

2024

# FALL FUN GUIDE



Fall into fun: Your guide to adventure in Albert Lea!

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# Albert Lea Public Library

211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea, MN

507-377-4350

No fee for programs



## Hours:

Monday:	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday:	9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Wednesday:	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursday:	9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday:	1-5 p.m.
Saturday:	Closed
Sunday:	1-5 p.m.

## Library programs for pre-schoolers



### Storytime

**Mondays and Tuesdays,  
Sept. 9 to Nov. 26 at 10 a.m.**

Join us for stories, songs, and movement to support literacy development and learning in young children.

### Nighttime storytime

**Tuesdays, Sept. 10 to Nov. 26 at 6:30 p.m.**

Come in your pajamas for stories, songs, and movement to support literacy development and learning in young children.

### Music and movement

**Thursdays, Sept. 12 to Nov. 21 at 10 a.m.**

Join us for music, dancing, singing, and stories to support literacy development and learning in young children.

## Library programs for grade-schoolers

### Intro to Book Pals

**Thursdays, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12 at 3:45 p.m.**

Kids in grades 1 and 2 are invited to an introduction to Book Pals, a book club just for kids. Each month, kids will read, discuss and participate in activities related to a different story. Registration required.

### Book Pals: Grades 3 and 4

**Tuesdays, Sept. 17 to Oct. 15 at 3:45 p.m.**

Kids in grades 3 and 4 are invited to join the library for Book Pals, a book club just for kids. This fall kids will read "Nim's Island" by Wendy Orr and participate in activities related to the story. Registration required.

### Book Pals: Grades 5-7

**Mondays, Sept. 16 to Oct. 14 at 3:45 p.m.**

Kids in grades 5-7 are invited to join the library for Book Pals, a book club just for kids. This fall, kids will read "The Capture" by Kathryn Lasky and participate in activities related to the story. Registration required.



# Library events for teens and tweens



## Tween and teen drop-in crafts

**Second Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

Stop by the Albert Lea Public Library after school for drop-in crafts. There will be multiple crafts to choose from or you can create your own masterpiece. Supplies will be provided.

## Tween and teen game night

**Third Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.**

Join us at the Albert Lea Public Library for Game Night. A variety of tabletop games will be provided or attendees are welcome to bring their own games.

## Tween and Teen hangout

**Tuesdays, Sept. 24, Oct. 22, and Nov. 26 from 3:30-7:30 p.m.**

Drop in to the library on the fourth Tuesday of September, October and November for Tween and Teen Hangout! A variety of activities will be available, including Nintendo Switches, tabletop games, crafts, and more. Snacks will be provided.



To register for a program, stop by the library, 211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea, register online at [alponline.org](http://alponline.org), or call 507-377-4350. All programs are FREE OF CHARGE.

# Library special events



## Family event: Rock painting

**Sunday, Oct. 6 at 2 p.m.**

Bring the whole family and join us for a fun afternoon of crafting in the Children's Library. In October, attendees will paint rocks and make a black cat craft.

## Family event: Fall crafts

**Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 p.m.**

Bring the whole family and join us for a fun afternoon of crafting in the Children's Library. In November, attendees will make a candy corn turkey and a fall bookmark.

## Harry Potter party

**Tuesday, Nov. 12 from 4 to 6 p.m.**

Experience the magic of Hogwarts with a variety of activities based on the popular book series.

## Polar Express storytime

**Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m.**

Children are invited to join us for stories and crafts at our Polar Express storytime in the Children's Library. Come in your pajamas and "all-aboard" for fun.



## Family Reads

**Dec. 8 - Jan. 26**

Families with children can sign up as a team and record reading minutes. Teams have no limit, so get everyone involved in the fun! Teams earn raffle tickets for every 60 minutes read. Sign up for the program starting on Sunday, Dec. 1.

# Library programs for adults



## Board game night

**First Tuesday of the month from 6 to 8 p.m.**

Join us on the first Tuesday of each month for Board Game Night in the Fiction Library on the top floor of the Library/City Hall. A variety of games will be provided, but attendees are welcome to bring their own.

## Needles, pins and more

**First Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon**

Bring a small craft project and work on it with fellow community members. All types of crafts are welcome.

## Adult craft night

**Second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 and 6 p.m.**

Join the Albert Lea Public Library for adult craft night on the second Tuesday of each month. Attendees will complete a different craft each month. All supplies are provided. Registration is required. Please register for one session only, 4:30 or 6 p.m.

- Sept. 10: Upcycled glass bottle scarecrow
- Oct. 8: Pressed flowers bookmark
- Nov. 12: Beaded corn and pumpkins
- Dec. 10: Wooden spoon snowman

## Fountain Lake Readers book club

**Second Thursday of the month at 10 a.m.**

The Fountain Lake Readers book club meets monthly to discuss a broad range of fiction book titles. Copies of the book for each month are available at the library. New members are always welcome.

