ITASCA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

FALL 2026

SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER

Films, Lectures, & Book Discussions

based on the book

on the same **PAGE**

Bloomingdale | Itasca | Roselle



INFORMATION. COMMUNITY. LEARNING.

ON THE SAME PAGE

OCTOBER 2026 PROGRAMS

FALL GARDENING TIPS: SUSTAINABLE CLEANUP & SEED SAVING (BPL)



Monday, October 5 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Celebrate ***The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year*** with Beth Peluse from The Conservation Foundation. Learn simple, sustainable ways to winterize your yard, support local wildlife, and save seeds for next spring's garden.



12 THINGS THAT MAKE THE LIFE ON EARTH POSSIBLE (RPLD)

Tuesday, October 6 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Join Michelle Nichols from the Adler Planetarium for a fascinating look at why Earth is uniquely suited for life. Discover 12 special characteristics that make Earth capable of sustaining life—and why it remains the only known planet in the universe to do so.

BIRDS OF PREY WITH SPRINGBROOK NATURE CENTER (ICL)



Thursday, October 15 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Explore the world of local raptors with Jess Finn from Springbrook Nature Center. Learn how to identify owls, hawks, and falcons by sight and sound while discovering their hunting skills, adaptations, and important role in our ecosystem.



MAKE GARDEN DECORATIONS THROUGH UPCYCLING METAL (BPL)

Monday, October 19 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Create a steampunk-inspired sculpture using salvaged metal, gears, bolts, magnets, and other reclaimed materials in this hands-on workshop presented by Victoria Reeves. Learn how artists transform industrial scraps into art, then design and take home your own unique creation. Space is limited. *Please note: those with pacemakers or other embedded medical devices should use caution when working with ceramic magnets.*

THE SEASONS OF BIRDS IN DUPAGE COUNTY (BPL)



Tuesday, October 20 | 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Dr. Mike Warner of the DuPage Birding Club introduces the basics of birding and explores which birds can be found in local habitats throughout the year. Learn about seasonal bird populations, conservation challenges, and ways to help protect local species.



BULBS: BASICS, MYTHS, AND TRUTHS (ICL)

Tuesday, October 27 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Think you know gardening fact from fiction? Test your gardening knowledge in this interactive program separating bulb-planting myths from facts. Master Gardeners from the University of Illinois will share practical tips for planting and caring for bulbs in late summer and fall.



A WALK IN THE WOODS (RPLD)

Tuesday, October 13 | 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Rated: R

After spending two decades in England, Bill Bryson returns to the U.S., where he decides the best way to connect with his homeland is to hike the Appalachian Trail with one of his oldest friends.

WALLACE & GROMIT: THE CURSE OF THE WERE-RABBIT (BPL)

Wednesday, October 14 | 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. | Rated: G

Join us for some fun as we enjoy a movie two-for, which both celebrates On the Same Page and Halloween! Bumbling inventor, Wallace, and his silent canine companion, Gromit, try to trap a beast that's been ravaging neighborhood vegetable patches!

General Information:
On The Same Page programs require registration unless noted as "drop-in" in the program description. Please contact the library or visit each library's website for details and registration information.

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.

on the same
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See Page 2-3 for details

ILP
ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Inside the Empire of AI with Karen Hao

Thursday, September 17, 7:00 p.m.

Karen Hao is an award-winning journalist covering the impacts of artificial intelligence on society. Her book, *Empire of AI: Dreams and Nightmares in Sam Altman's OpenAI*, is a New York Times bestseller.

Preserving History with Geoffrey Baer

Tuesday, October 20, 7:00 p.m.

Geoffrey Baer is best known for hosting the *10 That Changed America* series, the *Chicago by Boat* architecture series, and other television programs produced by WTTW in Chicago.

Words, Power, and Community: Dr. Eve L. Ewing

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Eve L. Ewing is the author of *Maya and the Robot, Ghosts in the Schoolyard*, and *Electric Arches*, among others. She is an associate professor at University of Chicago.



Foundations of Investing

Thursday, September 10, 7:00 p.m.

Foundations of Investing is an educational program for people who are either new to investing or need a refresher. Participants will learn about the importance of developing a workable strategy, the impact of asset allocation, and ideas for focusing on what you can control with your finances to achieve financial goals.

iPad Basics

Friday, September 4, 2:00 p.m.

