Alsip-Merrionette Park Public Library District

AMPL News

Spring 2026
VOL. 42, NO. 2

Celebrating National Library Week

April 19–25

It's National Library Week April 19-25. National Library Week is an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries and library professionals play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities. "Find Your Joy" welcomes people of all backgrounds to explore the library and uncover the experiences, resources, and activities that spark joy. Visit the library for a chance to enter the raffle. We will host our Annual Book Sale throughout the week with the "Fill the Bag for $5" special! See the Patron Services desk for more details.

Ciberseguridad para Adolescentes y Padres

Miércoles, 15 de Abril a las 6:30 pm

Los adolescentes viven en un mundo digital con peligros ocultos. La Dra. Tina Ward y Carlos Ruiz hablarán sobre consejos de seguridad en línea para adolescentes: cómo proteger la información personal, reconocer riesgos y contenidos engañosos, tomar decisiones inteligentes en las redes sociales, enfrentar el ciberacoso, saber cuándo consultar con adultos de confianza y mucho más. Programa informativo en inglés y español para adolescentes, padres, cuidadores y adultos interesados.

Level Up Program

Pizza & Painting @ the Library!

Thursday, April 16 at 6:30 pm

Grades 4-8. Grab a slice and get creative! Join us at the library for a fun evening of pizza and painting. Enjoy delicious pizza while exploring your artistic side with guided painting activities. All supplies provided. Non-washable paint is used, so dress accordingly. Limit 12. Registration required.

Kids

Spring session runs April 6 - May 2.

Programs are drop-in, first come, first served, unless otherwise stated. Some programs may require a valid AMPL card to participate and register. Registration is available online on our library calendar. Children, with AMPL card, may check-in 15 minutes prior to the program, and non-residents may participate if space is available 5 minutes prior to the start of the program. Our classes are generally 30 minutes long and process oriented. They begin promptly at the designated time. For the best experience for your child, latecomers will not be admitted once the class has begun. Some of our programs may involve food so please be aware of food allergens.

By attending our programs, you are giving consent for your child's photos to be used on our website, social media sites, and/or within the library.

Morning Programs

Tales for Teddy Bears

Mondays at 10 am

Ages 1-5 with caregiver. Bring your favorite teddy bear or stuffed friend for a magical experience designed to spark creativity and foster a love for reading with stories, games, and crafts. Limit 20 children.

Coffee N' Treats: Baby & Me Playtime

Tuesdays at 10 am

Birth-5 years with caregiver. Are you a caregiver looking for a supportive and fun environment to meet others in a similar role? Join us for a delightful session where both caregivers and kiddos can engage, socialize, and form meaningful connections. Limit 16 children.

Petite Picassos

Wednesdays at 10 am

Ages 1-5 with caregiver. Join us as we explore and create new art each week! Little ones will have the opportunity to use a variety of fun art materials in this process-oriented art program. Although smocks are provided, please dress to get messy! Limit 16 children.

Homeschool Meet-up

1st Thursday of every month 9 am -12 pm (March 5, April 2 & May 7)

Families of all ages. Join us in the library's Level Up space for a relaxed, homeschool-friendly meet-up designed for families to connect. Drop in anytime between 9:00–1:00 to socialize with other homeschoolers and explore a self-guided STEM/STEAM activity and simple themed craft. Activities are open-ended and designed for families to participate at their own pace. This is not a class; library staff provide space and materials. Parents stay with children.

Preschool STEAM: Find What Matters

Thursday, March 12 at 10 am

Ages 3-6 with caregiver. Help your little one learn about computational thinking. We will sing, dance, play, and create as we learn how to group things by similarities and differences with the help of the Wombats from the hit PBS Kids show *Work It Out, Wombats!* Limit 16 children.

Preschool STEAM: Break It Down

Thursday, April 16 at 10 am

Ages 3-6 with caregiver. Help your little one learn about computer science. We will sing, dance, play, and create as we learn how to break big problems into little ones with the help of the Wombats from the hit PBS Kids show *Work It Out, Wombats!* Limit 16 children.

