

# footnotes

*ela area public library's newsletter*

*March – May 2024*

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*EAPL an Early Voting Site*

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*NEW! Big Questions Collection*





## *From the Director's Desk, Erica Christianson*

Community partners are an essential part of our Library. We work together with a wide range of partners on everything from collections to displays to even the beautiful landscaping at the front of the Library. We value all our partnerships – many of these groups we have worked with for decades.

This year we are celebrating a special anniversary with one of our partners. Ten years ago, the Lake County Astronomical Society (LCAS) reached out to ask if we would be the pilot site for a circulating telescope collection. We had been working with LCAS to offer the very popular Astronomy Under the City Lights viewing events. As a result of that collaboration, LCAS thought we would be a great fit for the telescopes. We were excited about bringing this new collection to our patrons, and the success of our telescope lending program led us to develop and grow what would become our Library of Things collection. We continue to partner with LCAS and proudly serve as a host site for Astronomy Day, their annual signature event. Turn to page 3 and 6 to learn more about LCAS, our telescopes and Astronomy Day.

For over two decades, we have partnered with AARP to bring free tax assistance with a focus on assisting low to moderate income families and individuals. In 2023, AARP tax preparation volunteers at the Ela Library assisted over 660 families and individuals with their tax returns. Tax assistance takes place on Saturdays, and registration is required. Turn to page 4 for details.

The Lake County Clerk's Office partnership also extends back decades. We have long-hosted precincts for Election Day voting and have served as an early voting site several times over the years. This year, the Library is an early voting site for both the primary and the general elections. This means that you will be able to take advantage of early voting when visiting the Library or even after hours – the Library may be closed, but you can still access the Meeting Rooms to vote.

Partnerships like these benefit, strengthen, and enrich our community. We look forward to continuing to work with all our partners to provide you with expanded access to information, services and programming.

## **Vote Early at the Library**

NEW! The Library was recently designated an early voting location for all upcoming elections. Any eligible voter resident of Lake County may vote early at EAPL. Dates and times for early voting are set by Lake County and are as follows:

### **Early Voters – Meeting Room A**

- *Week of Monday, March 4*  
Mon. – Fri. 9am-5pm; Sat. 9am-2pm; Sun. 10am-4pm
- *Week of Monday, March 11*  
Mon. – Fri. 9am-7pm; Sat. 9am-4pm; Sun. 9am-4pm
- *Monday, March 18*  
Day Before Election: 9am-7pm

### **Election Day – Meeting Rooms A & B** *(If the Library is your polling place.)*

- *Tuesday, March 19*  
6am-7pm

## **Voting Resources:**

- Lake County Voter Services. <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/332/Voter-Services>
- Voter Power for Registered Voters. <https://www.lakecountyil.gov/351/Voter-Power-for-Registered-Voters>
- *BallotReady.org* – Check your registration, make a plan to vote, and research every name and measure on the ballot with BallotReady. <https://www.ballotready.org/>

# BORROW A TELESCOPE

## LOANSTAR LENDING TURNS 10!

It's been 10 years since the Lake County Astronomical Society (LCAS) purchased three Orion Star Blast telescopes and modified them for use as "library telescopes." Back then, Ela library was one of three lucky Lake County libraries to pilot the LoanStar program which allowed Library users the opportunity to borrow a high-powered telescope.

"As of 2024, we now have 16 partner libraries in the program," say LCAS Vice President Tony Yelk. And, although the program has expanded, the goal to promote interest and participation in astronomy has continued to remain the same.

Beyond the LoanStar initiative, LCAS and the Library's partnership has continued to grow. From moon gazing in front of the Library to Astronomy Day held annually in May, these events and others have provided a fun, family-friendly, hands-on approach to learning for all ages. We asked Yelk to share his thoughts about LCAS and stargazing around Lake County this spring.

### *Astronomy Under the City Lights is a program we've hosted for years with LCAS. What do you (or LCAS members) love about this community event?*

Outreach is a major focus at the Lake County Astronomical Society. The Astronomy Under The City Lights program brings telescopes and other equipment out to the public who might not be able to see the stars and planets with equipment like this. It's especially rewarding for our younger patrons who marvel at the view through a telescope. It's one thing to see pictures in a book or online but to see, for example, Saturn's rings with your own eyes is an awesome sight and honestly a lot of fun to share with people!

### *Where do you plan to view the solar eclipse on April 8?*

That's a tricky question! Unfortunately, for the Midwest, and Illinois in particular, the average chance of a clear day in April is only 50%. Tracking the weather in the days leading up to the eclipse will be critical. The path of totality passes through the southern tip of Illinois through the center of Indiana and into Ohio. Determining where the clear skies will be will determine



*Pictured: (from left to right) LCAS Vice President/Publicity Chair Tony Yelk, LCAS President Layne Bussell and LCAS Outreach Coordinator Richard Huttas with one of the Library's Orion Star Blast Telescopes.*

where I go. For the 2017 solar eclipse, I was in southern Illinois, but this time around, I'll be chasing clear skies. A total solar eclipse is truly an event that you can't describe with words. You really need to see it to understand how incredible it is. Best of luck to everyone traveling to see it!

### *Are there any other note-worthy sky spectacles we should watch in 2024?*

Absolutely! On August 12, the Perseids meteor shower peaks and is best observed after midnight. Saturn will be in opposition (the point in its orbit where the Earth is between the planet and the Sun) on September 8 and thus will rise at sunset. Viewing about two hours later should be excellent. While the concept of a "Super" Moon is debated on September 18, the Moon's orbit will be closer to the Earth making the Full Moon appear slightly larger than normal. Jupiter will be in opposition (the Earth will be between the Sun and Jupiter) on December 7 which should make for great viewing too!

