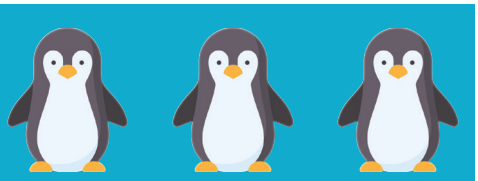
ALPHA PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

WINTER 2026/27

December • January • February

PROGRAM GUIDE



LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Tuesdays • 7 p.m.
January 19 & February 16

The Board of Trustees meets on the third Monday of the month (Tuesday in January and February due to holidays). The Board does not meet in July and December. Visit *alphapark.org* for meeting agendas and minutes.

FOLLOW APL ON

LIBRARY UPDATES

Historical Archive:

Peoria Journal Star 1951-2018

Now available at alphapark.org!

NewsBank inc



Old Peoria Was 'Right' For Sheltons Until Death Closed The Books

School Board Beats Motion That It Quit

Frost Seen Likely In Area Tonight

Cancer Fund Has $10,013

Resigned Because He'Served Long Enough: Caldwell

Peoria Journal Star

Downtown Days Fete Readied

Council May Get Stop Sign Petition

Pastor-Legislator To Address Methodist Men

JOURNAL STAR HISTORICAL DIGITAL ARCHIVES

Alpha Park Public Library is excited to provide patrons access to a new digital archive of the Peoria Journal Star! This historical newspaper archive is available through Newsbank and contains a comprehensive database of searchable, full-page issues of the Journal Star from 1951 through 2018. Patrons will be able to browse the archive from home with their APL card, and non-cardholders can access it through the library's website while visiting the library. Patrons already have access to full-image daily editions of the newspaper dating back to 2019, but can now access expanded historical community records – great for genealogists, students, preservationists, property owners, or anyone interested in local history. The archive will be available starting in November at *alphapark.org/america-s-news*. Dive in now or ask a librarian for help getting started!

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

309.697.3822

alphapark.org

LIBRARY HOURS

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

EXCEPTIONS

December 18 – CLOSED 3PM
December 24-26 – CLOSED
December 31 – CLOSED
January 1 – CLOSED
January 18 – CLOSED
February 15 – CLOSED

YOUTH & TEENS

STORY TIMES

BABY TADPOLES STORY TIME
Tuesdays • 9:30 a.m. • Ages 0-1
December 1, 8, & 15
January 5, 12, 19, & 26
February 2 & 23
Join us for baby bounces, movement songs, felt board activities, and stories – and socialize with other families afterward! **DROP IN**

TODDLER FROGLETS STORY TIME
Tuesdays • 10:30 a.m. • Age 2
December 1, 8, & 15
January 5, 12, 19, & 26
February 2 & 23
Join us for movement songs, activities, and stories – and play with other families afterward! **DROP IN**

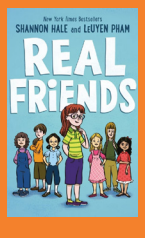
PRE-K FROGS & FRIENDS STORY TIME
Fridays • 10:30 a.m. • Ages 3-5
December 4, 11, & 18
January 8, 15, 22, & 29
February 5 & 26
Children and their caregivers are invited to come enjoy stories, songs, and play-time with friends – and make a craft to take home! **DROP IN**

SATURDAY STORY TIME
Saturdays • 10:30 a.m. • Ages 2-5
Dec. 5, Jan. 2, & Feb. 6
Join us for a fun-filled experience with stories, songs, and crafts! **DROP IN**

alphapark.org

YOUTH BOOK CLUB
Mondays • 4:30 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**

12/21 – *Real Friends*
1/11 – *The One and Only Ivan*
2/8 – *PAWS: Gabby Gets It Together*







D&D: CREATE A CHARACTER
Tuesday, Dec. 1 • 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Ages 10-18
Come make a new D&D character! We'll walk you through the steps to make a unique character you'll look forward to playing on your next game day! **REGISTER**

