

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

ADULT & SENIOR ENRICHMENT / YOUTH ENRICHMENT
ADULT EDUCATION / EARLY CHILDHOOD

GATHER. DISCOVER. GROW.

Photo Submitted by Mandy Schuster



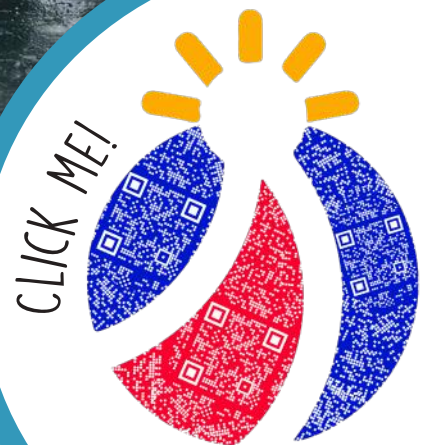
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WINTER/SPRING 2026

January-May
AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org



2026 | JANUARY–MAY



ALBERT LEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT 241



ALBERT LEA AREA
Community Education
Gather. Discover. Grow.



Brookside Education Center 211 W Richway Dr | Albert Lea, MN

Community Education Office..... 507-379-5318

AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org

Monday-Friday | 8:30am-2:30pm

Office hours are subject to vary.

Adult Education Center 507-379-4866

Early Childhood 507-379-4831

Tiger Cub Child Care Center 507-379-5158

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS: If the Albert Lea School District is closed due to inclement weather, all programming will be canceled for that day. If the district announces a late morning start, all morning programming will be canceled. **Our primary method of communication for notifying individuals will be through email.** Additionally, a text message may be sent to individuals who have approved to receiving SMS notifications or posted on KAAL News.

CHECK YOUR EMAIL: When signing up for a class, please monitor emails from the address listed below. Emails will include class cancellations, location or time changes, last-minute notes from instructors, class confirmations, and receipts. To ensure you receive these communications, please add the following email address to your contacts to prevent them from going into your SPAM folder.

• albertleacommunityed@alschools.org

3 WAYS TO REGISTER



ONLINE

AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org



CALL

(507) 379-5318



IN PERSON

211 W Richway Dr

CASH, CHECK OR CARD ACCEPTED

**DISTRICT 241 EMPLOYEES
RECEIVE A \$10 DISCOUNT
ON A COMMUNITY ED CLASS!**

**CALL 507-379-5318 BEFORE YOU
REGISTER TO APPLY THE DISCOUNT.**

WHY CHOOSE

COMMUNITY EDUCATION TO MANAGE YOUR CLASS



Marketing to over 12k homes in District 241



Facility scheduling, rentals & fees covered



Platform for gathering online registrations



Two team members to assist in customer management, revenue processing, and ensuring a smooth operation of your class

**SUMMER CLASS
PROPOSALS ARE DUE
IN MARCH.**

LET'S CHAT!

507-379-5318

AlbertLeaCommunityEd@alschools.org



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National Community Education Day

Albert Lea Community Education Marketing Specialist Recognized by MCEA for National Logo Design

Albert Lea Community Education was presented with an exciting opportunity this fall through the Minnesota Community Education Association (MCEA) to participate in the design of a new National Community Education Day logo. The logo was used statewide during National Community Education Day on November 13, 2025, and will continue to represent Community Education initiatives moving forward.

At the MCEA Fall Conference last week, it was announced that Kim Ehrich Blankenship of Albert Lea Area Schools Community Education created the winning design. "We are very proud of Kim's creative accomplishment and her continued recognition of her outstanding work," stated John Double, Director of Community Education.

MCEA shared that Kim's logo "...was selected for its meaningful representation of the values at the heart of Community Education — growth, connection, and lifelong learning."

Kim provided the following explanation of the Logo: "The National Community Ed logo represents growth, connection, and lifelong learning. The three abstract human figures form a tree, symbolizing how people grow stronger when they learn together. The surrounding dots represent both the branches of the tree and the light that spreads through education and community. The color placements present balance, renewal, and teamwork—values that define Community Education and its mission to bring people together through learning."

MCEA also shared that, "The new logo will be used to promote National Community Education Day, an initiative led by MCEA to celebrate the impact of Community Education programs across Minnesota and nationwide. Community Education plays a vital role in strengthening communities by fostering lifelong learning, empowering individuals of all ages, and creating spaces where people can connect, grow, and lead together."

"We are proud to celebrate Kim's work and her meaningful contribution to this national initiative. Her design beautifully captures the essence of what Community Education stands for—people growing stronger together through learning and connection."

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CLASS KEY



NEW CLASS OFFERING



POPULAR CLASS



ONLINE CLASS VIA ZOOM

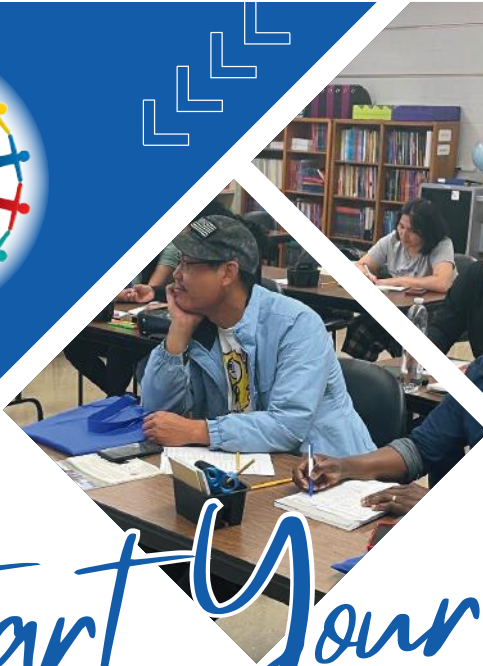
*Have questions on how to join a Zoom class?
Call our office at 507-379-5318.*



When you register right away, you get the classes you want and the instructor can prepare for your participation. Instructors set a minimum number of participants in order to make the class run. The earlier you sign up the less chance of a last minute cancellation.

ADULT EDUCATION

Brookside Education Center | 211 W Richway Dr | Room 241



Start Your Journey IN 2026!

DAYTIME CLASSES

In-person or Distance Learning
Monday-Thursday
8:30-11:00 AM **-OR-** 11:30-1:30 PM

Limited childcare & transportation available. Please call as soon as possible to reserve a space.

**ACCEPTING ENROLLMENTS
ALL YEAR ROUND!**



Haga clic aquí para escuchar.

စံလီဒ်နကန်ဟူအသိး



FREE ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- GED
- Learn English
- Citizenship
- Community Interpreter
- Microsoft Office Specialist
- Paraprofessional
- Personal Care Attendant (PCA)
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Prepare for College Writing

CONTACT US TODAY!

507-379-4866



RESOURCES FOR

ACCESSING SERVICES
SHOULDN'T BE HARD —
WE'RE MAKING IT EASIER.

Seniors



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

- Albert Lea Fire Department Reassurance Program 507.377.4346
- Albert Lea Senior Center: *Includes Memory Cafe* 507.373.0704
- Albert Lea Community Education (www.alschools.org) 507.379.5318
- Albert Lea Family Y 507.373.8228
- Lake Song Chorus @ St. John's Chapel (*Thursdays*) 507.396.6730
- Albert Lea Public Library 507.377.4350
- United Way Volunteer Center 507.373.8670
- Senior Companion 507.512.1036
- All Together Inclusive Playground Edgewater Park

FOOD RESOURCES

- CSFP (Commodity Supplemental Food Program) 507.424.1704
- Food Support (Human Services) 507.377.5400
- Salvation Army Food Pantry/Meal Site 507.373.8776
- United Way Welcome Pantry 507.373.8670
- Senior Dining 507.373.7759
- Meals on Wheels Albert Lea 507.373.7759
- Meals on Wheels SEMCAC - Senior Tower & Rural 507.864.8228
- The Salvation Army 507.373.8776
- Ecumenical Food Pantry 507.373.2035
- Albert Lea Convention & Visitors Bureau.....<https://tinyurl.com//428cdu63>

MENTAL HEALTH

- 988 (Suicide & Crisis Lifeline) Call or Text 988
- Freeborn County Mental Health Center 507.377.5440
 - *Crisis Line (After Hours)* 877.399.3040
- Mayo Clinic Health System Albert Lea 507.377.6406
- Albert Lea VA Clinic 507.379.5532

OTHER RESOURCES

- Freeborn County Department of Human Services 507.377.5400
- Freeborn County Veterans Services Office 507.377.5184
- Social Security Administration (www.ssa.gov) 800.772.1213
- Crime Victims Crisis Center 507.379.5460

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

These resources can provide information about a variety of services:

- 2-1-1 - Call 211 or Text 898211
- Senior LinkAge Line (SEMAAA) - 800.333.2433

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

- SEMCAC 800.944.3281
 - Email: eap@semcac.org*
 - Program runs October 1-May 31*

TRANSPORTATION

- S.M.A.R.T. Bus 855.762.7821
 - *Free Medical Transportation for Seniors 55+ on ADA Certified Buses (Albert Lea/Austin)*
 - *Veterans Ride Free on Deviated Route Busses - Must show Military ID*
- Lea Taxi 507.318.6323
- Vern's Ride Service 507.320.8690

Thank you to the Statewide Health Improvement Program (S.H.I.P.) for funding this resource page for seniors.

Thank you to the community collaborators who assisted in providing input and materials for this series of resource pages including: Age Friendly Freeborn County, Freeborn County Department of Human Services, St. John's Lutheran Community, Southern Minnesota Area Rural Transit, United Way of Freeborn County, and Albert Lea Area Schools Community Education.

EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION



OPEN ROCK GYM HOURS

The rock gym welcomes climbers of all ages and experience levels! Enjoy our beginner to expert graded routes, our bouldering wall, Kilterboard, rope climbing and more. Our experienced staff are available to belay and ensure a safe and enjoyable experience. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Come explore and make your indoor rock climbing adventure unforgettable! Register before you arrive at AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org.

Tuesday, Friday & Saturday

6:00-9:00pm

\$10 PER CLIMBER

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
Brookside Education Center
211 West Richway Drive, South Gym

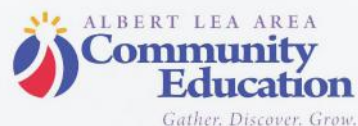
**Cash or check transactions are not accepted at the Rock Gym or Boathouse. To register, a credit card payment must be made online through our website at AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org.*

PURCHASE A PUNCH PASS AND SAVE!

Grab a Punch Pass for just \$40 and enjoy 5 visits to the rock gym or boathouse—your choice!

Passes are valid for one year from the date of purchase.

Stop by the Community Education office at Brookside Education Center or visit AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org to get yours today!



ROCK GYM - BOATHOUSE PUNCH PASS



BOATHOUSE OPENING
JUNE 2, 2026 —
WATCH FOR DATES AND TIMES



KIDS ROCK! YOUTH CLIMBING CLUB ★ Grades 3-7

Experiential Ed Staff

Embark on an exciting climbing adventure with Kids Rock! Youth Climbing Club, designed for students in grades 3–7. This program now offers two different options to meet varying interests and skill levels. One option is ideal for beginners or those looking for a relaxed, recreational experience, focusing on fun, games, guided climbs, and light instruction in a supportive environment. The other option is geared toward youth ready for a more technical challenge, diving deeper into climbing techniques, strength training, and skill-building, including proper footwork, handholds, belaying, and knot tying. Both options provide a safe and encouraging space for kids to build confidence, stay active, and discover the thrill of rock climbing under the guidance of experienced staff.

