Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District

Summer 2021
VOL. 37, NO. 3

AMPL News

Remembering Robert "Bob" Olson, Library Trustee

FACTA NON VERBA (DEEDS NOT WORDS)

It was my privilege to know Bob Olson for many years. He and I attended Leo High School at 79th and Peoria. He graduated in 1964, the year after I did. While at Leo, we were taught by a staff of Irish Christian Brothers and an assortment of lay teachers. There we were taught to become good Christians and good citizens. In order for teenage boys to become good Catholic men, two basic concepts were intertwined in our education: Catholic dogma and good works. The motto of Leo High School is FACTA NON VERBA, deeds are more important than words.

To me, Bob was the epitome of a good Catholic man. As long as he lived in Alsip, Bob supported St. Terrence Parish. He was devoted to his family throughout his life. He lived with and supported his mother for many years. In the 1980's when the Friends of the Library hosted numerous book sales, Bob was always there to help. He used his artistic talent to design posters promoting the Friends' various activities. When it was time to set up or tear down book sales, Bob always pitched in. As a trustee of the Library, he always did more than his share of the work. He attended board meetings regularly and performed committee work with tireless devotion. Bob was particularly devoted to improve the beauty of the Library. As chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee, with great diligence, Bob kept track of all repair work, maintenance and physical improvements in the Library building and its grounds. His love of nature and gardening was evident in the thoughtful manner Bob brought to every endeavor.

Bob Olson was a great guy. Always cheerful and upbeat, his smile would light up any room. His concern for others was always evident. Throughout his life, Bob was devoted to his Family, his Church and to his Community. We will all miss him.

Les Engelbrecht
Trustee

Want to be a Library Trustee?

The Library District is currently looking for an energetic, civically minded individual to serve as a library trustee. Normally an elected position, the untimely passing of our beloved trustee, Robert Olson, has our board short a member, and the existing board members are looking to appoint one. Must be a resident of Alsip, Merrionette Park, or Garden Homes and able to attend monthly meetings. For more information, email libraryboard@alsiplibrary.info. To submit an application for the position, please submit a letter of interest to the attention of Board President Mary McKendree at 11960 S Pulaski Rd, Alsip, IL 60803 or libraryboard@alsiplibrary.info.

Kids

"Reading Colors Your World!"

Summer Reading Challenge 2021

Summer at the library is a two part family adventure! One part is Summer Reading which is an 8 week challenge where children set goals and read to earn prizes. The second part of our adventure is our free 6 week set of classes.

Beginning Monday, June 7, children ages birth-8th grade with valid AMP library cards may register for the prize program AND weekly classes. You may register any time during the summer, June 7-August 1, but please be aware that supplies and class size may be limited. All programs and classes are free to Youth District card holders. Reciprocal card holders and Non-residents are not eligible. You may register by phone, (708-371-5666 ext. 140), email (ysrefdesk@alsiplibrary.info) or walk-in any time we are open.

How does this program work?

This year the prize program will run for 8 weeks beginning Monday June 7. Each week children "check-in" any time we are open via phone, email or walk-in to receive a coupon and small toy. You check-in when it's convenient for you! If you can't make it to the library, we offer home delivery as well. We will also enter all participants in weekly raffles and a special Grand Prize family activity membership.

How do the classes work?

We provide written instructions that we send home in our craft bags. Some programs have pre-recorded videos and will say so next to the program title. Craft materials can be picked up in-house, curbside or through home delivery, we will notify you when they are ready! Registration is required for all programs.

Volunteers

Middle School kids going into 6, 7 and 8th grade have opportunities to earn volunteer credit with fun online activities and to participate in our young Teen Advisory Group (TAG). You must have a valid AMP library card to participate this year. You will be notified each week by email or phone to arrange curbside pickup or home delivery of prizes and rewards. There is a limit of 40 volunteers for the summer.

Weekly Programs

Adventures in Art

June 22, 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27 (pre-recorded video)

Ages 8-8th grade. Join Miss Cindy for a weekly video painting lesson. Weekly paint bags will include canvas, paint and instructions. Follow along with the video at your convenience.

Canvas Kids

June 24; July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Ages 5-7 years. Interested in learning how to paint? Miss Cindy will give you instructions on how to paint on a pre-traced canvas. Weekly supply bags will include canvas board, paint, and instructions.

Color Your World with STEAM...

June 22 and 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27

Best for ages 4-10 years old. Color your world with these grab-and-go STEAM kits! Each week, you will receive colorful supplies to make or build something fun and unique. You are in for a surprise with these Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math projects!

