



morton
LIBRARY

PULSE

Winter 2018

Volume 3, Issue 1

315 W. Pershing St
Morton, IL 61550
www.mortonlibrary.org
309-263-2200

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon-Thur 9a-9p
Fri 9a-6p
Sat 9a-5p

Closed on:

Jan. 1, March 30-31

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All library programs are free and open to the public. Programs are held at the Library, unless otherwise noted.

The mission of the Morton Public Library is to actively connect people to books, resources and technology; and provide opportunities for learning, collaboration and enjoyment.

LIBRARY ANNOUNCES SPRING REFRESH PROJECT

It has been 20 years since the library opened its addition, and this spring we will be refreshing the library. This project will mean the library will be closed for a few weeks while walls are painted, new carpet is installed and the library's departments are rearranged. When we reopen, you will enjoy a more open and welcoming lobby, a dedicated space for our young adult collection and an expanded children's department.

This project will be funded using the library's reserves, which have been built up slowly over the past 18 years, as well as private gifts and memorials given to the library.



While the library is closed our staff

will be making appearances at area businesses and the Morton Park District has graciously allowed us to hold our popular Friday Toddler Time program in their meeting room at Freedom Hall. Follow our library's Facebook page or Instagram account to learn where we are popping up during our hiatus. No items will be due during the closure and you may use your Morton Library card at any area library including East Peoria, Pekin, Tremont, Delevan and Peoria. You will also still be able to place items on hold and pick them up at a different library during the closure. While we don't currently know the exact dates we will close we estimate it to be from mid-March to mid-April. Stay tuned for more information.

LIBRARY NOT OFFERING TAX APPOINTMENTS THIS SPRING

Since the Library will be closed in March and April for Refresh, we will be unable to host AARP Tax Preparer Volunteers this year. There are other local libraries that will offer this service. In the past, Pekin, Washington, and Fondulac libraries have had AARP Tax Volunteers. Fondulac Library will begin taking appointments on Jan. 16. Other libraries will also begin taking appointments at some point in January. This is only a temporary change due to our project this spring.

VISIT THE LIBRARY DURING PATRON APPRECIATION WEEK

Beginning Monday, February 12 we will celebrate Patron Appreciation Week at the Library. Each morning we'll have doughnuts and coffee and cookies and tea in the afternoon. Library Director Alissa Williams will be available for questions about the Refresh project as well as any other library questions at 10 am and 3 pm Mon-Thursday. She'll also be available on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 7 pm and Saturday, Feb. 17 at 10 am.

On Thursday at 4 pm she'll host "Cardboard Creations" for grade school patrons. Learn about how we're creating a new library environment and build your own creation. Please register for this program on the library's event calendar. Parents will want to attend Toddler Time on Feb. 16 for a special surprise and a chance to learn about changes to the children's department.

YOUTH SERVICES NEWS

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Research shows that children who listen to 1000 books before kindergarten are better equipped to succeed in school. Sign up for this program and you'll earn a prize for every 100 books read. Plus a fun prize when you finish!

CHECK OUT PUZZLES

The library lends jigsaw puzzles as well as puzzles for children. Take a puzzle home for the week, bring it back, and grab another!

PLAY GAMES

In addition to the coloring and craft tables, there are a variety of games for you to play at the library. Come visit and stay for awhile.

YOUNG ADULT NONFICTION BOOKS

Did you know that we now have a Young Adult Nonfiction section? It is located right after the Young Adult Fiction. This growing part of our collection covers a variety of subjects including science, history, and technology as well as a selection of biographies. Many of the books also spark creativity in areas like crafts, cooking and writing, making this a great area to explore.

PROGRAMS FOR BIRTH TO 5 YEARS OLD

BABY BOUNCE for 0-18 months

For babies 0-18 months old. Held every other Tuesday at 9:45 am on Jan. 9 & 23, Feb. 13 & 27 and March 13.

TODDLER TIME for ages 18 months to 4 years

Join us on Fridays to sing, dance and hear a story at 9:30 am or 10:30 am

SIGN AND SING for ages 18 months to 4 years

Molly from Communication Junction visits at 10:15 am on the first and third Mondays for rhymes, stories, bubbles and basic American Sign Language. January dates are Jan. 15 & 29.

