MINI-GOLF & Silent Auction

Saturday, February 22 from 10:00am-4:00pm
Sunday, February 23 from 1:00-4:00pm

Don’t miss the 8th annual family event when the library is transformed into a nine-hole indoor miniature golf course! For $5.00 each, golfers can mini-putt through the course. Kids age three and under are free with a paying adult. Reservations for tee times are encouraged, but drop-ins are also welcome.

A HUGE silent auction of amazing gift baskets and items will be ready for your bids throughout the weekend and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Hole sponsors ($100 each) and donors for silent auction items are needed. Please call the library for details. All proceeds will help fund furnishings and equipment for the 2020 Phase II addition.

Building Bonanza

Friday, December 27 from 10:00am - 4:00pm
Saturday, December 28 from 10:00am - 4:00pm

Drop in to the library during winter break for building fun! Visitors can make projects using LEGOS, DUPLOS, and the Big Blue Blocks. This event is a fun opportunity to put engineering skills into action with friends and family.

Let’s see what you can create!

Thank You to everyone who participated in our 7th annual Scarecrows on Parade! Nearly 50 scarecrows were sponsored and adorned E. State St. and Mill Road this fall. The winners are:

BEST USE OF THEME - 
#5 Emmet the LEGO Man from “The LEGO Movie,” sponsored by Karen Lane & family

BEST IN INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY - 
#52 Hiccup and Toothless from “How to Train Your Dragon,” sponsored by Kari Eskew & family

BEST IN BUSINESS CATEGORY - 
#16 Rich Uncle Pennybags from “Monopoly,” sponsored by Generations Credit Union

JUDGES’ PICK - #27 Cruella De Vil from “101 Dalmatians,” sponsored by the Shell Station

LIBRARY STAFF FAVORITE - #50 Rosie the Maid from “The Jetsons,” sponsored by Rep. Joe Sosnowski
**100 Things to Do in Rockford**
*Sunday, January 12 at 2:00pm*
Join Tamara Gaumond, author of the new book *100 Things to Do in Rockford Before You Die* as she highlights exciting places and events that make Rockford unique. Arts, culture, recreation, restaurants, natural resources, and kids' activities are some of the topics that will be covered. Copies of the book will be available for purchase after Tamara's program.

**A Journey through America’s National Parks**
*Sunday, January 19 at 2:00pm*
David Kroese has done something that few others have done - visited all 417 units in America’s National Park System. Besides national parks, these include battlefields, lakeshores, monuments, river ways, trails, and even the White House. David will share his experiences from sea to shining sea and beyond to the US territories. Copies of David's book, *The Centennial: A Journey through America's National Parks System* will be for sale following the program.

**Meet Lewis Hine:**
*America’s Most Important Photographer*
*Sunday, January 26 at 2:00pm*
Lewis Hine, a pioneer in investigative photo journalism in the early 1900s, opened the nation's eyes to the working conditions in places such as factories and coal mines. Craig Pierce portrays Hine in this multi-media program that brings the heroic photographer into sharp focus.

**Arcomusical Concert**
*Sunday, February 2 at 2:00pm*
The beautiful music of the Afro-Brazilian musical bow known as the berimbau will be featured during this live concert. Although the berimbau is a well-known instrument in Brazil, most Americans are not familiar with its elegant beauty and simplicity. Come learn, listen, and enjoy!

**Gorillas**
*Sunday, February 9 at 2:00pm*
Dr. John Ulferts will be here to share his interest in gorillas - the largest of the four species of great apes. These gentle giants are highly intelligent and yet have a precarious hold on survival despite the efforts of Dian Fossey and others.
Adult Craft Nights
Tuesdays at 5:30pm  Ages 18+
January 7: “Watercolor” Quotes
February 4: Mason Jar Lid Sun Catchers
Class is limited to 15 attendees, $3.00 holds your spot. Payment is due three days prior to the class.

Narcan Training
Tuesday, January 21 at 6:00pm
According to the National Safety Council, for the first time in U.S. history, a person is more likely to die from an accidental opioid overdose than from a motor vehicle crash. Fortunately, Narcan is a safe, highly effective antidote to an opioid overdose which can include both legal and illegal drugs such as heroin, Vicodin, oxycodone, and fentanyl. A “Hope Over Addiction” trainer will share information about the epidemic of addiction in our community and teach participants how to administer Narcan. Participants will receive two doses of Narcan to have on hand upon completion of the training.

Diet Trends:
The Good, the Bad, and the Hard to Maintain
Thursday, January 23 at 6:00pm
Did you make a New Year’s resolution to lose weight? Join Diane Reinhold, University of Illinois Extension, Nutrition and Wellness Educator, to hear about current diet trends: how they work, what they promise, the upside, and the downside.

