

2025 Events & Activities at Alden District Library

Book Sales

Friday, April 4th / 9a-5p and Saturday, April 5th / 9a-2p

Saturday, May 24th / 9a-2p

Saturday, July 5th / 9a-2p

Saturday, August 30th / 9a-2p

Saturday, November 22nd / 9a-3p in Library and Torch Area Artisans Guild Craft Show in gym.

FRIENDS of the Library are accepting donations of gently used books, puzzles, games, CD's & DVD's, during library hours. M, W, Th, F, 9:30am-5:00pm / Tu, 9:30am-6:00pm / Sat, 9:30am-2:00pm.

Enrichment Programs

Programs are FREE and sponsored by the Library and Friends. Unless otherwise noted, programs are held at the Helena Township Community Center, 8751 Helena Rd, Alden.

January - May & August – December. Take N' Make Crafts. Each month a new craft kit will be available for pick up at the library.

StoryWalk® will be returning to Coy Mountain for the months of April-October. Round up the family and head out to Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden, to enjoy a romp in the woods and reading a good book along the way. A new story will be placed each month and covers about a 1/2 mile portion of the trail.

Beginning Bridge. Sign-up will be occurring during April, for this ten-week course, held on Tuesdays, 10am-12pm, beginning May 6th. Cost: \$10 for book and \$5 suggested donation per lesson. Come, have fun, and meet some bridge players! Lessons, taught by Judy Kuiper, an ACBL Best Practices certified bridge teacher. To sign up, contact Judy at jkuiper@learnselfcompassion.com or 616-581-4668. Sponsored by Alden District Library and the Antrim County Bridge Club.

Sunday, February 16th, 2pm. Life on a Reservation. Bob Holtzmann will be discussing his experience of growing up on two different Catholic Missions on reservations in North and South Dakota, and telling the story of how his family ended up living there.

Saturday, March 15th, 9am-4pm. Torch Area Artisans Guild Saturday Sew In. Artisans will be working on charity quilts and other projects. For more info, email: taartisansguild@gmail.com or Facebook: [facebook.com/TorchAreaArtisansGuild](https://www.facebook.com/TorchAreaArtisansGuild).

Sunday, April 6th, 2pm. Isle Royale National Park. Come join us as we visit Isle Royale National Park thru the eyes and experiences of Judy Umlor. After dreaming of hiking the island for many years, she finally made it happen at the age of 62. And as the island has a pull that one cannot explain, she has been back three additional visits with reservations to go again this spring. Come take a journey with Judy as she guides you through narrative and pictures of the limited diversity from Rock Harbor to Windigo in the big waters of Lady Superior, as well as tips on how to make your visit there a successful and safe one.

Enrichment Programs: Continued

Saturday, May 17th, 9am-4pm. Torch Area Artisans Guild Saturday Sew In. Artisans will be working on charity quilts and other projects. For more info, email: taartisansguild@gmail.com or Facebook: facebook.com/TorchAreaArtisansGuild.

Saturday, June 14th, 10am. StoryWalk® with Miss CC. Families will enjoy this interactive StoryWalk®, led by Miss CC, in the woods along a 1/2-mile portion of the trail at Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden. In the event of rain, this program will be held in the gym at Helena Twp. Community Center.

Thursday, June 19th – Monday, August 4th. Color Our World! Summer Reading Program. Kids and teens can sign up & pick up their program packets starting June 19th. Sign-up ends June 30th. Program ends on August 4th, when reading logs can be turned in to collect prizes.

Thursday, June 26th, 10am-10:30am. K9 Team Demonstration. Come meet Antrim County K9 Lieutenant Brcko and his handler Sgt. Skyler Skrobecki. This team will be demonstrating Brcko's obedience, agility, detection and article searching skills. This is an outdoor event, bring a chair, and will be held on the lawn of the South Torch Lake Fire Station, 8765 Helena Rd, Alden. In the event of rain, this program will be held in the gym at Helena Twp. Community Center, next door to the Fire Station. This is a family friendly program. NO PETS.

Thursday, July 10th, 10am. Preschool Story Hour and Elementary Kids Crafts.
(Caterpillar Theme) (Foil Embossing)

Saturday, July 12th, 10am. StoryWalk® with Miss CC. Families will enjoy this interactive StoryWalk®, led by Miss CC, in the woods along a 1/2-mile portion of the trail at Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden. In the event of rain, this program will be held in the gym at Helena Twp. Community Center.

Thursday, July 17th, 10am. Preschool Story Hour and Elementary Kids Crafts.
(Penguin Theme) (Balancing Buddies)

Thursday, July 24th, 10am. Preschool Story Hour and Elementary Kids Crafts.
(Under the Sea Theme) (Salt Painting)

Friday & Saturday, July 25th & 26th, 10am - 4pm. TAAG Quilt and Artisan Show & Boutique Sale. View over 100 quilts and artisan items made by our talented TAAG members. Shop our boutique with quilts, pottery and many other handmade items. Purchase raffle tickets for our "Spring Beauty" quilt, drawing to be held November 22, 2025, at our annual TAAG Arts and Crafts Show.