This introductory course to Apple's iPad will focus on hardware, settings management, and downloading applications. Participants are required to bring their own devices and know their Apple ID and password.



Ladies' Night Out: BINGO!

Thursday, September 17, 7:00 p.m.

The Friends of the Itasca Community Library are thrilled to bring back their popular Ladies' BINGO Party in support of the Itasca Food Pantry! Guests are encouraged to bring non-perishable food, household items, or personal care products. Join us for a fun-filled evening and the chance to win great prizes!

Adult Craft Swap Supply Drop Off

Wednesday and Thursday, September 16 and 17, All Day

Have craft supplies you don't need? Bring them to us for a craft swap. Drop off any unused or gently used craft items at the Adult Desk anytime on Wednesday, September 16 or Thursday, September 17.

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.

Adult Craft Swap

Saturday, September 19, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Love crafts and looking for some new materials? Join us for our craft swap. Browse our supply donations and take home some new-to-you supplies. No registration is needed.

The History of Fleetwood Mac with Gary Wenstrup

Thursday, September 24, 7:00 p.m.

Launched as a mid-1960s blues band, Fleetwood Mac achieved monumental success in the 1970s and remains iconic today. Through interview and performance footage, this program traces their career, focusing on the blockbuster album "Rumours," and the classic lineup: Stevie Nicks, Lindsey Buckingham, Christine McVie, John McVie, and Mick Fleetwood.

Dungeons & Dragons

Saturday, September 26, 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 10, 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 21, 1:00 p.m.

Drop in for a monthly Dungeons & Dragons adventure! Each Saturday session is self-contained, so you can join whenever you're available without committing to every month. All experience levels are welcome. 18 years and up.

Scam and Fraud Basics

Thursday, October 1, 7:00 p.m.

Financial fraud is constantly evolving, and anyone can be affected. Join Brian Mivelli, a VP Senior Manager from Wintrust Financial Corporation, for an informative session designed to help you stay aware and better protect yourself and your finances. During this program, attendees will identify the current financial fraud landscape including the latest schemes and risks; recognize how you can protect yourself and/or your organization; and understand how financial institutions combat and investigate financial crimes.

Black Bird, Black Bird

Monday, October 5, 6:30 p.m.

The sweetest little black birds will grace your home. Shari from Twisted Fiber Studio will guide us to craft our birds from clay and use recycled materials to accent and display them. All materials will be provided.

Paint Along

Wednesday, October 7, 6:30 p.m.

Follow along step-by-step to create your own spooky landscape painting, perfect for the Halloween season. No painting experience needed, just come ready to get creative! Itasca Community Library cardholders only.

Trunk-or-Treat (All Ages)

Saturday, October 17, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Gather your family and friends and join us for a fun-filled afternoon of Halloween excitement. This community event is open to all ages and will feature creatively decorated trunks, plenty of candy, festive costumes, and more.

Unspoken: Animal Communication

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

Uncover the unspoken language of cats and dogs by learning how to interpret animal body language and get some tips for effective communication.

AARP Safe Driver Course

Monday, November 2 and Tuesday, November 3
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Adults 55 and older will get a review of driving skills and techniques in this two-day course. Get a certificate of completion when you finish all eight hours of the course, which can be submitted to your insurance company for a possible rate discount. There is a $25.00 fee due at the beginning of the class ($20.00 if you present your AARP card). Please pay by check.

Bison Tales and Tallgrass Trails

Monday, November 16, 6:30 p.m.

Discover how bison shaped Illinois' tallgrass prairie, how they are being restored today, and their enduring cultural connections to Native American tribes.



ICL Community Ofrenda

October 26 - November 2

We will have a traditional ofrenda on display to celebrate Día de los Muertos which can be viewed all week long. Stop by to learn about the symbols and traditions. Patrons are welcome to bring a photograph of a departed loved one to include on the altar.

Tendremos un ofrenda para celebrar El Día de los Muertos que será accesible toda la semana. Pase para aprender acerca de los símbolos y tradiciones. Si desea puede agregar una foto de un ser querido.

