ARRGH: A HISTORY OF PIRACY ON THE GREAT LAKES

with Christopher Gillcrist of the National Museum of the Great Lakes

Saturday, March 2 | 12 PM | Programming Room

Join us for the inaugural “Great Lakes, Great Stories” event to look back into Great Lakes history! No parrots or peg legs included, but a healthy dose of thievery, mutiny, and other unsavory tales. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Registration is required.

BASKETBALL BRACKETS

Monday, March 11 – Wednesday, March 20

Compete with our staff and other library users in predicting the outcome of NCAA Division I men’s basketball tournament. Out-predict everyone else to win an Amazon gift card! We will have two winners, one adult (18+) and one tween or teen (ages 11-17). To participate, pick up or print out your bracket starting Monday, March 11, fill it out, and return it to the library’s circulation desk by 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20.

PICTURED LIFE: AND TRUE STORIES FROM NORTHERN AND UPPER MICHIGAN

with local author Anne Crans

Thursday, March 14 | 6 PM | Programming Room

Stories from Anne’s past will be interspersed with photographs and short flute performances. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

No registration required.

THE POTATO FAMINE AND THE COMING OF THE IRISH TO AMERICA

with Terence O’Leary

Thursday, March 21 | 6 PM | Riverfront Area

This presentation will bring to light both the hardships and triumphs of America’s Irish ancestors. Signed copies of the author’s books will be available for purchase.

No registration required.

CHAKRADANCE

with Angie Fox of Heart Center Holistic Therapies

Thursday, May 23 | 6 PM | Griswold Auditorium Banquet Room

Join death doula Tracey Walker, founder of Let It Be End of Life Planning, to explore the thoughtful practice of intentional downsizing and possession bequeathment. Discuss practical strategies for creating a meaningful transition as we navigate the end-of-life journey.

No registration required.

331 Hubbard Street, Allegan, MI 49010
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Monday – Thursday
10 AM – 8 PM
Friday
10 AM – 5:30 PM
Saturday
10 AM – 4 PM
**Monthly Programs**

**CRAFSTASTIC**

- **March**: Ireland in a Jar, Registration begins 2/21
- **April**: Spring Wreath, Registration begins 3/20
- **May**: Mushroom Lantern, Registration begins 4/17

**BOOK CLUB**

- **Tuesdays, Mar. 12, Apr. 9, & May 14 | 6:30 PM | Riverfront Reading Area**

  Join us for great books, great conversation, and a great time! Copies of the current book can be found on top of the adult “New Books” shelf. All adults are invited.

  **No registration required.**


**PUB QUIZ**

- **Wednesdays, Mar. 20, Apr. 17, & May 15 | 6:30 PM | Tantrick Brewing**

  Test your knowledge in a fun night of trivia. 4 rounds of 10 questions each. Teams of up to 6. Show your library card and earn extra points to add to your team’s score.

  **Registration begins at 5:30, quizzing starts at 6:30.**

**JUMPSTART YOUR GENEALOGY**

- **with Megan Heyl**

  **Saturdays, March 30 & May 25 | 11 AM | Programming Room**

  Professional genealogist Megan Heyl is back to help us hunt down and organize our family histories.

  **No registration required.**

**PINTESTING**

- **Wednesdays, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, & May 1 | 6 PM | Programming Room**

  Space is limited. Registration is required and opens two weeks before each program.

**RECESS FOR ADULTS**

- **with the ARC of Allegan**

  **Wednesdays, Mar. 13, Apr. 10, & May 8 | 2 – 3 PM | Programming Room**

  Join us and our friends from the ARC of Allegan County, a non-profit organization supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities for crafting, playing games, and conversing with friends.

  **No registration required.**

**CRAFT & SNACK**

- **Mondays, Mar. 11 & 25, Apr. 8 & 22, & May 13 | 1 – 3 PM | Programming Room**

  Bring your own project and supplies and work on whatever while snacking and chatting! This group is for crafters of all skills and kinds to trade tips, tricks, and conversation. Light refreshment will be provided.

