



DID YOU HEAR?

**There's a Winter Reading Club at
the Itasca Community Library!
See the back cover for details.**

ADULT PROGRAMS

Registration is required for the following programs, except where noted. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org for additional information and registration.

HOLIDAY COOKIE DECORATING

Wednesday, December 6, 6:30 p.m.

Join Julie Norris from The Mrs Mahoopagee Royal Icing Academy for a festive holiday cookie decorating class. Learn expert techniques to beautify your sugar cookies and leave with your own hand-decorated treats. All supplies are provided; just bring your creativity!



That's a Wrap! Gift Wrapping Drop-In

Wednesday, December 13, 4:00-8:00 p.m.

So many gifts to wrap, so little time! We will provide wrapping paper, ribbon, tape, and scissors so you can wrap your gifts while listening to holiday music. Leave the kids at home and get this job wrapped up!

You Can Brew It!

An Introduction to Home Brewing

Thursday, December 14, 6:00 p.m.

Do you enjoy good quality craft beer? Home brewing is a fun and rewarding hobby that is enjoyed by millions of people all over the world. Award-winning home brewer Scott Pointon will discuss the equipment, ingredients, brewing process, and resources available to would-be brew masters.

New Year's Cardmaking Workshop

Thursday, January 4, 7:00 p.m.

Come make a New Year's-themed card for friends or family. Beginners welcome, and all supplies are provided.

Paranormal Illinois (Rescheduled)

Monday, January 22, 7:00 p.m.

Chad Lewis presents an eerie combination of the most bizarre paranormal topics. He has combined the strangest cases of alien abductions, haunted places, mysterious creatures, crop circles, and everything else weird and unusual. This program covers the entire spectrum of Illinois' supernatural activity.

Needle Felted Penguins

Tuesday, January 23, 7:00 p.m.

Join Natasha Lehrer Lewis of Esther's Place to create a brrr-iliant felted penguin. Bring the wonder of needle felting into your home as we craft together. All materials provided.

Instrument Petting Zoo

Thursday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

It's a new year and the perfect time to try something new. Instruments will be provided and demonstrated by Music & Arts in Itasca. Meet various instruments and get to try them out.

Protecting Your Digital Assets - Now and Later

Monday, February 5, 7:00 p.m.

Digital assets aren't something people often think about. Lisa Knauf from Knauf Law will share what you need to know about them and how you can protect them now and in the future.

Constellation Embroidery

Monday, February 19, 7:00 p.m.

Come create your own embroidered masterpiece inspired by the night sky. Learn basic stitches and go home with your own wall art. All materials provided.

THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN COUNTRY MUSIC

Sunday, February 25, 2:00 p.m.

Join Steve Justman for a live musical overview that captures the heartbeat of Americana. Steve will have you tapping your toes and singing along as you explore the songs that forever changed the sound of American music.



ADULT PROGRAMS

Registration is required for the following programs, except where noted. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org for additional information and registration.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Knit & Craft Club

1st Thursday of the month: December 7, January 4, February 1, 10:30 a.m.

4th Wednesday of the month: December 27, January 24, February 28, 7:00 p.m.

By popular demand, we added an evening session. Join us at either one or both! Everyone who does handwork and wants to share time with like-minded people is welcome to join this fun, casual get-together. Bring whatever you're working on! No registration is needed.

English Conversation Group

Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Come meet new people and practice your English-speaking skills. Learning a new language doesn't have to be hard. The group meets in person and on Zoom. Please register to get the Zoom link.

Trivia Night

2nd Tuesday of the month: December 12, January 9, February 13, 7:00 p.m. at Fox & Turtle Restaurant, Itasca Country Club

Compete with your team of up to six people for a chance to win prizes. A reservation at Fox & Turtle is highly encouraged.

Adult Board Game Night

3rd Wednesday of the month: December 20, January 17, February 21, 7:00 p.m.

For patrons 18 and older. Come learn the rules of a new board game in a non-stressful environment. Groups will play practice rounds to get the hang of it and then spend the remainder of the night playing the new game!

Take & Make Crafts for Adults

A new craft kit for adults will be available on the 15th of each month.

Book a Librarian

Need a computer lesson or one-on-one tech help? Itasca cardholders can make a one-hour appointment with a librarian to get the help they need at their convenience. Call the library or email adultservices@itascalibrary.org to make an appointment.

Book Club Assistance

Are you in a book club and in need of multiple books for your discussions? We can help with that, and with book suggestions and tips for your book club. Ask for more details at the Adult Desk.



