

VISION: Read. Learn. Share. Grow.

MISSION: The library enriches lives, builds community and encourages success by bringing people, information, and ideas together.

APRIL 2026

CHAPTERS

LIBRARY NEWS & EVENTS

CALL FOR POEMS!

April is National Poetry Month! Help us celebrate by writing an original poem that we can display on our poetry wall this month. All ages.



Chillicothe Public Library District
430 N Bradley Ave
Chillicothe, IL 61523
ask@chillipld.org ph: 309-274-2719
www.chillipld.org fax: 309-274-3000

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Director

Alyce Jackson | ajackson@chillipld.org

Outreach & Programming Supervisor
Catherine Barnett | cbarnett@chillipld.org

Youth Librarian
Brea Fearon | bfearon@chillipld.org

Collection Development & Acquisitions Associate
Madeline Fennell | mfennell@chillipld.org

Circulation Associate
Lisa Jeffries | ljeffries@chillipld.org

Programming Assistant
Kaitlin Kline | kkline@chillipld.org

Communications & Marketing Coordinator
Amelia Owdom | aowdom@chillipld.org

Cataloger

Jody Turner | jturner@chillipld.org

Library Assistants

Tracy Bond | tbond@chillipld.org
Breagan Lamb | blamb@chillipld.org
Caitlyn Piccioni | cpiccioni@chillipld.org
Kristen Tortat | ktortat@chillipld.org

Hours

M, F: 9 am-5 pm
T, W, Th: 9 am-8 pm
Sat: 9 am-4 pm

Sign up for our e-newsletter at chillipld.org.

Keep up with us on social media!



Celebrate
NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
April 19-25, 2026



Spring Reading Challenge

March-April

Explore award-winning books with our Spring Reading Challenge for all ages.

Pick up a reading log at the library today!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Computer Basics | Wed., May 6 @ 11 am
Learn how to navigate the Windows desktop, open & close applications, and resize & move windows.

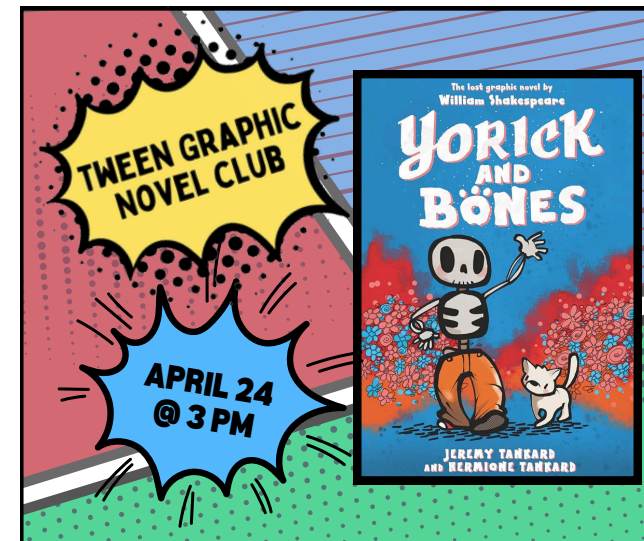
Adult Game Night | Thu., May 7 @ 5:30-7:30 pm
Bring your friends or come make new ones, as you play an assortment of tabletop games from the library's collection. Snacks provided.

Live at the Library: The Nathan Taylor Band
Sat., May 9 @ 2 pm
From classic roots songs and delta blues to early jazz and Nathan Taylor originals, the band offers soulful spins on the old styles, transporting listeners to simpler times.



Are you looking for a way to give back?
Consider donating to the library!

Information at chillicothepubliclibrary.org/donations



TWEEN GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

APRIL 24 @ 3 PM

Lego Robotics Open House

April 25
10 am-12 pm

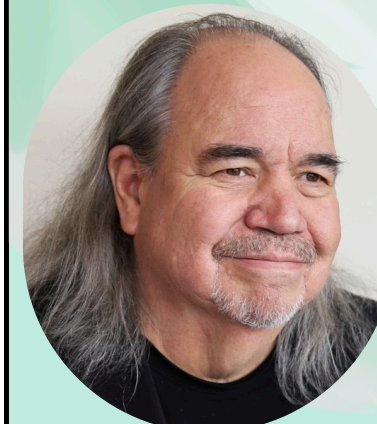
Learn about Lego robotics, no experience necessary!

