

### LIBRARY UPDATES



#### LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

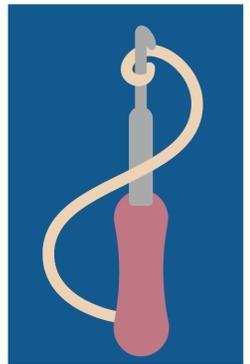
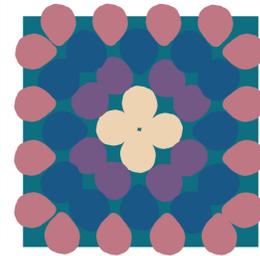
Tuesdays • 7 p.m.

January 20 & February 17

The Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday in January and February due to holidays (normally meets on Mondays). The Board does not meet in July and December. Visit [alphapark.org](http://alphapark.org) for meeting agendas and minutes.

### GRANNY SQUARE BLANKETS

JAN 15  
6PM  
REGISTER



CROCHET 4X4IN GRANNY SQUARES AND DROP THEM OFF AT THE LIBRARY BEFORE JAN. 14. THEN JOIN US ON JAN. 15 TO HELP ASSEMBLE BLANKETS TO DONATE TO LULA NFP.

#### FOLLOW APL ON



#### Supporting Our Neighbors

This holiday season, APL is offering a few ways for you to share the love and give back to our community. Spread some holiday cheer by dropping off new, unwrapped toys at the library for the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program through December 12. You can also decorate our Angel Trees at APL and Glasford Village Hall with new mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for kids and teens through December 30. Those donations will be shared with local schools to keep our kids warm this winter. We're also collecting granny squares again – this time to make warm blankets to donate to Lula NFP, a local nonprofit that provides street support to unhoused individuals in Peoria. Just drop off your crocheted 4x4in squares before January 14, and then join us January 15 to assemble the blankets. Donations of warm clothes, sleeping bags, and hygiene supplies will also be collected at the library January 2-15 to donate to Lula NFP. Thank you for your generosity!

Alpha Park Public Library  
3527 S Airport Road  
Bartonville, IL 61607

309.697.3822

[alphapark.org](http://alphapark.org)

#### LIBRARY HOURS

Mon. - Thurs.	9AM-8PM
Friday	9AM-6PM
Saturday	9AM-5PM
Sunday	CLOSED

#### EXCEPTIONS

December 18 – CLOSED 1PM  
December 24-26 – CLOSED  
December 31 – CLOSED  
January 1 – CLOSED  
January 19 – CLOSED  
February 16 – CLOSED

# YOUTH & TEENS

## STORY TIMES

### BABY TADPOLES STORY TIME

Tuesdays • 9:30 a.m. • Ages 0-1  
Dec. 2, 9, & 16; Jan. 6, 13, 20, & 27;  
Feb. 3, 10, & 17

Join us for songs, bounces, and a story read-aloud. Stick around afterward to socialize with other families! Recommended for babies under 18 mos. who are not walking yet. **DROP IN**

### TODDLER FROGLET'S STORY TIME

Tuesdays • 10:30 a.m. • Ages 2-3  
Dec. 2, 9, & 16; Jan. 6, 13, 20, & 27;  
Feb. 3, 10, & 17

Join us for movement songs, finger-plays, and stories – and play with other families afterward! Recommended for walking toddlers up to age 3. **DROP IN**

### PRE-K FROGS & FRIENDS STORY TIME

Fridays • 10:30 a.m. • Ages 3-6  
Dec. 5, 12, & 19; Jan. 9, 16, 23, & 30;  
Feb. 6 & 13

Children and their caregivers are invited to come enjoy stories, songs, and play-time with friends – and make a craft to take home! **DROP IN**

### SATURDAY STORY TIME

Saturdays • 10:30 a.m. • Ages 2-6  
Dec. 6, Jan. 3, & Feb. 7

Join us for a fun-filled experience with stories, songs, and crafts! Geared towards ages 2-6, but kids of all ages are welcome. **DROP IN**

### CRAFTY CRITTERS

Mondays • 4-4:30 p.m. • Ages 0-2  
Learn some fun art skills for littles from Ms. Al! Dress for a mess and make some art to take home!

