



WINTER | 2026

ALBERT WISNER
**PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Connections

books • movies • media • audio • internet • community

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 19:
MLK, Jr. Day

February 16:
President's Day

March 6:
Open at noon



Music on McFarland Concert Series

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



From Europe to America: *A Journey in Sound with the Hudson Valley Chamber Musicians*

Sun., Feb. 1 at 2:00pm

Join the Hudson Valley Chamber Musicians for a captivating musical journey across continents and centuries. This talented woodwind quintet – featuring flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, and bassoon – will perform a rich selection of European and American works from the 18th century to today. Experience the beauty, warmth, and charm of chamber music at its finest.

Echoes of Harlem

Sun. Feb. 22 at 2:00pm



Join us for a captivating tribute to prolific poet Langston Hughes. Experience Hughes's words brought to life by local poet G. Oliver King, with live jazz by the Blue Hearts Quartet and striking visuals of the Harlem Renaissance.

A powerful celebration of culture, history, and art.



Wallace Avenue:

An Afternoon of Irish Music with Brian Conway

Sun., Mar. 22 at 2:00pm

All-Ireland fiddle champion Brian Conway celebrates the release of his new solo album, *Wallace Avenue*. Known for his skill, grace, and power – deeply rooted in tradition yet distinctly his own – Brian is hailed as one of the finest Irish fiddlers of his generation.



Blood Drive @ the Library **Tues., Feb. 17 – 12:00 to 6:00pm**

Give the gift of life! The entire donation process takes less than one hour and a single donation can be used to save multiple lives. If you can help, please stop by the Library and donate. No appointment necessary.

One McFarland Drive, Warwick, NY 10990 • 845-986-1047 • www.albertwisnerlibrary.org

Adult Programs

Registration for adults programs opens Sat., Dec. 13 at 10am (in-person and online.)

Conversations that Connect: Intro Session to We the People Warwick's Dialogue Series

Sat., Jan. 10 at 11:00am

We the People Warwick invites you to explore what true dialogue means – slowing down, listening deeply, and creating space for understanding and respect. This introductory session introduces the core tools and strategies of WTPW's four-session dialogue program, using structured prompts, active listening, and small-group discussion to foster trust, deepen self-awareness, and build meaningful connections across differences. All are welcome – teens through adults.

Our Universe: A Complex Story Simplified

Sun., Jan. 11 at 2:00pm

Back by popular demand! Where did the universe come from? Where is it going? How will it all end – and why does it exist in the first place? Join presenter John Johansen who returns for a fun and fascinating journey through the biggest mysteries of existence, explained in clear, engaging, and non-technical terms. No science degree required – just curiosity!

Stepping Into the Spotlight: Acting for Non-Actors

Jan. 14 through Feb. 18

Wednesdays, 1:00 to 3:00pm

Ever wonder what it's like to step into the spotlight? This beginner-friendly acting workshop builds confidence, creativity, and communication skills through fun exercises in character development, emotional expression, scene and monologue work, and improvisation. No experience needed – just enthusiasm! Over six weekly two-hour classes, students will work in pairs on scenes from plays or films, with a final class performance open to guests.

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted.
Please visit our website www.albertwisnerlibrary.org for more detailed information and a complete list of upcoming programs.

Cinema Studies: Hitchcock 101

Thur., Jan. 15 at 6:00pm

In 1925, Alfred Hitchcock directed his first film, *The Pleasure Garden*. 101 years later, we'll revisit the master's career, focusing on his technical prowess and political conscience. The conversation



on January 15th will focus on the Hitch classic *Rear Window* (1954). We encourage you to view the film before the lecture; copies of the film be available for check-out.

History and Geology of Gibraltar Rock with Ken Daubert

Wed., Jan. 21 at 6:00pm

Join geologist Ken Daubert for a fascinating journey through time as he unravels the story of Gibraltar Rock – its formation 1.3 million years ago, its movement to the present site through plate tectonics, its role as a lookout for Indigenous hunters tracking mastodons at the end of the last Ice Age, and its significance to local community groups over the past 200 years. A Q&A will follow with Ken and Kyle Sanduski of Orange County Land Trust.