Brookside South Gym | Tuesdays, January 6- February 3 | \$35 | 5 sessions

EE13 RECREATIONAL: 3:30-5:00pm

EE13 SKILLS: 5:00-6:30pm

Brookside South Gym | Tuesdays, March 24- April 21 | \$35 | 5 sessions

EE14 RECREATIONAL: 3:30-5:00pm

EE14 SKILLS: 5:00-6:30pm

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT



**AGES 6-12
LIMITED SPOTS
\$15 PER CHILD**

**JANUARY 10
FEBRUARY 14
MARCH 14
APRIL 11
MAY 9**

FROM 5:00-8:00PM

Need a night out? Drop your kids off at the rock gym for instructor-led fun—climbing, crafts, games, Legos, and more. Activities vary each event.

Please wear tennis shoes, bring a water bottle, and a snack, and we'll take care of the rest!

PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED!



Brookside Education Center
211 W Richway Dr, Albert Lea, MN



AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org



507-379-5318

WE HAVE SNOWSHOES TO CHECKOUT!

Contact our office at 379-5318 for availability.

Cost is \$10 per pair and \$20 refundable deposit per pair.
Limited youth sizes available.



WOOD, WATER, WILDLIFE

Experiential Ed Staff

Grades 6 & 7

Our Wood, Water, Wildlife classes get students learning hands-on outdoor skills in a safe and welcoming environment. Students will have the opportunity to explore the natural world around them.

Transportation to and from activity sites will be provided by Experiential Education. Students will be picked up at Southwest Middle School Door D14 near the Tennis Courts at the end of the school day. Parent pick-up is at 5:00pm at the same location.

These classes are offered at no cost thanks to a generous grant from the Austin, MN Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America.

REGISTER 3 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 5/MAX 14

Southwest Door D14 | Friday | 3:15-5:00pm | No-Cost

EE24 Snowshoeing & Shelter Building

March 6

Join us for an afternoon of snowshoeing and winter shelter building at Brookside Boathouse! Students will learn how to properly wear snow shoes, how to move around in them and get to explore nature in winter. We will stop and build winter shelters during our walk and talk about how to stay warm and dry in a cold, wet environment. Snow gear including boots, snow pants, gloves or mittens, a coat and a winter hat are highly recommended, as we will be playing in the snow.

EE25 Fat Tire Biking

March 27

Bike with Experiential Ed through the winter landscape around Brookside Park and Fountain Lake. We will ride bikes equipped to handle whatever the winter throws at us, be it water, mud or snow. Snow gear including boots, snow pants, gloves or mittens, a coat and a winter hat are highly recommended, as we will be playing in the snow.

Date Night **ADVENTURE**

Saturday, January 24 & February 28
4:00-6:00pm at Brookside Education Center

ROCK GYM



BATTLE BLASTERS



LIMITED SPOTS — REGISTER NOW!

Skip the ordinary date night and try
something different right here in Albert Lea!
Spend your evening climbing to new heights and
battling it out in an action-packed Date Night Adventure.



507-379-5318

More Information :



AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org

\$20

/Per Person





albertleaareaschools



Albert Lea Area Schools



Albert Lea Area Schools



@AlbertLeaSchool

Towns/Communities:

Albert Lea, Clarks Grove, Hayward, Hollandale,
Manchester, Twin Lakes

Over 50 Athletics/Activities/Clubs

Enrollment

- K-5: 1,253
- 6-12: 1,787
- VPK/ECSE: 207
- ALC: 100
- **Total: 3,260**

Albert Lea Area Schools:

- Cultivating Academic Mastery through high levels of academic rigor
- A Culture of Data-Driven Excellence
- Empowering Future Leaders through a Literacy Focus and Character Development
- Strategic Alignment and Accountability, becoming a High-Reliability School District
- Operational Integrity and Trust with student and staff Safety as a priority



Buildings:

Halverson Elementary
Hawthorne Elementary
Lakeview Elementary
Sibley Elementary
Southwest Middle School
Albert Lea High School
Alternative Learning Center

26 Home Languages

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Arabic | Kabardian |
| Chinese, Mandarin | Lao - Laotian |
| Oromo, Afaan Oromo, Oromiffa | Krahn |
| Haitian Creole | Norwegian |
| Bengali, Cutchi | Russian |
| English | Karen, PWO |
| Gujarati | Chukeese |
| Filipino, Pilipino | Spanish |
| Karen | Vietnamese |
| French | Burmese |
| Sundanese | Amharic |
| Asturian | Nuer |
| Dinka | Wolof, Tajik |

DAYTIME ADVENTURES

For securing your spot on a trip, the recommended payment methods are online registration or calling our office at 507-379-5318 to pay by credit card over the phone. Please note that trips are non-refundable.

Trip Registration Opens December 23. | Additional trips coming — see website or call for details.

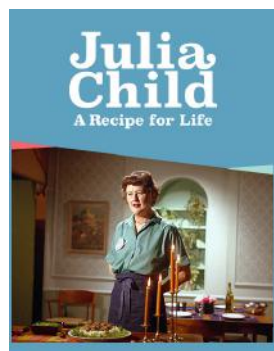
GUYS & DOLLS!

T01: Wednesday, May 18 | 8:45am-5:40pm | \$130

Charming but broke gambler Nathan Detroit is short on cash for the biggest craps game in town and the authorities are breathing down his neck. Meanwhile, longtime girlfriend and club performer, Miss Adelaide, is tiring of their 14-year engagement with no wedding in sight. Nathan looks to fellow high-roller Sky Masterson for the cash, and the two concoct a bet for Sky to whisk the straight-laced missionary Sarah Brown off to Havana. Sarah is determined to save the souls of the gamblers, setting in motion a series of events where love and redemption intersect.

Frank Loesser's vibrant score makes Guys and Dolls a true crowd-pleaser, featuring songs like "Luck Be a Lady," "A Bushel and a Peck" and "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat." Chanhassen Dinner Theatre brings you all the thrills, laughs and songs when you come to experience Guys and Dolls!

Your trip fee includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, and admission. **Register no later than February 13. No refunds on trips.** If you have any mobility or dietary requirements, please let us know at registration. **Depart from the parking lot behind Harbor Freight. Remember to arrive 10 minutes early for check-in.**



A RECIPE FOR LIFE: JULIA CHILD & CULINARY DELIGHTS TOUR

**T02: Wednesday, April 1
8:00am-5:15pm | \$104**

Step into the world of Julia Child and bring her culinary legacy to life on this delicious day trip! Begin your adventure at the Minnesota History Center, where you'll explore

the Julia Child: A Recipe for Life exhibit, celebrating the life, achievements, and iconic recipes of America's beloved chef. After immersing yourself in culinary history, travel to Way Cool Cooking School in Eden Prairie for a hands-on French cooking class, where you'll learn classic techniques, prepare delicious dishes, and enjoy tasting your creations. This trip is a perfect blend of culture, learning, and flavorful fun—no passport required!

On the menu: Chicken Provencal and Mini Blueberry Clafoutis. Please note, we will be eating lunch after 1pm. If you need snacks, please plan to bring some or purchase on-your-own at the museum.

Your trip fee includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, and admission. **Register no later than March 16. No refunds on trips.** If you have any mobility or dietary requirements, please let us know at registration. **Depart from the parking lot behind Harbor Freight. Remember to arrive 10 minutes early for check-in.**

THE GREAT UNKNOWN: A MYSTERY DAY TRIP

**T03: Wednesday, June 3
7:30am-5:40pm | \$78**

Pack your sense of adventure and leave the planning to us! On this all-inclusive mystery day trip, the destination and experiences are a surprise—you won't know where we're headed until we arrive.

Along the way, you'll enjoy comfortable transportation, lunch, engaging stops, and memorable experiences designed to delight and inspire curiosity.

Think hidden gems, local flavors, unique attractions, and maybe even a little something off the beaten path. Perfect for those who love a good surprise, this trip guarantees a day full of discovery, laughter, and connection—without the stress of planning. All you need to do is show up, sit back, and get ready for a one-of-a-kind adventure!

On the menu: boxed lunch with your choice of chicken salad or egg salad on ciabatta bread with chips and a pickle. Please select your choice of sandwich at registration.

Your trip fee includes motorcoach transportation, lunch, and all admissions. **Register no later than May 20. No refunds on trips.** If you have any mobility or dietary requirements, please let us know at registration. **Depart from the parking lot behind Harbor Freight. Remember to arrive 10 minutes early for check-in.**





MEDICARE 101 NEW

Diane Gonzalez, Integrated Insurance Inc

Introduction to Medicare Part A and B, Part C and D, Medicare supplements, when to enroll, and special enrollments periods.

Brookside Rm. 233 | 6:00-7:30pm | \$10

BSFN45: Monday, January 19

BSFN46: Monday, March 9

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
ALBERTLEACOMMUNITYED.ORG

DO YOU NEED A TRUST?

Eythan Frandle

This course will review the strategic process of developing an estate plan. At completion, you should have a firm grasp on the MN Probate process, tools to keep your assets out of probate, and how a trust can be one of those tools.

Brookside Rm. 125 | \$10

BSFN47: Wednesday, February 11 | 6:00-8:00pm

FROM START TO FINISH: STEP-BY-STEP HOME BUYER'S GUIDE

Pam Schmidt & Tami LaCanne

Thinking about buying a home but not sure where to begin? This class will walk you through the entire home-buying process, step by step, helping you navigate one of the biggest purchases of your life with confidence. You'll receive a comprehensive Buyer's Guide manual to follow along, ask questions, and stay on track. From understanding credit repair and finding the right lender to inspections, appraisals, and title services, you'll gain valuable insights into every aspect of the journey. Learn how to distinguish between wants and needs, make an offer, understand key terminology, and prepare for the final walk-through and your big move. Don't miss this unique opportunity to get expert advice and feel prepared for your home-buying adventure!

Brookside Rm. 265 | 6:00-8:00pm

\$25 per person/\$35 per couple

BSFN48: Thursday, April 2

BSFN49: Thursday, May 7

START YOUR OWN ONLINE BUSINESS: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

LeeAnne Krusemark

Looking for ways to make money online? Turn your ideas or homemade products into income by starting an online business. You will learn how to: find a gap in a niche market and fill it; build your own website, and market your business effectively (including SEO) so potential customers will find you; take care of business forms and taxes; create multiple sources of income (including Affiliate commissions). You'll also get info about the 25 most popular online businesses to start. Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee.

Online Class | \$35

BSFN27: Thursday, March 19 | 6:00-8:00pm

HOW TO START ANY HOME BUSINESS + 250 HOME BUSINESS IDEAS!

LeeAnne Krusemark

Tired of working for someone else or looking to increase your income? Turn your talents and hobbies into profits by starting your own home business. This in-depth workshop, taught by Chamber of Commerce Past President and award-winning business owner LeeAnne Krusemark, is one of the most comprehensive business start-up classes available. You'll explore over 250 legitimate home business ideas, learn about mandatory legal documentation, discover effective marketing strategies, and understand how to take advantage of tax deductions—including for this workshop. Informative handouts for future use are included in the class fee.

Online Class | \$35

BSFN18: Saturday, March 14 | 2:00-4:00pm



ADULT FITNESS

Register early to reserve your spot and help instructors plan.
Early sign-ups help prevent last-minute cancellations.



