

Marshall Public Library



Volume 20, Issue 1

What's Happening @ Your Library?

January/February 2026

Into the Arctic

“Into the Arctic” traveling exhibit, from the Edwardsville Children’s Museum, will be on display from January 12 through February 13, 2026. This hands-on exhibit, provided by the Marshall Rotary Club, is geared toward pre-K through 2nd grade students, offering young learners a fun and educational introduction to the Arctic’s landscapes, wildlife, and science.



As part of the exhibit programming, the Friends of the Library are sponsoring a special presentation “Mush with Noggin, the Sled Dog!”

[MUSH with Noggin, the Sled Dog!](#) Thursday, Jan. 22nd at 6:30 PM

Karen Land, writer, public speaker, and three-time participant in the 1,049-mile Iditarod Sled Dog Race across Alaska, accompanied by her Alaskan husky, Noggin. Since 2000, Karen Land has delivered over a thousand talks in nearly every state, captivating audiences with stories of dog mushing, the sport of mushing, and life in Alaska.



[Sled Dog Movie Matinees: Monday, Jan. 19th @ 1PM](#)

Balto “G” - An outcast Husky risks his life with other sled dogs to prevent a deadly epidemic from ravaging Nome, Alaska.

[Monday, Feb. 16th @ 1PM](#)

Eight Below “PG” - Brutal cold forces two Antarctic explorers to leave their team of sled dogs behind as they fend for their survival.

[Into the Arctic Exhibit Details](#)

January 12 – February 14, *Adult supervision is required at all times for children under 8 while touring the exhibit.* The exhibit is free and open to the public, school tours will be in progress throughout the exhibit’s duration.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/1—Happy New Years—Library Closed
1/3—Read with a Retriever 1—3 PM
1/6—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9AM
1/6—Toddler Timer 10:30 AM
1/8—Friends Members Meeting 5 PM
1/8—3D Print for Beginners 6PM
1/12—Into the Arctic Exhibit Thru 2/14
1/12—Cabin Fever Program—details inside
1/13—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9AM
1/13—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
1/14—Roots and Records 10:30—noon
1/14—City Board meets 6:00 PM
1/15—Game Night for tweens/teens 6PM
1/15—Little Book Beginners 6:30 PM
1/17—Intro to 3D printing 10:00 AM
1/19—Movie Matinee “Balto” 1:00 PM
1/20—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9AM
1/20—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
1/20—STREAM @ North School
1/21—Book Chat 10:30 AM
1/22—Mush w/ Noggin’ the Sled Dog 6:30 PM
1/27—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9AM
1/27—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
2/1—Blind Date w/ a Book Begins
2/3—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9AM
2/3—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
2/3—Tax Assistance Begins—details inside
2/7—Read w/ a Retriever 1 PM
2/10—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9 AM
2/10—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
2/11—Roots and Records 10:30-noon
2/11—City Board meets 6:00 PM
2/12—Intro to 3D printing 6:00 PM
2/16—Movie Matinee “Eight Below” 1 PM
2/17—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9 AM
2/17—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
2/17—STREAM @ North School
2/18—Book Chat 10:30 AM
2/19—Game Night 6:00 PM
2/19—Little Book Beginners 6:30 PM
2/21—Intro to 3D printing 10:00 AM
2/23-2/24—Hand Crochet Class
2/24—Yoga Over 50 Video Instruction 9 AM
2/24—Toddler Time 10:30 AM
2/24—Area District meets 4:30 PM

2026 Special Events Calendar Enclosed!



FREE TAX RETURNS

February 3rd - April 14th

Specializing in free tax assistance for those who are 50 and older and/or low income



Accepting appointments beginning January 12th.

Our Services

- ✓ Certified Counselors Prepare Returns
- ✓ Individual & Married Tax Filing
- ✓ One-on-One Assistance
- ✓ Simple Returns (no long forms)

Free Tax Assistance Celebrates 25 years

We are pleased to announce the return of AARP Foundation Tax-Aide, offering free tax return preparation from February 3 through April 14. This trusted program specializes in assisting individuals 50 and older and/or those with low to moderate income, providing one-on-one help from IRS-certified volunteer counselors. Appointments will begin being accepted on January 12, and services include individual and married tax filing as well as simple returns without long forms.