Piece by Piece: Puzzle Competition @ the Library

Thur., Jan. 29 at 6:00pm

Get ready for an exhilarating challenge at our quarterly puzzle competition! Gather your team of up to four and prepare to race against the clock. Be the first group to complete identical puzzles, showcasing your teamwork, strategy, and puzzle-solving prowess.



A Touch of Charm Jewelry Workshop

Sat., Feb. 7 – 11:00am to 12:30pm

Join jewelry artist Janet Baskerville for a hands-on class in creating your own charm bracelet. All materials and supplies are provided – just bring your creativity! Space is limited.



C.J. Walker: The First Black Female Millionaire

**Tues., Feb. 3
at 6:00pm**

Join educator Rick Feingold for an engaging look into the remarkable life of Madam C.J. Walker. Born Sarah Breedlove in 19th-century rural Louisiana to formerly enslaved parents, Walker rose to become the first female African American self-made millionaire in the United States. She created a successful line of beauty care products for Black women and went on to build a thriving enterprise that included a factory, hair salon, mail-order business, and beauty school training over 20,000 sales agents. Later in life, Walker became a philanthropist and activist, helping to organize the NAACP's Silent Protest Parade in New York City in 1917.

Wild Bird Wreath with Jessica Williams

Sat., Feb. 28 at 11:00am

Create a delightful winter treat for your feathered friends! Using a handmade wild vine base, you'll decorate with dried sunflowers, apples, seeded pine cones, and evergreens – beautiful, natural elements that birds will love. It's easy, fun, and no experience is needed. All supplies are provided, but space is limited.



Trivia Night @ the Library

Thur., Mar. 26 at 6:00pm

Calling all trivia buffs, bookworms, and know-it-alls! Join us for a night of brain-teasing fun with questions from all corners of knowledge – plus one literary twist, because, after all, this is a library!

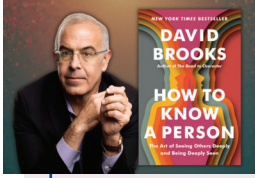
CONNECT • MEET
DISCOVER • LEARN

Sign up for our weekly eNewsletter
by contacting **Siobhan** at soriordan@rcls.org.

Authors Online

We have an exciting line-up of online author talks this winter.

Just head over to albertwisnerlibrary.org, click on the "Programs" tab, and select "Online Author Talks" from the drop-down menu. Here are just a few best-selling authors scheduled for this winter:



The Creative and Compassionate Art of Seeing Others Deeply

with **David Brooks**

Leading cultural and political commentator and bestselling author of *The Road to Character*

Tues., Jan. 13 at 2:00pm



Nature, Art, and Service as Medicine

with **Journalist Julia Hotz**
Journalist and award-winning author of *The Connection Cure*

Tues., Jan. 20 at 2:00pm



Secrets and Second Chances

with **Liz Moore**

NYT bestselling and award-winning author of *The God of the Woods* and *Long Bright River*

Wed., Jan. 28 at 7:00pm



Celebrate Women's History Month

Someone Must Wash the Dishes!

Sun., Mar. 8 at 2:00pm

American women won the right to vote in 1920, after a 72-year struggle against determined opposition – not only from men, but from women who fought just as fiercely against suffrage. Today, as we continue to reflect on and expand the legacy of the 19th Amendment, it's both astonishing and hilarious to revisit the arguments women once made to keep themselves out of the voting booth.

Actress Michèle LaRue brings those arguments to life with sharp wit and laughter in this one-woman play. "Women's suffrage is the reform against nature," proclaims its unlikely but irresistibly charming heroine. "Ladies, get what you want – pound pillows, make a scene, make home a hell on earth – but do it in a womanly way! That is so much more dignified and refined than walking up to a ballot box and dropping in a piece of paper!"

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



Celebrate 250 years of the United States at the Library. Enjoy a year-long series of programs highlighting the history, creativity, and communities that defined the American experience.

