

WHAT'S HAPPENING

December 2023

269.781.7821 / yourmdl.org

Mon - Thurs 10 - 8:30 / Fri & Sat 10 - 5:30

Closed: December 25 & 26 / January 1

A Very Merry Month

+ Holiday Break

Programs For Everyone!!!

Crafts At the Merry Mile

Thurs, December 7 & 21, 6 - 8 pm

Meet YourMDL at the Merry Mile for a fun time of winter-themed family crafts. Jingle all the way with reindeer, bells, & snowflakes galore! A free book will be gifted to each family, while supplies last. No registration required; we'll see you at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds' Floral Hall, 720 Fair St, Marshall, MI 49068.

Pre-Holiday Adult Fiction Book Sale

Fri, December 8, 10 am - 5 pm, & Sat, December 9, 10 am - 4 pm

Just in time for gift giving, the library lobby will fill with good condition adult fiction books to fill your own stocking or to pass along to the bibliophiles on your holiday lists. Claim your selections with a donation of your choice. Donations are used toward library programs.

Santa & Singing

Wed, December 20, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

'Tis the season...it's time for the highly anticipated return of Marshall District Library's "house band": The Long Overdues. Join the library staff for a social evening with classic Christmas carols & holiday cheer. There will be treats, a sing-a-long, & a visit with Santa. Bring your camera! All are welcome; no registration necessary.

Pizza & Stories: Pajama Party (R)

Thurs, December 28, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

YourMDL invites you to a special relaxing family storytime this holiday season...with pizza dinner provided. Bring your own blankets to sit on & meet us in your coziest pajamas for dinner & bedtime stories in the library! This program is intended for preschool through first grade & their caregivers, but other family members are welcome to join.

Book Bingo (R)

Wed, January 3, 6 - 7 pm

Build up your bookshelf while enjoying an evening out with family & friends! This is your chance to yell "BINGO!" inside the main space of the library. Winners will be awarded books to keep & add to their libraries at home. Everyone ages 5+ is invited to join!

Pizza & Puzzles (R)

Thurs, January 4, 6 - 8 pm

Participate in puzzle-making while munching on pizza! This program celebrates friendly competition as teams try to be the first to finish their puzzle. Everyone ages 5+ is invited to join!

Something on Saturdays (R)

Saturday Morning Programs - 11 am - 12:30 pm

See yourmdl.org/events for full program descriptions.

Pokémon Club - December 9 & January 6

Perler Beads - December 16

Shrinky Dinks - December 23

LEGO Club + - December 30

Teens Only!



See inside for Loot Box details!

Not-Quite-New-Years Video Game Lounge

Fri, December 29, 5:30 - 7 pm

Ring in the New Year by enjoying your favorite video games with friends at the library! Bring back couch co-op for an evening & share the games that make you happy while celebrating the arrival of 2024. You may bring your own console or play on one of ours. Whether you're Team Xbox, Sony, Steam, or Nintendo, we'll save a space for you! Registration is required; grades 6-12 only.

December Adult Programs

Meet the 1225:

the Inspiration for The Polar Express (R)

Mon, December 4, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join presenter Bill Struck from the Steam Railroading Institute for a conversation about the 1225 Pere Marquette, which is the largest steam locomotive ever used in Michigan & is renowned for its role in the movie The Polar Express. The Steam Railroading Institute is a non-profit, located in Owosso, MI, & is dedicated to educating the public about steam era railroading in Michigan & the Great Lakes Region. This includes the preservation of the skills & technology for maintaining steam locomotives by operating steam era equipment & providing the experience of steam locomotives in actual operation, including the North Pole Express, which is available during the holiday season. Geared towards ages 18+, but is open to anyone interested.

Tree Cookie Ornaments (R)

Wed, December 6, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Decoupage natural wood rounds & transform them into beautiful seasonal ornaments! This craft will include everything you need to make several small ornaments & is perfect for every level of crafter. This craft is free & is for those ages 18+. All supplies are provided.

Crafty Friday: Bookish Ornaments (R)

Fri, December 8, 11 am - 12 pm

Using pre-loved book pages, create holiday ornaments any book lover will adore. Crafty Friday is free & is for those ages 18+. All supplies are provided.