Over the years, the Tax-Aide program has completed more than 7,000 tax returns, saving our community over \$2 million in preparation fees and maximizing refunds for local residents. Now celebrating 25 years of service, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide continues to make a meaningful financial impact by ensuring accurate, free, and accessible tax assistance for those who need it most. To reserve an appointment, call 217-826-2535.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

TRY OUR NEW, FREE 3D PRINTING CLASS

HELD THE 2ND THURSDAY AT 6 PM AND THE 3RD SATURDAY AT 10 AM

LEARN TO USE OUR NEW 3D PRINTER SAFELY—COMPLETING THE CLASS IS REQUIRED BEFORE USING THE PRINTER.

IF YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE CLASS BEFORE, YOU MUST TAKE THE CLASS AGAIN.

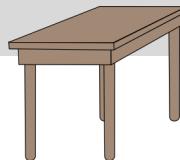
PARENTAL ATTENDANCE IS RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10.

3D PRINT CLASSES HAVE RESUMED!

Displays @ Your Library!

January: "Fiber Arts" by Adrienne Hutson

February: "President's Day: Lincoln" by Library Staff





Friends of the Library News



The Friends of the Marshall Public Library met on **November 6, 2025**, in the Dale McConchie Meeting Room. Members approved prior minutes, reviewed correspondence, and filed the Treasurer's audit. Director Alyson Thompson announced a \$1,000 Walmart Grant for children's programming, and members approved funding for several library programs and initiatives. Updates were shared on upcoming events, including *It's a Wonderful Life* and the new monthly genealogy program *Roots and Records*. The next meeting is scheduled for **January 8, 2026**.



AFTER-SCHOOL ADVENTURES

Little Book Beginners

- ✓ For preschoolers 3-5 years old
- ✓ In person program will be held at the library each 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm.
- ✓ Child must be accompanied with an adult
- ✓ Led by retired reading teacher Marge Wilson
- ✓ Registration is required

January's theme (1/15):
"Best Mouse Cookie"

February's theme (2/19):
"Pout Pout Fish"

STREAM

- ✓ After school for children 3rd—6th
- ✓ Held the 3rd Tuesday at North School
- ✓ **Pick up at 4:00 pm at North School**
- ✓ Led by retired science teacher Kathy English
- ✓ A light snack will be provided
- ✓ Registration is required, beginning the first of each month. Seating is limited.
- ✓ Send note to school on day of program

January's theme (1/20):

"Cool Chemistry"

February's theme (2/17):

"Hands On Coding"



Beat Cabin Fever

Cabin Fever Reading Program for all ages, running January 12 through February 23. Each week, turn in a bookmark listing the books you've read to be entered into a weekly drawing. At the end of six weeks, a grand prize will be awarded to the reader who completes the most books. Prizes are provided by the Friends of the Library.

BOOK CHAT

Join us for our "Book Chat" that meets the third Wednesday of the month at 10:30 AM.

Better Luck Next Time
by Julia Claiborne Johnson

January 21st

James
by Percival Everett
February 18th

GO ON A Blind Date with a Book

Beginning February 1, try a "Blind Date" book—wrapped in brown paper with a few clue words to spark your curiosity. Choose a book, read it, and you'll be entered into a special drawing for each one you complete. Available through February 14. **All ages welcome!**

~MEMORIALS~

In memory of Caroline Tingley

From Don and Susan Guinnip
Kid's Kit #105: Kit, An American Girl
By Laurie Tripp

In memory of Robert Kintz

From MHS Class of 1961
The Second Story Bookshop
By Denise Hunter

In honor of Gayle Rayhel

From Angel Goble
The Christmas Ring
By Karen Kingsbury

In memory of June Wallace

From Angel Goble
Rainy Day Miracle
By Jill & Matt Cheatham

In memory of Bonnie Ann Daugherty

From Marshall Public Library
Board and Staff
The Christmas Stranger
By Richard Paul Evans

Hand Crochet Class

The Hand Crochet Class will be held February 23 and 24, from 5:45 to 7:30 PM in the Illinois Room. This beginner-friendly, instructor-led class will guide participants in creating a 4' x 5' chunky lap blanket, ideal for cozy evenings or gifts. Led by Jeannie Thornton, the two-session class requires participants to bring six skeins of chunky yarn (25–31.7 yards each). Registration is required, seating is limited, and participants must be 16 or older.

MARSHALL PUBLIC LIBRARY

612 Archer Avenue
Marshall, IL 62441

Phone: 217/826-2535
Fax: 217/826-5529
E-mail: marshallpubliclibrary@gmail.com

LIBRARY HOURS:
Monday through Wednesday: 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Thursday: 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Friday and Saturday: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Library Director: Alyson Thompson
Head Librarian: Jamie Poorman

Check us out at
[www.marshallillibrary.com!](http://www.marshallillibrary.com/)

“Marshall’s Downtown Window to the World”



CITY OF MARSHALL RESIDENTS WHO LIVE IN CITY LIMITS MAY PICK UP 10 LAWN AND LEAF BAGS FROM THE LIBRARY EACH MONTH. PLEASE SIGN NEXT TO YOUR NAME WHEN YOU PICK UP YOUR LAWN BAGS.