Sensory Explorers

Thursday, April 23 at 10 am

Ages 2-6 with caregiver. A hands-on program to explore, create, and play together. Each station is designed to spark curiosity and support early development through textures, colors, sounds, and movement. Limit 12 children.

Preschool Music and Movement

Fridays at 10 am

Best for 5 and under with caregiver. Miss Debbie's program is a great way to introduce your child to the joys of music and storytelling. With her guitar and her engaging personality, children will have fun learning new songs and stories. Limit 24 children.

Afternoon Programs

Beading Bonanza

Thursdays, April 9 and April 30 at 3:30 pm

Grades 2-6. Join us for a relaxing beading session. Each class features a different project, from bracelets and bookmarks to pens, using a variety of bead sizes. Limit 12 children.

Super Smash Bros. Tournament

Wednesday, March 4 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-8. Get ready to brawl! Join your friends in an epic showdown to see who has what it takes to claim the title of Ultimate Super Smash Bros. Champion. Limit 12 children.

Book Tasting

Wednesday, March 11 at 3:30 pm

Grades 2-5. Are you ready to find your next favorite book? Come to our Book Tasting at our world-famous book café! Sample great books and find your favorite! You could even win a soft-serve ice cream maker to take home! Limit 12 children.

Easter Diamond Art

Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30 pm

Grades 2-8. Do you like creating Diamond Art? Come decorate an Easter magnet for your fridge! Limit 12 children.

Easter Painting

Thursday, March 26 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-4. Come paint an Easter picture! All supplies provided. We use non-washable paint so dress accordingly. Limit 12 children.

Bling My Book: Family Edition

Wednesday, April 1 at 3:30 pm

Grades 3-8 with caregiver. Bring your own book and give it some sparkle! At Bling My Book, we'll be decorating book covers using colorful gems to make your favorite read shine. Whether you're adding a little shimmer or going full glam, it's the perfect way to personalize your book. All gem supplies provided. Bring the book you want to bling! Limit 12 with 1 caregiver per family.

Crayons & Curiosity

Monday, April 6 at 3:30 pm

Ages 3-5 with caregiver. Join us for a hands-on craft! Each session will feature a simple, playful craft that encourages creativity, fine motor skills, and curiosity about the world around us. All supplies provided. Limit 12 children.

Messy Sensory Adventures

Tuesdays, March 3 and April 7 at 3:30 pm

Ages 1-4 years with caregiver. A hands-on, exploratory program designed especially for children who love to touch, squish, splash, and create. From slime and finger paint to kinetic sand and shaving cream play, this program is all about engaging the senses. **Note to caregivers:** This program will get messy. Please dress children accordingly. Limit 24 children.

Floam Slime

Wednesday, April 8 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-5. Come make this super squishy slime like no other! Limit 12.

Tasty Travels

Tuesday, April 14 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-3. Ready to travel the world one bite at a time? Come taste, explore, and decide on this delicious international showdown! Will sweet treats win the day, or will salty snacks take the crown? Limit 12 children.

Mario Kart Tournament

Wednesday, April 15 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-8. Racers, start your engines! Can you avoid all the shells and be the first to cross the finish line? Limit 12.

Kids

Evening Programs

Wiggles & Jammies

Mondays at 6:30 pm

Ages 1-5 with caregiver. Step into the world of Wiggles and Jammies, where little feet can't stop moving and smiles never end! Each week, we dive into fun-filled adventures of dancing, laughing, and being delightfully silly. Get set to wiggle, giggle, and let loose! Limit 20 children.

Specials Programs

Paw Patrol Party

Saturday, March 21 at 11 am

Ages 1-5 with caregiver. Calling all Paw Patrol fans! Get ready to save the day with everyone's favorite pups! Join us and become an honorary member of the Paw Patrol! Advanced registration required. Registration begins Saturday, March 7. Limit 24 children.

Family Superhero Escape Room

Wednesday, April 1 from 2:30-8 pm

Grades K-2 with caregivers and siblings. The world's greatest superheroes need your help! They have all been captured and are held in the lair of an evil supervillain. Can your family work together to defeat the villain, free the superheroes, and save the day? Come try our escape room to find out! Advanced registration required. Call the library to reserve a time slot. Limit 1 family per time slot.

