

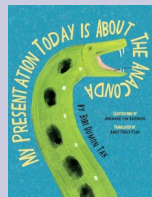


April Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains Peeps Spring Break @ Ashland	31 Peeps Spring Break @ Ashland	4/1 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland Peeps Spring Break @ Ashland	4/2 Peeps Spring Break @ Ashland	4/3 Peeps Spring Break @ Ashland	4/4 Peeps Spring Break @ Ashland
6 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	7	8 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	9	10	11
13 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	14 Board Meeting @ Ashland, 6 PM	15 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland Staff Meeting Closed at 3:30 PM, both locations	16 ILP Presents: Cristina Henriquez @ 7 PM (virtual event)	17	18 STEAM Club, 11 AM @ Plains
20 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	21	22 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	23 Bookies Book Club, 7 PM at Plains	24	25 Magic the Gathering, 11 AM @ Ashland Music & Movement, Vinyl Play Day with Todd Wallbaum, 11 AM @ Plains
27 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	28 ABC Book Club, 6 PM @ Ashland	29 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	30	5/1	5/2

Key: Orange = For Kids Light Blue: Fun for Adults; Blue = Family Fun; Purple = For Teens; Green = Library Outreach; Black = Regularly Scheduled Programming, Red = Special Notice

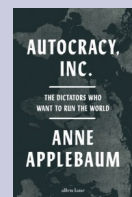
Read and Watch This!



Junior Non-Fiction



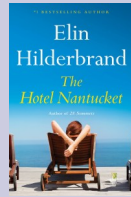
Non-Fiction Picture Book



Non-Fiction



Mystery/Thriller



Palace Audiobook



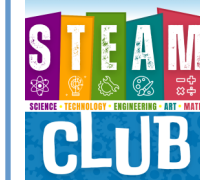
DVD



Music & Movement: Vinyl Play Day
Sat. 4/25, 11am @ Plains

Special guest, Todd Wallbaum, returns with his fabulous collection of vinyl records! He'll be spinning the tunes while we dance and play. We'll learn a little about vinyl records and turntables, too! Put on your dancing shoes, and get ready to boogie.

Fun for ages 0-6; All are welcome.



Bombastic Bubble Fun!
Sat. 4/18
11 am @ Plains

Experiment with different bubble solutions! Create bubble wands and test them out! Which combination of wand type and solution ingredients makes the best bubbles? Come to STEAM Club and find out!

Great for grades 2nd-6th!
Younger children welcome with parent help.



BUBBLES SCIENCE



Sat. 4/25, 11 am @ Ashland

New Cards! New Adventures!

Don't miss the unboxing of our new decks at the April Magic the Gathering meet-up! This game is fun for ages 12 and up, but younger players with experience in card games like Pokémon can also join.

Did you know? Magic the Gathering does so many collaborations that it's on par with Fortnite! It's one of the only other games that can have Hatsune Miku and SpongeBob fight while Spiderman watches from the sidelines!



Homeschool Garden Club starts May 7th, 2 pm @ Ashland

Let's get in the garden! Orientation for new and returning members of the Homeschool Garden Club is on

Thursday, May 7th at 2 pm. **Interested in joining?** Or, would you like to **volunteer as an individual or family** to help maintain our community garden in Ashland? **Call us or stop in at either library location.**

AMERICA Adult Watercolor Class with Carolyn Owen-Sommers
May 23rd, 10am -1 pm, @ Plains

Registration is now open for our upcoming watercolor class! Join us for an educational, social and low-key adult class where you'll learn how to add depth & movement to your patriotic themed project. **Call or visit either location to register.**



@pskiesld



Prairie Skies Public Library District



@prairieskiespld



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pspld.com

Ashland - (217)476-3417
125 W. Editor St. Ashland, IL 62612
Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri. 9 am - 5 pm
Tuesday 9 am - 7 pm

Plains - (217)626-1553
555 Buckeye Rd. Pleasant Plains, IL 62677
Mon. - Wed. & Fri. 9 am-5 pm
Thursday 9 am - 7 pm

Both Locations: Saturdays 10am-1 pm, CLOSED ON SUNDAYS



At Your Library

Congratulations to Addison, April PSPLD Kid Librarian!



Say hello to **Addison Trello**, our **Kid Librarian for April!** Addison is in Miss Hamilton's 3rd grade class at Farmingdale Elementary. Her favorite subjects are Technology, STEM, and Art.