LEGO CLUB
Thursdays • 4-5:30 p.m. • Ages 5-12
Dec. 3, Jan. 7, & Feb. 4
What can your imagination build? Lego Club is here for you with new challenges, new friends, and new creations! We can't wait to see what you make! **DROP IN**

INTERACTIVE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
Friday, Dec. 4 • 4-6 p.m. • All Ages
Join us for a special interactive showing of the 2003 holiday classic ELF (PG)! We'll have some pause points for activities that correspond with what's happening in the movie. Refreshments will be provided. **REGISTER**

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**

12/7 – Bleeding Tissue Paper Art
1/4 – Cloud Dough
2/1 – Find It 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**

12/7 – Bleeding Tissue Paper Art
1/4 – Shaving Cream Marble Painting
2/1 – Shapes Mosaic

DUNGEON EXPLORERS
Tuesdays • 4:30-6:30 p.m. • Ages 10-12
Dungeon Explorers is a kid-friendly D&D game with puzzles, monsters, and new friendships! All skill levels are welcome. **REGISTER**

Fire – 12/8, 1/5, & 2/2
Lightning – 12/15, 1/12, & 2/9

LET IT SNOW!
Friday, Dec. 11 • 4:30p.m. • Ages 4-10
No snow on the ground? No problem! Join us for an indoor snow day, complete with a snowball fight, a craft, and a hot chocolate station. **REGISTER**

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**

12/14 – Winter Scenic Painting
1/25 – Pony Bead Tapestry
2/22 – Shapes Mosaic

YOUTH & TEENS

THE REINDEER SNACK CHALLENGE

Wednesday, Dec. 16 • 4:30 p.m.
Ages 6–18
Join us in a taste-test challenge and follow the clues to match the snacks to the right reindeer! **REGISTER**

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Tuesdays • 4:30–6:30 p.m. • Ages 13–18
Dec. 22, Jan. 19, & Feb. 16
Roll for initiative! D&D is back with a new campaign this winter! All skill levels are welcome. Snacks will be provided. **REGISTER**

DRAGON EGGS

Friday, Jan. 15 • 4:30 p.m. • Ages 4–10
Start your year with a little bit of magic and make a glittery dragon egg! Dress for a mess. **REGISTER**

POKÉMON CLUB

Tuesdays • 4–6 p.m. • Ages 6–14
January 26 & February 23
Pokémon are taking over the library! Make a themed craft, discuss the trading card game and video games, and bring your cards for 30 minutes of trading! **REGISTER**

MINI ZEN GARDENS

Wednesday, Jan. 27 • 4:30 p.m.
Ages 11–18
Personalize your own table-top zen garden that you can fill with sand, stones, mini animals, and more. **REGISTER**

PAWS TO READ

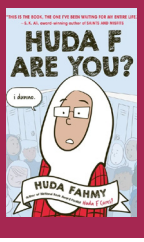
Saturday, January 30 • 1 p.m.
Ages 5–16
Practice your reading skills with specially trained therapy dogs from the Peoria Humane Society! Adult supervision is required for kids 10 and under. **REGISTER**

GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

Wednesdays • 4:30 p.m. • Ages 13–18
Check out a copy of the monthly selection at the Circ Desk, then join us for a discussion, themed activity, and snack. **REGISTER**

12/9 – *The Prince & the Dressmaker*
1/20 – *Huda F Are You?*
2/24 – *Mooncakes*







HEART PINATA

Thursday, Feb. 4 • 4:30–6 p.m. • Ages 7–14
Let your creativity burst by designing and decorating your own heart piñata with fun craft materials. **REGISTER**

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, Feb. 12 • 4–6 p.m. • All Ages
Join us for a cozy movie night at the library and watch Wonka (PG)! Refreshments will be provided. **REGISTER**

MAKERS NIGHT

Thursday, Feb. 25 • 4:30–6 p.m. • Ages 7–18
Join us for a crafting extravaganza with shrinky dinks, kandi key chains, and more! **REGISTER**

TEEN LOCK-IN LITE

Friday, Feb. 26 • 5–11 p.m. • Ages 13–18
We may not have all night, but we can cram a lot of fun into six hours: watch movies, play tabletop games, eat pizza, play capture the flag in the dark, and make beaded crafts and buttons! Signed permission slip required. **REGISTER**

