100th ANNIVERSARY

WINTER | 2027

Connections

ALBERT WISNER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Celebrating 100 Years of Discovery, Connection, and Community

Music on McFarland CONCERT SERIES

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

The Sound of America: Folk, Blues & Beyond

Sun., Jan. 17, 2:00 – 3:30pm



Award-winning composer, songwriter, and guitarist Tal Naccarato takes audiences on a musical journey through Americana, folk, blues, and rock, infused with classical guitar influences and his signature bluesy swing. Winner of the 2023 Long Island Blues Society Solo/Duo Competition, Tal combines original songs, traditional favorites, and engaging storytelling. He also explores the history and evolution of these musical traditions through demonstrations on a collection of rare vintage instruments, each with its own unique voice and story.



A Night at the Opera: *Opera, Broadway & Beyond on Cello*

Sun., Feb. 21, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Blending classical favorites with Broadway and rock, "A Night at the Opera" with Alex Prizgintas takes audiences on a musical journey to the Metropolitan Opera House and beyond. The program features beloved opera staples, including Donizetti's "Una Furtiva Lagrima," Verdi's "La Donna è Mobile," and Bizet's "Habanera," alongside selections that cross into other genres, such as "Ol' Man River" from *Show Boat*, "Mack the Knife" from *The Three Penny Opera*, and songs from the rock opera *Tommy*.

An Afternoon of Irish Music with Brian Conway and Friends

Sun., Mar. 21, 2:00 – 3:15pm





Celebrate Irish American Heritage Month with a live musical performance in the legendary New York Sligo Style, presented by Smithsonian recording artist and multiple All-Ireland winner Brian Conway and acclaimed fiddler Cate Sandstrom.

The program blends traditional Irish-American music with engaging storytelling, exploring the immigrant experience and the rich musical lineage passed down from legendary fiddlers such as Michael Coleman, Martin Wynne, and Andy McGann.

CONNECT • MEET
DISCOVER • LEARN

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 18: MLK, Jr. Day

February 15: President's Day

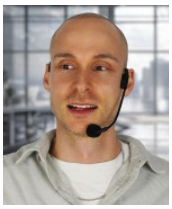
March 5: Open at noon

March 28: Easter Day

Adult Programs

Registration for all Adult Programs begins online and in-person at the Help Desk on Sat., Dec. 12 at 10:00am

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.



The Good, the Bad, and the Scary of AI

Thur., Jan. 7, 6:00 – 7:30pm

Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming how we work, communicate, and navigate the world, bringing exciting possibilities as well as serious concerns. Join Eddi Khaytman for a thoughtful discussion of the morals, values, and ethics surrounding AI and its growing impact on society. Explore its promises and potential pitfalls, consider where we should draw the line, and learn what we need to know to use AI responsibly.

Discover the Warwick Time Exchange

Sat., Jan. 9, 10:30am – 12:00pm

The Warwick Time Exchange is a community program that brings neighbors together by exchanging time, skills, and support instead of money. Every hour shared earns an hour of help in return, with everyone's time valued equally. Join We the People Warwick and Family Central for an interactive introduction to time banking, explore ways to share your talents, receive support, build meaningful connections, and strengthen our caring community.



The Writer's Hub with Harrie Mulé

Tues., Jan. 12 – Feb. 23, 1:00 – 3:00pm

Attendance at all sessions is strongly encouraged.

Ever thought about writing but not sure where to begin? Writing begins with curiosity, not perfection. Through engaging prompts, imagination, and guided exercises, participants discover their voice, explore new ideas, and connect with fellow writers in a supportive, encouraging environment.

Medicare Made Clear: Understanding Your Options

Thur., Feb. 4, 6:00 – 7:45pm

Join us for an informative session on Medicare to better understand your coverage options. Learn about the differences between Original Medicare, Medicare Advantage, and prescription drug plans, and gain the knowledge you need to make informed decisions about your healthcare coverage plus any changes rolling out in 2027.

Conversations that Connect

Sat., Feb. 6, 1:00 – 2:30pm

What does meaningful dialogue look like in practice? More than everyday conversation, dialogue involves listening with care, sharing thoughtfully, and building understanding across differences. Join We the People Warwick (WTPW) to explore the tools and practices behind its signature four-session dialogue series. Experience how structured discussion can build trust, broaden perspectives, and strengthen communication. Open to teens and adults.