Spotlight on New Materials!

ADULT

Large Print

The Royal Artisan – Tessa Afshar; Girl Lost: The King Legacy – Kate Angelo; On the Edge of Trust – Patricia Bradley; Battle of the Bookstores – Ali Brady; Unexpected Amish Protectors – Jo Ann Brown; An Amish Widow’s New Love – Vannetta Chapman; Tom Clancy Executive Power – Brian Andrews; Love’s True Measure – Lori DeJong; The Tin Men – Nelson DeMille; A Hundred Magical Reasons – Laura DeNooyer; An Unexpected Catch – Abbey Downey; The Master Executioner – Loren D. Estleman; The King’s Ransom – Janet Evanovich; Behind Enemy By-lines – Kathleen Fuller; Trails into Danger – Arthur Henry Gooden; Deadly Trail – James J. Griffin; Out of Time – Irene Hannon; The Second Story Bookshop – Denise Hunter; Queen Esther – John Irving; Dead Broke, Colorado – William W. Johnstone; Still Waters – Patricia Johns; Calamity James – William W. Johnstone; Gunpowder Mountain – Jarret Keene; An Amish Marriage Agreement – Patrice Lewis; Secrets of Her Amish Heart – Cathy Liggett; Otherwise Engaged – Susan Mallery; Bonds of Hercules – Jasmine Mas; The Intruder – Freida McFadden; Witches of Dubious Origin – Jenn McKinlay; Dark Design – Nancy Mehl; The Black Wolf – Louise Penny; When the

Cranes Fly South – Lisa Ridzén; Hunting for a Husband – Mindy Steele; Outpost in the Desert – Robert Vaughan; I Call Her Brave – Linda J. White; Her Secret Amish Admirer – Beth Wiseman; The Lies They Told – Ellen Marie Wiseman.

Adult Nonfiction

The Lost Mary: Rediscovering the Mother of Jesus – James D. Tabor; 25 Frozen 1 Thawed: Murder and Mayhem in the Midwest – Bob Cyphers; Essential Native Trees and Shrubs for the Eastern United States: The Guide to Creating a Sustainable Landscape – Tony Dove; Homegrown Handgathered: The Complete Guide to Living Off Your Garden – Silvan Goddin; A Horse by Nature: Managing Emotional and Mental Stress in Horses for Improved Welfare – Mary Ann Simonds; Bite by Bite: Nourishments & Jamborees – Aimee Nezhukumatathil; Zuzu Bailey’s It’s a Wonderful Life Cookbook: Recipes and Anecdotes Inspired by America’s Favorite Movie – Karolyn Grimes; The Pioneer Woman Cooks: The Essential Recipes: 120 Greatest Hits, New Twists, and Perfected Classics – Ree Drummond; Bite by Bite: Nourishments & Jamborees – Aimee Nezhukumatathil; Delivering the WOW: Culture as Catalyst for Lasting Success – Richard Fain; Customer Service and Beyond: ...It Is All About the WOW! –

Dawn Mushill; The Heart of It’s a Wonderful Life: How the Most Inspirational Movie of All Time Still Inspires the Spirit – Jimmy Hawkins; The Hanging: The Saga of Betsey Reed – Dann M. Norton; The Greatest Gift: A Christmas Tale – Philip Van Doren Stern; The Book of This Day in History – Jim Daley; Echoes from the Past – Kilgore; Chained Eagle: The Heroic Story of the First American Shot Down Over North Vietnam – Everett Alvarez.

Young Adult Fiction

Thorn Season – Kiera Azar; Wolf Club – James Bird; Defanged – H. E. Edgmon; Hekate: The Witch – Nikita Gill; Scarlet Morning – ND Stevenson; Black Torch, Volume 1 – Tsuyoshi Takaki; Tokyo Ghoul, Volume 1 – Sui Ishida; Tokyo Ghoul, Volume 2 – Sui Ishida; Mirror Town: Tales Passing Strange – Daniel Nayeri; My Sister the Werebeast – Alina Tysoe.



Do you have a 0 – 5 years old child who lives in Clark County, IL?

If so, your child qualifies to receive a free monthly book! Gerald and Jean Forsythe sponsor Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library offering Marshall children free monthly books!

Apply at: www.imaginationlibrary.com