Freezer Meals in a Flash
Thursday, February 6 at 6:00pm
Freezer meals can be a great timesaver for busy families. Join Diane Reinhold, University of Illinois Extension Nutrition and Wellness Educator, to learn tips and tricks for planning, cooking, and freezing healthy, make-ahead meals.

In Between Stitches Group
Thursdays from 1:00-3:00pm  Dec. 5 - Feb. 27
Adults are welcome to work alongside a friendly group, discuss and share techniques, and help each other out. Bring a current needle work, quilting, crochet, knitting, or lace making project to share your progress, tips, ideas and experiences. We are open to all skill levels.
**Curl Up with a Good Book**

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**Story Times at Your Library**

**Book Babies Story Time  Tuesdays at 9:30am**  
January 7, 14, 21, 28  February 4, 11, 18  
Ages 6-24 months. Enjoy 20 minutes of baby bounces, rhymes, short stories, finger plays, and 10 minutes of playtime. Because this is a special time for you and your youngster, please make other arrangements for siblings and other children in your care during story time.

**Wee Read Story Time  Mondays at 9:30am or 10:30am**  
January 6, 13, 20, 27  February 3, 10, 17  
Ages 2-3 years. Enjoy 30 minutes of short stories, finger plays, rhymes, and songs where parents or caregivers interact with their children and discover the joy of reading.

**Preschool Story Time  Wednesdays at 9:30am**  
January 8, 15, 22, 29  February 5, 12, 19  
Ages 3-5 years. Enjoy 45 minutes of reading readiness, finger plays, rhymes, short stories, and songs that prepare children for school. Children are encouraged to attend story time independent of caregivers.

**Music and Movement  Fridays at 9:30am or 10:30am**  
January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  February 7, 14  
Ages 1-5 years. Come spend time with your child in our exciting, musically-rich environment that encourages children to explore the joys of music. Join in the fun of moving, singing, and playing instruments.

**Picture This! Story Time  Wednesdays at 4:00pm**  
January 15 discuss author Jan Brett, February 12 discuss author Donald Crews  
Ages 3-6 years. Enjoy a 45 minute story time with finger plays, stories, and activities that focus on a different picture book author each month.

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**Winter Youth Programs**

**CrafterNights Jr.**  
Wednesdays at 5:30pm  Ages 2-5 years  
December: 4 Snowmen  
January: 8 Winter Animals  
February: 5 Love Bug  
30 minutes of themed crafts. Dress for a mess!

**CrafterNights**  
Wednesdays at 6:30pm  Ages 6-10 years  
December: 4 Snowflakes  
January: 8 Cardboard Castles  
February: 5 Flamingos  
60 minutes of themed crafts. Dress for a mess!

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**Movie Night: The Nightmare Before Christmas**  
Friday, December 13 from 6:00pm  All ages  
*What’s this? What’s this?* It’s Friday the 13th! A Nightmare before Christmas! Jack Skellington, king of Halloween Town, discovers Christmas Town, but his attempts to bring Christmas to his home causes confusion. Bring a blanket to cozy up and watch this Halloween/Christmas classic and enjoy hot cocoa and candy corn popcorn. Movie is rated PG for some scary images.

**Noon Year’s Eve Party**  
Tuesday, December 31 at 11:00am  Ages 2-6 years  
You don’t have to stay up late to celebrate Noon Year’s Eve! We will listen to a New Year’s Eve story, make party hats, have noisemakers, and celebrate the coming of the New Year with a toast!
LEGO Builders Group
Wednesdays at 6:00pm  Ages 6 to 15 years
January 15, February 12
60 minutes of themed building. LEGOs are provided and stay at the library.

Super Shark Story Time
Saturday, January 11 at 10:00am  All ages
Are you a fan of Baby Shark? If so, swim into the library for this story time all about sharks. We'll listen to stories, sing songs, make a shark-tastic craft, and enjoy a special ocean snack.

Spectacular Science with Miss Kari
Monday, January 13 at 6:00pm  Ages 8 and up
Have some frosty fun as we learn about snow and ice. Make snow, learn about dry ice, and conduct a crystalization experiment.

School’s Out: Games Galore
Monday, January 20 from 1:00-3:00pm  Ages 6-18
School’s out! Unplug and come play some classic board games.

Chinese New Year: Year of the Rat
Saturday, January 25 at 10:00am  All ages
Celebrate the Year of the Rat at this program. Learn about Chinese New Year through stories, crafts, and activities.