#### REGISTER

- 12/1 – Snow Sensory Dough
- 1/5 – Painting with Fruit
- 2/2 – Liquid Sensory Bottles

### CRAFTY CRITTERS

Mondays • 5-5:30 p.m. • Ages 3-6  
Learn some fun art skills for littles from Ms. Al! Dress for a mess and make some art to take home!

#### REGISTER

- 12/1 – Melted Snowmen Art
- 1/5 – Easy Shapes Art
- 2/2 – Sticker Art

### JAR SNOW GLOBES

Wednesdays • 4:30-6 p.m.

December 10 • Ages 5-12

December 17 • Ages 13-18

Join us at the library to make your own waterless snow globes using jars, glitter, and a little imagination! Whether you create a snowy scene, a favorite toy, or a tiny winter forest, each snow globe will be unique! **REGISTER**

### LEGO CLUB

Thursdays • 4-5:30 p.m. • Ages 5-12

December 11, January 8, & February 5

What can your imagination build? Lego Club is here for you with new challenges, new friends, and new creations, now with optional build challenges each month! **DROP IN**

- 12/11 – Animals
- 1/8 – Mosaics
- 2/5 – Transportation

### FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Fridays • 4-6 p.m. • All Ages  
Come get cozy and watch a movie at the library! Refreshments will be provided. **REGISTER**

- 12/12 – Rise of the Guardians (PG)
- 2/20 – ELIO (PG)

### ADVENTURES IN ART

Mondays • 4:30-5:30 p.m. • Ages 7-12  
Learn some fun art skills for older kids from Ms. Al! Dress for a mess and make some art to take home!

#### REGISTER

- 12/15 – Oil Pastel Art
- 1/26 – Matisse-Inspired Art
- 2/23 – Optical Illusion Art

### DUNGEON EXPLORERS

Tuesdays • 5-6:30 p.m. • Ages 10-12  
January 6 & 20; February 3 & 17

Dungeon Explorers is a kid-friendly D&D game with puzzles, monsters, and new friendships! All skill levels are welcome. **REGISTER**

### YOUTH BOOK CLUB

Mondays • 1 p.m. & 4 p.m. • Ages 8-12

Check out a copy of the monthly selection at the Circ Desk, then join us for a discussion, themed activity, and snack. **REGISTER**

- 12/22 – *A Royal Conundrum*
- 1/12 – *Hooky Vol. 1*
- 2/9 – *Restart*



# YOUTH & TEENS

## GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

Wednesdays • 1 p.m. & 4 p.m. • Ages 13-18

Try our new graphic novel club for teens! Check out a copy of the monthly selection at the Circ Desk, then join us for a discussion, themed activity, and snack. **REGISTER**

1/28 – *Nimona*

2/25 – *A Silent Voice*



## SENSORY PLAY

Saturday, January 24

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. • Ages 0-6

Dress for a mess and explore play stations to engage the senses, including rice, beads, play dough, and more. Adult supervision is required. **REGISTER**

## DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Tuesdays • 5-7 p.m. • Ages 13-18

January 13 & 27; February 10 & 24

Roll for initiative! D&D is back with a new campaign this winter! All skill levels are welcome. Snacks will be provided. **REGISTER**

## SNOWBALL FIGHT

Thursday, January 22 • 4-5:30 p.m.  
Ages 7-12

Winter is here, and that means it's time for a SNOWBALL FIGHT!!! Join us for some silly snow games and a hot cocoa bar! Please dress appropriately for cold and snow. We'll also provide faux-snow balls to play inside. **REGISTER**

## FLUFFY SNOW SLIME

Thursday, January 29 • 4-5:30 p.m.  
Ages 7-18

Get ready to mix, stretch, and squish some slime for this Sensory Craft program! Choose from different glitters and add-ins to make your own unique slime. Adult supervision is required for kids 10 and under. **REGISTER**

## STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER STORY TIME

Friday, February 20 • 10:30 a.m.  
Ages 3-6

The Stuffed Animals are taking over the Library! Bring your stuffed animal friend for a special story time and craft. Then, your stuffed animal will stay overnight at "Library Stuffie Camp" to go on some silly adventures before you pick them up the next day. **REGISTER**

## MASTER COPIER ART CHALLENGE

Thursday, February 26 • 4-5:30 p.m.  
Ages 12-18

Grab a brush and recreate a famous painting — your way! No art skills needed, no rules to follow, just have fun. Come get creative and take home your own version of a classic! **REGISTER**

## PAWS TO READ

Saturday, February 28 • 2 p.m.  
Ages 5-16

Calling all dog lovers! The Peoria Humane Society will be bring specially trained therapy dogs to the library for you to pet and practice your reading skills with! Adult supervision is required for kids 10 and under. **REGISTER**

## TEEN CLUBS

### ANIME CLUB

Wednesdays • 4-5:30 p.m.

Ages 11-18

December 3 & 17; January 7 & 21;  
February 4 & 18

Love anime? Come watch anime, talk about manga, learn about Asian culture, and try a cool snack! **DROP IN**

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesdays • 6-7:30 p.m.

Ages 13-18

December 10; January 14 & 28;  
February 11 & 25

Want to volunteer and eat pizza at the same time? Join our Teen Advisory Board, where you'll get to plan programs and bring your ideas for the library to life! **DROP IN**

### TEEN MOVIE NIGHT

Fridays • 6-8:15 p.m. • Ages 13-18

Come hang out with the Teen Advisory Board after the library closes and watch a movie with themed snacks! **REGISTER**

12/19 – Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (PG13)

1/16 – Freakier Friday (PG)

2/27 – Superman (PG13)



[alphapark.org](http://alphapark.org)

# ADULTS



## BOOK CLUBS

### APL BOOK & TEA SOCIETY

Thursdays • 3:30 p.m.

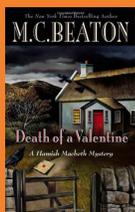
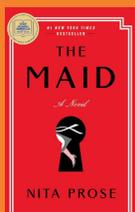
For connoisseurs of cozy mysteries! Enjoy tea and pastries while discussing the monthly selection.

**REGISTER**

12/11 – *Murder on the Orient Express*

1/8 – *The Maid*

2/12 – *Death of a Valentine*



### FANTASY FELLOWSHIP

Saturdays • 2 p.m.

Come explore the vast world of fantasy fiction – adventure awaits!

**REGISTER**

12/20 – *Before the Coffee Gets Cold*

1/24 – *Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Faeries*

2/21 – *A Song to Drown Rivers*



### THE GRIMM READERS

Tuesdays • 6 p.m.

Join us for a slightly darker book club! **REGISTER**

12/30 – *The Shining*

1/27 – *Dead of Winter*

2/24 – *Leech*



### CHAIR YOGA

Mondays • 9:30 a.m.

Join Gayle Carrillo for a modified yoga that's great for those with limited mobility. All skill levels are welcome, but limited space is available. *No class 1/19 & 2/16.* **DROP IN**

### APL YARNERS & NEEDLERS

Tuesdays • 5–7:30 p.m.

Bring your projects from home to knit/sew while you socialize! New members are always welcome. **DROP IN**

### GENTLE YOGA

Wednesdays • 9:30 a.m.

Join Gayle Carrillo for gentle yoga for all skill levels. Yoga mats provided, but limited space is available. *No class on 12/24.* **DROP IN**

### CROSS STITCH CORNER

Wednesdays • 6:30 p.m.

December 3, January 7, & February 4  
Come stitch a provided kit or bring your own project from home. This quarter, we'll start a Stitch-A-Long for 2026. All skill levels are welcome, and basic kits are available for beginners. **REGISTER**

### GED CLASSES

Thursdays • 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. • Ages 16+

Tutor-guided instruction focuses on GED prep with all materials provided. The Moonlight Coalition also pays for you to take the GED test when you're ready. *No class on 12/25.* **DROP IN**

### WATERCOLOR CLUB

Fridays • 3–4:30 p.m.

