Summer Reading AT OFL
June 20th - August 20th

Adult Program (ages 18 & up):
Sign up and log books to earn chances to win $20 gift cards to Byrne Dairy, Crazy Daisies, E.A.T., Green Hills and Velasko Pizzeria & Deli—all located right here in the Town of Onondaga! The more you read, the more chances you have to win!

Teen Program (entering grades 7-12):
Sign up and log 2 books to earn a Gannon’s Ice Cream token. Keep logging all summer to be entered into our monthly raffle drawings for Target gift cards. The more books you log, the more chances you have to win!

Kids Program (entering grades K-6):
Set your own reading goal! Earn a Gannon’s Ice Cream token when you reach 50% and a free book when you complete your goal. Reach your goal early? Keep logging to be entered into our monthly raffle drawings! Plus, complete our Smokey Bear Challenge to be entered into a special raffle at the end of summer!

Get started online at www.oflibrary.org/summer-reading
OR download the READsquared app so you can log your reading while on the go!

Summer Reading is sponsored by the Friends of OFL and Gannon’s Ice Cream.
For Kids & Families

SUMMER FAVORITES

Zoo to You: Animal Myths Busted Thursday, 7/11 at 10am
Learn the truth behind popular animal myths and test your knowledge when we play Two Truths and a Lie. Sleuth out fact from fiction by utilizing provided biofacts, information and diagrams. For all ages!
Presented by the Rosamond Gifford Zoo

The M.O.S.T.: Adventure Begins at Your Library Tuesday, 7/23 at 3pm
Planes, trains, and submarines - oh my! Explore the many solutions that humans have engineered to get to their next adventure, from air travel to underwater exploration. Discover more about concepts like aerodynamics, buoyancy, and beyond in this exciting live science demonstration! For all ages!
Presented by the M.O.S.T.

Pokémon Mondays, 7/15 & 8/19 at 6pm
Enjoy a fun game of strategy and partnership while battling new friends with Pokémon cards. All skill levels are welcome! For kids in grades 2-6.

Tabletop Adventurers Friday, 7/26, 3:00-4:30pm
ADVENTURERS WANTED: Roll the dice and join our party! We will play a tabletop roleplaying game, using dice, paper, and pencil to tell a story. Participants should be comfortable reading, writing, and doing simple arithmetic; beginning gamers are welcome. For kids in grades 3-7.

Tricky Tracks Tuesday, 7/30 at 2:30pm
Did you know, you can learn so much about an animal just by looking at its tracks? Participants explore tracks made by common NYS animals by using biofacts and kinetic sand. Also discuss the different ways animals move by watching videos from the wildlife camera. For all ages!
Presented by Beaver Lake Nature Center

Navigating the Stars Tuesday, 8/6 at 2pm
Have you ever wondered how people in ancient times told time? How they got from Point A to Point B without a smartphone or a compass? Learn about Nathaniel Bowditch, the father of modern navigation and how he taught illiterate men to follow the stars. Learn which constellations matter most. Participants will even receive a star map to take home and start exploring! For families with kids in grades 4+.
Presented by Winterberry Homestead

Explore Virtual Reality Wednesday, 8/7, 2-3:30pm
Have you ever wanted to walk with a dinosaur? Explore ancient ruins? Tour the International Space Station? Or jump into a video game world? With VR, you can do all of that and more! Drop-in to try out our Oculus GO Virtual Reality console. Play a VR game, enjoy a VR experience, or just stop by to find out what VR is all about. For families with kids in grades 1-6.

Paper Circuit Lanterns Thursday, 8/8 at 2:30pm
Craft your own paper lantern, and learn how to use a simple circuit to illuminate it! For kids in grades 3-6.

Cryptid Party Thursday, 8/15, 2:00-3:30pm
Celebrate the end of summer reading with a Cryptid Party. Make glow in the dark slime, make a cryptid craft, and have some snacks. For kids in grades PreK-7
Have older siblings? They’re invited to our Create-a-Cryptid happening at the same time! See the teen page for more details.

For the Littles

Family Storytime w/ Onondaga Hill Fire Dept. Wednesday, 7/10 at 10am
Join us for stories about special community helpers. Firefighters from the Onondaga Hill Volunteer Fire Department will be available for a meet and greet and to check out their fire truck! For all ages!

Sensory Play Tuesdays, 7/16 & 7/30 at 10am
Children explore their senses though play! We will create hands-on sensory experiences that can be replicated at home at minimal cost. Be sure to wear play clothes, as things could get messy!
Recommended for babies, toddlers & preschoolers.

Story Snackers
Wednesday, 7/17, 7/31 & 8/14 at 2pm
Join us for a short storytime, and then roll up your sleeves to make and enjoy a snack!
⇒ July 17: S’moreytime
⇒ July 31: Pizza Party
⇒ August 14: Cookie Dough
For families with kids in PreK & grades K-2.