Book Club: The Day the World Came to Town (R)

Mon, December 18, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join librarian Chelsea Heisler & fellow book club members for an in-person chat of The Day the World Came to Town by Jim DeFede. Available in regular print & audiobook through MeL. This title is also available as an ebook & e-audiobook on Hoopla & Libby. CD soundtrack copies of *Come From Away* (based on this book) will also be available at the Help Desk or on Hoopla. Whether you attend regularly or this is your first meeting—all participants are welcome!

Spice Club (R)

Tues, December 19, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Explore, discover, grow...taste! Welcome to Spice Club, offering one spice each month to experiment with in your kitchen. In December, please plan to share memories of a favorite dish that is always on your holiday table. Registration includes the month's spice; attendance at the monthly gathering is optional. Marshall District Library is not responsible for any reactions or sensitivities to spices. Cook with caution. Ages 18+ only.



HAPPY CAMP

BEGINS JANUARY 2024



Programs with this require registration.

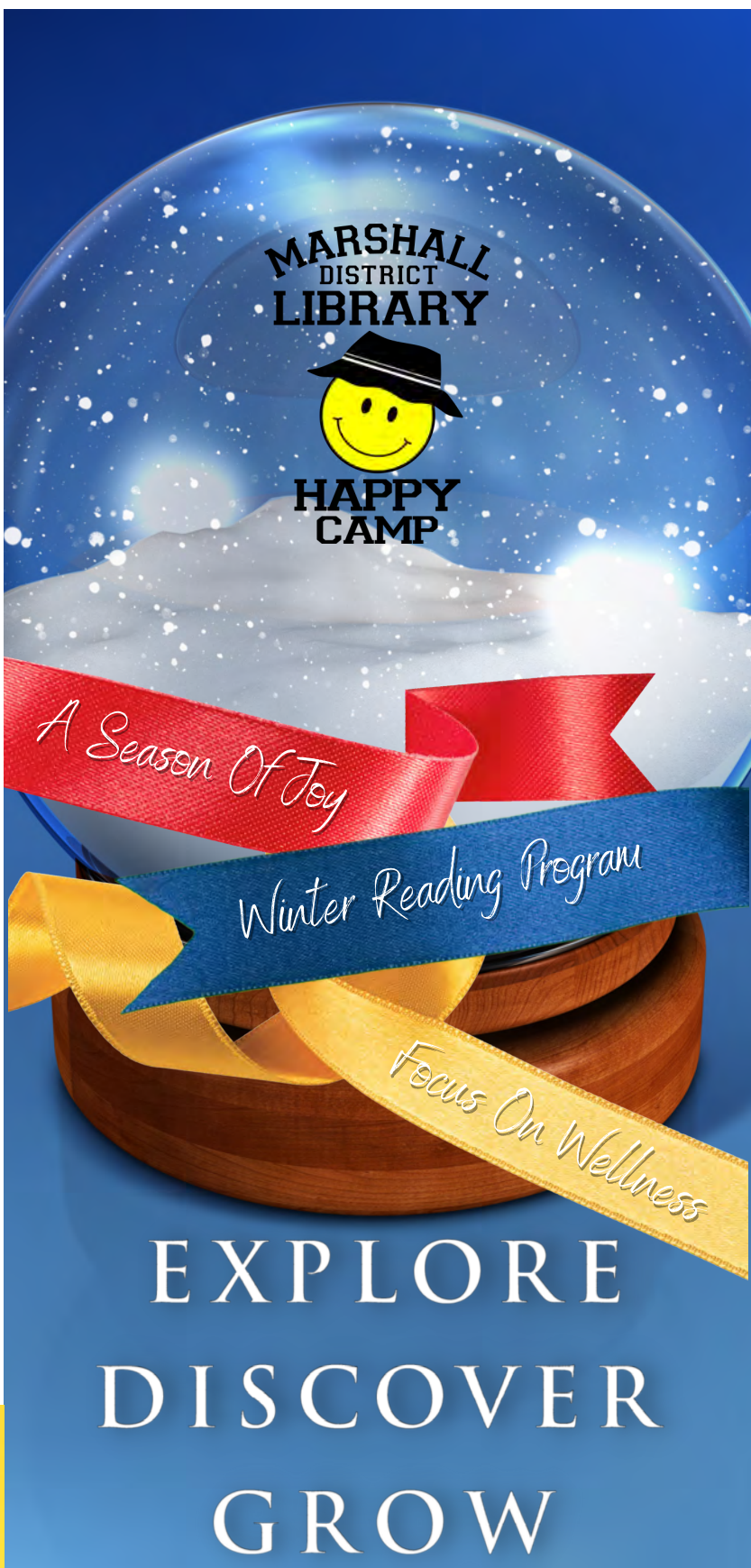
WHAT'S HAPPENING

January & February 2024

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Closed: January 1 / February 16