Saturday, July 26th, 10am-4pm. Alden Days. The day starts off with the Alden Run at 9am, followed by live musical entertainment, food and family activities at the tennis court park in Alden, and a parade downtown at 2pm. Make sure to stop by the Alden Library & Friends kids craft tent. This event is presented by Downtown Alden Business Association.

Saturday, July 26th, 2pm. Alden Days Parade. Help is needed from families & individuals of all ages to walk with the library's entry in the Alden Days Parade. *Formation at 1pm, Helena Twp. Parking lot.* To sign-up and get more details, please call the Library at 231-331-4318. Organized by Friends of the Library.

Enrichment Programs: Continued

Thursday, July 31st, 10am. Preschool Story Hour and Elementary Kids Crafts.
(Ice Cream Cone Theme) (Recycled Rubber Band Car)

Saturday, August 9th, 10am. StoryWalk® with Miss CC. Families will enjoy this interactive StoryWalk®, led by Miss CC, in the woods along a 1/2-mile portion of the trail at Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden. In the event of rain, this program will be held in the gym at Helena Twp. Community Center.

Sunday, August 10th, 2pm. Folk Musician Ben Traverse. Ben is a Grand Rapids-based folk musician and member of the Earthwork Music Collective. He will be performing Traditional Folk Music, which could include old time and Appalachian music. This is an outdoor event at the new Alden Village Center in downtown Alden, bring a chair. In the event of rain, the musical program will be held at South Torch Lake Fire Station, 8765 Helena Rd, Alden. This is a family friendly program.

Saturday, September 13th, 10am. StoryWalk® with Miss CC. Families will enjoy this interactive StoryWalk®, led by Miss CC, in the woods along a 1/2-mile portion of the trail at Coy Mountain, located at 9011 Valley St. in Alden. In the event of rain, this program will be held in the gym at Helena Twp. Community Center.

Sunday, September 21st, 2pm. Aurora Borealis: What is it? Presented by award winning photographer, speaker and member of Michigan Aurora Chasers, Patricia McCleery. Patricia will be discussing the science behind the Aurora Borealis, the best time of year to see it in Northern Michigan and how to photograph it with your cell phone.

Saturday, October 11th, 10am-4pm. Harvest Fest. Chili cook-off, live musical entertainment, family activities, kids crafts and more! Held at the tennis court park in Alden. Make sure to stop by the Alden Library & Friends kids craft tent. This event is presented by Downtown Alden Business Association.

Sunday, October 26th, 2pm. When History Rhymes: Survival and Mystery at White Shoal Lighthouse. Presented by Lighthouse Keeper, Historian, Author and Speaker, Jill Ore. This presentation explores the contrasting fates of ice fishermen Lewis Sweet and George Kruskie, who found themselves adrift on ice floes in 1929 and 1931, respectively, seeking refuge at White Shoal Light for survival. It also highlights the legacy of George Keller, White Shoal's longest serving keeper, and examines how history's patterns echo in the lives of those who braved the ice against the backdrop of Lake Michigan's unforgiving waters.

Sunday, November 16th, 2pm. Bad Treaties & Broken Promises. Robert Downes will be discussing the unfair treaties made with Michigan's Indians. The talk is based on his non-fiction book "*Raw Deal-The Indians of the Midwest and the Theft of Native Lands.*" Robert will be selling & signing copies of his book.

Saturday, November 22nd, 9am - 3pm. TAAG Arts & Craft Show. Helena Township Community Center will be filled with quality arts and crafts from many of our area artisans. Come get your Christmas shopping started, enter our quilt raffle, and shop our yummy bake sale! Lunch is available and door prizes will be provided by our vendors.

Ongoing Adult Activities

Tuesdays, 10am-12pm. Torch Area Artisans Guild (TAAG). Creating art and contributing to the community for over 40 years. For more info, email taartisansguild@gmail.com

Tuesdays, 1-4pm. Mah Jongg. People of all skill levels are invited to play.

Tuesdays, 2-4pm. Alden Knitters & Crocheters. People of all skill levels, including beginners, are welcome! For more info, contact Sue Archer at 231-944-0013.

Wednesday's, May 7th, 2025 - Oct 29th, 2025 (except the 3rd Wednesday of each month).

199er Bridge Game & Free Lessons. Free lessons at 11:30am. Lunch (bring your own) and bridge talk at Noon. ACBL-sanctioned bridge game for \$5.00 begins at 12:30pm. For more details, contact Lou Slyker at 248-770-6152 or ljslyker@gmail.com

The 2nd Thursday of each month, 3:30pm. Books 'n Brie Book Club. Come enjoy the company of fellow book lovers and discuss the book of the month. Copies of the reading list are available in the library.

The 3rd Thursday of each month. Friends of the Library. Anyone interested in supporting the library is always welcome. 9:30am social time & 10am meeting.

Alden District Library and Friends of the Library
8751 Helena Road, Alden, MI 49612
231-331-4318
aldenlib@torchlake.com