Moss & Mingle

Thur., Feb. 18, 6:00 – 7:45pm

Join us for a creative Moss & Mingle workshop where guests will design their own 5" x 7" preserved moss art piece in a wooden frame. This guided class includes a personal tray filled with preserved moss, foliage, flowers, and botanical accents, along with a wireless hot glue gun and all materials needed to create a one-of-a-kind piece to take home. Space is limited.

Trivia Night at the Library

Thur., Mar. 4, 6:00 – 7:45pm

Back by popular demand! Calling all trivia buffs, bookworms, and know-it-alls – put your knowledge to the test! Join us for an evening of brain-teasing questions covering everything from history and pop culture to science. Compete for bragging rights, enjoy a fun night with friends, and win prizes. Don't miss this crowd favorite!

AWPL Celebrates 100! Cinema Studies: *The Birth of Talkies*

Thur., Mar. 11, 6:00 – 7:30pm

Explore Hollywood's golden age and the revolutionary transition from silent films to "talkies." Beginning with *The Jazz Singer*, which premiered in 1927 and ushered in synchronized sound, we'll examine how talking pictures transformed the movie industry. The featured film is the beloved classic *Singin' in the Rain*, a witty look at Hollywood's sometimes hilarious adjustment to sound. Copies will be available for checkout.

The Molly Maguires and America's First Great Detective

Thur., Mar. 25, 6:00 – 7:45pm

Between 1876 and 1878, Irish coal miners in Northeastern Pennsylvania faced murder, arson, and kidnapping charges. Twenty were executed, earning the name "Molly Maguires." Were they criminals or union leaders targeted by mine owners for demanding better wages and working conditions? We'll explore both sides of the story, and the undercover Pinkerton agent who infiltrated the group, earning the title "America's First Great Detective."

Defensive Driving Course

Sat., Feb. 27, 10:00am – 4:30pm

This NYS DMV-approved course earns a 10% auto insurance premium reduction for 3 years and removes up to 4 points from your driving record. All New York insurers accept the course for the discount.

$35 due at time of **in-person registration** at the Help Desk beginning **Dec. 12 at 10:00am**; cash or checks only. Please make checks payable to the instructor, Ian Prastien.

Check-in begins at 9:45am; please bring a bagged lunch.

Authors on McFarland

Words Unbound:
Voices in Poetry & Prose



Lynne Albuquerque, author of *First Day Back*
Sun., Jan. 10, 2:00 – 3:00pm

High school science teacher Bridget Cruz expects the biggest challenge of the new school year to be faculty meetings – until she unlocks her classroom and finds a body. Convinced the death of recently retired teacher Mrs. Murphy isn't natural, Detective Erik Davidson enlists Bridget as his unofficial insider at Mayfair High. As the witty teacher and determined detective team up to uncover the truth, sparks fly and Bridget soon realizes that if she wants her classroom – and her school year – back, she'll have to help solve a murder.



Robert McGrath, author of *Bringing Fire*
Sun., Jan. 24, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Join the author for a talk about his new release, *Bringing Fire*. Drawing on psychology, cultural history, evolutionary biology, and economics, the book explores humanity's long journey toward a better world. While setbacks are inevitable, history offers hope for our ability to learn, adapt, and build a more thoughtful, compassionate, and hopeful society.



Samantha Sonnett, author of *The Protectorate: A Phoenix Rises*
Sat., Feb. 13, 11:00am – 1:00pm

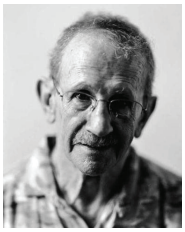
Join debut author Samantha Sonnett, a retired NYPD counterterrorism specialist, current DHS contractor, and global security consultant, for a fascinating look at her new thriller. The first book in a planned trilogy, the novel follows Detective Sofia Rodriguez as she hunts a serial killer leaving behind a chilling Sylvia Plath signature – only to uncover a century-old secret society of elite women operating in the shadows.



Beth McCrink, author of *Think*
Sun., Mar. 7, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Life can change in a millisecond. On 9/11, that moment changed the world – and the lives of countless New Yorkers forever. *Think* chronicles Wall Street and the author's personal transformation in the years leading up to and following the attacks, exploring the lasting psychological impact of that day and the mental health crisis that followed.

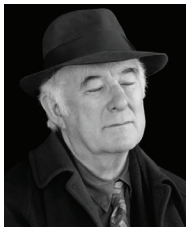
Circle of Voices
Poetry Group



Philip Levine
Wed., Jan. 20, 6:30 – 7:30pm
Join the Circle for a discussion of works by Philip Levine.

