

# Library News

Volume 14 Issue 12  
December 2024

## Library Hours

9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday & Saturday

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sunday

## Contact Us

402-844-2100

[www.norfolkne.gov/library](http://www.norfolkne.gov/library)

## Find us on

FB: @NorfolkPublicLibraryNE

Instagram: @NPLreads

## WINTER READING CHALLENGE

### Begins December 16

The annual Winter Reading Challenge for ages 16+ is back! Ignite your curiosity, read different genres, and earn rewards for reading.

How it works:

- Sign up online from December 16, 2024—February 3, 2025. If you need assistance signing up, please ask at the Service Desk.
- Print out your Challenge Log or pick one up in the library.
- Read titles that fit the categories on the Challenge Log. We've curated suggested reading lists and will have suggested reading book displays to make it easy to find titles that fit the categories.
- Bring your Challenge Log to the library starting February 3 until March 14 to claim your prize. Complete any 5 categories to earn a prize pack. Readers who complete all 10 categories will earn a prize pack and a free book.



WINTER  
READING  
CHALLENGE

# WHAT'S NEW?

2024 is coming to a close, but not before we host more book clubs, craft and makerspace workshops, and numerous literacy activities. Looking back over the year, we have hosted several nationally-known authors, brought in speakers covering a wide array of topics, expanded our makerspace tools, and updated our shared spaces. We can't wait to discover what the new year brings!

December is a busy month for most, so we're working to make things convenient yet interesting for you. Children can take part in storytimes, crafting, LEGOs, and book club. Teens can enjoy special teen social events and a teen book club. Adults can join the Winter Reading Challenge, try a CNC workshop, attend a speaker program or virtual author talk, or join a book club discussion.

We're also pleased to announce updates to our checkout limits, loan periods, and fines. Read more about these in this newsletter.



## CIRCULATION CHANGES

### Updates to borrowing

Great news—we've increased our checkout limits, extended loan periods, and lowered fines!

ALL items, except hotspots, now have a checkout period of 2 WEEKS and can be RENEWED two times. This includes DVDs, Magazines, Video Games, Board Games, CDs, Kits, Audio Books, and Books.

ALL items, except hotspots, now have an overdue fine of \$.10/day. This includes DVDs, Magazines, Video Games, Board Games, CDs, Kits, Audio Books, and Books.

Hotspot checkouts remain the same. They have a 3-week checkout period and have a \$1/day overdue fine.

### New Borrowing Limits

You may now borrow the following number of items at a time:

- Books - 100 (changed from unlimited)
- Audio Books on CD - 5
- CDs - 10
- DVDs - 5 (changed from 3)
- Magazines - 5 (changed from 3)
- Video Games - 2 (changed from 1)
- Board Games - 2 (changed from 1)
- Kits - 1
- Hotspots - 1

### New Fine Limit:

If your total fines are under \$5, you may continue to check out materials and use the computers for a limited time. All fines owed must be paid within 3 months in order to continue doing so.



## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The library will be closed on **Wednesday, December 25**, for Christmas. Please note that we will close early, at 5 p.m. on December 31. Our drive up book drop is available 24 hours, and our digital library is always open.

## NEW AUDIOBOOK OPTION

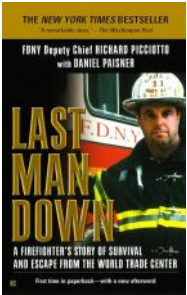
### Introducing **PLAYAWAY**

PLAYAWAY is the pre-loaded audiobook that gives you the portability to take it everywhere. No internet, downloads or CDs needed. Simply plug in your headphones to start listening. PLAYAWAY features adjustable narration speeds and the ability to easily move within and from chapter to chapter.



## LAST MAN DOWN: A STORY FROM 9-11

**December 10 at 6:30 p.m.**



Come listen to a story of survival and escape from the World Trade Center on 9-11-01. Mr. Larry Silhacek of Pierce, Nebraska will share the story of FDNY battalion commander, Richard Picciotto, as told in Picciotto's book, *Last Man Down*. Mr. Silhacek heard Picciotto speak and was so inspired by his story, that he received permission to share Picciotto's story with others. The presentation will last about 20 minutes with time for questions afterward. A display of 9/11 materials will be available.

## VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

### Free virtual discussions with acclaimed authors

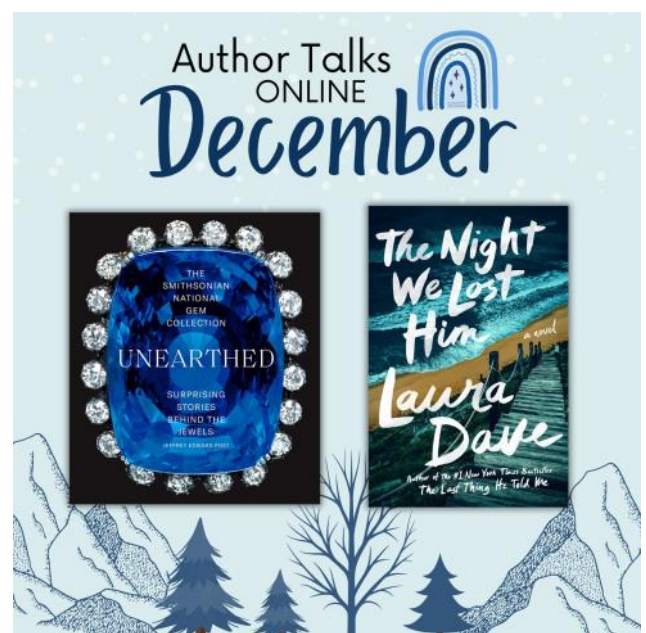
Register and watch from anywhere! The talks are recorded, so if you miss the live event, you can watch a recording later. To see upcoming talks and to register for the event link, visit our Digital Library on our website and click on "Author Talks."

**Unearthed: Exploring the Smithsonian National Gem Collection with Dr. Jeffrey Post**  
**December 4 at 1 p.m.**

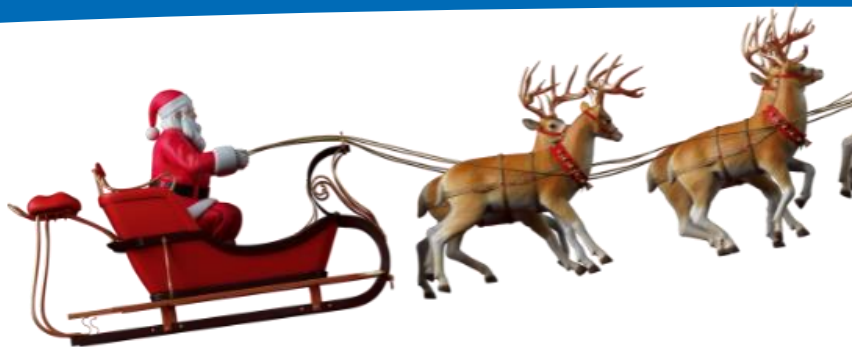
We're gearing up for an absolutely dazzling presentation with the emeritus curator of the Smithsonian's National Gem Collection, Dr. Jeffrey E. Post as he talks about The Smithsonian National Gem Collection *Unearthed: Surprising Stories Behind the Jewels*.

**Laura Dave, *The Night We Lost Him***  
**December 11 at 1 p.m.**

Join us for a captivating conversation with #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Last Thing He Told Me*, Laura Dave, as she chats with us online about her newest book *The Night We Lost Him*.



# NOTEWORTHY



## MAKERSPACE WORKSHOPS

### December beginner-friendly class

Get hands-on experience with our free makerspace workshops. No previous experience is necessary, but basic computer skills are required. For ages 13 and up. Registration is requested. Sign up using our online event calendar or call the library for assistance. Free! All materials provided.

More makerspace classes will be offered next year—keep an eye on our calendar for new events. December's workshop is:

### CNC Workshop: Carve and Cut a Keychain

December 9 at 5:30 p.m.

Use the Inventables carvey CNC router and Easel software to create a wood keychain.



## ADULT'S WINTER CRAFT KIT

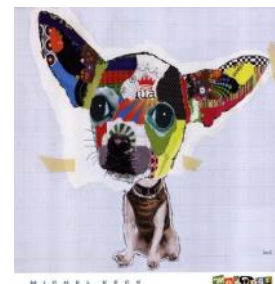
Friday, December 6

We have a gift for our adult patrons! Pick up your to-go craft kits at the library on Friday, December 6, while supplies last. Kits will be available at the Service Desk and the drive-up window. Each kit contains supplies and instructions to make one Christmas Tree Button Ornament. Free!

## TWEEN ART

Register for one of two available times

Tween Art is our crafting workshop just for kids ages 8-12. Registration is required. Tween Art is available on two dates: December 10 at 3:45 p.m. and December 14 at 2 p.m. Please register for only one session. This month's project is collage dogs, inspired by the art of Michel Keck.



## KIDS KRAFTERNOON

December 17 at 3:45 p.m.

This workshop is just for kids that are in Kindergarten–3rd grade. Come with a caregiver that is at least 16 years of age, and craft together. This month we are making threaded Christmas trees. Free! Limited to the first 20 kids.