December 5, January 2, & February 6  
All skill levels are welcome to come paint at the library and exchange tips and techniques as you work on your own projects. **REGISTER**

### PUZZLE PIECE ORNAMENTS

Saturday, December 6 • 1–3 p.m.

Help us repurpose old puzzle pieces by creating ornaments or gift toppers! We'll be painting, arranging, and hot gluing puzzle pieces to make fun holiday shapes. **REGISTER**

### GAME NIGHT AT APL

Mondays • 5:30–7:30 p.m. • Ages 18+

December 8, January 12, & February 9

Love board games? Join us for game night at the library! Come try out games from our collection, or bring your favorites from home. Pizza and soda provided. **DROP IN**

### ANIME CLUB

Saturdays • 2 p.m. • Ages 18+

Obsessed with anime and manga, or just curious? Come hang out with other adults and discuss all things anime, with different activities and themes each month! **REGISTER**

12/13 – All About Oshikatsu

1/17 – Guess That Anime!

2/14 – Look Back (PG-13)

### WATERCOLOR HOLIDAY CARDS

Monday, December 15 • 6 p.m.

Spread some holiday cheer by painting watercolor cards to send to your loved ones! Tom Stagg will provide light instruction and simple designs to choose from. **REGISTER**

### CRAFT NIGHT: SALT SHAKER SNOWMEN

Wednesday, December 10 • 6 p.m.

Friday, December 22 • 2 p.m.

Up-cycle salt shakers into adorable, festive snowmen! Each session will make the same project. **REGISTER**



# ADULTS



## Christmas Lights Recycling: December 1-30

Drop off broken light strings at the library for the Peoria County recycling program!

### CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Wednesdays • 6 p.m. • Ages 18+  
December 17, January 21, & February 18  
Meet with fellow writers and get those creative juices flowing! We'll share tools and activities to help develop your writing skills, so dive in and refine your unique voice and storytelling abilities! **DROP IN**

### APL PLANT SWAP

Monday, January 5 • 6:30 p.m.  
Bring cuttings, rooted props, full plants, or pots to trade – and enter the drawing to win the door prize plant! **DROP IN**

### CRAFT NIGHT: CUPID'S ARROW WALL HANGING

Wednesdays • Jan. 14 & 28 • 6 p.m.  
Get ready for Valentine's Day with these pretty, everlasting roses made with pipe cleaners! Each session will make the same project. **REGISTER**

### GRANNY SQUARE BLANKETS

Thursday, January 15 • 6 p.m.  
We're collecting granny squares again – this time to make blankets to donate to Lula NFP! Please crochet a few 4x4in granny squares and drop them off at the library before January 14, and then join us on January 15 to help assemble the blankets. **REGISTER**

### BESTIES NIGHT

Fridays • Jan. 23 & Feb. 6 • 6-8 p.m.  
Bring your bestie or come make new friends at Besties Night! This year, we'll have a blast with Gnomes & Gnocchi! Enjoy some delicious gnocchi, and then learn how to felt your own adorable gnome out of wool roving. Registration is required, along with \$10 fee, at the Circulation Desk. **REGISTER**

### MINI WOVEN HEART BASKETS

Monday, February 2 • 6 p.m.  
Join Tom Stagg to learn how to weave mini heart baskets using flat reeds and red velvet ribbon - a perfect decoration or gift for Valentine's Day! **REGISTER**

### SATURDAY SLEUTHS

Saturday, February 7 • 1-4 p.m.  
Put your detective hats on and solve a Hunt A Killer murder mystery! Help analyze the clues to figure out the The Final Act: Murder at the Talent Show! **REGISTER**

### CRAFT NIGHT: PAINTED BIRD HOUSES

Wednesdays • Feb. 11 & 25 • 6 p.m.  
Get ready for Spring by painting your own little wooden birdhouse! Each session will make the same project. **REGISTER**



FRIENDS  
ALPHA PARK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

### FRIENDS OF APL MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 6 • 10 a.m.  
Are you interested in giving back to your community? Join the Friends of APL to support the library through volunteering, fundraising, and advocating at events throughout the year. New members are always welcome. **DROP IN**

### FRIENDS OF APL BOOK SALE

The Friends of APL maintain the ongoing book sale located at the back of the library. Gently used books and movies are available for all ages, with all proceeds benefiting the library. Donations are greatly appreciated.

