

[View this email in your browser](#)

February 14 - 27, 2020

BEHIND THE DESK

ELMHURST PUBLIC LIBRARY STAFF NEWSLETTER

Online Now: Spring *Fine Print*!

fine print



Peek inside to read about all of the exciting things Spring has to offer!

Highlights:

Separating Art from the Artist on March 10 (p. 21)

20s/30s programming (p.20)

Life Cycle of a Hold (p.4), and more!

Copies are scheduled to be mailed out to Elmhurst households next week.

[Read Online](#)

Marketing Calendar: February

Programming: Career and Job Programs

February offers tools and opportunities to rethink your career.

[Mastering the Phone Interview](#) Tuesday, Feb. 25 • 7 p.m.

[Resume Revamp: Tell the Story Behind the Story](#) Thursday, Feb. 27 • 10:30 a.m.

Collection: Romance Collection

Love is in the air! We have love stories in a variety of formats (large type, audio, etc.) Or, send folks up to the paperback section where they are shelved together!

elmlib.org/romance

Service: Readers Advisory

The 2nd Floor *Expand Your Reading Comfort Zone* Winter Reading Challenge is finished! With a **participation increase of 42%**, it was a great success.

Did you know that staff we can help find the perfect book at any time of year? Find the information staff needs from patrons to create tailored recommendations at elmlib.org/recommend

Amenity: Makery Equipment Status

The Makery information available on our website was recently updated and upgraded! Anyone can now see what equipment is operational or out of order at elmlib.org/status

Please help us spread the word!

EPL in the News: How to Start a Family Book Club



Congratulations to Kathryn Donohue, KL Library Associate, who was quoted in an article about [starting a family book club](#) in the current issue of *Chicago Parent*.

New for Staff: Makery Learning Assistance

Get one-on-one help with training or project assistance with Dulce or Sarah V. [Fill out this form](#) and someone will follow up to schedule an appointment.



Week of Workshops: Fill Out the Survey

What did you think about the Week of Workshops? If you have not yet responded, [please share your thoughts](#) by Monday, February 17.

User Story: A Place of Discovery

James graciously shared with us his story about his life-long experience with EPL:

“Elmhurst Public Library has been an amazing place of discovery for me my entire life. Before I was born, when my parents decided to move to the suburbs and raise a family, they had numerous criteria for where they wanted to settle. Elmhurst literally won out because of the Library. My parents loved it, and they instilled that love in me and my brothers. To be honest, it wasn’t hard. Every time I went, the place felt like home to me.

I’m certain it was the Library that gave me my love of stories and storytelling. When I was a small child, the various Summer Reading and activity programs there thrilled me. I remember ‘group writing’ a science fiction story one year, in which I added the ‘negative-man,’ who was made of black hole energy. I remember talking about and writing little fantasy tales, and building a tiny castle out of cardboard. I fondly recall checking book titles off lists, and wanting to write sequels to all of them, even though I didn’t yet know the concept or words.

And so I grew up within the walls, every story shaping and enriching my desire to write.

The Library moved when I was living in Lombard, and I’ll admit I had some trepidations about it. There was, as I said, a feeling of ‘home’ in the old place, and I feared ... I guess an ‘abandonment’ of it. Would the new Library be the same place as the old?

Of course it wouldn’t. Times change. People and spaces change. The new building is much more open and much, much larger, and it’s wonderful.

It took me all of one visit to warm to it. I had to wander around a little to find the things I was looking for, but every inch of the place was like an old friend inviting me back, and the invite was more than welcome. When I found myself in need of a change of scenery while writing, I took my laptop, drove out to the Library, and once again found myself transported.

I grabbed a book off the shelf, read it for a bit, wrote a bit, read a bit more, and thus a wonderful cycle began. Within a very short time, I had completed my first novel.”

Do you have an idea for a user story? [Contact Anne S.](#)

Library of Extraordinary Staff

Molly Schlecht

Graphic Designer, Marketing



When she was a sixth grader, Molly began her years of service to Elmhurst Public Library as a volunteer. “Back in those days,” she says, “you had to wait outside the Library. At the time, it was first come, first serve for volunteerism.”

As early as 6:30 a.m., Molly would camp out in front of the Library to wait for it to open. “It was brutal,” Molly remembers, laughing. “I think that’s why they do it by lottery now.”

Her persistence paid off—Molly served as a volunteer all three summers during her middle school years. After that, she got hired as a summer page in KL throughout her high school years.

In 2018, shortly after earning her degree in graphic design, Molly joined the Marketing Department.

Molly is the creative force behind the visuals for Library marketing campaigns. For example, she designed the logo for Walk, Ride, Share, which encourages library patrons to use alternative transportation in order to ease the parking lot crunch. She designed car magnets, stickers, parking lot banners, a newspaper ad, and a banner for the intersection of St. Charles and Spring Road.

Other large projects she’s worked on are Library Staff t-shirts, the Summer Reading Programs, and the Creative Studio branding: Now that the Creative Studio logo is done, the next step is working on a wall mural so patrons can easily locate and identify the space on the 2nd floor. “I don’t think people realize what it is,” she says. “Unless you know what

you're looking for and know you want to use it, it just looks like another study room."

As a side hustle, Molly runs a popular Etsy shop and making custom items like t-shirts, signs, and even hand-painted shoes. Molly puts her expertise to use when she works shifts in the Makery. Along with Cher M. and Jeannine L., Molly keeps trying to find new ways to attract new patrons to the crafting programs. Creativebug-based classes have been a great way to introduce [Creativebug](#) to patrons, and demonstrate how to use it. "It's got really great tutorials and classes," she says. "Once people know what it is, they're very enthusiastic about it."

Just this past week, Molly, Jeannine, and Cher ran EPL's first-ever class transmitted through Facebook Live, demonstrating how to make handmade soaps. "Facebook Live can reach someone who doesn't want to come to the Library, or maybe they have small kids and that prevents them from coming," explains Molly. "It's all about trying something new and reaching more people."

HR Corner: Jury Duty

Paid Time for Jury Duty

Full-time and part-time employees summoned for jury duty who are scheduled to work shall continue to receive their regular pay.

[See policy #8.6.4 for full details.](#)

Save the Date: Staff Enrichment

How to Use AV Equipment in the Meeting Rooms

Wednesday, Feb. 19 • 10 a.m.

Meeting Room A

EPL: a great place to work!

Open positions:

Early Childhood Services Librarian, KL

Technology Specialist, ADS

elmlib.org/jobs

Milestone anniversaries

Carol Haller: 25 years
Colette Dever: 10 years

Visit the Wall of Fame

Staff Favorites: We asked, you answered!

What was the first thing you bought with your own money?

Answers:

- "Cookie dough"
- "Aside from sundry candy as a kid, I'm pretty sure it was a Hanson CD"
- "My first car"
- "A bald, blue-eyed Cabbage Patch doll. I saved up for a long time!"
- "I bought into consumerism :)"
- "A coat"

For next time: *What's the last good movie you watched?*

Answer here



Copyright © 2020 Elmhurst Public Library, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

