



Thomas Ford
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

THE
Ford
Connection

SPRING 2025

Savor the Season

*Enjoy the simple pleasures
with us this spring!*

Nature • Art • Food
Games • Laughter
...and so much more

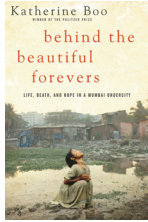


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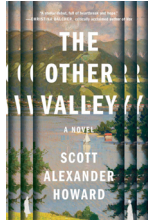
books

Library book club discussion groups are open to anyone who enjoys good books!
Extra copies are available at the Library one month before the discussion.

7:30 p.m. start



Wednesday, March 5
Behind the Beautiful Forevers
by Katherine Boo
Non-Fiction



Wednesday, April 2
The Other Valley
by Scott Alexander Howard
Time Travel Fiction



Monday, April 28
A Man Lay Dead
by Ngaio Marsh
The Monday Murder Club Pick



Wednesday, May 7
The Great Divide
by Cristina Henríquez
Historical Fiction



Monday, May 12
The Stardust Grail
by Yume Kitasei
Sci-Fi & Fantasy Book Club Pick

ONE DAY ONLY!



Saturday, May 3
Stop by with the entire family to grab a FREE comic book! While supplies last.

films

A series of independent, foreign, and documentary films with optional discussion after each screening.
Registration required.

6 p.m. start



Thursday, March 13
Conclave*
Dir. Edward Berger
2024, Political Thriller
Cardinal Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes) is tasked to choose a new Pope and finds himself at the center of a conspiracy that could shake the very foundation of the Catholic Church.



Thursday, April 10
Wicked*
Dir. Jon M. Chu
2024, Fantasy Musical
University students Elphaba and Galinda reach a crossroads in their friendship after an encounter with the Wonderful Wizard of Oz.



Thursday, May 8
A Complete Unknown*
Dir. James Mangold
2024, Biographical Musical
In 1961, 19-year-old Bob Dylan arrives in New York City with his guitar and starts his meteoric rise to becoming one of the best-selling musicians of all time.



Open Mic Night*

Monday, May 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Read, perform, or sing your heart out at our open mic night co-hosted by the Western Springs Writers' Society! All ages and genres are invited to read or perform a piece of their own original work that is no longer than five minutes, and anyone is welcome to attend as part of the audience.

crafts

First preference will be given to Western Springs residents. Please have your library card ready.

7 p.m. start

Monday, March 3
St. Patrick's Day Wreath*
Celebrate the luck of the Irish by making a festive wreath! All materials will be provided.

Monday, April 14
Felt Florals*
Create adorable and practical floral magnets using felt. All materials will be provided.

Thursday, May 1
DIY Soap Take Home Craft Kit
Celebrate Spring by making your very own crushed flower soap! Kits including materials and instructions will be available for pick up beginning May 1. While supplies last.

Monday, May 5
Paint a Pot*
Create a masterpiece on a terracotta pot. All supplies will be provided.

food

Our virtual Classroom Kitchen series hosted by Kristyn Slick. A recording will be emailed to all registrants after each program. Even if you are unable to attend the live event, please register if you would like to receive the recording to watch on your own time!

6:30 p.m. start

Wednesday, March 12
Taste of Ireland*
Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with two classic Irish dishes! We'll whip up a hearty shepherd's pie and bake traditional Irish soda bread.

Wednesday, April 23
Light & Bright Spring Dinners*
Eager to enjoy easy, delicious dinners? Learn how to create fresh, light meals that are big on flavor and short on prep time.

Wednesday, May 21
Mediterranean Feast: Flavors of the Sun*
Discover vibrant, healthy dishes packed with fresh herbs, bold spices, and zesty ingredients that will transport your taste buds!

Spice of the Month

Spice up your life with a take-home kit that includes the necessary spice, a recipe to try, and some cookbook recommendations that feature relevant meals featuring each month's theme. While supplies last!

March 25: Sage
April 29: Himalayan Pink Salt
May 27: Matcha

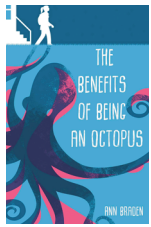
Registration opens on **Friday, February 28** for all Teen & Tween programs. Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Teen/Tween programs are open to those in grades 5-12.

