



WINTER | 2025

Connections

books • movies • media • audio • internet • community

ALBERT WISNER
**PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

LIBRARY HOURS:

MONDAY to THURSDAY:
9am to 8pm

FRIDAY:
9am to 5pm

SATURDAY:
10am to 5pm

SUNDAY:
Noon to 4pm

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Dec. 24:
Christmas Eve

Dec. 25:
Christmas

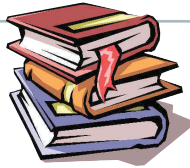
December 31:
New Year's Eve
Close at 3:00pm

January 1:
New Year's Day

January 20:
MLK, Jr. Day

February 17:
President's Day

March 7:
Open at noon



Monthly Book Groups

Discover a world of literary exploration with our diverse array of book clubs! Books are available at the Circulation Desk.

- Sustainable World** - 2nd Tuesday via zoom
- Tuesday Evening Book Group** – 1st Tuesday
- Thursday Morning Books** – last Thursday
- Millennial Book Group** – 4th Tuesday

Please Note:

The Library's website is moving to a new platform!

As part of this transition, ALL program registrations - Adult, Children, Teens - will begin on **Saturday, December 14, at 8:00am.**

Thank you for your patience and support as we make this website update.



Music on McFarland Concert Series

Funded by a generous gift to the AWPL Foundation by Glenn P. and Susan D. Dickes



Finnish Folk with Vellamo

Sun., Jan. 5 at 2:00pm

Experience a captivating musical performance by Vellamo, the Finnish duo of **Pia Leinonen** and **Joni Tiala** whose music is reminiscent of 1960s folk revival groups but with a Scandinavian twist.

Based in Kokkola, on the western coast of Finland, Vellamo combines the rich tradition of Finnish folksong with an appealing "retro" sensibility, creating a modern folk music experience.



Hudson Valley Ebony Strings in Concert

Sun., Feb. 16 at 2:00pm

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

Join us for an afternoon of beautiful music performed by a chamber orchestra comprised of young, talented African American string musicians under the tutelage of **E'lissa Jones**.



STRINGS OF ÉIRE: A Celtic Harp Celebration

Sun., Mar. 9 at 2:00pm

Join harpist **Erika Lieberman** for an enchanting journey through Ireland's timeless melodies!

With the soft, ethereal sounds of the Celtic harp, Erika brings to life ancient ballads, lively jigs, and mystical airs that echo the spirit of the Emerald Isle. Perfect for all ages, this program blends musical storytelling with the soul-stirring traditions of Ireland – an unforgettable celebration of Irish heritage and culture!



Adult Programs

Medicare 101

Wed., Jan. 15 at 1:00pm

Whether you are currently enrolled in Medicare or will be in the future, this presentation will give you a better understanding of how the program works and what your options are. This informational talk will cover original Medicare, supplemental plans, Medicare Advantage and the various drug plans available.

Jigsaw Puzzle Competition

Thurs., Jan. 16 at 6:00pm

Get ready for an exhilarating challenge at our puzzle competition! Teams of up to four people will do their best to complete a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle within a set time period. For adults and teens 16+.

A Celebration of American Music with Ed Alstrom

Wed., Feb. 5 at 6:30pm

Imagine never having Gospel, Blues, Jazz, R&B, Soul, Funk, Hip-Hop, Reggae... what would American music possibly be? All these genres were invented by African-American artists, and the influence of all of them on our culture over the past 150 years is incalculable. In this presentation, we will dive into the overall impact of this influence, see who the major players were, and listen to a lot of intriguing and amazing music that you might be unfamiliar with.

The Secret of Language of Flowers

Thurs., Feb. 13 at 6:00pm

Floriography was a way of expressing feelings and sending secret messages using the meanings of flowers in tussie-mussies. Explore the history of this art from medieval times through the Victorian era into the modern day. Participants will make a fresh floral tussie-mussie to take home. This program is for adults; space is limited.

