

Summer Reading and Beyond

By Kathryn Tatnall, Youth Services Librarian

This year's summer reading program theme was An Ocean of Possibilities. It was the first year since the start of the pandemic that we enjoyed in-person programming throughout the summer and it was wonderful. I want to take a moment to thank all of the parents, caregivers, children, and teens who participated this year. It was so much fun to hold programming for our community this year. I would also like to thank the library staff. They did an excellent job helping to make the program happen throughout a very busy summer. We recorded 1165 people in attendance to the 33 programs scheduled this summer. 891 in-house scavenger hunts were completed, and 384 crafts were created through the eight weeks of the program. We ended with one grand prize winner from three different age groups to finish out the summer. And because we came close to our check-out count goal the library will be purchasing something for each age group to use while in the library. Those that turned in a reading record at the end of the eight week program were given a chance to vote on those new items. The youngest group voted for a new Lego Duplo airport set and the elementary school group voted on a Lego Surfer set, both of which should be available to play with at the library in September. The teen group voted to experiment with a candle making kit at an upcoming Teen Tuesday program. None of this would have been possible without you, so thank you for participating.

We have a full schedule of programming for children and teens this fall. Storytime with Ms. Kathryn will be back starting Monday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m. and will meet every Monday at that time for the following seven weeks. Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. we will offer Pajama Party Storytime starting on September 14. The Friday Special Storytime will take place on Friday, September 9 at 10 a.m. This storytime features a themed craft after storytime. All of the storytime programs are held in the children's room and do not require registration to attend.

A few of our summer programs will continue into the fall. Teen Tuesday is a craft program for students in sixth through twelfth grade who would like to get together to make crafts and eat snacks once a month. The program will be held on Tuesday, September 6 at 4 p.m. in the library meeting room. Creative Kids is a STEAM program for students in kindergarten and first grade and explores all kinds of science and arts. This program will be held once a month and begins on Thursday, September 8 at 3:30 p.m. in the library meeting room. Wacky Wonders is a STEAM program for students in second through fifth grade and also explores the sciences and arts. This program begins on Thursday, September 22 at 3:30 p.m. These programs require registration which can be done from the library's website, just click on the Events tab and look for

the title of the program on the calendar. You may also call the library for more information or to register.

There are two special events happening in September that you might want to attend. On Wednesday, September 14 during the Pajama Party Storytime I will be reading this year's winners of the Wanda Gag Read Aloud Book Award. A representative from the Wanda Gag House Association will be here to award the books to the library prior to storytime. The second special event is the return of the Drive-In Movie for children ages 2 to 4 years of age. On Friday, September 16 at 10 a.m. in the library meeting room we will create cars from old book boxes, then we'll park our cars and watch a quick video while having a snack from the snack bar. All materials will be provided. This program requires registration which can be done from the library's website, just click on the Events tab and look for the title of the program on the calendar. You may also call the library for more information or to register.

Please ask at the children's desk if there is something you're looking for and can't find right away; we're here to help. Check out our monthly calendar of programming too. We offer a variety of activities for all ages, from story time to book club for teens. You can find more information on our website at www.newulmlibrary.org on the Library Events page.

The library is located at 17 N. Broadway and is open to the public Monday to Thursdays 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. The library will be closed on Monday, September 5 in observance of Labor Day and will open again on Tuesday, September 8 at 9:30 a.m.