ADULT PROGRAMS

NEW! Drop-In Genealogy

Fridays, 10 am - 12 pm

Are you curious about how to begin researching your family history? Have you started researching but are hitting brick walls? Or do you just need some dedicated research time with others to provide some motivation? Drop in to the library on Friday mornings in January & February. Librarian Chelsea Heisler will be ready to talk genealogy, show you what resources are available here at the library & online, & offer you a cup of coffee while you chat. No registration necessary.

New Year, New You!

The Anti-Resolution...Resolution

Mon, January 8, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Did you know you have a superpower exercise gurus don't mention? Join Personal Trainer & Gold Certified Clinical Exercise Specialist Troy Huggett for an informational chat that will introduce you to this 'secret' superpower as well as how to maximize it. Learn successful strategies to maintain your wellness goals for 2024 & beyond. Ages 18+ only.

Wind Down Wednesdays

Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 24, & 31, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Take a break in the middle of the week. Step away from the world & check in with yourself. Pause to reflect, consider a fresh start, & take the opportunity to tap into the power of your mind! Practicing mindfulness can help you reap the benefits of the present moment, allowing you a reminder to be present no matter what the rest of the week throws at you. Join Jessica McCrumb of Otterdance Yoga for an hour of practice. Wear comfortable clothes for gentle stretching, bring a journal, & a yoga mat if you have one. This program is similar to past Mindfulness Mondays & is intended only for age 18+. Please register for each week you plan to attend.

Crafty Friday: Love Garland

Fri, January 12, 11 am - 12 pm

Upcycle old newspapers by adding juicy watercolor paint & create an adorable garland to hang for the valentine season. There will likely be extra love around to create some actual valentines too. Crafty Friday is free & is for those ages 18+. All supplies are provided.

Reimagining Place with Outdoor Structures

Tues, January 16, 6:30 - 8 pm

Dreaming of summer & making garden plans? Join the Marshall Area Garden Club & local resident Ian Stewart for an informational & inspirational presentation. Ian's work at Landscape Forms allows him to blend his love for design, craftsmanship, & the outdoors -- redefining places & spaces for people to gather & connect with each other & the environment just outside their door. Some of his work was on display in his & partner Erin Skidmore's yard, which was featured on the Marshall Area Garden Club's 2023 Garden Tour. A short garden club business meeting will follow; non garden club members are welcome to attend both the program & may stay for the meeting if they like. This program is intended for ages 18+.

Read It & See It Book Club

Fri, January 19, 10 am - 1 pm

We all have opinions when we read a book & view a movie based on that book. Read *Shoeless Joe* by W.P. Kinsella & then meet up with Heritage Commons' Read It & See It Book Club to watch *Field of Dreams*. A discussion will follow led by YourMDL library assistant & movie buff Josh Heisler. This book title is available in regular print & audiobook through MeL. It is also available as an ebook & e-audiobook via Hoopla. You do not need to be a member of Heritage Commons to attend but do need to be 18+. A pizza lunch is included.



Programs with this
require registration.



**HAPPY
CAMP**

HAPPY CAMP IS
INTENDED TO GIVE OUR
WINTER AN INJECTION OF JOY!
THIS YEAR WE FOCUS ON WELLNESS
AS IT CONNECTS TO HAPPINESS.

Focus On Wellness

Tour of DeVine Ventures: DeVine's Flowers & Botanicals, The Gathering, & More

Mon, January 22, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join Katy DeVine & staff for a tour of the DeVine Ventures facilities. Visit DeVine's Flowers & Botanicals, The Gathering, & more! Get to know the faces behind the company. Learn about the family behind the businesses, the different facets of the space, & upcoming offerings. Ages 18+ only. Meet at DeVine's Flowers & Botanicals at 810 Industrial Rd, Marshall, MI 49068.