## BASIC ENGLISH PRACTICE

**December 9 and 23 at 5:30 p.m.**

Basic English Practice is held from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of every month. Sessions are open to anyone who is learning English as a second language. Participants will gain an understanding of basic conversational English. Sessions are led by ESL teacher, Emily Duerst. No registration needed.

The program is open to all language skill levels. Ages 16+ are welcome to attend.



## WE WANT YOUR INPUT

**Help shape our future**

### Community Survey

As part of our strategic planning process, the Norfolk Public Library is conducting a survey to learn more about what community members value about the library. The survey will be available on our website and in paper at the library from December 15-January 15. Your feedback is important to help us shape the future of **your** library!

### Focus Groups

As part of our strategic planning process, the library is conducting some Focus Groups to better learn about how we can serve *adults* and *entrepreneurs*.

The *Entrepreneurs Focus Group* will be on Thursday, January 9 at 9 a.m. This is especially for anyone starting up their own business, working as a “solopreneur,” or running a small business. The Focus Group will ask participants to contemplate and share how the library could contribute to their success.

The *Adults Focus Group* will be on Thursday, January 9 at 5:30 p.m. This is especially for adults of all ages and will center on the needs of adults specifically. This Focus Group will ask participants to share what programs, materials, or services would be meaningful to them.

Each focus group will take approximately one hour. Prior registration is not required. Please reach out to Library Director, Jessica Chamberlain, with any questions at [jchamberlain@norfolkne.gov](mailto:jchamberlain@norfolkne.gov) or 402-844-2100.

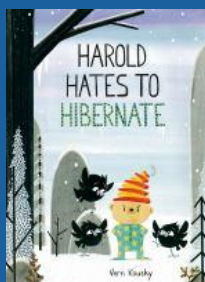
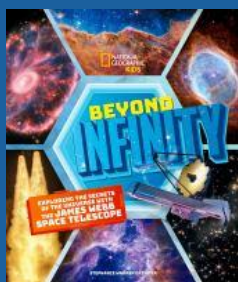
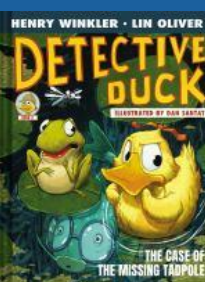


# CHECK IT OUT!

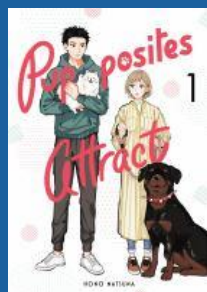
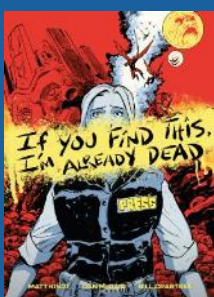
## Recent Acquisitions

Stop in to see what else is new!

### Children's



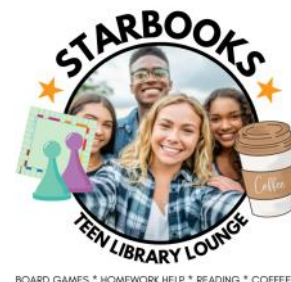
### Graphic Novels for Adults



## STARBOOKS TEEN LOUNGE

Thursdays at 3:45

Starbooks is a time for high school teens to gather and relax while playing games, reading, and getting homework help. Meets December 5, 12, and 19.



BOARD GAMES \* HOMEWORK HELP \* READING \* COFFEE

## FREE ADULT PROGRAMS

Newcomers are always welcome!

**CREATIVE COLORING FOR ADULTS:** Enjoy an hour of relaxing coloring every Monday at 2:00 p.m. The library provides colored pencils, coloring pages, and books. This program is open to adults of all abilities. Meets in Meeting Room A.

**TUESDAY NIGHT READS:** December 17 at 6:30 p.m. For adults, contact Emily at 402-844-2100 for more information. This month is a "share-a-title" discussion.

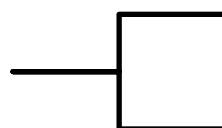
**WEDNESDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB:** December 18 at 10:00 a.m. For adults of all ages, contact Whitney at 402-844-2100 for more information. Meets in the Activity Room. This month's book is *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict.

**VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS:** Free monthly author talks featuring bestselling, award-winning, and acclaimed authors from around the world. This month features Dr. Jeffrey Post and Laura Dave. See the online event calendar to register for a session and send questions to the author.

**BASIC ENGLISH PRACTICE:** Conversational English practice for English language learners of all skill levels. Class is led by ESL teacher, Emily Duerst. December 9 and 23 at 5:30 p.m.