Philip Levine (1928–2015) was an acclaimed American poet born in Detroit, where he worked in factories while writing poetry. His work explored working-class life, labor, family, and the human experience. Known for his direct, unpretentious style, he published numerous collections that gave voice to ordinary working Americans.

Seamus Heaney & Paul Muldoon
Wed., Mar. 3, 6:30 – 7:30pm
Join the Circle for a discussion of works by Irish poets Seamus Heaney and Paul Muldoon.



Seamus Heaney (1939–2013), winner of the 1995 Nobel Prize in Literature, was celebrated for poetry exploring Irish history, rural life, and the complexities of human experience. His acclaimed collections include *Death of a Naturalist* and *Human Chain*.



Paul Muldoon (born 1951) is an award-winning poet from County Armagh, Northern Ireland. His published collection, *Moy Sand and Gravel*, won the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. Also a playwright, librettist, and critic, he is currently a professor at Princeton University.

AUTHOR-THON on McFarland

Sat., Jan. 16, 11:00am – 1:00pm

The Hudson Valley Authors Coalition invites you to an AUTHOR-THON

bringing together readers and writers for an opportunity to meet local authors, learn about their work, and discover new books.

Featuring ten local authors of adult fiction and nonfiction, the Author-thon will showcase a variety of genres, including thrillers, romance, historical fiction, and memoirs. Whether you're looking for your next great read or interested in learning more about the people behind the books, there will be plenty to explore.

The Watch Continues:

A Gathering for Veterans and First Responders

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

Come together with others who've served 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 and well-being of military, veterans, and first responders and their families.

HOME SCHOOL EXPO

Wed., April 7, 2027

SAVE THE DATE

for the 3rd Annual Homeschool Expo, a dynamic event uniting the homeschool community and local businesses and organizations.

Questions? Email Outreach Librarian, Billie Gallo, at: bgallo.war@rcls.org

Adult Winter Reading Challenge:

Starry Nights & Reading Lights

Fri., Jan. 1 – Sun., Feb. 28

Cozy up with a good winter-themed book and join AWPL's Adult Winter Reading Challenge on Beanstack, our online reading tracker! Log your reading hours, earn badges on your virtual bingo card, and work toward your reading goals as you journey through the long winter nights.

The reader who logs the most hours will win a special winter treat!

Ready to get reading?

Scan the QR code or stop by the Help Desk to begin your winter reading adventure!

Creativity Club

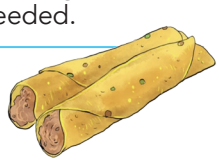
EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AGES 9 - 12

Registration for Creativity Club programs opens Sat., Dec. 12, 8:00am online

GAME NIGHT! Tues., Jan. 5, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Join us for a fun night of playing games – like Spoons, Apples to Apples Jr., and Herd Mentality – and eating snacks together. No previous game knowledge needed.

Make Your Own Taquitos



Tues., Jan. 12, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Wow! Are these delicious?!

Choose your mixings and roll them up in a tortilla to be baked to perfection. Dunk your taquitos in a tasty dip that you'll help make.

Huge Paper Snowflakes

Tues., Jan. 19, 5:30 – 6:30pm

You've seen these huge paper snowflakes hanging around the Children's Room. Make your very own one to take home!

Learn How To Pokémon!

Tues., Jan. 26, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Here is your chance to learn the official Pokémon trading game using the Battle Academy set. All abilities and knowledge levels are welcome. All supplies will be provided.

Melted Snowman Cookies



Tues., Feb. 2, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Decorate your own cookies to look like melting snowmen. Yummy and adorable!

Valentine Pop Art

Tues., Feb. 9, 5:30 – 6:30pm

Use watercolor paints to create a unique design to give away or keep for yourself.

MAHJONG

Tuesdays, 10:00am – 1:00pm

Try the game that's played all over the world: all skill levels are invited to play.

Board Games & Bridge

Thursdays, 1:00 – 3:00pm

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

Registration for Teen programs begins on Sat., Dec. 12, 8:00am, online.

Teen Programs

EVENTS FOR AGES 13 - 18



Winter Lantern Craft

Tues., Jan. 12, 5:00 – 6:00pm

Participants will design their own decorative lanterns. Create a unique lantern to take home or display.

Come for the creativity, stay for the glow!