Circle of Voices Poetry Group Beware the Ides of March: "The Tragedy of Julius Caesar" by William Shakespeare

Wed., Feb. 19 at 6:30pm

Get ready to dive into one of Shakespeare's most gripping plays, *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*! Join the Circle for an exploration of the drama, betrayal, and timeless theme of power and ambition that mark this unforgettable tale.

Photographing Birds

Thurs., Feb. 20 at 6:30pm

Join us for a welcoming program designed especially for new nature photographers eager to enhance their skills! Together, we'll explore a stunning collection of photographs and dive into key topics like composition, lighting, backgrounds, and preparation. If you have a love of nature and a passion for photography, this program led by Diane Tuttle of OCAS is the perfect fit for you.

Gardening for Birds

Thurs., Mar. 6 at 6:30pm

Discover the vital role native plants play in supporting the survival of birds and pollinators! This engaging multimedia program, complete with images and sounds of local backyard bird species, will inspire you to incorporate more native plants into your landscaping. Learn how to create beautiful, bird-friendly gardens that benefit both people and wildlife! Presented by Pam Golben of OCAS.

Native Plant Fair

Sat., Mar. 15 – 12:30 to 3:30pm

Warwick Valley Plant Native Alliance will host a Plant Natives Fair in the Community Room. The fair is free and open to native plant enthusiasts of all skill levels. There will be presentations, other volunteer organizations, and more.



Demystifying Dahlias

Thurs., Mar. 27 at 6:30pm

Calling all beginner dahlia growers! Learn how to start seeds and tubers, and learn proper fertilizing, best practices for growing in pots, and how to avoid common problems. Hands-on demonstrations of how to make cuttings and divide tubers are included! We'll look at the history of dahlias to better understand their growth habits and discuss saving seeds as well as digging and storage of tubers. All participants will receive seeds and a dahlia tuber to take home. Space is limited.



History of Witchcraft in Ireland & Scotland

Thurs., Mar. 13 at 6:30pm

Uncover the dark legacy and mysticism woven into the beliefs, practices, and cultural forces that shaped these ancient traditions. Presented by Shannon Fisher.



Creative Aging with Dan Mack

Wed., Mar. 5, 12, 19 and 26 – 1:00 to 2:30pm

Artist and teacher Dan Mack will lead a series of one-hour workshops designed for those interested in exploring creative approaches to the challenges of aging. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with various stations offering tools and materials. For Dan, creativity isn't just about making art – it's about discovering ways to bring deeper meaning to our lives. Come and be part of the experience! Attendance at all sessions is strongly encouraged.

Chair Yoga with Judy Zangara

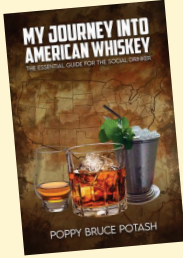
Thurs., Mar. 20, 27 and Apr. 3, 10, 17 – 12:30 to 1:30pm

Judy Zangara returns for five weeks of gentle chair yoga suitable for all levels and ages.

Please register for individual classes.



Authors on McFarland



A Talk with Poppy Bruce Potash,
author of *My Journey into American Whiskey*

Sun., Jan. 12 at 2:00pm

Join us for a fun and informative book that takes readers through the history and culture of American whiskey.



A Talk with Bill Kenney,
author of *Resurrections*

Sun., Mar. 23 at 2:00pm

Author Bill Kenney will discuss his new book, *Resurrections*, a gripping thriller centered around a retired CIA agent's last stand against a deadly conspiracy.

Library Writer's Group – Wednesdays, 2:00 - 4:00pm

Have your work critiqued by fellow writers in a friendly, constructive manner. This is a non-instructional program for adults; new members always welcome!



Authors Online:

Join us online for live author talks featuring New York Times bestselling authors and thought leaders. Register online by clicking the "author talk" button on the Library's homepage at albertwisnerlibrary.org. We hope you will take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!