*Continued on the back page (16).*

## FUN FACTS

*Currently, the Library has 8 Orion Star Blast Telescopes available for checkout by Ela cardholders.*

*Each telescope is borrowed 8-14 times per year and serviced annually.*

**Solar Eclipse Glasses Giveaway April 1-8**  
See page 6 for details.

**Astronomy Day, 10am-4pm Sat., May 18**  
See page 6 for details.

# adult programs



Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Mar. 1 (unless noted).
- Zoom links are sent to your email the day of the event.
- In-person programs are held at the Library.



## AARP Tax Preparation

This service is provided on Saturdays during tax season. Please contact the Information Desk or call (224) 326-0605 for registration information. (R)

**Appointments End Apr. 13**

## Senior Scrabble Club

Join our Scrabble Club and play against friends and members of the community. Senior adults of all skill levels are welcome. Refreshments and supplies will be provided. (R)

**10am Monday, Mar. 4, 2nd Floor Conference Rm.**

**10am Mondays, Apr. 1, May 6, Meeting Room A**

## One Panel Quilt Show

**March 5–April 30**

Ela Library Quilt Talks participants will showcase their work – all designed from the same fabric quilt panel. Located on the 2nd floor.

## Floral Design Demo

Award-winning designer Krina Koenen provides this floral demonstration showcasing her artistic experience and the ease of creating decorative floral arrangements. Space is limited. Cosponsored with the Lake Zurich Garden Club.

**6:30pm Tues., Mar. 5 (R)**

## Alzheimer's Support Group

This monthly drop-in event provides information and support to those in a caregiving role. For further information, please contact Lisa Gaggiano at Ela Township 55+ (847) 438-9160.

**7-8pm Tuesdays, Mar. 5, Apr. 2, May 7 (NR)**

## Chair Yoga and Meditation (Zoom)

Yoga is for every body! Join instructor Isabel Raci in a gentle seated yoga and meditation session, perfect for seniors and those with limited mobility. Attend any or all sessions.

**6pm Thursdays, Mar. 7, Apr. 4, May 2 (R)**

## The History of Irish Music

Master fiddle player Sean Cleland performs traditional Irish music and discusses the fascinating history of traditional Irish music in Chicago. Sean is the executive director of the Irish Music School of Chicago and grew up on the North Side of Chicago in an Irish-American household. He has recorded four albums and appeared in two major Hollywood films, contributing songs to the soundtracks. Space is limited.

**7pm Mon., Mar. 11 (R)**

## AI ChatGPT and Beyond (Zoom)

ChatGPT and other artificial intelligence products have seemingly arisen from nowhere and are taking the world by storm. We'll look at the most discussed AI tech and speculate on the future implications of AI on the workplace and society. Presented by Mike Gershbein owner of Very Smart People.

**7pm Wed., Mar. 13 (R)**

## Warm Up Lake Zurich

Join us monthly to discuss, share and learn about yarn crafting from crocheting to knitting. Donations of craft items are accepted for local charities. Open to all levels. Meet in Forge.

**4-6pm Thursdays, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9 (R)**

## Ela Library Quilt Talks

Share and learn about fabrics and quilt making. All skill levels are welcome. Donations of craft items are accepted for local charities. Meet in Meeting Room A.

**6:30-8:30pm Thursdays, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9 (R)**

## Memory Café

Memory Café is designed to provide social connections for those with memory issues and their care partners. Each month features a different theme and can include music, art projects, guest presenters, animal therapy, and more. Each activity is designed to be "no fail" and encourage connections with others in the group. Questions? Contact Pam Pellizzari at Barrington Area Council on Aging (BACOA) (847) 381-5030.

**10-11:30am Tuesdays, Mar. 19, Apr. 16, May 21 (R)**

## Great Decisions

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a Discussion Group to discuss the topic. Visit [fpa.org](http://fpa.org) for topics. This group meets 8 times a year. Contact Librarian Renée [rstein@eapl.org](mailto:rstein@eapl.org) for more details.

**1-2:30pm Tuesdays, Mar. 19, Apr. 16, May 21 (R)**



## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Registration is required with a valid email address.

### Senior Book Discussion (Zoom and In Person) 10-11am Mondays (R)

Mar. 11 *Their Eyes Were Watching God*  
by Zora Neale Hurston

Apr. 8 *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown

May 13 *Pineapple Street* by Jenny Jackson

### Books & Brews (In Person)

Join us at Consume: 569 W. State Rte. 22, Lake Zurich.

### 7-8:30pm Tuesdays (R)

Mar. 19 *Interesting Facts About Space* by Emily R. Austin

May 21 *Hold My Girl* by Charlene Carr

### Tea & True Love

Steamy beverages and steamy romance novels!

Join us in person in Meeting Room A.

### 6-7pm Tuesday (R)

Apr. 16 *Raiders of the Lost Heart* by Jo Segura

### Nonfiction Book Club

Join us quarterly to discuss a wide range of nonfiction books in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

### 7-8:30pm Thursday

Apr. 25 *The Lost Tomb* by Douglas Preston



### 12+TRY Annual Reading Program

Allow us to treat you to 12 different genres and topics to stretch your reading horizons in 2024. Participants can enjoy a book of their choice within each topic or try something from the selected reading lists curated by our librarians. Read a book within all 12 topics to complete the challenge and receive a prize. Register and log your books through the Beanstack app.

Visit <https://www.eapl.org/events/reading-challenges> for further details and registration instructions.

Through December, 31 2024 (R)

Prize pickup will run through Fri., Jan. 5, 2025

## AUTHOR EVENTS



### Ruth E. Carter: Interweaving Tradition and Imagination Through Costume Design (Zoom)

Join us for a special event with Ruth E. Carter, two-time Academy Award-winning costume designer. Carter made history as the first Black person to win an Academy Award in Best Costume Design for the film *Black Panther*. She received a second Academy Award in the same category for *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. Ruth E. Carter's ability to develop an authentic story through costume and character made her one of the most sought after and renowned costume designers today.