## Bring your own lunch and learn

**Second Thursday of the month at noon**

Bring your lunch and join us for an afternoon of learning in the City Council Chambers on the top floor of City Hall, 221 E. Clark St.

- Oct. 10: Minnesota's Hooded History with historian Nancy Vaillancourt\*
- Nov. 14: To be determined
- Dec. 12: Best Books of the Year, Albert Lea Public Library staff's 2024 favorites

\* This program is made possible by the people of Minnesota through Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Library Legacy fund, in cooperation with our regional public library system, SELCO.

## Choose your own book club

**Third Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m.**

Connect with fellow readers and grow your reading list in this casual book discussion group. Join us to talk about the books you've read or are currently reading.

## 3D printing: Design Class

**Thursdays, Sept. 19 and Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.**

Learn about designing and printing in 3D. Participants will use Tinkercad to create and customize designs and print them with the library's 3D printer. Participants do not need to have 3D printing experience, but should have basic computer skills. Adults and teens are welcome to attend; tweens can attend with a caregiver. Registration required.

## 3D printing: Open Lab

**Thursdays, Oct. 17 and Dec. 19 at 5 p.m.**

Access the library's 3D printing resources to make your designs come to life. Library computers, the 3D printer and PLA filament will be made available for prints. Participants should have prior experience with 3D printing. Staff will be available to answer questions and assist with troubleshooting. Adults and teens are welcome to attend; tweens can attend with a caregiver. Registration required.

## Drop-in crafts for adults:

### Make your own greeting cards

**Tuesday, Oct. 29 from 4:30 to 8 p.m.**

Drop-in to the Albert Lea Public Library for an evening of adult crafting to make your own greeting cards. Supplies will be provided.



# Fun for all ages



## Two-sentence scary story contest

**Submissions due Oct. 31**

Submit your scariest two-sentence story for our October writing contest. Story submissions may be about any frightening or ghoulish topic, but should be appropriate for a wide audience. Judges from the community will rank the submissions and prizes will be awarded to the top three stories in each category: grades 3-5, grades 6-8, grades 9-12 and adults.

## Library card design contest

**Submissions due Sept. 30**

Calling all artists! Showcase your creativity in our library card design contest. Tell us why you love the Albert Lea Public Library through your original artwork.

The winning designs will be reproduced as limited edition library cards. One winner will be chosen from each category: grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8, grades 9-12, and adults.

# Library services



## More than just books! The library has kits for your inner adventurer, athlete, scientist, and artist!

- Birdwatching for adults
- Birdwatching for kids
- Board games
- Card games
- Crochet for adults
- Crochet for kids
- Croquet
- Disc golf
- Fossils and rocks
- Ghost hunting
- Hiking for kids
- Horseshoes
- Knitting for adults
- Knitting for kids
- Magic kit
- Pickleball
- Preschool puzzles
- Science for kids
- Science kit
- Strategy games
- Telescope



More information is available on the library's website: [alplonline.org/discovery-kits](http://alplonline.org/discovery-kits)

## Library offers printing services

The Albert Lea Public Library offers printing services to the public for a small fee. Individuals can print from public computers or use the library's remote printing service to print directly from their own device. Printing costs 10 cents per page for black and white and 25 cents per page for color. For more information, visit: [alplonline.org/online-services/technology](http://alplonline.org/online-services/technology).

## Information available in English, Spanish and Karen

Beyond books, the Albert Lea Public Library offers computers for use, hotspots for checkout and many additional services. To learn more, watch the videos on the library's YouTube channel: [www.youtube.com/user/AlbertLeaPubLib](http://www.youtube.com/user/AlbertLeaPubLib). The "Information about" video programs are available in English, Spanish and Karen.

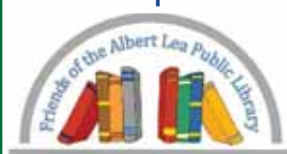
This Fun Guide is also available online in English and Spanish: [cityofalbertlea.org/recreation](http://cityofalbertlea.org/recreation).

While information is available in other languages, programs and classes are offered in English unless otherwise noted.

## SHOP THE FOUNTAIN LAKE BOOKSTORE

Located on the bottom floor of the Library/City Hall  
211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea

Open:  
Monday-Thursday  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



All proceeds support programming and equipment at the Albert Lea Public Library

# Albert Lea Recreation

701 Lake Chapeau Drive, Albert Lea, MN • 507-377-4370

Register online at: [bit.ly/recreation-registration](https://bit.ly/recreation-registration)

Or at the Recreation Office, open 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. weekdays

Cash, checks and credit cards accepted



## Pavilion rental information

Looking for a place for family reunions or birthday parties? The city rents facilities at Edgewater, Pioneer and Fountain Lake parks. Facilities must be rented for a minimum of 2 hours. Cancellations must be made 30 days prior to use to receive a refund. No refunds due to weather. Prices do not include sales tax. All parks and facilities are tobacco-free. Alcohol may only be served by a business with an on-sale liquor license who also holds a catering permit as an incidental part of food service.