KNOCK OUT DANCE FITNESS NEW

Kristy Olson

Knock Out Dance Fitness is a high-energy fusion of dance cardio and kickboxing-inspired movement, all set to music that gets your heart pumping and your confidence soaring. No dance experience is needed, just bring your energy and a smile. This fun, empowering workout offers a full-body cardio burn with easy-to-follow choreography, powerful moves that make you feel strong, and a welcoming, judgment-free space. Let's dance, sweat, and knock it out together! *Formerly Zumba® Jams with Kristy, this class is taking the same fun, feel-good energy in an exciting new direction.*

Sibley Gym | 5:30-6:30pm

No class Feb 16, 23 & April 16

FIT05: Mondays, January 5- March 9 \$64 | 8 sessions

FIT06: Thursdays, January 8- March 12 \$80 | 10 sessions

FIT07: Mondays, March 30- May 11 \$56 | 7 sessions

FIT08: Thursdays, April 2- May 14, April 15 \$56 | 7 sessions

"Kristy makes everyone feel comfortable and capable no matter their physical level. She is prompt, welcoming, and a great communicator! And has created a fun class!!"

- Zumba® Jams Participant

ADULT OPEN PLAY BASKETBALL

Derek Wels

Get ready to hit the court and shoot some hoops! Whether you're a seasoned player or just looking to have some fun, come join us for an exciting pickup game. This is your chance to brush up on your skills, make new friends, and enjoy the thrill of friendly competition. All adults aged 18 and over are welcome to join the fun!

Albert Lea High School Gym | 8:00-9:00pm

\$33 | 10 sessions

FIT25: Wednesday, January 7- March 11

FIT31: Wednesdays, March 25- May 27

ALL SKILL LEVEL OPEN PICKLEBALL PLAY ★

Whitney Erickson & Margie Barber

Come join us for open play! We anticipate a great deal of participation as many new people have joined the pickleball scene. This opportunity is available to all skill levels who know the basic rules of pickleball play. Remember to bring your own water jug and terrycloth towel. We ask that you change into clean gym shoes to protect the flooring.

No cash payments in person will be accepted. Sessions equal out to \$3/per night. In the event of weather-related cancellations that impact a session, you will be notified directly from the instructor or a notice will be posted in advance.

Lakeview Gym | 5:30-8:45pm

No class Feb. 16, 23 & Mar. 16

FIT13: Mondays, January 12-April 27

\$39 | 13 sessions

Lakeview Gym | 6:15-8:45pm

No class March 17 & 19

FIT14: Tuesdays, January 13- March 24

\$33 | 11 sessions

FIT15: Thursdays, January 15- March 26

\$30 | 10 sessions

LEARN TO PLAY PICKLEBALL ★

Margie Barber

Come learn the fabulous sport of pickleball. It looks a lot like tennis but covers a much smaller area. You will have an opportunity to learn the rules of the game along with some technique towards enjoying a wonderfully challenging method of physical activity. There is no need to bring a partner or provide a paddle or the ball unless you wish. You can also take breaks if you feel you are not yet ready for consistent play. We strongly encourage you to bring a separate pair of clean shoes to protect the gym floor, along with a water bottle and a towel. Plus plenty of enthusiasm!

Lakeview Gym | 6:30-8:45pm

No class March 18

FIT09: Wednesdays, January 14- March 25

\$30 | 10 sessions





GENTLE GRACE: CHAIR-BASED MOVEMENT NEW

Jasmine Murphy

Take time to slow down, breathe, and move with intention. Gentle Grace is a relaxing chair-based movement class designed to improve flexibility, balance, and peace of mind. Each session blends simple seated and standing stretches with calming music, guided breathing, and moments of gratitude and reflection. You'll leave feeling refreshed, renewed, and gracefully restored. Perfect for older adults or anyone looking for a gentle way to stay active and feel good from the inside out. *Please dress in layers for this class.*

REGISTER 1 WEEK BEFORE | MIN 5/MAX 15

Brookside Rm. 265 | 4:30-5:15pm *No class Feb. 16 & 23*

FIT29: Mondays, January 19- March 9 \$18 | 6 sessions

FIT30: Mondays, March 23- May 11 \$24 | 8 sessions

RADIANT RENEWAL ★

Jasmine Murphy

Step into the new season feeling refreshed, restored, and ready to shine from within. Radiant Renewal is a gentle movement and stretching class designed to release tension, improve flexibility, and reset your mind and body for the year ahead. Through mindful movement, calming breathwork, and moments of reflection, you'll discover a peaceful rhythm that helps you feel balanced, energized, and renewed. Perfect for all fitness levels — especially those seeking a soothing, restorative way to move into the new year with grace and confidence. *Please bring a yoga mat or towel and dress in layers.*

REGISTER 1 WEEK BEFORE | MIN 5/MAX 15

Brookside Rm. 265 | 5:30-6:30pm *No class Feb. 16 & 23*

FIT23: Mondays, January 19- March 9 \$18 | 6 sessions

FIT24: Mondays, March 23- May 11 \$24 | 8 sessions

ZUMBA® WITH JASMINE ★

Jasmine Murphy

Get ready to make an awesome commitment this season with Zumba® Fitness! This isn't just a workout—it's a Latin-inspired dance party that will have you moving to exhilarating Latin and international beats. Whether you're looking to burn calories, tone your body, or simply have a blast, Zumba® offers an incredible way to achieve your fitness goals. Our classes blend dynamic choreography with high-energy music to keep you motivated and engaged. You'll leave each session feeling energized, empowered, and ready to take on anything. Come join us and experience the joy of dancing your way to a healthier, happier you!

REGISTER 1 WEEK BEFORE | MIN 5/MAX 15

Brookside North Gym | 5:30-6:20pm

FIT20: Tuesdays, January 20- February 17 \$25 | 5 sessions

FIT21: Tuesdays, February 24- March 31 \$25 | 5 sessions

FIT22: Tuesdays, April 7- May 12 \$30 | 6 sessions



AQUA ZUMBA® ★

Jasmine Murphy

Make a splash with Aqua Zumba®—a fun, low-impact workout that blends the energy of Zumba® with the refreshing power of water. Set to upbeat Latin and international rhythms, this class combines cardio, muscle conditioning, and dance-inspired movements in the pool. The water's natural resistance adds an extra challenge while reducing stress on your joints, making it perfect for all fitness levels. Whether you're looking to burn calories, build strength, or just have fun, Aqua Zumba offers a great way to stay active and energized!

REGISTER 1 WEEK BEFORE | MIN 5/MAX 15

Albert Lea High School Pool | 6:00-7:00pm

FIT26: Wednesdays, January 21- February 18 \$40 | 5 sessions

FIT27: Wednesdays, February 25- April 1 \$40 | 5 sessions

FIT28: Wednesdays, April 8- May 13 \$48 | 6 sessions

ZUMBA•THON & RESTORATIVE EXPERIENCE NEW

Jasmine Murphy & Betsy Wagner

Join us for an energizing evening of dance, community, and self-care! Enjoy a dynamic lineup featuring Zumba® Instructors and Aspiring Students leading upbeat, fun routines — followed by a Restorative Movement + Massage Therapy Session to leave you feeling balanced and renewed.

REGISTER EARLY TO MEET THE MINIMUM | MIN 5

Hawthorne Gym | Friday, February 20

FIT50 ZUMBATHON: 5:30-6:30pm | \$10 Early Registration | \$20 At the Door

FIT51 RESTORATIVE ADD ON: 6:30-7:00pm | \$15 Early Registration | \$25 At the Door

Please bring clean gym shoes,
water, a yoga mat or towel
and dress in layers.

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LATEST UPDATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS!
@ALBERTLEACOMMUNITYED

PRACTICAL CHATGPT TRAINING FOR EVERYONE

Nickie Welsh

Have you been curious about what ChatGPT is exactly and how it can be used? Join our fun and engaging class to learn everything you need to know about ChatGPT powered by Artificial Intelligence. Understand how it works and why it's taking the world by storm. You'll explore practical everyday uses for ChatGPT in both the workforce and at home, ensuring you stay in the loop when ChatGPT is mentioned in conversations and on the news. Don't get left behind in today's tech-savvy world—attend this essential training today!

Online Course | 12:00-1:00pm | \$28

AE08: Tuesday, January 13

AE15: Tuesday, March 17

AE16: Tuesday, May 12



THIS ICON INDICATES
AN ONLINE CLASS

NEED HELP WITH ZOOM?
CALL 507-379-5318

CANVA FOR AWESOME BEGINNERS

Nickie Welsh

Unlock a world of creative possibilities with Canva, the ideal digital tool for beginners and novices! This class will teach you how to harness the power of Canva, the easiest design website available, all for free. You'll learn to create stunning designs from scratch or use templates with step-by-step guidance for any digital image you need. Whether it's online documents, business cards, email signatures, or more, you'll leave this class with the confidence and skills to use Canva effectively and creatively.

Online Course | 12:00-1:00pm | \$28

AE52: Tuesday, January 20

AE53: Tuesday, March 24



LITERACY LAUNCHPAD: HELPING YOUR CHILD SOAR WITH READING

Jami Donaldson

Our nation is currently facing a literacy crisis, and it's essential that we work together to improve reading outcomes for our children and for future generations. Literacy development begins at birth and continues throughout a child's school years—but teachers cannot do this important work alone. This session is designed for adults—parents, grandparents, and community members—who want to play an active role in supporting children's literacy growth. Take the first step to launch into this literary partnership!

Participants will:

- Be provided with ideas and tools to help their child learn to read at various developmental stages.
- Be provided activities to do at home with their child that supports literacy development.
- Learn about structured literacy and be provided resources to learn more.

Thursday | 6:00-7:00pm | No-Cost

AE20: Hawthorne Media Center | January 8

AE21: Halverson Media Center | January 15

AE22: Lakeview Media Center | January 22

AE23: Sibley Media Center | January 29

AE24: Brookside Rm. 265 | February 5



BATTLE BLASTERS: ADULT OPEN PLAY NEW

Dusty & Kim Blankenship

Unleash your inner kid with a fast-paced indoor battle experience built just for adults. Battle Blasters combines foam-ball blasters, inflatable bunkers, and structured gameplay such as Capture the Flag, Free For All, and Player Elimination—all designed to keep the action moving and the energy high. It's active, exciting, and a great way to try something different without needing prior experience or a full group. Join on your own and jump into the action with others, or bring a spouse, friend group, or coworkers to make it a night out. Expect longer play sessions, quicker pacing, and a fun, social environment that lets you move, compete, and blow off steam.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/ MAX 10

Brookside North Gym | Saturday | 6:00-7:30pm | \$12

AE80: January 17 | **AE81:** February 14 | **AE82:** March 21 | **AE83:** April 18 | **AE84:** May 2



CONVERSATIONS ABOUT LIFE AND LOSS NEW

Denise DeVries

Join others in our community for a compassionate, open conversation about life, love, and loss. This supportive gathering offers a safe and understanding space to share stories, reflect, and find comfort in connection. Conversations are guided by Denise to help move discussions along, and she provides helpful resources for those wishing to continue exploring these topics on their own.

Together, participants will discover meaningful ways to prepare emotionally and practically for life's changes, learning where important information is kept, how to stay connected through transitions, and how to support one another through times of loss.

This is not a professional or counseling session. It is simply a time for conversation, guidance, and comfort.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 5

Brookside Rm. 125 | \$10 | 3 Sessions

AE09: Tuesdays, Jan. 20 & 27, Feb. 3
1:00-2:30pm



GOOGLE SHEETS FOR AWESOME BEGINNERS NEW

Nickie Welsh

Unlock the full potential of Google Sheets and gain skills that will benefit you for a lifetime! Whether you're using it for work or personal projects, this comprehensive class will transform you from a novice into an expert. You'll master the essential functions of Google Sheets, including entering, organizing, refining, analyzing, and visualizing data. Join us to build a solid foundation in Google Sheets and enhance your productivity and data management capabilities!

