PROGRAM GUIDE

Spring 2020

www.alphapark.org

309.697.3822
SPRING STORYTIMES
Storytimes are held in six-week sessions throughout the year. Sessions include books, fingerplays, crafts, songs, and active play. Children should be the appropriate age at the first class of each session.

Toddler Time
Tuesdays, 10-10:30 a.m. (March 17-April 21)
Storytime for 2-year-olds with an adult.

Bookworms
Tuesdays, 10:30-11 a.m. (March 17-April 21)
Wednesdays, 1-1:30 p.m. (March 18-April 22)
Storytime for ages 3 to 6 working towards independence.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
Register required. Register at alphapark.org or by calling 697-3822 x13 unless otherwise noted in the program description.

Youth Book Club
Mondays, March 30 & April 27, 2 OR 4 p.m.
Each month we examine a favorite book, have a snack, and do a fun activity. Best for kids grade 2-6.
Mar: Love That Dog by Sharon Creech
Apr: Origami Yoda by Tom Angleberger

Tech Play Day
Tuesday, March 24, 1-4 p.m.
Drop in and try out some of our latest equipment, including virtual reality headsets and gaming computers. Our staff will be on hand to help you explore the items. For all ages.

Construction Club
Tuesdays, March 31, April 28, & May 26, 3:30-5 p.m.
Attention architects! Build your own creation or try one of our challenges. Registration is not required, come by and join the fun.

Make It/Take It
Saturday, March 14, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Rainbow Craft
Friday, April 10, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Bunny Craft
Saturday, May 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.: Flower Pot Craft
Children ages 4 through 4th grade along with their parent or caregiver are invited to make a special craft.

Frozen 2 Celebration
Saturday, March 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Calling friends of Anna, Elsa, Sven and Olaf! We will celebrate the recent release with snacks, games and crafts. This is a drop-in event for both princes and princesses. Dress up is encouraged.

T-Rex Tea Party
Saturday, April 25, 1 OR 3 p.m.
Oh-la-la...RAWR! You’ve never been to a party like this! Join us for dinosaur stories, songs, play and of course...tea.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
In celebration of National Library Week, April 19-25, Alpha Park staff will deliver books to 3-year-olds at area preschools during special storytimes. Alpha Park Library provides a small gift to encourage children as they build a lifelong love of reading.

LIBRARY CARD ROUND-UP
Alpha Park Library staff will also visit each 1st grade class in the library district this spring as part of a Library Card Round-Up tour. Public school first grade students will bring home information about registering for a library card and receive their new cards at a special classroom storytime soon after.

ATTENTION ARTISTS
Would you like to show off your talent to the entire Alpha Park Library District? Submit your best interpretation of the summer reading club theme, Dig Deeper: Read! Investigate! Discover!, on a bookmark by May 20! A winner will be chosen, and their work will be reproduced as the official summer reading club bookmark.
Along with all of the warm receptions, inquisitive glances, and introductions, the folks who use the Alpha Park Library have been asking me, “What are you doing?” Well, I'm glad you asked. There are several projects that are in the works, some of which were in place before I got here, some which I have helped facilitate, and some I have implemented myself.

There have been a great many changes since I've come aboard. My hope is that this is received not as change for change's sake, but as being done with purpose and decision. One of the changes that has been noted is the removal of our hanging signage. I am in the works of replacing this with a color coding method that will be more streamlined, easier to follow, and will bring some brighter atmosphere accents to our community space.

However, before we label our space, we need to shift and weed. As you've noticed, there is a large empty space in the back of the library. I know what you're wondering, “Where did all the books go?” With the continued hard work and persistence of all the folks here at Alpha Park Library, we will shift our adult area around as well as update our collection. We will also be moving and shifting quite a bit of our entire collection so that we can make room for a teen space. There has been much expressed interest in a teen space and I believe it will be well received. It's important for teens to have a fun place to hang out that provides all the access to any information they may want or need, and libraries provide that access.

This leads me to our next major shift: developing a strategic plan. Currently, I am working with a fine group of community leaders, board members, and library workers to help give us a direction and a mission. This will allow us to focus our collection curation and our programming development. It may sound like a major shift, but the truth is most of the values that I hold dear are already in place here at Alpha Park and it's one of the reasons I am so happy to be here. We will simply work on making these values more cohesive and transparent, including the mindset of accessibility, inclusion, and making sure concise and accurate information is available to all of our community.

In other news, we will be featuring some Census 2020 sign-up assistance for the upcoming census season. This is important and makes sure that this community receives proper representation. More information can be found at 2020census.gov.

Whenever something or someone is new, it signals a change. Change is hard and can be scary, but I am happy to be here. I know our Alpha Park Library family will let me know what's important to them and this community, and what I can do to support and guide their growth.

Melissa Sierra
SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Reading Kickoff
Tuesday, June 2, 2-6 p.m.