For information on prices, contact the Recreation Department at 507-377-4370 or reserve online at [bit.ly/al-recreation](https://bit.ly/al-recreation). Rentals at Edgewater Cottage, Pavilion, and Pioneer Park Pavilion close Oct. 13.

## Photo policy

The City of Albert Lea may photograph participants in programs and special events, or people in parks or on park property, and use these images in city promotions. The media may also use images in their coverage of Albert Lea events, programs and facilities. The photos are not made available for commercial/private sector marketing and advertising, endorsement, trade or sales.

## Program cancellation

The City of Albert Lea will issue a full refund when a class or program is canceled due to low enrollment. Class participants will be notified of a canceled program through email.

## Participation waiver

Participation in any Albert Lea Recreation program, class or activity is voluntary. By enrolling in these programs, you indicate that you have no physical conditions, health history or illness that would make your participation hazardous to your health or others.

## Questions and volunteer opportunities

Consider giving your time and talents through volunteering with the Albert Lea Recreation Department. For more information, individuals, businesses and social groups should contact Recreation Coordinator Dani Bakken at [dbakken@ci.albertlea.mn.us](mailto:dbakken@ci.albertlea.mn.us) or 507-377-4368.

## Inclusion support

The Parks and Recreation Department provides an atmosphere in which individuals with special needs can interact, play and socialize with their peers in an inclusive environment. Recreation staff will do their best to assist with modifications and volunteer support to help make each experience successful. Please let staff know at registration if any modifications or support is needed.



# Recreation programs



701 Lake Chapeau Drive  
**507-377-4370**  
www.cityofalbertlea.org



## Safety Day 2024

**Tuesday, Sept. 17 from 4 to 6 p.m.**  
**Morin Park, 222 St. Mary Ave.**

Learn about services provided throughout the City of Albert Lea with demonstrations and booths from the police, fire department and other local agencies.

## Adult volleyball

**Mondays and Wednesdays starting Sept. 16**

Fall volleyball leagues are open to players age 15 and older, with games at the Albert Lea National Guard Armory, 410 Prospect Ave. Women's League games are on Monday nights and the Co-Ed League games are on Wednesday nights. The season ends with a single elimination tournament. Officials are not utilized, teams are responsible for making their own calls. First game starts at 6:30 p.m.

**Cost: \$134.84 per team**

## Weight training with Annie

**Mondays and Wednesdays,**  
**Oct. 14 to Dec. 4 from 5:20 to 6:10 p.m.**  
**Albert Lea Senior Center, 1739 W. Main St.**

Annie Olson is an experienced instructor who will be leading a weight training class that is suitable for people of varying fitness levels. Please bring an exercise mat, towel and one set of hand weights at desired weight. Schedule subject to change.

**Cost: \$40 for city residents,**  
**\$45 for non-residents**

Interested in weight training and Pilates? Sign up for both and save! \$70 for residents and non-residents

## Pilates with Annie

**Mondays and Wednesdays,**  
**Oct. 14 to Dec. 4 from 6:15 to 7 p.m.**  
**Albert Lea Senior Center, 1739 W. Main St.**

Pilates can improve both strength and flexibility. It involves a series of movements that target specific muscles in the body, with a focus on developing core strength. Pilates can improve your posture, balance, and overall fitness level. Please bring an exercise mat, towel and one set of hand weights at desired weight. Schedule subject to change.

**Cost: \$40 for city residents, \$45 for non-residents**

## Fun for students during fall and winter breaks!

**Fall break Oct. 17, winter break Jan. 2 - 3**

The Recreation Department is partnering with Albert Lea Community Education to offer a range of programs during fall and winter breaks. These programs are designed to keep students engaged, active, and learning during their time off. For the latest program announcements see our website, [cityofalbertlea.org/recreation](http://cityofalbertlea.org/recreation) and be sure to follow "Albert Lea Recreation" on Facebook and Instagram.

## Young Athletes

**Tuesdays, Jan. 21 to Feb. 25, 2025 from 6 to 7 p.m.**  
**(Schedule subject to change)**

**United Methodist Church, 702 Highway 69 S.**

The Recreation Department is partnering with United Preschool to offer Young Athletes. This program is an extension of Special Olympics and is designed to introduce participants to basic sports skills. Young Athletes is an inclusion program, open to children of all abilities. The program is tailored to children between the ages of 4 and 6, providing them with a fun and engaging environment to develop their athletic abilities. Children of all skill levels are welcome to join this program.