Online Course | \$28

AE12: Thursday, Jan. 29 | 12:00-1:00pm

HOW TO USE VENMO SAFELY NEW



Nickie Welsh

Stay relevant and up to date by learning all about Venmo, the popular mobile payment service. In this class, you'll discover how to securely pay friends and businesses, as well as receive money without the need for cash or checks. You'll gain a confident understanding of setting up Venmo safely, avoiding unnecessary fees, and applying it in real-world scenarios for you and your family. You'll be able to discuss the topic among family, friends and have an understanding of the key terms used when you hear about VENMO in the news! Join us to master Venmo and handle mobile payments with ease and security.

Online Course | \$28

AE49: Thursday, Feb. 26 | 12:00-1:00pm

2025 FALL SPANISH: ADULT CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH LIVE VIRTUAL OFFERINGS NEW

As the demand for Spanish language skills grows, we offer affordable, LIVE virtual classes tailored for busy adult learners. Held weekly via Zoom with a dynamic instructor, our interactive courses provide the flexibility to learn from anywhere. We offer Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced levels, along with specialty courses like Spanish for Travel. Whether you're starting fresh or looking to improve, our conversational approach focuses on real-world application to build confidence in communication. All class handouts and recordings are available on our website for easy access and practice. Enroll today and start your language-learning journey! Visit our registration site to learn more about each course.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE

Online Course | 6:00-7:00pm | \$109

BEGINNER PART 1

AE59 Mondays, Feb. 23- March 30
AE60 Tuesdays, Feb. 24- March 31
AE61 Wednesdays, Feb. 25- April 1

BEGINNER PART 2

AE62 Mondays, Feb. 23- March 30
AE63 Tuesdays, Feb. 24- March 31

INTERMEDIATE PART 1

AE64 Wednesdays, Feb. 25- April 1

INTERMEDIATE PART 2

AE65 Wednesdays, Feb. 25- April 1

SPANISH FOR TRAVELERS

AE66 Thursdays, Feb. 26- April 2

CANVA POWER HOUR: ADVANCED TRICKS THAT SAVE YOU TIME!

Nickie Welsh

Take your Canva skills to the next level with advanced techniques and hidden features that will streamline your design workflow. This one-hour workshop is perfect for users already familiar with Canva basics who want to discover time-saving shortcuts, professional design hacks, and tools that make creating stunning graphics effortless. Leave with insider tips that will transform how you approach design projects and cut your creation time in half.

Online Course | 12:00-1:00pm | \$28

AE55: Tuesday, March 3

AE56: Thursday, May 7

PHONE PHOTO RESCUE WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS!

Nickie Welsh

Are you overwhelmed or running out of storage with all of the photos just sitting on your phone? In our live online workshop, learn to delete the clutter, create printed photo books and protect your precious memories forever. In just one hour, you'll transform your chaotic photo collection into an organized library you can actually navigate, plus learn maintenance habits that take only minutes each week, without any confusing tech jargon.

Online Course | \$28

AE57: Thursday, March 5 | 12:00-1:00pm



WRITING FOR ONLINE BLOGS, MAGAZINES & WEBSITES

LeeAnne Krusemark

You don't need a journalism degree or previously published articles to write for anyone's online blog, magazine, or website. Some opportunities offer exposure, while many pay well — \$1 a word and more. In this fast-paced session, you will learn how to: find ideas, sources, and more than 1,000 opportunities that pay, conduct interviews and create interesting content, protect your copyright, write query letters, and then use this credibility to sell other articles or even your self-published novel. Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee. The instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is a former journalist, current author and editor, and a nationwide Professor of Publishing at higher learning institutions, including Harvard Adult Education. The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

AE14: Online Course | \$35

Thursday, March 12 | 4:00-6:00pm

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INTRODUCTION TO JOURNALING: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

LeeAnne Krusemark

Journaling is simply recording your thoughts, feelings, and insights in a written, drawn, or typed format. It can be done on paper or on a computer, and it's a low-cost way to improve your mental health. Journaling can help you reduce stress, improve your self-awareness, as well as prioritize problems, fears, and concerns, and provide an opportunity for positive self-talk. You'll learn how to start journaling (even when you don't know what to write), the 10 most popular types of journaling, how to kick-start self-reflection and self-discovery, and track your progress and personal growth. The instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is a former journalist, current author and editor, and a nationwide Professor of Publishing at higher learning institutions, including Harvard Adult Education. Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee. The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

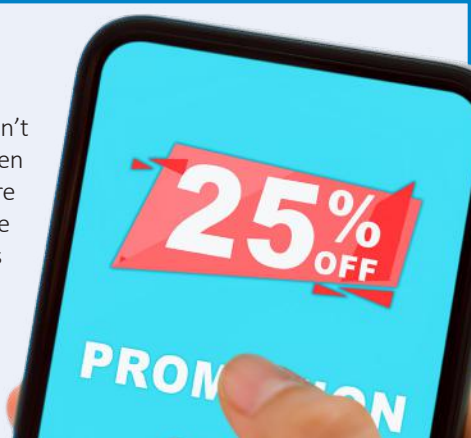
AE13: Online Course | Sunday, March 15 | 11:00-1:00pm | \$35

SAVE MONEY WITH EXTREME COUPONING!

LeeAnne Krusemark

Learn how to save money every day with extreme couponing—because coupons aren't just for groceries! With the right strategies, your savings can add up to hundreds or even thousands of dollars each year. In this comprehensive workshop, you'll discover where to find all types of coupons, including those for high-ticket items, and learn how to use top coupon apps and websites. You'll also gain insider tips on how to match coupons with sales for maximum savings. Taught by an experienced couponer who has saved thousands using these techniques, this class includes informative handouts for future use. Webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

AE17: Online Course | Tuesday, March 17 | 4:00-5:00pm | \$23



CONTENT CREATION FOR CASH: SOCIAL MEDIA WRITING THAT WORKS!

LeeAnne Krusemark

Harness the power of social media to grow your audience and boost your brand—one post at a time. This dynamic class dives deep into crafting scroll-stopping content tailored for each platform, from Instagram reels to Twitter threads. Learn how to write engaging captions, spark viral shares, and use storytelling to build authentic connections that keep followers coming back. You'll also discover savvy strategies to turn likes and comments into real income by monetizing your social presence like a pro. The instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is a former journalist, current author and editor, and a nationwide Professor of Publishing at higher learning institutions, including Harvard Adult Education. Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee. The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

AE26: Online Course | Wednesday, March 18 | 6:00-8:00pm | \$35

MONETIZE WEBSITES, BLOGS, AND SOCIAL MEDIA WITH AFFILIATE MARKETING

LeeAnne Krusemark

Earn a passive monthly income from selling other people's products by placing a merchant-provided advertisement link on your site and get a commission for every sale, click or lead. Learn where to find 1000+ free and low cost opportunities and how to avoid scams or links that won't offer a beneficial ROI (return on investment). Learn how to find high, recurring, and second-tier commissions. You'll also learn SEO secrets to increase your site's ranking and visibility on search engines like Google. Informative handouts for future use are included in class fee. The instructor LeeAnne Krusemark is a former journalist, current author and editor, and a nationwide Professor of Publishing at higher learning institutions, including Harvard Adult Education. The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

AE40: Online Course | Wednesday, March 18 | 4:00-6:00pm | \$35

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SHARE YOUR PASSION



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TEACH IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY



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12/11 HOLIDAY BAZAAR
12/20 FARMERS WINTER MARKET
2/14 THE BIG FREEZE
2/14 GALENTINES EVENT
4/11 SHOP SIP-N-STROLL
4/16 POLKA PARTY
5/8 CINCO DE MAYO

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HOLIDAY
SEASON**



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**COMMUNITY
CALENDAR**

**LOCAL EVENTS
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PEACE OF MIND: PLANNING AHEAD WITH CARE NEW

Beth Tuberty & Josh Fossum,
Bayview Freeborn Funeral & Cremation Services

Planning ahead is one of the greatest gifts you can give your loved ones. In this caring and informative session, you'll learn about the benefits of pre-need funeral planning and how it can bring peace of mind for you and your family. Discover the different service options available, explore financial and legal considerations, and gain helpful tools for documenting your personal wishes. This relaxed, supportive class is open to anyone who wants to make sure their final arrangements reflect their values and ease the burden on those they love.

Bayview Freeborn Funeral Home

AE01: Tuesday, March 24
5:30-6:30pm | No-Cost



BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO USING FREE CHATGPT (AI) FOR WRITERS NEW



LeeAnne Krusemark

Explore how ChatGPT (AI) can support your writing and content creation in this beginner-friendly course. Learn how to set up a free account, craft effective prompts, generate ideas and creative content, and understand the tool's capabilities, limits, and basic ethical considerations. This class is perfect for anyone looking to stay current with evolving technology and use AI as a creative partner. Taught by LeeAnne Krusemark, author/editor and nationwide Professor of Publishing. Informative handouts are included. Webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

AE29: Online Course | Thursday, March 26 | 6:00-8:00pm | \$35

ADULT ARCHERY ★

Full Draw Archery Club Member

Join us for a fun and welcoming archery experience designed for beginners and anyone curious about trying something new! In Introduction to Archery Basics, you'll learn how to grip the bow, aim, and let your arrows fly—no equipment needed. If you'd like to explore Traditional Archery, you'll also have the chance to learn the art of shooting a traditional longbow, including how to fit, draw, aim, and release with confidence.

REGISTER 2 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 7

Full Draw Archery Club | Saturday | \$10

AE28 BEGINNER: March 28 | 9:00-11:00am

AE30 TRADITIONAL: April 25 | 10:30-12:00pm

With limited spots
available, be sure to
register early!

INTRO TO MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY NEW

LeeAnne Krusemark

Medical terminology is the first step to any career in the medical field or simply to understand your family's medical visits. No prior experience is necessary. This highly specialized language involves word building with root words, prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations. You will leave with a solid foundation of medical language, as well as basic medical billing and coding terminology. After submitting and passing the open-book exam included in the workbook you receive in class, you will earn a Certificate of Completion. This comprehensive course is taught by longtime educator LeeAnne Krusemark, and Credentialed Medical Professional Vanessa Grinnell, RRT. The webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

Online Course | \$45

AE31: Sunday, March 29 | 2:00-5:00pm

SPEAK UP, STAND OUT: PUBLIC SPEAKING FOR BEGINNERS NEW

Terrified of public speaking? You're not alone—this beginner-friendly class will help you ditch the nerves and find your voice. Whether you're presenting at work or speaking at a special event, you'll learn how to organize your thoughts, speak clearly, manage anxiety, and connect with your audience. With low-pressure activities and practical tips, you'll leave feeling more confident and ready to speak up. Taught by LeeAnne Krusemark, a former journalist, current author, Chamber of Commerce past president, and nationwide speaker. Webinar login information will be emailed the day before class.