Enjoy popcorn and activities while registering the WHOLE FAMILY for summer reading club! The kickoff party is a great time to sign up and get all the information for a summer of fun. Kickoff is the beginning of registration, but you may sign up at the library ANY time beginning June 2.

Summer Volunteers @ Alpha Park
If you are interested in volunteer hours helping with summer reading club’s youth program, please email sara@alphapark.org or call 697-3822 x14. Volunteers must be entering 7th grade or older (adults welcome).

APL Seed Library
Be on the look out! Our Free Seed Library will be open in the spring. If you have any seeds you would like to donate, please bring them to the library!
Teen Board
Thursdays, March 5, April 2, & May 7, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Must be going into grades 7 through 12. New members always welcome. Show up or call Youth Services at 697-3822 x14 for more information.

Project Next Generation: Game Design ✔
Saturdays, March 28, April 18, & May 2 10-12 OR 1-3 p.m.

We continue focusing on elements of game design with mentors from Bradley University. In March, we will focus on creating collectibles and obstacles. In April, we will learn to create a win/lose structure. May’s topic will focus on creating a main menu and polishing your game. All supplies provided.

Board Game Night
Monday, March 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Bring friends and play board games while enjoying snacks and drinks.

TikTok Challenge
Monday, April 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Can you successfully complete the flex challenge? How about the magic hands trick? Come show off your best attempt at these TikTok challenges and more to win prizes!

Sharpie “Tie Dye”
Thursday, May 28, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Bring a plain white t-shirt, bandana, or other fabric items to the library and create a sharpie “tie dye” look.

NEW YA READS @ APL
ADULT PROGRAMS
_registration required. Register at alphapark.org or by calling 697-3822 x13 unless otherwise noted in the program description.

Recurring Programs

APL Yarners & Needlers
Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Yoga ✔
Every Tuesday, 9:15-10:15 a.m. - NO Yoga March 17

Book Bingo ✔
Mondays, April 6 & May 4, 2-3 p.m.

Cookbook Club
Mondays, March 2, April 6, & May 4, 7-8 p.m.
Mar: Irish Foods
Apr: Easter Brunch
May: Mexican

Book Discussion
Thursdays, March 12, April 9, & May 14, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Mar: Five Days at Memorial by Sherri Fink
Apr: Baby Teeth by Zoje Stage
May: Trust Exercise by Susan Choi

Crafternoon Delight ✔
Thursdays, March 26, April 16, & May 21, 2-3:30 p.m.
Mar: Bunny decor
Apr: Washi tape wall art
May: Mason jar decor

Once and for All: Finally Crush Your Health Goals ✔
Monday, March 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Theresa Genusa will lead this discussion with tips on how to finally crush your health goals.

Photography FUNdamentals: ✔ Your Camera Settings
Wednesday, March 11, 7-8 p.m.

Lisa Pallardy will lead this class that focuses on the basics of manual mode, exposure triangle, and tips & ideas for what settings to use for a variety of scenarios.

Photography FUNdamentals: ✔ Capturing Emotion
Wednesday, March 25, 7-8 p.m.

Lisa Pallardy returns to review manual mode, then talk about how to take more captivating pictures by capturing the emotion in various situations.

Chair Yoga ✔
Fridays in April & May, 9:15-10:15 a.m. - NO Yoga May 8

A gentle practice in which postures are performed while seated and/or with the aid of a chair. This style of yoga is perfect for those who find a typical yoga class too difficult and great for beginners.

Meditation for Spiritual Awareness ✔
Wednesdays, April 1, 8, 15, & 22, 2:30-4 p.m.

Instructors will cover the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual benefits of meditation.

Get in the Garden ✔
Monday, April 20, 7-8 p.m.

Kay Dye will discuss everything you need to know about starting a garden or getting back into gardening.

Wellmobile Screening
Friday, May 8, 9-11 a.m.

The UnityPoint Wellmobile will provide screenings for blood pressure, blood glucose & cholesterol, pulse oximetry, and spirometry. Illinois Eye Center will provide free glaucoma screening and visual acuity tests. Heart of Illinois Hearing will provide free hearing screenings.

Gardening: Pump Up Your Pollinator Population ✔
Wednesday, May 13, 7-8 p.m.

Welcome more pollinators to your garden by planting their favorite things. Instructor Kay Dye will lead this informational class.

Health Care & Your Retirement ✔
Monday, May 18, 7-8 p.m.

Financial Advisor Joe Dicce of Edward Jones will speak on the potential impact of rising health care costs on retirement savings. Includes an introduction of Medicare coverage and costs, long-term care costs, available options for supplemental health care and long-term care insurance.

5 Money Questions for Women ✔
Wednesday, May 27, 7-8 p.m.

Joe Dicce of Edward Jones returns to share his perspective on a process that women can use to identify financial goals and set a strategy.