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

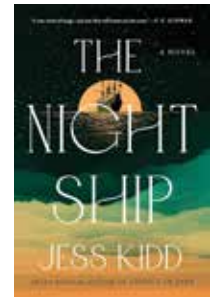
Beyond the Library

7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month at Fox & Turtle Restaurant, Itasca Country Club

December 11: *Spells for Forgetting* by Adrienne Young

January: No meeting

February 12: *The Night Ship* by Jess Kidd



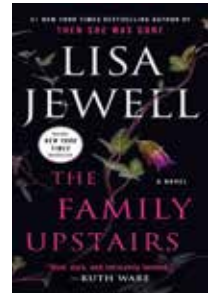
Evening

7:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month

December: No meeting

January 30: *The Marlow Murder Club* by Robert Thorogood

February 27: *The Family Upstairs* by Lisa Jewell



FRIENDS of the Itasca Community Library



Love the library like we do? Join Friends of the Itasca Library! All you need to do is fill out the sign-up form found on the library's website. It's that easy. If you are unable to attend the meetings, you can also be a virtual member. We'll keep you updated with what we're doing along with volunteer opportunities. And there are no longer membership dues. What a perfect time to become a member!

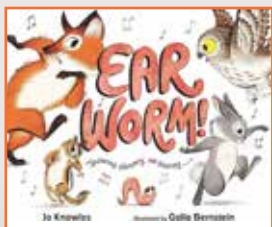
The Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization that helps support the work of the library. We organize Dine Out with Friends, Ladies Night Out: BINGO!, and more. The group meets on the first Tuesday of every other month. The next meeting is January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

YOUTH NEWS

TAKE A STORYWALK® THIS WINTER!

The library has teamed up with the Itasca Park District to present StoryWalk®, a fun way to combine reading and exercising. A StoryWalk® is a series of signs featuring spreads from a children's picture book. Those signs or pages are spread throughout indoor or outdoor spaces in all seasons allowing a reader to follow along with a story by walking.

The StoryWalk® this winter will feature Johanna Knowles's picture book, *Ear Worm!*, and it will be at the loop right next to the Springbrook Nature Center building starting in late December. This project is sponsored by the library, Itasca Park District, Friends of the Itasca Community Library, Friends of Springbrook Nature Center of Itasca, and the Village of Itasca. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont, and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.



THERE'S A WINTER READING CLUB AT THE ITASCA COMMUNITY LIBRARY!

See the back cover for details.



TAKE & MAKE CRAFTS

A new craft will be available each Monday.



WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

Come warm up at the library by taking a walk on the wild side with our indoor animal walk. The walk will be up the entire month of January, and it begins near the Youth Desk.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration is required for most programs. A separate registration is needed for programs with multiple sessions. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org for additional information and registration.

FOR AGES 6 AND YOUNGER

Registration is required for some programs where noted. A separate registration is needed for programs with multiple sessions. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org to register.

Drop-In Family Storytime (Geared to ages 6 & under)
Mondays, December 4-February 26, 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Join us for stories, songs, and more.

Doodlebugs (Geared to ages 2-5 with a caregiver)
Wednesdays, December 6, January 3, and February 7 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Little fingers will experiment with painting, gluing, sticking, cutting, and creating. Dress for a mess! Registration is required.

Drop-In Baby Time (Geared to ages 6-18 months)
Thursdays, December 14 & 28, January 11 & 25, and February 8 & 22, 9:30-10:00 a.m.
We'll share stories and songs perfect for little ones!

Bring the Outside In: Winter (Geared to ages 2-6)
Tuesday, January 30, 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Enjoy activity stations all about winter including sensory bins, games, and a craft. Registration is required.



FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Registration is required for the following programs, except where noted. A separate registration is needed for programs with multiple sessions. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org to register.

Cookie Book Club (Grades K-3 with a caregiver)
Join us for cookies and a book discussion with your grown-up! Books will be available for checkout one month prior to the discussion at the Checkout Desk.

Thursday, December 7, 4:15-5:00 p.m.
Ty's Travels: Lab Magic by Kelly Starling Lyons

Thursday, January 4, 4:15-5:00 p.m.
Dancing with Daddy by Anitra Rowe Schulte

Thursday, February 1, 4:15-5:00 p.m.
Starla Jean: Which Came First: The Chicken or the Friendship? by Elana K. Arnold

Make It! Recycled Christmas Cards (Grades 3-6)
Tuesday, December 12, 4:00-4:45 p.m.
Turn old cards into new masterpieces for family and friends.

Family BINGO (For families)
Tuesdays, January 2 and February 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Join us for a night of BINGO, prizes, and fun.

Walking in a LEGO Wonderland (For families)
Thursday, January 4, 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Build your own winter LEGO creation, make a LEGO-themed art project, and more! We'll have several stations of LEGO fun ready for you to enjoy.