Teen Advisory Board

Wednesdays (resuming Jan. 13), 4:00 – 5:00pm

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!

TEEN Dungeons & Dragons *Join the Adventure!*

Wed., Jan. 13 – Mar. 17, 5:30 – 7:30pm

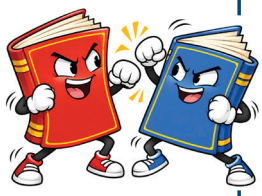
REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Please register for the first couple of programs. After that, the campaign will have begun.

Delicious in Dungeon *A Culinary Quest*

Tues., Jan. 19, 5:00 – 7:00pm

Embark on a culinary quest inspired by your favorite fantasy adventures! Learn to create a simple yet delicious dish inspired by *Delicious in Dungeons*. This hearty program will level up your cooking skills while having fun in the kitchen.



Battle of the Books

Tues., Feb. 2, 5:00 – 6:00pm

Battle of the Books is a team-based competition among RCLS libraries, 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!



String Theory: Guitar for Teens

Tues., Feb. 9 – 16, 5:00 – 6:00pm

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

Teen Winter Reading Challenge



Mon., Jan. 4 – Sun., Feb. 28

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

The more badges you accumulate, the more raffle tickets you'll earn, which you can use to enter exciting prizes. Sign up can be done on our teen page on our website or by scanning QR codes placed around the Library. If you're using a phone or tablet, download the beanstack app. For laptops, use the beanstack.org website.

Preparing for College





2027 COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY COMPETITION

Competition opens: Fri., Jan. 15, 12:00pm

Essays due by: Fri., Apr. 9, 5:00pm

The Albert Wisner Public Library Foundation's yearly scholarship competition invites any college-bound high school senior who resides in the Warwick Valley School District and who expects to graduate in 2027 to submit an essay of not more than 2,000 words on the following topic:

If you could travel to any setting from a book, which one would you choose? Please provide information about the book and explain why you'd love to visit that specific location.

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

Full scholarship guidelines will be posted on the Foundation page of the Library's website on Friday, 1/15/27.



Friends of the Library Bookstore

Looking for your next great read and a great deal too?

Next time you visit the Library, head downstairs to Friends and Bookends, where every item is just $1 or less! You'll find an ever-changing selection of fiction, nonfiction, children's books, cookbooks, and more.



Children's Programs

Registration for most programs begins Sat., Dec. 12, 8:00am, 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 Music with Mr. Tepper

Mon., Jan. 4 – Feb. 8 (excl. Jan. 18), 10:00 – 10:45am

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

3 - 5 yrs. with caregiver.

Preschool Story Time

Mon., Jan. 4 – Feb. 8 (excl. Jan. 18), 11:00 – 11:45am

Stories, songs & a craft.

3 - 5 yrs. on their own.

Playing Together, Being Together

Mon., Jan. 4 – Feb. 8 (excl. Jan. 18), 11:15 – 11:45am

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

6 - 23 mos. w/caregiver.

Learn & Play

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

Little learners will explore the ABC's and 123's through hands-on activities.

3 - 5 yrs. with caregiver.

Mother Goose

Wed., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10, 10:00 – 10:30am

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

0 - 12 mos. with caregiver. (Please make arrangements for siblings so this can be a special time for you and your baby.)

P.A.R.C.

Wed., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10, 11:30am – 12:30pm

Visit our P.A.R.C. – Play and Reading Community. Join us for an informal playdate. Melissa Reali (Playing Together, Being Together), Heather Franklin (Screen Strong) & Children's Room staff will be available to guide children and support parents in this screen-free space.

Families with children.

Toddler Time

2 SESSIONS. SIGN UP FOR ONE ONLY, PLEASE:

- **Thur., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11, 10:00 – 10:30am**
- **Fri., Jan. 8 – Feb. 12, 10:00 – 10:30am**

Stories, songs & a craft.

18 - 35 mos. with caregiver.

Toddler Music with Mr. Jeff

2 SESSIONS. SIGN UP FOR ONE ONLY, PLEASE:

- **Thur., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11, 10:30 – 11:00am**
- **Fri., Jan. 8 – Feb. 12, 10:30 – 11:00am**

Come sing and play instruments with Mr. Jeff.

10 - 35 mos. with caregiver.



WINTER READING BINGO

START PICKING UP YOUR BINGO SHEETS MON., JAN. 4.

LAST DAY TO EARN TICKETS/ COLLECT PRIZES IS SUN., FEB 28.