**Cost: \$20 for the 6-week session**

**Registration deadline: Friday, Jan. 17**

# LIVE ON THE EDGE!



## Albert Lea Skate Park

**Open 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. daily**  
**at the City Beach,**  
**300 Johnson St.**  
**No admission fee**



# Skating and hockey

## Catch college hockey at the arena

The Albert Lea City Arena is home to the Waldorf University (Forest City, Iowa) men's hockey program. Catch the Warriors in action this season! Details, including their game schedule, are available at: [www.waldorfwarriors.com](http://www.waldorfwarriors.com).

## Albert Lea Figure Skating Club

The Albert Lea Figure Skating Club provides a skating environment that fosters both recreational and competitive skating. The Albert Lea Figure Skating Club, its coaches, board members and skaters are members of the United States Figure Skating Association. Follow the club on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/AlbertLeaFigureSkatingClub](http://www.facebook.com/AlbertLeaFigureSkatingClub)) or check out the club's website at: [www.alfsc.org](http://www.alfsc.org).

## Albert Lea Hockey Association

The Albert Lea Hockey Association offers youth hockey teams. Check the association's website for more information and registration details: [albertlea.pucksystems2.com](http://albertlea.pucksystems2.com).



## Outdoor rinks and warming houses

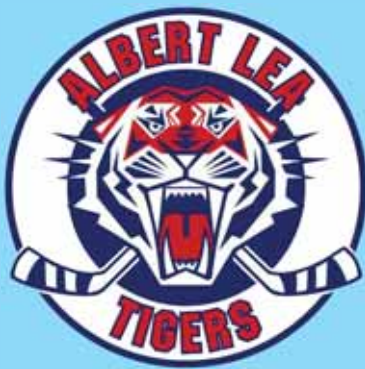
Outdoor rinks and warming houses will open this winter, when weather permits, at the following parks:

- Academy, 910 Frank Hall Drive
- Hawthorne, 915 Garfield Ave.
- Hayek, 1215 Clark St.
- Lakeview, 102 Willamor Road

There is no fee to skate or rent skates, though skate sizes are limited.

## Mites Hockey: For beginning players

Now part of the  
Albert Lea Hockey Association



Scan the code at right to check the ALHA website for upcoming announcements or go to: [albertlea.pucksystems2.com](http://albertlea.pucksystems2.com).



## SEASONAL JOBS

The Recreation Department is now hiring for part-time seasonal jobs for fall and winter!

### OPEN POSITIONS:

- Learn to Skate instructor (minimum age is 18 years)
- Learn to Skate junior instructor (minimum age is 14 years)
- Zamboni driver/rink supervisor (minimum age is 18 years)
- Arena attendant (minimum age is 16 years)
- Warming house attendants (minimum age is 16 years)

Apply online!  
[cityofalbertlea.org/jobs](http://cityofalbertlea.org/jobs)





# Skating and hockey



## Public Skate: Glide into fun!

### Various dates and times

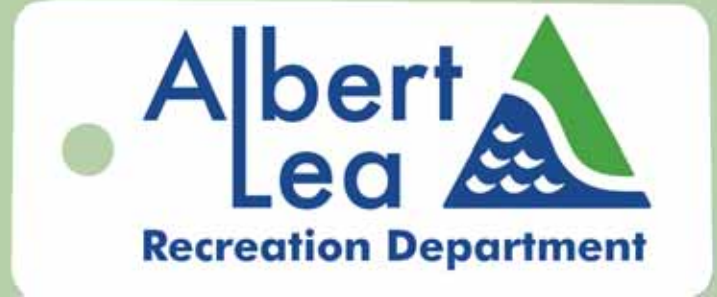
Starting in October, ice rinks at the Albert Lea City Arena, 701 Lake Chapeau Drive, are open for public skating at various times. Be sure to check the calendar online at: [bit.ly/recreation-registration](https://bit.ly/recreation-registration) or follow "Albert Lea Recreation" on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/albertlearec](https://www.facebook.com/albertlearec)).

### Cost:

- Monday - Friday \$4 (includes skate rental).
- Sunday \$4 if registering online, \$5 at the door. Additional \$2 for skate rental.
- Register online: [bit.ly/recreation-registration](https://bit.ly/recreation-registration).

## GET YOUR ARENA SKATE CARD!

20 admissions for \$60. The reloadable card can be used for open hockey, public skate and special events like Rock on Ice. Skate rental not included.



