



January Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12/29 Winter Break STEAM Activities (both locations)	12/30 Winter Break STEAM Activities (both locations)	12/31 Winter Break STEAM Activities (both locations) Closed at noon for NYE	1/1 Closed for New Year's Day	1/2 Winter Break STEAM Activities (both locations)	3 Winter Break STEAM Activities (both locations)
5 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	6 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	7 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	8	9	10 Magic the Gathering, 11 AM @ Plains
12 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	13 Board Meeting @ Ashland, 6 PM ILP Presents Bring History to Life with Jason Eig, 7-8 pm	14 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland Staff Meeting Closed at 3:30 PM, both locations	15	16	17 Tech Club, 11 AM @ Plains
19 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	20 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	21 Bookies Book Club, 7 PM at Plains	22	23	24 Magic the Gathering, 11 AM @ Ashland Music & Movement, 11 AM @ Plains
26 Storytime, 10AM @ Plains	27 ABC Book Club, 6 PM @Ashland	28 Storytime 10 AM @ Ashland	29	30	31

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

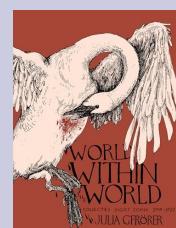
Read and Watch This!



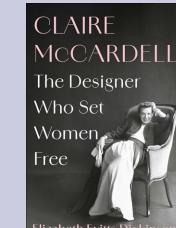
Netflix



DVD



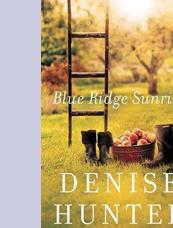
Adult Graphic Novel



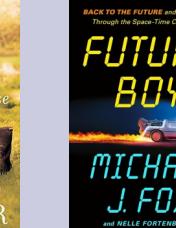
Non-Fiction



Libby Audiobook



Large Print



Palace Audiobook



Sat. Jan. 10th, 11 am
@ Plains
Sat. Jan 24th, 11 am
@ Ashland

New Year? New Adventures!

Join us for Magic: The Gathering, a tabletop card gaming adventure combining strategy, storytelling, and imagination! 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 Magic is currently printed in eleven languages: English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Russian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese Traditional, & Chinese Simplified.



Tech Club

Sat. Jan. 17th, 11 am @ Plains

The Giant NES needs a little brother! Help assemble this tabletop version that plays all the old arcade favorites. This project uses hand tools and is most suitable for kids 13 and up.



Spice Club in January:
Freeze Dried Chives

Spice Club

Did you know that chives were thought to be an antidote to poison? Learn more interesting facts and try two new recipes: Cheddar Chive Biscuits and Chive Butter. Just stop in and pick up your free spice sample and info sheet. Those biscuits will be perfect with your favorite soup on a cold January night!

Celebrate National Puzzle Day



Check out a puzzle from our Puzzle Library!

Both locations offer puzzles of varying style and difficulty: check one out, do it at home, and bring it back for another. A great way to try a new (to you) puzzle, without having to buy it. Puzzles are a fun brain-building spatial activity for kids and adults making them FUN and GOOD for YOU!

Check one out today and be puzzled (in a good way)!



Music & Movement:
Snow Much Fun!

Sat. Jan. 24th, 11am @ Plains



The perfect place to cure a case of "Wintertime Wiggles!" We'll have "snow" much fun with winter-time songs, instruments, and an indoor snowball fight!



@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



Old Hobbies are New Again: The Return of "Grandma Hobbies"

Cozy, nostalgic hobbies, nicknamed "Grandma Hobbies," offer a calming antidote to the always-on digital world. It turns out they can do more than just pass the time—hobbies can help you feel emotionally grounded, mentally present, and creatively fulfilled.

What Counts as a Grandma Hobby?

Low-tech, peaceful and hands-on, so called Grandma hobbies are those that have historically been associated with older generations. Some examples include: knitting and crocheting, cross-stitch and embroidery, ceramics, painting, drawing, and pastels; gardening or growing herbs; baking from scratch; letter-writing; puzzles and board games; bird-watching; quilting or patchwork.