TEEN CLUBS

ANIME CLUB

Wednesdays • 4:30–6p.m. • Ages 11–18
Dec. 2, Jan. 6, & Feb. 3
Love anime? Come watch anime, talk about manga, learn about Asian culture, and try a cool snack! **DROP IN**

TEEN WRITING CLUB

Thursdays • 4:30 p.m. • Ages 13–18
Dec. 17, Jan. 28, & Feb. 18
Meet with fellow writers, develop your writing skills, 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**

TEEN MOVIE NIGHT

Friday, January 8 • 6–8:30 p.m.
Ages 13–18
Come hang out with the Teen Advisory Board after the library closes and watch Spider Man: Brand New Day (PG13) with themed snacks! **REGISTER**

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesdays • 4:30–6 p.m. • Ages 13–18
January 13 & February 17
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! **REGISTER**



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**

12/10 – *The Most Wonderful Crime of the Year*
1/14 – *Knife Skills for Beginners*
2/11 – *Chocolate Chip Cookie Murder*



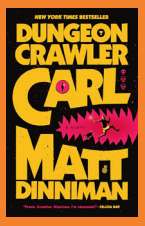


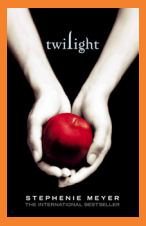


FANTASY FELLOWSHIP
Saturdays • 2 p.m.
Come explore the vast world of fantasy fiction – adventure awaits! **REGISTER**

12/19 – *The Midnight Library*
1/23 – *Dungeon Crawler Carl*
2/20 – *Twilight*









alphapark.org

APL YARNERS & NEEDLERS
Tuesdays • 5-7:30 p.m.
Our creative Yarners & Needlers meet every Tuesday to work on projects of all kinds, including knitting, crocheting, quilting, and more. 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 are provided, but limited space is available. **DROP IN**

CROSS STITCH CORNER
Wednesdays • 6:30 p.m.
December 2, January 6, & February 3
Come stitch and socialize at the library! In December, we'll finish our Stitch-A-Long bookshelves with holiday books, and then we'll work on seasonal kits. 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 for Adult Learning also pays for you to take the GED test when you're ready. *Please note there's no class 12/24 & 12/31.* **DROP IN**

PERSONALIZED BOOKMARKS
Thursday, December 3 • 6 p.m.
Join us to make personalized jumbo paperclip bookmarks using our button machines, patterned paper, and magazines – or bring your own art to use. **REGISTER**

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. *Please note there's no class 1/18 & 2/15.* **DROP IN**

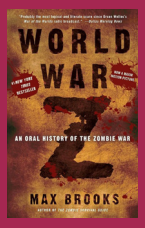
WATERCOLOR HOLIDAY CARDS
Monday, December 7 • 6 p.m.
Spread some holiday cheer by painting your own watercolor cards to send to your loved ones! Tom Stagg will provide light instruction and simple designs to choose from. **REGISTER**

GAME NIGHT AT APL
Mondays • 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Dec. 14, Jan. 11, & Feb. 28
Love board games? Join us for game night at the library! Try out games from our collection, or bring your favorites from home. Pizza and soda will be provided. **DROP IN**

THE GRIMM READERS
Tuesdays • 6 p.m.
If you enjoy reading horror, thrillers, or science fiction, join us for a slightly darker book club! **REGISTER**

12/22 – *Incidents Around the House*
1/26 – *World War Z*
2/23 – *Such Quiet Girls*







ADULTS

CRAFT NIGHT

Wednesdays • 6 p.m.

Join Craft Master Allie for a new creative project each month! Both sessions will make the same project each month. **REGISTER**

Dec. 9 & 23 – Beaded Snowflake Ornaments
Jan. 13 & 27 – Northern Lights Paintings
Feb. 10 & 24 – Hot Glue Art

FRIENDS OF APL MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 5 • 10 a.m.

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**

APL PLANT SWAP

Thursday, January 7 • 6:30 p.m.