## LEARN TO SKATE USA

**Session 1: Oct. 6 to Nov. 10**

**Session 2: Jan. 5 to Feb. 9**

Participate in Learn to Skate through the U.S. Figure Skating Association! This program is designed for beginner hockey players, figure skaters or any ice skaters age 3 and up. Participants will be placed in groups based on skill level:

- Snowplow Sam: 1 - 4 (ages 3 - 5)
- Basic Skills: 1 - 6 (ages 6 and up)
- Participants are encouraged to provide their own helmets

Sundays, choice of: 2 to 2:30 p.m.

2:40 to 3:10 p.m.

3:20 to 3:50 p.m.

Fee includes a Learn to Skate membership, skate rentals (skate sizes are limited) and 2 passes to public skate at the City Arena.

**Register online:** [bit.ly/recreation-registration](https://bit.ly/recreation-registration)



# HALLOWEEN SKATE



Music,  
games,  
costume  
contest

Sunday, Oct. 27 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.  
City Arena, 701 Lake Chapeau Drive  
\$5, includes skate rental



# TURKEY TROT ON ICE

Sunday, Nov. 24 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.  
City Arena  
701 Lake Chapeau Drive  
\$5, includes skate rental  
Music and contests



# UGLY SWEATER SKATE

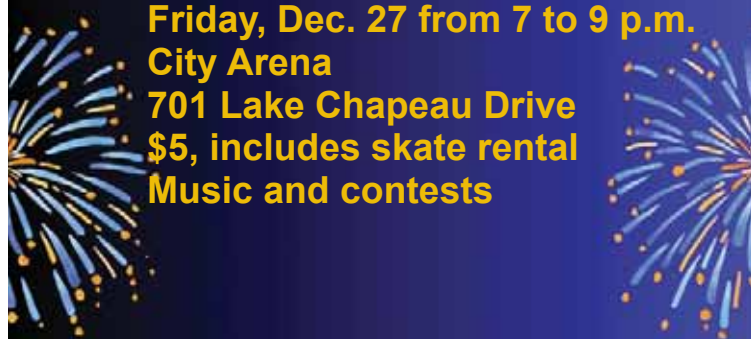
Sunday, Dec. 22 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.  
City Arena, 701 Lake Chapeau Drive  
\$5, includes skate rental  
Ugly sweater contest, music and prizes!



# Rock on Ice New Year's Bash



Friday, Dec. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m.  
City Arena  
701 Lake Chapeau Drive  
\$5, includes skate rental  
Music and contests



# Candlelight Walk

Myre-Big Island State Park

19499 780th Ave., Albert Lea

Friday, Nov. 15 from 6-8 p.m.



# Santa's mailbox is coming to town!



Drop off your letter to Santa at these convenient locations starting Dec. 2:

- City Hall, 221 E. Clark St.
- City Arena: 701 Lake Chapeau Drive

Santa can't wait to hear from all the good girls and boys in Albert Lea!

Be sure to include your return address so he can write back!



# Great idea for park amenity or rec program?

The Parks and Recreation Board seeks your ideas. Submit your project proposal online at [cityofalbertlea.org/parksproject](http://cityofalbertlea.org/parksproject). The board reviews proposals and recommend promising projects to the City Council for approval.

Projects must meet this mission: To provide quality recreational opportunities and to plan, acquire, develop and maintain quality, attractive parks and facilities that enhance the quality of life in the community of Albert Lea.



# NEED TO GO SOMEWHERE? *We can take you there!*



## Family Friendly Public Transportation

PARTICIPATE IN "FUN GUIDE" ACTIVITIES  
FAMILY EVENTS | RECREATION PROGRAMS  
LIBRARY | SHOPPING | APPOINTMENTS

### Affordable Prices\*

**\$2.50 Demand Response | \$2 Route Bus**  
**\$1 Student (17 & under) | FREE (5 & Under)\*\***

\*Prices noted are per trip. \*\*FREE ride w/paid adult.

# 1-855-762-7821

[www.SMARTBusMN.org](http://www.SMARTBusMN.org)

[www.facebook.com/SMARTTransitMN](http://www.facebook.com/SMARTTransitMN)



# Albert Lea Senior Center

1739 W. Main St.  
507-373-0704

**Open Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.,  
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon**

The Senior Center's mission is to coordinate and provide programs and services to enrich the lives and health of our seniors through educational, social and recreational activities.



## Membership

Cost for the membership is \$30 and is available to anyone 55 and older. If you are a member of the YMCA, membership is free.

## Memory Care Cafe

**Second Monday of the month at 2 p.m.**

**Second Thursday of the month at 2 p.m.**

A safe place for people with memory loss and their caregivers to enjoy activities, share conversation, learn, and feel connected. Call the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber, 507-373-3938, for details.

## Monthly birthday party

**Second Monday of the month following BINGO  
(around 2:30 p.m.)**

Join us for our monthly birthday parties where we celebrate you!