GAME SPHERE

Every Monday, 6:00 to 7:45pm
Ages 18+

Welcome to GAME SPHERE,
where video and board game hobbyists meet!

We celebrate all things gaming, from the latest video game releases to classic board games. Whether you're a hardcore gamer, a casual player, or a board game enthusiast, this club is for all (ages 18+) to join! Our goal is to create a fun, inclusive environment where all gamers can connect and enjoy their favorite pastimes together!

No registration needed.
First meeting Monday,
December 2.

Art on McFarland The Creative PALETTE



Creative Quarters:

**A Crafting Escape for Every Season!
Stained Glass Miniatures**

Mar. 20 at 6:30pm

Recreate the beauty of stained-glass windows! Experience what it's like to be a window artist for the day and watch light, color, and creativity meld into a masterpiece! This program is for adults; space is limited.

LOCAL HISTORY

LOYALTY AND ZEAL: Algonkians of the Revolution 1774-1783

Sun., Jan. 19 - 2:00 to 3:30pm

Join Drew Shuptar-Rayvis, a citizen and cultural ambassador of the Pocomoke Indian Nation, for a talk about the contributions, struggles and sacrifices made by Algonkian peoples during the War of American Independence.

This program will focus on Algonkian people and some Iroquoian of the period.

Learn about material culture of Algonkian people during the revolution, as well as trade.

Sit and learn about the complex political paths of patriotism, toryism and neutrality that shaped the history of many Algonkian and Iroquoian people in order to preserve their ways of life.

Experience the realities of the devastation of Sullivan Campaign as well as the contributions made by numerous Algonkian people both patriotic and loyal.

ANCESTRAL TALES: A Gathering and Celebration of Local Black Family Stories

Sat., Feb. 22 - 2:00 to 3:30pm

Local historian Sue Gardner coordinates an informal sharing of some historic local Black family heritage and lore. Attendees are encouraged to share their own family's history and treasured stories of ancestors; "show and tell" family photos and heirloom items are also welcome.



OUTREACH:

Mark Your Calendar!

HOMESCHOOL EXPO

Tues., Mar 4, 11am - 1pm

Join us at the Homeschool Expo, a dynamic event uniting the homeschool community and local businesses and organizations. Discover innovative educational resources and connect with fellow homeschoolers. Local vendors will showcase products and programs that meet your student's educational needs. Whether you're a homeschooling veteran or just starting out, the expo offers inspiration and support for your educational journey. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, network and find support!



CARING CRAFTERS

Thursdays, 1:00 to 3:00pm

Join fellow knitters, sewers, and crafters for an informal gathering to share tips and tricks.



STITCHES Wednesdays at 5:00pm

Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, needlepoint, cross stitch, and sewing projects and join us for a non-instructional night of stitching.



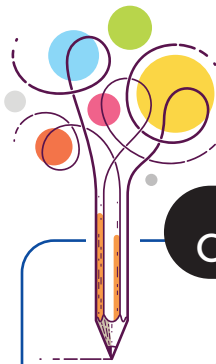
Did you know that the Library has membership passes for FREE admission to more than 20 museums, art institutions, and outdoor parks?

The Albert Wisner Public Library Museum Pass Collection provides access to a variety of incredible destinations at no cost to our cardholders.

Here's just a sampling: Museum of Modern Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New-York Historical Society and Museum, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Dia: Beacon, Grey Towers National Historic Site and the 9/11 Memorial Museum.

For details, click on the "BORROW" tab on the Library's homepage.

The Library's Museum Pass Program is funded by a generous contribution to the AWPL Foundation by Glenn P. and Susan D. Dickes.



Creativity Lab

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AGES 9 - 12

Register for each event separately beginning Sat, Dec. 14, 8:00 AM online.

Block Printing

Design and cut a printing block; roll on some paint and print it.

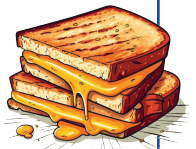
Tues. Jan. 7, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Dorm Food!