Family Craft Swap (For families)
Saturday, January 6, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Love crafts and looking for some new materials? Drop off any unused kids' craft items at the Youth Desk anytime between Tuesday, January 2 and Thursday, January 4. If you drop off supplies for the swap, you'll receive a ticket to shop early and pick out some new-to-you supplies! No registration is needed.

Family Snowflake Crafts (For families)
Thursday, January 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Enjoy crafting and want to enjoy the snow ... indoors? Join us to make a number of snowflake crafts.

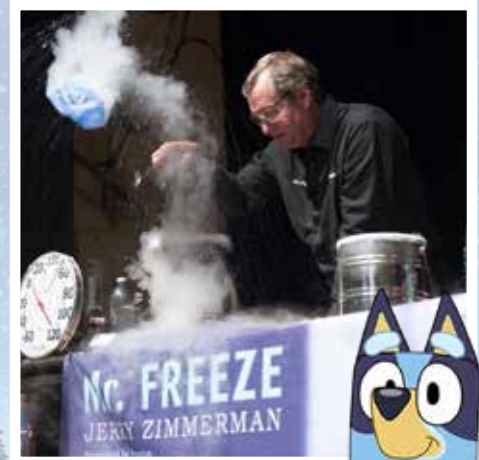
YOUTH PROGRAMS

Registration is required for most programs. A separate registration is needed for programs with multiple sessions. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org for additional information and registration.

Winter Carnival For families

Saturday, January 20, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Drop by the library for some cozy indoor fun at our first Winter Carnival! Enjoy games, crafts, prize drawings, and snacks, along with a Bluey Meet & Greet from 1:30-2:30 p.m. and a cool interactive science show featuring Mr. Freeze from Fermilab from 3:00-3:45 p.m. Registration is not required, but you can register if you'd like a reminder email.



The Science of Sports (Grades 3-6)

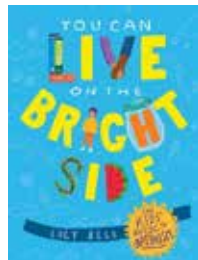
Thursday, January 18, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Explore how different sports work from running to throwing through simple physics lessons and trying out the sports yourself.

Brightside Club (Grades 1-4)

**Wednesdays, January 31 and February 28
4:15-4:45 p.m.**

Join us for a little bit of mindfulness and a whole lot of fun! Our activities will be based on the book *You Can Live on the Bright Side: The Kids' Guide to Optimism* by Lucy Bell.



Comics Club (Grades 3-6)

Wednesday, February 7, 6:30-7:15 p.m.

At this book discussion, we'll read and discuss graphic novels and enjoy other activities related to each book. This quarter's book is *Marshmallow & Jordan* by Alina Chau. Free copies of the book will be available at the Youth Desk one month prior to the discussion.

Curious Kids: Rocks and Minerals (Grades 1-4)

Thursday, February 15, 4:15-5:00 p.m.

Are you curious about the world around you? Have questions you want answers to? Join other kids at this quarterly program, and get your questions answered while also improving your research skills. This quarter bring your questions about rocks and minerals. We'll also have activities and a snack.

Red Cross Pillowcase Project (Ages 8-12)

Thursday, February 22, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Do you want to be prepared for an emergency? DuPage County Health Department will present this program on disaster preparedness and survival skills. The presentation teaches kids how to create their own emergency supply kit, coping skills, and practicing what they've learned with their friends and family. They will be provided with a pillowcase to decorate and a workbook with activities that can be done at home with grownups to prepare their households. Caregivers are encouraged to attend this program with their children.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Registration is required for the following programs. A separate registration is needed for programs with multiple sessions. Please call 630-773-1699 or visit itascalibrary.org for additional information and registration.