## Tech Tuesday

**First Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m.**

Representatives from various companies such as Verizon, AT&T and T-Mobile will join us each month. They will be available to help with cell phone questions as well as teach a few new tricks. Keep an eye out for details on each month's topic!

## Coffee with a Cop

**First Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m.**

Join us for a casual conversation with local law enforcement. This is your chance to ask questions and build relationships with officers in the community.

## Defensive Driving Course

**Friday, Sept. 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Friday, Nov. 15 from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.**

Save 10 percent on your auto insurance for 3 years. There are NO written or behind the wheel tests! To register and pay for this class, please visit [www.DriverDiscountProgram.com](http://www.DriverDiscountProgram.com) or call 320-308-1400 or 1-888-234-1294.

## 80s Brunch

**Friday, Oct. 25 from 10 to 11 a.m.**

**Register by Oct. 11**

Brunch is on us if you're 80+! Getting older has its perks and one of them is our annual fall brunch to celebrate all the octogenarians. Younger, less experienced folks can come and have fun with us too! Cost: Free for members 80+, \$10 for younger members and non-members.

## Christmas Party

**Friday, Dec. 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Register by Nov. 22**

You're invited to our 4th Annual Christmas Party at the Edgewater Bay Pavilion. Enjoy lake views while savoring delicious food. Try your luck at winning some amazing prizes in our raffle. Cost: \$8 for members and \$15 for non-members.

## 'Bells Will Be Ringing' holiday concert

**Tuesday, Dec. 10, bus leaves at 9:30 a.m.**

**Register by Nov. 22**

Sidekick Theatre in Bloomington is putting on a heartwarming holiday show that's perfect for the whole family! The show features some of the best vocalists singing alongside a dynamic band led by Brian Pierce. They'll be performing a mix of classic and contemporary holiday favorites, all with a fresh, modern twist. Enjoy a lunch of roast chicken, with cheesy potatoes, green bean almondine, winter salad and dessert. Cost: \$85 for members and \$95 for non-members.

## Weekly programming:

### Monday

10:30 a.m. Building Bones  
12:30 p.m. Mahjong  
1 p.m. BINGO

### Tuesday

9 a.m. SAIL/Aerobics  
10 a.m. Quilting  
Noon 500  
1 p.m. Crafts  
2:30 p.m. Pfeffer

### Wednesday

1 p.m. BINGO

### Thursday

10:30 a.m. Building Bones  
11:30 a.m. Bridge  
Noon 500  
2 p.m. Knitting  
2:30 p.m. Pfeffer

### Friday

9 a.m. SAIL/Aerobics  
Center closes at Noon

# Explore our city



221 E. Clark St.  
**507-377-4300**  
[www.cityofalbertlea.org](http://www.cityofalbertlea.org)



## Take the scenic route!

Albert Lea offers several routes to walk and bike for commuting, running errands and having fun:

- Blue Zones walkway around Fountain Lake, [cityofalbertlea.org/blue-zones-walkway](http://cityofalbertlea.org/blue-zones-walkway)
- Sidewalk and trail along Main Street from Highway 13/69 to County Road 38
- Blazing Star State Trail from Frank Hall Park, 505 Frank Ave., to Myre-Big Island State Park, 19499 780th Ave

Walking and biking is healthy for people and the environment!

## Albert Lea Community Theatre (ACT)

Check out ACT's upcoming lineup:

- **Peter Antoniou, Psychic Comedian, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.:** Cost: \$30 adults, \$25 students.
- **"Drinking Habits," Oct. 3-6 and 9-12, 7:30 p.m. (Sundays 2 p.m.):** Get ready for laughs with this play! "Drinking Habits" is full of accusations, mistaken identities, and blossoming romances. Two nuns turn winemakers to save their convent, but undercover reporters and a new arrival cause hilarious chaos. Cost: \$15 adults, \$10 students.
- **The Super Tramps, a musical tribute to Supertramp, Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.** Cost: \$25.
- **"Irving Berlin's White Christmas," Dec. 5-8 and 11-14, 7:30 p.m. (Sundays 2 p.m.):** After WWII, army vets Bob Wallace and Phil Davis turn to showbiz. Chasing love and a Christmas show, they follow singing sisters to a Vermont lodge run by their old commander. Expect tap-dancing, heartwarming romance, and holiday classics like "White Christmas"! Cost: \$15 adults, \$10 students.

Visit [actonbroadway.com](http://actonbroadway.com) or call toll-free 1-877-730-3144 for more information and tickets.

All events take place at the Marion Ross Performing Arts Center, 147 N. Broadway Ave.

## Albert Lea Art Center

Located at 101 S. Broadway Ave., the Albert Lea Art Center offers exhibits by local artists and many unique items for sale in the gift shop, Art on Broadway, all year long. Open Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 507-373-5665 for more information.