Learn to make a grilled cheese sandwich and we'll serve tomato soup for dunking.

Tues. Jan. 14, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Famous Buildings in NYC

Construct a notable building to display in front of our large NYC photo backdrop that will be installed in the Library's Gallery area.

Tues. Jan. 21, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Mystery of the Spheres

Use balloons and paint to make incredible and unusual spheres on paper.

Tues. Jan. 28, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Gelli Printing

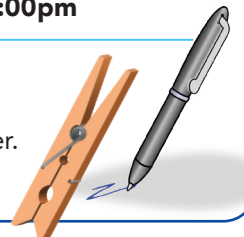
Pick an image from our collection and print it using an amazing technique.

Tues. Feb. 4, 5:30 - 7:00pm

Clothespins + Pens =

...Cool double line art with unexpected shapes on large paper.

Tues. Feb. 11, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Board Games & Bridge

Thursdays, 1:00 to 2:30pm

Bring a game and join others to have some old-fashioned fun.



MAHJONG

Tuesdays, 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Teen Programs

To sign up for our Teen-specific e-newsletter, visit the teen page on our website.

Teen Winter Reading Challenge

Why wait until summer to read some good books and win an awesome prize?

Stop by the Library's Help Desk between **January 3rd** and **January 31st** to pick up a Teen Winter Reading Challenge.

There are 5 different challenges that you can complete, including: **Art, Poetry, Food, Graphic Novels, and Writing.** Unlimited entries per person!

After completing a challenge, return it to the Help Desk by **February 28th** to be entered to win a reading prize! A winner will be announced on **March 1st.**



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

(Grades 8-12)

Wednesdays, Jan. 22-Mar. 19 (excluding 2/5 & 2/19)
5:30 - 7:30pm

Cozy Reading Party

Put on your comfiest clothes and hang out in the Library to relax and read! Bring your current favorite book or listen to an audiobook. Hot chocolate and marshmallows will be provided.

Thurs., Jan. 23, 6:00 - 7:30pm



Makers' Meetup

Have a project that you're working on? Feeling creative but you don't know what to make? Come hang out and work on whatever project you want! You can bring something from home, or use our craft supplies.

Thurs., Feb. 6, 6:30 - 7:30pm



Preparing for College



Navigating College Admissions with College Mode Consulting

Get an overview of the college admissions process, including information about applications, financial aid, and more, with Sharon Davis and Lynn Lillian from College Mode Consulting. High school sophomores, juniors and parents are welcome!

Thurs., Jan 30, 6:30 - 7:30pm



2025 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION

The Albert Wisner Public Library Foundation's yearly scholarship competition will open on Friday, January 17th. Any high school senior who resides in the Warwick Valley Central School District and expects to graduate in 2025 is eligible to submit an essay of not more than 2000 words.

Three \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded, sponsored by Library benefactors Glenn P. and Susan D. Dickes and one anonymous donor.

This year's topic:

Choose a brief passage from a book that is meaningful to you and which has influenced your perspective on life, and describe that influence.

Essays due: April 11th by 5:00pm

Full scholarship guidelines will be posted on the Library's website on 1/17/25.



AWPL's Library of Things

Discover a world beyond books at our Library of Things!

More than just a collection of stories, the Library offers a diverse array of items for borrowing, from tools and tech gadgets to outdoor equipment and kitchen appliances. Unleash your creativity, learn new skills, and explore a sustainable lifestyle by borrowing the things you need, but might not want to buy.

All items check out for one week, and are renewable if there are no holds.

Visit the Library's website and click on the "BORROW" tab to find a complete listing. New items added often.

The Library of Things is funded by a generous contribution to the Albert Wisner Public Library Foundation by Glenn P. and Susan D. Dickes.

Children's Programs

Registration begins December 14, 8AM, online for most programs.

Programs are open to children in the WVCSD with a valid AWPL card.

Child must be specified age by beginning of program.

For multi-week programs, register for the first date of the session only unless otherwise noted.