TINKER TOTS for ages 2-4 years

Thursdays, Jan. 4 & 18, Feb 1 & 22 from 10 am to Noon
Come drop in and use our materials to create art!

SCIENCE FUN for ages 3-5 years

Wednesdays, Jan. 10-Feb 28 from 10:30am-11:00am
Children will participate in science experiments and learn about science, technology, engineering and math topics. *Registration required*

PRINCESS PARTY for ages 3-5 years

Monday, Feb. 12 from 10:30-11:15 am
Join us for a party with games, crafts and stories. Costumes are welcome but not required. *Registration required*

PIRATE PARTY for ages 3-5 years

Monday, Feb. 26 from 10:30-11:15 am
Ahoy Kids! Enjoy a fun filled Pirate adventure with stories, games and crafts. Bring a friend. *Registration required*

MO WILLEMS STORY TIME for ages 3-5 years

Wednesday, March 7 and Wednesday, March 14 from 10:30-11 am
Children will enjoy stories by our featured author. Related activities and crafts will be included. *Registration required*

RHYTHM & RHYME STORYTIME for ages 3-5 years

Thursday, March 1, 8, 15 from 10-10:45 am
Children will enjoy stories, finger plays, songs and a craft. *Registration required - once you register you are registered for all weeks.*

PROGRAMS FOR GRADES K-3

SNOWY DAY CRAFT for grades K-3

Mondays, Jan. 15 and Feb. 19 from 1-1:30 pm
Children are invited to celebrate the school holiday by warming up with creative crafts. *Registration required*

PIRATE PARTY for grades K-3

Monday, March 12 from 10:30-11:15 am
Ahoy Kids! Enjoy a fun filled Pirate adventure with stories, games and crafts. Bring a friend. *Registration required*

LEGO CLUB for grades K-3

Children share their building skills. First and third Mondays at 3:15 pm.
January dates are Jan. 15 & 29.

PROGRAMS FOR GRADES 4-6

ART QUEST for grades 4-6

Monday, Jan. 15 painting and Monday, Feb. 19 rolled paper animals, from 4-4:45pm. Create art using the techniques of a famous artist. *Registration required*

TRIVIA QUEST for ages 8-12 Monday, Jan 29 from 3:30-4:30 pm

Trivia is easy when you have help! Teams will race to answer questions with the help of our newest online resource WorldBook! If you've never used WorldBook, don't worry, we'll do a quick overview before we start the competition. There will be prizes and snacks! And better yet, you'll leave knowing how to use a great new resource! *Registration required*

CHAPTER CHATTERS for ages 9-12

This Book Club meets monthly on the third Wednesday from 3-4 pm for discussion and activities. Snacks and drinks are provided.

Jan. 17: ***The War that Saved My Life*** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley – During WWII, Ada and her brother move from London, and away from their mother, to the country where it is safer.

Feb. 21: **Replay** by Sharon Creech – When Leo gets a part in the school play, he examines his own role in life, both on and off the stage.

March 21: **Book Scavenger** by Jennifer Bertram – Emily and James go around San Francisco searching for clues left by a famous book publisher.

April 18: **Secret School** by Avi – Set in the 1920s, fourteen year old Ida secretly takes over teaching in her one room schoolhouse.

GEMS (Girls Exploring Math and Science) for grades 4-7

Presented by AAUW each month, girls in grades 4-7 explore math and science topics. *Registration required*

Tuesday, Jan. 16 from 4-5:30pm- Topic: Electrical Circuitry.

Tuesday, Feb. 20 from 4-5:30pm - Topic: Environmental Footprint.

COLOR BY DESIGN for grades 5-8

2nd Wednesday from 3-4 pm - Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14.

Use markers or colored pencils to fill in intricate coloring pages while enjoying snacks and conversation. All supplies and snacks provided.

Registration required. Grades 5-8

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

DROP IN PROGRAMS visit the Young Adult Area

Jan. 15-31: ***Book Cover Scavenger Hunt*** Grab a Scavenger Hunt page and look through the YA books to fill it out. When you're done, enter our drawing for a prize.