## Freeborn County Arts Initiative

The Freeborn County Arts Initiative, 224 S. Broadway Ave., offers bimonthly scheduled exhibits and programming. Visit this website for more information: [www.fcai.us](http://www.fcai.us).

## Freeborn County Historical Museum, Library and Village

Visit the Freeborn County Historical Museum, Library, and Village, 1031 Bridge Ave. After extensive restoration by the Kohler Foundation, the Itasca Rock Garden, 2129 Itasca Road, is now open by appointment. For more information: [www.fchmmn.org](http://www.fchmmn.org) or 507-373-8003.

## Call 2-1-1 for health and human services help

Need help finding a resource? United Way's 2-1-1 referral and information hotline is where families and individuals in Minnesota can call to obtain free and confidential information on health and human services. 2-1-1 call centers are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by trained Community Resource Specialists who quickly assess needs and refer callers to the help that they seek. All languages are available. In addition to general resources, the 2-1-1 team is a Minnesota based provider of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. For more information about 2-1-1 visit [www.211unitedway.org](http://www.211unitedway.org).



## The City of Albert Lea currently has openings on the Board of Appeals and Senior Center Board

"Serving on a board gives the city council a few more ears or voices to assist with decisions."

COLBY CUNNINGHAM  
BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBER



Applications are available in the mayor's office on the top floor of City Hall, 221 E. Clark St., or online at [cityofalbertlea.org/boards-and-commissions](http://cityofalbertlea.org/boards-and-commissions)

# Connect with your CITY COUNCIL

- Attend meetings the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7 p.m., Council Chambers, top floor of City Hall, 221 E. Clark St.
- Call or email your councilor with questions and ideas
- Watch meetings live and on demand
- Go to [cityofalbertlea.org/council](http://cityofalbertlea.org/council) for contact info, agendas and minutes and ALTV link.



For recycling electronics or disposing of other items that can't be recycled or reused,

## take them to the Transfer Station

Fall Hours (Oct. 1 - Nov. 30)

- Monday: noon - 6 p.m.
- Tuesday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Wednesday: noon - 6 p.m.
- Thursday: noon - 6 p.m.
- Friday: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Sunday: Closed



2506 W. Richway Dr.  
Albert Lea

[cityofalbertlea.org/transfer-station](http://cityofalbertlea.org/transfer-station)

507-373-5013 or  
507-377-4325 (engineering dept.)



## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS WEDNESDAYS, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



2020 Pioneer Trail, Albert Lea  
(off the East end of Hammer Road)

## 'Leaf' it out of storm drains!



Please help protect our lakes from nutrients that grow algae by keeping leaves and other debris out of storm drains. Learn more on the Shell Rock River Watershed District website: [www.shellrock.org](http://www.shellrock.org).

# Making healthy choices the easy choices for everyone

Albert Lea, the first Blue Zone-certified community in the nation, is working to help people live longer with more fulfillment. Start making the steps towards a Blue Zones lifestyle today:

1. Move naturally
2. Know your purpose
3. Downshift
4. Eat until 80% full
5. Plant slant diet
6. Friends at 5
7. Loved ones first
8. Belong to a community
9. Nurture an inner circle



Visit [cityofalbertlea.org/bluezones](http://cityofalbertlea.org/bluezones) to learn more about how to implement these healthy habits.

Facebook: Blue Zones Project Albert Lea  
Instagram: bluezonesalbertlea

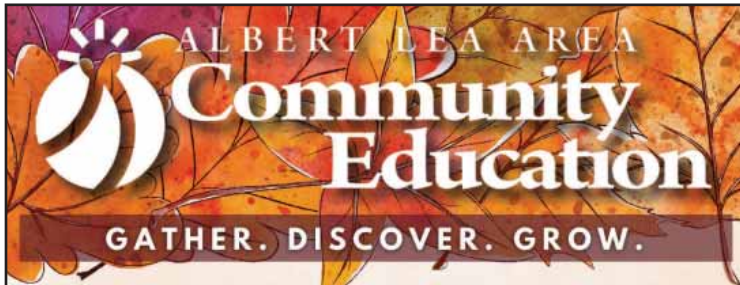
# FIRE PREVENTION OPEN HOUSE



**Saturday, Oct. 12**  
**10 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

- Fire book story time
- Bouncy houses
- Kids physical agility course
- Apparatus displays
- Live demonstrations

Albert Lea Fire Station, 417 S. Newton Ave.



**ROCK GYM HOURS**  
**TUES., FRI. & SAT. FROM 6-9PM**  
211 West Richway Drive, Cym B  
Preregister online.

**BOATHOUSE HOURS**  
**SATURDAYS FROM 9-12PM**  
Brookside Boat Landing  
on West Richway Drive  
Preregister online.

**DAY TRIPS**  
**9/27 - Explore Hastings**  
Registration deadline: 9/19  
**11/6 - Irving Berlin's White Christmas: The Musical**  
Registration deadline: 10/7  
**Register online or call our office.**

FALL BOOK COMING MID-AUGUST!