7pm Wed., Mar. 20 (R)



### Dr. Temple Grandin: The Hidden Gifts of Visual Thinkers (Zoom)

Join us for a special event with Dr. Grandin, one of the world's most accomplished and well-known adults with autism. Dr. Grandin has been at the forefront of research and activism for autism and neurodiversity for decades. Her memoir, *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*, was published in 1986, and she has continued to write about autism and neurodivergence over the decades. Her most recent book is *Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People Who Think in Pictures, Patterns, and Abstractions*. Dr. Grandin's research and understanding of animal behavior spearheaded a reform in the quality of life for agricultural animals worldwide.

7pm Wed., Apr. 3 (R)



### The Many Lives of Kal Penn (Zoom)

Actor, writer, producer and White House staff member. Penn will be joined in conversation by Bridget Petrites, Evanston Public Library, who will facilitate a unique and fun game show style experience featuring the myriad accomplishments of Penn's life and previously submitted audience questions. Questions can be submitted when you register.

7pm Tues., May 7 (R)

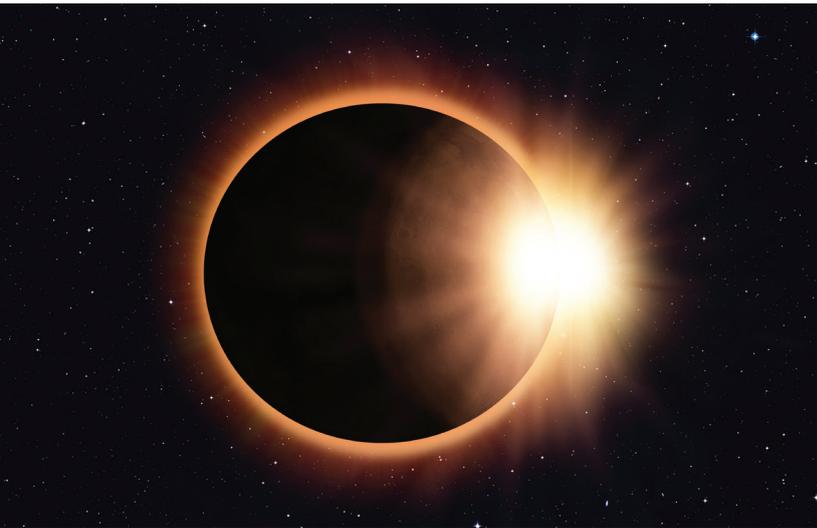


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# adult programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Mar. 1 (unless noted).
- Zoom links are sent to your email the day of the event.
- In-person programs are held at the Library.



## Solar Eclipse Glasses Giveaway April 1-8

Check out 10 items or more and receive a pair of glasses to safely view the upcoming solar eclipse on Monday, April 8. One pair, per family, while supplies last. Available at Checkout.



## Astronomy Day

Presented by the Lake County Astronomical Society, Astronomy Day features exhibits, crafts and hands-on activities for all ages, including solar observing through specially equipped telescopes. See displays on topics such as astrophotography, the solar system, the planets, and upcoming club events.

10am-4pm Sat., May 18 (NR)

## Looking to Nature to Solve Today's Problems

How did a Kingfisher improve a high-speed train? How has a gecko helped astronauts? These examples and many more will be discussed during this PowerPoint presentation provided by Kim White, a former educator at the Brookfield Zoo. This program includes live animal ambassadors and/or artifacts.

7pm Mon., Apr. 1 (R)

## Chicago's Extraordinary Places & Spaces (Zoom)

Embark on an unforgettable journey of Chicago's extraordinary places and spaces led by retired educator and passionate historian, Beth Sair. Get ready to explore many of the city's oldest and most stunning buildings, both inside and out, each holding its own unique charm.

7pm Thurs., Apr. 4 (R)

## IL Secretary of State: Super Seniors Event

This event offers adults aged 55-74 a convenient opportunity for driver's license renewal, including Rules of the Road classroom instruction, vision-screening exams, a review of safe driving techniques, and a refresher on Illinois driving laws. An identification card can be obtained for \$20.00; however, if you are age 65 and older, you may obtain a free, non-expiring State of Illinois photo ID card. Real IDs will not be available. Drivers age 75 and older are required to take a driving test to renew their driver's licenses; therefore, they must visit a Driver Services Facility. **All payments must be made by check, credit card, debit card or money order. No cash accepted.** For more information visit the Secretary of State's website at: <https://www.ilsos.gov/>. Written tests are no longer available and must be done electronically at a regular Driver Services Facility. Refreshments will be provided.

10am Wed., Apr. 24 (R)

## Conquering the Camino (Zoom)

Soak up the sprawling coastal beauty of the 174-mile Portuguese Camino de Santiago as globetrotter Brian Michalski helps us navigate its many challenges and rewards. Through brilliant original snapshots and charming storytelling, learn about the pilgrimage's history, logistics, local cuisine, and more as we journey from Porto to Northwestern Spain.

7pm Mon., Apr. 29 (R)

## THE Loop The Loop Files: A History of the Most Outrageous Radio Station Ever

Author Rick Kaempfer transports you to the good ol' days of radio, the 1970s and 1980s, when "The LOOP" reigned supreme, shaking up the airwaves and grabbing listeners with a unique brand of programming unlike anything heard before. Kaempfer shares stories from his book told through the eyes of those who were actually there.

7pm Wed., May 1 (R)

## Growing Mushrooms at Home

Mark Lyons, an experienced mushroom cultivator and garden coach, will show you how to grow your very own mushroom harvest. Learn how to preserve your mushroom harvest and how to make the most of these culinary treasures.

7pm Wed., May 8 (R)

## Planning an Active Retirement

Join presenter Gene Flynn in an exploration of how to live your best life through your early years of retirement and semi-retirement. Opportunities to promote physical health, mental wellness, and strong social engagement are discussed. This includes encore careers, gig and volunteer work, as well as information on how to remain a life-long learner.

6pm Wed., May 15 (R)

## BUSINESS

### Motivation Meetup

Achieving your goals can be difficult, especially when life is hectic, which is why we're starting a Motivation Meetup! Join other goal-oriented folks as we discuss the tips, tricks, books and ideas that inspire us in an environment dedicated to positivity and support.