Family Play & Caregiver Meetups
Fridays in July & August, 10:00-11:30am
Playing is learning! Babies, toddlers and preschoolers are invited to play together and socialize at OFL. Children interact with each other while parents/grandparents and other caregivers meet and chat.
Recommended for babies, toddlers & preschoolers.
SPECIAL GUESTS 2024

7/10 10am
Family Storytime w/ Onondaga Hill Fire Dept.

7/11 10am
Zoo to You!: Animal Myths Busted
Presented by the Rosamond Gifford Zoo

7/23 3pm
The M.O.S.T. presents Adventure Begins at Your Library

7/30 2:30pm
Tricky Tracks
Presented by Beaver Lake Nature Center

8/6 2pm
Navigating the Stars
Presented by Winterberry Homestead

Visit our calendar at www.oflibrary.org for more information about and to register for any of the above events.
DATE
July 13th

FUNDRAISER & TOUR

TOUR: Saturday, 7/13 at 10am
Join OFL staff as we get a behind the scenes tour of NBT Bank Stadium, home of the Syracuse Mets! Explore the clubhouse, dugout and even get to go out on the field! For all ages! REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FUNDRAISER: Saturday, 7/13 at 6:35pm
Enjoy a night of baseball and fireworks, all while helping OFL! Purchase your tickets by scanning the code below-$5 from every ticket will go to support OFL and its mission. As an added bonus, the first 1500 fans will receive a free Syracuse Mets Haudenosaunee jersey.

Scan code to Register for Tour

Scan code to Purchase Tickets

NBT Bank Stadium
1 Tex Simone Dr, Syracuse, NY 13208
Paracord Bracelet Making
Monday, 7/29, 2:30-3:30pm
Make your own paracord bracelet, aka survival bracelet. Generally worn by people who enjoy outdoor activities like camping, hiking, and climbing, paracord bracelets are made by weaving strands of paracord together. In a pinch, the bracelet can be unwound so the cord can be used for a multitude of purposes. For teens & tweens in grades 5-12.

Garden Party
Monday, 7/22, 2:00-3:30pm
Embrace your inner over-the-top posh with croquet, cucumber sandwiches and fancy beverages in OFL’s garden. Decorate a mini chalkboard flower pot while enjoying the garden ambiance. Formal attire welcome but not required. For teens in grades 7-12.

String Art
Thursday, 7/25, 2:00-3:30pm
Create a rustic piece of art by hammering nails into a piece of wood and connecting them with colorful string to create an image. For teens in grades 7-12.

JOIN A CLUB!

YA Book Club
Mondays, 6-7pm
- 7/8 - A Study in Drowning by Ava Reid
- 8/5 - Sadie by Courtney Summers
A book club for anyone who loves reading YA. Whether you’re a teen, a college student, or an adult (maybe with a teen of your own), if YA books are an instant add to your TBR (to be read) list, this is the book club for you! Snacks provided. For teens in grades 9-12 and adults.

Tarot Club
Mondays, 7/15 & 8/19, 6-7pm
Interested in Tarot? Grab your deck and head up to our fireplace area for a casual hangout of Tarot enthusiasts. No deck? No problem - the library has beginner decks available for in-library use. For teens in grades 7-12.

Anime Club
Fridays, 7/19 & 8/16, 3:30-4:30pm
Watch a favorite with OFL’s librarians and chat with other interested teens.
⇒ 7/19: Mystery KitKat Tasting
⇒ 8/16: Boba Tea
For teens in grades 6-12.

Registration opens the 20th of each month.
Registration required
Registration required AND closes early – See calendar.

Have younger siblings? They’re invited to our Cryptid Party happening at the same time! See inside front cover for more details.
For Adults - All about BOOKS!

**Author Visit & Book Signing with Rochelle Bilow**
Friday, 7/26 at 2pm
Join us in welcoming Syracuse native and romance author Rochelle Bilow as she discusses and autographs copies of her second novel, *Effie Olsen’s Summer Special*.

**ABOUT THE BOOK:** Prodigal chef Effie Olsen returns to her idyllic island home, rekindles an old flame, faces restaurant secrets and battles past regrets while discovering that her heart’s compass always points back to Maine.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Bilow is a food and romance writer who previously worked as the social media manager at *Bon Appétit* and *Cooking Light* magazines. A graduate of The French Culinary Institute, she has also worked as a line cook, a baker, and a wine spokesperson. Her first book, *The Call of the Farm*, a swoony farming memoir, was published in 2014. Her second book, *Ruby Spencer’s Whisky Year*, a romance set in Scotland, was published in 2023. Raised in Syracuse and a Westhill alum, Bilow now lives in northern Vermont.

Autographed copies will be available for purchase courtesy of Parthenon Books—Price: TBA

**History Roundtable - Rm 222 (2nd floor)**
Passionate about history? Curious about what trends and forces shaped our past and our future? Then, this discussion group is for you! Facilitated by a local retired history professor.