ADULT PROGRAMS

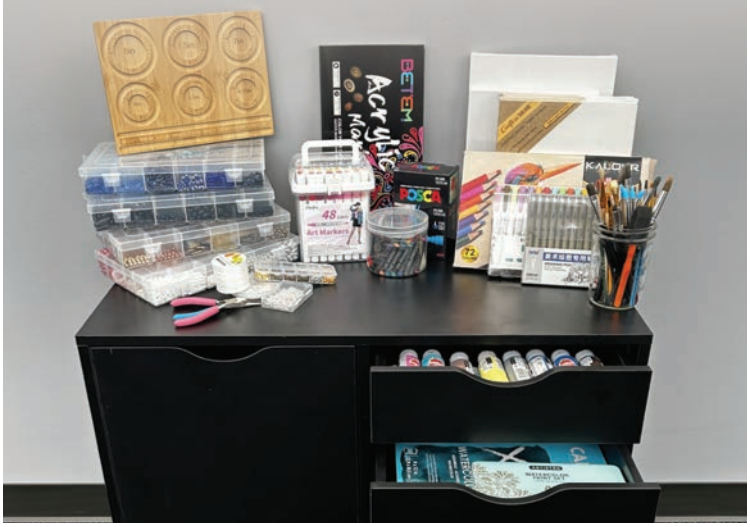
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ONGOING PROGRAMS

Crafters Anonymous

1st Thursday of the month:
September 3, October 1, and November 5
4th Wednesday of the month:
September 23 and October 28,
No meeting November 25

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.



Trivia Night

2nd Tuesday of the month: September 8, October 13, and November 10

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

Adult Board Game Night

3rd Wednesday of the month: September 16, October 21, and November 18

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. It's like having a personalized session just for you! Call the library or email adultservices@itascalibrary.org to make an appointment.

Book Club Assistance

Are you part of a book club and need multiple copies for your next discussion? We've got you covered! We can provide the books you need, along with personalized recommendations and helpful tips to make your club meetings even better. Ask for more details at the Adult Desk.



ADULT PROGRAMS

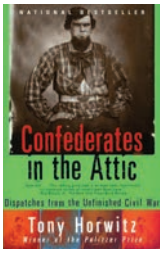
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BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Beyond the Library

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

September 14: *Confederates in the Attic* by Tony Horwitz
October 12: *The Comfort of Crows* by Margaret Renkl
November 9: *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon







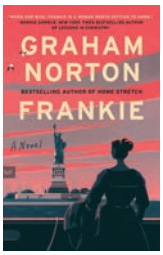
Evening

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

September 29: *The Sequel* by Jean Hanff Korelitz
October 27: *The Comfort of Crows* by Margaret Renkl
November 24: *Frankie* by Graham Norton







Friends of the Library

Love the library like we do? Join the Friends of the Itasca Community Library! All you need to do is check out the sign-up form found on the library's website. It's that easy. We'll keep you updated with what we're doing along with volunteer opportunities. What a perfect time to become a member!

The Friends of the Itasca Community Library is a non-profit that helps support the library's work. The group meets on the first Tuesday of every other month, and the next meetings are on September 1, and November 3 at 7:00 p.m.

DINE OUT With The Friends

Support a great cause while enjoying a delicious meal at Buona Beef and Culver's! Join us for our Dine to Donate event, where a portion of your meal purchase will go directly to the Friends of the Itasca Community Library. Flyers will be available on our website and at the Adult Desk. Be sure to show the flyer when placing your order.

Buona Beef
1170 N. Arlington Heights Road, Itasca
Tuesday, September 22
and Tuesday, November 17
20% of each sale will be donated.

Culver's of Addison
1347 W. Lake St.
Tuesday, October 13
15% of each sale will be donated.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

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 for additional information and registration.

FOR AGES 6 AND YOUNGER

Doodlebugs (Geared to ages 2-5 with a caregiver)
Wednesdays, September 2, October 7, and November 4
10:00-10:30 a.m.
Little fingers will experiment with painting, gluing, sticking, cutting, and creating. Dress for a mess!

Drop-In Baby Time (Geared to ages 0-18 months with a caregiver)
Thursdays, September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22,
and November 5 & 19, 9:30-10:00 a.m.
We'll share stories and songs perfect for little ones! No registration is needed.