**7-8pm Wed., Mar. 27 (R)**

### LinkedIn Headshots (*In Person*)

Come to the Library for a professionally done headshot by local photographer Donald Frazier for your LinkedIn profile or other business needs.

**6-8pm Wed., Apr. 17 (R)**



### Challah Bake

Let's celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month and learn how to bake delicious Challah in this hands-on Challah baking demonstration with Chabad of Lake Zurich. Challah is a special bread in Jewish cuisine, usually braided and typically eaten on ceremonial occasions such as Shabbat and major Jewish holidays. Each participant will prepare two braided loaves to take home. Space is limited.

**7pm Mon., May 13 (R)**

### South Asian Spice Mixing: Learn the Art of Making Your Own Spice Blends

Learn how to roast, grind, and mix your own spice blends in celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month! Mary Anne Mohanraj, author of the Sri Lankan cookbooks, *A Feast of Serendib* and *Vegan Serendib*, will walk you through the process of creating your own South Asian flavors!

**7pm Mon., May 20 (R)**



**20<sup>s</sup>/30<sup>s</sup>**

If you're in your 20s & 30s, it's time to find a babysitter, petsitter, or plant sitter and enjoy yourself at these programs catered specifically for you! Meet people your age and make some new friends while trying new things. Programs for ages 20-39.

### Macramé Soirée

Calling all plant lovers and creative souls in their 20s and 30s! Join us for an evening of plant parenthood and dive into the art of macramé and craft stylish plant hangers for a new green companion.

**6-7pm Tues., Apr. 23 (R)**

## GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY



### Genealogy Databases 101

Learn about Ancestry Library Edition, FamilySearch, Fold3, and Heritage Quest with time for hands-on searching.

**1pm Thurs., Mar. 21 (R)**

### Abolitionist Seth Paine and Activist Harriet Tubman: Two Histories Merge at the Underground Railroad (*Zoom*)

Learn about Seth Paine's work on the Underground Railroad, Black history in the Midwest, and how Seth's collaboration with others in Chicago and Lake Zurich mirrored the work of Harriet Tubman along the Eastern Seaboard of the United States.

**7pm Tues., Apr. 16 (R)**

### An Introduction to the World of Asian American Genealogy (*Zoom*)

Asian Americans have overcome many obstacles to make major contributions to American society. Genealogist Grant Din shows you how to document your Asian American ancestry in this presentation.

**2pm Wed., May 22 (R)**

### The Fool-Proof Four and More: A Peak Into the World of Common Edible Wild Mushrooms

In this presentation, we will learn to recognize four mushrooms and a handful more that can be found easily, locally and turned into succulent and nutritious meals. Presented by Hunter LeDuc who is certified as a wild mushroom expert by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and is a frequent presenter on Midwest mushrooms.

**6:30pm Wed., May 22 (R)**



### Senior Coloring Club

Do you love adult coloring books, diamond painting, or Zen doodles? Join us for an hour of socializing and artistic expression. Use our supplies or bring your own. Refreshments are provided.

**10am Wed., May 29 (R)**

### Green Your Routine: Annual Shred and Recycling Event Cosponsored with Ela Township

Shredding is limited to three boxes per household. Please NO businesses. A list of acceptable electronics will be posted on the Library's website in May.

**NEW THIS YEAR –**

Riddick's Ride will be on hand to collect: Clothes; men's, women's and children's. Coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, ties, belts, backpacks. Household textiles; bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tableclothes, curtains, and pillows. No knick-knacks or kitchen gadgets. Items can be in any condition (reusable or textile). Please make sure these items are dropped off in white or black garbage bags.

**8:30-11:30am Sat., Jun. 1**

# Workplace Spotlight

*Meet EAPL's IT Department, Chris Pedersen, Kyle Heaser and Nick Chiapetta*



*Pictured: (from left to right) Head of IT Chris Pedersen and IT Operations Technicians Kyle Heaser and Nick Chiapetta with the Library's new Lyngsoe Automated Materials Handling System.*

It takes a village to make the Library work. Our non-librarian support teams at EAPL play a vital role in the success of our organization. Ela Library's IT Department is always working to create more efficient ways to provide top-notch service for our staff and community.

Read about IT Department Manager Chris' experiences and why he loves spearheading the IT team at EAPL.

### ***What are the most challenging aspects of your job?***

I think the most challenging aspect of our day-to-day operations is balancing the differing needs of both staff and the public.

### ***What are some of your day-to-day responsibilities?***

Our main responsibility each day is to make sure both our staff and public IT infrastructure is working properly so that technology is up and running as intended. This often means checking on and maintaining our networks, computers, printers and copy machines. Additionally, we analyze any technology upgrades and make sure we are ready when those changes come.

### ***How has the Library's technology changed over the last 10 years. What's the future look like?***

Technology is constantly changing and evolving. We recently upgraded the sorter and the server room which includes all new switches and server hosts. Last fall, we upgraded the network for staff and the public, installed an all-new Zoom conference room, upgraded a new patron print system that enables credit card payment, and installed new staff and public computers. Looking ahead, we will upgrade internet service speed for both staff and the public. We are always evaluating new technologies that would benefit everyone using the Library.

### ***What is the best part of your job?***

Working with our incredible staff.

### ***What is one project you are most proud of completing this past year?***

We take pride in the significant enhancements we've made to our server infrastructure. Our efforts have led to comprehensive upgrades across all facets of our server and network equipment within the Library. These upgrades, already implemented or in the pipeline, not only enhance the efficiency of our services for both our staff and Library users but also minimize downtime. This investment ensures that we remain agile and adaptable to evolving needs as time progresses.

## ***DID YOU KNOW?***

- There are over 200 computing devices in the Library.
- The IT Department has resolved over 450 issues in the last year.
- *Coming Soon!* Experience a 10x faster Wi-Fi connection in the Library. The new upgrade will be installed this spring.