5th-8th Grade



An Evening with Illinois Poet Laureate Mark Turcotte

APRIL 30 @ 6 PM



WITH READINGS BY LOCAL POETS:
Tony Bedenikovic
Abby Harding
Sapphire Lynn Johnson
Mark Liebenow
Paul Maitland
Althea Meredith
Thomas Palakeel

THE WAY DOWN WANDERERS

Live at the Library
April 11 @ 2 pm



YOUTH PROGRAMS | Families are welcome at youth programs.

Scavenger Hunt

Find all the clues hiding around the children's area of the library to earn a prize! New scavenger hunts are posted every other week.

Lego Club

Every Thu. @ 3-5 pm, 4th Saturday (4/25) 1-3 pm | Ages 4+ Bring your friends and your imagination—we'll provide the Legos! Stop by anytime during our open hours to build a creation to put on display in the library lobby. New members are always welcome.

Music & Movement Storytime

Fridays @ 10 am | Ages 0-5

A place for little ones to explore music & movement as cornerstones of early literacy! Experiment together with songs, dances, and stories to develop foundational skills in music, motor skills, literacy, and communication.

Youth Craft: Upcycled Pencil Holders

Tue., Apr 7 @ 3:30 pm | Ages 6-14

Celebrate Earth Month with us by recycling cans into pencil holders and decorating them however you like!

Homeschool Library Hour

Mon., Apr 13 & 27 @ 1 pm | All ages

Join us to connect with other homeschoolers in the community and explore the resources the library has to offer to support your family's educational journey!

Sign & Sing Storytime

Tue., April 14 & 28 @ 11 am | Ages 0-5

Join our friends from Communication Junction for an ASL story time filled with stories, songs, movement, and bubbles!

Chess Club

Wed., Apr 15 @ 3:30 pm | 2nd-8th graders

Do you like to play chess? Come practice with other kids at the library! All skill levels welcome.

Half-day Hangout

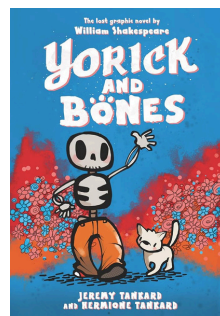
Mon., Apr 20 @ 10:45 am | Ages 8-18

Looking for somewhere to hang out when school gets out early? Come chill at the library! We will have coloring pages, board games, and snacks available.

Kids Cooking: Breakfast Pizza

Tue., Apr 21 @ 3:30 pm | Ages 8-14

April is National Brunch Month! Learn how to make breakfast pizza with us.



Tween Graphic Novel Club

Fri., Apr 24 @ 3 pm | Ages 9-13

Each month, we will read and discuss a different graphic novel. Bring a friend or make some new ones! This month's book will be *Yorick and Bones* by Jeremy Tankard. Copies are available at the circulation desk.

Lego Robotics Open House

Sat., April 25 @ 10 am-12 pm

Interested in learning about Lego robotics? Stop by during our monthly open house to try out building and coding with Lego's newest robotics kit! No prior experience necessary.

TEENS

Read the Rainbow Book Club

Fri., Apr 10 @ 3 pm | Teens

A space for teens to read and discuss books from a wide range of perspectives.

This month's book will be *Forever is Now* by Mariama J. Lockington. Come ready to discuss and bring a friend!



Teen Literature Day Pop-up Book Sale

Fri., Apr 17 @ 2 pm | Teens & Adults

What better way to celebrate Teen Literature Day than with a new (to you) book? Teens, come visit our Teen Librarian to get a coupon for a free book and a free coffee from the library's Chapters Cafe! Adults, stop by and browse our used young adult books for just 25 cents each.

Knots of Fun

Wed., Apr 1 & 15 @ 3-5 pm

Stitch, chat, and create with us! Whether you're a crochet pro, knitting newbie, or sewing enthusiast, all skill levels are welcome. Bring your project, share tips, and enjoy some creative camaraderie! Facilitated by Amy Thompson of Evergreen Senior Living.

Spanish Conversation Café

Wednesdays @ 3:45 pm

Practice your Spanish skills in casual conversation. Speakers of all levels are welcome.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Silent Reading Night

Thu., Apr 2 @ 4:30-7:30 pm

Drop in any time to read quietly together! Comfy chairs, snacks, and warm beverages provided. BYO book and any additional snacks/NA beverages you may like. We'll have breaks to socialize from 4:30-4:45 and 6-6:15.

Old-Time Folk & Country Jam

Tue., Apr 7 @ 6-7:30 pm

Dust off that guitar, fiddle, banjo, or other acoustic instrument and bring it to the library for a jam session on 1st Tuesdays. Music lovers of all ages are encouraged to come play, listen, and/or sing along.