Help Your Child Learn to Read

Saturday, April 18 at 11 am

Ages 2-6 with caregiver. Did you know the library is filled with resources to help your child learn to read? From decodable readers, to kits, to games and activities, we are here to help your family as your child becomes a great reader! Come with your child and play some fun games while learning all the library has to offer. You can even win a Hooked on Phonics set to take home! Limit 16 children. Advanced registration required.

Reading Dragons Monthly Meetings

Wednesdays, March 18 and April 29 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-5. Are you a fan of trading cards, dragons, or reading? We've got the perfect program for you! Swing by the Youth Services Reference Desk to grab your tracker and start your adventure. For every 30 minutes you read, check off a box so you can earn Reading Dragons Trading Cards! Then, join us at our monthly Reading Dragons Meet-Up to collect your trading cards and dive into the exciting Reading Dragons game. Can you collect them all? Let the adventure begin! Limit 12 children.

Unboxing Club

Just for You

Ages birth-8th grade. Get a special bag packed just for you! Inside, you'll find a handpicked book and delightful treats based on your preferences. Fill out a quick questionnaire, and we'll match you with the perfect story and goodies. Return the book to the library when you're done, but the treats are yours to enjoy! Registration required. Registration begins March 28. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 12 children.

Level Up Programs (Grades 4-8)

Building Mini-Dogs

Starting Sunday, March 1

Pick up a kit to build your own mini-dog! Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 9. While supplies last.

Biweekly Code Breaker Station

Starting Sunday, March 1

Think you have what it takes to crack the code? Every other Tuesday, a new secret message awaits in the Level Up area. Use classic codes and puzzles to test your logic and problem-solving skills. Drop in anytime to give it a try! Found the answer? Bring it to the desk to claim a small prize.

Candy Around the World

Starting Sunday, March 8

Travel around the world by sampling candy from different countries. This time we will try candy from Australia/New Zealand. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 12. While supplies last.

Crochet Crew

Tuesday, March 10 at 6 pm

Join us for a beginner-friendly crochet club! We will be learning the basics of crocheting and making super fun and creative beginner projects to take home and show off. Registration required. Registration begins February 24. Limit of 5.

Volunteering

Monthly meetings: April 2 and May 7 at 6 pm

Grades 5-8. Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to give back to the community while having fun and learning new skills. Our library community is a place where everyone can come together to make a positive impact. Join us and help enhance the library experience for everyone.

Paint & Sip: Piggy Bank Edition

Thursday, March 19 at 6:30 pm

Join us for a colorful Paint & Sip painting ceramic piggy banks to take home. Enjoy painting in a relaxed, fun atmosphere with light refreshments while your piggy bank comes to life with bright colors and unique designs. No experience needed—just bring your creativity and get a little messy. Spaces are limited, so don't miss out on this creative evening at the library! All supplies provided. Limit 12.

Fairy Garden Stakes

Starting Sunday, March 22

Take home a kit to make a shiny beaded Fairy Garden stake that you can add to a plant or give it as a gift to your favorite gardener! Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 12. While supplies last.

Acrylic Bookmarks

Starting April 1

Pick up a kit to design your own acrylic bookmark! Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 12.

Level Up Programs
(continued)

Crochet Crew

Tuesday, April 7 at 6 pm

Join us for a beginner-friendly crochet club! We will be learning the basics of crocheting and making super fun and creative beginner projects to take home and show off. Limit of 5. Registration required. Registration begins March 24.

Candy Around the World

Starting Sunday, April 12

Travel around the world by sampling candy from different countries. This time we will try candy from South America. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 12. While supplies last.

Mystery Book Box

Pickup begins Monday, April 13

Do you enjoy mysteries? Get ready for an exciting adventure. Follow the clues, solve the puzzles, and unwrap some great rewards. Everything is yours to keep, including the book! After we've read the mystery, it's time to party! Look out for The Delta Games. It's just for fun and totally optional! Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit of 10.