The American Revolution, an Environmental Perspective: Five Landscapes that Shaped the War for Independence

Sun., Jan. 18 at 2:00pm

Scholar Blake McGready will present his research on how the American Revolution transformed the natural world – and how the natural world affected the course of the Revolution. By examining five distinctive landscapes that became central to the struggle for independence, this lecture explores how military forces in the State of New York made war on the land. By focusing on these places, we see the Revolution in a new light: as a political, military, and environmental struggle.

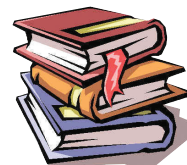
The American Revolution

Thursdays 5:30 to 7:30pm

Feb. 5 to Mar. 12

Experience Ken Burns's *The American Revolution* on the big screen at the Library! This powerful new documentary will be shown in two-hour installments across several weeks – an engaging journey through the stories that shaped our nation.

Monthly Book Groups



- **Sustainable World**
2nd Tuesday via Zoom
- **Tuesday Evening Book Group**
1st Tuesday @ AWPL
- **Thursday Morning Books**
last Thursday (Hybrid)
- **Millennial Book Group**
4th Tuesday @ AWPL



The Watch Continues:

A Gathering for Veterans and First Responders

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month
10:00am to 11:00am

Come together with others who've served – on the frontlines or in the field – for an hour of conversation, camaraderie, and mutual support. Whether you want to talk, listen, or simply connect, all are welcome.

Facilitated by Guardian Revival, a not-for-profit organization that improves the mental health & well-being of military, veterans, and first responders – our guardians – and their families.

Enrolling in HOMEBOUND DELIVERY SERVICES




Imagine having library materials delivered right to your doorstep!

Are you an Albert Wisner Public Library cardholder who is unable to visit the Library because of disability, short or long-term or chronic illness, lack of transportation, or other difficulty? If so, our Homebound Services Program might be right for you!

Our Homebound Library Services Program offers the benefits of a trip to the Library, conveniently delivered to your doorstep. Want more information?

Call **(845) 986-1047, ext. 4**
or email **awploutreach@rcsl.org**



The Albert Wisner Public Library 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, Westchester Children's Museum 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 Club

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AGES 9 - 12

Registration for Creativity Club programs opens Sat, Dec. 13, 8:00 AM online



Mandala Sand Art


Decorate a mandala – a calming, circular art pattern - using sand to "color" it in.

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

Marble Run Challenge!

Get ready to design, build, and test your very own marble run using recycled materials. Work alone or team up with others to create ramps and turns that send your marble racing to the finish line.



Tues. Jan. 13, 5:30 - 6:30pm



Zucchini Fries!

Make your own crispy, delicious zucchini fries and a dipping sauce to go with them. YUM!

Tues. Jan. 20, 5:30 - 6:30pm

Galaxy Jars


Ever wish you could hold a galaxy in your hands? Come make your very own Galaxy Jar that will sparkle with your imagination.

Tues. Jan. 27, 5:30 - 6:30pm

BOARD GAME NIGHT

Join us for an evening of friendly competition. We will play some classic board games and introduce you to some new ones to enjoy.

Tues. Feb. 3, 5:30 - 6:30pm

Valentine's Day Oreo Pops

Dip and decorate Oreos for Valentine's Day! Whether you choose to give away your creations or eat them all yourself is up to you.

Tues. Feb. 10, 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

Registration for Teen programs begins on
Saturday, December 13 at 9:00am

TEEN (Ages 13-18)

Join the adventure! **Registration required.**

- Wed., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11, 5:30 – 7:30pm
- Wed., Feb. 25 – Mar. 11, 5:30 – 7:30pm

The Five Colors of Magic the Gathering

Gather for the premier trading card game, Magic the Gathering. Learn the fundamental rules, various game modes, and have fun with friends.

Registration required.

Thurs., Feb. 5 4:00 – 5:00pm



Teen Advisory Board

Join Teen Advisory Board and earn volunteer hours! Make suggestions for teen programs and work on making the YA section of the library your own!

Thurs., Jan. 8 4:00 – 5:00pm

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



Beat Builders

Learn how to use a digital audio workstation and fundamental music theory to compose a song from start to finish.