# computer programs

Due to the popularity of computer classes, please do not register for classes you have already taken within the last year.

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Mar. 1 (unless noted).
- All classes are located in the Computer Lab unless otherwise noted.

## OFFICE APPLICATIONS



For more advanced Microsoft Excel classes, we recommend using LinkedIn Learning, which you can access with your Library card. Scan the QR code for more information. Below is a list of suggested classes:

*Learning Excel Desktop*

*Excel: Advanced Formulas and Functions*

*Excel: Working Together with Power Query and Power Pivot*

### Word 1

*Prerequisite: Comfortable using a mouse and keyboard*  
Learn the basic skills to create, modify and print documents.

**6-8pm Tues., Mar. 26 (R)**

### Word 2

*Prerequisite: MS Word 1 or related experience*  
Learn how to create headers and footers, adjust margins, insert bullets and use mail merge.

**6-8pm Tues., Apr. 9 (R)**

### Word 3

*Prerequisite: MS Word 1 and 2 or related experience*  
Learn how to combine documents, create links within documents, use heading styles, make a Table of Contents, create a mirrored margin and more.

**6-8pm Tues., Apr. 16 (R)**

### Powerpoint

*Prerequisite: MS Word 1 or related experience*  
Create compelling presentations with confidence and finesse in this dynamic and practical class.

**6-8pm Tues., Apr. 23 (R)**

### Excel 1

*Prerequisite: MS Word 1 or related experience*  
Learn to create basic spreadsheets with formulas and charts.

**6-8pm Tues., Apr. 30 (R)**

### Excel 2

*Prerequisite: MS Excel 1 or related experience*  
Learn to create different types of charts, work with formulas, edit cells, sort and filter data.

**6-8pm Tues., May 7 (R)**



### Microsoft Office “Office Hours”

Have you been taking Microsoft Office classes virtually and have questions? Amy from Reference is hosting office hours where you'll have the opportunity to learn new skills in Word, Powerpoint & Excel.

**6-8pm Tues., May 14 (R)**

## ADVANCED TOPICS

### Google Drive

*Prerequisite: Comfortable using a mouse and keyboard*  
Learn to create, share, and edit files online, fostering efficient teamwork and organization in a secure digital environment.

**2-3:30pm Wed., Mar. 6 (R)**

### AI ChatGPT and Beyond (Zoom)

See page 4 for details.

**7pm Wed., Mar. 13 (R)**

### Social Media Graphics with Canva

*Prerequisite: Comfortable using a mouse and keyboard*  
Master social media graphics with Canva. Design eye-catching visuals for posts, stories, and profiles in this concise and hands-on class.

**2-3:30pm Wed., Mar. 20 (R)**

### Cut the Cord

Amazon, Apple and Netflix offer just a few of the options available for people who are interested in cutting the cable cord. Find out all the best services as well as streaming devices like Roku and Apple TV. Taught by Mike Gershbein of Very Smart People. Located in Meeting Room A.

**6:30-8pm Tues., May 21 (R)**

### Stay Private Online

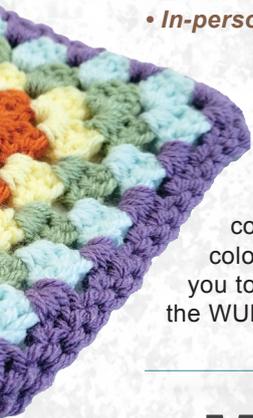
Worried about the types of information that's being collected by internet companies and advertisers as you surf the net? We'll tell you what you need to know to keep yourself hidden! Taught by Mike Gershbein of Very Smart People. Located in Meeting Room A.

**6:30-8pm Thurs., May 30 (R)**

# forge programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Mar. 1 (unless noted).
- Zoom links are sent to your email the day of the event.
- In-person programs are held in Forge at the Library.



## Forge Yarn Bombing Exhibit

Stop by Forge between March 15 – May 10 to view our community yarn bombing masterpiece. Pieces of crocheted and knitted art were collected this winter to create some incredible and colorful artwork around our Makerspace. A huge thank you to our patrons who contributed to the exhibit and the WULZ group for all their art and yarn donations.

## MEET THE MAKER FORGE

Hear firsthand what drives our community makers creativity and discover the unique stories behind their craft. Don't miss out on the chance to be inspired, entertained and informed. Subscribe, follow and let the "Meet the Maker" series ignite your passion for creativity!  
**New Videos on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays in March at 6pm (NR) (YouTube and TikTok)**

Hear firsthand what drives our community makers creativity and discover the unique stories behind their craft. Don't miss out on the chance to be inspired, entertained and informed.

## Leprechaun Traps

With a variety of colorful materials, young imaginations will soar as they design traps that are sure to capture a Leprechaun!

**6pm Mon., Mar. 11, grades 3-5 (R)**

## Take Home Crafty A Kits



Kits include supplies, directions and video instruction. Available for pick up in the Forge starting on the date specified. Kits available while supplies last. Ages 18+.



### Pom Pom Owl

Create a cute pom-pom owl in this month's kit.

**Pick up: 9am Mon., Mar. 4 (NR)**



### Spring Sign

Make your own spring-themed sign in this month's kit.

**Pick up: 9am Mon., Apr. 1 (NR)**



### Affirmation Rocks

In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, paint your favorite affirmation on a rock.

**Pick up: 9am Mon., May 6 (NR)**



## Watercolor Bookmarks

Spend a relaxing time painting an illustrative bookmark with watercolors!

**6pm Tuesdays, Mar. 19 or Apr. 16, ages 18+ (R)**

## Cardboard Kitty Kingdoms

Unleash your creativity and craft a personalized cat castle. Watch as simple materials transform into enchanting feline abodes, making this workshop a purr-fectly charming experience for all cat lovers.

**6pm Thurs., Mar. 21, ages 14+ (R)**

## Soap Making

Soapy Roads of Lombard is back to teach us about the history and beauty of making your own soap. All supplies are provided!

