

Stories of the Library

Tinley Park Public Library

Our older adult patrons love coming to the library for our special daytime programs. Each month, we host at least one afternoon performance, a workshop, or an educational lecture. In October, actor Duffy Hudson brought Albert Einstein to life and explained the Theory of Relativity in a fun, exciting way. Many of our regulars have gotten to know each other as well as the programming staff, and they greet each other warmly. We often hear about how they appreciate the variety of programs the library offers that are free to everyone, and it gives them a reason to get out of the house.

Homewood Public Library

We had a low-vision senior check out a digital magnifier we purchased with the AgeOptions grant, and she told us how grateful she was for the device.

Evergreen Park Public Library

Our computer instructor always does a fantastic job with her [older adult] students, and they always let us know! As soon as they walk out of the Computer Lab, they're bustling with excitement about the skills they learned in that hour. These classes are in very high demand, and the excitement [of the older adults] is amplified when they learn they can schedule a one-on-one appointment to further their learning.

Forest Park Public Library

We used Wit's Workout for the first time this Quarter. Staff member Dennis facilitated this engaging program. We were a bit uncertain [about] how this new gambit would go over with our crowd. The Social Circle enjoyed it, to the point where you could see the neurons bopping around under the furrowed brows as people made new connections, tested their memories, laughed and joked and told stories. One patron who'd come for the first time (L.V.) loved the program and has become a regular in the weeks since, stating that the library is a "magnet" for him.

Markham Public Library

Some of my new seniors have met new friends here in the programs. These programs have really brought a lot of our seniors out of social isolation and help[ed] them work out and have a good time. They are constantly telling everyone about the great programs we are able to provide due to the AgeOptions [funding]. We were able to bring joy to one of our patrons who had become very lonely and now she lights up a room.