February 1-13: ***Guess Who?*** February is Black History Month. Do you recognize famous, historical African Americans? Pictures will be posted in the Young Adult area. Write your answers on the form and enter a drawing for a prize.

February 14-28: ***Blind Date with a Book*** Books will be wrapped in paper and have a few words written on them to describe each book. Pick one out, leave the paper on while you check it out, and be surprised when you get home. You might just meet your next favorite book!

March 1-14: ***Guess Where?*** Do you recognize famous landmarks from around the world? Pictures will be posted in the Young Adult area. Write your answers on the form and enter a drawing for a prize.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

KINDNESS ROCKS

Monday February 26 from 3:30-4:30pm

Have you seen colorful little rocks with kind words and phrases? Help spread the kindness by decorating rocks, taking them, and then leaving them to make someone else's day. We'll provide the rocks and supplies, but you have to bring the encouraging words! *Registration Required*

FAMILY VALENTINE'S FUN WALK

Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 am to 3 pm

Crafts, games, and a story walk. Bring a friend and drop in to enjoy this creative time together.

WILL YOU BE MY VALENTIN?

February 12-17

Stop by the check out desk and pick up a Valentine that's written in one of the four romance languages! Create a Mango Languages account while you're here, or show us proof of your existing account and win some swag! *Come in anytime during the week to participate.*

CARDBOARD CREATIONS

Thursday, Feb. 15 from 4-4:45pm

As part of patron appreciation week, children in grades K-8 can hear how Library Director Alissa Williams is creating at the library through the upcoming "Refresh" project and make their own cardboard creation. *Registration required.*

LIBRARY SERVICES

LAST DAY FOR BOOK DONATIONS IS FEB. 3

Due to the library's spring Refresh project, the last day the library will accept book donations is Saturday, Feb. 3. The book sale will be open until we close.

NOTARY SERVICE

We provide free notary public service to the community. A notary public is almost always available when the library is open. Notary service is not guaranteed, however; please call in advance to confirm the availability of a notary public.

FAX SERVICE

Patrons can send and receive faxes at the Library. Faxing is \$1 per page, not counting the cover sheet. Please ask at the Checkout Desk about this service.

HOMEBOUND DELIVERY SERVICE

Patrons who are home bound, either temporarily or permanently, may apply to receive library books via home delivery.

2018 LICENSE PLATE DISCOUNT HELP

A volunteer will be available on Wednesdays from Jan 31-March 7 to assist applicants in filling out the Benefit Access Application that provides the license plate discount. Please call the library to schedule an appointment.

MORE THAN 200 FAMILIES PARTICIPATE IN 1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM



Maria Lemman shows off son Reef's 1,000 books before kindergarten log and prizes.

Since its launch in 2016, more than 200 families have registered. Research shows that children who listen to 1,000 books before kindergarten are better equipped to succeed in school. Children and parents each receive a prize for every 100 milestone they reach. Children will be able to select a book and parents will receive a coupon for fines, a book sale item or free coffee from the library's Keurig. When you finish the program you'll receive your own library book bag. It's never too early to start reading to your child. Sign up for our new early literacy monthly e-newsletter on our website for more tips on preparing your child for success in school.

TWO NEW LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES PLACED IN TOWN



This summer a Little Free Library was placed by the playground at Oakwood Park. We thank the Morton Park District for their partnership on this project. This library primarily has children's books for parents to enjoy with their child in the park. This fall a Little Free Library was placed at Memorial Plaza. Thanks to the Village of Morton for allowing us to provide books to those visiting or playing at the Plaza. The Little Free Library was built by a student at Bethel Lutheran School as part of their making a difference project. Another student built a library as well to be placed close to Queenwood Street by Bethel Church this spring.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

GET MORE DONE IN 2018

Saturday, January 20 at 10 am

Planners, Bullet Journals, List Making Apps OH MY! Learn tips and tricks to keep yourself organized in 2018 with an overview of both digital and analog tools and systems that can keep you on track.