*Cooking around the World: Finland

Thu., Apr 9 @ 6 pm

Expand your horizons—and your palate—as you learn about world culture and cuisine and sample some recipes! Recipes from past programs at cpldcooking.weebly.com.

Live at the Library: The Way Down Wanderers

Sat., Apr 11 @ 2 pm

Featuring Austin and Sammy in a special duo acoustic show from the acclaimed Midwest band known for music that's both rootsy and refreshingly modern.

Movies

Select Mondays @ 12 pm

Popcorn served; feel free to bring your own snack.

Apr 13—*The Court Jester* (1956, NR, 1h 40m) A hapless carnival performer (Danny Kaye) masquerades as the court jester as part of a plot to restore the rightful king.

Apr 27—*Hamnet* (2025, PG-13, 2h 5m) Agnes Shakespeare—the wife of the world's most famous writer—struggles to come to terms with the loss of her son.

Bingo!

Wed., Apr 15 @ 1 pm

Join us for some rousing rounds of Bingo, plus prizes and snacks.

Remember When...

Fri., Apr 17 @ 1:30 pm | at Evergreen Senior Living

Take a stroll down memory lane and reminisce about different topics each month. This month, share stories of practical jokes, tricks, and hijinks!

*Adult Craft: Recycled Paper Making

Mon., Apr 20 @ 11am

Repurpose boring old paper into new paper with character!

Dementia Caregiver Support Group

Tue., Apr 21 @ 5 pm

This monthly support group, led by an Alzheimer's Association-trained volunteer, offers a chance for caregivers to develop support, learn about dementia, and build problem-solving skills. Open to caregivers and others who have loved ones with dementia. Call 800-272-3900 or visit bit.ly/3MtEUcp to register.

*Cristina Henríquez: Voice, Culture, and Human Connection | Tue., Apr 16 @ 7 pm

Online event: Register at bit.ly/ILPCristinaHenriquez before 5 pm on April 16. Late registrations will have access to the recording after the event. Join bestselling author Cristina Henríquez for a conversation about her work. Her book, *The Great Divide*, named a *New York Times*' Editors' Choice selection and *TIME Magazine* "100 Must-Read Books of 2024," explores history and adversity in her father's homeland of Panama.

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events.

Books & Brew | Tue., Apr 21 @ 6:30 pm

Join us to discuss books with other readers and your favorite brew. We'll provide tea, coffee, and assorted adult bevs.

***The Great Divide*, by Cristina Henríquez:** Follow the lives of a fisherman and his son at odds, a teen seeking work, and a scientist battling malaria during the construction of the Panama Canal. A story of resilience, sacrifice, and the overlooked people who shaped history.

The Last Voyageurs

Thu., Apr 23 @ 6 pm

In 1973, 300 years after the 1673 Jolliet Marquette Expedition canoed across the heartland, an adventurous group recreated the voyage with four months of paddling, camping, and interacting with communities. Bill Dwyer, one of the 1973 voyageurs, will share about the experience, along with a 1-hr film documenting that expedition.

Seedling Swap | Apr 27-May 2

Do you have too many seedlings for your garden space? Label your plants clearly, drop them off at the library entrance, and feel free to take a few others home!

*Let's Taco 'bout It: The US and Regime Change

Tue., Apr 28 @ 6 pm

Liberal world order or great power competition? The US has influenced power shifts around the globe, historically and currently, overtly and covertly. Join Angela Weck (Executive Director, Peoria Area World Affairs Council) to contextualize current events and discuss the changing role of the US in the world. Tacos served, courtesy of Taco Bell: register if you want one!

An Evening with Illinois Poet Laureate Mark Turcotte | Thu., Apr 30 @ 6 pm

Join us for a reading and Q&A with Illinois Poet Laureate Mark Turcotte. Several local poets will open with readings of their own poems. Mark's books will be available for purchase (cash or Venmo). Named the 6th Illinois Poet Laureate in 2025, Mark Turcotte (Turtle Mountain Band Anishinaabe) lived his early years on North Dakota's Turtle Mountain Chippewa Reservation. He lives in Chicago where he is Distinguished-Writer-In-Residence in the English Dept at DePaul University.

ADULT PROGRAMS

What the Tech?!

Select Wednesdays @ 11 am

Apr 1—eLibrary: Learn how to use the library's eBook, eAudio, and video streaming platforms.

Apr 22—Online Scams: Learn about some common online scams and how to avoid them.



*Registration Required

Scan the QR code, call 309-274-2719, or visit bit.ly/3uX9G4w to register, or join the wait list.