**6pm Mon., Mar. 25, ages 18+ (R)**

## Mushroom Moon

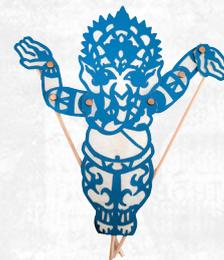
Let your creativity shine under the mushroom moonlight! Learn about how we used our laser printer to create a base for this magical project.

**6pm Thurs., Mar. 28, ages 18+ (R)**

## South Indian Shadow Puppet Making

Discover the rich art culture of South India by crafting your own "Tholue Bommallatam" puppets using cardstock and cellophane.

**6pm Thurs., Apr. 4, ages 14+ (R)**



## Eclipse Tiles

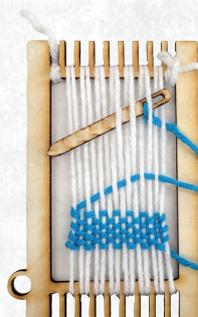
This event is all about relaxation and self-expression. Grab a seat and engage in the meditative process of coloring with a twist.

**4pm or 6pm Wed., Apr. 10, ages 14+ (R)**

## Paint & Take: Mushrooms

Dive into an enchanting world and unleash your creativity as you paint wooden mushrooms. No reservations needed—just come, pick your mushroom, and let the brush inspire your artistic expression! Limit of one mushroom per person, while supplies last.

**4-7pm Thurs., Apr. 18, all ages (NR)**



## Weaving Workshop

Learn the basics of weaving using your own laser cut loom. The project consists of making a small square wall hanging using spring colors.

**6pm Thurs., Apr. 25, ages 14+ (R)**

# teen programs

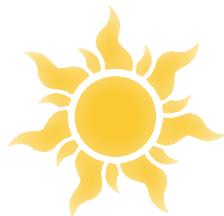
Registration begins Mar. 1. All programs are for teens in grades 6-12, unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions, please contact Reader's Services at [readers@eapl.org](mailto:readers@eapl.org).



### Wednesday Night Movie Nights

Stop by the Teen Lounge on a Wednesday night this winter and catch a flick!

**6pm Wednesdays, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr. 17; May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (NR)**



### Enchanted Lanterns: Movie and Crafts

Come to a cozy movie night featuring the heartwarming tale of *Tangled* and unleash your creativity by crafting glowing lanterns inspired by the movie.

**6-8:15pm Tues., Mar. 26 (R)**



### TableTop Takeover

Get ready to roll the dice, strategize and connect with friends during our "TableTop Takeover!" This laid-back program invites teens to drop in and enjoy an afternoon of board game fun over break.

**3-5pm Thurs., Mar. 28 (R)**



### Teen Art Night: Watercolor Prints

Dive into a world of vibrant hues and creative expression. Teens are invited to join us for an imaginative and colorful evening where they will explore the magical realm of watercolors and transform their fingerprints into delightful works of art. Come prepared to get messy.

**6-7pm Mon., Apr. 15 (R)**



## NEXT STEPS

### Major Changes to College Process and New SAT Test Updates

The year 2024 introduces some of the most significant changes to college planning in decades. Join us to learn about the revamped SAT test, and how test-optional can be evaluated. We'll introduce new strategies to give your student the best opportunity to be admitted and maximize scholarships!

**6:30-7:30pm Wed., Apr. 10 (R)**

### What You Need to Know When Your Child Turns 18

At 18, your child is now a legal adult. Your ability to make decisions is now limited. Find out what you need to know to unlock these limitations! Presented by Shire Law Group PC.

**7-8pm Wed., Apr. 24 (R)**

# For Your Little Kid with BIG QUESTIONS

The Children's Department is excited to unveil a brand-new resource collection: Big Questions. This collection, which branches off of our Parent-Teacher section, is filled with picture books and other materials that tackle complicated topics in simple, age-appropriate ways. Books in this collection show young characters going through new or difficult experiences, explain relevant topics in accessible language, and provide lists of additional resources. Some stories also include discussion questions to spark conversation between kids and their caregivers, whether talking about changes in the family, coping with loss, or staying safe and hopeful even when the world feels like a scary place.

For everyday social-emotional learning, check out our newly revamped Growing Up collection in our themed Picture Book area! These picture books offer thoughtful, engaging stories on developmental milestones and common concerns, like self-esteem, making friends, and facing fears.

While most books in these collections are aimed at kids ages 0-5, the stories can serve as conversation starters and jumping off points for a variety of audiences. Stop by the Children's Department to browse the collection anytime.



## Big Questions topics:

- Family (adoption, divorce, new baby, etc.)
- Grief and Loss (family members, friends, pets, etc.)
- Health and Safety (body safety, illness, fire safety, etc.)
- World (current events, hope, justice, etc.)

## Growing Up topics:

- Good Humans
- Friends
- Big Feelings
- Firsts
- Inclusion
- All About Me
- Fears

# kids programs

*Ela Library cardholders have priority registration. Non-Ela cardholders may be placed on the waitlist for an event and notified by email. An adult must remain in the building while their children are attending programs.*

**March registration begins Mar. 1 at 9am.**

**April registration begins Apr. 1 at 9am.**

**May registration begins May 1 at 9am.**

## Baby Buddies

Stop in for a special baby playtime! You and your baby can play and explore sensory bins while visiting with other families. Dress for a mess to create a keepsake art project, while supplies last.

**10am-12pm Fridays, Mar. 1 and May 3, ages 0-18 months with an adult (NR)**

## Mario Party

Let's-a go! Bring your family to join Mario and friends for screen-free activities and crafts to celebrate Mario Day. Play Koopa shell bowling, make your own piranha plant and more as you power up with this iconic video game character!

**10am-12pm Sat., Mar. 9, all ages with an adult (NR)**

# ANIMAL EVENTS



## Pet Supply Drive

Drop off pet supplies at the library throughout April to support Animal Education and Rescue. Then, join us for a special event with AEAR on April 27 to meet some of the animals we've helped! **April 1-26**

## Cartooning with Mark Anderson: Power Pets

See page 14 for details.

