



community CONNECTION

WINTER 2025
Volume 28, Issue 1

400 Richland Street
East Peoria, IL 61611
fondulaclibrary.org
309.699.3917

LIBRARY HOURS

Mon-Thurs 9a-8p
Friday 9a-6p
Saturday 9a-5p
Sunday(Sept-May) 1p-5p

Exceptions:

Dec. 18 - Closed
Dec. 24-26 - Closed
Dec. 31 - Closed
Jan. 1 - Closed
Jan. 19 - Closed

FINE FREE!

Please visit
fondulaclibrary.org
for more details about
our policies!

All library programs
and events are free
and located at the
library, unless
otherwise noted.
Some programs
require registration.

REGISTER at the
library, at
fondulaclibrary.org, or
by calling 699-3917,
unless otherwise
noted. Space may be
limited.

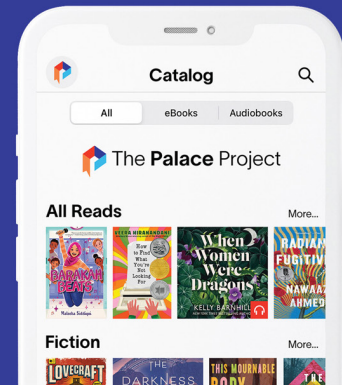
From  boundless to
by BAKER & TAYLOR



The Palace Project



Browse. Download. Listen.



Due to the recent and abrupt closure of Baker & Taylor, the Boundless app that hosted the eRead Illinois collection has been discontinued. eRead Illinois' collection will be migrated to a new, sustainable platform: the Palace Project app. The Palace Project offers benefits that will enhance library e-content collections, including the ability to aggregate e-books and audiobooks from other platforms into the Palace Project app. The Palace Marketplace also includes more favorable e-content licensing terms for libraries and access to Audible audiobook titles.

In November, eRead Illinois content began transitioning to The Palace Project app. The new app is expected to launch Tuesday, December 2, and be available for you to download, log in, and enjoy the the eRead Illinois collection again. Learn more at fondulaclibrary.org.

NO LIBRARY CARD? NO PROBLEM! USE IRIS FOR RESEARCH.

What is IRIS? Illinois' Reliable Information Sources is a wide range of more than 50 databases covering topics from car repair to legal resources, from health information to peer reviewed articles for academic research, from home improvement information to study materials for college entrance exams. It also includes additional research resources for all ages, job and career assistance, as well as small business topics. Funded by the Illinois Secretary of State and managed by Illinois State Library, IRIS offers access to reliable information to everyone in Illinois, even those without a library card. Visit fondulaclibrary.org to access IRIS databases, as well as the many other research resources available from the library.

imagine • inform • inspire

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Mondays • 6 p.m.

January 26 &

February 23

Visit fondulaclibrary.org for meeting agenda, minutes, and location. Recordings of meetings are available online at esctv.org.

FRIENDS of FDL QUARTERLY MEETING

**Monday, February 2
6 p.m.**

The Friends support the library's mission through advocacy, fundraising, and volunteerism. Past and upcoming events are discussed and planned at meetings. Annual dues are only \$5, and new members are always welcome.

BOOK SALE

The Friends' ongoing Book Sale is open during library hours. Located on the first floor across from the elevator, great used books, music, & movies are available with suggested donations starting at 25¢.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The Friends of FDL group maintains a "Little Free Library" in the Reading Garden outside the library. Stop by and adopt a new book, courtesy of the Friends!

HOLIDAY GIFT BASKET DRAWING!

The Friends of Fondulac District Library sponsor an annual drawing for one of three gift baskets full of holiday fun for the whole family, including gift cards! Stop by FDL December 1 to 15 to enter! Winners will be selected December 16.



THE FRIENDS OF FONDULAC DISTRICT LIBRARY HOLIDAY CRAFT & BAKE SALE

Friday, December 12 • 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, December 13 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

All Ages • DROP IN

The Friends will have an array of affordable homemade sweet and savory treats, holiday-themed crafts, stocking stuffers, and more. These items are perfect to pick up for friends and family, holiday gatherings, or the office to spread the holiday spirit this season! There will also be a selection of holiday books, audiobooks, CDs, and movies for children and adults available from the Friends' ongoing book sale. Support the Friends, support the library!