Narwhal & Jelly Party
Saturday, February 8 at 10:00am  Ages 6-14 years
Do you love the Narwhal and Jelly comics? Are waffles your super weakness? This is the party for you! We are celebrating our favorite undersea duo with games, crafts, and a make-your-own waffle bar.

Cards & Cookies
Monday, February 10 at 6:00pm  All ages
Come to the library and get ready for Valentine’s Day! Create homemade cards using paper, ribbon, glue, sparkles, paint, stampers, and more. Decorate a special heart shaped cookie to enjoy! Bring the whole family for this evening event.

School’s Out: Winter Craft Day
Monday, February 17 from 1:00-3:00pm  Ages 6-18
Get creative as you make a variety of winter themed crafts to take home.

Help ensure the success of every program! Registration is required for all youth events and will close 48 hours prior to the program so please sign up promptly. The library reserves the right to cancel events due to low registration. Call the library at 815-332-5161 or register online at www.cherryvalleylib.org.

Home School Programs

Engineering Extravaganza
Friday, January 17 at 11:30am
Ages 4-18. Put your engineering skills to work as you explore a variety of STEAM kits, including civil engineering, mechanical engineering, architectural engineering, and aerospace engineering. Go at your own pace and complete as many challenges as you can.

Valentine’s Day Party
Friday, February 14 at 11:30am
All ages. Bring valentines to share with your friends, make a valentine holder, decorate cookies, and make crafts.

Warm Up with a Good Book Club
We will be reading titles from the Illinois Book Award Nominees lists. Those who read four titles from the list before March will be eligible to vote for the 2020 Book Award winner. Each book club meets once a month to discuss the book and complete an activity. Books are available for checkout one month prior to meeting date.

Monarch Book Club
Wednesdays at 4:00pm Ages 6-8 years
Meeting Dates: Jan. 15, Feb. 12
First book: Meet Yazmin by Saadia Faruqi

Caudill Book Club
Mondays at 6:00pm Ages 9-12 years
Meeting Dates: Jan. 27, Feb. 24
First book: All’s Faire in Middle School by Victoria Jamieson

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
Pick up a reading log at the library and start reading! Each time you read a book with your child, record it in his/her reading log. Collect a sticker for every 100 books you share. Read 1,000 books before kindergarten and your child will receive a free book of his/her very own.
**Tween Programs**

Registration is required for all programs. Please call the library at 815-332-5161.

**Cake Pops**
**Tuesday, January 28 at 6:00pm  Ages 10-18**
We're going to play with our food! Tweens are invited to come and show off their creativity by making cake pops. We'll have melted chocolates to dip them in and all sorts of things for decorating. Have't tried cake pops yet? They're fun and easy to make, and even more fun and yummy to eat!

**Bad Art Night**
**Thursday, February 13 at 6:00pm  Ages 10-18**
A freestyle craft event for tweens and teens. Everyone has access to a pile of ridiculous craft and art material. Participants can make as many pieces of “Bad Art” (sculptures, paintings, collages, etc.) as they want, and in the final 20 minutes we'll set up a Bad Art Exhibition. Everyone can browse and cast 3 votes for their favorite pieces of Bad Art. The winner gets the Tacky Art Trophy.

**Teen Programs**

Registration is required for all programs. Please call the library at 815-332-5161.

**After Hours Movie**
**Friday, January 17 at 6:00pm  Ages 12-18**
The library is closed, but your journey to Hogwarts is just beginning! We will watch the original “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” in a brand new way. Each attendee will be given a bag of goodies and instructions and we will play along and participate as Harry begins his wizarding adventure. Pizza and snacks will be served.

**Trivia Night**
**Tuesday, February 25 at 6:00pm  Ages 12-18**
Think you know pop culture and trivia? Come test your skills and see which team is the champion!

**Adult Book Groups**

Space is limited; sign up begins one month in advance of each session. Books may be picked up at time of registration.

**New Connections**
**Wednesday and Friday morning at 10:30am or Thursday evening at 6:30pm**

**December 4th, 5th, 6th**
*Once Upon a Town* by Bob Greene

**January 8th, 9th, 10th**
*Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate

**February 5th, 6th, 7th**
*The Recipe Box* by Viola Shipman

**Grounds for Murder**
**Thursday, January 16 at 6:00pm**
*City of Lies* by Victoria Thompson

**Morning Mysteries**
**Thursday, December 12 at 10:00am**
*In a House of Lies* by Ian Rankin

**Thursday, February 13 at 10:00am**
*Deja Dead* by Kathy Reichs

**Young @ Heart**
**Thursday, December 19 at 6:00pm**
*Pride & Prejudice and Mistletoe* by Melissa de la Cruz

**Thursday, January 23 at 6:00pm**
*The Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee

**Thursday, February 20 at 6:00pm**
*Boy in the Black Suit* by Jason Reynolds
Have questions about Technology? Help is here!