AE30: Online Course | Sunday, March 29 | 11:00-1:00pm | \$35

LeeAnne Krusemark



ADULT HEALTH AND WELLNESS

*These classes are for educational knowledge and skill development purposes only.
Cultural and religious beliefs will not be taught, practiced, nor encouraged in these courses.*

LIVING WITH PURPOSE: DESIGNING A LIFE THAT MATTERS

Tricia Dahl

Drawing from High Performance Coaching and Blue Zones principles, you'll uncover your passions, values, and ways to contribute, identify barriers to purpose, and craft a personal vision. Through reflection and interactive exercises, you'll leave with actionable steps to align daily choices with your purpose and positively impact your community. Take the first step toward intentional living, joy, and a more fulfilled, purpose-filled life. *Please bring a pen or pencil to write notes with.*

REGISTER 5 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 8/MAX 20

Brookside Rm. 125 | 6:00-7:30pm | \$40

HW01: Tuesday January 20 | **HW02:** Tuesday, February 17

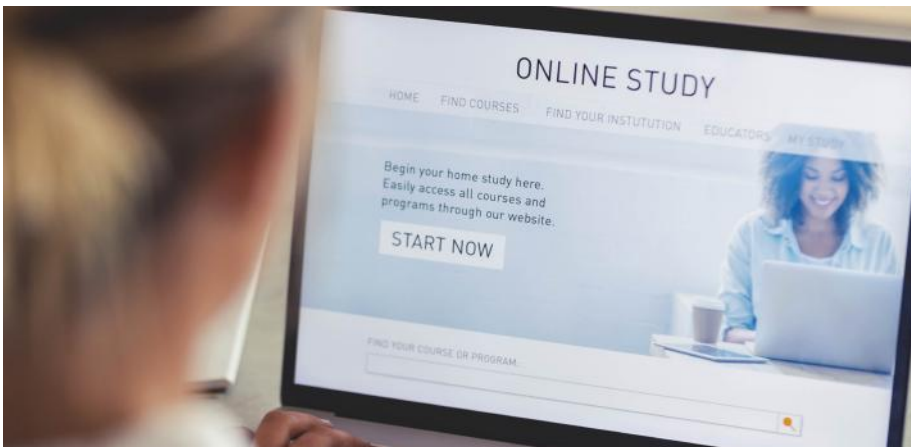
Brookside Rm. 125 | \$40

HW03: Tuesday, April 14 | 9:30-11:00am

MEET TRICIA DAHL

Tricia Dahl brings over 36 years of leadership and operational experience from Mayo Clinic Health System, with expertise in organizational strategy, professional development, and team performance. As a Certified High Performance Coach, she helps individuals gain clarity, define purpose, and take meaningful action toward their goals. Her work with the Blue Zones Leadership Team and National Vitality Center Board further shapes her purpose-driven approach. Tricia has taught leadership, communication, and technology courses, and coaches both individuals and groups in personal and professional growth.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



**Advance your career with over 35
online certificate programs this fall!**

Each three-month program includes one course per month, completed at your own pace between February-April, 2026.
Earn a certificate upon completion.

**View full program details at
AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org or scan the QR code.**

Top 5 Certificates

1. Bookkeeping
2. Data Analysis
3. Mastering Excel
4. Power Business Intelligence (BI)
5. Artificial Intelligence





HOME-BAKED SOFT SUBS & HAWAIIAN ROLL SLIDERS

Tess Georgakopoulos

Learn to make soft submarine rolls and pillowy Hawaiian rolls completely from scratch, then turn them into sandwiches and sliders with bold flavors, fresh toppings, and a buttery garlic glaze. Customize your dough sweetness and bring bakery-quality breads to game nights or family meals. Perfect for bakers of all levels—no prior bread-making experience needed.

AE35: Online Class | Friday, January 30 | 5:30-8:00pm | \$43 per household



TASTE OF TUSCANY: HANDCRAFTED RICOTTA GNOCCHI MEAL

Tess Georgakopoulos

Create tender ricotta gnocchi from scratch and pair them with a creamy Tuscan herb sauce and chicken. Class also includes baking a soft French-style loaf to complete your restaurant-worthy Italian meal. Bring a taste of Italy to your kitchen with simple steps and elegant results.

AE39: Online Class | Friday, February 20 | 5:30-7:30pm | \$36 per household



CLASSIC HOMEMADE PIEROGI & SWEET BERRY PIEROGI!

Tess Georgakopoulos

Make both savory classic pierogi and sweet berry pierogi using two types of homemade dough and fillings. Learn cooking and freezing techniques—no special equipment required. A great class for families looking to create nostalgic, comfort-food favorites together.

AE36: Online Class | Saturday, March 14 | 4:00-6:00pm | \$43 per household



DIM SUM DUMPLING DYNASTY: POT STICKERS WITH HOMEMADE WRAPPERS, FILLING, & DIPPING SAUCE

Tess Georgakopoulos

Master restaurant-quality pot stickers with homemade wrappers and a flavorful filling (pork or chicken). Learn shaping, cooking for crispy bottoms and tender centers, plus tips for freezing and a bright dipping sauce. Enjoy an authentic Dim Sum experience without leaving home.

AE37: Online Class | Saturday, April 18 | 4:00-6:30pm | \$43 per household



MEDITERRANEAN CHICKEN GYRO MEAL

Tess Georgakopoulos

Cook a full Greek-inspired meal at home including tender chicken gyro, homemade pita, tzatziki, Greek lemon potatoes, and flavorful dressings. Guided by a lifelong Mediterranean cook, this class brings fresh, vibrant flavors to your table. This is a great option for families wanting healthier, fresh meals with bold flavor.

AE38: Online Class | Saturday, May 9 | 4:00-6:30pm | \$43 per household

DRIVERS EDUCATION



55+ DRIVER DISCOUNT PROGRAM ★

Deanne VonWald

Complete this course approved by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to get a 10% discount on your auto insurance! Taught by a certified instructor, you'll discuss challenges we face as drivers, new road designs, vehicle technology, and updates on current laws. MN Statute requires insurance agencies to offer a 10% automotive insurance discount upon completion of an approved 4-hour class. Tests are not given, however each person must register, pay, and participate for the duration of the class to receive a certificate. Upon completion, submit your certificate to your insurance company. To maintain your discount, this course needs to be completed every 3 years.

REGISTER 5 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 15/MAX 40

Brookside Rm. 125 | Mondays | \$24

DD06: January 26 | 12:30-4:30pm

DD07: March 9 | 5:30-9:30pm

DD08: April 20 | 12:30-4:30pm

DD09: June 1 | 9:00-1:00pm

Feel free to bring a beverage and a snack—there will be short breaks.

Once a student driver has a valid Minnesota permit and is ready to start their six-hours of Behind the Wheel Training with an instructor, please call 507-379-5318 with their permit number to get on the waitlist.

DRIVING CONES AVAILABLE

Getting ready for your road test and need a little extra practice with parking? We can help! Community Education has portable parking practice kits available for checkout. They're easy to set up and perfect for building confidence before test day.

A \$20 deposit (cash or check) is required and will be fully refunded when the kit is returned.

CALL 507-379-5318 TO RESERVE!

IN-PERSON DRIVERS EDUCATION

14 1/2 - 18 years old (18 year olds must still be enrolled in school)

Prepare your future driver for the permit test, the State of Minnesota Graduated Driver's License Test (GDL) and a lifetime of driving. Class fee includes 30 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

Albert Lea Community Education has been approved by the MN DMV to act as a proctoring center for students that have completed the Albert Lea Community Education Driver's Education program and have received their blue cards. If possible, the last day of class will be for knowledge testing proctored by the instructor. **ALL** students will need to attend even if they will not be taking the knowledge test.

Early bird registration fee of \$385 ends **2 weeks prior** to the start date of class. Then the price increases to \$405.

Deadline to register is **1 week prior** to the start date of class.

DE45JAN

Monday-Friday, January 26- February 6

ALHS Rm. D200

3:30-6:30pm

DE46MAR

Monday-Friday, March 2-13

ALHS Rm. E113

3:30-6:30pm



ONLINE DRIVERS EDUCATION

14 1/2 - 18 years old (18 year olds must still be enrolled in school)

Albert Lea Community Education, in partnership with A+ Driving School, offers online Drivers Education courses through the CruiseControl Education platform. Designed specifically for Minnesota students, this fully online program utilizes proven teaching methods to keep learners engaged throughout the process. With the flexibility to start classes anytime and progress at your own pace, students can enjoy an entertaining, "live" classroom setting

Early bird registration fee of \$385 ends **2 weeks prior** to the registration deadline. Then the price increases to \$405. Please note that classes must be completed by the listed end date; otherwise, re-registration and repayment will be required.

DEONLINE WINTER/SPRING 2026

December 8- April 30

Registration Deadline March 9

ALBERTLEACOMMUNITYED.ORG 21

INTRO TO TAEKWONDO

Ages 4-12

Logan Meyer

This course provides a concise and engaging introduction to Taekwondo, ideal for beginners. Participants will learn foundational techniques, including basic stances, strikes, and kicks. In addition to physical skills, the course emphasizes proper class etiquette—such as showing respect to instructors and peers, standing in line correctly, and understanding the culture of a traditional Taekwondo class. Students will also explore the basic history of Taekwondo and gain important insights on how and when to use these skills safely and responsibly. *Please wear comfortable clothing that is easy to move in and bring a water bottle.*

REGISTER FRIDAY BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 12

Maricle Martial Arts | 4:15-4:45pm | \$60 | 6 Sessions

Ages 4-5

YOU33: Mondays, January 5- February 9

YOU35: Mondays, February 23- March 30

YOU38: Mondays, April 6- May 11

Ages 6-12

YOU34: Tuesdays, January 6- February 10

YOU37: Tuesdays, February 24- March 31

YOU39: Tuesdays, April 7- May 12



MIDDLE SCHOOL INDOOR WINTER TENNIS & PICKLEBALL CLUB

Grades 5-7 | Grace Green

Let's break the winter cabin fever and get moving! Join us indoors for a fun, active club where students can learn and play both tennis and pickleball in a relaxed, supportive environment. The focus is on movement, teamwork, and having fun while improving coordination and confidence.

No experience is necessary—participants will be guided through the fundamentals and encouraged to learn at their own pace. *Please bring a paddle or racket if you have one.*

MIN 10/MAX 20

Sibley Gym | \$30 | 10 Sessions

YOU21: Tuesdays, January 6- March 10 | 3:45pm-5:15pm



LOOKING FOR READING HELP FOR
YOUR CHILD? TAKE A LOOK AT
LITERACY LAUNCHPAD ON PAGE 14!

STEM AFTERSCHOOL ★

Lexi Ignaszewski

Grades 2-5

Jump into the fun with 4-H Afterschool! We will be diving into and exploring Pool Noodle Science, Egg Science, Electricity and trying out Newton's laws. There will be snacks, games, activities and fun!

REGISTER 1 WEEK BEFORE | MIN 5/MAX 20

Wednesdays | 2:45-4:15pm | \$3.50 per session

Sibley Cafeteria

YOU50: January 7

YOU54: February 4

YOU58: March 11

YOU62: April 22

Hawthorne Cafeteria

YOU52: January 21

YOU56: February 18

YOU60: April 1

YOU64: May 6

Halverson Cafeteria

YOU51: January 14

YOU55: February 11

YOU59: March 25

YOU63: April 29

Lakeview Cafeteria

YOU53: January 28

YOU57: March 4

YOU61: April 8

YOU65: May 13



CHECK YOUR
EMAIL!

CHECK OUR
WEATHER
CANCELLATION
INFO ON PAGE 1.



YOUTH COOKING SERIES WITH MS. BONNIE

Grades 3-9 *Bonnie Townsend*

Join us for a series of hands-on cooking classes where kids can get creative in the kitchen, learn new skills, and enjoy some tasty treats along the way! Each class features a different experience, and participants can sign up for one or join them all.

REGISTER 2 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 20
Albert Lea High School D202 | Wednesday | 5:00-6:30pm | \$25

YOU40 Super Soup Makers! **January 21**
 Warm up this winter as we mix, stir, and create a tasty soup together! Kids will learn simple cooking skills while exploring fun ways to combine ingredients. Each participant will help prepare and sample their creation before heading home with new ideas to try in their own kitchen.