### ANNUAL READING CHALLENGE

A new year means a new pile of books to read! Don't forget to turn in your **2025 Reading Challenge** form by **Tuesday, December 30**, to receive the completion prize and be entered in the prize drawing! Then pick up the **new 2026 Reading Challenge** to start fresh! For each challenge, participants must read books that fit 40 of the 50 prompts. Happy Reading!

hoopla

Download the app or  
visit [hoopladigital.com](http://hoopladigital.com) to get started.



[alphapark.org](http://alphapark.org)

# OUTREACH

## GLASFORD POP-UP LIBRARY

Tuesdays • 3-5 p.m. • All Ages  
Join APL every Tuesday at the Glasford Village Hall for our Pop-Up Library! Drop by to check out books, get crafty, play games, get homework help, socialize, and more! Activities are available weekly that all ages will enjoy.  
**DROP IN**

## HOMEBOUND DELIVERY SERVICE

APL's Homebound Service is available to anyone who's unable to visit the library, whether long-term or short-term assistance is needed. To fill out the application, visit [alphapark.org/outreach-services](http://alphapark.org/outreach-services), or call 309-697-3822 x91 for more information.

## LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES

Take a book, leave a book! Look for our Little Free Libraries at Alpha Park, Mapleton Recreation Center, Kingston Mines, and Union Hall! They're regularly stocked with books for all ages to take home, enjoy, and share!



[alphapark.org](http://alphapark.org)



## VOLUNTEER MEET & PREP

Wednesdays • 2 p.m. • Ages 13+  
Dec. 17, Jan. 21, & Feb. 18

Join us once a month to learn more about volunteer opportunities in the library and your community and help with a project that day! A majority of projects will be prepped while seated at a table. **DROP IN**

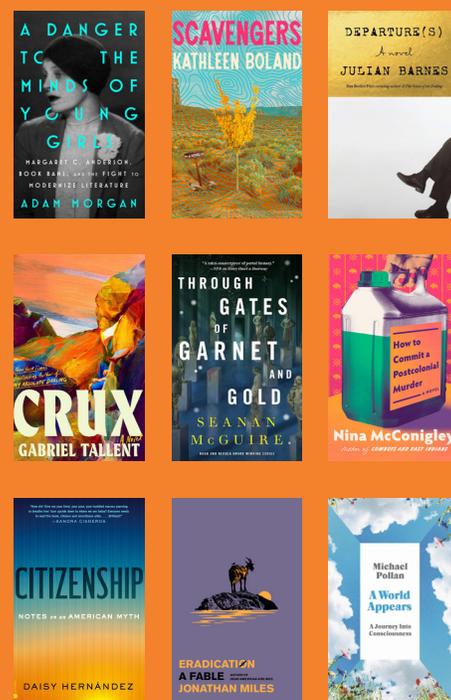
## DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Thursdays • 10 a.m.  
Dec. 18, Jan. 15, & Feb. 19

Caregivers are invited to attend this Alzheimer's Association® facilitated group. Develop a support system, discuss challenges and solutions, talk through issues and ways of coping, and learn about community resources. *Please call 800.272.3900 to register!* **REGISTER**

## ANTICIPATION STATION

*We can't wait for these upcoming releases!*



All APL programs are free and held at the library, unless noted otherwise. Some programs require registration.

Register for programs at the library, at [alphapark.librarycalendar.com](http://alphapark.librarycalendar.com), or by calling 309-697-3822. Registration opens 30 days prior to the program. Please notify staff or cancel your registration if you won't be able to attend.