**4pm Wed., Apr. 17, unaccompanied kids in grades K-5 (R)**

## PAWsome Reading Buddies

Reserve a time to read aloud to a therapy dog! Practice your reading skills while making a new furry friend.

**4pm or 5pm Wed., Apr. 24, unaccompanied kids in grades 1-4 (R)**

## A Visit with Animal Education & Rescue

Celebrate National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day at the library with the humans and animals of local humane society Animal Education and Rescue (AEAR)! Sandy Kamen Wisniewski, founder and director of AEAR, will share heart-warming and inspirational stories of animals rescued across Lake County. We may even have the chance to meet some of the rescues!

**11am Sat., Apr. 27, all ages with an adult (NR)**



**Solar Eclipse Glasses Giveaway**  
April 1-8, see page 6 for details.

## Every Soul a Star Book Club

Explore the phenomenon of a solar eclipse as we discuss *Every Soul a Star* by Wendy Mass. We will even create our own red-light flashlights for stargazing! Snacks will be provided. Copies of the book will be available at the Children's Desk beginning March 1.

**PLEASE NOTE: Registration opens March 1, 4pm Tues., Apr. 2, unaccompanied kids in grades 4-5 (R)**

## Solar Eclipse Extravaganza

To celebrate the upcoming solar eclipse, drop in for crafts and activities that are out of this world!  
**3:30-5pm Thurs., Apr. 4, grades K-5 with an adult (NR)**

## Astronomy Day

**10am-4pm Sat., May 18 (NR)**  
See page 6 for details.

## Graphic Novel Book Club: Animal Edition

Let's talk about *Animal Rescue Friends* by Gina Loveless, Meika Hashimoto and Genevieve Kote! Share what you enjoyed (or didn't) about this month's title and trade recommendations to find new favorites. Snacks will be provided. Copies of the book will be available at the Children's Desk beginning April 1.

**4pm Tues., Apr. 30, unaccompanied kids in grades 3-5 (R)**

## Play & Learn at the Animal Clinic

Invite your family or friend group and explore our pretend animal clinic. Care for stuffed animals, make appointments, view x-rays and more! Please sign up for only one time slot. Recommended for ages 3-7; for groups up to 10 people. One member of your group must have an Ela Library card. Register online at [eapl.org/kids](http://eapl.org/kids).

**May 9-31 (R)**

**9am, 11am, 4pm, 6pm Mondays-Thursdays**

**9am, 11am, 4pm Fridays**

**9am, 3pm Saturdays**

# kids programs

*Ela Library cardholders have priority registration. Non-Ela cardholders may be placed on the waitlist for an event and notified by email. An adult must remain in the building while their children are attending programs.*

**March registration begins Mar. 1 at 9am.**

**April registration begins Apr. 1 at 9am.**

**May registration begins May 1 at 9am.**

## Drop-In Crafts

Looking to get creative or just escape from the rain? Stop by the Children's Department for a spring-themed craft while supplies last.

**1-4pm Sun., Mar. 3 – funny frogs**

**4-7pm Mon., Mar. 18 – button birdies**

**4-7pm Mon., Apr. 15 – rainbow trolls**

**3-5pm Thurs., May 2 – butterfly rings**

**All ages with an adult (NR)**

## Mini Makers

Our preschool friends can work on important art skills like cutting, pasting and following directions in this crafting class made just for them! Dress for a mess.

**10am Thurs., Mar. 7 – St. Patrick's Day craft**

**10am Tues., Apr. 30 – spring craft**

**Ages 3-5 with an adult (R)**



# ARTS & CRAFTS

## Trash Monsters

Put your imagination to the test to create unique, silly monsters out of trash treasures that might otherwise be tossed away. Stomp on over for an open house where we will provide a variety of materials, from cereal boxes to felt scraps to stickers, for ultimate creativity!

**10am-4pm Mon., Mar. 25, grades K-5 with an adult (NR)**

## Bead Bash

Experience bundles of bead fun for the whole family! Make a beaded butterfly or an arm-party of friendship bracelets with pony beads in every color of the rainbow.

**1-4pm Fri., Mar. 29, ages 5 and up with an adult (NR)**



## Koala Stuffie

Do you love stuffed animals and want to make one of your own? Learn how to hand sew a fuzzy, cuddly koala! No sewing experience needed.

**4pm Tues., Apr. 9, unaccompanied kids in grades 3-5 (R)**

## Cartooning with Mark Anderson

Join Mark for these lively, interactive cartooning classes. For in-person classes, the library will provide your supplies. For the Zoom class, you'll need paper and a pencil at home. The Zoom link will be sent to your email the day of the program.



### Adventure Quest

Kids decide and draw where we'll go, what we'll do, and who we'll encounter on an epic trek! Will there be pirates? Maybe. Dragons? Who

can say... A minotaur named Gary who loves hot dogs? That's very specific, but I don't see why not. Come and see what happens!

**11am Tues., Mar. 26, unaccompanied kids in grades K-5 (R)**



### Power Pets

Look! Up in the sky! It's a dog! It's a cat! Wait, is that a bearded dragon? And why are they all wearing capes? Oh, they're Power Pets! From their

Super Shelter headquarters, they fight for truth, kibble and belly rubs! And you'll learn to draw them all!

**4pm Wed., Apr. 17, unaccompanied kids in grades K-5 (R)**



### Summer Games

Oh sure, you're probably familiar with the popular sports that athletes will compete in this year. But have you heard of the 400-meter handstand?

Greco-Roman staring? Hamster dressage? Join us and draw some of the weirder sports and see who will go home with the aluminum foil medal!

**ZOOM: 7pm Thurs., May 23, grades K-5 (R)**



# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



## Learn to Code with Ozaria

Master the lost magic of coding and save the world of Ozaria from impending darkness in this online adventure game!