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

January 2-February 28 • Ages 13+

Cozy up with a good book for your chance to win cool prizes! Pick up an entry form in person, or register through Beanstack. Look for challenge details at the Adult Services desk or in Beanstack.



ALL AGES

FOLEPI NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY STORYTIME WITH SANTA

Wednesday, December 17 • 6 p.m.

All Ages • DROP IN

Have your camera ready for a story with Santa plus appearances by Folepi the toy soldier, the Festival of Lights Queen, and other special guests. Stay for crafts and snacks afterwards!



GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING

Saturday, December 6 • 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. • All Ages • REGISTER

It's that time of year again! We'll have everything you need to decorate your gingerbread house to satisfy your personal sweet tooth! In-person registration is required, with a prepayment of \$5 per house (limit of three per household).

FAMILY FIELD TRIP: PETTENGILL-MORRISON HOUSE MUSEUM

Saturday, January 17 • 1 p.m. • Ages 8+ • REGISTER

Explore the grand, historic Pettengill-Morrison House located in Peoria's West Bluff neighborhood. Built in 1868 for businessman and social reformer Moses Pettengill, it is now a museum that features a collection of mid-18th to mid-20th century furniture, artwork, and textiles. It is a local landmark that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



THE MAGIC OF JOEL SHOEMAKER

Saturday, January 24 • 10-10:45 a.m. • All Ages • DROP IN

Join us for a funny and fun-filled morning with local magician Joel Shoemaker! Joel has been performing magic for more than thirty years, delighting audiences of all ages across the country, from theaters and libraries to private events (and even a few celebrities). Get ready to laugh, be amazed, and even learn a magic trick of your very own!



SCIENCE FUN WITH THE DEMO CREW

Tuesday, February 24 • 6 p.m. • All Ages • DROP IN

Get ready for an electrifying science show as the Demo Crew from Bradley University brings chemistry to life! Enjoy thrilling experiments, from bubbling reactions to fiery displays, that make learning fun.

LIBRARY OF THINGS

Fondulac District Library offers a variety of unique and useful items for checkout, including fun and educational resources for kids!

- Board & card games
- Blood pressure monitor
- Metal detectors
- Portable projectors
- Puzzles
- RGB ring light kits
- Webcams
- Yeti microphones

FOR KIDS...

- Book Bundles
- Launchpad tablets
- STEAM kits
- Storytime In a Box
- Yoto Mini Players

DOWNLOAD & STREAM

Check out our digital collections to use with your computer, handheld device, and even smart TV!

- ADML/Libby ebooks and audiobooks
- ComicsPlus
- hoopla digital media
- inkie.org Library
- Kanopy Movies
- **NEW!**

**The Palace Project/
eRead Illinois**



ADULTS & TEENS

ADULT BOOK CLUB

**Decembember 15,
January 26, February 16
1:30 p.m. • DROP IN**

For adult readers interested in all types of fiction and nonfiction. Members select titles and lead discussions together. New members are always welcome, and copies of the club's current selection are available at the library's circulation desk. Check our events calendar for upcoming titles.

BOOK CLUB AFTER DARK

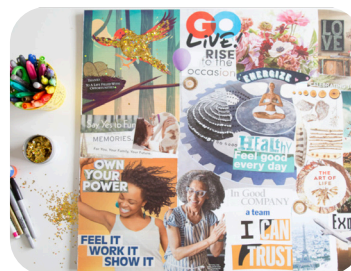
**Thursdays, January 22
& February 26 • 6 p.m.
Adults • DROP IN**

For adult readers who like a little "spice"! Explore Booktok sensations and other recommendations, from magic to romance and more! Keep an eye on our events calendar for upcoming titles!

SWORDS & SORCERY ONLINE BOOK CLUB

**Ongoing Discussion
VIRTUAL**

Love fantasy? Join the group online at facebook.com/groups/fldsandsbookclub for ongoing discussion of all things fantasy! Share what you're reading, talk about your favorites, and get recs for your next book from local readers and librarians!