Spice Club

Tues, January 23, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Explore, discover, grow...taste! Welcome to Spice Club, offering one spice each month to experiment with in your kitchen. In January, we kick off Happy Camp 2024 & highlight wellness - what that means to you in your kitchen. Meetings are held monthly; registration is required on each date & limited to one kit per household. DeVine Ventures joins us for Happy Camp 2024 with a special co-host Erin Skidmore. Meet at The Gathering at 800 Industrial Rd, Marshall, MI 49068. Registration includes the month's spice; attendance at the gathering is optional. Marshall District Library is not responsible for any reactions or sensitivities to spices. Cook with caution. Ages 18+ only.

Tour of Grassroots Functional Medicine & Wellness Café

Mon, January 29, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Join Dr. Abby Sirovica & the Grassroots Functional Medicine staff for a tour of the Grassroots Functional Medicine & Wellness Café! Fueling a healthy lifestyle & mental health includes more than a positive mindset. Explore various supplements, movements & exercise, chiropractic care, & nourishing foods that will empower your daily lifestyle & combat toxicity. Tour both the chiropractic area & café, & enjoy a few samples along the way! Ages 18+ only. Meet at 136 W. Michigan Ave, Marshall, MI 49068.

Why Be Happy About AI? An Introduction

Tues, January 30, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

From ChatGPT to self-driving cars, artificial intelligence is on the rise & in the news. If you've ever wondered what AI is or how it works, this program is for you! In this fun & easy-to-follow presentation, you'll learn the basics of AI: from its definition to its real-world applications. Learn how AI is already at work in our world, ways you might benefit from it, & how to stay informed. No prior knowledge required!

ADULT BOOK CLUB

January 15, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Lady Tan's Circle of Women
by Lisa See



February 19, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

The Language of Flowers
by Vanessa Diffenbaugh





MORE ADULT PROGRAMS!

Used Books Sale

Fri, February 2, 10 am - 5 pm, & Sat, February 3, 10 am - 4 pm

Remember the excitement of visiting the book fair when you were in school? Our used books sale is like that but without cute cat posters. A wide variety of books & media will be available at our winter used books sale! Monies collected will be used to fund library programming. Cash, check, or credit card accepted.

DIY Canvas Creations [®]

Mon, February 5, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Enjoy a relaxing evening creating a canvas painting for yourself or someone special. Choose from several Valentine's Day images or design something that makes you happy! DIY Canvas Creations will be a self-guided program, although questions are welcome along the way. All supplies are provided. Ages 18+ only.

Crafty Friday: Pocket Hearts [®]

Fri, February 9, 11 am - 12 pm

These little handcrafted hearts aren't just cute, they feature a hidden pocket perfect for wishes, dreams, love notes, or whatever you might like to tuck inside. Crafty Friday is free & is for those ages 18+. All supplies are provided.

Estate Planning 101 [®]

Mon, February 12, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Do you have your ducks in a row? Join Diane Peters of Housley Peters Law Office for an informational chat about estate planning. Learn what documents to prepare while making your final arrangements to ensure peace of mind for you & your family--such as durable powers of attorney, patient advocate designations, wills, trusts, & more. Ages 18+ only.

Macramé Mug Rug [®]

Wed, February 21, 6 - 8 pm

Learn to make an adorable rug-inspired coaster to keep your favorite mug cozy & warm on the table this winter. Using only the square knot, we'll make macramé feel easy in this beginner-friendly project. This craft is free & is for those ages 18+. All supplies are provided.

Spice Club [®]

Tues, February 27, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Explore, discover, grow...taste! Welcome to Spice Club, offering one spice each month to experiment with in your kitchen. In February, we close Happy Camp 2024 with a focus on slow cooking & sharing our favorite ways to take our time when it comes to food. Meetings are held monthly; registration is required on each date & limited to one kit per household. Registration includes the month's spice; attendance at the gathering is optional. DeVine Ventures joins us for Happy Camp 2024 with a special co-host Erin Skidmore. Marshall District Library is not responsible for any reactions or sensitivities to spices. Cook with caution. Ages 18+ only. Meet at the library.

Adult LEGO Club [®]

Wed, February 28, 6 - 8 pm

If you're over 18 & love LEGOs, this night is for you! Leave the kids at home, & meet at the library for some fun challenges using the library's LEGO collection. You'll be surprised at what you build when asked to rise to the occasion.