YOU41 Chocolate Factory Fun **February 11**
 Step into a world of chocolatey creativity! Kids will melt, mix, and decorate their own candy bars to bring home as a special Valentine's treat. It's a sweet, hands-on experience full of imagination, fun, and tasty surprises!

YOU42 Snack Attack! After School Edition **March 11**
 Hungry after school? Learn how to whip up quick, easy snacks that hit the spot! Kids will create simple, tasty treats while practicing safe food prep skills and having fun in the kitchen.

CAREGIVER & ME CLASSES

Join your student for these special sessions designed for shared fun in the kitchen! Register the student, and during registration, you'll be asked to include the attending caregiver's information.

YOU43 Breakfast Buddies **April 15**
 Start your morning with a fun, hands-on cooking adventure! Parents and kids will team up to make an easy breakfast dish together while learning simple cooking tips and tricks. A great way to spend quality time — and enjoy a delicious meal you helped make!

YOU44 Cupcake Creations **May 13**
 It's time to decorate! Parents and kids will work together to create colorful, fun cupcakes using frosting, sprinkles, and creativity. No fancy baking experience needed — just bring your imagination (and your sweet tooth)!

{YEL!} GRANDMASTERS OF CHESS

Grades K-5 | Jeff Lackey

Learn, Practice and Play chess each class. The {YEL!} Teach It! Practice It! Play It!® method keeps students on track with new chess lessons and puzzles each week as well as guided games and in-class tournaments. Class fee includes ChessKid.com membership for the session!

REGISTER 2 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 16
Brookside Rm. 125 | 5:00-6:00pm | \$109 | 6 Sessions
YOU80: Wednesdays, January 28- March 4
YOU81: Wednesdays, April 1- May 6



{YEL!} ROBOTICS CLASSES FOR KIDS

Grades 1-5 | Jeff Lackey

In Muscle 'Bots, students will build powerful robots designed for tug-of-war competitions, truck pulls, and hauling heavy loads while learning basic computer coding and engineering principles. In Rescue 'Bots, participants take on challenges like rescuing a panda trapped in a ravine by building a robot helicopter, then explore how to create a floodgate, earthquake machine, or other helpful robots that improve society. Both classes blend hands-on building with coding skills to spark creativity, problem-solving, and a love for robotics.



REGISTER 2 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 16
Brookside Rm. 125 | 6:00-7:00pm | \$104 | 6 Sessions
YOU90 Muscle 'Bots: Wednesdays, January 28- March 4
YOU91 Rescue 'Bots: Wednesdays, April 1- May 6

{YEL!} BRICK BUILDERS ENGINEERING CLASSES FOR KIDS

Grades 1-5 | Jeff Lackey

In Explore engineering with Bricktopia in two exciting experiences: Catapults, where students build a catapult, dragster, and scale using LEGO bricks while problem-solving and innovating, and Heroic Engineers, where young builders take on rescue challenges and design machines such as a rescue winch, hill-busting buggy, or their own ingenious creation to help save the day. Both classes introduce engineering basics in a fun, hands-on way and invite students to think creatively, build confidently, and become heroes through design.

REGISTER 2 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 16
Brookside Rm. 125 | 5:00-6:00pm | \$96 | 6 Sessions
YOU60 Bricktopia Catapult: Thursday, January 29- March 5
YOU61 Heroic Engineers: Thursdays, April 2- May 7

{YEL!} CODING CLASSES FOR KIDS ^{NEW} Jeff Lackey Grades 2-5

Two engaging Scratch®-based STEM experiences for students: Coding Animation with Scratch®, where they learn story-telling and coding techniques to create animated storylines using movement blocks, dialogue, timing, and more, and Video Games with Scratch®, where students learn video game design concepts such as movement and control blocks, animation, scoring, and gameplay structure to build games like Maze Runner and Asteroid Smash. *Scratch® is not affiliated with {YEL!}, nor does it endorse this program.*

REGISTER 2 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 16
Brookside Rm. 125 | 6:00-7:00pm | \$100 | 6 Sessions

YOU70 Animation: Thursdays, January 29- March 5

YOU71 Video Games: Thursdays, April 2- May 7



BATTLE BLASTERS: YOUTH OPEN PLAY ^{NEW}

Ages 6-14 | Dusty & Kim Blankenship, Backyard Bunkers

Get ready to dodge, duck, and dive behind inflatable bunkers in this high-energy indoor battle experience! Participants will jump into exciting gameplay battles such as Capture the Flag, Free For All, and Player Elimination — all led by a game facilitator focused on safety, fun, and fair play.

All equipment is provided, including blasters, safety face wear, and inflatable bunkers. Players ages 6–8 will use dart blasters, and players ages 9–14 will use foam ball blasters.

Whether your child is trying this for the first time or already loves battle-style games, this is a great way to build teamwork, strategy, confidence, and fast-paced fun. *Dress for action! Comfortable clothes (preferably loose long sleeves and pants), closed-toe shoes, and a water bottle are recommended.*

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 10
Brookside North Gym | Saturdays | 11:00-12:00pm | \$10

Ages 6-8

YOU50: January 17 **YOU52:** February 14 **YOU54:** March 21

YOU56: April 18 **YOU58:** May 2

Brookside North Gym | 12:15-1:45pm | \$12

Ages 9-14

YOU51: January 17 **YOU53:** February 14 **YOU55:** March 21

YOU57: April 18 **YOU59:** May 2

24 ALBERT LEA COMMUNITY EDUCATION



MIDDLE SCHOOL SPANISH PREP: IGNITE YOUR LANGUAGE JOURNEY! (LIVE VIRTUAL) ^{NEW}

Grades 6-8 | Online Course | \$140 | 8 Sessions
YOU07: Mondays, February 23- April 13 | 4:45-5:30pm

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF SPANISH: ¡VAMOS A EXPLORER! LET'S EXPLORE! (LIVE VIRTUAL) ^{NEW}

Grades 1-5 | Online Course | \$140 | 8 Sessions
YOU04: Wednesdays, February 25- April 15 | 4:15-5:00pm

BATTLE BLASTERS: FEATURE NIGHT EXPERIENCE ^{NEW}

Dusty & Kim Blankenship, Backyard Bunkers

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 6/MAX 10
Brookside North Gym | Saturdays | 4:45-5:45pm | \$10

YOU70: Teen Night (Ages 14+) **January 17**
A high-energy hour geared toward older players who enjoy faster gameplay, bigger challenges, and a more competitive pace.

YOU71: Little Blasters (Ages 4–6) **February 14**
A gentle and fun introduction to Battle Blasters for younger children. Simple battles, lighter equipment, and lots of playful movement.

YOU72: Family Night (All Ages) **March 21**
Families play together in friendly battles that mix teamwork, movement, and light competition. Great for siblings, cousins, parents, and caregivers.

YOU73: Girl Power Night (Grades 3–7) **April 18**
A confidence-building session for girls in grades 3–7. Players team up for friendly battles that encourage strategy, teamwork, and active play.

YOU74: Dude Night (Grades 3–7) **May 2**
A high-energy hour for boys in grades 3–7 who want to run, duck, dive, and compete in upbeat, action-filled battles.

BOOK A BATTLE BLASTER BIRTHDAY PARTY BASH OR PRIVATE EVENT!



WINTER/SPRING 2026



YOUTH ARCHERY Grades 6-12

MIN 3/MAX 7

Full Draw Archery Club

Saturdays | 9:00-11:00am | \$10

YOU49: Archery Beginner Jan. 31

Get ready to channel your inner Robin Hood with this beginner's guide to Archery! Jeff with Full Draw Archery Club will teach you the right way to grip the bow, take aim and let those arrows fly. No need to worry about owning equipment because we've got you covered. By the end of the course, you'll have a good grasp on the sport of archery, how to shoot and, who knows, maybe this is just the beginning of your archery journey!

YOU50: Intermediate Archery Feb. 28

This intermediate archery course will teach you how to shoot and score various league and competition shots. To be eligible to participate, you must have completed the beginner course or have at least two years of archery shooting experience.

YOU51: Traditional Archery April 25

Attendees will learn the art of shooting Traditional Archery. You will learn to properly fit, draw, aim and shoot a traditional long bow.

MIN 3/MAX 7

Full Draw Archery Club

Saturday | 9:00-10:30am | \$10

MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTDOOR SPRING TENNIS & PICKLEBALL CLUB NEW

Grades 5-7 | Grace Green

Let's head outside and enjoy the fresh air while playing tennis and pickleball! This fun, active club is all about getting outdoors, learning the basics, and developing your skills through friendly games and practice. The focus is on movement, teamwork, and having fun while improving coordination and confidence.

No experience is necessary—participants will be guided through the fundamentals and encouraged to learn at their own pace. *Please bring a paddle or racket if you have one.*

MIN 10/MAX 20

Southwest Courts | \$50 | 18 Sessions

YOU22: Tuesdays & Thursdays, March 24- May 21 | 3:45pm-5:15pm



ALBERT LEA DANCE TEAM YOUTH DANCE CAMP ★

Grades K-6 | ALHS Dance Team

Calling all K–5th grade students interested in dance! Join the Albert Lea Tigers Dance Team for a fun-filled three-day camp where participants will warm up, stretch, play games, learn dance techniques and skills, and practice a kick routine to perform for family and friends at the end of camp. The camp is taught by ALDT dancers and supervised by the ALDT Booster Club. Each dancer will receive a performance t-shirt, decorative hair tie, daily snack, and nearly five hours of instruction and fun.

Participants should wear comfortable activewear and gym shoes, bring a filled water bottle, and arrive with hair pulled back and out of their face for every practice. Friday practice will be held at the Albert Lea High School Gym, followed by the final performance at 6:00 p.m. For the final performance, dancers should wear black leggings, their camp t-shirt, and the provided hair tie.

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 20 | MIN 10

Brookside North & South Gym | 4:00-5:15pm | \$55

YOU06: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, March 3, 4 & 6

Register early
to receive
a camp t-shirt!

FREEBORN EAGLES MIDDLE SCHOOL RUGBY

Grades 5-8 | Ron & Brittany Ericksmoen

Join us for an exciting season of Middle School Rugby, a co-ed developmental league for students in grades 5–8 that introduces the fundamentals of rugby while building skills, confidence, teamwork, and a strong foundation for future high school play. **The first two practices, on March 23 and March 30, will be held indoors at Brookside Education Center in the North and South Gyms.** This inclusive and supportive program is open to all students and focuses on development and fundamentals through fun, structured instruction. Matches will be played in a jamboree-style format on Saturdays, with a total of five jamborees scheduled throughout the season.

Frank Hall Park Field | 5:30-7:00pm | \$93

YOU30: Mondays, March 23- June 8 | *No practice May 25*



Preschool & Kindergarten Registration

2026–2027 Albert Lea Area School Year

Get Ready, Little Tigers – Big Adventures Await!

January 22 & February 23 • 7:30 AM – 6:30 PM

Brookside Education Center • 211 W Richway Drive

GOING INTO
PRESCHOOL

Ages 3 & 4 on or before
Sept. 1, 2026



GOING INTO
KINDERGARTEN

Age 5 on or before
Sept. 1, 2026

Preschool Opens Jan. 22 • Kindergarten Open Now

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER: ONLINE OR PAPER FORMS

Join us on the two registration dates for staff-supported form completion and questions. If you can't attend, register online using the QR code or pick up and drop off paper packets at Brookside Monday–Friday, 7:00am–3:30pm.