Android Basics for New Users
- Tues., Dec. 3 at 2:00pm
- Wed., Dec. 4 at 6:00pm
- Tues., Jan. 7 at 2:00pm
- Wed., Jan. 8 at 6:00pm
- Tues., Feb. 4 at 2:00pm
- Wed., Feb. 5 at 6:00pm

Are you trying to figure out the basics of your new Android phone or tablet? This is intended as a one-time class. Please bring your device(s).

Android Follow-up
- Tues., Jan. 21 at 2:00pm or Wed., Jan. 22 at 6:00pm

Do you already know the basics of your Android device but have some specific questions? Join us to ask or listen to other users to learn new tips and tricks. Please bring your device(s).

iPad/iPhone Basics for New Users
- Thursday, Jan. 9 at 6:00pm
- Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 1:00pm
- Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 10:00am

Learn the basic features of your phone or tablet. Please bring your device(s).

Beyond Basics for iPad/iPhone
- Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 1:00pm
- Thursday, Feb. 13 at 6:00pm
- Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 10:00am

We’ll take you further than the basics by showing you the latest iOS tips and tricks. Please bring your device(s).

Microsoft Word 2019 Basics
- Tuesday, February 11 at 2:00pm
- For those with little or no experience with Microsoft’s word processing software. Basic computer skills are required.

Microsoft Excel 2019 Basics
- Tuesday, February 18 at 2:00pm
- For those with little or no experience with Microsoft’s spreadsheet software. Basic computer skills are required.

Medicare: Big Changes in 2020
- Thursday, January 16 at 6:00pm
- Thursday, February 20 at 6:00pm

Come learn about the changes and be up to date on Medicare. Find out what is happening with the Plan F, how the Part D drug plan works, and how to save money on your Health and Drug plan. Presented by Kris Wilcoxen from American Republic Insurance Services.

AARP Tax-Aide
Trained and certified tax preparation volunteers are available at the library to assist low income individuals and seniors in filing their tax returns twice a week between February and April. Appointments are required. Call 815-332-5161 after January 2 to set up an appointment.

Friends of the Library Meeting
- Tuesday, February 11 at 6:45pm

In the last year, the Friends of the Library raised almost $50,000 to further the Library’s mission! Attend this meeting and find out how you can be a part of this important group.

Things are happening behind the scenes to get ready for the upcoming building expansion. Watch for more details on the library’s website and Facebook page, and in the spring newsletter!

Space is limited and registration is required for all technology classes. Call the library at 815-332-5161 or register online at www.cherryvalleylib.org

“Transform Rockford” Book Drive
Now through December 1
The library is a donation site for Transform Rockford’s community-wide holiday book drive. Donate a new or mint-condition picture book at the library. Books will be wrapped (see below) and distributed to children enrolled in early childhood education programs throughout the region. Help bridge the winter break reading gap and give the gift of literacy!

Wrapping Party
- Tuesday, December 10 at 4:00pm

Adults and teens - come help wrap the donated books and get them ready to be handed out to kids! Please bring a roll of wrapping paper if you can and your own scissors.
Library Fundraiser
@ Five Below - December 1-12

Everything at 6403 E. State St. in Rockford (Forest Plaza) costs $5 or less! Whether you need stocking stuffers, teacher/neighbor/friend gifts, or even a present to yourself, Five Below has a great selection. Present the voucher at checkout and 10% of all purchases will be donated back to the library.

Cook’s Night Off Fundraiser
@ Texas Roadhouse
Thurs., January 30 from 4:00-10:00pm

Bring the voucher along when you dine in at 7240 Walton St. in Rockford and 10% of the total food purchases will be donated back to the library.

Bus Trip to Fireside Theatre, Fort Atkinson, WI
“What Happens in Vegas”
Saturday, June 6, 2020
9:00am departure, back around 4:15pm

Just about every great entertainer has appeared in Las Vegas over the last 70 years. The Fireside will pay tribute to many of those legendary performers in an all-new live band show led by Steve Watts. What happens in Vegas won’t stay in Vegas…it will be at the Fireside!

The $99 fee includes stress-free motor coach transportation, a delicious lunch, band show, all gratuities, and bus snack. Participants must be 21 years or older. Payment (cash, check, credit, or debit card) and a signed bus trip waiver will reserve your seat. Registration for bus trips must be done in person only. Seating is limited, so sign up early!