



Did you happen to spot the Red-tail Hawk going down Eola Road the other day? How about the Barred Owl going into the Eola Road Branch of the Aurora Public Library? Did you know that many birds of prey and raptors are found in our area? On Saturday, July 6, customers from the Aurora Public Library became experts as they learned fascinating facts about these wild flying predators and met some owls, hawks and falcons live and up close!

Sixty people gathered at the library as Wings and Talons, a non-profit organization, brought with them four different species of birds. Customers of all ages witnessed up close and personal a Barred Owl, a Great-horned Owl, a Red-tail Hawk, and an American Kestrel. Customers who participated in this two-hour program had the opportunity to ask questions about the various raptors, as well as hold real wings and bird claws that the group had brought as visual aids.

Wings and Talons is an organization based in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. What are they all about? According to their website, "Our mission is to provide for the raptors in our care, and those that live in the wild, by means of education, stewardship, and conservation. We are also committed to connecting with similar organizations to share knowledge and work together for the common cause of raptor preservation. We offer education programs throughout the Chicago area year-round."

Collin Benson, Adult Services Assistant at the Eola Road Branch said, "Wings and Talons was very knowledgeable and did a great job at engaging everyone including the children. We look forward to having Wings and Talons back at the end of the year." You heard it first, folks! Save the date!

Make sure to keep your eye out on social media for photos that attendees of the program were able to take up close. We will also have some more photos on the library's social media @APLibraryIL! The Aurora Public Library has many other fun events happening this summer from the Apollo Moon Landing 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, July 20 from 2 – 4 p.m., to the American Red Cross Parents CPR Class on Tuesday, August 20 from 5 -8 p.m.! For other adult programs at the Eola Road Branch, make sure to visit our website at [aurorapubliclibrary.org](http://aurorapubliclibrary.org).