Thurs., 4:00 – 5:00pm

String Theory: Guitar for Teens

Unleash your inner rock star with basic guitar skills like finger exercises, chord structure, scales and music theory.

Thurs., 4:00 – 5:00pm



Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books is a team-based competition among libraries in the RCLS system, in which teenagers read several books and answer questions about them, competing against other libraries' teams in August.

Join the team, and face off against other great readers!

Teen Winter Reading Challenge



This year's Teen Winter Reading Challenge will be online using beanstack.org.

There will be different tasks that you can complete, to earn badges. The more badges you have the more tickets you earn, and at the end of the challenge your tickets will be entered into a raffle to win an iPad.

You'll have until February 28th to finish the Winter Reading Challenge!
A winner will be announced on March 1st.



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.



Preparing for College



2026 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION

The Albert Wisner Public Library Foundation's yearly scholarship competition will open on **Friday, January 16th**. Any High School Senior who resides in the Warwick Valley Central School District and who expects to graduate in 2026 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:

How does technology change our relationship with reading?
Explain your response with specifics.

Essays due: April 10th by 5:00pm

Full scholarship guidelines will be posted on the Library's website on 1/16/26.



Children's Programs

**Registration for most programs begins
December 13, 8:00 am, online.**

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

Child must be specified age by beginning of program.

**IMPORTANT – For multi-week programs, please register for
every week that you are available to attend, not just the first week.**

EVENTS FOR Babies, Toddlers & Preschoolers

Preschool Story Time

(3 - 5 years, caregiver does not need to stay in the room)
Stories, songs & a craft.

**Mon., Jan. 5 – Feb. 9,
11:00 – 11:45am**



Sensory Playtime

(2-5 years w/caregiver)
Improve problem solving, language development and motor skills while digging into tubs of different materials.

**Tues., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10,
11:00 – 11:30am**

Classic Stories For Preschoolers

(4-5 years)
Hear some classic picture books then make a story-related craft.

**Tues., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10,
1:00pm– 1:30pm**

Preschool "Play"

(3-5 years w/caregiver)
Hear a story then "play" it out!
**Tues., Jan. 13, 27 and Feb. 10,
1:30 – 2:00pm**

Preschool Music With Mr. Tepper

(3 - 5 years w/caregiver)
Music, medi"play"tion + bubbles = fun!

**Mon., Jan. 5 – Feb. 2,
10:00 – 10:45am**



Mother Goose

Baby's first library class.
We will share board books, songs, and enjoy some sensory play together.

(Birth -12 months w/caregiver.
Please make arrangements for siblings so this can be a special time for you and your baby.)

**Wed., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11,
10:00 – 10:30am**



Cooking Together

(3 - 5 years w/caregiver)
Hear a story, then prepare a related recipe together.

**Wed., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11,
11:00am - 12:00pm**



Toddler Time

(18 - 35 months w/caregiver)
Stories, songs & a craft.
2 sessions; sign up for one only, please.

• **Thurs., Jan. 8 – Feb. 12,
10:00 – 10:30am**
• **Fri., 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. 8 – Feb. 12,
11:15 – 11:45am**
• **Fri., Jan. 9 – Feb. 13,
10:30 – 11:00 am**



Playing Together, Being Together

(6 - 23 months, w/caregiver)
Stimulate social-emotional growth through play, exploration and reading.
**Thurs., Jan. 8 – Feb. 12,
10:30am – 11:00am**

WINTER READING



(Ages 2 – 9)

Win prizes for reading!
Stop by the Children's Room to register and pick up a BINGO sheet, then read, read, read.

The more you read the more chances you have to win.
Completed BINGOs will earn you prizes big and small!

Start picking up your BINGO sheets – Fri., Jan. 2.

Last day to collect prizes/earn tickets – Sat., Feb. 28.

EVENTS FOR **School Age Children**

Knit a Loom Hat (7 - 12 years)

Learn how to make a winter hat using a circular knitting loom. All materials will be provided.