EVENTS FOR Babies, Toddlers & Preschoolers

Preschool StoryTime

(3 - 5 years, on their own)

Stories, songs & a craft.

Mon., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10,

11:00 – 11:45am, no class 1/20

Toddler Time

(18 - 35 months w/caregiver)

Stories, songs & a craft. 2 sessions; sign up for one only, please.

• **Tues., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11,**
10:00 – 10:30am
– or –

• **Fri., Jan. 10 – Feb. 14,**
10:00 – 10:30am

Sensory Playtime

(2 – 5 years w/caregiver)

Improve problem solving, language development and motor skills while digging into tubs of different materials. 2 sessions; sign up for one only, please.

• **Tues., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11,**
11:00 – 11:30am
– or –

• **Tues., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11,**
11:45am – 12:15pm

Preschool "Play"

(3-5 years w/caregiver)

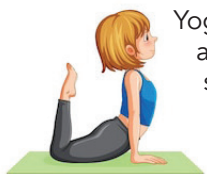
Hear a story then "play" it out!

Tues., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11,
1:30 – 2:00pm

Preschool Yoga (3-5 years, on their own)

Yoga helps balance and concentration, and it's fun! Learn and practice some beginner poses.

Wed., Jan. 8 – Feb. 12,
1:30pm – 2:00pm



Mother Goose

(Birth -12 months w/caregiver)

Baby's first library class.

We will share board books, songs, and enjoy some sensory play together.

(Please make arrangements for siblings so this can be a special time for you and your baby.)

Thurs., Jan. 9 – Feb. 13,
10:00 – 10:30am



Toddler Music With Mr. Jeff

(10 - 35 months w/caregiver)

Come sing and play instruments with Mr. Jeff.

2 sessions; sign up for one only, please.

• **Thurs., Jan. 9 – Feb. 13,**
10:30 – 11:00am
– or –

• **Fri., Jan. 10 – Feb. 14,**
10:30 – 11:00 am



Playing Together, Being Together

(6 - 23 months, with/caregiver)

Stimulate social-emotional growth through play, exploration and reading.

Thurs., Jan. 9 – Feb. 13,
11:30am – 12:00pm

Leprechaun Laces

(3 - 5 years, on their own)

Have fun learning some basic Irish step dance moves.

Fri. Jan. 10 – Feb. 14,
11:30am – 12:00pm



Preschool Music With Mr. Tepper

(3 - 5 years w/caregiver)

Music, medi"play"tion + bubbles = fun!

Mondays, Feb. 3 - Mar. 10
(No class on Feb. 17)
10:00 – 10:45am



P.A.R.C.

(For families with children 0 – 5 years)

Come visit our P.A.R.C. – Play and Reading Community. Join us for an informal playdate with **Playing Together, Being Together** and **Screen Strong** teachers, Melissa Reali and Heather Franklin. They will be available to guide children, read to children, and support parents in this screen-free space.

Thurs., Mar. 6 and 20,
11:00am – 12:00pm

Register for each session separately starting Feb 20.

WINTER READING

Snowflake Stamp Reading Rally

(Ages 2 – 9)

Pick up a snowflake stamp rally card at the Children's Room desk.

Read books to collect stamps.

Get a prize every time you complete a card!

Start picking up your rally cards – Fri., Jan. 3.

Last day to collect prizes – Fri., Feb. 28.

EVENTS FOR School Age Children

Winter Scene Paint & Sip (Ages 5-11)

Paint a winter scene while enjoying hot cocoa and a treat.

Sat. Jan. 4, 1:00 -1:45pm



Drop-In Family Chess

(For children and their caregivers)

We'll provide the chess sets, you drop-in to play with your family.

Mondays, Jan. 6 – Feb. 10, 5:00 – 7:00pm

Full S.T.E.A.M Ahead (Ages 5 – 12)

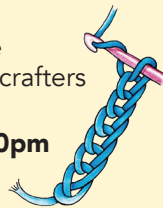
Combining great books and fun projects produces this series of powerful programs using science, technology, engineering, art and/or math concepts.