Scratch Art Buttons

Wednesday, April 22 at 6:30 pm

Come hang out and make unique scratch art buttons with our button maker! Limit 12.

Oreo® Taste Test

Thursday, April 23 at 6:30 pm

Put your taste buds to the test! Sample and rate different Oreo® flavors in this deliciously fun program. Discover new favorites, share your opinions, and enjoy a sweet time with friends. No milk required—but plenty of fun guaranteed! Limit 12.

Minecraft Flowers

Starting Friday, May 1

Pick up a kit to create your own 3D Minecraft flower! Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 10.

Cantaritos

Starting Sunday, May 3

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo by picking up your own traditional Mexican clay vase to paint your own way. All supplies provided. Limit 48. While supplies last.

The Delta Games

Tuesday, May 19 at 6 pm

Do you like mysteries, escape rooms, or just puzzle solving? Based on the book, *The Mystery of Locked Rooms* by Lindsay Currie, this program will guide you to unlocking your own treasure. It does not require you to read the book! Limit 12.

Specials

Youth Cricut Club

Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 pm
(Registration begins February 26)
Saturday, March 14 at 1:00 pm
(Registration begins February 28)
Grades 5-8. Get crafty at the Youth Cricut Club! Learn how to use the library's Cricut machine to make awesome personalized creations. Join us in March and design a special St. Patrick's Day decoration. Limit 4 per class.

Youth Cricut Club

Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 pm
(Registration begins March 26)
Saturday, April 11 at 1:00 pm
(Registration begins March 28)
Grades 5-8. Join us in April and decorate your own tote bag! Spots are limited, so sign up early. Limit 4 per class.

Family Ballet Folklorico Class

Sunday, March 8 from 2-3 pm
Grades K-8 with caregiver. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Registration required. Registration begins March 1. Limit of 15 children with 1 caregiver.

Spring into Crafting

March 30-April 3
Best for ages 7 and under. Start your Spring Break with a burst of creativity! Stop by the Youth Services Department for a fun spring craft experience! Each day, we'll feature a new and different craft. You can either make your craft at the library or take it home to enjoy at your own pace. While supplies last.

Fun with STEAM: Peeps!

Starting Sunday, March 29
Grades 2-5. What happens when you microwave a peep? How about if you stick your peeps in water? Find out with this take home STEAM bag and maybe you will have extra leftover to eat, yummy! Limit 12 bags. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card.

Spring Break Take Home Diamond Art

Monday, March 30
Grades 2-8. Do you like to do Diamond Art? Drop in and pick up a Diamond Art kit to bring home and complete. Everything is included in the kit; diamonds, diamond tool, tray, glue, and the canvas. There will be a variety to choose from, but supplies are limited. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card.

Spring Break Take Home Paint by Number

Tuesday, March 31
Grades 2-8. Do you like to paint but have trouble thinking about what you want to paint? Come pick up a paint by number kit that you can paint at your leisure. All is included; paint, brushes, and canvas with the pattern already on it. Supplies are limited but there will be a variety to choose from like animals, scenery, sea life, etc. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card.

Kids

Take Home Activities

Preschool Grab & Go Craft

Every Friday

Best for ages 6 and under. We invite parents and guardians to stop by and pick up a fun and engaging craft designed specifically for your little ones to enjoy. Limit 60 while supplies last.

Preschool Explorers Activity Bags

First Day of the Month

Best for ages 5 and under. Are you looking for a way to keep your kiddos entertained while on the go? Our engaging activity bags are the perfect solution! Designed with simplicity and quiet play in mind, these activity bags are ideal for capturing your child's attention in a constructive and enjoyable way. Limit 12 bags per month. While supplies last.

Junior Explorers Activity Bags

First Day of the Month

Ages 6-8. Unlock your child's potential with our Junior Explorers Activity Bags! These bags are the perfect blend of learning and fun, designed to challenge and engage young minds while providing hours of enjoyment. Limit 12 bags per month. While supplies last.

Take Home Activity Packets

First Day of the Month

These packets provide a delightful and engaging experience for young minds, brimming with creative activities that align with a unique theme every month. While supplies last.