Thurs., Jan. 8 – Jan. 29, 5:00 – 6:00pm



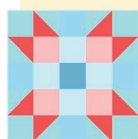
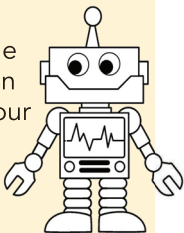
Hopper Bots – Youth Engineering Challenge

(Ages 8 – 12)

Orange County 4-H will teach you about the parts of a circuit and the engineering design and building processes, then you'll build your own bot. All materials will be provided.

Sat., Jan. 10, 2:00 – 3:00pm.

Register beginning Dec. 27.



Make a Community Quilt (6 – 12 years)

Decorate a square and help assemble a Community Quilt which will hang in the Children's Room.

Sat., Jan. 17, 11:00am – 12:00pm.

Register beginning Sat., Jan. 3.

The Wild Robot Adventure (4 – 12 years)

We will read the beautifully illustrated picture book version of Peter Brown's beloved Middle School novel *The Wild Robot* then design our own robots.

Sat. Jan. 31, 11:00am – 12:00pm.

Register beginning Sat. Jan. 17.



FAMILY BINGO

(3-12 years w/caregiver)

Play BINGO and win prizes!

Wednesday, Feb. 18,

11:00am – 12:00pm

Register beginning Wed., Feb. 4.

Book Talks & Treats

Read the book, then we'll talk about it.

A book related treat will be served.

Visit the Children's Room desk to register and pick up your book. All children who attend will receive a free, new book.

- **9-12 years: Wed., Jan. 21, 5:00 - 5:45pm**

***The Wrong Way Home*,**

by Kate O'Shaughnessy

Register starting Dec. 31.

- **5-7 years: Wed., Feb. 11, 4:30 – 5:00pm**

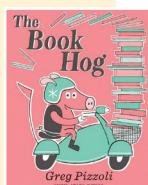
***The Book Hog*, by Greg Pizzoli**

Register starting Jan. 21.

- **6-9 years: Mon., Feb. 23, 5:00 - 5:45pm**

***Growing Home*, by Beth Ferry**

Register starting Feb. 2.



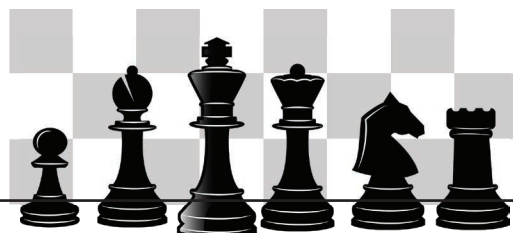
DROP-IN FAMILY CHESS

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

Ages 5 – 17. Children under 12 must be accompanied by caregiver.

Mondays, Jan. 5 – Feb. 9, 5:00 – 7:00pm

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.



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. 4 - Feb. 8, 1:00 - 2:00pm.

No Registration Needed.



Read to the Dogs (For Children)

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. 6 – Feb. 12, 4:30 - 5:30pm

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



Read to the Cats (For Children)

Our feline friends will be back this winter to hear you read a book. If you can't yet read, a caregiver can read to you and the cats.

Thurs., Feb. 19 and Mar. 19, 4:30 – 6:00pm

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

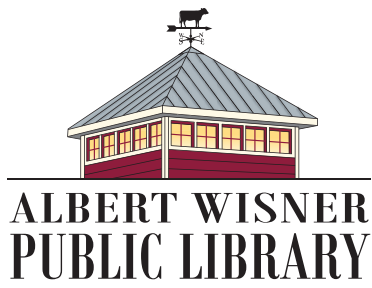


Pals with Paws Palooza (Ages 2 – 12 w/caregiver)

Come learn about how dogs are trained to become Seeing Eye® dogs. Meet some puppy raisers and real live puppies in training! Children will get tips on how to interact with dogs and make a dog treat, too.

Thurs., Feb. 26, 11:00 – 11:45am





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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.

PRESIDENT Mark Damia

VICE PRESIDENT Nora Aman-Gurvich

SECRETARY Barbara Johansen

FINANCIAL OFFICER Regina Wittosch

TRUSTEES Colleen Larsen
Mary Berrigan
Michael McCann

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates:

January 27 | February 24
March 24



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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.