  **No registration required.**
Special Events and Classes

**FUN WITH WATERCOLOR**
with Lori Eslick

*Monday, March 4 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

Join artist and illustrator Lori Eslick to experiment with watercolors! She will guide us through creating our very own works of art. This event is free to attend and all materials are provided. **Registration is required.**

**IRISH RENAISSANCE WARRIORS**
with the Swordsmanship Museum & Academy

*Thursday, March 7 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

Historian and swordsmanship expert Jerry Berg will present about the struggles and conflicts in 16th century Ireland, including the struggle to preserve Gaelic culture against the encroaching English. Replica weapons, clothing, and other artifacts from the museum’s collection will be on display. **No registration required.**

**FINGER PAINTING FOR ADULTS**

*Thursday, Apr. 25 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

Kayla will walk you through the steps as we get messy and paint beautiful hydrangeas. All materials, including gloves for those who want them, will be provided. **Registration is required and will open at 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 11th.**

**MAKE YOUR OWN POCKET JOURNAL**
with the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center

*Wednesday, May 8 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

Join an instructor from the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center to learn to make your own pocket journal. Each participant will go home with a unique 6 inch by 9 inch journal. This class is free to attend and all materials will be provided, but space is limited. **Registration will open at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 24th and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.**

INTRO TO AMATEUR RADIO

with the Allegan County Amateur Radio Club

*Tuesday, March 5 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

Looking for a new hobby? See if amateur radio is for you! Members of the Allegan County Amateur Radio club will be here to teach you the basics and let you know what the club is all about. Stay after the program for their monthly meeting. **No registration required.**

FORAGING FOR SPRING EPHEMERALS
with Allison Loraine

*Thursday, March 28 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

This class will cover several species of edible mushrooms and their toxic look alikes, as well as several species of native edible plants that can be found in the spring. Identification, ethical harvesting practices, and preparation/preservation methods will also be covered. All ages are invited to join. **No registration required.**

INCENSE FROM FORAGED INGREDIENTS
with Miranda Hvinden

*Tuesday, May 7 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

This class will provide a broad overview of the history of incense as well as the basic materials necessary to make, use, and enjoy incense blends. Participants will leave with an incense blend of their own making. This class is free to attend and all materials will be provided, but space is limited. **Registration will open at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, April 23rd and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.**

CRYSTAL WRAPPING
with Stevie Kircher

*Thursday, May 30 | 6 PM | Programming Room*

Join instructor Stevie Kircher to learn simple crystal wrapping techniques! Each participant will go home with a unique piece of wrapped crystal jewelry. This class is free to attend and all materials will be provided, but space is limited. **Registration will open at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 16th and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.**

See page 6 for a teen and adult henna event on April 8th!
**FREE COMIC BOOK DAY**
Saturday, May 4 | While Supplies Last | Front Lobby
Celebrate Free Comic Book Day by dropping by the library to pick up a craft and some comic books. Our friends at Tardy’s Underground Comics & Collectibles will be celebrating too! All ages. **No registration required.**

**CLASSIC MOVIE MANIA**
Tuesdays, Mar. 12, Apr. 23, & May 14 | 3 PM | Programming Room
Come enjoy iconic cinema with these old school favorites: *Jaws, The Karate Kid,* and *E.T.* Hang out, eat snacks, and stay classy! Ages 12-18. **No registration required.**

**SCRAP THAT! SCRAPBOOKING CLUB**
Tuesdays, Mar. 26, Apr. 30, & May 28 | 3:30-4:30 PM | Programming Room
Bring an old notebook or photo album you want to spruce up with you. We will provide the supplies you need to make it dazzle! Supplies and snacks will be provided. Ages 12-18. **No registration required.**

**RAINCLOUD CRAFT**
Monday, May 13 | 3:30 PM | Programming Room
Come create a fluffy raincloud mobile with crystal raindrops. Hang out, have fun, eat snacks, create art! Ages 12-18. **No registration required.**