Bilingual Explorers Activity Bags

Starting Friday, May 1

Best for ages 7 and under. Looking for something fun and educational to do at home? Pick up an activity bag filled with a hands-on project in both English and Spanish! Whether you're brushing up on Spanish or trying it out for the first time, these activity bags are perfect for learning, practicing, or playing. Limit 6 bags per theme. While supplies last.

Book Peepers

All ages. Are you ready to explore new stories and try something different? Every month, we will choose a fun theme or genre for you to try. Need help finding a great read to fit the theme? Look for our Book Peepers peeking out of our favorites or ask at the desk for a recommendation. Once you've finished, return to the library to receive a small prize and ticket to enter the monthly raffle! Limit 2 entries per month.

Library Scavenger Hunt

Starting March 1

Stop by anytime during the month of March to complete a fun scavenger hunt and receive a small prize!

Blackout Poetry

Starting April 1

Stop by anytime during the month of April to create your own blackout poem using book pages and markers!

Guess the Book by Its Cover

Starting May 1

Can you identify a book by only its cover? Visit us anytime during the month of May to test your skills!

May Programming

Crafting for Mother's Day

Monday, May 4 at 6:30 pm

Ages 1-5 years with caregiver. Come together for a delightful day filled with tasty treats, fun crafting, and a picturesque photo spot to capture every special moment. This event is all about honoring the love and joy of motherhood. Limit 12 children.

DIY Mother's Day Cards

Tuesday, May 5 at 3:30 pm

Grades K-5. Create your very own card to give to a special person you want to celebrate in your life! Limit 12.

Mother's Day Family Painting

Tuesday, May 5 at 6:30 pm

Grades 2-8. Bring your special person and spend some quality time painting together. Each person will paint their own masterpiece. Light refreshments will be served. We use non-washable paint so dress accordingly. Open to residents with a valid AMPL youth card. Limit 16 people with 1 caregiver per family.

Play & Learn Preschool E-Newsletter

Explore Play & Learn, our newsletter tailored for families with preschoolers. Sign up on our website for the monthly e-newsletter, created to assist caregivers inenhancing their children's literacy abilities.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten!

1000 Books Before Kindergarten is a free ongoing program where kids read 1,000 books before they enter kindergarten! This is a great program which provides the opportunity for bonding with your child and creating endless memories together. Every 200 books, visit the Youth Services Desk for a prize! Child must have an AMPL card to participate.

Kindergarten Readiness Kits

Explore the Kindergarten Readiness Kits for engaging activities that can enhance your child's school readiness skills. To receive a kit, complete the Kindergarten Readiness form or visit the Youth Services Desk. Valid youth AMPL card is required.

Teens

These programs are for teens in 9-12 grade. Registration encouraged, but not required, unless specified: 708.371.5666.

DIY Dirty Sodas

Thursday, March 19 at 5:30 pm

Join us for a fun and creative program making dirty sodas! Mix and match a variety of flavored syrups and sodas. Come experiment with flavors, name your creation, and enjoy some fun drinks with friends. Limit of 10.

Book Bedazzling

Thursday, April 16 at 5:30 pm

Love books? Love crafts? Come chill and bedazzle your favorite book! Bring a book from home or grab one of the few we'll have available, then decorate the cover with gems, stickers, and fun supplies. Make it sparkly, aesthetic, or chaotic, it's up to you! Limit of 5.

Finals Study Hall and Survival Kit Station

Monday, May 18 at 5:30 pm

Finals week is rough, we understand. Come hang out at Finals "Study Hall" for a chill place to study, finish homework, or just quietly exist. Stop by the Survival Kit Station and put together a care package with essentials to help you power through. Drop in, focus, and grab what you need to survive finals week. While supplies last.

Recurring Programs

Self-Care Kits Grab and Go's

Pickups begin on select Saturdays (March 7, April 4, and May 2)

Life can get stressful. Take a break! Stop by and grab a self-care kit made just for you! Kits filled with goodies and ideas to help you relax, recharge, and care for yourself. Limit of 10.