The new year is a perfect time to integrate a cozy, indoor hobby, like a puzzle, into your free-time. Check out our Puzzle Library for a no-cost, solo or shared indoor activity for cold January days. And, January is National Hobby Month, so join the celebration and take the next step! Here are a few tips:

Start small. Simpler pursuits like cross-stitch or simple beading kits help you get started quickly, enjoy the process, and build confidence to try other, more advanced hobbies. Peruse our online catalog to find a book or DVD on a starter hobby or let our librarians help you find the resources you need.

Give yourself permission to be a beginner. You might not be great right away. That's OK—nobody is. But the library has great resources for crafters of all skill levels! Kanopy, the library's free streaming service, offers how-to videos on many hobbies and the EBSCO digital database (accessible via our website) offers free e-books and some video tutorials with the Hobbies & Crafts Sourcebook.

Make it social, if you like. The library is a great place to meet up with fellow crafters! You can reserve a meeting room for your group, take part in our Adult Art Classes, or bring a friend to a drop-in crafting session. Also, new members are always welcome to visit Yarners & Yakers, a knitting and crocheting group that meets on Tuesday mornings at our Ashland library.

Enjoy the process and let go of perfect. Remember, your

crafts don't have to be 'good' to be good for you. Grandma hobbies can support mental health by encouraging mindfulness, regulating the nervous system, and boosting confidence. And above all, you don't need to be artistic or productive—just open to learning. Start small, enjoy the process, and visit the library to find resources and inspiration for your Grandma hobbies this winter!

Why Try A New Hobby?

- Hobbies help you structure your time.
- Hobbies promote "flow activities" where time flies.
- Hobbies can foster new social connections.
- Hobbies make you interesting.
- Hobbies make you happy!



Congratulations to Hannah Seipel! PSPLD Kid Librarian for January



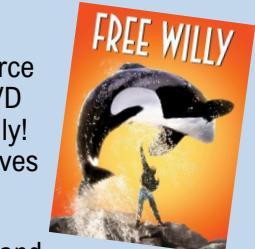
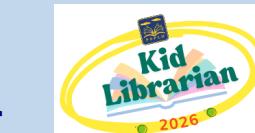
Hannah is our first Kid Librarian of 2026, and she's kicking off the new year with an awesome display of her favorite books for you at the library!

Hannah is 8 years old and is in 2nd grade at Farmingdale Elementary. She loves to play cards, especially Uno Flips, Uno Mercy, and Monopoly Deal. She also enjoys playing coach-pitch softball and spending time with her friend, Evie.

For every Kid

Librarian we add a new book or resource to our shelves. Hannah asked for a DVD of one of her favorite movies, *Free Willy!* We're excited to add it to our library shelves in honor of Hannah!

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



Caregiver's Corner: Books to Encourage a "Growth Mindset"

When kids (and adults) approach life with a growth mindset, they believe that they can get better at anything with hard work. They don't give up easily, and they know that mistakes are just a part of learning. Teaching kids about growth mindset is important because it can help them become more resilient. When kids understand that their abilities can be developed, they're more likely to embrace challenges, persist through setbacks, and achieve their full potential. Try these books to introduce and incorporate a growth mindset:



Bringing History to Life with JONATHAN EIG

in conversation with Mark Bazer

Tue, Jan 13 | 7 PM

Jonathan Eig is the bestselling author of six books, including his most recent, Pulitzer Prize-winning *King: A Life*. Vividly written and exhaustively researched, it is the first major biography in decades of civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr. and the first to include recently declassified FBI files.



This event is made possible by ILP, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering high-quality 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).



SCAN ME

Around Your Town

Ashland

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



Pleasant Plains

Village of Pleasant Plains Board Meeting, 7 pm at Village Hall. Meetings are open to the public.