PRESCHOOL CONTACT

Megan Lebrun
507-379-4831 • megan.lebrun@alschools.org

KINDERGARTEN CONTACT

Dani Bryant
507-379-4806 • dani.bryant@alschools.org





EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS

Early Childhood Screening is a **free** and simple check of how your child is growing, developing and learning.

What to expect at a screening appointment:

A trained professional will check:

- Vision and hearing
- Height and weight
- Immunizations records
- Large and small muscles
- Thinking, language and communication skills
- Social and emotional development

This screening may help link you to other free learning opportunities, such as prekindergarten programming, Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE), Minnesota early learning scholarships for high quality care and education, Head Start, Home Visiting, and Early Childhood Special Education.

Upcoming Dates:

Thursday, January 8 | 3:00pm-6:00pm
Friday, January 9 | 8:00am-2:00pm

Thursday, February 5 | 3:00pm-6:00pm
Friday, February 6 | 8:00am-2:00pm

Thursday March 5 | 3:00pm-6:00pm
Friday, March 6 | 8:00am-2:00pm

**To schedule your child's
appointment call 507-379-4838.**

Your child may also be screened at their Head Start, Child and Teen Check-ups or a clinic that offers developmental screening. Parents may conscientiously object to screening. Minnesota Statutes 121A.17.



**EARLY CHILDHOOD
FAMILY EDUCATION**

WHAT IS ECFE?

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is a program by Albert Lea Area Schools offering parenting information and support for parents with children from birth to age 5.

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL ECFE CLASS INCLUDE?

- **Parent-Child Activity Time:** Families explore a classroom with play materials and learning activities led by a licensed early childhood teacher.
- **Parent Education Time:** Parents meet with a licensed parent educator to share support, experiences, and parenting techniques.
- **Children's Activity Time:** Children engage with the early childhood teacher and practice social skills with their peers.

WE ARE HERE TO MEET YOUR NEEDS!

If you are interested in a parent-child class or a virtual parenting class but do not see a course that fits your schedule, please reach out to our staff. We are happy to discuss additional options that work for you!

Contact:

- albertleacommunityed@alschools.org

SUPPORT FOR CHALLENGING EARLY CHILDHOOD BEHAVIORS

We understand that your child's behavior can be challenging. Our Early Childhood Parent Educators are here to provide free information and support for parents and caregivers dealing with these issues.

To set up an appointment, which can be in person or via Zoom, please email:

- albertleacommunityed@alschools.org

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
ASSISTING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY!**



EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

CLASS KEY:

BLUE: BABY SERIES

ORANGE: TODDLER SERIES

GREEN: PARENTING



NEW CLASS OFFERING



POPULAR CLASS



SIBLING CARE OFFERED



3 WAYS TO REGISTER CREDIT CARD ONLY



ONLINE

AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org



CALL

507-379-5318



IN PERSON

211 W Richway Drive

SCAN QR
CODE TO
SEE CLASS
OFFERINGS



BABY BUDS

Birth-12 months & caregiver

Welcome to our cozy Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class designed for parents and their precious 0–12-month-olds! Dive into a world of gentle songs, sensory play, and supportive discussions tailored to the needs of early parenthood. From tummy-time tips to soothing techniques, discover invaluable insights while bonding with your baby and connecting with other families. Join us in a nurturing space where laughter, learning, and love abound. Together, we'll celebrate the joys of infancy and lay the foundation for a lifetime of exploration and growth.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10



Brookside Rm. 203 | See Fee Chart | 8 Sessions

ECBB-S1-PM: Tues., Jan. 13- March 3 | 6:30-7:30am

ECBB-S1-AM: Thurs., Jan. 15- March 5 | 10:00-11:00am

ECBB-S2-PM: Tues., March 24- May 12 | 6:30-7:30am

ECBB-S2-AM: Thurs., March 26- May 14 | 10:00-11:00am



LITTLE EXPLORERS

6-24 months & caregiver

Welcome to our exciting Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class, where parents and their curious 6–24-month-olds delve into the world of sensory exploration! Together, we'll engage in playful activities that stimulate your baby's senses—touch, sight, sound, smell, and taste. From sensory bins to textured play mats, every session is designed to spark wonder and promote developmental growth. Join us for a delightful blend of bonding moments, giggles, and discoveries as we nurture your little one's early curiosity in a warm and supportive environment.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10

Brookside Rm. 203 | 8:30-9:30am | See Fee Chart | 8 Sessions



ECLE-S1: Thurs., Jan. 15- March 3 | **ECLE-S2:** Thurs., March 26- May 14

Join Our Parent Advisory Council

Your voice matters - join Early Childhood & Family Education (ECFE) at our next meeting. Connect with families, share insights, and help shape our program to better serve the community.

Tuesday, February 17 & April 21
11:30-12:30pm
Brookside Rm. 205

*For parents of
children ages
birth- 5 years.*

RSVP FOR PIZZA LUNCH!

Make sure to preregister online at AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org so that we can reserve your spot and arrange lunch for everyone!

PEA PODS

1-2 years & caregiver

Welcome to a nurturing and enriching experience designed specifically for parents and their 1–2-year-olds! Our Early Childhood Family Education class offers a supportive environment where families can learn, play, and grow together during this critical stage of early development. Enjoy the journey of parenthood surrounded by a welcoming community of families just like yours.



REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10

Brookside Rm. 205 | 8:30-9:30am

See Fee Chart | 8 Sessions

ECPP-S1: Tuesdays, January 13- March 3



ECPP-S2: Tuesdays, March 24- May 12

GROWING TOGETHER

1-3 years & caregiver

Step into our vibrant Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class, where parents and their adventurous 12–36-month-olds embark on a journey of discovery and joy! Through engaging activities like sensory play, creative arts, and interactive stories, we celebrate each milestone and foster curiosity in our little explorers. Connect with fellow parents, share experiences, and gain practical tips from our supportive community of caregivers and educators. Join us for a fun-filled time of learning and laughter, where every moment is a new adventure in toddlerhood!

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10

Brookside Rm. 205 | 5:15-6:15pm | See Fee Chart | 8 Sessions

ECGT-S1: Tuesdays, January 13- March 3



ECGT-S2: Tuesdays, March 24- May 12

REGISTER EARLY — IT HELPS US PLAN!

BUZZY BEES

1-2 years & caregiver

Join us in our lively Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) class tailored for parents and their energetic 2–3-year-olds! Enjoy a delightful blend of play, learning, and connection in a supportive environment designed to celebrate this dynamic stage of early childhood. Through interactive activities, music, stories, and guided playtime, we'll explore the wonders of toddlerhood together. Build friendships with other families, gain valuable parenting tips, and watch your child thrive as they engage in age-appropriate activities that spark curiosity and creativity. This class is where learning meets laughter!

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10

Brookside Rm. 205 | 10:00-11:15am | See Fee Chart | 8 Sessions

ECBZ-S1: Tuesdays, January 13- March 3



ECBZ-S2: Tuesdays, March 24- May 12

GRAND CONNECTIONS

2-5 years & grandparent

Join us for a fun ECFE class where caregivers, or a special person in your child's life, and their energetic 3–5-year-olds team up for a lively mix of activities! Get ready for hands-on crafts, engaging games, and storytelling sessions that spark curiosity and creativity. This is a chance to explore, play, and learn together while discovering new ways to connect across generations. Whether you're crafting, singing silly songs, or enjoying some active play, there's something for everyone. Come join the fun and make some great memories (and maybe a little mischief) along the way!

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10

Brookside Rm. 205 | 6:30-7:30pm | See Fee Chart | 8 Sessions

ECGC-S1: Tuesdays, January 13- March 3



ECGC-S2: Tuesdays, March 24- May 12

LUNCH CLUB

For caregivers with children ages Birth-5 years



Join us for Lunch Club, a relaxed monthly parenting group where we share a healthy meal and conversation. Each session includes a nutritious Blue Zones lunch followed by a guided discussion on relevant parenting topics such as routines, child development, self-care, and managing everyday stress. It's a chance to nourish both your body and your mind while connecting with other caregivers. Whether you're looking for new ideas or just a break in your day, Lunch Club is a space to recharge and grow together.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10

History Center of Freeborn County | \$10 per person

Thursdays | 12:00-1:30pm

ECLC-0108: Jan. 8 | **ECLC-0205:** Feb. 5 | **ECLC-0305:** March 5

ECLC-0402: April 2 | **ECLC-0507:** May 7



Sponsored in part
by Blue Zones
Albert Lea.



PARENT EDUCATION CLASSES ARE DESIGNED FOR CAREGIVERS WITH CHILDREN AGES BIRTH-5.

Need help registering?
Call us at 507-379-5318!

EMOTION COACHING PARENTING CLASS

This class introduces parents and caregivers to the principles of Emotion Coaching, a research-based approach that helps children understand and manage their feelings in healthy ways. You'll learn the importance of emotional awareness in child development, how to recognize and respond to your child's emotion with empathy, steps of effective emotion coaching and ways to stay calm and connected during emotional outbursts. You'll leave with a deeper understanding of your child's emotional world and practical tools to support their emotional growth.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10
Brookside Rm. 203 | 6:30-7:30pm | See Fee Chart



ECECP-0310: Tuesday, March 10

NO DRAMA DISCIPLINE

In this three-session class, we will read and discuss the book, "No-Drama Discipline" by Daniel J. Siegel, M.D. and Tina Payne Bryson, Ph.D. We will also follow the workbook guide related to this book by developing a set of principles and strategies based on your own family dynamics. Some of the skills you'll learn is to develop clear and consistent strategies for responding to misbehavior; move from tantrum to tranquility by connecting and calming; apply the three "Brain C's" and understand how neuroscience impacts your disciplinary decisions; and remain firm and consistent in your discipline, while communicating with warmth, love, respect and compassion.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10
Brookside Rm. 203 | 5:15-6:45pm | See Fee Chart



ECCNDD-0326: Thursday, March 26, April 9 & 23

PARENT SPA NIGHT

When we become parents, we often put our own self-care on the back burner. Let's take some time to relax, rejuvenate, and have a parenting discussion. There will be spa-themed make-and-takes, as well as a visit from certified esthetician Wendy Ambriz.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10
Brookside Rm. 203 | 5:30-7:00pm | See Fee Chart



ECSPN-0519: Tuesday, May 19

BYE-BYE DIAPERS: A PARENT'S GUIDE TO SUCCESS

This interactive class will help parents and caregivers guide their child through the potty-training process. Whether you're just getting started or need support overcoming challenges, this class provides practical tools, proven strategies, and reassurance every step of the way. You'll learn about your child's readiness signals for potty training, potty training methods, positive reinforcement techniques and support to help your child conquer potty training.

If your child is currently enrolled in one of our PreK-3 or PreK-4 classes, you can join this class for free! To receive the no-cost option, just give us a call at 507-379-5318—we're happy to help get you signed up!

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10
Brookside Rm. 203 | 5:00-6:00pm | See Fee Chart



ECBBD-0129: Thurs. Jan. 29 | **ECBBD-0310:** Thurs. March 10

FINDING WORK-LIFE BALANCE FOR PARENTS

Balancing the demands of work, parenting, and personal life can feel overwhelming. This class helps parents and caregivers develop realistic strategies to create more harmony at home and in their careers. Through discussion, reflection, and resources, participants will learn how to manage stress, set healthy boundaries, and prioritize what truly matters. You'll learn time-management and organization tips, how to set realistic expectations for yourself and your family, strategies to reduce guilt and burnout, ways to build strong family routines and communication habits, and self-care practices.