Take and Make Crafts

Pickups begin on select Mondays

Grab a craft kit and get creative on your own time! Each kit includes everything you need to create a cool project at home. Limit of 5.

March 9 – Strawberry Felt Picture Frame
March 23 – Suncatchers
April 6 – Stained Glass Bookmarks
April 20 – Yarn Art
May 4 – Clay Jewelry

All About Adulting Grab and Go's

Pickups begin on select Wednesdays

Adulting is hard, so we're making it easier. Stop by to grab an adulting-themed kit with helpful info, tools, and resources designed just for teens. No presentations or commitments required, just grab a kit, take it with you, and check it out on your own time. Available while supplies last.

March 25 – Resumes
April 29 – Budget Basics
May 27 – College or Trades? Fast Facts and FAQ's

Tech Training

Please register for all classes at 708.371.5666. Programs sponsored by AgeOptions.

Canva Basics

Monday, March 9 at 2:30 pm

Learn to design flyers, posters, and social media graphics with Canva's help. Keyboard and mouse skills required. Limit of 9.

Stay Private Online

Saturday, March 28 at 10 am

Online vendors are always gathering your information; learn how to prevent this by keeping yourself hidden. Information on VPNs will be included. Light refreshments will be served.

Cybersafety Quest for Teens and Parents

Wednesday, April 15 at 6:30 pm

Teens live in a digital world with hidden dangers. Dr. Tina Ward and Carlos Ruiz will discuss online safety tips for teens: protect your personal information, recognize risks and misleading information, make smart choices on social media, deal with cyberbullying, know when to consult with trusted adults, and more. An informative program offered in English and Spanish for teens, parents, caregivers, and others.

Sell Your Stuff Online

Sunday, April 19 at 2 pm

Get tips for selling and staying safe on sites such as eBay and Facebook Marketplace. Light refreshments will be served.

Northstar Digital Learning

Improve your technology skills with Northstar's helpful online classes. Topics include Computer and Internet Basics, Email, Windows and Mac, Google Docs, Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Practical courses include career search skills and accessing telehealth appointments. Get started on the Research Databases page or contact the Information Desk for assistance at 708.371.5666. Sponsored by AgeOptions grant; no library card required.

NORTHSTAR DIGITAL LITERACY
A program of Literacy Minnesota

AI for Everyday Life

Tuesday, May 5 at 2:30 pm

Try using AI for writing, planning, and research at this hands-on class for seniors. Keyboard and mouse experience required. Limit of 9.

Adults

Registration for adult programs begins March 2, unless otherwise stated. Visit *Alsipmerrionette.librarycalendar.com* or call 708-371-5666 to register.

Senior Medicare Patrol Bingo

Wednesday, March 4 at 2 pm

from AgeOptions.

Learn how to prevent, detect, and report Medicare fraud as you play Bingo with AgeOptions Senior Medicare Patrol. Light refreshments will be served.

Ring Making Workshop with Sherri Ewing

Monday, March 16 at 3 pm

Sherri of Precious One Designs will help us create a custom ring with beautiful, hypoallergenic materials. Limit of 15.

Cricut on a Saturday

Saturday, March 21 at 1 pm

Pick from a variety of pre-selected past Monthly Cricut projects. Help will be available. Participants must have prior experience with Design Space. Limit of 6.

Bring Your Craft to the Movies Night

Tuesday, March 24 at 5:30 pm

Bring your craft project as we leave the lights on to watch and create! Light refreshments will be served. Limit of 24.

Plant Swap

Monday, March 30 at 6 pm

Join us to trade seedlings, plants, pots, and any other gardening or houseplant extras!

Hands-On Cooking Class: Stuffed Pepper Soup

Tuesday, March 31 at 6:30 pm

Join us for a hands-on cooking class where we'll prepare a hearty stuffed pepper soup inspired by classic comfort food. Limit of 6. AMPL cardholders only.

Painting with Heaven Newsom

Tuesday, April 7 at 6:30 pm

Join artist Heaven Newsom for a step-by-step painting workshop where you'll create your own artwork. Limit of 20.