DIY ZEN GARDENS

Monday, December 8 • 6 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

FAUX SUCCULENT WOOD ORNAMENT

Tuesday, December 9 • 5-7 p.m. • Adults 18+ • REGISTER

GLOWFORGE PAPER-STYLE SNOWFLAKE EARRINGS

Thursday, December 11 • 6-7:30 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

IRON-ON BOOK DECAL CANVAS BAGS

Thursday, January 15 • 6-7:30 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

"THINK SPRING" LUMINARIES

Saturday, January 24 • 1-2:30 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

CREATIVE COASTERS

Monday, January 26 • 4-6 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

VISION BOARD FOR THE NEW YEAR

Thursday, January 29 • 6-7:30 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

INTERMEDIATE DIAMOND ART

Monday, February 2 • 6-7:30 p.m. Adults & Kids 10+ • REGISTER

GLOWFORGE VALENTINE GIFT CARD HOLDER

Thursday, February 12 • 6-7:30 p.m. Adults & Teens 13+ • REGISTER

ADULTS & TEENS

TEEN TUESDAY SPECIAL EVENTS

MUG EXCHANGE

Tuesday, December 16 • 6 p.m. • Ages 13-19 • DROP IN

Bring your old coffee mugs to exchange with fellow teens and find a mug that's new to you! Enter a raffle for winter-themed goodie bags that help you sip away your winter worries. (Bringing a mug is not required. All attendees will be entered in the raffle.)

KEYCHAIN AND JEWELRY MAKING

Tuesday, February 10 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Ages 13-19 • DROP IN

Dive into the library's jewelry supplies to design your own jewelry or keychains. Learn jewelry-making techniques from Miss Katie, or take hints from fellow teens. Make a gift for yourself or something special to give to your friends for Valentine's Day!

ESTATES AND WILLS

Monday, December 1 • 3-5 p.m. • Adults • REGISTER

The Institute for Financial Education teaches how wills, trusts, and powers of attorney work, and why they matter in protecting your family and your future. If you're recently retired or preparing for the transition, this conversation will help you approach your planning with greater clarity and confidence.



BLOOD ON THE CLOCK TOWER: A GROUP DEDUCTION GAME

Saturday, February 28 • 12-3 p.m. • Adults • REGISTER

Blood on the Clock Tower is a game of murder and mystery, lies and logic, deduction and deception for five-to-twenty courageous players and one devious storyteller.

Join this in-person social game in which each player is assigned a "good" or "evil" role. Good players share information to solve the mystery whilst evil players lie about who they are and what they know. The good team wins if they can piece together their knowledge, trust each other, and execute the evil entity. The evil team wins if the demon can sow distrust, evade detection, and wipe out the superstitious village of Ravenswood Bluff.



TAX ASSISTANCE AT FDL

February-April, 2026 • REGISTER

Free tax assistance is provided each tax season through volunteers with the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Program for qualifying individuals. Scheduling for tax appointments will begin mid-January. Visit fondulaclibrary.org for more information about local tax assistance programs.



APPY HOUR

**Tuesdays, Dec. 16,
Jan. 27 & Feb. 24
2 p.m. • DROP IN**

Learn to access free eBooks, audiobooks, movies, and more through our apps. Bring a device for 1-on-1 help, or call to make an appointment.

TEEN TUESDAYS

**Every Tuesday
6-7:30 p.m.**

Ages 13-19 • DROP IN

Play games (video games and/or tabletop RPGs), enjoy snacks and soda, break out the craft supplies, and discuss books or manga!

SIT & STITCH

**Wednesdays & Sundays,
Dec. 7, 10 & 21; Jan. 4,
14 & 18; Feb. 1, 11 & 15
2-4 p.m. • Ages 13+
DROP IN**

Stitchers of all types are welcome to sew and socialize at the library! Work on your own projects while sharing ideas and skills and making new friends.

SIT & STITCH: EVENING EDITION

**Mondays Dec. 15,
Jan. 12 & Feb. 16
6-7:30 p.m. • Ages 13+
DROP IN**

Sit & Stitch...AT NIGHT!

GROWN-UP VIDEO GAME NIGHT

**3rd Thursdays,
Dec. 18, Jan. 15 &
Feb. 19 • 5-8 p.m
Ages 20+ • DROP IN**

Adults are invited to play the gaming systems upstairs. Bring your library card or photo ID to get started!



**REMINDER:
REGULAR WEEKLY
STORYTIMES
TAKE A BREAK
IN DECEMBER
AND RESUME IN
JANUARY**

**BABY & TODDLER
STORYTIME**

**Wednesdays starting in
January • 10 a.m.**

Ages 1-3 • DROP IN

Read, dance, and play
with fun activities to
make sure everyone is
ready for preschool!