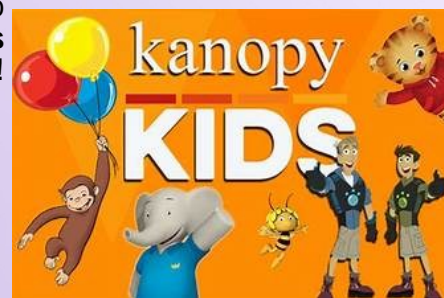
Addison loves to draw and spends part of everyday practicing her art. She also enjoys playing card games like Skip Bo and Uno and playing outside with friends. Her favorite sport is swimming, and her favorite foods are cheese, chocolate, and gummy bears!



For every Kid Librarian we add a new book or resource to our shelves. Because Addison loves cats, she asked for *The Cat Ninja*, by Matthew Cody. We're excited to add the first 6 books in this new graphic novel series our library shelves!

Do you know a child that loves reading & the library? Let us know. We'd like to honor them as a Kid (or Teen) Librarian!

FREE Educational Programming for Kids with your library card. Hop over to **Kanopy.com/Kids** to check it out!



CRISTINA HENRÍQUEZ: Voice, Culture, and Human Connection in conversation with Carmen Alvarez



Register with the QR code below or visit: <https://bit.ly/ILPCristinaHenriquez>



Thu, Apr. 16 | 7 PM

Join critically acclaimed, bestselling author, Cristina Henríquez, for a compelling conversation about her work. Henríquez's newest book, *The Great Divide*, explores the people who lived, loved, and labored during the construction of the Panama Canal. Named a New York Times' Editors' Choice selection and TIME Magazine "100 Must-Read Books of 2024," *The Great Divide* explores history and adversity in a place very special to her – her father's homeland of Panama.

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. Funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).



Did you know we have pickleball paddles, balls, books, & DVD's for checkout?

With Pickleball courts in both Ashland and Springfield, there's no better time to learn this fun and (relatively) easy sport! Each of our 5 pickleball sets has two paddles and 4 balls. You'll find sets in each library location.



Thank you to **West Central Insurance** for donating these sets to our Library of Things!



Caregivers Corner

Outdoor Adventures for Toddlers: Simple Ideas for Fresh Air Fun!

Spending time outdoors can be one of the most enjoyable parts of the day for both children and caregivers. Fresh air, open space, and new sights and sounds help toddlers build physical strength, curiosity, and early learning skills. Even short periods of outdoor play—about 15 to 20 minutes—can support healthy development, especially when adults interact with children through conversation, exploration, and play.

A simple **nature walk** around the yard, neighborhood, or local park can become an exciting discovery activity. Encourage your child to look for birds, leaves, flowers, trucks, or insects. Talking together about what you see helps build language skills.

Another easy activity is a **nature collection game**. With supervision, toddlers can gather items such as leaves, small sticks, or smooth stones. At home, you can sort the items by color, size, or texture. This playful activity helps develop early thinking skills while encouraging curiosity about the natural world.

Water play is another favorite! A small bucket of water with cups or sponges allows children to pour, squeeze, and explore. These simple actions help strengthen coordination and problem-solving skills. Just like bathtime, you'll want to remain close and provide constant supervision for any water play activity.

Bring out the **sidewalk chalk**, and let your toddler draw shapes and make colorful marks on a sidewalk or driveway. Encourage your child to follow a chalk line, jump between chalk circles, or identify colors. This type of play supports both physical movement and early creativity.

Outdoor play can also include **simple tasks**. Toddlers enjoy carrying small objects, pushing a toy, watering plants, or helping wash a tricycle. These "real jobs" feel meaningful to them. The key is to keep expectations modest and the experience positive. You can narrate what the child is doing—"You carried the watering can," "You found a yellow leaf," "You washed your trike"—to reinforce language and accomplishment.

Outdoor time doesn't require special equipment, just a little creativity, conversation, and a willingness to connect with your young one. A walk, a bucket of water, or a few pieces of chalk can create meaningful moments. And, when you join in the play—talking, noticing, and encouraging—outdoor activities become valuable opportunities to foster learning, healthy development, and family connection. *Read the full blog post and find links to helpful resources at www.pspld.com/blog.*

Around Your Town

Ashland

Ashland City Wide Garage Sale, April 18th, please call Village Hall at 217-416-3317 to register.

Ashland City Wide Clean Up Days, April 25th, please call Village Hall to register 217-416-3317.

Village Hall is a UPS Access Point! For information, please call 217-416-3317.

Pleasant Plains

Village Board Meeting, April 8th, 7 pm @ Village Hall. Open to the public.

Pleasant Plains Community Club Meeting, April 7th, 6:30pm, @ the Community Club Building.

Village of Pleasant Plains 150th Celebration is planned for June 6th!

Want to get in on the planning or provide sponsorship? Contact villageclerk@pleasantplainsillinois.org.

Do you have a community event or announcement to share? Please email your announcement or flyer to Jennifer Nass at pspldnass@yahoo.com. Submissions received before the 25th of each month will be included in following month's community page.