Curbside Pickup Craft

June 25; July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Best for ages 2-6 years. Are you looking for a craft activity to keep your little one busy for a while? Now you can get our weekly drop in craft as a curbside pickup craft to take home. Instructions will come with the craft each week.

Paint Your World

June 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (pre-recorded video)

Ages 4-8 with caregiver. Join Miss Cindy as she shows you and your caregiver how to create a painting together. Part of the painting will be done by the child, part by the adult but together you will create a beautiful painting that can be hung up in your home where everyone can see it! You will receive a traced canvas board, instructions, and all the paint you need to create your masterpiece.

Reading Colors Your World Spanish Family Storytime

Fridays (pre-recorded video)

Best for Ages 2-7 years. ¡Hola! Please join the wonderful and charismatic Spanish Time Story Teller, Ms. Alejandra Osorio, from The Language Labs. She will take us through a fun journey exploring new colors each week with songs, props and stories in her native language. Weekly craft kits will be provided.

Speedy Science

June 21, 28; July 5, 12, 19, 26 (pre-recorded video)

Ages 5-11 years. Want to find some fun and fast science experiments you can run out of your own home? Look no further! These quick videos feature different experiments that you can fit into your busy schedule. Supplies will be provided.

Summer Chillin'

June 23, 30; July 7, 14, 21, 28 (pre-recorded video)

Best for ages 2-6 years. Spend summer chillin' with Miss Wendy! Each week your child will receive a storytime prop bag to accompany the pre-recorded video which will be linked to the library's website. Stories, activities, music, and art… all when it fits into your schedule.

Summer Reading Nights

June 26; July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 (pre-recorded video)

Best for ages 6 and up. Spend family time together with treats and a good book. Cool down with a freeze pop and a juice box (we provide) and Join Miss Kelly as she reads aloud a classic chapter book. Once you sign up, you are registered for 6 weeks and will get a bag including a freeze pop and a juice box each week.

Kids

Middle School

TAG Meetings

June 3, and July 1 at 7pm (Zoom meeting)

Grades 6-8. AMPL cardholders only. This summer, TAG continues to be socially-distanced. To participate in a meeting, you need to provide an email address (either yours or your parent's - no school email) so that you are able to receive the invitation to the meetings. Meetings will be closed, and restricted to TAG members; no other patrons will receive the meeting's invitation or login information. When you sign up for the Summer Reading Program, you will receive your volunteer projects kit. These projects are to be completed by August 5. Please email Miss Wendy, wroe@alsiplibrary.info for further details. Limit of 40 volunteers.

Jr. High Take & Make Crafts

Thursdays (pre-recorded video)

Ages 10-14 years old. Continue to indulge your creative nature! Sign up to receive all-new craft kits that you can make whenever it fits into your schedule.

June 24; July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

Special Programs

Rainbow Fishing Derby

July 17

Ages 2-7. Join us in person for a fun rainbow fishing derby! Register in advance to reserve a 20-minute time slot for your child to use our magnetic fishing set and sort the fish by color. Each family will take home some snacks, a prize, and a book about sea life. This program will be held in person outside in front of the library. The magnetic fishing set will be sanitized between families. This event will be rescheduled in the event of rain. You will be asked to select a specific time slot when you register, please contact the library for available times. Limit 10 families.

Kids Choice Book Club

June 21, July 19 and August 16 from 7-7:45 pm

Ages 7-11 years. Join us once a month for a book club where you choose the book! Each month, pick any book you like. Read that book and come to share the book you found with friends and learn about other great books. Snacks will be provided. Need help finding a book to read? Let us know and we can give you an optional theme to help get you started. This program is scheduled to begin via Zoom, but we hope to transition to our outdoor garden area and/or in-house meeting dependent on current health and safety conditions. Call the Youth Services Department to register and we will send you an invitation to join the online meeting. You can also call in to the meeting on your phone. By joining this super special book club and sharing your best books, you will receive **2 EXTRA RAFFLE TICKETS** each week! Now that's super special!

Just for You! Books and Treats Surprise Program

Ages birth-13 years. Receive a special bag filled with a book and treats! Answer the different questions about what kinds of books you like. We will then pick out a book meant just for you! We will call you when your bag, filled with a book and treats, is ready. The book must be returned to the library, but the treats are yours to keep! Pickup will begin the week of June 21st. You can register online, or by calling the library and registering over the phone.

Teens

All activities are for ages 14-19 and can be picked up or delivered. Call 708-926-7024 with questions or to reserve a kit.

Kintsugi Bowls

June 7

Learn a Japanese technique for repairing broken pottery with beautiful results.

Cross Stitch Fox

June 14

Pick up a needle & thread and learn how to cross stitch an adorable fox.