**FAVORITE PEOPLE
STORYTIME**

**Thursdays in January
10-10:45 a.m.**

Ages 2-6 • DROP IN

Join an interactive
gathering that celebrates
some of our favorite
people through songs,
stories, snacks and social
time.

**FAVORITE PLACES
STORYTIME**

**Thursdays in February
10-10:45 a.m.**

Ages 2-6 • DROP IN

Explore your favorite
places through stories,
songs, snacks, and crafts.

KIDS

PAWS TO READ

Session 1: Saturday, December 13 • 10-10:30 a.m. • Ages 5-14 • REGISTER

Session 1: Saturday, December 13 • 10:30-11 a.m. • Ages 5-14 • REGISTER

Practice reading skills with registered therapy dogs, courtesy of the Peoria Humane Society!

ELF SCHOOL

Monday, December 15 • 5:30-7 p.m. • Ages 8-11 • REGISTER

Have a holly, jolly good time at Elf School! Sing, dance, craft, play, and eat snacks fit for elves. Come as yourself, and leave as an elf!

THE INTERACTIVE POLAR EXPRESS

Monday, December 22 • 6-7:30 p.m. • Ages 3-12 • REGISTER

Hear a read-aloud of *The Polar Express* and receive your ticket to climb aboard and be a part of this interactive experience! (Pajamas welcome!)

POKEMON CLUB

Friday, January 9 • 4 p.m. • Grades K-8 • REGISTER

Do you want to be the very best? Stop by for some Pokémon Trading Card Game fun. Kids are encouraged to bring cards to battle and trade with other trainers, or bring a mobile device to play Pokémon GO. New players welcome!



PAWS TO READ 2024



ELF SCHOOL 2024



KIDS



BROWNIE IN A MUG

Monday, December 8 • 3:30 p.m. • Grades 2-5 • **REGISTER**

WATERCOLOR ART

Saturday, January 10 • 2-2:30 p.m. • Grades K-8 • **REGISTER**

DIY POOL NOODLE MONSTERS

Tuesday, January 20 • 5:30 p.m. • Ages 6-12 • **REGISTER**

CELEBRATE NATIONAL KAZOO DAY

Wednesday, January 28 • 6 p.m. • Ages 4-8 • **DROP IN**

SUPER BOWL CRAFT PARTY

Friday, February 6 • 4 p.m. • Ages 5-14 • **REGISTER**

VALENTINE WINDOW DECORATION

Saturday, February 7 • 2 p.m. • Grades K-8 • **REGISTER**

YEAR-ROUND READING CHALLENGES

Reading Challenges are a great way for kids to build their reading habits while earning prizes that make reading fun!

- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten for babies, infants and toddlers
- 500 Club for grades K-3
- 100 Club for grades 4-8

Readers can register and track their reading with Beanstack (online or with the free app), or register at the library. Visit fondulaclibrary.org under Books & More or ask a librarian for more info!

EXTRA-SPECIAL STORYTIMES!



VALENTINE'S DAY STORYTIME

Tuesday, February 10

6 p.m. • Ages 2-6

DROP IN

Children and their favorite grown-ups will celebrate with stories, songs, treats, and a special guest!



"STAY IN PJ'S DAY" STORYTIME

Monday, February 23

11-11:30 a.m.

Ages 0-5 • **DROP IN**

Bring your favorite stuffy and blanket (and wear your pajamas!) for a special storytime.



FAIRY TALE STORYTIME

Wednesday, February 25

6-6:30 p.m. • Ages 0-6

DROP IN

Enjoy an enchanting storytime filled with fairy tales, crafts and treats!



Non-Profit
Organization
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community CONNECTION

400 Richland Street, East Peoria, IL 61611
www.fondulaclibrary.org 309.699.3917



Homebound Delivery Service

We'll bring the library to you!



5 GOOD BOOKS

FOR FANS OF HALLMARK HOLIDAY MOVIES

Courtesy of NoveList

Window Shopping
by Tessa Bailey

Make the Season Bright
by Ashley Herring Blake

Most Wonderful
by Georgia Clark

Love You a Latke
by Amanda Elliot

A Winter Wish
by Emily Stone

Find these titles through our
catalog at fondulaclibrary.org!

Need a helping hand?

Find local services for food,
utilities, health, and more at

fondulaclibrary.org/community-resources