Players will learn to type real code, problem solve and make their own creative projects in this Python-based computer science program with an immersive fantasy storyline. Registration is ongoing; get started anytime at [eapl.org/coding](http://eapl.org/coding) (R)

## STEAM Explorers

Explore the wide world of STEAM! We'll start with an engaging story and then try some fun hands-on activities together.

**10am Wed., Mar. 13 and 6:30pm Thurs., Apr. 18, ages 3-5 with an adult (R)**

## Squishy Lab: Foam Slime

Kids and their adults will get into a mess of fun! We provide the recipe and ingredients to make fun foam slime during this hands-on workshop. Dress for a mess.

**4pm Wed., Mar. 20 or 4pm Fri., Apr 5, ages 3-12 with an adult (R)**

## Family STEAM Circuit

Drop in for a morning full of fun STEAM challenges to work on together! We'll have all the materials ready for you to build, create, experiment and play.

**10am-12pm Wed., Mar. 27, grades 1-5 with an adult (NR)**

## Race Car Engineering with RoboThink

Rev up your engine and hit the racetrack! Using RoboThink's unique robotics kit, which includes motors, mainboards and sensors, kids will build and customize a car to use in a variety of races.

This fun and educational experience is perfect for kids who are interested in robotics and engineering.

No prior experience is necessary.

**11am-12:30pm Thurs., Mar. 28, unaccompanied kids in grades 3-5 (R)**



# STORYTIMES

## Spring Storytime Session

Experience engaging stories, songs, fingerplays and more tailored to your child's developmental stage. Register once to save your spot for all six classes. No storytimes March 25-29.

- **Baby Storytime – ages 0-18 months with an adult**  
9:30am or 11am Fridays, Mar. 15, 22; Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26 (R)
- **Toddler Storytime – ages 18-36 months with an adult**  
9:30am or 10:30am Mondays, Mar. 11, 18; Apr. 1, 8, 15, 22 (R)
- **Preschool Storytime – ages 3-5 years with an adult**  
9:30am Thursdays, Mar. 14, 21; Apr. 4, 11, 18, 25 (R)

## Pajama Family Storytime

Gather the whole family for fun and cozy stories, songs and a collaborative craft. Pajamas are encouraged!

**6:30pm Mondays, Mar. 11 and Apr. 29, ages 2-6 with an adult (NR)**

## Bilingual Storytime

Join us for a bilingual English/Spanish storytime featuring stories, songs and crafts! You do not need to know how to speak Spanish as we will learn simple vocabulary words together.

### *¡hora del cuento bilingüe!*

*¡Únase a nosotros para una hora de cuentos bilingüe en inglés y español con cuentos, canciones y manualidades! Recomendado para niños de 2-5 años con un adulto. No es necesario registrarse.*

**10:30am Tuesdays, Mar. 19 and Apr. 16, recommended for ages 2-5. with an adult (NR)**  
*los martes 19 de marzo y 16 de abril, a la 10:30 de la mañana*

## Storytime in the Park

Put a spring in your step and venture out to Paulus Park (weather permitting) to join the librarians for a fresh air storytime!

**10am Thurs., May 9, ages 0-5 with an adult (NR)**

## Saturday Family Storytime

Spend some quality time at the library with classic stories, songs and crafts.

**10am Saturdays, Mar. 30 and Apr. 13, all ages with an adult (NR)**

**\*\*ECRWSS\*\***  
*Postal Customer*

## Art Gallery and Display

The Library has a dimensional art display in addition to the art gallery. Works of emerging and established local artists are displayed. For information about the art featured, visit the Information Desk.

### Art gallery (second floor)

March 5–April 30	One Panel Quilt Show	Quilts
May	St. Francis de Sales School	Various Mediums

### One Panel Quilt Show

The Ela Library Quilt Talks (ELQT) group will display quilts, lap quilts, wall hangings, table toppers and other items all made using the same quilt panel design in March and April. Stop by the second floor and check out their work on display in the Quiet Reading Room and Art Gallery. For more information about ELQT, see page 4.

*Continued from page 3.*

### Where are some of your favorite spots in Lake County to stargaze?

Personally, I like the Volo Bog State Natural Area in Ingleside, Illinois. The Lake County Astronomical Society meets there monthly, and it is far enough away from the bright lights of Chicago to get a good view of the night sky. I look for places that are open because trees can block your view of objects that are low on the horizon.

Fortunately, the Moon and planets are easy to find even in bright areas so local parks work well, too, as long as parking lot lights don't get in the way.

### Do you have any advice for amateur astronomers?

Never stop looking up at the night sky! Even in areas with a lot of light, you can still see the Moon, planets, and brighter stars. You can follow the planets along their celestial path every clear night. Just like amateur astronomers in ancient times, you can learn a lot from just watching how objects move night after night. Don't think you need a lot of expensive equipment to get started. A basic star chart or smartphone app



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www.eapl.org

### Library Board

Crystal Steker—President  
Cathy McCauley—Vice President  
Eric Corzine—Treasurer  
Alicia Timm—Secretary  
Kathy Caudill  
Mary Silcroft  
Tracy Suykerbuyk  
Erica Christianson—Executive Director

Board meetings are open to the public and are held in person. They begin at 6pm on these Tuesdays: Mar. 19, Apr. 16, May 21.

### Library Hours

Monday – Thursday	9am – 9pm
Friday	9am – 6pm
Saturday	9am – 5pm
Sunday	12 – 5pm

### Currently Scheduled Library Closings

Sun., Mar. 31	Easter
Mon., May 27	Memorial Day

### Phone

(847) 438-3433

### Program Registration

Register online at [www.eapl.org](http://www.eapl.org) or call (847) 438-3433, (847) 438-3840 Children's Dept.

If you need an accommodation for a visual, hearing, or other disability, please let us know at least two weeks before the program you plan to attend.

*Footnotes* is published to inform patrons about Ela Area Public Library District news, programs, materials and services.

**Editor:** Valerie Stern

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