**TECH TUTORING:** Get personalized, individual help to learn how computers and technology work. Schedule a session by contacting Mike at 402-844-2100.

**OUTREACH:** The library will deliver library materials to patrons whose health or disability prevents them from visiting the library. If you are interested in this service for yourself or a loved one, please contact our Outreach Coordinator, Lenaya, at 402-844-2100.



"I guess there are never e

## STAY & PLAY

**Fridays from 11 a.m.—1 p.m.**

A fun family time to get together and play games. Drop in to use the library's collection of games and toys in the Children's Activity Room. This is for families with young children and provides opportunities for early social interaction.



## FREE YOUTH PROGRAMS

**All programs meet in the Youth Activity Room unless otherwise noted.**

**STORYTIME:** Fridays at 10 a.m. Infants through age 8 are invited to enjoy a fun combination of books, songs, Spanish language experiences, storytelling, puppets, and creative early language and literacy activities. Storytime is a great introduction to library visits and literary experiences. Note: No Storytime on December 20.

**TEEN BOOK CLUB:** Thursday, December 5, at 5:15 p.m. Teen Book Club is for any teenager who loves to read and talk about books. Join anytime! Contact Jessie in the Youth Services Department at 402-844-2100 or [jroberts@norfolkne.gov](mailto:jroberts@norfolkne.gov) for more information. This month's book is *The Queen's Rising* by Rebecca Ross.

**COLORING FOR KIDS:** Wednesdays at 2:15 p.m. For ages 6-15. Come relax and color using the provided materials.

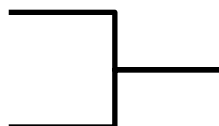
**LEGO® TIME:** Monday, December 2 at 3:45 p.m. For ages 6-12, this is a fun and creative opportunity to build imaginative, new projects using the library's LEGO® collection. *Meets in Meeting Room A.*

**GOLDEN SOWER BOOK CLUB:** Monday, December 30, at 4:00 p.m. This is a book club for ages 8-12 whose reading selections come from titles nominated for the Golden Sower Award, Nebraska's Children's Choice Literary Award. Contact Jessie in the Youth Services Department at 402-844-2100 or [jroberts@norfolkne.gov](mailto:jroberts@norfolkne.gov) for more information. This month's book is *Wayward Creatures* by Dayna Lorentz.

**1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN:** Instill an early love of reading! Any child from birth until kindergarten can participate. Completion may take from a few months to a few years, depending on how often you read. Children earn a free book and a prize for every 100 books read. Just one book a day equals more than 1,000 in three years. The concept is simple, but the rewards are priceless!

**KIDS KRAFTERNOON:** December 17 at 3:45 p.m. Monthly craft time for kids in K-3rd grade. Caregiver must participate with the child. Limited to the first 20 children.

**TWEEN ART:** December 10 at 3:45 p.m. and December 14 at 2 p.m. Crafting workshop for ages 8-12. Registration required. Please sign up for only one event each month.



# SAVE THE DATE!

## DECEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 3:45pm LEGO Time	<b>3</b> 2pm Book Folding Workshop	<b>4</b> 1pm Dr. Jeffrey Post Virtual Author Talk 2:15pm Coloring for Kids 6:30pm Twilight Tales Storytime	<b>5</b> 3:45pm Starbooks Teen Lounge 5:15pm Teen Book Club	<b>6</b> Adult Winter Craft Kits To Go 10am Storytime 11am Stay & Play	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 5:30pm Basic English Practice 5:30pm CNC Router Workshop	<b>10</b> 3:45pm Tween Art 6:30pm Last Man Down	<b>11</b> 1pm Laura Dave Virtual Author Talk 2:15pm Coloring for Kids	<b>12</b> 3:45pm Starbooks Teen Lounge	<b>13</b> 10am Storytime 11am Stay & Play	<b>14</b> 2pm Tween Art
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults WINTER READING CHALLENGE BEGINS	<b>17</b> 3:45pm Kids Krafternoon 6:30pm Tuesday Night Reads	<b>18</b> 10am Wednesday Morning Book Club 2:15pm Coloring for Kids 6:30pm Twilight Tales Storytime	<b>19</b> 3:45pm Starbooks Teen Lounge	<b>20</b> 11am Stay & Play	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 5:30pm Basic English Practice	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Library Closed for Christmas	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10am Storytime 11am Stay & Play	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 4pm Golden Sower Book Club	<b>31</b> Library Closes at 5 p.m. for New Year's Eve	<i>Scheduled activities could change due to circumstances beyond our control.</i>			