**Beautiful Souls** by Eyal Press
*Tuesday, 7/16 6:00-7:30pm*

**Wide Awake** by Jon Grinspan
*Tuesday, 8/13 6:00-7:30pm*

**YA Book Club - Fireplace Area (2nd floor)**
A book club for teens and adults alike who enjoy reading YA titles!

**A Study in Drowning** by Ava Reid
*Monday, 7/8 at 6pm*

**Sadie** by Courtney Summers
*Monday, 8/5 at 6pm*

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**BOOK CLUBS**

**Diverse Voices Book Club**
Fireplace Area (2nd floor)
A book club that brings together readers interested in discovering and discussing diverse literature.

**Dates & Selections:**

- **Our Souls at Night** by Kent Haruf - ✓
  *Wed, 7/10 at 7pm*
  Addie and Louis, a widow and widower each living alone, forge a loving bond over their shared loneliness, provoking local gossip and the disapproval of their grown children.

- **The Midnight Library** by Matt Haig - ✓
  *Wed, 8/14 at 7pm*
  35-year-old Nora, who is unhappy in her dead-end life, is given the opportunity to experience lives she might have had if she had made different choices. She must answer the ultimate question: what is the best way to live?

**Thrilling Reads Book Club**
*The Lie Maker* by Linwood Barclay - ✓
*Mon, 8/26 at 7pm*
In this twisty, fast-paced thriller from the New York Times bestselling author, a man desperately tries to track down his father—who was taken into witness protection—before his enemies can get to him.

Call the library or visit our online catalog to check availability of titles in print and digital formats.

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**Looking for reading recommendations?**

Sign up for our NextReads e-newsletters to get new releases from your favorite genre(s) delivered right to your inbox!

Scan code ➔
Build a Weather & Climate Station 3-part series: 📡
Mondays, 7/1, 7/8 & 7/15, 1-4pm
Explore the relationship between greenhouse gases, atmospheric disturbances, and the changes we observe in how our local ecosystems function. Participants begin with an introduction to the carbon cycle and its impact on meteorological conditions, then discover how scientists and engineers use methane sensors, pressure transducers, temperature probes, carbon dioxide sensors, and sonic anemometers to observe, record, and analyze the movement of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Participants will also gain practical, hands-on experience with various types of sensors, electrical wiring best practices, data logging, weather station design and construction, and data analysis, culminating in the assembly and deployment of a fully functional weather and climate station. Led by SUNY ESF Professor of Environmental Engineering, Dr. Timothy Morin. Recommended for TEENS (grades 9-12) and/or ADULTS.

Guided Tour of Montezuma Wildlife Refuge
Monday, 8/5, 9-11am 🦅
Join us for a guided tour of the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge’s spectacular wetland habitats. Spot Bald Eagles, Osprey, American Bitterns, Great Blue Herons, Pied-billed Grebes and more as we explore and learn about this vital ecosystem. Led by Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Naturalist Peter Saracino. Directions to the exact meeting location will be emailed to registrants approx. two days prior to the tour. For adults.

Needlework Crafts
Tuesdays in July & August, 2:00-3:30pm
Are you looking for the opportunity to socialize or meet new friends? Join us each week to do all types of needlework, crochet, knitting, cross stitch, and more. Feel free to come and go as you please; no signups or age limits. Come out and enjoy an afternoon with us. For teens and/or adults. Led by community volunteer. Also, check out the Friends of OFL weekly craft group—Crafts with Friends, Thursdays, 9:30-10:30am. Flip to back page for more information.

Suffrage in Onondaga County
Tuesday, 8/6 at 6:30pm 🗳
On August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment was ratified, giving women the vote for the first time in our nation’s history. The path to equal suffrage began in Seneca Falls and went straight through the heart of Onondaga County. Join us in taking a look at the many ways in which the women of Onondaga County helped advance the cause of universal suffrage and advocated for the passage of the 19th Amendment. Presented by history teacher and member of the Comfort Tyler Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Jessica Dapson. Recommended for adults and teens.

AI: Basics & Beyond 🧠
2-part series: Tuesdays, 7/9 & 7/16, 6-8pm
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is changing the world around us and is being used in a variety of ways to make our lives easier and more efficient. But what exactly is AI, how does it work, and what are the consequences of its use? Get a basic overview of AI, including its history, types, and applications. Participants will get a chance to interact with Google’s Bard AI chatbot and Midjourney’s art generation AI. Political, social, economic and ethical implications of AI will also be discussed we work with these powerful tools. For TEENS (grades 6-12) and/or ADULTS.
Crafts with Friends
Thursdays, 9:30-10:30am

You’re invited to meet, chat, share crafting/hobby ideas, and work on your current projects, such as knitting, crocheting, word games, coloring, Sudoku, etc. Afterwards, you are invited to browse the library’s Crafts & Hobbies collection to discover new crafting ideas.

There is no fee, no obligation – just bring your craft/hobby and a friend!

Recommended for adults but all ages are welcome!

FOLLOW US:
@OnondagaFreeLib
#SummeratOFL

Thank you to everyone involved in the Friends Spring Book Sale— it was a record breaking fundraiser for the Friends!