Chair Yoga at Heritage II Clubhouse

Tuesday, April 14 at 11 am

Join certified yoga instructor Joan Zigulich from Yoga Pathway, LLC for a gentle and relaxing chair yoga class. ***Program will take place at Heritage 2 Clubhouse, 3715 W 123rd Place.***

Estate Planning: Protecting Yourself and Your Heirs

Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 pm

This estate planning session highlights the importance of planning ahead and the key documents involved. Learn about wills, trusts, and explore essential topics such as probate, powers of attorney, and guardianship.

Green Space Project: Garden Cleanup

Saturday, April 25 at 10 am

Come help us clean up our community garden! Gloves, trowels, and other tools will be provided. Garden workdays take place behind the southwest corner of Prairie Junior High at 11910 S. Kostner Ave.

Adults

Spring Open Mic

Monday, April 27 at 6:30 pm

Come share your creativity or join us to watch and be entertained. Let us know if you'd like to read something you have written, play an instrument, or sing. Light refreshments will be served.

Junk Journal Scrap Pack

Pickup begins Monday, May 4

Kits include a random assortment of upcycled stickers, washi tape, paper materials, and more. Provide your own scrapbook or journal or start a whole new creative project. Limit of 12.

Beginning Sewing

Wednesday, May 6 at 10 am

This sewing workshop is appropriate for beginning sewists! Our skilled instructor will teach students how to use a sewing machine to create a colorful pillowcase. Limit of 5, only open to those who have not yet taken this class.

Green Space Project: Garden Planting Day

Saturday, May 9 at 10 am

Today we will be planting seeds and seedlings in the garden. Gloves and tools will be provided, as well as snacks! Garden workdays take place behind the southwest corner of Prairie Junior High at 11910 S. Kostner Ave.

After Al: The Mob Moves into the Modern Era

Saturday, May 9 at 2 pm

As Prohibition ended and Capone was incarcerated, the Mob was at a crossroads when it came to leadership, tactics, and revenue sources. How would these challenges be met? And at what cost? To learn more, join historian Clarence Goodman for this entertaining presentation.

ESL Social Hour

Wednesday, May 13 at 6:30 pm

Come chat with us and improve your English skills. Registration required.

Hora Social de ESL

Miércoles, 13 de Mayo a las 6:30 pm

¡Ven y practica hablar inglés con nosotros! Registración requerida.

Cricut Crafting for Beginners

Thursday, May 21 at 5:30 pm

Learn about the Cricut machine and make a simple craft. Open to beginners only. Limit of 6.

Adults

Recurring Programs

Cricut Crafting Club

Select Thursdays at 5:30 pm

A tutorial of the craft will be given, and assistance will be provided throughout. Basic computer skills required. Please register for only one session per month.

March 5 – Birthday Pop-Up Card
March 26 – Birthday Pop-Up Card
April 2 – Paper Strawberry Treat Box
April 23 – Paper Strawberry Treat Box
May 7 – Felt Bookmark
May 14 – Felt Bookmark

Makerspace

Select Mondays at 6 pm (March 9, April 13, and May 11)

Use the Cricut, T-shirt press, button maker, or other tools for crafting. Limit of 10.

Quarterly Book Box

Pickups begin Monday, March 16

Each box will contain a novel and a craft, treat, or surprise connected to the story. The theme will change quarterly. Keep all the items in the box! This quarter's genre is historical fiction. AMPL cardholders only. Limit of 18.

Tuesday Morning Movies

Fourth Tuesday of every month at 9:30 am

Light refreshments provided.

March 24 – Sarah's Oil
April 28 – Wicked: For Good
May 26 – Hamnet

Writing Roundup

Select Wednesdays at 2 pm (March 25 and May 20)

Enjoy a supportive space to work on the writing of your choice. Optional sharing will take place at the end of the meeting, with an additional opportunity to share at our Open Mic on Monday, April 27 at 6:30 pm. Writing materials and light refreshments provided.

Memory Lab

Select Wednesdays at 6:30 pm (March 25 and May 27)

Come to our open lab classes and learn how to turn your favorite old family photos, home recordings, and video cassettes into digital keepsakes.