**ADULT EDUCATION**  
**LEARN ENGLISH - GED - MATH**  
**CAREER PATHWAYS - CITIZENSHIP**  
Classes begin August 26, 2024  
8:30am-11:00am -OR- 11:30am-1:30pm  
**Call 507-379-4867 to register.**

**EARLY LEARNING**  
Parenting classes, back-to-back series, and themed events this September for ages 0-5 years.  
**PreK registration still open!**  
**Call 507-379-4838 for information.**

**TIGER CUB CHILD CARE**  
Now 4 Star Parent Aware!  
Accepting Child Care Assistance and drop-ins.  
**Scholarships may be available.**  
**Call 507-379-5158 for information.**



Brookside Education Center  
211 W Richway Dr | Albert Lea, MN  
507-379-5318 | [AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org](http://AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org)



**THE NEWEST FALL FESTIVAL PACKED WITH**  
OKTOBERFEST BEERS & LIVE BANDS  
HAUNTED HOUSE | FOOD TRUCKS  
KIDS CARNIVAL | TONS OF GAMES

WWW.OKTOBERWEEN.COM

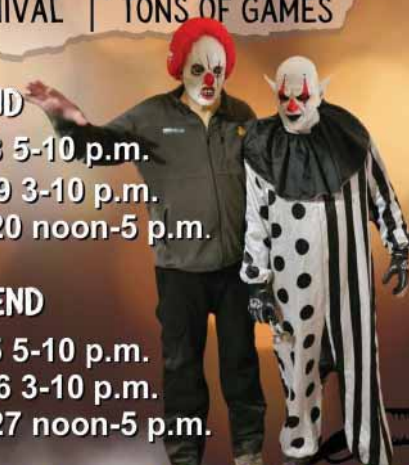
WWW.OKTOBERWEEN.COM

**FIRST WEEKEND**

- Fri. - Oct. 18 5-10 p.m.
- Sat. - Oct. 19 3-10 p.m.
- Sun. - Oct. 20 noon-5 p.m.

**SECOND WEEKEND**

- Fri. - Oct. 25 5-10 p.m.
- Sat. - Oct. 26 3-10 p.m.
- Sun. - Oct. 27 noon-5 p.m.



# HAUNTED HOUSE



221 E Clark Street  
 Albert Lea, MN 56007  
 cityofalbertlea.org

**Farmers Market twice a week**

Through Oct. 30, North Broadway Lot

- Wednesdays: 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Saturdays: 9 a.m. to noon

Fresh produce, baked goods and more!

**Mexican Independence Day**

Sunday, Sept. 15 (time to be announced)

Central Park, 300 W. Clark St.

Mexican Independence Day - Día de la Independencia - is celebrated every year on Sept. 16 to commemorate the country's freedom from centuries of Spanish rule. Enjoy the food vendors, kids activities and El Grito parade along with dancing and music.

**Halloween Spooktacular**

Thursday, Oct. 31 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Historic downtown Albert Lea

Bring the kids for trick-or-treating at participating businesses with free photos at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, 132 N. Broadway Ave.

**Small Business Saturday**

Saturday, Nov. 30

Shopping local is a meaningful way to show appreciation for the unique character and charm these businesses bring to our community. When you shop at a local boutique, dine at a neighborhood restaurant, or use a service from a local artist, you're making a direct contribution to the stability and growth of our local economy.

**Annual Holiday Bazaar**

Thursday, Dec. 12 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Historic downtown Albert Lea

Bring the family for store specials, wagon rides, photos with Santa, hot chocolate and goodies, and the Santa Cruise on Broadway Avenue. After the fun, come to Central Park, 300 W. Clark St., for a tree lighting to kick off the Trail of Enchantment.

**CONVENTION & VISITOR'S BUREAU**  
ALBERT LEA, MN

*explore*

**LAKE LAND FUN**

**ALBERT LEA, MN**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**September**  
 7..... Daisy Fest  
 15..... Mexican Independence Day  
 17..... Safety Day  
 28..... Shop, Sip 'n Stroll

**October**  
 5-6..... Big Island Rendezvous  
 12-13..... Citywide garage sales  
 18-20..... Oktoberween  
 25-27..... Oktoberween  
 31..... Halloween Spooktacular

**November**  
 8-9..... Big Buck Shopping Opener  
 29..... Black Friday  
 30..... Small Business Saturday

**December**  
 12..... Holiday Bazaar, Santa Cruise, Trail of Enchantment



[EXPLOREALBERTLEA.COM](http://EXPLOREALBERTLEA.COM)