REGISTER 4 DAYS BEFORE | MIN 3/MAX 10
Brookside Rm. 203 | 6:30-7:30pm | See Fee Chart



ECWLB-0129: Thursday, January 29

Learning begins at birth

ECFE works to strengthen families and encourages parents to provide the best possible environment for the healthy development of their children.



BROOKSIDE EDUCATION CENTER
211 W RICHWAY DR
ALBERT LEA, MN 56007
(507) 379-4831

Parent-child classes -
birth-five years old.

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION (ECFE) CLASS SLIDING FEE CHART

| | FAMILY SIZE | CATEGORY A | | CATEGORY B | | CATEGORY C | |
|---|---|----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| | | ANNUAL INCOME | | ANNUAL INCOME | | ANNUAL INCOME | |
| <p>The class fee is based on your household's total yearly income, before taxes and your family size. This information is confidential. class fees are necessary to supplement state and local tax dollars dedicated to supporting Early Childhood programs for School District 241.</p> <p>1. Locate your family size</p> <p>2. Locate your family income</p> <p>3. Move down column to class fee</p> | 2 | Below \$35,000 | | \$35,000-\$45,000 | | \$45,000+ | |
| | 3 | Below \$45,000 | | \$45,000-\$55,000 | | \$55,000+ | |
| | 4 | Below \$55,000 | | \$55,000-\$65,000 | | \$65,000+ | |
| | 5 | Below \$65,000 | | \$65,000-\$75,000 | | \$75,000+ | |
| | 6+ | Below \$75,000 | | \$75,000-\$85,000 | | \$85,000+ | |
| | CLASSES | SESSION 1 | SESSION 2 | SESSION 1 | SESSION 2 | SESSION 1 | SESSION 2 |
| | Baby Buds | \$20 | \$20 | \$34 | \$34 | \$48 | \$48 |
| | Buzzy Bees | \$25 | \$25 | \$42 | \$42 | \$60 | \$60 |
| | Bye-Bye Diapers | \$3 | \$3 | \$4.50 | \$4.50 | \$6 | \$6 |
| | Emotion Coaching | \$3 | - | \$4.50 | - | \$6 | - |
| | Finding Work-Life Balance | \$3 | - | \$4.50 | - | \$6 | - |
| | Grand Connections | \$20 | \$20 | \$34 | \$34 | \$48 | \$48 |
| | Growing Together | \$20 | \$20 | \$34 | \$34 | \$48 | \$48 |
| | Little Explorers | \$20 | \$20 | \$34 | \$34 | \$48 | \$48 |
| | No Drama Discipline | - | \$11 | - | \$19 | - | \$27 |
| | Pea Pods | \$20 | \$20 | \$34 | \$34 | \$48 | \$48 |
| | Spa Night | - | \$5 | - | \$7.50 | - | \$10 |
| | Sibling Care is available for an additional \$3 per child. Look for the blue icon next to class listings to see if Sibling Care is offered. | | | | | | |



SMART
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BUSES**



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MAYO CAMPUSES
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AND
DEMAND
RESPONSE
BUSES**

**Call for more
info at:
507-433-2379**

**Schedule
Reservations
now!**

FREE!

Get in the Blue Zone



Blue Zones is a healthy living initiative that focuses on 9 powers or habits shared by people in longevity hotspots:

1. Move naturally
2. Know your purpose
3. Down shift
4. 80% rule
5. Plant slant
6. Friends at 5
7. Belong
8. Put family first
9. Inner circle

cityofalbertlea.org/services/blue-zones

Blue Zones Albert Lea will celebrate its 10th anniversary as a certified community in 2026! Look for events and ways to "get in the blue zone," including a monthly column in the Albert Lea Tribune. Start your new year strong with a Purpose Workshop listed under Adult Enrichment in this catalog.

WINTER

Emergency preparedness

Be ready before the cold hits:

- Keep an emergency car kit - blanket, flashlight, shovel, jumper cables, and sand or kitty litter for traction.
- Check tires, wipers, and fluids; keep at least half a tank of gas.
- Service your furnace and test smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Stock food, water, and flashlights for at least three days.
- Dress in layers and watch for frostbite during extreme cold.
- Use generators outdoors only - never indoors.
- Check on neighbors, especially the elderly or those living alone.

Albert Lea Police Department
cityofalbertlea.org/departments/police



PEACE OF MIND

Albert Lea Fire Rescue Reassurance Program

This call-in program is designed to provide reassurance that homebound residents, those living alone, or others needing a daily contact are doing well.

The resident calls Fire Rescue every day between 8 and 11 a.m. to let the department know that all is well. If Fire Rescue does not receive a call by 11 a.m., then a firefighter will call to check on the participant.

If there is no answer, a firefighter will go to the home to conduct a wellness check. This is a free service for any resident of the City of Albert Lea.

Please call the department's business line at **507-377-4341** or email jlaskowske@ci.albertlea.mn.us if interested in signing up for this program.

cityofalbertlea.org/programs/#Reassurance



The Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce offers year-round opportunities for local businesses and community members to **learn, grow, and stay connected.**

Our professional development workshops, business trainings, and community-focused programs provide practical tools, expert insights, and pathways to strengthen our regional economy.

Leadership Cohort (August-May)

- A 10-month journey exploring local government, business, education, public safety, agriculture, and more.
- Hands-on tours, expert speakers, and community engagement experiences.
- **Recruiting for the next cohort begins in Spring 2026** — learn how to get involved!



Visit albertlea.org for more details!



Chamber LEAD Monthly Webinars

- Practical training for businesses of all sizes in Freeborn County.
- Topics include marketing, HR & workforce development, operations, and emerging trends.
- Free or low-cost virtual sessions designed for busy professionals.

Albert Lea-Freeborn County
CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE



CHAMPION FORCE
ATHLETICS

ALBERT LEA CHEERLEADING

AGES 4 - 18 YEARS OLD

- **Have Fun**
- **Make Friends**
- **Get Physical**
- **Learn Teamwork**
- **Build Self-Esteem**

HOW TO REGISTER:

GO TO WWW.CHAMPIONFORCE.COM

CLICK REGISTER & SEARCH CLASS

CODE #17669

ONLY
\$10
PER WEEK

CLASS INFORMATION

SIBLEY ELEMENTARY

1501 W. FRONT ST.

Albert Lea, MN 56007

Classes held every TUESDAY

Starting January 27th, 2026

Ending May 26th, 2026

Competition is May 30th, 2026

D1 (AGES 4-6) @ 5:45 PM

D2 (AGES 7-8 @ 6:30 PM

D3 (AGES 9+) @ 7:15 PM



www.facebook.com/ChampionForceMN



[@championforceMN](https://www.instagram.com/championforceMN)



CHAMPION FORCE ATHLETICS YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

Click HERE for more information

Albert Lea Area Schools is not sponsoring, endorsing or recommending the activities in this flyer.

**Community Education's philosophy
is to help provide opportunities for all
community members to *Gather. Discover. Grow.***

OUR MISSION

ALBERT LEA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #241 COMMUNITY EDUCATION GUIDELINES

ADMINISTRATION & COLLABORATION:

Community Education is administered by Albert Lea Area School District #241 in collaboration with the city and various community organizations to meet the needs and wants of the community.

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION:

Classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Early registration ensures you get the classes you want and helps instructors prepare. Preregistration is required. Community Education does not mail class confirmations. If you have an e-mail address at the time of registration, a confirmation will be e-mailed to you. We will contact you by phone or e-mail if there is a change for the class.

PARTICIPATION WAIVER:

Participation in Community Education programs, classes, or activities is voluntary. By enrolling, you confirm that you have no physical conditions, health history, or illnesses that would make your participation hazardous to yourself or others. Participants and their parents or guardians hold District #241 free from liability in case of accidents or illnesses of any nature.

PROGRAM/CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY:

Community Education will issue a full refund if a class is canceled due to low enrollment. No refunds are available for day trips unless Community Education cancels the trip.

REGISTRATION CANCELLATION:

To receive a full refund, please notify our office at 507-379-5318 at least three business days before the start of the class. After this period, no refunds will be issued. Any supply fees will be deducted from your refund.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY:

If the Albert Lea School District is closed due to inclement weather, all Community Education programming will be canceled for that day. If the district announces a late morning start, all morning programming will be canceled. Please monitor the district website and/or listen to KATE Radio for weather updates.

PRIVACY POLICY:

The information requested during registration is used to verify eligibility and determine staff, facility, and equipment needs. Registration information may be shared with school district staff, volunteers, and instructors. Email information is for internal use only and will not be sold or solicited. Occasionally, representatives of District #241 and/or the media may photograph or record students/adults during classes or events for district publications or web pages (including social media) and our Community Education brochure. Parents/guardians who object to having their child/self identified, photographed, or recorded must notify the Community Education office in writing.

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to the unforeseen circumstances after the time of print, information in this brochure is subject to change.

PROGRAM SATISFACTION:

Albert Lea Community Education strives to provide the best experiences possible. If you are unsatisfied with your experience, please contact us at 507-379-5316.



INTERESTED IN TEACHING A CLASS?

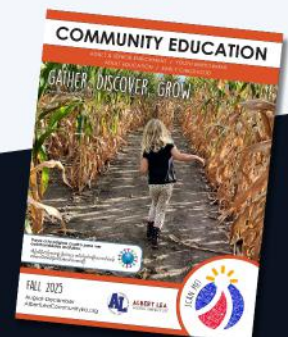
Contact us at 507-379-5318 or
albertleacommunityed@alschools.org.

GET SEEN IN 12,000+ MAILBOXES

Delivered in Albert Lea, Clarks Grove, Hayward,
Glenville, Twin Lakes, Hollandale & Emmons

Promote Your Event or Organization in Our Community Education Book!

- Open to nonprofits, youth programs, sports teams & public-serving businesses
- Competitive rates + 2-book discount on 1/2-page ads & larger
- Delivered 3x a year: May, August & December
- Ad design help available (additional fee)



Summer Deadline:
Monday, March 30

**Reach out for pricing and
reserve your spot today!**

507-379-5318

albertleacommunityed@alschools.org

Check out the Albert Lea Winter/Spring Fun Guide for

FUN ACTIVITIES IN WINTER



Ice skating
indoors
and out

Candlelight Walk



Senior Center
activities and
events

Programs and events
for kids, teens, tweens,
and adults at the
Albert Lea Public Library



Scan the code
to read online

Albert
Lea

cityofalbertlea.org/recreation



211 W Richway Dr
Albert Lea, MN 56007

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Join the Band

ALBERT LEA COMMUNITY BAND
SPRING SESSION

REHEARSAL STARTS
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026

CONCERT
DATES: TBD



Southwest Middle School Band Room
Rehearsal time: 7:00-8:45pm



Traditional concert band instruments are recommended.

No auditions needed, but high school and higher skill level is recommended.

CONTACT 507-440-9200 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council activities are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the MN State Arts Board thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

TIGER CUB CHILD CARE CENTER CALL FOR AVAILABILITY

Our experienced staff and engaging curriculum, provided by Teaching Strategies GOLD – Creative Curriculum, offer children the opportunity to play, learn, and grow in a safe, nurturing environment.

PROGRAM FEATURES:

- ✓ 4-Star Parent Aware rated; scholarships available
- ✓ Licensed by the Minnesota Department of Human Services
- ✓ Child Care Assistance accepted
- ✓ Drop-ins welcome for infants and toddlers with pre-registration; availability based on current openings



ENROLL NOW



Brookside Education Center
211 W Richway Drive
Albert Lea, MN 56007



507-379-5158



www.AlbertLeaCommunityEd.org



ALBERT LEA
SCHOOL DISTRICT 241