Wednesdays, Jan. 8 – Feb.12, 1:30 – 2:15pm

Beginner Crocheting (Ages 7-12)

Come learn how to crochet. We will provide all the supplies to get you started. Younger crafters might need a caregivers assistance.

Wednesdays, Jan. 8 – Feb. 12, 6:00 – 6:30pm



Hello Moon! Storytime (Ages 5 – 7 w/caregiver)

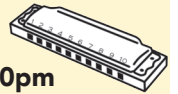
Listen to a story about our moon. Create (and eat) the phases of the moon using Oreo cookies!

Saturday, Jan. 11, 1:30 – 2:00pm

Happy Harmony Harmonicas (Ages 8-12)

Make happy harmony learning to play the harmonica. Harmonicas are provided.

Thursdays, Jan. 16, 23 and 30; 4:30 - 5:00pm



DOG MAN DAY!

(Ages 6-12)

Just in time for the release of the first Dog Man movie - Come to this epic party featuring all things Dog Man. Games, crafts, trivia and more!

Saturday, Jan. 25, 1:30 – 2:30pm

Register beginning Sat., Jan. 11.

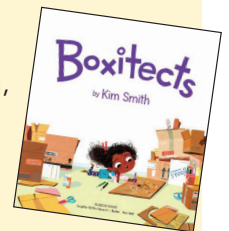
Boxitects Extraordinary Storytime

(Ages 5 – 7 w/caregiver)

We'll read *Boxitects* by Kim Smith. Then, from ordinary cardboard we will create something fun! Bring your imagination!

Saturday, Feb. 8, 1:30 – 2:30pm

Register beginning Sat., Jan. 25.



Nonfiction Picture Book Club (Ages 8 – 10)

Do you love learning about historical events and fascinating people? Then join our new Book Club!

Each week we will read a nonfiction picture book together and then talk about what we have discovered.

Tuesdays, Feb. 25 – Mar. 25, 4:30 – 5:15pm

Register beginning Tues., Feb. 11.

EVENTS FOR Families

LEGO Sundays (For children)

We provide the LEGOS; you provide the imagination! Your creations will be displayed in the Children's Room.

Sundays, Jan. 5 - Feb. 9, 1:00 - 2:00pm.

No Registration Needed.



Read To The Dogs (Ages 2 - 12)

Our favorite therapy dogs will back this winter to hear you read a book. If you can't yet read, a caregiver can read to you and the dog!

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, Jan. 7 – Feb. 13, 4:30 - 5:30pm

Register for a 15-minute reading slot, 1 week prior, at the Children's Room desk.



Family Drop-in Craft Nights

(Ages 5 - 11, with a caregiver)

We are changing things a little.

Come enjoy making a craft together - No Registration Needed.

Each week's craft will be announced in our newsletter, on our website and on our Instagram and Facebook pages.

Thursdays, 4:30 – 6:00pm, all year long, starting January 9!



FAMILY BINGO

(Ages 3 – 12 with a caregiver) Play BINGO and win prizes!

Thursday, Feb. 20, 11:00am – 12:00pm

Register beginning Thurs., Feb. 6.



ALBERT WISNER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Public Library Patron or Current Resident

Library Board

The Library Board of Trustees meets at the Library on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 7pm; the public is welcome to attend.

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ALBERT WISNER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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www.albertwisnerlibrary.org



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Did you know ???

One-on-one tech help with your phone, tablet, Kindle, iPad or laptop is available. Call the Help Desk at **986-1047, ext. 4** in advance to arrange an appointment.



Curbside pickup is still available whenever the Library is open.

Home delivery and pickup is available for patrons who are homebound.

Call the Circulation Desk at **986-1047, ext. 3** to make arrangements.



Join us every
Monday afternoon - 1:00pm
for a screening of new releases and
some golden oldies!
No registration necessary.