* Registration required

TWEEN Book Club*

7 p.m. start

Read and reflect with us! Extra copies are available one month before each discussion.



Thursday, March 6
The Benefits of Being an Octopus*
by Ann Braden



Thursday, May 1
The Blackbird Girls*
by Anne Blankman



Mindy McGinnis Author Visit*

Monday, March 17, 7-8:30 p.m.

Wondering how you can become a published author one day? Stop by to meet author Mindy McGinnis in-person at the Library! The award-winning novelist will speak about her craft, take audience questions, and sign books. McGinnis is an Ohio-based farm girl and Young Adult author of the Edgar Award-winner "A Madness So Discreet," plus numerous other titles including psychological thriller "Be Not Far from Me" and the gothic horror mystery duology "The Initial Insult" and "The Last Laugh." This event will be hosted at the La Grange Public Library.

College Planning Webinar*

Tuesday, March 4, 7-8 p.m.

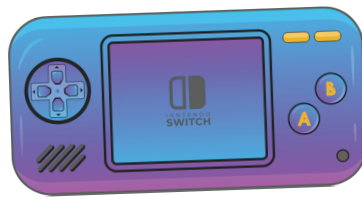
2025 introduces significant changes to the ACT/SAT, and college admissions continue to get more selective. Learn about the revamped ACT and SATs and how test-optional can be evaluated. We'll introduce new strategies to give students the best opportunity to be admitted and maximize scholarships!



Fairy Door Kit

Friday, March 28

Decorate a whimsical fairy door to welcome fairies into your garden! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.



Nintendo Switch FRIDAYS

Open Play

Friday, March 14, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Join us for multi-player fun and choose which games to play! Snacks will be provided.

Super Mario Party Jamboree*

Friday, April 11, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Pick your favorite character and join us for minigame mayhem! Snacks will be provided.

Runbow*

Friday, May 30, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Run your way to the finish line in this multi-player party game! Snacks will be provided.

Teen Board

Third Thursdays: March 20, April 17, May 15
7 p.m.

Do you have ideas for how the Library can better serve teens and tweens? Join us to share programming suggestions, recommend books, and give input for Library events. We also do a fun craft or activity every meeting. Open to students in grades 5-12. Meet in the Teen/Tween Room.

Quesadillas & Guacamole*

Monday, April 7, 3:45-4:30 p.m.

Learn how to make quesadillas and guacamole with customizable ingredients, then taste your creations!

Clay Nature Imprint Kit

Monday, April 21

Celebrate Earth Day by making a clay impression of the beauty of nature! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.



DIY Kites*

Monday, April 28, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Go fly a kite! Make your own design, then see how it flies!

Free Comic Book Day

Saturday, May 3

Stop by to celebrate and snag a free comic book! While supplies last.

Star Wars Day Pretzel Light Saber Kit

Sunday, May 4

Fight off hunger with these delicious candy-dipped light saber pretzel sticks! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Mother's Day Felt Flowers*

Wednesday, May 7, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Create a handmade bouquet of felt flowers for your mom or grandma that will last forever!



THOMAS FORD LIBRARY FOUNDATION

We are very grateful for the strong community response to the Thomas Ford Library Foundation's 2024 Annual Appeal. These gifts reflect the important place that the Library has in our community, and they enable the Foundation to financially support exciting projects that make using the Library easier and more efficient, such as the redesign of the Library's website which we funded in 2024. Thank you to all of those who gave throughout the past year!