**TEEN DROP-IN DAYS**
Wednesdays, Mar. 6 & 20, Apr. 17, & May 1 | 1-3 PM | Teen Area & Lab
Drop by, make crafts, test your knowledge, and play games. On March 6, we’ll make a picture frame craft. March 20 is Jeopardy. April 17 is tech day. On May 1, we’ll make a confetti flowerpot. No registration required. Ages 12-18. **No registration required.**

**TEEN NAIL ART CLUB**
Thursdays, Mar. 21, Apr. 25 & May 23 | 3:30-4:30 PM | Programming Room
Come to the library and do a fun and simple nail art design. Please bring a bottle of your favorite color. A tutorial will be provided. Ages 12-18. **No registration required.**

**TEEN TECH NIGHTS**
Fridays, Apr. 5 & May 10 | 6-8 PM | Teen Area & Lab
Experience virtual reality, explore the realm of 3-D printing, and play video games with friends at this after-hours program. We will also have snacks. Ages 12-18. **Registration is required.**

**CUTE AS A BUTTON**
Thursday, May 9 | 3:30 PM | Programming Room
Buttons are adorable! Join us as we make collages out of buttons. Templates and supplies will be provided. Have fun and make awesome art! Ages 12-18. **No registration required.**

**Learn to Do Henna for Teens and Adults**
with Danielle Nienhouse of Henna by Design MI
**Monday, April 8 | 6 PM | Programming Room**
Learn to do henna from a professional henna artist! Danielle will provide each participant with a henna cone, instruction, and a practice worksheet as well as information on the history of henna. This event is free to attend, but registration is required and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. **Registration will be limited to 7 teens and 7 adults, and will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 25th.**
Children's Programs and Events

Storytimes and Crafts

LAPSIT STORYTIME
for ages 0–2

Tuesdays | 10:30 AM | Programming Room
We all know that early literacy is important, so let’s start as early as possible! This storytime is catered especially for children 0–2 years old and their caregivers. Littles and their caregivers will read from board books, sing songs, and engage in sensory play. At the end, we’ll have open playtime for the kids and some time for the grownups to converse! No registration required.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME
for ages 3-5

Thursdays | 10:30 AM | Programming Room
Join us on Thursday mornings for fun books, songs, rhymes, crafts, and other fun activities as we encourage a love of books in your little ones. This storytime is designed for kids 3–5 years old and their caregivers. No registration required.

HELP ME GROW ALLEGAN

Tuesdays, Mar. 12, Apr. 23, May 14 & Thursdays, Apr. 25 and May 16
Join Help Me Grow Allegan during our regular storytime times for some educational play and to learn about their “Talking is Teaching” campaign. Each family goes home with a free book! No registration required.

UNICORN PARTY!

Tuesday, Apr. 9 | 3 PM | Programming Room
Everyone loves unicorns! What better way to celebrate them than with fun stories, silly songs, and a craft to take home with you? Ages 0–7. No registration required.

BUNNY CRAFT

Wednesday, Apr. 10 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
Hop on over to the library and create a fun bunny craft to take home with you! Ages 0–7. No registration required.

CARDS FOR MOM

Wednesday, May 8 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
Make a special card just in time for Mother’s Day! Supplies will be provided. All ages. No registration required.

Recurring Programs

PERLER PALOOZA CLUB

Mondays, Mar. 4, Apr. 1, & May 6 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
Let your creativity flow as you create fun and unique designs with Perler Beads! Supplies will be provided. Ages 5–11. No registration required.

DROP-IN LEGO CLUB

Wednesdays, Mar. 6 & 20, Apr. 17, & May 1 | 1–3 PM | Programming Room
For ages 8–12. No registration required.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS CRAFTING CLUB

Tuesdays, Mar. 5 & May 7 & Thursday, Apr. 4 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
Make different types of friendship bracelets and other wearable jewelry. Supplies provided. Ages 8–12. No registration required.