Beginning Rigid Heddle Weaving

Select Tuesdays at 5:30 pm (May 5, 12, 19 and 26)

Come and explore the world of rigid heddle weaving. This is a series of four classes. Participants will learn how to warp and weave on a rigid heddle loom. Participants need to commit to all four classes as the skills build on one another. Limit of 4 to 5.

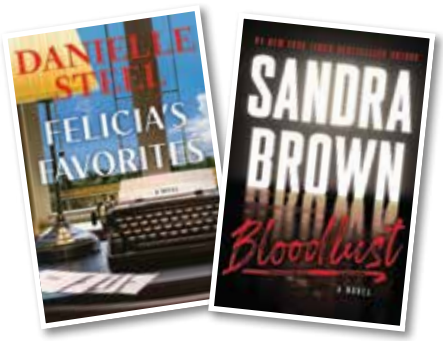
Monthly Reading Challenge

All adults are invited to read a book that follows the monthly theme. Submit your entry at the information desk or online to collect a participation prize. Earn a stamp each month you participate. Collect 5 stamps to enter the year-end raffle for a chance to win a dinner and movie gift card!

March: Read a book that is part of a series
April: Read a book with a screen adaptation
May: Read a memoir or autobiography

Adults

New Spring Titles



MARCH

Danielle Steel.....*Felicia's Favorites*
James Patterson.....*Judge Stone*
Rebecca Serle.....*Once and Again*
Sandra Brown.....*Bloodlust*
Elizabeth Berg.....*Life: A Love Story*
Abby Jimenez.....*The Night We Met*
Yann Martel.....*Son of Nobody*
Tana French.....*The Keeper*

APRIL

Emma Straub.....*American Fantasy*
John Sandford.....*Revenge Prey*
Meg Shaffer.....*The Book Witch*
David Baldacci.....*Hope Rises*
Rainbow Rowell.....*Cherry Baby*
Maria Semple.....*Go Gentle*
Brad Taylor.....*Shadow Strike*
Xochitl Gonzalez...*Last Night in Brooklyn*

MAY

Elizabeth Strout.....
.....*The Things We Never Say*
James Patterson.....*26 Beauties*
Laurie Gilmore.....
.....*The Daisy Chain Flower Shop*
Carley Fortune.....*Our Perfect Storm*
Elsie Silver.....*Fever Dream*
Nora Roberts.....*The Final Target*
Matt Haig.....*The Midnight Train*

Book Social

Select Saturdays at 1 pm (March 7, April 11, May 2)

Join us to share about a book you enjoyed or just listen and gather a list for your spring entertainment. For your first visit to our group, please register online or at the Information Desk: 708.371.5666. Light refreshments will be provided.

20/30s Book Club

Saturday, April 25 at 1 pm

Join our book club made for readers in their 20s and 30s. We'll chat about great reads, meet new people, and enjoy a welcoming space for lively discussion. Theme: Mystery

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

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Check Out a Museum Adventure Pass!

AMPL cardholders can enjoy free or discounted admission to 24 exciting suburban attractions through the Museum Adventure Pass program. Admission offers vary by museum.

Explore More Illinois

A free service provided by your library with instant online access to free and discounted tickets to museums, science centers, sporting events, zoos, park districts, theatres, and other fun and local cultural venues. Valid AMPL card is required.

Library Hours

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thur..... 9 am - 9 pm
Friday & Saturday ..... 9 am - 5 pm
Sundays ..... 1 pm - 5 pm
Drive-up book return open 24 hours

Library Closed

Easter Sunday..... April 5
Mother's Day..... May 10
Memorial Day Weekend .. May 24 & May 25

Board Meetings

Library Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 pm (April 14 and May 12, except for March 10, which will be held at 5 pm). 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

Susana Leyva, *President*
Therese McLaughlin, *Vice President*
Natalie Opila, *Treasurer*
Rebecca Dujsik, *Secretary*
Mary E. McKendree, *Trustee*
Mary Jane Schneider, *Trustee*
Judy Buergel, *Trustee*