NUNS, NAZIS & NOTRE DAME

Tuesday, February 6 at 6:30 pm

Author Tim Pletkovich returns with stories of the Great Depression, World War II and the Fighting Irish. Pletkovich will examine the early life of decorated U.S. Army veteran Gerald A. O'Reilly. His story takes us from the bleachers at Ebbets Field, to Brooklyn to the hallways of Notre Dame, to the thoughts of an elite 10th Mountain Division soldier thrust into the horrors of battle in Italy's harsh Apennine Mountains.

LINUX: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Friday, February 9 at 4 pm

Tired of Microsoft? Want a new operating system? Learn what Linux is, why it's so powerful and how to install it. *Registration Required*

RAISING DIGITAL CITIZENS

Monday, February 12 at 7 pm

With all the technology available to children, it's hard to know what guidelines to use, how to support teachers with classroom tech, how to protect your child's privacy and more. Don Strum, District 709 Technology Integration Specialist, will present on what it means to raise responsible and respectful digital citizens in this technology saturated world.

USING LINKEDIN FOR YOUR JOB SEARCH

Monday, February 26 at 6:30 pm

Having an authentic, engaging LinkedIn profile is a necessity for a successful job search. The platform is free, easy to use and a way to promote your unique skills and achievements. We will demystify this online professional network, giving you the tips and tools to stand out and be noticed by employers and recruiters. *Registration Required*

CAKE POPS!

Saturday March 3, 2017 from 10-11 am

Have some fun learning about how to make and decorate cake pops! Supplies will be provided for everyone to decorate and make a few of their own. *Registration Required*

ONLINE PHOTO BOOK SITES

Monday March 12 from 6:30-7:30 pm

This session will explore some of the options available online to create and order photo albums. Attendees should feel comfortable using a computer and the Internet. *Registration Required.*

"MOLLIE'S WAR" AUTHOR CYNDEE SCHAFFER

Tuesday, March 13 at 7 pm

This book is based on the author's mother's letters home during her assignment in Europe as a member of the Women's Army Corps. It documents the human side of life during the war – a life that alternates between fear and love, work and leisure. Presented by AAUW-Morton.

ADULT BOOK GROUP

BOOKS & BITES

3rd Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Join us for our newest book group. We'll discuss our monthly read (and have other bookish conversation) while enjoying local eats! Pick up your copy of the book at the library's Checkout Desk.

January 16 @ Basta's:

"Midnight at the Bright Ideas Bookstore" by Matthew J. Sullivan

February 20 @ La Fiesta:

"Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah

March 20 @ Firehouse

Pizza: "A Darker Shade of Magic" by V.E. Schwab

April 17 @ Eli's Coffee

Shop: "Circling the Sun" by Paula McClain

SERVICES FOR BOOK CLUBS

Are you a member of a local book club? Are you aware of the services the Morton Library provides to book clubs? We are able to request from other libraries multiple copies of the book your group is reading and provide you an extended checkout date. Furthermore we have several titles with multiple copies that you could use for your book club. Our librarians are also willing to make recommendations on good book club titles. Please let us know how we can help you!



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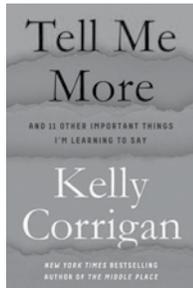


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FROM THE DIRECTOR: NEW BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



As an avid reader my favorite part about being a librarian is recommending books to others. Here are three upcoming titles to check out.
Alissa Williams, Director



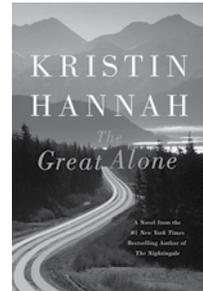
Tell Me More by Kelly Corrigan

This is a collection of beautiful essays on connecting with those you love. It is poignant, funny and heartwarming. Releases Jan. 9



Need to Know by Karen Cleveland

If you enjoyed the TV show *The Americans*, this is the book for you. A CIA analyst uncovers a dangerous secret that will threaten her family. Releases Jan. 23.



The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah

The newest book from the author of *The Nightingale* is a descriptive and engaging story of family and survival in the Alaskan wilderness. Releases Feb. 6.

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