DISCOVER 4H

Wednesday, Mar. 27 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
For ages 5–10. Check back for April and May dates. No registration required.

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Monday – Thursday 10 AM – 8 PM
Friday 10 AM – 5:30 PM
Saturday 10 AM – 4 PM
CREATIVE KIDS COMIC CLUB
Fridays, Mar. 15, Apr. 26, & May 17 | 3:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
Create your own unique characters, share your adventures with the club, and collaborate with friends! For 1st-3rd grades. Supplies will be provided. No registration required.

MESSY MUNCHKINS
Mondays, Mar. 18, Apr. 8, & May 20 | 10–11 AM | Programming Room
Create mini murals with finger paints! Creations will be proudly displayed in the Programming Room for one week. All art can be collected at the Circulation Desk after being displayed. Ages 0–5. No registration required.

Special Events & Programs
STORM CHASERS with the Air Zoo
Tuesday, Apr. 2 | 2 PM | Programming Room
Young meteorologists will make weather observations, use weather mapping skills, operate weather instruments, and learn the science behind our changing atmosphere. Ages 8–12. Registration is required.

INSECTIGATION with Curious Kids Museum
Friday, May 3 | 3:30 PM | Programming Room
Did you know 95% of all living animals are insects? Learn about metamorphosis, common pests found in gardens and homes, compare your eyes to the eyes of a dragonfly, the important role insects play in our ecosystems, and much more! Grades K–5. Registration is required.

Family Programs and Events
READING CAN TAKE YOU TO THE STARS with Dynamic School Assemblies
Monday, Mar. 11 | 3:30 PM | Programming Room
Discover the wonders of planets, comets, galaxies, and more as Dynamic School Assemblies takes you on a journey through the stars and the wonder of stories! All ages are welcome. Registration is required.

ANIMAL MEET & GREET with John Ball Zoo
Monday, Mar. 25 | 3:30 PM | Programming Room
Learn about different types of animals with this interactive presentation. You may even get to pet an ambassador animal! Ages 3 and up. Space is limited. Registration is required.

CUP STACKING with Mr. Jim
Wednesday, Mar. 13 | 3:30 PM | Programming Room
Join Mr. Jim for an interactive team–building program! Kids of all ages will build their own towers, forts, and other creations. There will even be races for speed stacking! All ages. No registration required.

POKÉMON GO DAY
Saturday, May 18 | 10 AM – Noon | Hanson Park
Join us for a guided Pokémon tour as we walk around town catching Pokémon, spinning stops, and battling! Please note: We will cancel the program if there is inclement weather. All ages. No registration required.

BINGO
Mondays, Mar. 25 & Apr. 29 | 6–7 PM | Programming Room
All ages. No registration required.

DIY TIE DYE BOOKMARK CRAFT
Thursday, Apr. 11 | 2:30–4:30 PM | Programming Room
Drop in to celebrate National Library Week by making a unique tie dye inspired bookmark! All ages. No registration required.

