



May/June 2022

in the loop

Library highlights, programs, news and more!



Digital Literacy Help Available!

VOLUNTEER HELP from Literacy Rochester

We will have a Digital Literacy volunteer from Literacy Rochester available **every Monday from 1pm-3pm** to teach adults basic computer skills on a one-to-one basis. No registration required, just drop in!



Tiny Houses & Home Efficiency Practices



Tuesday May 17th at 6pm
In-Person and Zoom

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION with Noah Earl

Have you ever wondered what it's like to build your own tiny house? How about living in one? Join us for a discussion with local tiny house builder **Noah Earl** to learn about tiny house living and creating beautiful, more affordable housing. Tiny houses could also offer useful solutions if a housing crisis impacts folks in our communities.

In-person and on Zoom.

Seed Library Success!

A new resource for our Community!

Our Seed Library is now open! We have an abundance of seeds available to share with our community, and it's easy to use! Take the seeds you need, donate the seeds you don't and grow! Thanks so much to **Petra** for the seed donation and for leading our seed sowing program, to our volunteer, **Molly**, for helping us organize all of the seeds and being part of the planning process and to the **Friends of Naples Library** for funding it! *The Seed Library is located on the first floor next to the Director's office.*



From left: Kendyl Litwiller, Petra Page-Mann, Molly Jensen

Below: Community members joined Petra for a night of planting for the grand opening of our Seed Library



PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Digital Literacy Help
Mondays 1pm-3pm

Bone Builders
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:15am-10:15am

**Totally Cool
After School Youth Club**
Tuesdays, 4pm-5pm

The Lounge
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
10:30am-12pm

**Tiny Houses & Home
Efficiency**
May 17th at 6pm

Digging Deeper
May 31st at 6pm

Eco Book Club & Hike
1st Wednesdays
Cumming Nature Center
11am

Teens First
1st Wednesdays
4pm-5pm

Teen Advisory Board
2nd & 4th Wednesdays
4pm-5:30pm

Library Board Meeting
Third Wednesdays at 5pm

Leap Wednesday (Teens)
June 29, 4pm-5:30pm

Cricut Course
2nd Thursdays at 6pm

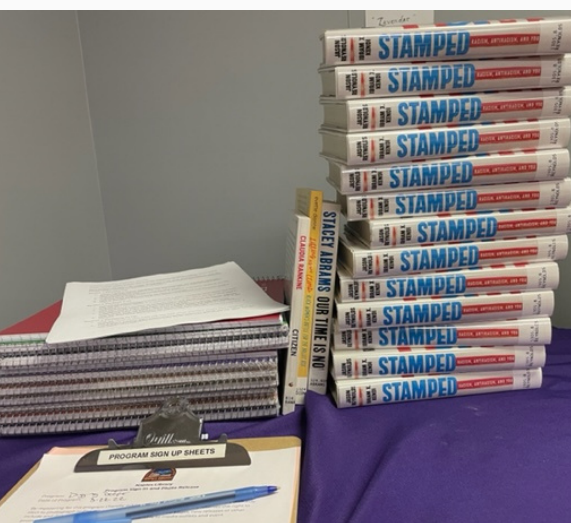
Pre-School Story Time
Fridays at 10:30am



Digging Deeper: Program Reflection

by Danielle Tcholakian, Teen Services Coordinator

Last summer, **Iris Snaith**, a local teen, asked if the Naples Library would be willing to host and help facilitate conversations on race and antiracism. I brought the idea to Kendyl, who came across a grant from the American Library Association expressly for facilitating important and difficult community conversations at small and rural libraries across America. We submitted an application that included a letter of support from Iris, and were awarded the grant. Iris loves literature and believes in its ability to help people see things in new ways and spark fertile discussion, so we opted to style our program as a book club and discussion group.



We decided to name the program “Digging Deeper,” a nod at what Iris was hoping the program would do: enable us, as a community, to dig deeper into our understanding of our collective history and ourselves and see where collaborative accountability could help us strengthen and grow, both as individuals and as a community.