Get planty with us at our first plant swap of 2027! Bring cuttings, rooted props, full plants, or pots to trade – and maybe win the door prize plant! **DROP IN**

FILM SOCIETY

Saturdays • 2pm
January 2 & February 6

Calling all movie lovers! Watch three films at home each month that are connected by a theme, then meet up to discuss them over snacks! DVDs of each selection are available for checkout at the Circ desk. **REGISTER**

1/2 – Fruitvale Station, Judas and the Black Messiah, & Sinners *(Director Ryan Coogler)*

2/6 – Lost in Translation, Her, & Marriage Story *(Divorce)*

BESTIES NIGHT

Fridays • Jan. 22 & Feb. 5 • 6-8 p.m.

Bring your bestie or come make new friends! This year, we'll enjoy some delicious Asian appetizers and then learn how to make a unique felted paper collage using the Korean Joomchi technique, special mulberry paper, and water. Registration is required, along with $10 fee, at the Circulation Desk. **REGISTER**

SATURDAY SLEUTHS

Saturday, Jan. 30 • 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 motive, means, and culprit of The Rideshare Homicide! **REGISTER**

LINOCUT HEART PRINTS

Thursday, February 11 • 6 p.m.

Join Tom Stagg to make hand-made linocut heart prints for your Valentine! Learn how to make your own block print by carving a linoleum block with a heart design and make a small print as unique as your love! **REGISTER**

D&D: THE ETERNAL EMBRACE

Friday, February 19 • 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Our adventurers are called to the aid of a woman in a tavern being harassed by a group of men. She claims her husband was kidnapped by a group of local zealots and she needs help rescuing him – before it's too late! All skill levels are welcome for this one-shot adventure. Snacks and materials provided. **REGISTER**

MORE CLUBS

WATERCOLOR CLUB

Fridays • 3-4:30 p.m.
Dec. 4, Jan. 8, & Feb. 5

All skill levels are welcome to come paint at the library and exchange tips and techniques as you work on your own projects. **REGISTER**

ANIME CLUB

Saturdays • 2 p.m. • Ages 18+

Come hang out with other adults and discuss all things anime! **REGISTER**

12/12 – All About Japanese Holidays (Presentation)
1/9 – Guess that Anime: Character Edition!
2/13 – I Want to Eat Your Pancreas (PG13)

CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

Wednesdays • 6 p.m.
Dec. 16, Jan. 20, & Feb. 17

Meet with fellow writers, develop your writing skills, and get those creative juices flowing! Open writing sessions are also held every Wednesday 5-8 p.m. and Saturdays 3-5 p.m. **DROP IN**



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! **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*, 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!

HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING

December 1-30

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



alphapark.org

VOLUNTEER MEET & PREP

Wednesdays • 2 p.m. • Ages 14+

Dec. 16, Jan. 20, & Feb. 17

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

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

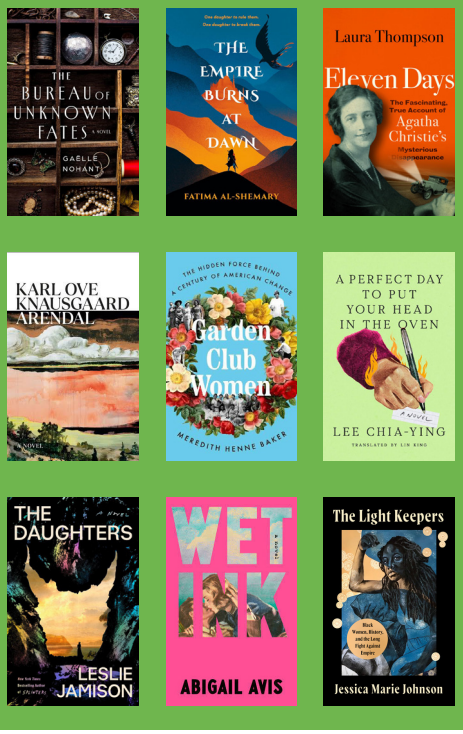
Thursdays • 10 a.m.

Dec. 17, Jan. 21, & Feb. 18

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, 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.