

December 6 - 19, 2019

BEHIND THE DESK

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF NEWSLETTER

Marketing Focus: December

Programming: Pop-in Programs! There are lots of drop-in programs in the Kids' Library during the Winter, especially around the holiday break.

Activities range from viewing parties to creative play activities. [Details at elmlib.org/popin](http://elmlib.org/popin).

Collection: Consumer Reports + Holiday Shopping Gift Guide The Library has a subscription to the online version of Consumer Reports. Anyone with an EPL card can access it!

Let patrons know that they can find expert reviews and rating on whatever gifts they are looking to buy at elmlib.org/consumer.

Service: Career Services Available!

With the New Year approaching, many folks may be looking to spruce up their resumes. Keep in mind two services to recommend:

- [Optimal Resume](#) provides a platform to create resumes, write cover letters, assess your skills, practice interviewing, and create a website with personalized resume and portfolio information. Industry-specific templates are available.
- [Tutor.com](#), which has a "Get Help Finding a Job Section," helps connect folks to a career coach, reviews resumes, and offers online job resources.

Amenity: Hygge at the Library! Hygge is a quality of coziness and comfortable conviviality that engenders a feeling of contentment or well-being. Between the 2nd floor fireplace, warm drinks at Brewpoint's Lexicon Cafe, and our knowledgeable and warm staff, the Library is the embodiment of Hygge.

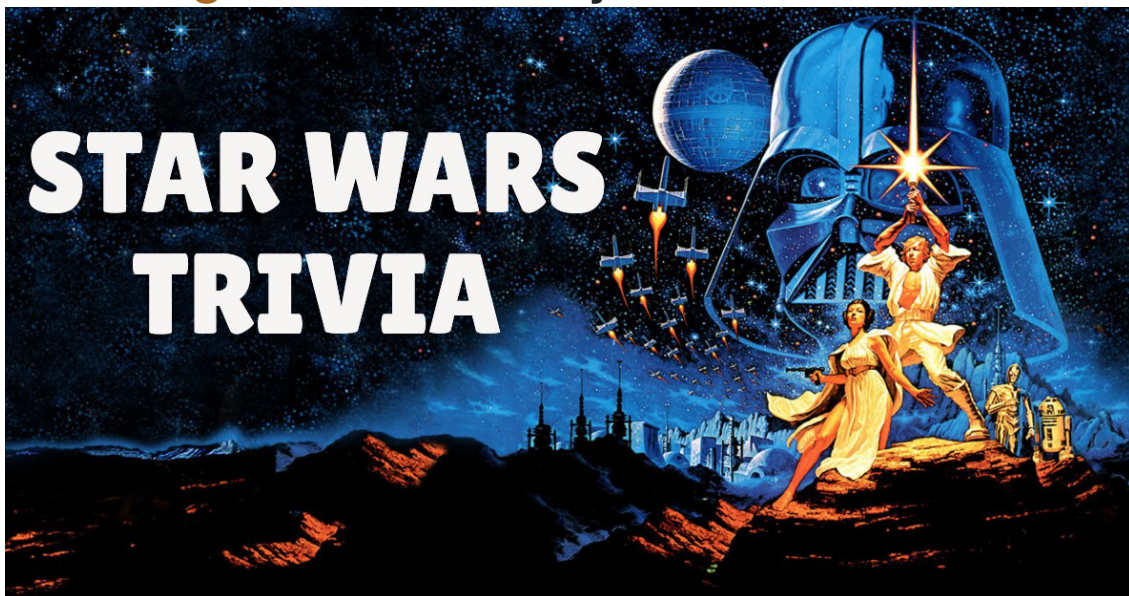
See page 26 of the [Winter Fine Print](#) for more specific examples of Library Hygge.



EPL Cares About Recycling Bring your scratched, outdated, homemade or otherwise non-usable disks to Tech Services and add to the [SCARCE](#) donation box! The disks are taken to a local recycler and the plastic from the disks is used to make car parts. Please remove the disks from their cases before donating.

[pictured l. to r.] Laura C., Suzanne B., and Nadia H. from Tech Services fill a donation box with CDs and DVDs weeded from EPL.