A Season Of Joy



PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE!

Winter Reading Program

Begins Tuesday, Jan 2!

This year, Marshall District Library is launching a DIY Reading Challenge with the start of 2024. You decide how long it lasts: only winter, until summer, or is it a year-long challenge? We'll offer various types of challenges for you to choose from or you truly can create your own! Yes, we'll also offer some incentives along the way...in case the Joy Of Reading isn't incentive enough.



Little Free Puzzle Library January & February

Following the success of our Little Free Plant Library in 2023, we welcome you to enjoy a community-wide puzzle swap throughout Happy Camp. You can take one home anytime you like. If you ever have one to add to the little free library, simply drop it by the Help Desk & we'll put into the rotation of puzzle fun.

In Our Library Era [®]

Fri, January 26, 5:30 - 7:30 pm

All ages of Taylor Swift fans are invited to this afterhours event, where we will "shake off" the day & the library will transform its "blank space" into a dance floor. The evening will feature a Swift costume contest--you choose your era--prizes, & lots of music. We'll make Swift-inspired friendship bracelets (or bring your own to trade)! With a photo booth & lyric-focused fun, everyone is sure to be "enchanted".



The Joy of Awkward Family Photos [®]

Wed, February 7, 5 - 8 pm

One of the fun things about family photos is looking back on the hair & fashion of past eras. Along the way, we might also encounter some odd poses, some laser light backgrounds, or some high-tech double exposure portraits. Happy Camp is about wellness this year & joy is a key component. Dress up your people & bring them to create (or re-create) your own Awkward Family Photo. Library staff & volunteers will add some special effects & deliver an 8x10 print & digital file for sharing. Registration required to claim a photo shoot slot; space is very limited.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

THURSDAY EVENING SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS

Thursday Evening Programs - 5:30 - 7 pm

*Intended for grades 2-5;
younger attendees must be accompanied by an adult
See yourmdl.org/events for full program descriptions.*

Sink or Float? - December 14

Breakout Room - January 18

Chemical Reactions - February 15

SOMETHING ON SATURDAYS

Saturday Morning Programs - 11 am - 12:30 pm

*Intended for grades 2-5;
younger attendees must be accompanied by an adult
See yourmdl.org/events for full program descriptions.*

Pokémon Club - December 9, January 6, & February 3

Perler Beads - December 16

Shrinky Dinks - December 23, January 20, & February 17

LEGO Club + - December 30, January 13, & February 10

Squishmallow Fun - January 27 & February 24

TEEN PROGRAMS

Grades 6-12 only.

Monthly Loot Box

Are you looking for a sign to treat yourself? Well, look no further than Teen Loot Boxes! Each month you sign up, you get a bunch of fun stuff (including snacks), & an expertly selected library book to read when you come in from the cold. Save all the awesome loot inside & return the library book & box when you are finished. Loot participants must return their box in order to register for the next month's box. Sign up while supplies last! Teens who do not have a library card are welcome to participate; a non-library book will be provided.

Not-Quite-New-Years Video Game Lounge

Fri, December 29, 5:30 - 7 pm

See description on December insert!

Pancakes, PJs, & Party Games

Fri, February 23, 5:30 - 7 pm

It's time party people! Enjoy making pancakes in your PJs after hours at the library! We'll also play some party games which will be pretty prodigious...(that means pretty great).

REGISTRATION NOTE Programs with this require registration.

All programs are FREE & open to the public. Watch your email for a response within 24-48 hours. As space & supplies are limited, your email will either confirm your registration or alert you to waitlist status.

When registering for programs, confirmation emails come from mdleventregistration@marshalldistrictlibrary.org. Use this address if you would like to search for them &/or alert your email that it is not spam. Emails often include details applicable to each program. (If you do not have regular email access, you may contact our Help Desk at any time.)

Our programs are free (& very popular)! We often have a waiting list; if you register but can no longer attend, please let us know!

MORNING EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS

*Intended for ages 2-6; all ages welcome.
Please note there is a break week each month.*

Family Storytime

Mondays - 11 am

December 4, 11, & 18; January 8, 15, & 22;

February 5, 12, & 19

A half-hour introductory storytime for the whole family with a focus on those who are just learning to sit & engage with stories in a group setting. Playtime included!