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Monday – Thursday 10 AM – 8 PM
Friday 10 AM – 5:30 PM
Saturday 10 AM – 4 PM
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<td>Perler Palooza @ 3:30–4:30 PM</td>
<td>Lapsit Storytime @ 10:30 AM Circle of Friends Intro to Amateur Radio @ 6 PM</td>
<td>Basketball Brackets Classic Movie Mania @ 3 PM Book Club Drop-In Days @ 1–3 PM Pintesting @ 8:30 PM</td>
<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Irish Renaissance Warriors @ 6 PM</td>
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<td>Argh! A History of Piracy on the Great Lakes @ 12 PM Winter Reading Ends</td>
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<td>Basketball Brackets Starts Craft &amp; Snack @ 1–3 PM Reading Can Take You to the Stars @ 6:30 PM</td>
<td>Basketball Brackets Classic Movie Mania @ 3 PM Book Club Drop-In Days @ 1–3 PM Pintesting @ 8:30 PM</td>
<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Cup Stacking @ 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Pictured Life with Anne Crans @ 6 PM</td>
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<td>Messy Munchkins @ 10–11 AM Craftastic @ 6 PM</td>
<td>Basketball Brackets Ends Drop-In Lego Club @ 1–3 PM Pub Quiz @ 8:30 PM</td>
<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Nell Art Club @ 3:30–4:30 PM The Potato Famine @ 6 PM</td>
<td>Creative Kids Comic Club @ 3:30–4:30 PM</td>
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<td>Craft &amp; Snack @ 1–3 PM Animal Meet &amp; Greet @ 6:30 PM Bingo @ 6–7 PM</td>
<td>Lapsit Storytime @ 10:30 AM FOL Meeting @ 1 PM Scrap That @ 3:30–4:30 PM</td>
<td>Play Cafe @ 10 AM–Noon Discover 4H @ 3:30–4:30 PM</td>
<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Foraging for Spring Ephemerals @ 6 PM</td>
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<td>Perler Palooza @ 3:30–4:30 PM</td>
<td>Storm Chasers @ 2 PM</td>
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<td>Teen Tech Night @ 6–8 PM</td>
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<td>Messy Munchkins @ 10–11 AM Craft &amp; Snack @ 1–3 PM Learn to Do Henna @ 6 PM FOL Book Donation Drive</td>
<td>Lapsit Storytime @ 10:30 AM Unicorn Party @ 3 PM Book Club @ 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Recess for Adults @ 2 PM Bunny Craft @ 3:30–4:30 PM</td>
<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Drop-In Tie Dye Bookmark Craft @ 2:30–4:30 PM</td>
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<td>Bingo @ 6–7 PM</td>
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<td>Preschool Storytime @ 10:30 AM Crystal Wrapping @ 6 PM</td>
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April

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May

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10 AM – 4 PM

Friday
Saturday
FEATURED ARTIST: LORI MCELRATH ESLICK

March – May 2024 | Community Art Wall

Lori McElrath Eslick is an artist, illustrator, author, and instructor. She graduated from the Kendall School of Art and Design, worked as a greeting card artist for Hallmark, and has illustrated over 20 picture books. Her work has won numerous awards, including the Best Magazine Illustration National Award from the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators and the Degas Award from the Midwest Pastel Society. She also won 1st prize from the 2022 Michigan Watercolor Society’s 75th Annual Exhibition. Her work is currently displayed in a number of galleries and can be found locally at the DeVos Children’s Hospital in Grand Rapids, at Grand Valley State University, and at the Frankel Heart Center at the University of Michigan.

Eslick enjoys sharing the joys of watercolor with others by teaching multi-generation classes at a number of local schools and libraries. She believes that art should be fun and enjoyed by all. She lives in North Muskegon and currently works as an independent artist. More of her work can be found at EslickART.com.

PLAY CAFE

Wednesdays, Mar. 27, Apr. 24, & May 29 | 10 AM–Noon | Programming Room

Come to the library and enjoy a cup of coffee while your little ones have fun with our Play-Doh play station, coloring station, toy area, and craft zone. Coffee and apple juice will be provided. Ages 0–5 years old. No registration required.

PLANT AND SEED SWAP

Saturday, April 13 | 10 – 11 AM | Programming Room

Plant lovers unite! Join other green thumbs at the library to swap or give away plants, cutting, seeds, and starters. Half of the room will be for things you want to trade, the other half will be for things you’re just looking to get rid of. All ages are invited. No registration required.

FRIENDS’ CORNER

The Friends of the Allegan District Library hold meetings on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. All are invited to join.

SPRING CLEANING DONATION DRIVE

April 8 –13 | Carnegie Corner Bookstore

Get started on your spring cleaning and help your local library at the same time! The Friends of the Library want your gently used books and DVDs for the Carnegie Corner Bookstore. Bag or box up your donations and drop them off at the back of the bookstore any time the library is open. Your donations will be sold to help fund library programs and materials. Please no textbooks, encyclopedias, or VHS or cassette tapes.