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!

Ages 2 – 9

DROP-IN FAMILY CHESS

Mon., Jan 4 – Feb. 8 (excl. Jan. 18), 5:00 – 7:00pm

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

A chess instructor will be in attendance on Jan. 11 & 25.

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.

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

EVENTS FOR School Age Children

Full S.T.E.A.M Ahead for Homeschoolers

Wed., Jan. 6 – Feb.10, 1:30 – 2:30pm

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

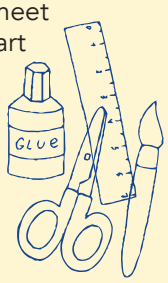
5 - 12 yrs.

Doodle Time (with treats!)

Wed., Jan. 6 – Feb. 10, 4:00 – 5:00pm

Receive a free craft notebook then we'll meet to fill the book with various doodles and art experiments. Light snacks will be served.

5 - 8 yrs.

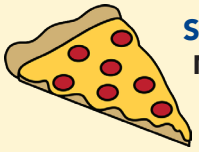


Winter Crafternoons

Thur., Jan. 7 – Feb. 11, 4:30 – 5:30pm

Make a different, fun craft kit each week.

5 - 8 yrs.



Slices & Devices

Mon., Jan. 11, 6:00 – 7:00pm

REGISTER BEGINNING MON., DEC. 28.

Join us for a slice of pizza and some brain science! Students will learn the facts about basic brain science and how addictive technology like social media and video games affect their developing brains. They will learn how to build a healthy brain and be encouraged and excited to live life off screens.

10 - 18 yrs. with or without caregiver.

The Magician's Nephew Book Talk & Treats

Thur., Feb. 11, 4:00 – 5:00pm

REGISTER BEGINNING THURS., JAN. 14.

Read the first book in C.S. Lewis's popular *Chronicles of Narnia* series, then let's talk about it. All participants will receive a free, new book!

8 - 12 yrs.





Minecraft - Snowman's Paradise

Fri., Feb. 19, 11:30am – 1:00pm

REGISTER BEGINNING FRI., FEB. 5.

Get ready for a snowy Minecraft adventure! Build a one-of-a-kind snowman, then team up to create a winter wonderland with cozy igloos, festive houses, towering evergreen trees, and a stunning winter castle.

8 - 12 yrs.

EVENTS FOR Families

LEGO Sundays

Sun., Jan. 3 – Feb. 7, 1:00 - 2:00pm

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.

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

For children.



Read to the Dogs

Tues., Wed., and Thur., Jan. 5 – Feb. 11, 4:30 - 5:30pm

REGISTER FOR A 15-MINUTE READING SLOT, 1 WEEK PRIOR, AT THE CHILDREN'S ROOM DESK.

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! *For children.*





Drop-In Family Storytime

Sat., Jan. 9 – Feb.13, 11:00 – 11:30am

NO REGISTRATION NEEDED.

Start your weekend sharing stories, songs and a craft with your family at the Library.

Families with children.



Kurt Gallagher Kids' Concert

Sat., Jan. 30, 11:30am – 12:30pm

REGISTER BEGINNING SAT., JAN. 16.

Come sing and dance and catch bubbles with Mr. Kurt!

Families with children.



Family BINGO

Wed., Feb. 17, 11:00am – 12:00pm

REGISTER BEGINNING WED., FEB. 3.

Play BINGO and win prizes!

3 - 12 yrs. with caregiver.



Box-itects Creativity Hour

Thur., Feb. 18, 11:00am – 12:00pm

REGISTER BEGINNING THURS., FEB. 4.

What can you do with a box? Join us for an hour of creativity and open play with boxes. What will you make? A rocket, a mask, a car, a stall for your horse…?!

3 - 10 yrs. with caregiver.

Read to the Cats

Thur., March 11, 4:30 – 6:00pm

REGISTER FOR A 15-MINUTE READING SLOT 1 WEEK PRIOR, AT THE CHILDREN'S ROOM DESK.

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. *For children.*



ALBERT WISNER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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or Current Resident

Library Board

The Library Board of Trustees meets at the Library on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm; the public is welcome to attend.

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Follow AWPL on Instagram!

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.

MONDAY AFTERNOON at the Movies

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

STAY IN THE LOOP!

Sign up for the Library's email newsletter at the Circulation Desk to get the latest on events, new arrivals, and special programs – delivered straight to your inbox. Don't miss out!