOR A NEW HOBBY?

Discover a new hobby (or 2 or 3) to keep you occupied during the winter at the library's Hobby Day event scheduled for **Monday, Jan. 16** from **2 to 4 p.m.** at the downtown **Main Library**. Learning stations featuring a variety of hobbies and unique interests will be on display for kids of all ages. No registration is needed for this event. For more information, check out the library's website or call the Children's Librarian at 241-1495.

WINTER BIRD EVENT SET FOR JANUARY 17

It can be a long cold winter, especially if you are a bird! All ages are invited to our "Winter Is for the Birds" program set for **Tuesday, Jan. 17** at **6:30 p.m.** in the Community Room at the downtown **Main Library**. Learn about the native birds that spend their winters in our area and how they survive the extreme winter weather. Featuring birds from the Red River Zoo and a presentation by members of the North Dakota chapter of the National Audubon Society, this event will also feature a bird-feeder craft to make and take home. No registration is required for this event. Children age 9 and under must be accompanied by an adult. For further details, visit the library's website or call the Children's Librarian at 241-1495.

BOARD GAME BONANZA

Winter blahs got you down? All ages are invited to celebrate National Puzzle Day by stopping by the **Dr. James Carlson Library** on **Sunday, Jan. 29** from **2 to 4 p.m.** for a board game bonanza! We'll have loads of games and puzzles to put your brain to the test. Is your hand steady enough for a round of speed Jenga? Can you solve the mystery in Clue? Maybe Mancala is more your speed? Whether it's Bananagrams or Candyland, we've got a game for you. Join us for an afternoon of snacks, prizes and lots of fun! Families are welcome and no registration is required. For details, visit the library's website or call the Children's Librarian at 241-1495. Children age 9 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Strategic Plan Update

ONE BIG "THANK YOU"

The library's Board of Directors and Fargo Public Library staff wish to express a big "thank you" to the over seventeen hundred citizens who provided their input for our strategic plan. From this input we are diligently working to develop a plan that will assist us in implementing programming and services that meet the growing needs and expectations of the community of Fargo. The strategic plan will be made available via the library's webpage once it is adopted. If you have any questions, please contact Library Director Tim Dirks at (701) 241-1493.

Library Notes...

“CHEMISTRY MATTERS!” PROGRAM FOR KIDS

Kids in grades 4 to 6 who love science are invited to the library’s “Chemistry Matters” science sessions. Taught by Dr. Graeme Wyllie and Concordia College’s Science Academy students, these sessions celebrate the science of chemistry. Kids will learn about atoms as well as experimenting with a variety of safe and engaging chemical reaction experiments. Two 90-minute sessions are scheduled at the **Main Library** on **Saturday, Feb. 11**. The first session starts at **9:30 a.m.**, and is repeated at **11:30 a.m.** Come prepared to get messy! *Space is limited; pre-registration is required.* Register online or call the Children’s Librarian at 241-1495.

WINTER CRAFT EVENTS FOR TEENS

Area teens are invited to visit the Fargo Public Library for craft events geared just for them in January and February. First, give your inner poet a helping hand by making a **mini magnetic poetry kit**. The first session is scheduled for **Thursday, Jan. 19** at **4 p.m.** in the Community Room at the **Main Library**. A second session is scheduled for **Tuesday, Jan. 24** at **4 p.m.** at the **Dr. James Carlson Library**. All materials will be provided.

Just in time for Valentine’s Day, teens can learn to create funky, wearable **hardware jewelry** in February. Sessions for the hardware jewelry workshops are scheduled for **Thursday, Feb. 9** at **4 p.m.** at the downtown **Main Library**, and **Tuesday, Feb. 14** at **4 p.m.** at the **Dr. James Carlson Library**. All materials will be provided.

If you keep warm drinking hot chocolate on cold winter days, come to the library and make your own special flavor stir spoons to melt in your cups of hot chocolate. Two hands-on **hot chocolate stir spoon** sessions for teens are scheduled. Join us **Tuesday, Feb. 21** at **4 p.m.** at the **Dr. James Carlson Library**, or **Thursday, Feb. 23** at **4 p.m.** at the downtown **Main Library**. All materials will be provided.

Pre-registration is required for all teen craft events. Register online or email teens@cityoffargo.com. For further details about upcoming teen events, visit www.fargolibrary.org or call the Teen Librarian at 476-5978. A complete schedule of upcoming teen events and programs is available at www.fargolibrary.org.

MARDI GRAS MADNESS!

Celebrate Mardi Gras at the library and “let the good times roll!” Kids in grades 3 through 6 are invited to the Main Library on **Monday, Feb. 13** from **4 to 5:30 p.m.** to participate in Mardi Gras Madness. The event features Mardi Gras-themed games, Cajun-inspired treats and a miniature parade float craft. *Space is limited; pre-registration is required.* All materials will be provided. Register online or contact the Children’s Librarian at 241-1495.

MEET AUTHOR NATHAN JORGENSEN FEBRUARY 27

The library welcomes award-winning Minnesota author Nathan Jorgenson to the **Main Library** on **Monday, Feb. 27** at **6:30 p.m.** for a visit and book signing. (Please note this change of date from what was previously published in the City’s *Snapshot* newsletter.) Jorgenson’s latest work, *A Crooked Number*, follows Grant Thorson through dental school, amateur baseball, and his relationship with one of his instructors. Jorgenson is also the writer of *Waiting for White Horses* and *The Mulligan*.

Raised on a small farm in rural Minnesota, Nathan Jorgenson now writes and practices dentistry in Fairmont, Minnesota. His writing has earned him the Benjamin Franklin Award for Best New Voice in Fiction and other honors. All ages are welcome at this event. Books will be available for purchase. For details, contact Lauren at 241-1472.

STAR WARS PARTY FOR KIDS AND TEENS

Do you like everything related to Star Wars? Can you quote lines from the movies because you have seen them so many times? Teens and ’tweens who like Star Wars are invited to attend the library’s **Star Wars Party** scheduled for **Tuesday, Feb. 28** at the **Main Library**. Discover all the Star Wars items the library has in its collection. Come dressed as your favorite Star Wars character. Play some Star Wars-themed games. The event starts at 2 p.m. in the library’s Community Room; snacks will be provided. *Space is limited; pre-registration is required.* Register online, or contact the Teen Librarian at teens@cityoffargo.com or Children’s Services at 241-1495 for details.



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