Take & Make Craft: Hello Summer Sign

June 21

Roll out the welcome wagon for everyone's favorite season with a paint-it-yourself wooden sign.

Taco & Ice Cream Trucks

July 5

Build and customize your own (mini) Taco or Ice Cream truck.

Sunpaper photos

July 12

Use the power of the sun to imprint beautiful designs.

Take & Make Craft: Butterfly Suncatchers

July 19

Create a dazzling craft of butterflies using tissue paper & glue.

Mosaic Sea Critters

August 2

Fish around and see which mosaic sea critter you catch.

Ceramic Ice Cream Cone

August 9

Paint & seal a ceramic ice cream cone that will look good enough to eat!

Take & Make Craft: Wood Shells

August 16

Keep your summer memories forever with a paint-it-yourself wooden jar of seashells.

Summer Reading Returns!

Our 'Reading Colors Your World' program will have you tracking completed books to be turned in or emailed to the library. Each book you read enters you into a drawing for a Boredom Buster basket, and the fifth & tenth books earn you a prize & bonus entries! Check back all Summer long for new take home activities, crafts, and more. For more info check out the Teen Programs page on the library's website at alsiplibrary.info or call us at 708-926-7024.

Summer Reading Challenge to return in June 2021!

Adults

Registration is required for all programs unless noted. Call the Information Desk at 708-926-7024 to register.

Virtual Cooking With Chef Carla: Back to School Edition

August 9 at 6 pm

Join us on Zoom for a virtual interactive healthy cooking class with Chef Carla Ringo! Whatever your level of cooking experience, you will love Chef Carla's recipes, tips, and culinary enthusiasm. This time, we'll be focusing on easy weekday family meals. Ingredients lists will be provided in advance. Spots will be limited so please call us now at 708.926.7024 to register.

The Green Space Project

Behind the southwest corner of Prairie Junior High School at 11910 S. Kostner Ave.

Thursday Evening Garden Workdays 5-7 pm

The Green Space Project is back! We're very pleased to announce our fourth season of planting and outdoor fun. It will look a little different this year because we'll be socially distancing and masking, but we can once again enjoy some relaxing time together in our experimental garden space!

Every week June through August we'll tend our garden, get tips from Master Gardener Adrianne Topic, and enjoy fun activities like crafts, meditative art, restorative exercise, and picnicking. Every time you participate, your family will be entered into drawings for prizes including gift cards and a 2022 season pool pass at Sprayfari Aquatic Park.

All workdays take place at The Green Space Project behind (southwest corner) Prairie Junior High at 11910 S. Kostner Ave. Advanced registration is not required. Please join our email list at tinyurl.com/AlsipGSP to get weekly email updates.

Prefer to limit contact with others? The garden is always open for you to visit with your friends and family outside of workdays!

Make & Take Crafts

June 3, July 1, August 5

Volunteers will receive garden themed make and take craft kits on a first-come, first-served basis.

Restorative Exercise

June 10, July 8, August 12

Care for your plants and then take some time to care for yourself! Enjoy restorative exercise including qi gong and yoga.

Zen Art

June 17, July 15, August 19

Listen to calming music and chill out while you create simple, beautiful art like beadwork, coloring, and origami.

Picnic & Recipe Share

June 24, July 22, August 26

Bring a picnic, enjoy some relaxing time outdoors, and learn what delicious things you can make fresh from the garden.

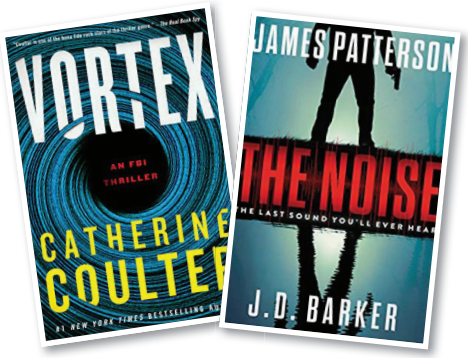
Kids Day

July 29

Children of all ages are always welcome at our garden space, but this day will have a few extra kid-friendly activities in store including a craft, music, goodie bags, and day passes for Sprayfari Aquatic Park on a first-come, first-served basis.