Trivia Night: How well do you know Star Wars?



Celebrate the release of *The Rise of Skywalker* with a night of Star Wars trivia at [Red Arrow Eatery & Self-Pour - Elmhurst](#) courtesy of the Elmhurst Public Library!

[Baig of Tricks Entertainment](#) quizzes you about all the Star Wars films, while Red Arrow keeps you fueled with great food, craft beer, cider, wine and other tasty libations.

Gather your teams now and secure your spot by reserving your table today!

Save the Date: Social Services Week of Workshops

Jan. 27-31

Social Services Specialist Tracey Orick, along with Social Work Intern Emily Becker and other staff members will provide a series of trainings/programs for staff on social services topics.

The week includes four sessions of book discussions about *Dopesick* by Beth Macy. Copies are available in Marcy's office. Stop by to pick up a copy or [click here for audiobook, eBook, and eAudiobook copies.](#)

User Story: Library Card Amenities

Lynn shares with us that after registering a patron for a new Library card and going over a lot of the things he would be able to do in the Makery, and telling him that he could access the databases and meeting rooms, Freegal downloads, and the rest of the e-collection, he said, "This is the best meeting I've had all week!"

Do you have an idea for a user story? [Email Anne S.](#) or fill out the [User Story form.](#)

Library of Extraordinary Staff **Allison Davis** **Kids' Library Associate**

In third grade, Allison's music teacher told her she couldn't sing. That comment stuck with her, but she didn't let it stop her from pursuing a Music Education degree. Today, Allison brings music to very young audience during her popular storytimes, "Songs & Stories" (ages 1-2) and "Music Factory" (ages 3-5).

Allison, who is passionate about brain development in children, finds that incorporating



music into Library programming is a great fit with pre-literacy.

“What I really like about it is that [the curriculum] presents music in the way kids are introduced to language when they’re growing up. First, they’re awash in music. Then they start imitating it, then they start to add language to it. It’s very sensory-motor based, which is how kids work. It works a lot on auditory processing, which is important for reading, thinking ... everything!”

By using instruments, singing, speaking in rhythm, and movements in class, Allison gets to witness the music growth in the kids that keep coming back.

Some parents say, “I don’t think my kid’s right for this because they can’t sit still.”

“They’re not *supposed* to,” says Allison. They’re one and two! But if they keep coming, it’s really cool to see when they start tapping into that auditory sense and self-regulation. Music is a great human connector.”

Allison says she is incredibly proud to work here, since EPL is “doing it right.”

“People like coming here. It’s important that we provide this open space for people to come. And what a way to prevent waste! I can check out materials like books, games, and STREAM kits. The Library stores it for me, and when I’m not using it, someone else will use it! It’s great for one-time use or sometime-use items.”

“I was proud when I found out that [millennials are the highest user group of libraries](#),” she says. “I’m so glad my generation isn’t maligned for at least one thing!”

When Allison isn’t leading storytimes or answering reference questions, she spends time with her family. Her daughter is 4-1/2, and a second child is expected to join the family in May. She reads primarily classics and fantasy, does cross stitch and quilting, and runs a Dungeons & Dragons game for friends and family.

All Library employees and household members are eligible for confidential assistance from [Magellan Healthcare](#). This service is available 24/7/365.

Services available include:

- Counseling
- Coaching
- Online Programs
- Wellness Resources
- Legal Assistance
- Financial Coaching
- Identity Theft Resolution

[More Info](#)

Welcome to our new Employee!

Jez Layman Adult & Teen Program Coordinator - Marketing

[Visit the Wall of Fame](#)



TUESDAY, DEC. 17 • STAFF LOUNGE

Staff Holiday Party

Food arrives at noon
(second delivery at 5 p.m.)

Catered by Mangia Napoli

Staff Favorites: We Asked, You Answered!

What's the holiday movie you could watch over and over, year after year?

Most popular answers: *A Christmas Story, Christmas in Connecticut, Elf, The Holiday, Love Actually, and Scrooged.*

For next time: *Which Star Wars film is your favorite?* Answers will appear in the next issue.

Answer here!



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