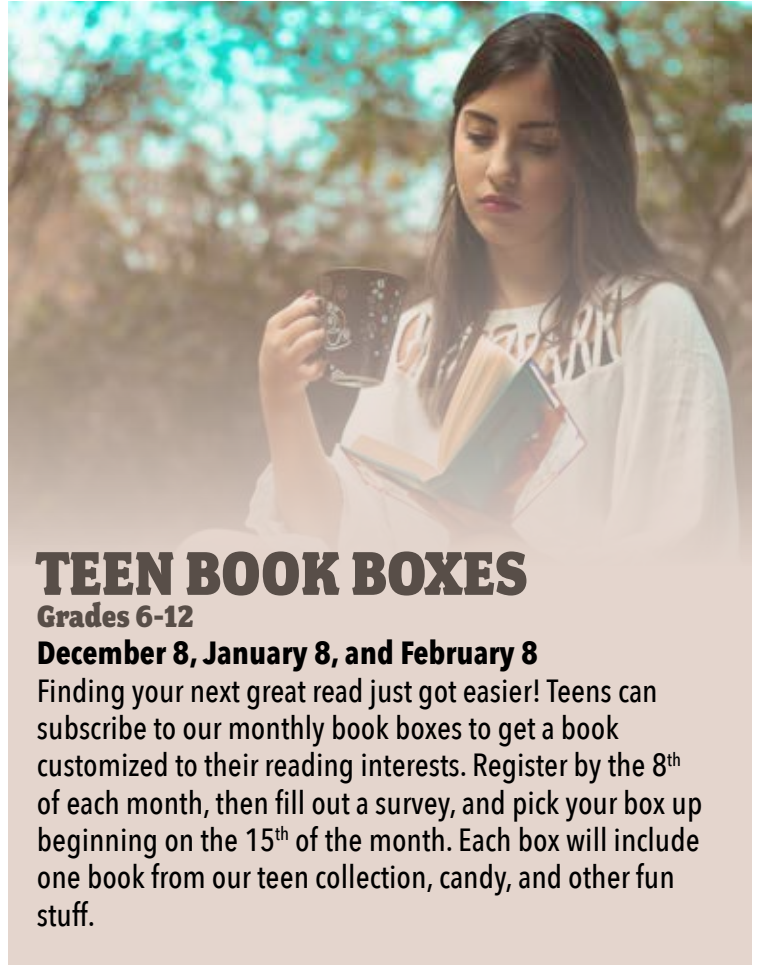


CANDY SUSHI

Grades 6-12

Thursday, February 8, 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Let's turn sushi into a dessert - by making it from candy! Follow our examples or make your own sushi rolls and other sushi.



TEEN BOOK BOXES

Grades 6-12

December 8, January 8, and February 8

Finding your next great read just got easier! Teens can subscribe to our monthly book boxes to get a book customized to their reading interests. Register by the 8th of each month, then fill out a survey, and pick your box up beginning on the 15th of the month. Each box will include one book from our teen collection, candy, and other fun stuff.

DIY Felt Coffee Cup Cozies (Grades 6-12)

Wednesday, December 13, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Create a fox or bear felt cup cozy for your hot chocolate or coffee cups. Hot chocolate and sample cups will be provided, but feel free to bring your own cup to use as a guide.

Red Cross Pillowcase Project (Ages 8-12)

Thursday, February 22, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Do you want to be prepared for an emergency? DuPage County Health Department will present this program on disaster preparedness and survival skills. The presentation teaches kids how to create their own emergency supply kit, coping skills, and practicing what they've learned with their friends and family. They will be provided with a pillowcase to decorate and a workbook with activities that can be done at home with grownups to prepare their households. Caregivers are encouraged to attend this program with their children.

**THERE'S A WINTER READING CLUB
AT THE ITASCA COMMUNITY LIBRARY!**

See the back cover for details.



NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 28
ITASCA, IL

ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

500 W. Irving Park Road
Itasca, IL 60143
630-773-1699
itascalibrary.org

Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday-Saturday
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sunday
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Dates of Closing:

Sunday, December 24
Monday, December 25
Sunday, December 31
Monday, January 1

Library Board of Trustees:

Sharon Laughlin, President
Anja Tranter, Vice President
Michael S. Golden, Treasurer
Anne O. Boehne, Secretary
Renee Fitzgerald
Paul Nelson
Patricia Schumacher
Ridgeway Burns, Library Director

The board meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Photo Policy:

Photographs will be taken during some library programs and may be used by the library for promotional purposes. If you do not want to be photographed, please be sure to inform the librarian.

Newsletter Editor in Chief:

Beth McCloskey

LIBRARY NEWS

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

CHILL OUT WITH A GOOD BOOK!

DECEMBER 18-JANUARY 31

The library encourages you to read this winter by taking our *Chill Out With a Good Book!* Winter Reading Challenge. Sign up at the Adult Desk or Youth Desk starting on Monday, December 18. Record your reading and pick up your prizes by the last day of the club on Wednesday, January 31.

ADULT READING CLUB

The winter reading club for adults is back! Read two books to get a finisher prize and earn an entry into our grand prize drawing. Keep reading for more grand prize drawing entries.

YOUTH/TEEN READING CLUB

Kids and teens in preschool through 12th grade can pick up their challenge sheet to earn fun prizes and play our Penguin Sledding Disc Drop Game.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING CONTEST

The library is celebrating the season with over 15 specially decorated trees! This year's theme is *Full of Holiday Cheer*. Tour the library in December to see the Christmas trees beautifully decorated by local schools and organizations. We hope you will participate by casting your vote for the best decorated tree based on creativity and originality. Itasca Bank & Trust Co. has generously agreed to once again be the sponsor of the prize money. Winners will be decided by popular vote; voting can be done either in person or online at itascalibrary.org starting December 1. Winners will be announced January 2.



Connect with us!