Jumpin' & Jammin'

Wednesdays - 11 am

December 6, 13, & 20; January 10, 17, & 24;

February 7, 14, & 21

Move your body & exercise your brain during a full half-hour of music & movement. We'll get to use our little muscles & big muscles, which helps our brains get bigger & get ready for school. Please remember to wear comfortable shoes.

Stretches & Stories

Thursdays - 11 am

December 7, 14, & 21; January 11, 18, & 25;

February 8, 15, & 22

There are so many ways to learn & grow. With a special combination of stretches, stories, & STEAM activities, we will build a base to encourage little learners as they prepare for school & beyond.

STEAM Explorers

Fridays - 11 am

December 8, 15, & 22; January 12, 19, & 26; February 9 & 23

Discovery is right round the corner as children learn while they play.

Through guided activities, sensory bins, freestyle crafts, & group stories, your little explorer will delve into the worlds of science, technology, engineering, art, & math! Baby toys will be available for younger siblings.

EVENING EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS

Zoom Storytime

Tuesdays, December 5, January 2, & February 6

5:30 - 6 pm

Welcome to a special storytime that meets wherever you are. Join us online for storytime over Zoom, featuring all the wonderful stories, songs & fingerplays you will find in-person. Zoom Storytime works in tandem with Virtual Storytime Kits to develop vocabulary, print awareness, & phonology.

Pizza & Stories

Thursdays - 5:30 - 6:30 pm

YourMDL, in partnership with the Great Start Collaborative, invites you to a relaxing family storytime each month this winter...with pizza dinner provided. Bring your own blankets to sit on & meet us outdoors for dinner, stories, & take-home kits full of fun about that month's theme! This program is intended for preschool through first grade & their caregivers, but other family members are welcome to join us. Meet at the locations indicated below; the rain location is the library.
December 28: Pajama Party @ Marshall District Library
January 25: Snowy Celebration @ Ketchum Park
February 22: Brain Break @ Heritage Commons

VIRTUAL STORYTIME KIT

Let's read some stories, share some songs, & learn something new together with Virtual Storytime. Little learners will expand their world & prepare for school through the Early Literacy practices of Talk, Sing, Read, Write, & Play. Kits will include a special link to YourMDL's YouTube channel along with supplies to create a themed craft at home.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Angela Semifero

If you have any questions or suggestions about library services, please contact me at 269.781.7821 x1100 or semiferoa@yourmdl.org.

Welcome to our fourth annual Happy Camp program. Happiness can look very different to different people & for the last few years, the library has spent some time during the gray days of winter exploring things that can bring people joy. We've been so grateful to spend time with you all focusing on health & wellness, rest, comfort, food, creativity, & of course, reading.

This year we have put together a variety of activities that we hope has something for everyone. Have you enjoyed the calming practices in Mindfulness Mondays for the last few years? Check out Wind Down Wednesdays. Looking to create something beautiful? Look no further than Crafty Fridays. We will go on field trips to get tours of local businesses. We will learn about steel railroads, genealogy, new technology, & science experiments. We will also sing, dance, & play at musical events & programs that celebrate pop culture trends of yesterday & today.

For those hoping to curl up at home for the winter, (or escape to warmer temperatures!) Marshall District Library offers a variety of services. Did you know that the Marshall District Library's website provides access to downloadable books, audiobooks, movies & music? The Libby & Hoopla apps can be used on mobile devices. If you've ever thought about learning a new language, you can check out the Mango Languages app or visit the library website.

For gatherings in your home, we have board games, educational toys, & technology available to check out from our Library of Things. In addition to early literacy programs, virtual storytime kits are available for our youngest visitors. Teens can take home a monthly Loot Box that includes activities, snacks, & a book selected by a librarian based on their interests. Adults can sign up for our monthly Spice Club to learn about the history of a spice & explore some new recipes. Take a look at the library's website at www.yourmdl.org for other online resources & events listings.

We are looking forward to spending another year helping our community to explore, discover, & grow. If you have any questions or suggestions about library services, please contact me at 269.781.7821 x1100 or semiferoa@yourmdl.org.



124 W. GREEN STREET • MARSHALL, MI 49068

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS?

Please contact Shauna Swantek, Head of Programming & Community Engagement, at 269.781.7821 x1800 or swanteks@yourmdl.org.