Drop-In Family Storytime (Geared to ages 6 & under)
Mondays, September 14-November 2, 10:00-10:30 a.m.
There will not be a session on October 12, but please join us for Musical Play with ScribbleMonster instead! Join us for stories, songs, and more. No registration is needed.

STEAM Stories (Ages 4-8 with a caregiver)
Thursdays, September 24 and November 12, 4:15-5:00 p.m.
It's STEM with art! Come listen to a story on a STEM topic and complete a simple art project and activities all around the theme of the day.

Parachute Tales (Geared to ages 2-6 with a caregiver)
Wednesday, September 30, 10:00-10:30 a.m.
We'll tell a story, sing songs, and play games with the big parachute.

Baby Bubble Pop (0-18 months with a caregiver)
Tuesday, October 13, 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Enjoy some bubble sensory play and songs with your baby, then create a no-mess bubble wrap craft, all while developing your baby's coordination. Finished crafts make the perfect keepsake!

Drop-In Trick-or-Treating (All ages)
Monday, October 26, 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Wear your Halloween costume and drop by the library to decorate a Halloween bag and trick-or-treat. Come early for Halloween-themed stories at Drop-In Family Storytime at 10:00-10:30 a.m. No registration is needed.

Little Builders (Geared to ages 2-6 with a caregiver)
Tuesday, November 24, 10:00-10:30 a.m.
Build with magnatiles, Keva planks, Mega Blox, cardboard boxes, and other blocks we have in the library. Make new friends and have a build-tastic time!



Musical Play with ScribbleMonster

All ages

Monday, October 12, 10:00-10:45 a.m.
Looking for something fun to do on your day off from school? Bring your dancing shoes and wild imagination for the award-winning music and play of Jim from ScribbleMonster and Emmy-Award winning Our Show Today as seen on PBS. Using a mix of kindness, music, and humor, ScribbleMonster's presentation encourages children to participate and think in creative ways.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

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 for additional information and registration.

FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

Family BINGO (All ages)
Tuesday, September 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Join us for a lively night of BINGO! The rules change each round, and there are plenty of opportunities to win fun prizes.

STEAM Stories (Ages 4-8 with a caregiver)
Thursdays, September 24 and November 12, 4:15-5:00 p.m.
It's STEM with art! Come listen to a story on a STEM topic and complete a simple art project and activities all around the theme of the day.

Super Mario Game Play (Grades 2-6)
Friday, September 25, 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Take turns playing group games like Mario Party, Mario Kart, and Super Mario Bros Wonder on the Nintendo Switch, and cheer on your friends while it's their turn.

Minecraft Club (Grades 2-6)
Tuesdays, September 29 and November 24, 4:15-5:30 p.m.
Join our Minecraft Club to make friends, collaborate, and complete challenges together in the library's shared world. If you're new to Minecraft, we'll help you get started.

We will have a limited number of laptops available on a first come, first served basis. To make sure everyone gets to play, please bring your own laptop, tablet, or handheld console, along with your Minecraft login information. If you're playing on your Switch, you'll also need a membership to Nintendo Switch Online.



Amazing Axolotls

All ages

Thursday, October 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

It's your dream come true – meet real axolotls AND feed them! Listen to a presentation about axolotls, see them up close, and complete an axolotl craft.



Pumpkin Painting

All ages

Tuesday, October 20, 4:15-5:00 p.m.

Looking for a cozy, creative way to celebrate the season? Join us and decorate some mini pumpkins–no pumpkin carving required! Dress for a mess.

LEGO Spooktacular (All ages)
Tuesday, October 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Are you a LEGO master? Come spin our theme wheel to receive a spooky challenge and show off your brick building skills. Finished LEGO creations are displayed in the library.

Squishmallow Painting (Grades 1-5)
Thursday, November 5, 4:15-5:00 p.m.
We'll give you the outline and inspiration; you paint the squishmallow (on canvas) with your imagination.

Perler Bead Creations (Grades 1-5)
Tuesday, November 10, 4:15-5:15 p.m.
Get creative with colorful Perler beads! Design your own unique shapes or use one of our templates, then we'll fuse them into keepsake creations for you to take home.