We used our grant in part to purchase copies of four different books, picked out by Iris, and to hire a phenomenal discussion facilitator, **Rebekah Williams**, who co-founded an organization called Food for the Spirit and also happens to be one of our neighbors! Bekah met with Iris, her friend and classmate **Lulu DeMallie**, and I several times to meticulously plan our program, building in ways to help participants engage with the difficult material. Iris and Lulu and I all did a series of American Library Association trainings together, and then coordinated the sessions with Bekah. Iris also helped me design our publicity materials, which Bekah helped edit. The first book we selected to read together was “**Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning**” by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi.



The unknown factor was, of course, the participants. Iris and I both worried no one would show up, or if they did, what we were asking of them would be too heavy. And in that department, we really lucked out. Our participants ranged in age from teenagers to senior citizens, and everyone showed up willing and eager to openly and vulnerably discuss this incredibly challenging subject. We met six times and by the end, everyone was asking to keep going, leaving us grateful we'd allocated part of the budget to securing more materials. We're taking a brief break and then resuming with a new book in a slightly less highly-structured way, to experiment a little bit. We're also hoping to add new participants, who our previous participants can help guide and acclimate.

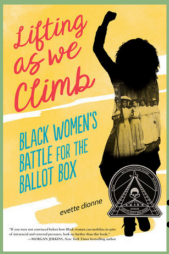
Back by Popular Demand!

DIGGING DEEPING: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION SERIES

Join **Danielle Tcholakian** and the **Naples Library Teen Advisory Board** for another round of the Digging Deeper Community Conversation Series. Together, participants will read "**Lifting as We Climb: Black Women's Battle for the Ballot Box**" by Evette Dionne. Participants will be able to keep their copy of the book. This group will meet **Tuesdays at 6pm starting May 31st.**

DIGGING DEEPER

The Naples Library Teen Advisory Board invites neighbors ages 13+ to participate in an **intergenerational community conversation** series about antiracism.



**TUESDAYS
FROM 6:00 TO
7:30PM
FOR 5 WEEKS
STARTING
MAY 31**

Registration required, with a commitment to attend **all five meetings.** Free book provided upon registration!

Registration is required.

Accessibility and Expansion Project

Frequently Asked Questions
by Kendyl Litwiller, Library Director

Our team of Library Trustees, Architects and myself have been making great progress on the Accessibility and Expansion Project. We often get folks coming in who are hearing about the project for the first time. Here are a couple of the most common questions;

Q: Does the library really need an elevator?

A: Absolutely! The downstairs portion of our building can only be accessed from the main entrance via stairs or by going outside, around the block and down Harwood Lane. With the addition of an elevator folks with limited mobility, kids, parents and caregivers with small children and strollers will be able to access the downstairs children's area, library programming and library materials with ease.

Q: How is the project being funded?

A: A combination of grant funds and our endowment fund. With the combination of the State Aid for Library Construction grant and our endowment, the Accessibility and Expansion Project will not be funded by the local tax levy. The project total will be around \$1.2 million; with \$522k being covered in grant funding and the remainder from the library endowment.

Q: When is this project going to start?

A: Our goal is October 2022. So far, we are right on schedule. The project will be going out to bid in July and we are aiming for breaking ground this fall.

If you have any questions in regards to this project, don't hesitate to reach out!

Kindly,

Kendyl



*Current rear view of
Naples Library*



Proposed Design

Art Exhibit



**Looking Back -
A Period of Transition**
by Phil Probst
Showing through
May & June

**Would you like to give
us a gift? Follow this
link for our Amazon
wish list!**
<https://a.co/5SNUnQ7>

Naples Library
*Small Town Charm.
Worldwide Access*

Come visit us!

**Mon., Weds. & Fri. ...10am-6pm
Tues. & Thurs. ...10am-8pm
Saturday ...10am-2pm
Sunday ...CLOSED**

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Find us on Facebook!

**Vote "Yes" for
your library on
May 17th!**