Paul & Mary Altman
Marie & Robert Anderson in appreciation of the WS Writers Society
Seth & Sarah Anderson in honor of Browning and Grant Anderson
Mary Jane Anthony
Andrew & Brooke Ariens
Kathy Arnold
Mr & Mrs Robert Avina
Joan Ayres, in memory of Pete Ayres
William & Joan Binder
The Brandstedt Family in memory of Jeanette Brandstedt
Mary & Marty Brown
Marcia Buell
Bob & Deb Bularzik
Mary & Bill Burke
Liz Burns
The Capone Family
Jim & Amy Casey
Kristin Challacombe
Sharon Cloghessy
Marie Cote in memory of Louis Cote
Margaret Cunningham in memory of Karen Lipinski
Bob & Linda Daman
Wendy Davies
Peter & Barbara DeBerge
Jodie Distler Hanzlik
Deborah Dixon
Michael & Mary Doepke
Linda Dolezal
Jean Dukes
Daniel & Wendy Duquette
Mike & Sue Durkin in appreciation of Library Staff
John & Fran Dzuryak
Bonnie Engel in honor of her family
John Ericson & Lisa Den Besten
Jeffrey Evans
Peggy Fahrenbach & Richard Sykes in memory of Herman Bodewes
MeLisa Feeley
Randy & Joyce Ferrari in appreciation of Library Staff
David Flockencier
Catherine & Woody Forns
Carol & Rob Foster in honor of the WS Library Friends
The Fuelleman Family
Sheila Gallagher in appreciation of Library Staff
Laura & Steve Gatland
Robert & Diane Genaze
The Giering Family in appreciation of Library Staff
Mr & Mrs Andrew Gore
Kersten Gorski
Karen & Joseph Goyer
George & Shirley Graves
The Graziano Family
Robert & Virginia Grecco
Mary & Steve Greska
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Susan Morrow & Todd Halamka in honor of Leslie Karas
Thomas & Sheila Hansen
Shelley Hebert
Paula & James Hellige
Rose & Jim Horvath
Barbara Hultman in memory of Jon E. Hultman
Celia Hunt
Mark & Linda Hussey
Joan Hwang
Susan Jacob
Karin & Tim Janowski
Michael Jewell

Kay Johnson in memory of John I. Johnson
Tom & Judy Josefek
Harry & Karen Kannry
Leslie & Paul Karas
Adam Kellerman
Brian & Kathleen King
Laurie Koshgarian
Barbara Lamb
Mary Lee & Jim Larsen in memory of Karen Lipinski
Julie & John Lillquist
Charles Macke
Tom Davy & Mary Kay Malas
Patricia & Mark Manetti in appreciation of Library Staff
Tara Marszewski
Jessica & Charles McGinnis in honor of Martha & Fred Phillips-Patrick
Mark & Sandy McLaughlin in memory of Karen Lipinski
Michael & Jaynellen Mikulski
Grant Miller in honor of Norman Mailer
Joanna Miller
Lori Mitchell & Scott Edwards
Dan & Marilyn Montgomery
Jennifer & Bob Morgan in memory of Bob Olds
MaryJo & Tom Mulcahy
Mr. & Mrs. John Mulvaney
Lisa Mungai in memory of Aldo Mungai
The Mungai-Hannon, Willand & Barton Families in memory of Aldo Mungai
Linda & Win Murray
Edward Neafsey
Keith Newton
Janice Nowak
Thomas Oczkowski in memory of MaryAnn Oczkowski
Josh & Jacquie Odelson
Barbara & Tom Pfendler
Daniel & Carolyn Pihera
Mary Pirman in memory of Margaret Pirman
Ray & Nancy Powers
Anne & John Purdy
Gwen Quackenbush in honor of Anne Kozak Purdy and Liz Burns
Emily Rehn
Ara Robinson
Sue Schierholtz
Daniel Schultz
Christine Scriba
Warren Mary Lou Sejud
Terry & Kerry Sheehan
Peggy Spagnola
Patricia Stamper in memory of William Stamper
Mark & Jacqueline Stoll
Donna Strunk in memory of Henry Strunk
Tom & Beth Sullivan
James Swinehart
Karen & Tom Teegarden
Paul & Eva Thomas
The Thornton Family in memory of Nancy Bertucci
Anne Valentin in memory of Richard Valentin
David Vick
Charles & Ruthann Vihon
Maureen White
Nancy Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Winans
Elizabeth & Larry Wood-Hull
Jim Ols & Mamie Yee
Bernadette Zaczek
Anonymous (6 gifts)
Kirkland & Ellis matching gift
UBS Wealth Management matching gift

To learn more about becoming an Oak Leaf Society member and/or investing in the Library's future by leaving a gift in your will, contact us at foundation@fordlibrary.org or (708) 246-0520.

The Foundation is an independent 501(C)(3) non-profit organization, and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law.



Read to a Therapaws Pet*

Recommended Grades K-2

Tuesdays: March 25 OR April 22
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Beginning or independent readers love to practice reading aloud to one of the pets from Hinsdale Humane Society's Therapaws Program because it's pressure-free! Each child will have a 10-minute time slot, which is allotted on a first-come, first-served basis and will be confirmed via email prior to the program. Due to the popularity of this program, we request that you register your child for one day only.