Painting Pop-In: Surprise Edition (All ages)
Monday, November 23, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Drop in anytime between 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and choose a mystery item to paint! No registration is needed, and while supplies last.

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.

Rubber Duck Cosplay Contest

All ages

November 1 through November 30

Enjoy our mini art show? Now it's time to play duck dress-up! Artists of all ages are welcome to decorate a rubber duck based on a favorite fandom, a beloved character, or create an original design. Rubber ducks can be picked up starting October 12 and should be returned by October 31. Your dolled-up ducks will be on display for the entire month of November as we vote on our favorite designs. Fan favorites in each age group will be awarded a $50 Target gift card! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.







YOUTH NEWS

Take a StoryWalk® This Fall!



The library has teamed up with the Itasca Park District to present a 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 fall will feature Lynn Plourde's picture book, *Bella's Fall Coat*, and it will be at the loop right next to the Springbrook Nature Center building starting in mid-September. 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.

Scavenger Hunts

Each month we'll put up a new scavenger hunt in the Youth Services Department. Complete it for a sticker prize or just for fun!

TEEN PROGRAMS

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 for additional information and registration.



Creepy Cupcake Decorating

Grades 6-12

Wednesday, October 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Come decorate cupcakes with all the fixings – black licorice, candy pumpkins, creepy eyes, and more. We'll teach you how to use different tips to pipe out frosting, and you'll get to take home 4 cupcakes to creep out your family.



Beaded Animal Keychains

Grades 6-12

Wednesday, September 23, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Throwback to the 90s and make keychains using pony beads and string. We'll have multiple patterns you can follow or be creative and make your own design!

Volunteering To-Go: Color a Smile (Grades 6-12)
Packet pickup begins Tuesday, September 1
Drop by the Youth Desk and pick up a packet of coloring sheets to decorate for Color A Smile, a nonprofit organization that distributes cheerful drawings to senior citizens, our troops overseas, and anyone in need of a smile. When you return your colored sheets, you'll earn one hour of community service. You may pick up a packet through Saturday, October 31. No registration is needed.

VolunTeen Program (Grades 6-12)
Students in grades 6-12 may volunteer to work up to six hours in the Youth Department this fall as a VolunTeen. After you register, you'll receive instructions on how to choose the specific days during the session you'd like to volunteer. Please only sign up for one session.
Fall Session 1: September 14-October 4
Fall Session 2: October 19-November 8

Take & Make Crafts for Teens (Grades 6-12)
September 15, October 15, and November 15
Pick up a Take & Make craft just for teens! Crafts will be available at the Youth Desk beginning on the 15th of each month. While supplies last. No registration is needed.

Frankentoys (Grades 6-12)
Tuesday, October 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Bring old toys back to life in monstrous ways by taking them apart and reimagining them as something bizarre, unique, or downright frightening. We'll provide all the old toys and supplies you need, but if you have a special toy that you would like to "resurrect," feel free to bring it with you!



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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:
September 7, 2026 – Labor Day: Closed all day
November 25, 2026 – Thanksgiving Holiday: Close at 5 pm
November 26, 2026 – Thanksgiving Day: Closed all day
November 27, 2026 – Post-Thanksgiving Holiday: Closed all day

Library Board of Trustees:
Paul Nelson, President
Anja Tranter, Vice President
Michael S. Golden, Treasurer
Patricia Schumacher, Secretary
Renee Fitzgerald
Anne O. Boehne
Maureen Voypick
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.

Connect with us!

LIBRARY NEWS

NATIONAL LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH



September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, and there's never been a better time to join the library! Sign up for a new library card to automatically enter in a raffle for a $100 gift card to Target! Check out materials and place holds during September and you'll get a chance to play our giant Plinko game for a shot at fun prizes! A library card gives you access to books, movies, digital resources, discounts at museums, and more. Get your card and join the fun!

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Saturday, October 17, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand! Join us for a spooktacular, all-ages Trunk-or-Treat event. Our community is bringing the Halloween spirit to life with creatively decorated trunks, festive fun, and plenty of candy for trick-or-treaters. Come dressed in your favorite costume and enjoy a safe, family-friendly afternoon filled with Halloween magic. We can't wait to see you there!