Adults

Good Reads



JUNE

Mary Balogh.....*Someone to Cherish*
Elin Hilderbrand.....*Golden Girl*
Lisa Jackson.....*The Third Grave*
Iris Johansen.....*The Bullet*
James Patterson & Bill Clinton.....
.....*The President's Daughter*
Susan Elizabeth Phillips.....
.....*When Stars Collide*
Brad Thor.....*Black Ice*
Stuart Woods.....*Jack Pot*

JULY

Lisa Kleypas.....*Devil in Disguise*
Debbie Macomber.....*It's Better This Way*
James Patterson.....*The Shadow*
Mary Jo Putney.....*Once a Laird*
Kathy Reichs.....*Bone Code*
Daniel Silva.....*The Cellist*
Danielle Steel.....*Nine Lives*

AUGUST

Donna Andrews.....*Murder Most Fowl*
Sandra Brown.....*Blind Tiger*
Robin Cook.....*Viral*
Catherine Coulter.....*Vortex*
Stephen King.....*Billy Summers*
Fern Michaels.....*19 Yellow Moon Road*
James Patterson.....*The Noise*
Louise Penny.....*The Madness of Crowds*
Douglas Preston.....*Bloodless*
Danielle Steel.....*Complications*
Stuart Woods.....*Class Act*

This is Jeopardy!

The category in this round is retiring librarian.
For $100 – Expert on movies, genealogy and more
For $200 – Book whisperer, able to visualize most items in our collection
For $400 – Longest-serving staff member
For $800 – Adult Services employee with over 39 years of service
Did you answer every question, "*Who is Cynthia Blietz?*" You are correct! Cynthia has worked at the Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library since 1982. If you have visited our Information Desk with a local history question, chances are Assistant Manager Cynthia Blietz helped research the answer. Cynthia has been sharing her extensive knowledge of information and readers' advisory expertise with patrons and staff for almost four decades. With her exceptional memory, she was not only a Jeopardy TV contestant, but has also contributed to many local trivia team wins over the years. We will truly miss Cynthia and wish her all the best in her future endeavors – catching matinees, visiting all the National Parks and one day roaming the English countryside.

Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District
11960 S. Pulaski Rd., Alsip, IL 60803

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Connect With Us

New Online Services Available with Your Alsip-Merrionette Park Library Card

For assistance with the following digital services, contact Adult Services at 708.926.7024, email us at asrefdesk@alsiplibrary.info, or stop by the first floor Information Desk.

Kanopy Movie Streaming Service

Pull out your Alsip-Merrionette Park Library card and try ***Kanopy***, our new streaming service. Each month, you can enjoy 10 videos, including critically-acclaimed movies, inspiring documentaries, award-winning foreign films and more. The checkout period is 72 hours -- and within that time, a video may be watched multiple times. On your computer, go to alsiplibrary.kanopy.com to set up an account and access shows, or use the ***Kanopy Thoughtful Entertainment*** app on mobile devices.

Online Magazines: Overdrive and *Press*Reader

Enjoy magazines? ***Overdrive*** offers many popular publications: *O, Popular Mechanics, Good Housekeeping, National Geographic, Bon Appetit, Woman's World, HGTV Magazine, Reader's Digest* and more. Get started with the ***Libby by Overdrive*** app on your mobile device, or on your computer, find ***Overdrive Magazines*** and ***PressReader*** on the library's *Downloads/Ebooks* webpage. ***PressReader*** provides newspapers as well as magazines.

Video Classes with LinkedIN Learning (formerly Lynda.com)

Lynda.com is now *LinkedIN* Learning! AMPL patrons can access the new, improved interface through the library's *Research Databases* webpage. Topics include business, technology, creative skills and personal enrichment. Classes are taught by industry experts, and are offered in seven languages. (Please note: if you used Lynda.com in the past, your progress and saved courses have been moved to this new platform.) Start gaining knowledge and skills today!

Library Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur..... 9 am - 8 pm
Friday & Saturday ..... 9 am - 5 pm
Sundays ..... Closed
Drive-up book return open 24 hours

Library Closed

Memorial Day Weekend..... **May 30 & 31**
Father's Day .....**June 20**
Independence Day ..... **July 4**
Labor Day Weekend ..... **September 5 & 6**

Board Meetings

Library Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 3 pm (June 8, July 13 and August 10). Minutes and agendas are posted on the library website. Library Board members are elected by residents of Alsip, Merrionette Park, and Garden Homes. Library board positions are unpaid. Meetings are open to the public.

Library Board

Mary E. McKendree, *President*
Judy Buergel, *Vice President*
Mary Jane Schneider, *Secretary*
Gerald Dujsik, *Treasurer*
Lester E. Engelbrecht, *Trustee*
Therese McLaughlin, *Trustee*

We Want to Hear from You!

As we continue to navigate library services in the age of COVID, we are looking to you to help us shape library services in the 21st century. What are we getting right? What do we need to work on? Let us know by emailing ampl@alsiplibrary.info or by calling our Director, Sarah, at 708-371-5666 x 106.