Spring Story Time

Children of all ages and parents/caregivers are invited for 30-minute programs featuring stories, songs and other literacy-based activities.

MCPL Wausau — Weekly on Sat., 10:30am (year-round)
MCPL Athens — Weekly on Tue., 10am (year-round)
MCPL Edgar — Weekly on Thu., 10am (year-round)
MCPL Hatley — Weekly on Tue., 10:30am (year-round)
MCPL Marathon City — Weekly on Thu., 10:30am (year-round)
MCPL Maximea — Weekly on Wed., 10am (Sept.-May)
MCPL Rothschild — Weekly on Tue., 10:30am (year-round)
MCPL Spencer — Weekly on Wed., 10am (Sept.-May)
MCPL Stratford — Weekly on Wed., 10:30am (Sept.-May)

PLAY AND LEARN

Children of all ages are invited to these 90-minute programs featuring stories, songs and other activities.

MCPL Wausau — Weekly on Fri., 9:30am (year-round)
MCPL Athens — Weekly on Tue., 10:30am (year-round)
MCPL Edgar — Weekly on Thu., 10am (year-round)
MCPL Hatley — Weekly on Thu., 10am (year-round)
MCPL Maximea — Weekly on Wed., 10:30am (Sept.-May)
MCPL Rothschild — Weekly on Tue., 11am (year-round)
MCPL Spencer — Monthly on the second and fourth Wed., 10:30am (Sept.-May)
MCPL Stratford — Weekly on Wed., 10:45am (year-round)

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

This 30-minute program helps prepare children 3-5 years old for kindergarten with stories, songs and early literacy activities.

Wausau — Weekly on Wed., 10:30am (year-round)
Wausau — Weekly on Thu., 10:30am (year-round)

TALES FOR TOTS

Enjoy books, songs and fingerplays with your toddler at this fun and lively story time! This program helps 2-3 year olds develop fundamental knowledge such as shapes, numbers, colors, rhyming.

Wausau — Weekly on Tue., 10am (year-round)
Wausau — Weekly on Tue., 10:30am (year-round)

BOOK BABIES

Join us for 20 minutes of “lap sit” story time for children birth to 23 months! Listen and interact with your baby.

Wausau — Weekly on Mon., 10am (year-round)

SENSORY STORY TIME

Geared toward children with Autism Spectrum Disorder or Sensory Processing Disorder, this 30-minute story time features stories and soothing interactive activities.

Wausau — Monthly on the first or second Sat. (contact us for details), 9:15am (year-round)

LENA Start is underway!

The first three years of a child’s life are vital to brain development. Children from birth onward learn through talking, singing, reading and playing. During these interactions, children learn how the world works, acquire vocabulary and stimulate different parts of their brains, as well as many other benefits.

While this may seem easy enough, some caregivers may not be talking enough or using a sufficient variety of words. This is where LENA Start can benefit many children in our community. Using a “talking pedometer” that children wear, LENA technology tracks the amount of words they are exposed to on a regular basis. (Conversations and words are not recorded, just the data.) With a week’s worth of data from the device, parents and caregivers will receive weekly reports in the form of easy-to-understand graphs and tables. Additionally, caregivers will partake in parent education classes led by trained staff that will help improve their verbal interactions with their child. The Marathon County Public Library is the first LENA Start site in the state of Wisconsin, which is something we are very proud of.

The first LENA Start will run for 13 weeks at MCPL Wausau on Monday mornings (2/26-5/21) and Thursday evenings (3/1-5/24). Registration is required, and free childcare will be provided for all LENA Start participants, as well as supplies and special incentives.

If your family can’t participate this time around or you missed the registration deadline, fear not; more LENA Start sessions are slated to be held this fall, with exact dates to be announced.

For more information, visit www.mcpl.us/lena!

Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist

Uniform Addressing

If you’ve received a postcard informing you that your address is changing, you’re one of the more than 20,000 Marathon County residents who will receive a new address as part of Marathon County’s new Uniform Addressing system. April through November of this year, residents, business owners and landowners in 41 municipalities will receive a new six-digit uniform address, with a goal of helping emergency services provide the right service to the right place at the right time.

Some residents may feel overwhelmed by these changes, but MCPL is here to help. Folks can visit any MCPL location to get in-person assistance and free copies of quick reference guides for residents and businesses. Trained staff members are ready to answer your questions, help you change your address with third parties, and more.

You may also visit the county’s Uniform Addressing website at www.MyMarathonCountyAddress.org for information about the project, how new address signs will be delivered and installed, a list of participating municipalities, a change-of-address checklist, helpful maps and more. Non-English speaking residents can also translate the information found on the website into Hmong and Spanish using Google’s handy translation tool. Once address signs begin to be delivered/installed, the website will be updated regularly with a list of completed municipalities and where address signs will delivered/installed next.

For questions regarding the Uniform Addressing project, visit www.MyMarathonCountyAddress.org or your local MCPL, or call the MCPL Reference Desk at 715-261-7230.

Dan Richter, Library Marketing Specialist

NEWSLETTER

MARCH—APRIL 2018

There is a lot going on at your library! The Friends of the Library have moved into their new digs in the old bookmobile garage, and their first book sale of the season was a huge success. The Friends made the transition very smoothly, and we look forward to their being able to enjoy the new room for years to come as they raise money to help the library provide its programs.

On another note, the LENA Project will be gearing up in February and March of this year. The library will be hosting and facilitating this important community-building program designed to help parents of children aged birth to three years old with the critical brain development that occurs around language. There are multiple community partners involved in both the funding and the execution of the project, and I’m very proud to see such a warm and enthusiastic response to LENA.

For more information please contact a staff member.

Lastly, I would remind everyone that the county’s Uniform Addressing project is underway, and the library has been working closely with the Conservation, Planning and Zoning Department to help the people of Marathon County navigate this important process. For those of us who will be impacted by this initiative to improve public safety and emergency responses, information will be mailed to you at the appropriate time. If you need further information or guidance to official sources, please contact your local library. We will be happy to get you connected with what you need to know.

Thank you for your continued support.

Come and visit us soon!

Ralph Illick, Library Director

Upcoming Events

Did you know the library schedules a variety of fun and educational events for all ages every month? Check out the interior of this newsletter or visit www.mcpl.us/events for the latest information!
**Art Cluster Reception**
Sat., 3/10, 11:30am-1:30pm @ MCPL Wausau
Help us celebrate work of art made by students in Wausau School District’s Art Cluster program!

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**Teen Library Photo Scavenger Hunt**
3/4-3/10 @ MCPL Wausau
Take photos around the library and submit them to our teen Instagram account for a chance to win a prize.

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**Scratch Art Creations**
Mon.-Sat., 3/5-3/10 @ MCPL Wausau
If you’re interested in coding, then Scratch Art Creations is for you! Learn about hands-on experiences with Scratch and create your own animation.

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**Brown Bag Puppets**
Fri., 3/9, 1pm & Thu., 3/15, 6pm @ MCPL Wausau
Hobby and craft enthusiasts are welcome to join us for an hour of telling stories and making fun crafts focused on the environment!

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**Herbs, Herbs, Herbs**
Mon., 4/16, 6pm @ MCPL Stratford
Learn about the uses of herbs for cooking, health and beauty purposes!