Family Art Night: Rock Painting*

Families Welcome!

Thursday, March 27
6-7 p.m.

Create an art project together as a family in our new Family Art Night series! This season, we will paint rocks to decorate our gardens for spring. Be sure to dress for mess!



Let's Make It Rain!*

Grades 2-4

Thursday, April 17
4-4:45 p.m.

April showers bring May flowers, so let's make it rain! We'll share a rain story, then we'll create our own rain stick instruments and embrace the season!



My Garden*

Grades K-1

Thursday, May 1
4:30-5:15 p.m.

What would you grow if you had a garden of your very own? Join us for a reading of Kevin Henkes' book "My Garden" and use a variety of art supplies to create the garden of your dreams!



Wild & Wacky Family Fun Show*

Families Welcome!

Tuesday, April 15
4:30-5:15 p.m.

Let loose, have fun, and enjoy a laugh or two! This show may include everything from trivia to juggling and silly tricks to Simon Says, as well as dance challenges, heads or tails, individual and team challenges, The Crazy Wheel, and of course: prizes!

Evergreen Programs

March-May



Leprechaun's Alphabet Hunt

March 1-31

Leprechaun is hiding on the shelves! Find him and count his shamrocks each day to get a sticker from the Youth Services Desk.



Time for April Showers!

April 1-30

Your favorite book characters are staying dry under the umbrella! Find a new character each day to receive a sticker.



Froggy Loves Flowers!

May 1-31

Our friend Froggy loves spring flowers! Find him hiding in the department and report the color of his flower to earn a sticker.

Display Your Collection!

Did you know you can show off your favorite things at the Library? If you have a special collection you are very proud of, we would love to see it! Some ideas and past displays have featured toys, books, art, trinkets, and treasures. Collections are displayed near the front entrance for a month. Visit the Youth Services Desk or call us at (708)-246-0520 to sign up!

**Thomas Ford
Memorial Library**

800 Chestnut Street
Western Springs, IL 60558
(708) 246-0520
fordlibrary.org

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Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
9:30 a.m - 5 p.m.
Sunday
1 p.m - 5 p.m.

Ted Bodewes, Library Director

Library Closings

The Library will be closed on:
• Sunday, April 20 for Easter
• Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day

Library Board of Trustees

Margaret Fahrenbach, President: margaretfahrenbach@fordlibrary.org
Jean Carroll, Treasurer: jeancarroll@fordlibrary.org
Carol Foster, Secretary: carolfoster@fordlibrary.org
Stephen Baker: stephenbaker@fordlibrary.org
Adam Fuelleman: adamfuelleman@fordlibrary.org
Ann Marie Kartsounes: annmariekartsounes@fordlibrary.org
Daniel Montgomery: danielmontgomery@fordlibrary.org

Board of Trustees Meeting Dates

The Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Spring 2025 dates: March 25, April 22, May 27

Everyday Resources

Thomas Ford Memorial Library offers so much more beyond books and community programming!

From high-speed internet, computer, and printing access to meeting room reservations and more, we're here to be your convenient one-stop destination for all things learning, connecting, and growing. Ask us about our services any time to take advantage of everything!

Library of Things

We have a variety of cool and useful tools available for checkout in our Library of Things collection, including:

- Nintendo Switch
- LED Therapy Lamp
- GoPro Camera
- Travel Accessories
- Metal Detector
- Collapsible Projection Screen
- Memory Kits for Dementia
- ...and so much more!

Ongoing Groups

These ongoing Library groups are free for all to attend. No registration required.

Investment Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays: March 11, April 8, May 13
7:15 p.m.
Amateur investors meet to discuss financial insights, trends, stocks, etc.

Western Springs Writers' Society

Second & Fourth Thursdays: March 13, 27; April 19, 24; May 8, 22
7 p.m.
Discuss and hone your craft with other writers of all levels and genres! Contact Jim Swinehart at jrswinehart10@gmail.com with any questions.

Knitting Circle

Every other Thursday: March 13, 27; April 10, 24; May 8, 22
1 p.m.
Join us for knitting, conversation, and light refreshments.



you
belong
here